The Chatham Record

THURSDAY, - March 29, 1900.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

THE chief argument urged against the suffrage amendment by its opponents, is their pretended fear that it will disfranchise illiterate white men as well as illiterate negroes. We say "pretended fear," because it is a mere pretense, for if the amendment should disfranchise illiterate whites, the Republican party in North Carolina would most earnestly advocate it.

A large majority of the illiterate whites in this State are Democrats, and are among our truest Democrats, without whose votes the Democratic party would never have carried any election. Of course then it would help the Republican party, and hurt the Democratic party, for the illiterate whites to be disfranchised and therefore we say that, if the Republicans really thought that the amendment would disfranchise illiterate whites, they would be the most earnest advocates of the amendment, and for the same reason the Democrats would be its opponents.

The truth is the Republicans in this State, and their allies, realize full well that they can only hope to carry any election in this State by and through the solid mass of ignorant negroes voting with a small minority of white men. And they further realize that if the ignorant negroes are disfranchised, they can never hope to carry another election in this State. For this reason they are trying to defeat the amendment by arousing the fears of illiterate white men and are falsely pretending to oppose the amendment, because of sympathy for the illiterate whites. Their pretense of thinking that the illiterate whites will be disfranchised, is a verification of the old saying "The wish is father to the thought."

ONE of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance and one of the planks of the platform of the People's party is the "Initiative and Referendum." Therefore no Allianceman or Populist ought to object to the people having an opportunity of voting upon the suffrage amendment. No Allianceman or Populist, who believes in the much discussed "initiative and referendum," can consistently complain of the last Legislature for giving the people of North Carolina an opportunity of amending their constitution.

The Legislature has simply referred the question of negro suffrage to the people to vote on at the polls, thus carrying out the "Referendum" plank of the platform adopted both by the Farmers Alliance and the People's party. And surely no true Allianceman or Populist can blame even a Democratic Legislature for doing this!

And yet some pretended, or professing, Alliancemen and Populists are denouncing the last Legislature for thus adopting their "referendum" plank and for giving the people an opportunity of saying whether or not they want to amend their State constitution!

A meeting of the North Carolina Democratic Editorial Association will be held at Raleigh on the 12th of April, the day after the State convention.

The object of this meeting is for consultation with the Democratic State Executive Committee in regard to the most effective work that can be done in the coming campaign for white supremacy. It is hoped that every Democratic editor in the State will attend this meeting.

While the Democratic editors of North Carolina have at all times done their full duty, they will do more than ever before in this great campaign whether their services are recognized or not.

POWERS, the Republican Secretary of State of Kentucky, after a preliminary trial, has been committed to jail without bail for trial upon the charge of complicity in the murder of Governor Goebel. Other arrests will be made.

The Supreme Court has not yet decided the contest for Governor, and President McKinley has refused to interfere with Federal troops. It is hoped and believed that there will be no more bloodshed.

THE passage of the Porto Rican tariff bill is very justly denounced by many Republicans as well as by all the Democratic papers and will do more to defeat the Republican party next November than all other causes combined.

The bill is so altogether unjust and unexpected that it should surprise and even shock every fair-minded American. A year ago everybody would have scouted the very idea of such a bill being passed, and the unhappy Porto Ricans being so unjustly oppressed.

The reason of its passage is openly alleged and generally believed to be in the interests of the mighty trusts which contributed so much to the Republican corruption fund in 1896.

CHAIRMAN Simmons has arranged for the campaign to open most actively on Monday after the Convention. All the nominees of the Convention will go together to several of the largest towns of the State, at each of which there will be a grand ratification meeting. It has been decided to make the campaign hot and enthusiastic from the start, and it will no doubt be the most exciting as well as most important ever carried on in this State. The white men of North Carolina will be aroused as they never have been before, for they are determined to make white supremacy permanent and perpetual!

No important war news from South Africa has been received since last week. No battles have been fought since then, but the British are gradually concentrating their forces and preparing for a movement against Pretoria, the capital of Kruger's Republic, which of course must eventually capitulate.

Atwater Against Expansion.

[illegible]

Washington, March 26.—Hon. John W. Atwater delivered in the House a short speech today that created more enthusiasm than any address delivered during the course of the day. He said:

"Mr. Chairman: I had not intended to say a word upon this bill, but I believe the sentiments of the people of the district which I have the honor to represent are entitled to be heard on this question. North Carolina, in all its history, has ever been true to the call for the defense of what we believe to be right. In the war that we have just gone through with Spain she was equal to the emergency. Believing that our cause was just, that the oppression and the starvation of the people of Cuba by the Spanish Government was cruel, our people responded to the call of the chief executive. We believed that when we had conquered Spain and provided a way by which the Cubans could have independence and freedom, when peace was restored and Spain was driven from these islands, that the army would be reduced and unnecessary expenses would stop. But when it was attempted to extend our dominions over other islands that were not thought of when the first call for troops was issued, the people of my State believed it to be an unjust war.

"Had the President defined the present position of the administration at that time, we believe that the people of this country would not have been in favor of his policy, and we would not be called upon now to make large appropriations for the army. If, after Admiral Dewey had captured the Spanish fleet at Manila, he had put on all steam and gone [illegible] the shores of Spain to conquer the remainder of the Spanish army every man in this country would have rejoiced; but the attempt to subdue the people of the Philippine Islands has never met with hearty response from the people of the State which I have the honor, in part, to represent. If the President of the United States were to define his policy today and say to the Philippine insurgents, 'If you will lay down your arms civil government will be given to you,' I believe that in less than three months all armed resistance in the Philippines would cease and peace would be restored, so that our troops could be called from that country where they are dying not only from rebel bullets, but from disease.

"I believe, as an American, that we ought to define our position and let those people know that we don't intend to take their islands as our possessions. I believe we would be a hundred times better off without them than with them. I believe that if this policy is continued, Congress will be called upon year after year to make appropriations for the army to maintain a government in those islands. I, for one, believe that it is the duty of the chief executive to call a halt, to give the people in those islands to understand that we do not intend to crush them, but that a nation which is powerful enough so that it can afford to be generous will give them their freedom and the right to self-government.

Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, March 23, 1900.

Republican Senators are still in a dead-lock on the Porto Rican tariff and the key is yet to be found. Some of the Republican Senators have been whipped into support of the tariff against their own convictions and against the expressed wishes of their constituents, but there are still about a dozen who hold out for free trade and who say they will vote with the Democrats for a free trade amendment. The bill giving back to Porto Rico the money which has been and is being unjustly taken away from its inhabitants under the Dingley tariff has become a law, but what is to become of the other and more important Porto Rico bill is yet to be determined. Mr. McKinley and every member of his Cabinet are now openly working to get votes for the tariff, in the face of their official record as advocates of free trade with the islands. Democrats are taking no part in the mess, realizing that the Republicans are making Democratic votes by thousands and being willing to let it go at that until the time comes to vote.

Although hampered by the Republican members of the House Military Committee, which is investigating the use of Federal troops in the Idaho mining troubles last year, Representatives Lentz and Sulzer have succeeded in showing that the troops were extremely brutal in their treatment of men arrested; that warrants of arrest, similar to the infamous French lettres de cachet, with the space for the name left blank, were signed and issued to constables in quantities, and that, although there is a State law against discriminating against either union or non-union miners, no man could work in the mines of the Coeur d'Alene country without a permit, and no member of a labor union could secure a permit. This isn't a showing to be proud of, and the investigation isn't over yet.

The platform adopted by the Nebraska Democrats is thought to represent Col. Bryan's idea of the platform that should be adopted by the Kansas City convention, and [illegible] it has been much discussed among Democrats in Congress. The only feature of the platform adversely criticised by Democrats is that dealing with the initiative and referendum. Among Southern Senators who were outspoken in their condemnation of this are Senators Tillman, Bacon, McLaurin, Senator Jones, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said of the Nebraska platform: "Its various declarations seem to be in harmony with the Democratic [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Representative Sulzer, of New York, made a [illegible] speech before the East Washington Democratic Club, in which he said, "England controls the policy of the administration of William McKinley. It was England's influence that favored us in war in the Philippines. England wanted our soldiers and our ships in Asiatic waters. It is beginning to be clear now why she wanted them there. Salisbury is a far-seeing prime minister. He foresaw the effort that England is now making to crush the South African republics. He foresaw that the Czar might seize the opportunity to push [illegible] interests in China and [illegible] jeopardize what England considers rights there. With a secret alliance or understanding between the government of Great Britain and the Republican administration in Washington, American guns and American bayonets might secure [illegible] to England's account in the far East.

Representative Champ Clark, of Mo., thus stated his position on the trust question: "It would be foolish for me to waste time making an anti-trust speech. The entire matter may be summed up in a single sentence. This is not a new issue. The first anti-trust speech was made about 4,000 years ago by an old gentleman named Moses, when he wrote upon the tablets of stone the inspired words, "Thou shalt not steal."

Hon. Hoke Smith, of Georgia, who was in Washington on private business, was asked to state his views on the political outlook and said: "The people of Georgia are too busy making money to pay much attention to politics, but they are solid for the regular Democratic nominee for President, be he Mr. Bryan or anyone else. Of course, we all believe it will be Mr. Bryan. Georgia, and I think the South generally, is dead against imperialism, and will vote that way."

Mr. McKinley has requested Gen. Joe Wheeler to withdraw his resignation and remain in the army, but Gen. Wheeler has not yet decided to do so. He has been given to understand that if he will remain in the army he can have a brigadier's commission in the regular army, or rather be retired with that rank.

The Vance Statue.

[illegible]

Within ten days or thereabouts the base of the Vance statue will be in position in the east walk of the capitol square. The base will be seven feet, two inches, square. Its height will be eight and one-half feet. That of the statue will be the same. The base is of gray granite, of fine grain, from Iredell county. The ground at the point where the statue will stand will be raised about three feet above the present level, so as to make it conform to the artificial elevation on which the statue of Washington now stands; in other words the ground will be made level from the east door of the capitol to the statue and a little flight of steps will connect this higher level with the remainder of the walk eastward.

An Egg Curiosity.

[illegible]

Washington, March 21.—Congressman Small read this letter today:

"Washington, N. C., Mar. 20.

"To Hon. John H. Small, Washington, D. C.:

"I am expressing to you a hen egg that was laid on Bedding Stancil Woodard's farm, nine miles west of Washington, N. C. Mr. Woodard requests me to send you this egg and get you to show it to the newspaper men in Washington. The egg has W. J. Bryan's initials in plain letters on it.

"This egg was found, while warm, in Woodard's hen house, with the initials on it. The people in this neighborhood think this is a sure sign that Mr. Bryan will be the next President, and all are going to vote for him. Mr. Woodard wishes you to send this egg to Mr. Bryan and ask that he acknowledge receipt of it to him, Mineola, Beaufort county, N. C.

"Very truly,

"D. M. CARTER."

The original of this letter [illegible]

[illegible]

Murdered Six Persons.

[illegible]

Raleigh, N. C., March 22.—One of the most horrible crimes in the history of North Carolina occurred early this morning at [illegible]'s, five miles east of this city, when a negro, Tom Jones, commonly known in the community as "Crocker" Jones, murdered Ella Jones and her oldest daughter, Ida Jones, and then set fire to the house in which were bodies of the murdered victims and four others, all children, ranging in years from a baby one month old to the largest boy, who was not more than 5 years of age. The work was done with an axe, the murderer, according to little 7-year-old Laura Jones, who escaped with her younger sister, deliberately and coolly striking the mother four times and then making two heavy strokes into the body of the oldest child.

The house was completely destroyed in the fire and the bones of the four youngest children are now distributed among the ashes, which alone remain to tell the story of the conflagration. The body of Ella Jones and that of Ida, the 13-year-old child were burned beyond recognition, and are lying on the ground charred to a crisp and with the whole bodies cut open and displayed to view.

The dead are: Ella Jones, the mother, aged 34; Ida Jones, 13 years old; Jesse Jones, 5 years old; Clever Jones, 2 years old and an unnamed baby one month old.

The two girls who escaped from the fire with their lives were: Laura Jones, 7 years old; Sid Jones, 4 years old.

When those who heard the story of the murder from the lips of the little ragged negro and went to Jones' house to arrest him they found that his clothes bore the stains of fresh blood and his hands even showed spots of human blood. Though there was talk among the negroes of lynching, no attempt was made to do so, and Jones was brought to this city and placed in jail to await trial for his crime. The two children, having no relatives, were taken to the county home to be cared for.

Good Reasons For The Amendment.

From The Charlotte Observer.

There are many reasons why the proposed constitutional amendment should be adopted at the election in August. The negroes should welcome it because they have gotten no good out of politics, but have suffered in every way from their participation in it. The white Republicans should favor it because the passing of the negro as a voter will relieve their party of a vast deal of odium which attaches to it on account of the negro and which will attach to it as long as he forms the greater part of the numerical strength of the party in the State. Every Democrat and Populist should be its friend for the reason that it offers deliverance from the chief and continuing source of irritation in our politics, and will remove the menace of bad government, which is present at every recurring election. Every citizen should want to see it adopted for the reason, over and above all, that when it is, there will be room in North Carolina, as there has not been since the civil war, for freedom of political thought. A man may then be a Democrat, a Populist or a Republican, as he may choose, upon the merits of the issues submitted by these parties, or according to the character of the candidates presented, without laying himself liable to the charge of being in league with the State's enemies if he votes Republican, or the charge that he is coerced and runs counter to his convictions if he votes the Democratic ticket. The adoption of the amendment will set both white men and negroes free from the domination of party, and we shall all come into the natural heritage of free men, viz: liberty of opinion and liberty to express it.

Porto Rican Relief Bill.

[illegible]

The passage of what is called the Puerto Rican Relief bill, in which over two million dollars collected at Federal custom houses as duties on imports of goods from Puerto Rico are appropriated for necessary local uses in that island, is in effect an acknowledgment of injustice done and of further injustice contemplated. In order to please and [illegible] the Trusts, the Government of the United States is put in the position of failing to redeem promises made to the people of Puerto Rico and is held up to the rather contemptuous [illegible] of a failure to perform a promise. The people of the United States are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Capt. [illegible] [illegible] for 20 years [illegible] the Washington [illegible] [illegible] died Saturday.

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

TRAINS LEAVE PITTSBORO

3:29 p. m., 9:30 a. m.

Trains Arrive at Pittsboro

11:25 a. m., 5:25 p. m.

[illegible]

R. S. Leard, T. P. A.

Z. P. Smith, C. T. A.

Yarboro House.

Raleigh, N. C.

W. R. Barber, Agent,

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Condensed Schedule.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

[illegible]

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

[illegible]

[illegible]

T. M. EMERSON, Traffic Manager.

1878. 1900.

EVERY CITIZEN OF CHATHAM COUNTY

Ought to read the CHATHAM RECORD which for over TWENTY ONE years has been doing its utmost to build up our grand old county.

THE RECORD IS THE "OLD RELIABLE" THAT CAN BE DEPENDED ON NOT ONLY FOR THE LATEST NEWS, but for its advocacy of all measures that will best promote the prosperity of all the people.

THE RECORD is no OFFICE-SEEKERS' ORGAN, nor the organ of any RING, but expresses the opinions of its editor without fear or favor, regardless of the fact whether they are popular or not.

WHILE ADVOCATING White Supremacy, the RECORD will do all it can to help the colored people in improving [illegible]tion