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JAS. A. THOMAS, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE COUNTY, THE STATE, THE UNION.

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THE AMEND- MENT DEFENDED.

A STRONG ARGUMENT BY MR.
AYCOCK.

The Adoption of the Constitutional Amendment Will Mark the Beginning of a New and Brighter Era in North Carolina—The Objections to the Measure Reviewed and Answered—Its Constitutional Assured by Previous Legislation—All Conditions in the State Will be Changed for the Better by Its Adoption.

The greatest victory won by the people of North Carolina last year is about to culminate in the final settlement of the negro problem as related to the politics of the State. The constitutional amendment which will be adopted in August 1900, will mark the beginning of a new era. With the conclusive establishment of white supremacy on a permanent constitutional basis, a larger political freedom and a greater toleration of opinion will come to all of our people. Freedom of election and the sanctity of the ballot will be secured. The Democratic party will be set free from the trammels of the race issue and can enter upon a career of economic study and legislation. The Republican party will be freed from the stigma of being called the "Negro party," and unfeeling itself from the rule of cliques and factions which greatly gain in character and will have somewhat more influence in making and shaping a wholesome public opinion. Discussion of policies and principles will take the place of heated declamation and partisan abuse.

In that day, bad as the principles of the Republican party are, if it should come into power in the State one might reasonably hope to secure even from it a decent and economical administration of public affairs. The terrible strain of such a campaign as that of 1898 will be a memory of the past. Preachers of the Gospel of peace can proclaim the glad tidings of great joy to all the people unsheltered by fear of safety of the State. Property will be secure in all of its just rights and labor shall not be oppressed. The safety of the white womanhood of the State (absolutely unattacked anywhere in the broad borders of the State since the 8th of November) will be forever secured. Peace will become our permanent heritage, and prosperity the easy achievement of our own industry and economy. Education will be universally recognized as the right of every citizen and the duty of the State. Power will come with knowledge and nothing will be "lost in the tillage of the poor for the lack of wisdom." Material and moral questions will command the best thought of the people and politics will cease to be our chief concern.

How to secure these blessings. In order to secure these blessings the Democratic party will, in the coming campaign, advocate the constitutional amendment. Many Republicans will support it and Populists, who are Populists, will be found advocating it. At the close of the last campaign when Democratic success had become history and while the Republicans leaders were yet dazed by the size of the Democratic majority, many of them rushed into print in the shape of interviews, and many others in private conversation expressed the urgent hope that the Legislature would disfranchise the negro. I recall distinctly that one of them, who had enjoyed of office given him by the undivided support of the negroes said to me very soon after the election: "I hope you Democrats will disfranchise the negro—we have carried him on our shoulders long enough—when the negro question is settled many white men will vote the Republican ticket." That man now is opposing the constitutional amendment. Why? He says because he is afraid it will be held unconstitutional. He is not afraid of any such thing.

REAL FEARS OF SOME REPUBLICANS.
What he is afraid of, and what he may justly be afraid of, is that with the elimination of the negro from politics, a better Republican party will be formed in the State, which will, if it comes to power, put better and more grateful men in office than he is. No people that deserves to be free can long be governed by ingrates and cowards and this man knows that with the advent of a braver, stronger Republican party he will be without a job, hence with him the amendment is unconstitutional. It will be so with all his class. But with that larger and more respectable class of Republicans in the State, who really believe in the principles of the Republican party, and who are Republicans through evil and good, the elimination of the negro from politics

will be the beginning of a brighter day for the white race.

THE UNLETTERED WHITE VOTERS.

But the Republican leaders are beginning to express their anxiety lest the unlettered white voters shall be disfranchised. Since nearly all of this unlettered white vote is uniformly cast against the Republican party we must greatly admire the generosity of these Republican leaders. The truth, however, compels me to say that they have no such fear. The amendment expressly provides that every man who could vote in 1867 and the descendants of those who could vote in 1867 can forever vote in North Carolina, whether they can read and write or not. This provision protects every white man and every white boy over 13 years of age except perhaps a few foreigners. Children now under 13 years of age will, in order to vote when they become 21 have to learn to read and write.

CONGRESS TO OK THE INITIATIVE.

Congress first took the matter in hand and solved the problem in the District of Columbia, by disfranchising every citizen, white and black. South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina have all in turn taken the question. Congress has come back to it in dealing with Hawaii and eliminates the negro without the slightest hesitation and without exciting the fear of Senator Pritchard any fear of the "wreck of matter and the crush of words." In Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines the negro not only does not vote but is shot by our government for even wanting to vote, while Senator Pritchard calmly votes appropriations to shoot them into obedience, saying, however, time enough between appropriations to weep over the sad fate of the "brother in black" in North Carolina. If it is "manifest destiny," and the "White Man's Burden" to civilize and govern the weaker and more ignorant races in the Philippines, it cannot be treason to undertake to shape that destiny and bear that burden here. We began the good work in 1898. The sacrifices of that great campaign were worse than useless if we lay down the work unfinished.

NO TURNING BACKWARD NOW.

We have put our hands to the plow and we will not turn backward. In 1898 we unfurled the Democratic banner to the breeze emblazoned with the rallying cry of "White Supremacy." We volunteered under that banner to the end of the war. We have won the outposts of the enemy, we have driven them back in disorder, and they are making one last desperate stand reforming their broken lines behind the breastworks of prejudice and demagoguery. They form in vain. The traditions of North Carolina Democrats are filled with glorious achievements, their courage is of the best, their determination is unyielding, their certainty of victory amounts to inspiration. For peace, for prosperity, for universal education, for that day, when the race issue forever settled, we can have an absolutely free ballot and a fair count, for "the glorious privilege of being independent," for general toleration of honest if mistaken opinions, we renew the contest. Let the banner of 1898 be again unfurled. Let it still be inscribed with the motto "White Supremacy." But above that let there also appear as the aim and end of white supremacy, good government for all, absolute justice before the law and unquestioned liberty of opinion.

WHEN DEMAGOGY WILL FAIL.

Economy, self-sacrifice, the seeking to work out through our children greater and better things than we have been able to do will be some of the fine results which shall come to us from this provision. Against these things that awful demagoguery which seeks to perpetuate illiteracy in the State will be in vain. I have known few men, whether they could read and write or no, who were willing for their children to grow up in ignorance. I have never known one mother who did not earnestly desire for her offspring some thing better than she had. The teachers of the State will surely be with us on this question—the mothers and churches are with us. Who can prevail against us? But say the Republican leaders: "We are afraid that the Supreme Court will declare the descendant clause unconstitutional, and thereby bring upon the State—white men as well as negroes—a suffrage qualified by the requirement to read and write."

OF WHAT COURT ARE THEY AFRAID?

It is pertinent to ask of what Supreme Court these leaders are afraid? Surely not the North Carolina Supreme Court, a majority of whom are Republicans! Certainly Senator Pritchard and Governor Russell and the other Republican leaders in the State who are so afraid that some white men who habitually vote against them may be disfranchised, do not expect a Republican Supreme Court to be anxious to do what these leaders are so anxious shall not be done. And unless the court is anxious to do so how will they be compelled to do so when almost every constitutional lawyer in the State worthy of the name, who has investigated the question, believes the amendment constitutional. Then it must be the Supreme Court of the United States of which these gentlemen are afraid. But that too is Republican and equally anxious not to disfranchise anybody unless compelled to. Three Southern States have adopted constitutional amendments looking to the settlement of the negro question. The Supreme Court of the United States has been appealed to in vain from South Carolina and Mississippi to save the negro from exclusion from the ballot box.

THE CONSTITUTION STANDS.

These constitutions stand and the negro does not vote and the whites do vote. In Louisiana a constitution similar to ours was adopted in 1897, and has been in operation ever since. Un-

SOME GOOD ADVICE.

NEW YORK "TRIBUNE" ON THE NEGRO'S PROBLEM.

A Northern Republican Paper Points Out the Shortest Way to a Solution—The Negroes Themselves Must Solve the Problem and the Way in Which It is to be Done—Should Address Themselves to the Task and Stop Listening to False Teachers.

Wilmington Star.

The negroes of the South have for some time past been given a good deal of advice by their friends and alleged friends, some of which has been good, some a sort of mixture of the good and the bad. As a general thing the advice they have received from their white advisers has been much better than that offered by their colored advisers, for the colored counsellor is apt to look through the colored spectacles and stand point before his deliverance, and for that reason there is too much race leaning and prejudice in what he says.

The New York Tribune is one of the Northern Journals which has been discussing the race problem and incidentally giving the negroes some good advice, but it never crowded more into the same space than is embraced in the following editorial. In reply to an inquiry from a New Jersey negro who, after saying the negroes had exhausted all possible means to maintain their rights and escape violence, asks the question "What shall we do?" the Tribune editorially says:

"Follow the advice of such leaders as Booker T. Washington. Educate the colored people in self-control, morality, obedience to law. Accept the situation as it is, and try to make the best of it, instead of provoking more evils than the negro now endures by doing more wrong in addition to that which is pleaded as the cause and the excuse for Southern violence. 'The negro's duty to maintain order is not different from the white's. If the negroes will to civilize and practice self-restraint and avoid deeds of blood even in retaliation, the other does. We have denounced the lynchers and man-burders frequently, and told the Southern white people that even negro crime, no matter how despicable, no matter how deserving the wretch might be of the heaviest punishment, could furnish no excuse for the community to lower its own civilization and taint its blood with the poison of delight in savage deeds and fiendish passion. So, too, we say to all who desire the happiness of the black race that no resentment for ill treatment warrants them in an appeal to force. No doubt the negro's burden is a heavy one. Whatever his sins as an individual and as a race, he has been banished out of all proportion. But he cannot retaliate. Every bit of disorder, every act of vengeance, is sure to return upon the head of his own people. His is a hard lot, but he will not better it any by ignoring his actual situation. He belongs to a race inferior in culture and ability to the dominant people among whom he lives. He is the victim of race prejudice, which, however unreasonable, is one of the most persistent and insurmountable feelings in the world. Anything he does—amiss, particularly anything that arouses the passion or race prejudices of the whites, is sure to call for severe treatment, more severe than a white man would receive. He may say that is unjust, but it is an injustice too deeply rooted in human nature to be eradicated by such appeals as our correspondent speaks of. The only refuge is to be more powerful than the white man has been about doing wrong. 'Of course, the ignorant black can hardly be expected to be a model of conduct, who will gather merit, the punishment nor excite the persecution of the whites. But the leaders of the negroes can do as Professor Washington has done, try to train them to do more to their own credit and the satisfaction of their white neighbors. The bumble station in which they have been placed, they can be taught not to think of vengeance, not to dole out criminals of their own race. They can be educated in industry and order, and urged against following demagogues and bringing on themselves the same for political selfishness when they are ignorant, trust. They will this

do more to disarm white persecutors than they can ever hope to do by antagonizing the stronger race.

The worthless whites who make up the active force of lynchers and burners have been able to impose their savagery on the South only because the higher class of whites, who hated the disorders, were alienated from the negro, partly, it is true, by prejudice, but partly also by the negro's own faults. We need not discuss the origin of those faults or ask how far the whites are responsible for them. It is sufficient to know that if the negroes can be trained to be honest, moral and generally desirable inhabitants of a region, they can gain the respect of the white people of character to such an extent that the lawless elements will not long have dominion over them."

This advice is noteworthy, and it commends itself the more strongly to the negroes, because it comes from one of the leading and most uncompromising Republican papers in the country, one which has always been a Republican paper since the Republican party was organized, and always a Republican of the most pronounced type. It was a Republican paper before the Republican party had a national existence and was one of the active factors in giving it national power. It was a Republican paper before the negro was a freeman, did as much if not more than any paper in the country to make him a freeman, and for these reasons the negro to whom this advice is addressed cannot doubt its sincerity and should not lightly treat its counsel.

"Follow the advice of Booker T. Washington." Give the demagogues, whatever their color, a wide berth; determine to be sensible, law-abiding, and respectable and honest, cultivate the friendship rather than the enmity if the better class of white people, and the race problem will solve itself.

The writer of the Tribune editorial suggestively gave it the title of "The Negro's Problem," not "The Negro Problem, or Race Problem." There is quite a distinction between these, for while both races may be involved in solving the negro problem, the negro only is involved in solving "The Negro's Problem." That is his task and he is the only one who can perform it. If he does not devote himself earnestly to it, very little progress will be made in solving it for him.

If they took the advice of the Tribune and followed the advice of Booker T. Washington, Judge Lynch might reign and go into retirement forthwith as far as negroes are concerned, and the voice of the avenger would be hushed in the land. Friends, or alleged friends, may give advice, but after all it depends upon the negroes themselves to solve the negro problem and the way in which it is to be solved, if he is to continue in proximity to the white man. He may ignore good advice, and in that event others will address themselves to the solution of the problem in their own way, which may sometimes become a heroic way; or it may solve itself by the drift method, when the negro—the drift—will be a mere passive factor. In the meantime the negroes would do well to address themselves to solving "The Negro's Problem," the shortest way to the solution of the negro problem, in which task the Tribune kindly helps them along, and points the way. With this advice in mind they will be on the right track.

About in spots the desire for good roads is taking hold of the people of this State and they are going about it in a practical way. The work of Mecklenburg and Durham in this respect is well known and the citizens of Greensboro have now organized a "good roads club," which has raised \$8,000 to supplement the work of the county commissioners in constructing macadam roads. This is an example that every county in the State would do well to imitate by following.—News Observer.

The Bench and the Bar.

Judge—Your face is familiar. I've seen you before.
Prisoner—Yes, your Honor, quite often.
Judge—Ah! What was the charge the last time I saw you?
Prisoner—I think it was 15 cents, your Honor. I mixed a cocktail for you, I believe.

Notes and Comments.

The Atlanta Journal does a little figuring on the cost of the Phillipian war. We have 24,000 troops in the island, out of our standing army of 65,000. The Journal calculates that we are spending \$3,000,000 a month, or at the rate of \$40,000,000 a year, to hold the territory that we paid Spain \$200,000,000 for the privilege of scrapping in. And Gen. Chas. King, who has just come back, says a much larger army than we now have is necessary to hold the islands.

Recently we recorded the case of a man who, to amuse his baby, was rolling off the porch to the ground, and kept this up, to the baby's infinite delight, until, rolling off once too often, he broke his neck. It shows how, doing things from the very best of motives, a man may come to grief. Yesterday's paper reported the case of a black man at Thomasville last Sunday, hanging by his toes from the limb of a tree, for the amusement of his children, when his toes slipped, and he fell and broke his neck. It is hoped that the reader preserved a becoming gravity when he read these items, for there is nothing in either of them to laugh about.—Charlotte Observer.

We see it stated that the health authorities of Atlanta have ordered the discontinuance of well water in that city. "On the authority of competent physicians, who have carefully inquired into the matter, it is stated that 75 per cent of the fever cases which have recently occurred in the city were in families which have used well water." It may not be agreeable to know it, but the tendency in all large towns which have water-works, especially in those which have systems of their own, is to force the closing of the wells and to compel the use of the city water. The larger the city the greater the necessity for this, as the greater the population the more certain is the well water to become contaminated.—Charlotte Observer.

Reflections.

When we are young we think everyone is unjust to us; when we are older we know that everyone is unjust to everybody.

Time is not so large as eternity but it seems to take up a good deal more room.

To be immortal is nothing. To be worthy to be immortal is the great thing.

When prosperity goes a jog trot it isn't bad for us; but it shouldn't break into a can.

If we could only help ourselves to the bait and leave the trap untouched how much happier life would be.

It is an open question as to whether indecision or rashness has assisted us to make the greater number of mistakes.

Don't tell one friend of your quarrel with another; it may confirm his suspicion that you are hard to get along with.

The man who has never learned to write his own name is not so likely to get into trouble in this world as the one who has learned to write another man's.

One never realizes how little he really knows until he has read a page or two of the dictionary.

Serene inflexibility is an admirable quality—in a kitchen poker.

A dead rose is sweeter than a live poppy.

A Slight Misunderstanding.

"Nellie," said a mother to her little daughter, "I wish you would run over and see how old Mrs. Smith is; she has been quite ill." In a few minutes Nellie came run, back and reported, "She said to tell you that it was none of your business."

"Why, Nellie," said the astonished mother, "what did you ask her?"

"Just what you told me to," replied the little innocent. "I told her you wanted to know how old she was."

Chamberlain's Pain Balm has so equal as a household liniment. It is the best remedy known for rheumatism, lame back, neuralgia, while for sprains, cuts, bruises, burns, and sore throat, it is invaluable.

Werts & Pike, manufacturers, Birmingham, Ala., write: "If anyone who buys a bottle of Chamberlain's Balm, comes back and says it is the best medicine he has ever used." Send 5¢ note per bottle to W. G. Thomas' drug store.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

A Trust Operator on the Trusts.

The strongest opponents of the trusts have not presented the matter so strongly as Havemeyer, the head of the Sugar Trust, who has been on the witness stand before the Industrial Commission in Washington.

Here is some of his phrases:

The mother of all trusts is the tariff bill.

There appears to be in the public mind a distinction between robbery by an individual and by a corporation. What is commendable in an individual appears to be dishonorable in a corporation.

The day of the individual has passed. If the mass of the people profit at the expense of the individual, the individual must and should go.

It is a good business proposition to get out of the consumer all you can.

Hands off! Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost.

If the farmers are not satisfied, let them get together and form their own trust.

I have never known a corporation to have anybody under its thumb very long.

Citizens are divided into two classes—the industrious and those who wish to live by the industry of others. It is they who are without capital who are hostile to it. This is only another mode of stating the obvious proposition that it is those who are without means who wish to have it without work.

We are not in business for philanthropic motives. If we sell cheaply it is for the purpose of crushing competition, and we will even up afterwards.

The growth of the trusts has been marvelous. The Commercial Year Book contains a list of American trusts and combinations making 419 up to the first of June, which brought the aggregate capitalization to seven and a half billion dollars. An exchange says this amount is enough to run the government for fifteen years, and the interest on it at the rate earned by many of the trusts, would run it forever. It is over seven times the bonded indebtedness of the United States, and more than any other national debt in the world. It is an amount equal to one hundred dollars on every individual, and five hundred dollars on every family in the United States, estimating the population at seventy-five millions.

During the summer of 1891, Mr. Chas. P. Johnson, a well known attorney of Louisville, Ky., had a very severe attack of summer complaint. Gave a number of different remedies were tried, but failed to afford any relief. A friend who knew what was needed procured him a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which quickly cured him and he thinks, saved his life. He says that there has not been a day since that time that he has not had this remedy in his household. He speaks of it in the highest praise and takes much pleasure in recommending it whenever an opportunity is offered. For sale by W. G. Thomas, druggist.

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STILL AT THE BRIDGE.

BLACK-SMITHING

Where I can well know and prepared to do any work done. I hope you will see me as you have done before. You will find me on the East side of the River below, near the old bridge. I will be glad to see you and prepared to repair your gun, saw, puttin' back, or any other work you may want. I have a good stock of tools and material that will be sent if not called for by a letter.

Yours truly,
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You can get Now, Letter and Bill Heads, Statements, Invoices, Cards, Envelopes, Posters, Hand Bills, and almost any kind of Printing done here. Also Banks at Times Office.