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RALEIGH, N. C., JULY 24, 1897.

The editor of the News and Observer, in an editorial, says: "One of the most intelligent negro educators in the State said: 'It was a big mistake to have elected a single negro on the board of education in the State. It would have been better to have left them off the school committee, too. What the negro wants is the State. The politicians have had his chance by clamoring for and getting petty places for petty negro politicians.'"

The negro who uttered these words, if he sincerely believes them, is not an "intelligent educator," and is unfit to teach the children of any race. It is from just such chattering apocryphs as this negro is, whoever he may be, that the race is caused to suffer so much.

SENTIMENTARY MANAGEMENT. So different is the treatment given the prisoners in the Penitentiary under the present management of Superintendent John R. Smith from that given them by his Democratic predecessors that the Democratic newspapers are mad about it and as is their custom are trying to deceive and mislead the people about it.

THE NEWS AND OBSERVER, THE NEGRO-HATING ORGAN OF DEMOCRACY. Spits Forth Fire and Brimstone Because the Negro was Given His Rights in the Appointment of School Committees.

The News and Observer, the leading and recognized organ of Democracy in this State, in several of its issues last week, belched forth its venom and hatred of the rights of Negro manhood, as follows:

BOARD OF EDUCATION. The Wake County Board of Education is composed of one Populist, who is a progressive farmer, one Republican who is an active and prominent educator and one Democratic who is a scheming ambitious lawyer, with a hankering after the legislature.

Notwithstanding the fact that people were here at the first meeting for every township in the county except two to recommend men for school committees for their respective townships, yet he offered a resolution, naming three successive days in the next week to select committees for certain townships on each of the three days, but then what matter was it to him to trouble the people then present in large numbers from each township to go home and come again, as he did not see in all that gathering a single man who favored him for the legislature?

Was it not right, in his sight, to give his friends a show in order that they may be of service to him next year? While Messrs. Bagwell and Roberts did not see the necessity for the resolution, yet acting under the injunction of the Bible they "agreed with their adversary quickly," and voted for it to the great surprise of Mr. Fleming. When the board reconvened, one week thereafter, Mr. Fleming was ready for the fight, for he had his

three county commissioners in control of all the public school moneys, the public school teachers (female as well as male) and the public school children, a negro man—no doubt a very worthy man of his race, but still a negro man. No white man worthy of his race will vote money and power into the hands of a board so constituted.

The fact that other men antagonize local taxation for like reasons, shows the futility of the resolution offered by Mr. Fleming. The new County Board of Education has made a spectacle of itself—a brilliant and harmonious spectacle. Just such a spectacle as one would have naturally expected from such monumental men as the Hon. Jay Hazy Bagwell, Prof. North Carolina Bruce (colored) and the Rev. Henry Whangoo Norris.

Whereas, it would be detrimental to the public school system to appoint colored men on the school committees to look after the interests of the white schools either in whole or in part. It is therefore resolved, that such colored school committees may be appointed as expressly appointed by the Board to assist in looking after the interests of the colored schools, and it is the opinion of this Board that such committees should not interfere with the control of the white schools either in the employment of teachers or otherwise.

Mr. Fleming did his legal ability no injustice whatever in offering the above resolution, for every one who knows him knows that he is too able a lawyer to believe for a moment that such a resolution, if passed, would have any legal effect, and yet he also knew as everybody else does, that practically the white men will attend to the white schools and the colored men to the colored schools. To be perfectly plain and frank, we say it now and here, as every one else could see, that Mr. Fleming simply offered this resolution to place himself upon the platform which Josephus Daniels announced one day before—that of "white metal and white men" for 1898.

There is little comfort to be found in the foregoing ranting of that venomous Democratic sheet for the negro gentry who want to vote for the Democratic candidates next year. Some weeks ago an unknown negro in this city said to the correspondent of the Charlotte Observer that "if the Democratic party would give any recognition to the negro at least 20,000 of them would vote that ticket next year." But we guess that even that fool has sense enough to see the trend of Democratic thought in regard to the treatment of the negro and his rights.

By act of the General Assembly an election will be held in every township in North Carolina in which there is no local taxation for school purposes, Tuesday, August 10, for the purpose of improving the public schools by local taxation. The State of North Carolina has appropriated \$500,000 out of the General Fund to be distributed among the townships voting in favor of local taxation.

Why Popular Education Has Failed in North Carolina. In considering the results of popular education in North Carolina, we must compare this State with all others in the Union. One of the results of education is wealth. Judged by this standard, education in North Carolina has lamentably failed.

ILLITERATE IN NORTH CAROLINA. The first object of education is to remove illiteracy. Judged by this standard our popular education has been an ignominious failure. In fact there is no such thing as popular education here. For the people are not educated. More than a third of those over ten years of age cannot read or write.

week at the wanton disregard of every principle of decent government displayed by men elevated to power. In many instances, these ten dollar men in thousand dollar places, conscious that they will never have another chance at the public crib, have shown their hogheadedness and greed in a way to disgust all decent members of their own party.

The people of North Carolina believe in a clean, honest and frugal government, the kind they have enjoyed for twenty years. They are already sick and disgusted with the reign of incompetency, hate and scandal the change of parties has brought, and their wrath is kindling against that day when they can visit vengeance upon the men who have betrayed their trusts, brought shame upon their State, made a bankrupt treasury, and inaugurated a reign of scandal, petty greed and rottenness that even now sits in the nostrils of the people.

The board of education in Duplin county is composed of two Populists and one Republican. When they came to appoint school committees, they refused to listen to the clamor of the negroes to have a voice in the selection of white teachers for white schools, and appointed white committeemen throughout.

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whereas in 1870 we ranked 8th in illiteracy, in 1890 we ranked 7th. At this rate it is only a question of time when North Carolina, the other States having educated their children, will be the home of the most illiterate people in the American Union. Shall we let this come to pass?

ILLITERATE WHITE PEOPLE. Already it is the home of the most illiterate white people in the United States except in the territory of New Mexico. Sixty-three per cent of the illiterate whites we compare the white people of the different States than when we count the negroes.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN DUPLIN COUNTY. The board of education in Duplin county is composed of two Populists and one Republican. When they came to appoint school committees, they refused to listen to the clamor of the negroes to have a voice in the selection of white teachers for white schools, and appointed white committeemen throughout.

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LET THESE FACTS AROUSE US TO ACTION. There is no pleasure in making public such humiliating facts about our State—except for the hope that they may arouse to action. For these conditions exist, and North Carolina must face them. Shutting our eyes to them will not remove them; denying them will not change them. But having seen the cause of our failure, we ought to know how to make our public schools a success.

LOCAL TAXATION IN THE UNITED STATES. Very nearly all the school tax in North Carolina is imposed by the Legislature, less than twenty communities supplementing this by a self-imposed local tax. Here again we are behind in educational progress.

OUR LARGE GENERAL SCHOOL TAX. This is our need now in North Carolina. Our State tax is already one of the largest, only six other States having a heavier one. But what we need to count the local taxes and the general tax North Carolina drops to lowest of all but six.

LOCAL TAXATION IN AGRICULTURAL STATES. There are objections that local taxation may suit Maine, but it will not suit our condition as an agricultural people. We hear men saying that good schools cannot be maintained among a population so scattered as ours.

THE NEGRO IS NO EXCUSE. Nor can we plead the negro as an excuse. Seven States (South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Alabama) have a larger share of negro population than North Carolina, and they all have a longer school term than ours, and all but Alabama have a heavier school tax.

THE TIME FOR ACTION HAS COME. Let us stop trying to excuse our ignorance and selfishness and narrow-mindedness. We are behind all other States in the education of the people. The sooner we recognize this fact the sooner we may hope to change it.

Training School for Nurses. On October 19, 1896, St. Agnes Hospital and Training School for nurses was established in connection with St. Augustine School, under the supervision of Mrs. A. B. Hunter.

Music School. MISS N. D. ROGERS is summing at Old Point Comfort, and having a delightful time. KITRELL INSTITUTE. KITRELL, N. C. FACULTY: C. G. KELLY, A. M., Dean. Mrs. LILLIAN M. HAWKINS, Principal.

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