

The Press and Banner.

BY HUGH WILSON.

ABBEVILLE, S. C.

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Twelve Pages.

Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1896.

Abundantly Satisfied.

The editorials in the different newspapers lead us to believe that the silver men were surprised at their strength. They lacked only a small per cent. of winning. This, taken into consideration, with the fact that McKinley was elected by over a million plurality, ought to satisfy all the parties. It is well when an election pleases everybody.

The silver fight is to be renewed four years hence. This is right, if the people so will it. All good citizens should do as Bryan does, bow to the will of the people.

Notwithstanding the fact of the general satisfaction at the result there is some evidence of bitterness on the part of some. This is all wrong.

The people might just as well recognize soon or late that the free silver movement cannot win as long as the United States is alight with other countries than those of Mexico, China, and Japan.

It occurs to us that we have heard that this country has been sending missionaries to those countries for the purpose of trying to civilize and Christianize those benighted people. If this is so, it seems a little strange that the civil government should go to the same governments for their financial policy.

We have heard much of the scarcity of money, and of hard times we have heard not a little. When this talk is traced to its source, it is not true that the fault lies with the individual complainers than with the government. As a rule, men who are industrious and frugal are prosperous and satisfied.

We know of very few men who energetically apply business methods to the care of their money who are not prosperous. Sometimes active men misdirect their energies, but the government is in no way responsible for this, and could not give to such persons the desired relief, even if all the silver in the world was coined.

The only security from poverty and distress lies in good judgment in business, application to our pursuits, and a careful husbanding of our resources. We are not babies that we need to be coddled by the government.

The Subject Being Trespassers.

From the many notices which we see not only in the Abbeville papers, but in numbers of our exchanges, we infer that this country is infested with an innumerable host of trespassers—men who disregard the property rights of their neighbors. If it were not so, why the necessity for incurring the expense of posting or advertising?

An example ought to be made of some of those strutting people who go on lands where they are not wanted. The laws of the State ought to be made so strong that such men would suffer for the disregard of the rights of their neighbors.

When a man rents or buys land, he is clearly entitled to its possession, and his right to exemption from intrusion should be respected.

All the birds, game and fish that are to be had on his land justly belongs to him, and the laws of the country should protect him in these rights.

Every man who enters the land of another with gun and dog to kill or catch the fowls, animals or fish of another is a trespasser, and his purposes are unlawful, no matter whether he goes in search for his neighbor's chickens or his partridges, his pigs or his possums. Everything on the land belongs to the owner, whether wild or domesticated. No man has a right to endanger the property of another by carrying torches, and he has no right to cut and destroy the timber which does not belong to him.

The sooner an example is made of trespassers the better it will be.

WELCOME BACK.

Rev. R. L. Grier Visits Old Friends in Abbeville.

Rev. R. L. Grier and family, now of Steele Creek, N. C., were in town last Sunday, the guests of their friends Mr. and Mrs. Bernau. Mr. Grier, who has been in the Associate Reformed Church, taking for his text: "And herein do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men." The preacher dwelt on the importance of a faithful and conscientious discharge of all the duties of life. Purity of thought as to ourselves and as to our fellowman—and an unceasing obedience to the revealed will of our Master—was enjoined upon every living creature. While fidelity to the convictions of one's conscience was a high and important duty, yet there was another duty that was of scarcely less importance, namely: the seeking after and the discharge of all the duties which might direct us in the intelligent discharge of our duty. While it is disputable and reprehensible to discharge our duty in a lack of the ability to do so, it is equally wrong to discharge our duty in a lack of the will to do so. We are sometimes charged with a negligent enunciation of the u's, but this utterance of the u is not among his misdeeds.

A man, therefore, is not only responsible for preserving his conscience void of offence but he is accountable for the intelligence, or his lack of intelligence, and he commits a sin if he strives not to seek for that light which enables him to discriminate between right and wrong.

While conscientiously striving to preserve ourselves void of offence, we are also charged to do that which is unjust to our fellowman and sinful in the sight of our Heavenly Father, an honest and conscientious discharge of an imperative duty. With a scrupulous regard to our conscience, and with an earnest effort to know the right, we are not often in error. Our religion is based upon an intelligent conviction of right and wrong, and if we conscientiously discharge the duties imposed by that intelligence we preserve ourselves void of offence. A pure heart is always an acceptable offering at the throne of grace.

Mr. Grier is one of the rising young ministers of the Associate Reformed Church, and his own ability for usefulness increases with the coming and going of the years. In his own life and character he exemplifies the religion which he preaches.

The singing on Sunday morning was delightful to the ear and comforting to the heart. Sweet choir singing is a charming gem in our religious service.

Unless our religion has sweetened us to a very considerable extent—given us the control of our temper, checked us in our moments of irritation and weakness, enabled us to meet misfortune, and in a measure overcome it, developed within us the virtues of patience and longsuffering, making us tender and charitable in our judgment of others, and generally diffusing about us an atmosphere that is genial and winsome—whatever else we may have gained one thing is sure, religion is not having its perfect work in us, and, even though our Christian life is clear and positive, it is only as a galled and twisted apple tree that bears no fruit, only as a prickly bush that bears no roses, and the very thing which of all others we should have is the very thing in which we are most deficient. A Christian life without sweetness is a lamp without light, salt without savor.

He who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do any.

THE S. A. L.

The Country is Congratulated on Its Escape From the Mouth of the Gobbler.

(From the Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore, Md., November 18th, 1896.)

The failure of the New York people to secure a controlling interest in the Seaboard Air Line, as now announced, should cause a profound sigh of relief, not only throughout the South, but wherever there exists any interest in the future of this section. That the concentration of ownership of all railroads in the central South in New York hands would prove a serious injury to this section, and eventually to all Southern railroad interests, admits of no question. In the first place, competition is essential to the best interests of the South; it is essential to the success of its merchants, manufacturers and farmers; it is essential to the best railroad work for the upbuilding of the industrial resources and the encouragement of immigration. The Seaboard Air Line has given this much-needed competition. No railroad company in the country has done better and broader work for the material advancement of the country tributary to it than has the Seaboard. It has, in fact, during the last three years, accomplished more along its 1,000 miles of territory than many roads have done with double the mileage. Under its present management it has been a power for Southern advancement, and the Manufacturers' Record has no doubt that its probable sale as a menace to the prosperity of this section, even though not so intended, is a serious matter.

The purchase of the Seaboard would have been regarded by the South as the gobbling up of the last independent line north of Atlanta, and this would have given the politicians of the populist persuasion a new fighting-ground against the South. It is safe to say that under such circumstances legislation would have been enacted in the central South of vast injury to all Southern railroad securities and thus to all Southern business interests.

With the details of the recent contest for the Manufacturers' Record has nothing to do. It may, however, very appropriately be said that the record of the present administration during the last three years of probably unequalled business depression is one of which any company might be proud. In that time this company has shown a most marvelous increase in the magnitude of the road's traffic, a wonderful development of its passenger service, the establishment of Pullman trains between Washington and Portsmouth and Atlanta, (whereas three years ago there were only local trains and through passenger service), the enlargement of its facilities with new warehouses, office building, enlarged water front, etc., the raising of the standard of the rolling stock from a very inferior condition to one of the best in the country, the purchase of new and good cars. All these things have been done, and, as is often necessary, at the expense of not a little money. The contrary, during this three year period the gross earnings have largely increased, but better than this very great advance in the physical condition of the road, the net earnings have been maintained.

With the announcement that the Seaboard will continue as an independent system, the people of the central South have an opportunity to stand by this company and make sure of its perpetual independence by giving it the most liberal ally to any other company, nor out of any sentimental consideration for the record of the past. It is scarcely possible that any other great railroad system between Baltimore and Atlanta will ever be built. The territory is practically occupied. The concentration of ownership of existing lines in one management would make it impossible to make Baltimore and the territory from here to Atlanta dependent upon one management. It would be too late to fight, too late to complain of railroad domination, true or imaginary, after that had been accomplished.

It is not necessary for another line to be built, and the Seaboard will be able to manage without any question as to present management. The Seaboard will be able to manage without any question as to present management. The Seaboard will be able to manage without any question as to present management.

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OO for U.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Many southerners object to the expression "the new South" as implying the idea that the South, as modified by post-bellum events, is an improvement on the old South, but what would they say if they heard their section called the "new South"? This is what a number of northern people who think well of themselves are in the habit of calling it. They change you, the common sound of the letter u to oo, and, by consequence, say no instead of new, students instead of students, duke and dooty instead of duty. The writer of an article in the New York Sun recently tried to show that this mispronunciation was right and was sanctioned by the usage of all educated people from Maine to California. But his claim is not conceded by New York, nor by New Englanders, who in letters to the Sun describe the southern pronunciation as the correct one. A Connecticut writer accuses the oo pronunciation to "indolence in phonation," and a Louisiana correspondent takes the same view. It is contended that the sound is prevalent in the North from Maine to California, but not among the well-educated, for an educated person pronounces the oo as u, and is trained to speak and act correctly. If anyone finds it difficult to say duty and must say dooty, it is simply because he has been imperfectly trained. If the best usage be considered, you is the pronunciation approved by the educated in the North and in the South in the class of words under discussion. Some persons who unwittingly make a virtue of their fault and have a sense of superiority in revealing their errors go to the length of saying toot, toot, toot, instead of duty, dooty, dooty, dooty, etc. It cannot be correctly introduced everywhere. We can do so for pure or impure ends. The South is sometimes charged with a negligent enunciation of the u's, but this utterance of the u is not among his misdeeds.

The Christian's Cross.

Not infrequently are Christians heard to speak of duties as crosses to be borne; and I am convinced that some among them regard their performance as a complete compliance with the law of self-denial. It is a cross to play, to speak, to commend Christ to others, to attend church, to frequent the social meetings, and, indeed, to do anything of distinctly religious nature. By the force of their will and with the aid of sundry admonitions they bring themselves up to the discharge of those obligations, and on this way they feel that they should entitle them to a place in "the noble army of martyrs." I am sorry to dissipate the comfortable illusion; but I am compelled to assure them that they totally misapprehend the doctrine of our Lord. He said that it was his meat and drink to do the will of his Father; and he never once refers to duty in any other way than as a delight. The cross was distinct something from it.

Many times we are under the divine influence when we are not conscious of it. No man speaks a good word or performs a good deed without being influenced by the spirit.

One Hundred and Thirty-Seven (137) Acres,

The State of South Carolina,

COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE.

PROBATE COURT.

In the Matter of the Estate of Wm. A. Lee, Deceased.

Notice to Debtors and Creditors.

ALL persons indebted to said estate must settle without delay, and those holding claims against the estate must present them properly attested to Mrs. V. L. Lee, Administratrix.

Or, PARKER & MCGOWAN, Attorneys.

Nov. 25, 1896. 21

Master's Sale.

The State of South Carolina,

COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

W. Townes Jones against Annie L. Walker et al.

By VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE made in the above stated case, I will offer for sale at public outcry at Abbeville, S. C., on Saturday in DECEMBER, 1896, within the legal hours of sale, the following described property, situate in said State and County to-wit: All that lot or parcel of land, known as the Ware Tract, containing

Two Hundred (200) Acres,

more or less, bounded by lands of H. P. McGee, William Raser, James C. Fooshe and others.

TERMS OF SALE—One-half cash, balance on a credit of twelve months, with interest from day of sale, secured by bond of purchaser and mortgage of premises. Purchaser to pay all Cash. Purchaser to pay for papers.

Nov. 14, 1896. 31

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