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The Republican Convention.

News and Observer.

The will of the big Pie Eater was carried out in the Republican State Convention without friction. The machine was so perfectly oiled that it did not slip a cog. From the moment that Chairman Holton let the gavel fall at noon until Chairman Linney declared an adjournment, everything was carried out in accordance with the cut and dried programme. It follows that the convention was dull and listless, having no life nor spirit except when a negro orator stirred up the negroes by an unworthy and vicious and low speech, which was an offence to common decency, showed that the convention as a body was fitly represented by the utterances of the negro leader. Even Mr. Linney, who is not wanting in ability and witty sayings, was commonplace and heavy, actually telling Private John Allen's good jokes so poorly as to put his hearers to nodding. Spencer Blackburn, whose only speech in his repertoire is to declaim "I Cannot Beat a Retreat," could evoke no enthusiasm. The orders had come (the leaders were carrying them out obediently) but they could not evoke enthusiasm out of a cut and dried programme.

No nominations were made. The convention even refused to ratify the district nominations already made. The executive committee was given plenary power as to solicitors and judges, and authorized to trade with the Populists.

For weeks we have been hearing the convention would witness a battle royal over the proposition to endorse Russell's administration. Some of the Federal Pie Eaters have been swearing that it should never be done while State Pie Eaters have sworn violently that they would have endorsement or a row. Inasmuch as there is no real difference in the policies of the two Pie Brigades no intelligent observer supposed they would jeopardize the pie by a wrangle. The platform endorses everything and everybody in sight. If there is any old thing not endorsed, the omission is due to an oversight, for it was the purpose of the convention to make the platform an omnibus affair endorsing everything that needed endorsement.

It was a characteristic Republican convention, composed almost entirely of Pie Eaters. There were the old mossybacks, there were the Populists who have come over bodily, and the new recruits who bit at the Pie hook. The "sons of Ham," as Mr. Linney called his dusky constituents, were much in evidence, and showed that the taste of office had whetted their appetites, and that like Oliver Twist they are saying "please, sir, I want some more," the only difference being that they leave off the "please sir" and go in to demand and take of the pieces in sight. Their spirit is to take every office they can

and if the Republican party wins this year, the negroes will overrun the East, and make the white men bow down to them and whisper in a bondsman's key. No man could see the spirit displayed without seeing that Congressman White voiced the sentiment of his race and party.

The alarm has been sounded. The true white men who have seen and felt the evils and ills of the first act of Republican rule see what it will mean if the other acts are permitted to take place. They will, in the presence of the threats against their race and the protection of their homes, unite to restore that white rule in North Carolina which has been replaced by negroes and their white office holding slaves.

Spain Willing to Yield Cuba.

London, July.—Dispatches from Madrid state that the defense works are being actively pushed at all the Spanish ports.

The Spanish newspapers assert that the United States intend to demand an enormous indemnity, "in order to have the pretext to seize the Philippine Islands as a guarantee."

The supposed American peace terms are greatly exciting the public, and the opinion is expressed among the people that war to the death would be preferable to the ruin of Spain.

The Spaniards have erected new batteries, armed with six-inch guns, at Ceuta and Tarifa.

Views of the Ministry.

It is asserted by friends of the Spanish Ministers that in any peace negotiations the point of departure ought to be the publicly avowed object of the war on the part of the United States—namely, the emancipation of Cuba from Spanish rule.

They say that if President McKinley restricts himself to that object, there will be no serious difficulty in coming to an agreement; because Spanish public opinion, official and unofficial, has come to recognize that Spanish rule in Cuba cannot be re-established.

If, on the other hand, a war undertaken for the specific purpose of liberating Cuba develops into a war of ruthless conquest and annexation, the Spanish government and people will defend themselves to the utmost.

Queen Placating Weyler.

The Standard's Madrid correspondent says: "General Weyler had an audience of an hour with the Queen Regent today. He assured her that recent events had not modified his opinion as to Cuban affairs."

The Daily Chronicle says that the Conference between the Queen Regent and General Weyler means that her Majesty is trying by her personal influence to dissuade the "Hyena" from violently adopting the Carlist cause and taking his military adherents with him.

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Farming in Caldwell.

Editor Democrat.

As I have been a citizen of Caldwell county for nearly five years, I wish to give in brief how we *farm* on Mulberry. Although the counties join there is a vast difference in the farming. First to begin with we make our land grow its own fertilizer, except some acids and plaster for vegetables. In the early winter we turn a coat of dead peas to prepare the land for corn. This freezes and keeps the land soft and mellow and before planting corn we plough again with a double shovel plow or cultivator that pulverizes the ground thoroughly mellow ready for the crop. We, as farmers, believe that corn ought to be cultivated once before planting—that is a thorough preparation of the soil. If you plant corn in grass and weeds most likely the grass and weeds will be a part of the harvest. We pile up all the manure from the barn, old straw, leaves and waste matter into a compost heap that will decay into a pulverized mass that will be in readiness for trucking. We use this homemade fertilizer and acid on the different vegetables as early as the season will grow beans, onions, tomatoes, roasting ears, etc., for a nearly crop, as the first fruits and vegetables bring the highest prices. We always select the best seed possible that will bring the best results. We plant and replant the different vegetables, that as the old is going out the new is coming in to market. We market our vegetables, chicks, ducks and honey at Blowing Rock, where the boarder can smack his lips and say, "Behold it is very good." We grow double crops, plant Irish potatoes between the corn on the highest land, plant peas to ripen for early picking, before frost. At the last working of the corn we sow peas in the corn to make a forage for wheat sowing. After the corn is gathered, the potatoes dug, and the peas picked, we turn corn stalks and peas under and sow wheat after frost. We grow sweet potatoes in abundance and after the first frost dig and store them in tunnels to keep from freezing. We grow limber-twig apples that usually bear good prices. We raise bees that make the pure poplar and sorwood honey. During the winter we trap for moles, minks, muskrats and rabbits to clear out the pests before crop time. We sow peas after wheat harvest and stack them on poles with snags to make our hay for winter. There is nothing better for milk cattle. We live inside the stock law boundary, and are not molested by neighbor's stock. We have good neighbors, and all live in peace and prosperity.

A. M. MAST.

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For Infants and Children.
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The English Language.

Imagine yourself a foreigner striving to master the English language. Perhaps you may be gazing at a number of yessels on the water; and exclaim, "See what a flock of ships!" You are at once told that a flock of ships is called a fleet, and that a fleet of sheep is called a flock. It might also be added for your future guidance that a flock of girls is called a bevy, while a bevy of wolves is called a pack; yet a pack of thieves is called a gang, and a gang of angels is called a host; but a host of porpoises is called a shoal, and a shoal of buffaloes is called a herd. Still, a herd of children is called a troop, but a troop of partidges is called a covey; a covey of beauty is called a galaxy, while a galaxy of ruffians is called a horde; further a horde of rubbish is called a heap, yet a heap of oxen is called a drove; a drove of blackguards is called a mob, but a mob of whales is called a school; a school of worshippers is called a congregation, while a congregation of engineers is called a corps; a corps of robbers is called a band, though a band of locusts is called a swarm, and a swarm of people is called a crowd; a crowd of pictures is called a collection; but a collection of money is called a hoard, and a hoard of people is called a company; a company of ministers, however, is called an assembly, and an assembly of soldiers is called a muster. "Stop, stop!" methinks I hear you cry. "I can not remember half of it."—Demorest's Magazine.

Liberal Policy in Cuba.

Washington, D. C., July.—General Chambers McKibbin, of Pennsylvania, now commanding in Santiago, and the military commanders in the other cities and towns, will be instructed to encourage in every possible way the resumption of business in the cities and of agriculture in the country.

Our "immune" regiments will garrison the cities, while most of General Shafter's army will be withdrawn. The Cuban troops will be left to defend the border, but will be kept from interfering with the Spanish inhabitants, and the Administration's belief is that the former foes will soon dwell together in harmony.

It is thoroughly understood that the Mauser rifles of the Spanish soldiers will remain literally in the hands of our troops, for they will be substituted for the Springfield which proved to be so futile against them.

The great immediate result of the surrender in the eyes of the Administration is the opportunity of grappling successfully with the yellow fever epidemic, for that is what is now admitted to be among our troops, although it is of a light type, with a small percentage of mortality, and it is believed can be checked and stopped.

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Must Own Porto Rico.

Washington Post.

Senator Hanna was in a most amiable frame of mind this afternoon and for the first time since his return or before, for that matter, discussed the question of territorial aggrandizement.

The Senator's close relation with the administration and the latest developments of the war situation make his views of interest. While of the opinion that the war will be soon terminated, Senator Hanna is in hopes the end will not come before the forces of the government can possess the island of Porto Rico. "Porto Rico ought to be taken and kept by this government," said the Senator, with emphasis.

"What about Cuba and the Philippines?" was asked.

"I am not talking about those islands," was the laconic reply. "But I thoroughly believe we should acquire these eastern-most possessions of Spain. Because of this war," continued the Senator, "we are bound to maintain a much larger navy than heretofore, and for this and other reasons Porto Rico will come in very nicely, principally as a coaling station. I would have Porto Rico in preference to some other places in that vicinity, because it is near the archipelago and valuable as a strategic point.

Senator Hanna was asked if it was the plan of President McKinley to acquire and retain possession of Porto Rico. To this his sole reply was: "I have not said."

Notes of the War.

General Duffield, of Siboney Cuba, has a mild attack of yellow fever.

Clara Barton telegraphs that the yellow fever patients at Siboney are doing well.

Uncle Sam may have a custom house in full operation at Santiago to-day.

Col. W. J. Bryan and the Third Nebraska Volunteer Infantry started for Jackson ville yesterday.

The Bureau of Construction and Repair is expending \$1,250,000 a month upon repairs, fitting and refitting vessels for the war.

It is now believed that the only sunken Spanish ships at Santiago that can be saved are the Maria Teresa and the Colon.

Admiral Dewey will be entitled to \$10,000 as his share (one-twentieth) of the head money paid for the defeat of the Spanish fleet at Manila.

In the reassignment of quartermasters, Lieutenant Colonel A. V. Furey is to have charge at Philadelphia depot, with the rank of colonel.

Observer: Our Cuban allies are dandies. They decline to nurse the sick and wounded and decline to help make roads, but they have no prejudice against American vittles, and it must be mighty ill fitting American clothes that they decline to wear. This "war of humanity" appears to be for the sake of a lot of humans who scarcely appreciate the sacrifice involved.

Cheerfulness.

Cheerfulness can become a habit, and habits sometimes help us over hard places. A cheerful heart seeth cheerful things. A lady and a gentleman were in a lumber yard situated by a dirty, foul smelling river. The lady said: "How good the pine boards smell."

"Pine boards!" exclaimed the gentleman. "Just smell the foul river!"

"No, thank you," the lady replied, "I prefer to smell the pine boards."

And she was right. If she or we can carry this principle through our entire living, we shall have the cheerful heart, the cheerful voice, and the cheerful face. There is in some houses an unconscious atmosphere of domestic and social ozone which brightens everybody. Wealth can not give it, nor can poverty take it away.—Miss Mulock.

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