

Watauga Democrat.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

"Cuba; it ought to be and it shall be free!" That is the motto on the flag which the friends of Cuba, many and influential in Washington, have nailed to the mast. The new campaign for free Cuba was opened with a big mass meeting, under the auspices of the Woman's National Cuban League, participated in by many prominent men, including a number of Washington's foremost ministers of the gospel. Other meetings are to be held, not only in Washington, but in all sections of the country, to give that hearty sympathy for Cuba known to exist a chance to express itself in such an emphatic way that the leisurely and uncertain steps of the administration will have to be quickened, whether it be agreeable to the government of Spain or not. At this meeting a picked choir of sixty voices sang for the first time in public Joseph Adams' "Ode to Cuba," which he dedicated to the League. There was great enthusiasm, and those who in charge say that it is going to continue to grow until it becomes irresistible. These people believe with the Cubans that nothing short of freedom for Cuba will be accepted, and that the administration scheme of pacification for Cuba under a continuance of Spanish rule is bound to be a failure.

Ex-Governor Hoardley, Chief Counsel for the intending purchasers of the Union Pacific Railroad, has been in Washington for the purpose of securing the official consent of the administration to the deal made by his clients with the Cleveland administration. He secured it, of course, and the road will be sold next month, notwithstanding the protests of the Senate Committee on Pacific Railroads and the charge by reputable citizens that the sale is a job to do the government and the privateereditors of the road out of millions of dollars.

It pays to be the President's doctor. Dr. Newton L. Bates, a medical director in the Navy, who was the private physician of Mr. McKinley when he was in Congress, and who has occupied the same position since he became President, has been appointed Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in the Navy Department, although he was not next in line for promotion.

An Ohio republican who would not allow his name to be used because it figures on an official pay roll and he wishes it to stay there, has been telling the inside facts about the high-handed way in which Boss Hanna's man Dick has been walking rough shod over the Foraker republicans in the state. He has been in the state recently and knows. He said: "There has never been anything like it before in Ohio politics. The supporters of Senator Foraker supposed that when the deal was patched up, largely through Mr. McKinley, by which Mr. Hanna was to be supported for the Senate and Gov. Bushnell renominated, that factional differences were to be shelved for the time and the campaign made harmoniously. They soon discovered that the harmony was to consist of constant humiliations put upon the Foraker men by Hanna, his man Dick, and their henchmen. It has been steadily getting worse ever since the campaign opened and the end is not yet, although Senator Foraker became so disgusted that he left the state with the intention of remaining away until the election. Mr. McKinley has persuaded Senator Foraker to return to Ohio, and promised him that if he would go ahead and make speeches he would see that Hanna and Dick gave him and his friends better treatment. Foraker accepted Mr. McKinley's promise and left Washington today for Ohio, but he knows that Hanna considers himself McKinley's master, and he hasn't much confidence in that promise. Foraker will have a personal day of reckoning with Hanna, as sure as you live, whether it be on the floor of the United States Senate or in the State of Ohio."

There is an unusual lot of growling among the office seekers in Washington because of the little time that Mr. McKinley devotes to them. They go to the White House every day but few of them get an opportunity to see Mr. McKinley, and those who do see him do not get much satisfaction. He makes some appointments nearly every day, but lots of them are men whom he knows personally or wishes to reward for personal work done for him. As a result there is some plain talk in the hotel corridors from those who believe themselves entitled to official recognition and who have been led to suppose they would get it. Slowly, but surely, an anti McKinley sentiment is growing among republicans.

The "Palmetto State."

The Charleston News and Courier thus explains the origin of South Carolina's sobriquet, "the Palmetto State." "On June 28, 1776, a force of less than 100 Carolinians, under command of Moultrie, protected by the rude fortification on Sullivan's Island, in Charleston harbor, made of the trunks of the palmetto, repulsed the attacks of a British fleet under command of Sir Peter Parker, and when the State of South Carolina was organized, the State seal, which was first used in May, 1777, was made to commemorate this victory. A palm tree, growing erect on the seashore, represents the strength of the fort, while at its base an oak tree, torn from the ground and deprived of its branches, recalls the British fleet, built of oak timber, overcome by the palmetto."

The Negro as an Obstacle.

Biblical Recorder.

The colored man will be with us of the South always. His tribe now numbers 7,000,000; his increase is about 200,000 annually. To send him back to Africa is impossible, it would be utterly impracticable. To colonize him in this country is also both impossible and impracticable. Amalgamation is losing ground instead of gaining, which is vastly to the credit of our country. So the colored man is here to stay. We must take account of him, we must reckon on him.

Since the gates of Eden closed of Adam and Eve no greater calamity has befallen a people than that which we thrust upon the stricken South by the act giving 1,000,000 slaves, sons of generations of slaves, the right of franchise. From that day until now the course of the Southern people has been a desperate struggle up grade against odds that would have daunted a less valiant race. Politically we are where we were three decades ago. No reforms could be initiated, no advanced positions be taken, because every year and hour the slightest disaffection would throw 100,000 colored voters into ascendancy. Take simple instance: The editor of the Biblical Recorder, now gathered to his fathers, was denounced and abused through out North Carolina because he would not advocate a prohibition party. Those who knew him knew why he was silent. He knew that to advocate the Prohibition party would divide the white people, and the colored voters would rise to power. He preferred liquor-selling with honorable white men in office to liquor-selling with incompetent colored men and representatives of them in power. His position was sound.

This is only one instance. Hundreds might be named. For every reform creates division, every new idea creates disaffection. And in consequence the larger element of the white people in the South are politically the slowest in the world to move. And it will be so so long as there is the almost inevitable consequence that to initiate a change will turn the country over to an incompetent and unworthy regime.

Without another word it is clear that the negro is an obstacle; clear that inevitably the Southern country must be retarded in her political progress so long as he is an obstacle. It is clear that he is here to stay. What then? Disfranchisement. It is the only hope. There is but one ground that will reach this mark, and that is illiteracy. It is a good one; it will stand the test of common sense and plain reason and right. Is it impossible? It cannot be. Is it impracticable? It cannot be. One year or two years may not achieve the end but it is worth a decade of struggle. Other issues pale into insignificance beside this; they should not be suffered to interfere. If the unintelligent vote of North Carolina could be eliminated the State could then address herself with a single eye to the needs of the people.

A GOOD ENOUGH PLATFORM.

Burlington News.

The newspapers and politicians are beginning to think of and talk about the next campaign, and the proper course to be pursued to get rid of the present official set, so far as the election next year will do it. More than twenty years ago, when the administration of our public affairs was very bad, but no worse than now, if indeed so bad the democrats of Watauga county, in convention assembled, passed short resolutions, only two of them, which were copied with approval by the democratic papers of the State, and referred to during the memorable campaign of 1876. We have thought of them often in the condition that we have been placed in by the defeat of the Democratic party. If there is one thing in the future that is certain, and that all reasonable, well-informed and candid men are bound to admit, it is that the Democratic party is the only party to which the people of this State can look for good government. There are good men in other parties, but good men, capable men, do not control other parties, and the fusion of other parties have given us more incompetent men in public place and office than the State and its counties ever had before. But to the Watauga resolutions. They were in substance, if not in exact language, as follows:

"Resolved, 1, That we are opposed to the set now in."

"Resolved, 2, That we favor anybody who can beat them."

That is about our condition now. We will not charge corruption in the administration of our public affairs, both State, and of the counties in the State, but it is notorious that incompetency, and extravagance and blundering carelessness are to be found in more places than ever before known in our State. We do not charge corruption, out of great charity, for there are certainly no evidences warrant a charge. What ever may be determined on as the campaign policy of the Democratic party, if it is at all wisely adopted, we have faith in the honesty and good sense of the people that leads us to believe that they will defeat the present bungling administration of our public affairs.

It ally Unkind.

Chollie—Do you know, one of those phrenologist fellows told me that my head was almost an exact reproduction of Henry Clay's?

Maud—What a hollow mockery!—Cincinnati Enquirer.

No. 30—One for Fifty Cents.

France Favors Bi-Metallism.

News and Observer.

An intelligent American correspondent in Paris has made careful examination of the financial views of the wealthy classes in France and declares that the sentiment in favor of free coinage of silver is "almost universal." Not only do the leading statesmen and publicists believe in bi-metallism, but were assured that "the class of men in France who are most active in promoting bi-metallism represent interests similar to those of the single gold standard advocates in the United States."

This correspondent also states that last winter the Chamber of Deputies by a two-thirds vote passed a resolution, introduced by Mr. Meline, Prime Minister, which declared that "the establishment of international bi-metallism would be a great benefit to the agricultural, industrial and commercial interests, and we urge upon the government the advisability of doing all in its power to establish and maintain, by international agreement, a stable parity of exchange between gold and silver."

Commenting on the statements of the American correspondent quoted, the St. Louis Republic, which says they are of "a most encouraging nature," adds:

"With such a strong bimetallic sentiment as this in France, which dominates the Latin Union, it is only a question of time when bi-metallism is bound to be re-established. The United States could take initiative without the dread of having no allies to fight the battle. Great Britain would soon have to re-open the mints of India to the white metal to prevent upheavals in the vast commerce of that country. But to accomplish anything in that line we shall have to elect a Congress and a President in the United States who will deal fairly with the question and honestly with the American people. That is a matter which the voters can attend to in 1900."

Let Us Have Peace.

Whatever else may happen in North Carolina in the next eight or ten months let not the white men take each other by the throat. The enemy will gain confidence and increase their plotting for victory just in proportion as they see personal bickerings and confirmed antagonisms and all manner of discord among the men of the white race. "In union there is strength." Believe it.—Wilmington Messenger.

This is wise counsel. There will be differences of opinion as to the best method of rescuing the State from the present incompetent and corrupt gang who are at the helm. All who sincerely desire a change and the coming together of the white men of the State ought to give due weight to the several opinions. The State convention can be relied upon to do right.—News and Observer.

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.

Though about 350 applicants took the entrance examinations at Princeton University, only 267 did well enough to matriculate. Of this number was Mr. Matthew Harper of Gastonia. The Alumni Princetonian says, "Princeton never before began a year under such auspicious circumstances as she begins this one. The freshman class is a fine one, both in quantity and quality."

To Cure Constipation Forever.

Take Cascarets, Purely Plantain, No Opium.

It Cures Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, and all the ailments of the Throat and Lungs.

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