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# The Chatham Record.

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## COTTON MILL OPERATIVES.

Of All People They Should Stand Firmly by the Amendment and "Vote White." Some Reasons. They Need Protection From the Negro Industrially as Well as Politically.

My friend, if you are a cotton mill operative I wish you to read this. If you are not, and know of any one who has no acquaintance with the law, then I wish you to hand it to him, or to read it and repeat its contents to him.

The enemies of White Supremacy, who believe a black vote is as good as a white one, and who have too often proved their preference for the negro by election, party and industry, are industrially as well as politically, the enemies of the white working man. These enemies of the white race have lately been making "special pleas" in the form of the "poor white" law, in order to take the white operative in a number of the cotton mills of the State. If they have not yet read your will they probably will, and you want to be an "old hand."

I believe that, at heart, there are no whiter men in the South than the best, steady white men who run and own mills, and lay other industrial establishments and factories in which the negro has not succeeded in multiplying the labor. It is only by the best methods of the mill owner and the white worker that their enemies can be kept from coming in and taking their place. This year the proposed Amendment will not only give the negro the vote, but will also give him the right to work in the mills. There are many who are envious and who have adopted their plan of direct and indirect "lynch" for the white man. They are not only envious, but they are also industrially as well as politically, the enemies of the white worker. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker.

WHITE MILL HANDS HAVE MUCH AT STAKE.  
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HOW ABOUT YOUR LITTLE GIRL?  
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THE LABORING MAN.  
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BUTLER SELLS OUT TO THE REPUBLICANS.  
Senator Butler has sold out to the Republicans. This is a matter of great importance to the white mill hands. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker. They are the "poor white" men, who are the enemies of the white worker.

THE HORRORS THAT MIGHT FOLLOW.  
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He has never had a friend or a party who was not ready to betray, and he has never held a principle he was not ready to sell. I will make one exception: I do him credit to say he was faithful to Bryan in 1896, but only to save his loved Bryan would be elected, and that he would be taken care of. This year you will see that before November, Butler will have made an arrangement with Mark Hanna and that their national committee will be working in unison for the defeat of Bryan. Having said all else, he will sell out Bryan this year. Butler's consideration will either be an office at the hands of McKinley, in case of his election, or it will be the customary bribe piece of silver. If McKinley is elected we will have the unique spectacle of Mark Butler sitting at the feet of Pritchard and Hanna, claiming to be a greater helper and supporter of Bryan than McKinley than McKinley, of the Asheville Gazette.

Among the beneficent results of the election is next August will be the election of Mark Butler along with the negroes. After the August election it will be out of the Senate, out of office, out of the State, out and out for good for Mark Butler.

SENATOR BUTLER Urged the Passage of the Constitutional Amendment - The Caucasian Committee - The Democrats Would Not Disfranchise the Negroes.

The Fusionists have been having much to say in regard to the Democrats having broken their promise in submitting the Constitutional amendment to the people. They have been quoting from different newspapers, (some alleged statements by Chairman Cannon, Mr. Post, and others, etc.) in which Senator Butler said in his opinion, the Caucasian in an editorial on November 21, 1898, less than one month after the election:

"The Populists and white Republicans who voted the Democratic ticket in 1898, no doubt, with the distinct understanding that a Democratic legislature would call a constitutional convention. We will now see whether or not the Democratic machine will keep faith with the voters."

There is what the same paper said in an editorial on December 8, 1898, just a month after the election:

"The Democratic machine promised the people on every stump that if they were put in power, they would eliminate the negro from politics. It seems that they get twenty-five or thirty thousand new votes on this promise. Now, the way to eliminate the negro from politics is to let down the bars and let the white mill hands and other railroad agents to come and take the negro out of the mills, or to disfranchise the negro by constitutional amendment. We will soon see in what way the Democrats will keep this promise to the people."

The Populist Handbook of 1898 Favored Disfranchisement.  
In the campaign hand-book of the Populists, for 1898, prepared by Butler, Thompson and Company, one of the chief complaints against the Democrats was that the negro had not been disfranchised. On Page 1 appears this declaration:

"During a period of twenty years in which that party swayed overwhelping power in North Carolina, it never passed a law nor made an effort to disfranchise or take from the negro the power of the ballot, which they now declare they so gloriously intend."

In nearly every Southern State, except North Carolina, the negro is disfranchised, with the result that racial antagonism cannot be aroused, because of the absence of a basis on which to proceed. The same power that disfranchised the negro in these Southern States has been wadded by the Democratic party in North Carolina for twenty years, and yet no advantage whatever has ever been taken of that power."

Butler Complains That the Legislature Will Not Disfranchise the Negro.  
Before the legislature assembled the Caucasian began to predict that this promise of the Democrats would not be kept. On December 8 it had the following to say:

"THE JIM CROW CAR LOBBIE.  
"Since the election there has sprung up a new issue that was not heard of during the campaign or before. It is the proposed Jim Crow car law. The Democrats ran their campaign on the cry that the State was seized and disfranchised and dominated by negro domination. Since the election it seems that the only remedial legislation that the Democrats propose to get rid of negro domination is the Jim Crow car. They are now scolding this question and say it is an awful thing for negroes to ride in the same car with white people. It is strange that it never occurred to the Democrats during their twenty-five years of Democratic rule that this kind of negro domination was then in progress and was just as offensive then as it is now. One would think, to see the concern that the Democratic machine is showing over the Jim Crow car proposition, that the Populist party was responsible for repealing some Democratic law prohibiting negroes to ride in railroad trains with white people. The mistake if all this is that the Democrats do not propose to call a constitutional convention at once to change the constitution of the State. They are just trying to get out some dodge which is to be entirely creditous to

## HOW IT IS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Every White Man Can Vote and Most Do Vote at the Primaries--But as Their Votes are Not Needed Some Do Not Take the Trouble to Go to the Polls --What a South Carolinian Says About One of Abe Middleton's Campaign Lies--Poor White Men More Influential Than Ever Before in Their Lives.

"Got many people, white people, in your State who will be fooled by such a transparent lie as that 'any body at all ignorant or gullible enough to accept such a statement?'"

"The speaker was a South Carolinian, and he was sitting in front of the leading hotel of Raleigh, looking over one of Holt's and Abe Middleton's campaign circulars, folded in as a sort of supplement to a negro paper, which he explained had fallen into his hands by mistake. The paper was addressed to an illiterate white working man who worked in a Raleigh factory, and who bears the same name as the speaker, with a change of one initial.

"It beats all," he continued. "And then he read the mislabeled question. It went on to say, in effect, that if the 'poor' white men (as though poverty or riches had anything to do with the Amendment) of N. C., believed the proposed Amendment would not and could not disfranchise any white man, then they (negro Abe Middleton and the negro editor of the paper, personally) would point them to South Carolina, where the negro has been eliminated from politics in a similar way, for proof to the contrary.

And then with much gusto," The Carolina proceeded to declare that several thousand less of votes have been cast of late years than when the negro voted in that State, concluding with a query like this: "Isn't this proof positive that some of the white men of South Carolina are also disfranchised?"

"Turning to me, the South Carolinian said: 'You know, of course why a less number of white votes are now, sometimes, actually polled than formerly? I replied that I presumed it was because the votes of all white men (nearly all of them being in the Democratic party in his State) were not needed to defeat the few negroes who could still vote and the less than 10,000 whites of the opposition."

"Exactly," he replied, "and because of the fact a considerable number do not take the pains to go to the polls."

"This latter fact," he added, "is also largely due to the primary system in use in our State, by which we nominate all our officials, from Governor down. These white men attend the primaries--thousands of them, who do not go to the polls to vote for their man after nominating them, are always on hand at the primaries, especially when there is a division of sentiment and more than one candidate for a particular office.

"And at these Democratic primaries the humblest and poorest white man in South Carolina has just as much to do with nominating the candidates for Governor and all other offices as the wealthiest and ablest man in the State. In fact, these poor men have much more influence in nominating and electing our State and county and municipal officers than they had before the negro was eliminated, and when nominations were made by conventions.

"There is not a white man in South Carolina disfranchised as this lying sheet declares, and the negroes who edit it could get an affidavit from any saying he has been deprived of the vote--unless he has been convicted of a felonious crime and served a term in the penitentiary.

"It will be exactly the same way here in your State," he continued, "after you adopt the Amendment, for I can tell you Democratic State convention in April next, preparation for the Legislature to provide for legalized primaries in N. C., also."

"No white man, especially a poor white man, can give against your Amendment without injuring himself and his fellow whites incalculably. It will be of more benefit to them than other class, I assure you."

"The elimination of the negro from politics in South Carolina has proved just as all of us then know. The humblest white man will really just be enfranchised--a good when the negro's vote is killed, for the former will then have a double value. And when he walks into your primaries to vote, he will have as much influence and as much to do with nominating every candidate for every office as the richest and smartest man in North Carolina. This alone ought to cause all such to be more thorough in favor of the Amendment, than all others--to say nothing about the taming effects disfranchisement has upon that round called 'nigger'. The poor man's wife and daughter will not have half the cause to fear the negro beats a year after the adoption of the Amendment that they justly entertain now."

## OUR HEIGHT OF HUMOR.

LAUGH OVER PROPOSALS FOR A CHANGE OF POLICY.  
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THE SPOKE OF THE WHEEL.  
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