

DAILY STANDARD

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Editors and Proprietors.

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CONCORD, N. C., Oct 12.

INVALID OBJECTIONS TO THE AMENDMENTS.

We note the letter in the Charlotte Observer of the 11th from Spencer Blackburn and we are led to contemplate the confusion of tongues at the tower of Babel. It is not our purpose to controvert the matter with him but we simply refer to some of his fallacies and absurdities. There are others that may be playing on the same string.

He says he is unalterably opposed to the constitutional amendments and gives some of the reasons. He says he is not afraid of negro domination in the State as there are two white men to one negro.

But every man of frankness must admit that, in certain parts of the State, just prior to the last election the negro was dominant and very oppressive and irritating. The elimination of the ignorant negro vote will largely remedy this. He says he has strong faith in the superiority of his race and has no fear of the domination of an inferior race of less than half our numbers. It is an indisputable fact that small elements often hold the balance of power and if not of the better element are a hindrance to the better element.

When his party played upon the passions and prejudices of the negro, as he insinuates against those favoring the amendments, there was no reason sure enough but only prejudice and ambition of the lowest kind that made North Carolina a centre of amazement among her sister States. The amendments seek to make this condition less liable to such sway of passion.

He speaks of those who would engender strife and ill will among the masses for their personal aggrandisement. This is just what got two men into the United States Senate. It could not have been done otherwise. The lopping off of the largest possible number of ignorant voters will go far to making this impossible of repetition and the men of all parties who favor the amendments hope by this means to avert much of this play of passion and prejudice for self aggrandisement in our politics.

Mr. Blackburn says: "Instead of breeding our children with blood in their eyes, saw dust in their heads and guns in their pocket, let us lend audience to reason, and lift the old North State from a plane of political strife and wanton bloodshed, a shame upon the escutcheon of our Commonwealth, in which political thugs revel with seeming delight, to one of material advancement and substantial promotion."

All this is what we hope to

effect by eliminating some of the worst element of voters.

Mr. Blackburn, like a few others, affects to believe that many meritorious members of his own race will be disfranchised under the amendments and says, anyhow the State should not disfranchise ignorant citizens without first giving them the means and opportunity of an elementary education, though he knows the United States government did thrust upon us the enfranchisement of ignorant citizens, without the means and the opportunity of an elementary education, to the everlasting detriment of the South.

Now beyond the sphere of honest controversy all white men can vote under the amendment without educational requirements except those becoming 21 years old after 1908.

They have all this time to prepare and the State furnishes the means and the opportunity of an elementary education just as it has been doing. It is too bad that there are citizens now that can't read and write and if this fair notice of a wise provision for the good and the safety of the State does not stimulate citizens to intelligence, they furnish in themselves the best of reasons why they should not be allowed to vote.

Again Mr. Blackburn says:

"I hope there is still enough patriotism burning upon our country's altar to call back the days of Bunker Hill and Kings Mountain. Must we lose pride in those who threw the tea overboard in Boston harbor and Mecklenburg's heroes who signed our Magna Charta—the first declaration of independence—and reduce to political thralldom that unfortunate class of worthy citizens that cannot read and write?"

It's the worthy sons of those chivalric ancestors that will vote for the amendments to avert another experience like we have had in the state for a few years to the humiliation of the prosperity of these heroes. There will be no class of worthy citizens disfranchised except some good old slave negroes and they almost as one man admit that their white neighbors can do better for them politically than they can do for themselves. They are content to let the white man rule. There is a great deal of demagoguery about the cry, "Taxation" without representation is tyranny. Ignorant and vicious voting is a terrible taxation on any civil government. The ignorant citizen disfranchised on account of ignorance suffers no privation save doing that which he is incapable of doing intelligently and wisely. He gets all the educational advantages for his children and he and his family get the full protection of the law for their safety.

Mr. Blackburn says:

"Why ask for this provision after the lapse of more than 30 years of the enjoyment of the elective franchise by the negro? If intelligence is the test, why was there not more reason for the disfranchisement of the illiterate 30 or 20 or 10 years ago than now since a considerable per cent. of that race can read and write?"

The surprise is that any one should ask such questions. After getting from under carpet bag rule the state had smooth sailing till the last few years when the unwisdom of the 15th amendment became so forcibly apparent. The better element of all parties want the amend-

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Asheville, N. C., April 24, 1893.

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M L MARSH,
Agent for Concord.

ments with which to insure against another such experience The Fifteenth Amendment is an admitted mistake, a gross injustice to the South and a constant menace to her peace. It is strange that any one of Anglo-Saxon blood in his viens and patriotic state pride in his bosom should be kicking when the conservators of the state try to do the only conceivable thing to be done to overcome the baneful effects of the Fifteenth Amendment. The adoption of the amendments is not especially in the interests of any party but for the peace, safety and welfare of the state. It would certainly relieve others than the Democratic party of much embarrassment if the whole negro vote were cut off.

The Morning Post says of the State fair next week:

"New attractions are being daily added. The management has just secured the wonderful educated horse, Forest Terapest, who will perform on the track daily, giving a free exhibition complimentary to the visitors of the fair. The animal marches, paces, trots, runs, and performs contortion tricks at command. He is also grand in his original cake walk. This horse has been educated until at the request of visitors he will read, write, spell, figure up sums, act as postmaster, while his trainer stands in the audience. He can select the prettiest girl in the crowd, and is the only horse in the world able to write figures on a black-board."

That's doubtless a clever horse and it is wonderful how his trainer gets him to do all these things without the horse's knowing anything but to do certain things as directed by the trainer's "cue" on which he is dependent, except for parts which are purely routine.

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THE RACKET STORE!

We have just received a lot of Stamped Linens which we are selling far below their usual values. If you anticipate doing any Embroidery for Christmas presents now is a good time to start your work. Small Doylies or squares for 1c, larger ones 2 1/2 to 10c. Table and Tray Cover, Center Pieces, Splashers and Scarfs, 15 to 25 cents.

Wide hemmed with wide silk stitching as above at 5 to 50c.

See Our Window Display.

Embroidery Silks, wash colors, 3c. worth 5c.

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Nice lot of Glass etc. in them.

D. J. Bostian.

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