

THE HERRY NEWS,
Every Saturday Morning.
T. W. BEATY, Editor.
TERMS:
ONE YEAR, \$2.00
SIX MONTHS, \$1.00

HERRY NEWS.

An Independent Journal.

VOL. 8. CONWAYBORO, S. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1876. NO. 14.

Professional & Business Cards

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"Go! Feel What I have Felt."

[A young lady in New York was in the
habit of writing to the Philadelphia Ledger on
the subject of temperance. Her writing was
so full of pathos, and evidenced such a deep
emotion of soul, that a friend of hers accused
her of becoming a maniac on the subject of
temperance; whereupon she wrote the follow-
ing lines:]

Go, feel what I have felt;
Go, bear what I have borne—
Sink 'neath a blow a father dealt,
And the cold world's proud scorn;
Then suffer on from year to year—
Thy sole relief the scorching tear,
Go, kneel as I have knelt;
Implore, beseech and pray;
Strive the besotted heart to melt,
The downward heart to stay;
Be dashed, with bitter tears, aside,
Your prayers barbed, your tears defiled,
Go, weep as I have wept,
O'er a loved father's fall;
See every promised blessing swept—
Youth's sweetness turned to gall;
Life's fading flowers strewn all the way
That brought me up to woman's day.
Go, see what I have seen;
Behold the strong man bow,
With gnashing teeth, lip bathed in blood,
And cold and livid brow;
Go, catch his withered glance, and see
There mirror'd his soul's misery.
Go to the mother's side,
And her crushed bosom cheer;
Thine own deep anguish hide;
Wipe from her cheek the tear,
Mark the worn frame and withered brow,
The gray that streaks her dark hair now—
The tugging form and trembling limb,
And trace the ruin back to him
Whose plighted faith in early youth
Promised eternal love and truth,
But who, forewarned, hath yielded up
That promise to the cursed cup,
And led her down through love and light,
And all that made the future bright,
And chained her there, 'mid want and strife,
That lowly thing, "a drunkard's wife,"
And stamped on childhood's brow so mild,
That withering blight, "a drunkard's child."

Go, hear, and see, and feel, and know
All that my soul hath felt and known;
Then look upon the wine cup's glow—
See if its beauty will atone;
Think if its favor you will try,
When all proclaim, "Tis drink and die!"

Tell me I hate the bowl?
Hate is a feeble word;
I loathe—abhor! My very soul
With deep disgust is stirred
Whenever I see, or hear, or tell
Of this dark beverage of hell!

The Decision on the Enforcement Act.

The Grant Parish case, from Louisiana, and the Kentucky election case, were decided by the Supreme Court of the United States on Monday. They involved the most important questions considered by the court since the legal-tender decision. The indictment in each case was based upon the celebrated Enforcement act of 1870, and the Court was called upon to construe the third, fourth, and sixth sections of that act.

The defendants to the Grant Parish case were indicted for alleged violations of the sixth section. This prohibits two or more persons from banding or conspiring together "to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate any citizen, with intent to prevent or hinder his full exercise and enjoyment of any right or privilege granted or secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States." The defendants were charged in the indictment with conspiracy to do certain specified acts, in violation of this provision. Were the rights which they threatened to interfere with granted or secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States? If they were not, the indictment was fatally defective.

The Supreme Court has decided that they were not. To appreciate the scope and importance of the decision, it is necessary to understand what were the rights under discussion. One was the right of peaceable assembly for a peaceful and lawful purpose. This, says Chief Justice Waite, existed long before the Constitution of the United States, and remains subject to State jurisdiction. The States alone are authorized to punish its infraction. It was also alleged that the conspirators intended to interfere with the rights of life and personal liberty, for they were charged with conspiracy to falsify imprisonment or murder certain citizens of the United States resident in Louisiana. These rights, say the Court, are the natural rights of man, and the sovereignty for their protection rests alone with the States. "The only obligation resting upon the United States is to see that the States do not deny the right."

Again, it was averred that the defendants sought to restrain the right of certain colored citizens of African descent to vote at any election. The right of suffrage, however, as was decided by the Supreme Court two years ago, is not derived from the Constitution of the United States; and as the indictment did not charge that the intent was to exclude the colored citizens from voting on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude—so as to bring the case within the terms of the fifteenth amendment—there was nothing to show a violation of the Federal Constitution or laws.

From this it will be seen that although the Supreme Court does not in terms declare the sixth section of the Enforcement act to be unconstitutional, it does decide that the broad interpretation and application sought to be given to it in the Federal courts below is in violation of the rights of the States and the Constitution of the United States.

In the Kentucky election case, the question was whether the third and fourth sections of the Enforcement act were appropriate legislation, under the Constitution, to enforce the fifteenth amendment, which provides that the right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. It is the opinion of the Court that the United States has the right under this amendment to punish unlawful individual discriminations on account of race, color, or servitude; but the objection to these sections of the Enforcement act is that they do not stop there. Irrespective of such discrimination, they provide generally for the punishment of interference with the right of suffrage, and the power of Congress does not extend so far as this. It being impossible to separate the unconstitutional parts of these sections from those which are constitutional, the whole must fall.

The result of both decisions is that the operation of the Enforcement act is so restricted as not to interfere with the police powers of the States, and the third and fourth sections are practically stricken from the statute book.

A SINGULAR LAW SUIT.

Mr. David Risley's Claim Against the Phoenix Bank of New York.

[New York Sun.]
Judge Van Vorst rendered a decision of unusual importance on the 14th instant. Mr. David Risley was a citizen of South Carolina at the outbreak of the war in 1861, and with a view of putting something beyond the chances of war, bought of the Georgetown Bank of South Carolina a check upon that bank's New York correspondent, the Phoenix Bank, for \$10,000. The bank in George-

town had deposits in New York more than sufficient to secure this check. Mr. Risley was not able to present his check at the Phoenix Bank until the 4th of January, 1865. He avers, and the bank officials now admit, that he presented his check on that day, and was told that it was good, and that they would honor it, but that Mr. Risley must first satisfactorily identify himself as the payee. He said he would do so, and went to the bank on the next day with unquestionable proofs of his identity. But the officers then refused to pay him, saying that the United States government had attached the money of the Georgetown Bank, for confiscation. Mr. Risley could get no satisfaction at that time, and when he could conveniently do so, he sued the bank for dishonoring the check, claiming the amount, with interest and damages.

It seems from the admissions in court that the deposits of the South Carolina bank were labelled in the interim between the presentation of the check on the 4th of January, 1865, and the re-appearance of Mr. Risley at the bank on the next day. Mr. Risley says that a bank official, as soon as he was out of sight, rushed off to the United States district attorney, and had the money labelled, and as he did not see fit to intervene as a claimant, the government took a default, and the money was divided in moieties, fees and percentages, the government getting only \$5,880 of the whole sum confiscated.

It is admitted now that, since disloyalty cannot be predicated of a banking corporation, the confiscation of the money was illegal and voidable. Judge Van Vorst, however, rules against Mr. Risley on another point, dismissing his complaint on the ground that a bank is not liable on an oral promise to pay made by its officers. The case will now go to the general term.

The Silver Circulation.

The accidental omission of a line in some recent observations of ours on Bonanza Mining made it wrong in an important particular, and we will now set the error right.

The present transitional stage of silver production is an inopportune period to restore a silver fractional circulation, not because the use of silver for that purpose is not desirable, but only because it is impossible to establish accurately at present the permanent relative worth of Silver as compared with gold. If silver is going to fall in value to fifty cents of the dollar, as it may, under the process of demonetization now going on, if it extended to India and other Asiatic countries, we ought not to buy thirty or forty millions of eighty-five or ninety cents on the dollar, the price the Government has been paying for its present stock on hand; and we ought not to check our channels of fractional circulation with any such debased currency as we shall have by going on with the emission of silver at its existing price.

Our present silver quarter is soon to be worth only a York shilling, when measured by gold, we ought to keep ourselves in a position to increase its intrinsic value by adding more metal, without subjecting the Treasury to serious and unnecessary loss. Of course, if silver continues to fall, of which there is every prospect, all nations will soon be under the necessity of reconstructing their coinage on a new basis as respects the relative worth of the two metals. It is impossible to proceed with our coinage of silver on an arbitrary assumption of its value, which may soon differ immensely from its real value. It will, for instance, be preposterous to go on calling a coined silver dollar a real dollar, after it shall contain only fifty cents' worth of silver. This debasement, or anything like it, is what at this moment the Treasury ought particularly to avoid.

The Treasury has already got its fingers severely burned by silver purchases made to replace the fractional paper circulation, and it should beware of going any further in that direction. What it has already done is bad enough, and inexcusable enough from any economic or financial point of view; but to travel further in the same road, in the present state of the silver market, would be without any justification whatever. There is nothing left but to await the progress of events, which must soon denote the ultimate shape which this interesting problem is likely to assume.

It is a great pity that the regular issue of the fractional paper currency was ever disturbed. It ought to have been left to follow in the wake of the greenbacks in which alone it was made redeemable.—N. Y. Sun.

The Obstructions in Savannah Back River.

The nature and effect of the dam or obstructions upon which the United States Engineers are at work in the Savannah River are difficult to understand without reference to a map. For a considerable distance, extending from below the Savannah and

Charleston Railroad crossing to a point just below the City of Savannah, the Savannah River is divided into two streams, which form Isla, Argyle, Hutchinson and other islands. The river on the South Carolina side is known as the Back River, but it is as bold and broad as the steam on the Georgia side, which retains the name of the Savannah.

The plan of the engineers is to block up the channel or "cross-tides" between Argyle and Hutchinson Islands, making them one island, so that the whole body of water of the main Savannah River, a large part of which now flows through this channel into and down the Back River, shall be kept on the Georgia side, with the hope that the increased volume and rapidity of the current will deepen the channel at and below Savannah. The project is an excellent one, so far as Savannah is concerned; but it will be fatal to the rice plantations which line the Back River, and the proposed obstructions will, moreover, violate a solemn treaty between the States of Georgia and South Carolina. The Second Article of the Treaty of Beaufort is as follows:

Article II. The navigation of the River Savannah at and from the bar and mouth along the northeast side of Cockspar Island, and up the direct course of the main northern channel along the northern side of Hutchinson's Island opposite the Town of Savannah to the upper end of said Island, and from thence up the bed or principal stream of the said River to the confluence of the Tugaloo and Keowee Rivers, and from the confluence up the channel of the most northern stream of Tugaloo River to its source and back again by the same channel to the Atlantic Ocean, is hereby declared to be henceforth equally free to the citizens of both States, and exempt from all duties, tolls, hindrance, interruption, or molestation whatever, attempted to be enforced by one State on the citizens of the other, and all the rest of the River Savannah to the southward of the foregoing description is acknowledged to be the exclusive right of the State of Georgia.

By the closing up of the channel between Argyle and Hutchinson Islands the planters on Back River will be seriously injured. They will lose much of the body of water that now enables them to cultivate their lands. And it is plain that, if there be any right or authority to prevent the waters of the river from flowing down Back River, as is intended to be done, there is equal right to interpose a barrier to keep the waters from flowing up. The two together would convert Back River into a huge pond. Twice before has an attempt been made to cut off Back River, and on each occasion the prompt action of the State has arrested the work. The voice of the State is not as potent as it was, but Governor Chamberlain has made a strong remonstrance to the War Department, and the facts have been laid before Senator Rob-ertson and Congressman Mackey, Smalls and Hoge. They will, we are confident, do what they can to aid the planters who are endangered. The rice plantations on Back River are the finest and most valuable in the State, and an earnest effort must be made to save them. There is no time to lose. We must agitate! agitate! and agitate!!! If the War Department is deaf and Georgia is dumb, the Courts are still open to us in vindication of our rights.

News and Courier.

Tom Paine.

Among the Centennial events there is one that should not be forgotten, yet will not gladly be remembered, because it is associated with a name which is as generally distasteful as any in our history. In the winter of a hundred years ago was published the famous pamphlet, Common-Sense, which crystallized into fixed purpose the wishes and hopes for independence which filled the colonial mind. The author was Thomas Paine—a very conspicuous figure in his time, but generally known to us as Tom Paine, the infidel. One little boy whom the Easy Chair well knew heard his name first upon a raw wintry day in a New England town, when his attention was attracted by the firing of guns, and he asked what they were for. The reply was in substance that some respectable people were celebrating Tom Paine's birthday. The tone implied that he was a dreadful reprobate. But surely Tom Paine had done some good service. He wrote Common-Sense, and published it in the dark hour of the Revolution. It was a wholly unselfish service, for he took out no copyright; and even in those days, among a colonial population of three millions only, poor and in the midst of an exhausting war, there were a hundred thousand copies of the pamphlet sold. Washington, Franklin, Adams, Jefferson, hailed him as a public benefactor. But among later Americans his name was always mentioned with horror and disdain. It is agreed that no single cause was more effective in pro-

ducing the Declaration of Independence than his Common-Sense. Yet sixteen years ago, when a portrait of Paine was offered to the city of Philadelphia, to be hung in the hall where the Declaration was adopted and signed, it was declined. A likeness of Tom Paine, the infidel, must not hang among the august shades of the fathers. Yet the religious views of "Tom Paine" were essentially those of "Tom Jefferson," whose name will be saluted as among the most illustrious of this illustrious year.

The feeling about Paine in the beginning of the century was largely political. When Jefferson was President, he invited Paine to come to this country from France, where he had narrowly escaped the guillotine, and he arrived in October, 1802. His friends gave him public dinners. His opponents said that Tom Paine and Tom Jefferson ought to dangle from the same gallows. For even in that golden age of the republic, to which so many sighing imaginations revert from the corruption of this age of brass and iron upon which we have fallen, there was some warmth of party feeling and expression. When Paine came to New York he stopped at the old City Hotel, on Broadway, just north of Trinity Church. And the inquisitive little Laurie Todd, or Grant Thorburn, heard one day that the great sinner was standing at the door of the hotel, and he ran out with some friends to see him. But Mr. Paine had gone to his room. The Scotchman was not to be foiled, and he asked a servant who was sweeping the hall if Mr. Paine was at home. Hearing that he was, Thorburn pushed on and was shown into a large room where the table was set for breakfast. One gentleman was writing, another reading the newspaper, and at the further end of the room stood a long, lank, coarse-looking figure warming his hind quarters before the fire. The intruder asked for Mr. Paine. The figure by the fire replied that his name was Paine. Thorburn put out his hand, which Paine took, and the little Scotchman said that he had called from mere curiosity. Mr. Paine replied that he was very glad to satisfy it. Upon which Thorburn made a bow "like a goose ducking his head under water" walked out, and shut the door, while all the gentlemen in the room burst into a laugh, which he heard all the way to the door. He did not care; he had seen the great man. But he had to pay for the pleasure. The great city was a small town then, and the story of the interview grew as it was repeated. Thorburn was clerk of the Scotch Presbyterian church, in Cedar Street, and if he had bobbed with Voltaire—as Voltaire was then generally esteemed—or had sworn eternal friendship with David Hume, he could not have struck his brethren with greater horror. The Kirk Session took alarm. A special meeting was called, and Grant Thorburn was suspended from psalm singing for three months because he had shaken hands with Thomas Paine.

Doubtless Paine has been very harshly treated. His honesty can not be doubted. His political views were those of the men of his time whom we most reverence, and his religious opinions did not differ from those of many men whom we most highly honor. He was not an infidel in the ordinary sense, for his Age of Reason was written to oppose atheism. His misfortune was that he had no tact, and the very vigor and simplicity of mind and style which made Common-Sense and The Rights of Man such efficient political pamphlets, made his religious treatise, the Age of Reason, fatal to his reputation. In the first he trenchantly expressed a great and powerful opinion. In the last he came into collision with it, and it crushed him.—Editor's Easy Chair, in Harper's Magazine for April.

Origin of "He has an Axe to Grind."

We owe more of our common sayings and pithy proverbs to Dr. Franklin than many of us think or know. We say of one who flatters or serves us for the sake of some secret, selfish gain or favor, "He has an axe to grind." In the Doctor's "Memoirs" is the following story "much after the manner of the 'whistle' story," which explains the origin of the phrase: Franklin says: "When I was a little boy, I remember, one cold winter's morning, I was accosted by a smiling man, with an axe on his shoulder. 'My pretty boy,' said he, 'has your father a grindstone?' 'Yes,' said I. 'You are a fine little fellow,' said he. 'Will you let me grind an axe on it?' Pleased with the compliment of 'a fine little fellow,' 'O, yes sir,' I answered, 'it is down in the shop.' 'And will you, my man,' said he, patting me on my head, 'get me a little hot water.' 'How could I refuse? I ran and soon brought a kettle full. 'How old are you, and, what's your name?' continued he, without

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waiting for a reply. I'm sure you're one of the finest lads that ever I have seen. Will you turn a few minutes for me?

Tickled with flattery, like a fool I went to work, and bitterly did I rue the day. It was a new axe, and I toiled and tugged till I was almost tired to death. The school-bell rang, and I could not get away. My hands were blistered, and it was not half ground. At length, however, the axe was sharpened, and the man turned to me with:

'Now, you little rascal, you've played truant; scud to school, or you'll get it.'

Alas! thought I, it was hard enough to turn a grindstone this cold day, but now to be called a little rascal, was too much. It sunk deep in my mind, and often have I thought of it since.

When I see a merchant over polite to his customers, begging them to take a little brandy, and throwing his goods on the counter, thinks I, that man has an axe to grind.

When I see a man flattering the people, making great professions of attachment to liberty and prating loudly about economy, who is in private a tyrant, methinks, look out, good people, that fellow would see you turning a grindstone.

When I see a man boisted into office by party spirit, without a single qualification to render him either respectable or useful, alas! methinks, deluded people, you are doomed for a son to turn the grindstone for a booby.

Law and Justice.

A somewhat remarkable case has just been decided in England by Chief Justice Coleridge and two of his associates. A man bought a first-class ticket from London to Scarborough, and on the back of it these words were printed: "Issued according to the company's regulations and to the conditions in the time-tables of the respective companies over whose lines this ticket is available." But the train did not start at the time announced; and failed to make it advertised connections. The passenger lost the train he wanted to meet at Leeds, and finding he would have to wait three hours for another, procured a special train to his destination, which he reached an hour and a quarter after the time he was due. He paid for the train and then sued the company for the extra expense. The county court decided that the company must pay for the special train, and now on appeal the high court of justice has affirmed this decision. This court decided that a railway company is bound to carry passengers according to its time-tables, and is responsible to them for losses sustained by all unnecessary delays. This decision, rendered by the most eminent judge on the English bench, will have great weight in this country as well as in England, and will form an important precedent.

Centennials and Millenniums.

- 100 years ago—American independence.
- 200 years ago—King Philip (the Indian) defeated and slain; hancas corpus in England.
- 300 years ago—Massacre of St. Bartholomew; Spanish armada preparing.
- 400 years ago—Printing invented; Isabella the coming queen.
- 500 years ago—The days of Turner, Lane, the Turk, and Gaius, the English poet.
- 600 years ago—Rafid and Bruce; Richard Bacon; Thomas Aquinas; house of Hapsburg founded.
- 700 years ago—Richard Cœur de Lion and Saladin, sultan of Egypt, measuring swords in Palestine.
- 800 year ago—William the Conqueror.
- 900 year ago—Hugh Capet, the Frenchman.
- 1000 years ago—Alfred the Great.
- 1100 years ago—Charlemagne and Harold Al Raschid.
- 1200 years ago—Mohammedanism making lively work in Constantinople and other places.
- 1300 years ago—Old Chroesus, the Persian, lives by murder, and the pope is made a secular judge among kings.
- 1400 years ago—The Saxons lively in Britain. Clovis establishes the French monarchy, and the Visigoths conquer Spain.
- 1500 years ago—The Roman empire, having legislated many years in favor of capital against labor, began to fall to pieces.
- 1600 years ago—The world was nothing better to do than to branch and denounce heretics and get us religious persecutions.
- 1700 years ago—Marcus Aurelius, Tacitus, and Plutarch.
- 1800 years ago—Jerusalem despoiled and Herculaneum and Pompeii buried.
- 1876 years ago—All the world at peace and Christ born.
- 6,000 years ago—Adam rose to the dignity of a large real estate owner, but by poor management was driven into involuntary bankruptcy.