POLITICAL OBSERVATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

[Special Correspondence.]

Washington, D. C., August 5.—As set forth in this correspondence last week the North Carolina conflict with the railroads is still the paramount political issue. The victory of the state authorities in forcing the railroads to obey the state law reducing rates until the legal questions involved have been decided by the Supreme Court is the most satisfactory outcome to the people that has occurred since railroad control has been attempted. The greatest satisfaction is expressed by Democrats that a Democratic governor showed the ability and courage to compel obedience to the law by imprisoning the law-breakers in spite of the threats of the corporation managers and attorneys and the aid of a federal judge. It should be remembered that the issue in the North Carolina case was similar to that contended for by the Democrats when the railroad rate bill was pending in the United States Senate, namely, that a reduction of rates would be effective until declared by the courts unconstitutional or confiscatory.

The discussion of the most available presidential candidate for the Democrats to nominate has received a fresh impetus this week by the arrival in Washington of Senator Bacon, of Georgia. He declares himself unavailable as a Southern man for President such as Senator Daniel, Tillerman, Vardaman or Gray, and names of others who could be named. "All that is needed," declared Senator Bacon, "is for one of them to step out and declare himself a candidate and the nomination will come to him." Other Democratic leaders do not view the nomination of a Southern man with the enthusiasm of Senator Bacon. They believe that the Democratic National Convention will nominate a man from a Southern State if there be a acceptable to the delegates from the close and doubtful Northern States.

It is pointed out that during the last ten years most of the Eastern Democratic criticism of Mr. Bryan has been based upon his extreme views of financial, economic and political questions. They have failed (and in many instances, it would seem, intentionally) to recognize the distinction between Mr. Bryan's academical views and those which he estimates as belonging to the realm of practical politics. The great financial issue on which this first battle was fought he now admits is a settled question as a consequence of the enormous increase in the volume of gold and inflation of the currency and therefore no longer debated, although he still considers that great as has been the prosperity during that time as which he predicted poverty and distress, the prosperity would have been more general had the doctrines for which he contended been adopted by popular vote. Within the last two months he has made speeches in Illinois, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri, and in every one of them he has made a strong appeal for the adoption of the Democratic platform of 1908 in its entirety. He has not been a candidate before the people for a nomination since 1908, but he has been a candidate before the Democratic National Convention every year since 1896 except 1904, and in every instance he has been the leader of his party in the country, and his party has followed his leadership except in 1904. He is now the only candidate whose nomination would be hailed with enthusiasm by the Democrats of the country, and if he should be nominated and should accept the nomination he would be the strongest candidate the party could put forward. He would be the strongest because his nomination would be hailed with enthusiasm by the great army of Democrats who have followed him in the past, and who would follow him again if they believed he could be elected. He would be the strongest because his nomination would be accepted by the Democrats as a guarantee that the platform would be interpreted in the spirit in which it was adopted by the convention that nominated him in 1908. He would be the strongest because his nomination would be accepted by the country as a guarantee that the Democratic party would not be driven from its moorings by the clamor of the few who have been crying for a change in the leadership of the party because they have been unable to secure the nomination themselves. He would be the strongest because his nomination would be accepted by the country as a guarantee that the Democratic party would not be driven from its moorings by the clamor of the few who have been crying for a change in the leadership of the party because they have been unable to secure the nomination themselves. He would be the strongest because his nomination would be accepted by the country as a guarantee that the Democratic party would not be driven from its moorings by the clamor of the few who have been crying for a change in the leadership of the party because they have been unable to secure the nomination themselves.

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