Daily Charlotte Observer.

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The Charlotte Observer.

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We invite attention to our stock of Swiss Edgings and insertings, the handsomest goods in the market. Also a full stock of Hamburg Edgings and Insertings, and Insertings in white and colors; Linen Cuffs and Collars, Lace Bibs, Lace, Linen and Cambric Handkerchiefs.

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READY MADE

CLOTHING,

Boots, Shoes, &c. Orders promptly filled.

Respectfully,

T. L. SEIGLE & CO.,

Opp. Charlotte Hotel, Tryon st., Charlotte, N. C.

April 22.

LOW PRICES

RULE THE DAY.

LARGE CROWDS

Daily throng the

—CHEAP STORE OF—

H. MORRIS & BRO'S.

STILL GREATER

REDUCTIONS

THIS WEEK.

Men's Best Flannel Suits, only $12,00
Beautiful light Cassimere Pants, $2.50, 3.50, 4.50
White Fancy Pique, 8½, 10 and 12½ cts. per yard.
Beautiful Lawns, 10 and 12½ " "
Dress Linen, all shades, 18, 20 and 25c per yard.
Hamburg Edging, all widths, 3 to 25c. per yard.
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Yard Wide good Bleaching, only 8c. per yard.
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It will pay anybody to inspect our Goods and prices, as we claim to be the leading low price house in Charlotte.

Just received, a beautiful line of

PARASOLS,

Ranging in price from 12½ Cents to $3.

Also, a full line of

STRAW GOODS

And Ladies' Underwear, at immense bargains.

H. MORRIS & BROS.

April 12.

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W. KAUFMAN & CO.

We have made the experiment of purchasing a stock so complete as to include the latest novelties in Men's, Youth's, Boy's and Children's

OOO L OO TTTT H H II NN N GGG
O O L O O T H H II N N N G G
O O L O O T HHH II N N N G
O O L O O T H H II N NN G GG
OOO LLLL OO T H H IIII N N GGG

We invite public inspection, and we are at all times ready to give quotation of prices. Every garment which is sold at our house is warranted to be as represented, and in price less than can be bought elsewhere. We continue to sell

BLUE FLANNEL SUITS

Cheaper than any other house, as we did the past season, and they have gained the reputation of being the best in the market.

We present this season to the consumer a fine line of

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Including the best makes in the country. There can also be found in our stock a complete line of fine Felt, Stiff and Straw Hats, and any kind of Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods. Don't purchase before you examine our stock, as the cheapest

BARGAINS

Can be had at

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Corner Trade and Tryon Sts.,
Charlotte, N. C.

April 10.

SPEECH OF

HON. WALTER L. STEELE,

OF NORTH CAROLINA,

In the House of Representatives,

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1879.

The House being in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and having under consideration the bill (H. R. No. 2) making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and for other purposes—

Mr. Steele said:

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall not commence my remarks on this occasion by quoting from a hymn:

"From many an ancient river,
From many a sunny plain,
They are marching to disliver
The links in error's chain."

[Great laughter and applause.]

Having said precisely what I do not intend to do, I ask the committee to listen to what I do intend to do. [Laughter.]

Mr. Chairman, during the progress of the discussion on the army appropriation bill, the gentleman from Maine, [Mr. Frye]—I dislike to call anybody's name in this House, because it is not precisely parliamentary—addressed the House in an impassioned speech, in which, among other things, he alleged that there were no free elections in the South, because the white people, who were in the main Democrats, by violence and intimidation, controlled the blacks into subjection to their will. This charge constituted the gravemen of the gentleman's speech. During it he took occasion to indulge in some spiteful and uncharitable animadversions upon the conduct of his own race, in the South, which, to my mind, were not entirely becoming in one of his ability and position. Appeals were made by him to feelings engendered during the late unfortunate civil war, which it was supposed ended nearly fifteen years ago, and whose bitter memories it is not the part of wisdom, statesmanship, nobility of soul, or even courage, to revive and excite. The language of the gentleman was so sweeping and comprehensive that I felt it to be a duty which I owe to the State, one of whose Representatives I have the honor to be, to ask if he meant to charge that the alleged offenses which he was denouncing (the violation of the freedom of the ballot) were committed in the State of North Carolina. I wanted a "bill of particulars," because I thought common fairness required it. Instead of answering the question in that manly way which his brave words would have led one to expect, he resorted to what I conceived to be an evasion, and responded, inferentially at least, that these outrages were less common in the State of North Carolina, because of the number of white Pepublicans who lived in it. Inasmuch as this answer clearly involved the charge that fear, and not a desire to observe the law, nor a regard for the duties and obligations of a good citizenship, controlled our people, I pressed the gentleman for a specific reply, when, as he ought to have done, he withdrew the imputation. As this was practically all the vindication which I desired, I chose not to pursue the subject further, but to allow others whose constituents had been assailed to come to the defense of their own people.

Mr. Frye. Will the gentleman allow me a minute?

Mr. Steele. Oh, yes; certainly I will.

Mr. Frye. I was profoundly ignorant when the gentleman asked me the question he did in relation to the history of North Carolina in connection with these matters under discussion. I have since that time been investigating the history of that State, and I now feel entirely able to say to him, and entirely able to satisfy the country, if I could get fifteen or twenty minutes at any time in which to do it, that North Carolina ought not to be exempted at all; that murders and outrages were as frequent there is in many other States; that "moonshiners" abound there in great plenty; and that it takes the army to enforce even the revenue laws; and by and by, if I get a few minutes, I will devote such portion of the time as gentlemen feel inclined to listen, to North Carolina.

Mr. Steele. "Angels and ministers of grace defend us!" [Laughter.]

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from Maine need not to have made an acknowledgment upon the floor of this House of his ignorance in certain particulars; for charity would suppose that was the cause, rather than something else, of his remarks. That is all I have got to say upon that point.

Not long after this a member of the House, and I shall not specify the State for reasons which are satisfactory to myself, who made his appearance upon the floor for the first time about a month ago, being, as I suppose, "gorged with statesmanship," [laughter,] as another member was once characterized by one of his colleagues, proceeded, doubtless to his own great gratification, to disgorge himself of something which was very much removed from statesmanship, but closely allied to that which is far less elevated and noble. If it is true that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh"—I believe that is Scripture: if it is not, my reverend friend from Iowa will correct me——

Mr. Price made a remark which was not heard.

Mr. Steele. I presume the gentleman's remark was pretty good, but I did not hear it. That member's heart is overflowing with the gall of human unkindness, and he shows a chivalry in words, in a time of peace, which I suspect far surpassed his heroic deeds when armed men were engaged in deadly strife. He vauntingly calls my attention to certain volumes in the Library of Congress, whose record, he tells us, is "like the history of hell and the proceedings of the damned." I confess, Mr. Chairman, that I do not know anything of the similitude, having no knowledge, nor a desire to have any, of the "history" and "proceedings" to which the member so familiarly refers. [Laughter.] I shall not say, Mr. Chairman, that this member came from the State of Iowa. I take it for granted, however, that he has been a close student and an attentive observer of a region of which he professes such extraordinary knowledge, and I do not see how he acquired such an intimate acquaintance except by a personal visit, which enabled him to become a medium for the disclosure of "the unnumbered horrors which hang around the second death." That is from a hymn, too. [Laughter.] Having had the advantage of a personal visit to the dominions over which reigns the monarch of all evil, I trust he will not soon again "to sulphurous and tormenting flames render up himself," but remain awhile on this earth for the purpose of warning sinners against the awful realities of the place of the damned. [Laughter.]

I was not ignorant, Mr. Chairman, of the existence of the volumes to which my attention was directed, nor was I entirely unadvised of thec character and purposes of the investigation which called them into being. I know, too, not a little of the credibility of the witnesses, who, as a general thing, were summoned by the ostensible authors of the inquiry to speak in regard to the subject-matter of the investigation. Most of it was gone into by the high court of impeachment of North Carolina in the trial of Gov. Holden for "high crimes and misdemeanors in office," a trial where the people and the respondent were both represented by eminent counsel, and which was conducted with the utmost fairness. The respondent was convicted, and among the other offenses for which he was tried, and for which judgment was rendered against him, was that he had suspended the writ of *habeas corpus*, which the constitution declared should never be suspended. All that the testimony did disclose was that there had been outrages upon the persons of citizens of the State, but there was no evidence that any one had been deprived of his constitutional right to vote as he pleased. That is the question, and no other, which the amendments under consideration make it proper to discuss. But since the member has so needlessly thrust the matter before the House, with a view only to inflame the passions of the people of his section of country against those who he knows are unable to defend themselves, except "with bated breath," I beg leave to submit a few observations, intended only to "vindicate the truth of history."

Under the constitution of the United States, as it existed prior to the adoption of certain amendments, the States had the indisputable "power to regulate the internal government and police thereof" and to admit to the privileges of the ballot such of their people as they might regard the proper custodians of this highest prerogative of citizenship. It belonged exclusively to them to fix the qualifications of electors. But party necessities made it desirable that this right should be overthrown; and to effect it the constitution was ruthlessly trampled under foot by those who had solemnly sworn to support it. This was the greatest outrage upon the freedom of the ballot which was ever committed in this country, and they who did it, and they who apologize for it, ought in very shame to "put their hands on their mouths and their mouths in the dust." It does not become them to speak of the glories of a free ballot. All their laudations are the most transparent of mockeries. However, the deed was done; the amendments are a part of the constitution—not by the free will of the people of the South, who were lawfully entitled to determine it, but by their acquiescence and submission. That acquiescence and submission give them all the vitality which they possess. Notwithstanding the "questionable shape" in which they were inserted, they are now, by the means which I have indicated, as much parts of it as if adopted according to the methods prescribed. We of the South regard them as entitled to our respect and obedience, and yield to them a patriotic submission, because "*interest reipublicæ, ut sit finis litium.*" We trust that their provisions, as well as all others of the constitution, will be carried out in their letter and spirit.

Mr. Humphrey. Will the gentleman allow me one question?

Mr. Steele. Yes; but I do not promise that I will answer it.

Mr. Humphrey. You can do as you please about that. I ask the gentleman this question: He says that the amendments to the constitution are entitled to their force and effect from the acquiescence and submission on the part of the Southern people?

Mr. Steele. Oh, no; I do not say that.

Mr. Humphrey. Excuse me; I so understood it.

Mr. Steele. My friend is too good a lawyer not to understand what I mean.

Mr. Humphrey. I wanted to ask the gentleman if that is what he said?

Mr. Steele. You know what I meant, and you know, and every lawyer who knows anything about constitutional law knows, that some things having their origin in wrong, fraud, and force, yet by the submission of the people to them, have become the law of the land.

Mr. Humphrey. Yes; but only when they have their origin in the eternal fitness of things.

Mr. Steele. Oh, yes; John Bunyan, or somebody else. [Laughter.]

Mr. Humphrey. May I ask the gentleman another question?

Mr. Steele. Not now.

Under the new order of things produced by these changes of the constitution, the patience of the people of the Southern States was tried to the very verge of forbearance. A swarm of hungry political vultures, with all the hateful characteristics of that—

Wee blastit wonner
Detestit, shunned by saunt and sinner,

Whose appearance on the "Misses fine Lunardi," at the church, gave Burns the opportunity of writing some of his finest lines, came flocking to the South, to gorge their ravenous carcasses upon what little the ravages of war had left. Professing an ardent love for the newly-made citizen, these creatures soon wormed their way into his confidence, and thus possessed themselves of the lucrative offices of the States in which they really never intended to remain, except so long as the hope of plunder offered a temptation. These are the beings who bear the enticing and suggestive name of "carpet-bagger." Notwithstanding the assertion often made to the contrary by those who either did not know the facts, or wilfully perverted them, the term was never applied by our people to any honest citizen of the North who removed to the South to make himself a part of the people, ready to bear their burdens and participate in their joys. These are always welcomed. Under the baleful influence of the adventurers whom I have named, every department of the government of the States which they infested became corrupt. The legislative was large composed of the ignorant and depraved, the executive was often filled by aliens with no feelings in common with the people, and the judicial disgraced by men who either knew nothing of the law which they were called upon to administer, or were so malignant and venal, that justice was frequently either "sold, denied or delayed."

In my own State there were some honorable exceptions, and these I do not intend to include in my statement. Of our judges, I shall speak of but two—one a native, as much opposed to granting suffrage to the negro as any one, until he found that he could profit by it and get a position for which everybody knew neither his learning nor his character fitted him; and the other a "carpet-bagger" of no ordinary ability, but believed by nine-tenths of our intelligent people to be totally destitute of principle, and moved only by "the instigations of the devil and his own evil passions." In the two districts presided over by these men the courts failed to do justice to such a degree that in an evil hour some indiscreet men, in their very despair, took the administration of the law into their own hands; and, having done so, often committed grave violations of the very provisions which they assumed to enforce.

I am not an advocate of the "higher law," regarding it always as a dangerous experiment and often productive of evils of greater magnitude than those which it proposes to remedy. In one of these districts, composed in part of some of the counties which I represent—where the "masked ruffians" lived, as they are sometimes called—the members of the bar, without regard to party affiliations, held a meeting and unanimously agreed upon a memorial to the General Assembly of the State, which was intended by them to be the foundation of articles of impeachment against the judge, in which it was distinctly charged that his incompetency was so glaring that his conduct tended to increase, and did increase, rather than diminish crime. His stupidity was so great that I have understood it was said, and I believe it was said, that a prominent judge of his own party (I will not say he was from the bench of the Supreme Court) declared of him that, "like an owl, he was blind in proportion to the light shed upon him." [Great laughter.]

It was in these two districts, "where sin was robed in ermine and in gold," and for these causes, and no others, which I have indicated, that the organization known as the ku-klux had its origin, mostly flourished, and exercised in the main its unlawful prerogatives. It is error to charge that it was composed exclusively of Democrats. In nearly every case where this band inflicted the punishments which the court failed to impose, acting upon the principle that "diseases desperately grown by desperate appliances are relieved," the evidence is overwhelming that the parties upon whom its avenging hand was brought down, had been guilty of offenses against the criminal law, and some of these offenses were felonies of the highest grades. In a few of them the persons punished had used their power to harass unoffending citizens and subject them to outrages under the forms of legal prosecutions without the hope of legal redress. It would have been far better, I admit, had a suffering people been content to have borne longer the "weary life" to which they were subjected, and trusted in a final vindication, when the goddess of justice once more became seated upon her throne. But the infirmities of human nature are not confined to one State nor one section of the country, and they who accuse our people of wrong are not always guiltless themselves. They should be careful how they "throw the first stone."

The case to which the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Aiken] and the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. Haskell] alluded a few days ago only demonstrates that even in the latter State the public patience is sometimes exhausted and wreaks swift-footed vengeance, because it is unwilling to await "the law's delay." It is by no means a solitary instance, as every one who has read the newspapers of this city within the last few days will recollect. What is known as "Lynch law" is administered now and then in every State of the Union, and will be administered, despite all conservative teachings, so long as murder, arson, burglary, and all the other felonies continue to be committed. These will doubtless take place until the arrival of that happy period, apparently very far in the future, when universal peace shall spread her white wings over the earth, and "the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them."

When these offenses occur in the South they are ascribed to political feeling by those whose joy it is to "laugh at our calamities and mock when our fear cometh." When at the North they are either overlooked by partisans, whose only desire is to make political capital, or attributed to the passions which are the inheritance of frail mortality. If a negro is maltreated or killed in our section, whatever may have been the provocation, even such as referred to by the gentleman from Kansas, [Mr. Haskell,] whether murder, arson, or rape, tears of sympathy are shed over his fate "as fast as the Arabian trees their medicinal gum," by those whose only feeling for him is a selfish wish to use him as "a hewer of wood and drawer of water," for their political enjoyment.

In their excessive zeal for him, most generally hollow and pretentious, the mere "trappings of woe," there is no tender chord of feeling to be touched for the people of that race, "greatly wrought, perplexed in the extreme" by the treatment which they receive, which kindled and fed the fires of civilization that have sent their gladsome light to illumine the darkness of earth.

What I have said in regard to the causes which contributed largely to the infractions of the public peace in my own State can, I doubt not, be truthfully said of similar occurrences in the other States of the South. Where judges whose duty it is to administer the law as it is written, shall so discharge their official functions that no good citizen can have cause to complain, the law will be respected and easily enforced; for then there is confidence that its strong arm will be used to protect and defend the persons and property of all the people. But "thieves for their robbery have authority when judges steal themselves;" and if the bench becomes either so ignorant or corrupt that faith in the pure administration of justice shall fail, it need surprise no one if the evil example shall be followed to the partial or entire dethronement of the law and the substitution of violence in its stead. The favorite policy of the Republican party, to keep up its control in the country and at the same time insult and degrade the white people of the South—a policy, as I have said, based upon an acknowledged violation of the constitution—resulted, as every thoughtful man must have known it would result, in placing in authority over the lives and liberties of our people quite a number of men entirely unfitted to hold the scales of justice, and who never would have held them but for the abnormal condition of affairs which party madness and fanaticism and malignity created. The natural fruits of such a stupendous outrage upon "truth, justice and the constitution," came in due course of time, and the wonder is that the "abused patience" of the people was quiet so long. The very men who had imposed these heavy burdens upon us themselves would not have exhibited the forbearance which was shown by the helpless victims in their political malice. The act was not one of genuine courage or lofty statesmanship or generous humanity; and now, when the purpose has failed, when the fruit which was expected to have the taste of nectar has "turned to ashes," the authors of the wrong, in their desperation charge that the natural law which makes intelligence control ignorance is unnatural and revolutionary. To induce the negro to be still longer subsidiary to their purposes, these very persons are now enticing him away, under delusive and fraudulent hopes and representations, from a climate and pursuits to which he is accustomed into a strange and inhospitable land, that he may add to the po-

Concluded on Fourth Page.

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TAKE NOTICE.

WITTKOWSKY
& BARUCH.

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Miscellaneous.

ELECTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held on the first Monday in May, (being the 5th day of the month), 1879, at the usual polling places in the several wards of the city of Charlotte, for Mayor and a Board of Aldermen for said city.

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Inspectors—Dr. M. M. Orr, S. M. Howell, A. E. Gray.

Ward No. 2—Registrar, H. B. Williams.

Inspectors John L. Morehead, Dr. William Sloan, A. B. Davidson.

Ward No. 3—Registrar, B. P. Boyd.

Inspectors—R. M Oates, J. H. Carson, M. A. Stauffer.

Ward No. 4—Registrar, R. P. Waring.

Inspectors—J. Y. Bryce, Rufus Barringer, R. B. Alexander.

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R. R. SMITH, Mayor.

March 28, 1879.—tds.

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1879 1879

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1879.

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1 Capital Prize,		10,000
1 Capital Prize,		5,000
2 Prizes of $2,500		5,000
5 Prizes of 1,000		5,000
20 Prizes of 500		10,000
100 Prizes of 100		10,000
200 Prizes of 50		10,000
500 Prizes of 20		10,000
1,000 Prizes of 10		10,000
APPROXIMATION PRIZES:		
9 Approximation Prizes of $300		$2,700
9 Approximation Prizes of 200		1,800
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1857 Prizes, amounting to		$110,400

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