

Correspondence on current subjects is invited, but we do not agree to publish communications containing more than 300 words, and no responsibility is assumed for the views of correspondents. As an advertising medium for Charlotte, Pineville, Fort Mill, and Rock Hill business houses The Times is unsurpassed. Rates made known on application to the publisher.
Local Telephone No. 25.

JULY 18, 1900.

For some reason or other the Republican slogan, "prosperity," is not nowadays heard in the land so much as it was early in the campaign. The McKinley spellbinder has already begun to talk about something else.

Anyone who has observed the commercial reports in the newspapers during the past two weeks will not be long in discovering the cause for this change of tune. The simple fact is that "McKinley prosperity" has begun to wane. The abatement has been in progress for some time, but the news is just now beginning to reach the surface where it may be read of all men.

For example, the bank clearings last week were 33.2 per cent less than in the corresponding week of last year. Still more significant, the number of business failures is steadily increasing and the liabilities of the failed concerns grow even more rapidly. The mercantile agencies report that the iron industry—an infallible barometer of the state of trade—has been "thrown from unprecedented activity into greater depression, with many works closed and prices reduced fully one quarter." The cotton mills of New England have shut down to the extent of 3,000,000 spindles, throwing thousands of men out of employment. Woolen mills are in a similar state of depression, while all the cognate industries have felt the pressure and the result is, of course, first seen upon the pay rolls.

The number of workmen now out of employment in manufacturing centers would be appalling at any time. It brings nothing but dismay to the Republican campaign managers who have counted upon the prosperity slogan as one of the best features of their campaign.

Spain has every reason to feel satisfied with the result of her war with the United States, says the Baltimore Sun. Her pride may have suffered temporarily when her fleets were destroyed, her soldiers were defeated, and her colonies were taken from her. But in the moment of their defeat the Spanish people achieved a substantial triumph. They threw off the burden which oppressed them for centuries. They got rid of conscription, of excessive taxation, and of the blight upon their agriculture and industries caused by the neglect of their own resources in the impossible effort to maintain commercial and military supremacy in far-off islands. Their young men are no longer dying of disease in Cuba and the Philippines. The people of Spain are not compelled now to waste their substance in supporting a large army and navy for service thousands of miles from home. The United States has assumed the responsibilities which proved too much for Spain, and is learning by bitter experience the lesson which the Spanish people were taught only after centuries of disaster. Spain can now devote all her energies to her own development and advancement, as Dr. Arnaud says. What a pity it is our government was so dazzled by the thought of empire that its folly began where Spain's ended! What an unparalleled measure of prosperity this country might attain if, like Spain, it were to concentrate all of its powers upon its internal development and leave the remote islands of the world to those who have greater need of them than we!

Mr. Bryan has injected a liberal dose of jolly into Mr. Towne, and at the proper time the man from Minnesota will step aside.

Comment of Exchanges.

What is to be expected, anyway, even under the most favorable circumstances, of a candidate running under the name prohibition and standing on a platform declaring for the sale of liquor for "mechanical, sacramental, and medicinal" purposes? Does not every citizen remember what this meant in the prescription drug-store days? What would hinder any old toper or sot from having some mechanical if not medicinal need of liquor? Wherein lie the moral points of proposed change from present conditions? The proposition is a fraud on its face, and the only purpose that would be served would be to obtain office for a few men without improving temperance conditions, introducing a system so disgusting in its hypocrisy that the State will welcome a change to an open barroom system—a system that would have at least the advantage of being labeled honestly, exactly what it was. Prohibition in South Carolina would mean the first step towards the re-establishment of barrooms in the cities and large towns—the very thing they most desire and what most of them work for and expect to get when they vote for prohibition.—Yorkville Yeoman.

Senator Tillman exercised a great influence in the convention, and now ranks second in importance to Jones among the Democratic leaders. He will take an active part in the management of the campaign and spend most of the summer and fall in Chicago. No man in either party has advanced so rapidly in prominence of late years as Mr. Tillman. When he came to the Senate five years ago he had only a local reputation, and that chiefly as the author of the dispensary law in South Carolina, but he is now a full-fledged public character, whose name and influence are known and felt in every State in the union.—Chicago Record.

There are indications, says the Washington Post, this year that the Congressional campaign will be one of unusual activity. Both the parties are starting out with an excellent preparatory equipment, and any advantage in one direction or another is likely to be fought for persistently. The Republican committee, which, in recent years, has always been well organized and whose work has always been conducted on methodical lines, is practically divided into two bureaus this year, the main bureau in Chicago and the branch in Washington. But the Democratic Committee, which has hitherto been run with little method and without careful organization, is in splendid condition for work and in some lines has already accomplished more up to this time than was accomplished during the whole of the Congressional campaign two years ago. This is especially true of the distribution of literature. The documents asked for by local leaders cover such subjects as trusts, extravagant expenditures, and imperialism. There has been no demand for free silver literature. The management of the committee is keeping in close touch with the situation in different parts of the country and there is every promise that the Republican Congressional leaders will know that they have opponents every day in the week.

It is attempted to discount the splendid support McSweeney is receiving for election from South Carolina newspapers by saying he is a newspaper man himself and it is natural for the newspaper men to stand together, that their advocacy of McSweeney is simply an exhibition of clannishness. This plausible theory overlooks the fact that one of his competitors, Col. Jas. A. Hoyt, is also a veteran journalist and just as popular personally with his professional brethren as the governor. So that theory will not hold water and a further search must be made to find the reason why so many papers are advocating a second term for McSweeney. The simple explanation

is not that they love Hoyt less nor McSweeney more, but that they think McSweeney became governor at a trying time and succeeded in giving the State a business administration, which has not aroused the violent antagonisms provoked by the administrations of several of his predecessors, and they think as a matter of simple justice he is entitled to the indorsement of a second term.—Columbia Record.

The Chicago Post of last Friday says: "The fact that Wm. J. Bryan had not been invited to attend the Grand Army encampment to be held here next month was brought to the attention of Mayor Harrison to-day, and the mayor at once addressed a letter to the encampment committee, pointing out the omission. Unless at the meeting of the G. A. R., which President McKinley is certain to attend, the same attention is paid to the Presidential candidates of both parties, Mayor Harrison said the encampment would pass without the official recognition of the city."

The Trouble with China.

Ho Yow, Chinese consul general in San Francisco, last week gave the first interview he has granted on the troubles in China. He is an enthusiastic admirer of American civilization, of American character and enterprise, and he counts among his personal friends many of California's ablest scholars and business men, with whom he has entered into close social relations. It is, therefore, from the standpoint of friendship and with the greatest pain that he confesses his own apprehension based upon what is already known of foreigners at Taku, that the legation in Peking have been annihilated.

"The origin of the whole trouble," declares Ho, "is interference with our religion in China. I do not question the worthy intention of missionaries who have gone there, but they made the mistake of trying to convert people who are not educated, as a race, even to the point of religious tolerance. In other words, the Chinese, before they could possibly be made ready, as a race, to receive the Christian religion would need to be led on in the direction of Christian civilization. Otherwise the good missionaries merely waste their time and energies and incense the people."

"There is another cause for the present uprising, aside from the purely religious work of the missionaries in proselyting Chinese to their faith. It has so happened in China that whenever a missionary has been injured or killed in the country the nation which he represented has made the tragedy the occasion for asking grants of lands from the Chinese government. I do not mean to say they were not right in demanding indemnity for such misdeeds, but this course, which has seemed peculiar in the eyes of many of our people who are extremely suspicious, has been misconstrued and misinterpreted. Originally I believe both the government and the Boxers intended to protect the legations in Peking, but after the Taku bombardment everything was changed. As soon as tidings of that act of hostility reached Peking the mob, which up to that moment had been held in control by the government, became frenzied and beyond control, for they reasoned that they were to be punished any way, and all reason for restraint was gone.

"From a political point of view, it seems to me a fatal mistake to have taken that aggressive step before they had landed sufficient forces to be able to in anyway support it or follow it up. The Chinese are well armed. They are well supplied with weapons of the latest pattern, many of them manufactured in our own great arsenals. Shan Tung province is noted for its men of fine physique and stature. This province could probably place in the field nearly 1,000,000 men, all of them closely approaching or exceeding six feet. I speak for my countrymen in San Francisco as

well as myself when I say that we who have had an opportunity of coming in contact with Americans and Europeans deplore the present troubles, desiring, as we do, the friendship of foreign powers, and we know that after a time all the Chinese will come to repose the same confidence and respect in the civilized powers that we do to-day. The prejudices and antagonisms are due to ignorance alone."

Candidates Campaigning.

A big picnic was held at Liberty Hill in Kershaw on Saturday last. A correspondent of the News and Courier says:

Dr. T. J. Strait and Congressman D. E. Finley, the two candidates for Congress from the 5th district, made addresses on the racial and political issues of the day. Dr. Strait is at home here, his plantation being just across the line in Lancaster county. He is well thought of in this section, and has many friends and supporters. Mr. Finley, in addition to his other remarks, reviewed his record for the short time he has been in Congress, and called attention to where it showed up well, especially in comparison to his predecessor. He was well received and made a good impression.

Hon. T. E. McDow, candidate for solicitor from the 6th circuit, was the last to entertain the audience. He avoided politics, as his opponents were not present, stating that the race was upon personal popularity, and he conceded a full measure of ability to his opponents. Near here is Mr. McDow's birthplace and his popularity is unbounded. If his support in other parts of his circuit approaches what he will be given here his opponents had certainly better watch "Tom."

Local Items.

Mr. A. C. Ardrey, of Dallas, Tex., is at the home of Mr. J. W. Ardrey.

Mrs. W. H. Jones and children left yesterday evening for an extended visit to relatives in Witcherville, Ark.

The annual picnic of the Presbyterian Sunday school was held in a grove 1 mile south of Fort Mill yesterday afternoon.

A rumor is current hereabouts that Dr. R. M. Poits, of Rock Hill, has decided to locate in Fort Mill for the practice of his profession.

Rain is badly needed in this township at present, and a number of farmers have been heard to remark that if it does not come within a few days less cotton will be made this year than was made last year.

On last Friday afternoon the trustees of the Fort Mill public school elected Prof. S. M. Mason, of Yorkville, principal, and Miss Clara Sledge, of Chester, assistant teacher. Professor Mason is a young, unmarried man.

In very nearly every community in the country there are to be found a number of individuals who invariably place every obstruction at their command in the path of the car of progress. Fort Mill is not an exception to the rule; otherwise one would not hear so much talk against the military company which was recently organized here. But the dissatisfied are a bit too late in their efforts in this particular; the company is a part of the State militia, and the men who compose it are not made of the stuff to become displeased with the organization simply because the tactics now in vogue are somewhat different to what they were at the time Columbus discovered America.

A FEW SPECIALTIES.

Nice line Tooth Brushes, 5 to 20 cts.

Tooth Powder, nice quality, in any quantity.

Toilet Soaps, best line in town.

Fruit Powders.

Bedbug Poison, guaranteed effect.

Insect Powder and Guns.

Carbon Disulphide will destroy weevils and every living germ in wheat. The best time to use it is right after threshing. You have made a nice crop of wheat and we warn you to the proper precaution to save it.

W. B. ARDREY & CO.

P. S. If your chickens have cholera, we can cure it.

"THE OLD RELIABLE STORE."

GREAT SLAUGHTER SALE.

One hundred and fifty pairs of Ladies', Misses', and Childrens'

Low-cut Shoes Must be Sold.

These Shoes are worth from \$1 to \$2 a pair, but we now offer them to you at 50 cents, 75 cents, and \$1, or rather we are selling them at about HALF the WHOLESALE COST. Come at once and get choice, as they will not last long.

Everybody can afford to buy a pair at these prices, so lay aside your heavy shoes and buy a pair of Slippers and be comfortable during this hot weather.

Miscellaneous Bargains.

We have just received another lot of WHITE LAWNS, at 7 1-2, 10, and 12 1-2 cents. Also a lot of Ladies' Nice UNDERVESTS.

Boy's and Childrens' OVERALLS at 25 cents per pair.

Mens' Light SUMMER SUITS from \$1.50 to \$2.

T. B. BELK, PROPRIETOR "THE OLD RELIABLE STORE."

We are headquarters for FURNITURE, STOVES, WAGONS, and BUGGIES.

HAND BROS. RESTAURANT, ROCK HILL, S. C.

DEPOT STREET.

R. F. GRIER,

DEALER IN

HATS, SHOES,

PANTS, DRY GOODS,

NOTIONS, DRESS GOODS,

HARDWARE,

TINWARE,

GLASSWARE,

GROCERIES, ETC.,

AND THE

BEST LINE OF

POCKET AND

TABLE CUTLERY

IN TOWN.

The University of North Carolina.

The Head of the State's Educational System.

Three academic courses leading to Degrees.

Professional courses in Law, Medicine, and Pharmacy.

Summer School for Teachers.

Scholarships and Loans to Needy. Free Tuition to Candidates for Ministry. Minister's Sons and Teachers.

Tuition \$60. 512 students besides 161 in Summer School. 38 teachers in the faculty. For catalogues and information address F. P. VENABLE, President, Chapel Hill, N. C.

The "CITY MARKET"

Is where you can find any kind of Fresh Meat you want at any time. We are always there and we always have what you want, provided you want the choicest quality. Our prices are reasonable for

FIRST-CLASS MEATS.

We won't sell you any other kind. Send us your orders or Telephone No. 27. We guarantee prompt attention and satisfactory treatment.

FRESH FISH every Saturday, IRA G. SMYTHE & SONS.

Spratt Machine Co.

Brick, Lumber, Laths, Lime, Shingles, Building Supplies, and House Fittings of all kinds. Contractors and builders. Estimates on all work furnished promptly.



The Center of Attraction

for those who are especially particular about the laundering of their Summer garments is the laundry. Everyone knows except those who haven't tried our work, how clean, properly starched and ironed every article proves itself to be after it has been through our hands. If you don't know us, let's get acquainted.

For ease of mind and comfort of body, be sure that your laundry goes to the Model Steam Laundry, Charlotte, N. C. Ed. L. McELHANAY, Agent, Fort Mill, S. C.

The Arlington Hotel,

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Best Lighted and Ventilated Hotel in the City.

A. A. SPRINGS, Proprietor.