

# The Lenoir Topic

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## DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE.

Address of the Democratic State Executive Committee.

DEMOCRATIC STATE EX. COMMITTEE, RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. 26, 1886.

Another campaign is upon us, and it again becomes the duty of this Committee to address a few words of counsel to those who are to carry the banners and fight the battles of democracy in this State.

We have now so long been accustomed to the blessings of good government, under Democratic rule, in North Carolina, that we may be in danger of forgetting the horrors from which we emerged when our party, by a grand uprising of our best people, obtained control of the legislative branch of the State government fifteen years ago. To those who are old enough to remember the reckless extravagance, the unblinking corruption, the defiant lawlessness of the negro and carpet bag government, which all but ended in war and bloodshed, it seems like a hideous dream; and in the enjoyment of the peaceful present and in the anticipation of a still brighter future, they might prefer to put away the memory of it all forever. But as history is every repeating itself, it is well to be reminded of the past and that the people who did these things once will, if opportunity is offered, do the like again. Undoubtedly the Democratic party is still the party of virtue and intelligence in this State, and so long as the ignorant blacks continue to stand together in a solid phalanx on one side, the intelligent white men of North Carolina are compelled by every consideration of prudence, and in sheer self-defence, to stand together on the other. They must see to it that they who pay the taxes shall have the controlling voice in directing how these taxes are expended. No fair minded man anywhere can find fault with them for this. We do not contend that we have made no mistakes in the decade and a half during which we have had control of legislation in the State, but we do insist that our mistakes have been few and comparatively unimportant, and that results on the whole have been such as to command the approval of all fair minded men. Our State, in spite of the poverty from which she has not yet recovered, has become respected abroad, while at home peace, contentment and comparative prosperity and happiness nearly everywhere prevail. We found the public Treasury empty and our credit bankrupt. We found that the irresponsible strangers and our late slaves, who with a few corrupt or ambitious native whites, had assumed, control of our finances, had in three years run up, in the name of the State, an immense fraudulent debt to pay the interest on which they levied enormous taxes from an impoverished people, while they were utterly regardless of the accumulating interest of our honest debt. We at once declared the fraudulent debt, \$16,000,000 of bonds issued without consideration to those whose property was to be made to pay them, as binding neither in law nor in conscience, and wiped out the whole of it. Then, in view of the fact that the honest debt had grown too large for the people to pay it all, we proceeded to make terms with the State's creditors and effect a settlement which was mutually satisfactory. By the act of 1879 our unsecured debt of \$12,627,045, bearing 6 per cent. interest, will have been reduced to \$3,589,511, bearing 4 per cent.; and the debt of \$2,795,000, for which the State's stock in the North Carolina Railroad Company was liable to be sold by decree in the Federal Court, has nearly all been extended for forty years, and the State's control of our most valuable railroad property, secured to her indefinitely. The dividends annually paid on her shares of stock are more than sufficient to meet the interest on this extended debt. And so far has the credit of North Carolina grown under the care of her loyal Democratic sons that her 4 per cent. bonds are worth par in the market of the world, and her 6 per cent. are bringing a premium of more than 25 cents on the dollar. What other Southern State can boast as much?

We found that during the three years of Republican rule they had handled and wasted upwards of a million of dollars belonging to the educational fund, and had paid less than forty thousand for teaching the children of the State. We have now, fully established, a system of public schools nearly equal to the best, in full operation, school houses in every hamlet open for several months in each year, and the school sessions yearly increasing in length, with graded schools and normal schools in which our teachers are better prepared for their duties, at our principal centres of population—every dollar of over half a million raised for school purposes legitimately applied.

We found our unfinished railroads, notwithstanding the millions of bonds issued professedly to build them, making no progress, their ties rotting and their iron rusting. These roads are now, some of them, finished and the others rapidly approaching completion, while new lines and branches have been begun

and finished since the new era dawned in 1871. Our mileage of roads has been nearly doubled and the public debt not increased. We have built two new asylums for the insane, of large dimensions; and the penitentiary, of sufficient size and strength to safely keep all the convicts likely to be sentenced to it, is nearing completion. And all this without an increase of our taxes, and "to pay as we go" has been our motto. No new bonds have been issued, nor any deficit made for these great works. Soon they will all be off hand, and our State taxes may be still further reduced, or, if the people prefer it, the excess may be applied in the still better education of our children.

It has been and continues to be the policy of the Democratic party to use the labor of the convicts to the penitentiary in work on railroads and draining the swamp lands belonging to the State for the purpose of bringing them into market, and to avoid employing it in competition with the honest labor of the country. There seems to be a growing disposition to have convict labor employed in part on the public highways, so far as it can be done consistently with the requirements of the constitution that our penal institutions must be made as nearly self-supporting as possible.

The administration of the Executive Department of the State government since the inauguration of a Democratic Governor in 1877, has been all that could reasonably be expected. Vance, Jarvis, Seales, able, wise and progressive—so far as progress is consistent with true conservatism—have done or omitted little for party friends to criticize or political enemies to complain of. They have executed the laws faithfully and fairly, and with justice to all classes and colors.

As much may be said of the administration of justice and expounding the laws by our Democratic Judges. Their delicate duties have been faithfully executed and their great and increasing labors conscientiously performed. We have heard of no suggestion of unfaithfulness and of no suspicion of corruption with respect to any of them. We therefore confidently commend the Judicial ticket presented by our late convention—Smith, Ashe and Merrimon for the Supreme Court; and Connor, Clark, Boykin, Montgomery, Graves, Avery and James H. Merrimon (the last the only one who has not heretofore served as Judge and his high character and ability are universally conceded) to the support of the law-loving voters of the State; and all such are urged to go to the polls and give them deserved endorsement.

It is submitted with all confidence that President Cleveland has redeemed his promise made on his nomination and at his inauguration, to conduct the government of the United States on business principles. He has never forgotten that "public office is a public trust," to use his own maxims, and that one who is entrusted with the conduct of a great government, should employ at least that measure of watchfulness in the discharge of his duties that is expected of one who has the direction and control of the affairs of an ordinary person or corporation. Whether it suited political friend or foe he has executed the laws as he found them in the statute book, in a manner to command the applause of the law-abiding of all parties. His courage, industry, faithfulness and capacity for labor have been beyond all praise. Millions of money have already been saved by reforms instituted under his administration and the departments at Washington have been and are being purified of much rottenness and corruption which had accumulated under Republican administrations. By his recognition of the South as an integral part of the country, with equal rights, by selecting members of his cabinet and appointing foreign ministers from Southern States he has put an end to sectionalism, we hope, forever. The bloody shirt can never be raised as a rallying banner again.

Some, conceding that the present Congress, of which only the lower House is Democratic, has under Democratic influence done much for the benefit of the country—for example, passing laws whereby over 50,000 acres of land granted to railroad companies on condition and unearned by them, were declared forfeited and thereby saved for actual settlers; certain bills for the protection of labor, etc.—yet complain that the Democrats have not abolished the internal revenue system and reduced the tariff to a revenue basis, with only incidental protection to our industries. To them we reply, that the only hope to do these things is in the Democratic party and not in that party which is responsible for the system and inaugurated these high protective tariffs; and that our Congressmen from this State, at least, have done their duty in trying to abolish the one and ameliorate the other, and it becomes us to see that good Democrats are again sent to Congress, with renewed instructions to exert all their influence toward the attainment of these desired ends.

In our address two years ago we assured the public that the so-called liberal party existed but in name.

Even the name is now a thing of the past. The device to divide and weaken our party having failed, our adversaries are trying another plan to distract and ruin us. Not daring to oppose us in many sections with Republican candidates or those once called Liberals, they find in our ranks professed Democrats, ambitious, selfish men who, for some reason, could not secure nomination from Democratic conventions, and these they persuade to run as independent Democrats. Well they know that if such men are successful, they must of necessity cease to belong to the party whose rules they have ignored and whose organization they have attempted to destroy, and would ultimately join this to whom they owe their election. An open enemy is much to be preferred to a faithless friend; and true Democrats will see that such independents are repudiated and ignominiously routed.

In 1884 we carried our State ticket by about 20,000 majority, and a Legislature over two-thirds Democratic was returned, while we sent Democratic Congressmen from eight out of our nine districts. This was done by organization and hard work. Let us now see to it that our organization is preserved and let us again go to work. It is now less than six weeks to the day of election, and to make signal victory, at all points, certain, much remains to be done. Every good citizen owes it to patriotism and right. He should inform himself and his neighbors on the public issues beforehand, and when the day of election comes he should give it, or at least a part of it, to his country. If he fails in this and bad men are elected or bad laws made, he has no right to complain. He has neglected to do his duty.

So, with organized work, we will again succeed. Let the township committees see that every Democrat and every one who can be persuaded to vote the Democratic ticket, is properly registered and has the opportunity to go to the polls and vote. Let these committees report frequently and regularly to the county committees, and let the county committees report to this committee. Then, on election day, let every democrat do his duty, and the State will be safe in Democratic hands for two years longer, and we will be assured of good, conservative government for that period, at least.

R. H. BATTLE, Chairman.  
B. C. BECKWITH, Secretary.

## Russian Peasant's Dress.

Red Letter Days Ahead.

Take an old, tattered, blue dressing gown, which you have worn for ten years, and use it twice as a mop to clean a stable floor; rub wheel-grease into the lower half, and let it dry black and hard in the sun; next sprinkle the upper half with hot lard and candle drippings, not forgetting to give the sleeves a double quantity; then wipe off a street crossing with it thoroughly, choosing a particularly muddy day for the trial; next wet it with ill-smelling cabbage soup (the favorite food of the peasants) and tear several holes in it; finally, let your dog sleep in it for two years; then select for its wearer a man whose beard looks like a bramble-bush and whose hair has been gashed off behind with a knife and fork; tie it tightly about his waist with an old cloth belt, and on no account let the bearer wear a collar; put on the man's head a cap which resembles a woolen cuspidor; and finally, encase his feet in dirty rags tied about with strings. Thus only can you have an idea of the appearance of a Russian peasant of the lower class, as I have seen them by the hundreds and I may say thousands.

## A Rumor from Shiloh.

Century.

"Endurin' of the war" it was not safe in Kentucky for Southern sympathizers to rejoice over Southern successes. A certain old "secesh" from the hills of Tate's Creek in Madison county had been frequently admonished by Judge Turner of Richmond, Kentucky, that if he was not more cautious he would land in camp Chase or some other Northern prison. One day the Judge observed his old friend glancing anxiously into his office as he passed and repassed the door. Calling him in, the Judge asked him what was the matter. "Well," said the old man, "Judge, if you'll look yer door I'll tell you. After assuring himself that there were no listeners he proceeded:

"Judge, I hear as the Rebels an' the Yankees has had a master fight. As I hear it, the Rebels and the Yankees they met away down on the Mass-is-sippi River, an' they fit three days in and three days out an' the een uv the third day cum John C. Brackenridge, Kentucky's noble son, an' axed for the privilege uv the flie' fur fifteen minits, an'—Judge—they do say he slew er hundred thousand uv'm."

Many forget that the hair and scalp need cleansing. Extensive use of Ayer's Hair Vigor has proven that it is the best cleansing agent for the hair—that it prevents and removes dandruff, cools and soothes the scalp, and stimulates the hair to renewed growth.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Topic.

During the past week more than five hundred persons have been discharged from Government service in Washington. Of these discharged, three hundred and forty must be credited to the Government Printing Office and two hundred to the Washington Navy Yard. I say credited; for forty thousand dollars per month will be saved in the Government pay rolls and the work in the Government Printing Office will go on as well as before. At the Navy Yard nothing will be lost for the discharges there were made with the intention of converting a useless naval station into a heavy ordnance foundry. It is the determination of the present administration, with the help of Congress, to improve the naval strength of the United States. Notwithstanding the fact that nearly one hundred millions of dollars were expended during the four previous Republican administrations ostensibly for the Navy, the Naval force of this country is inferior to that of sixteen European, two Asiatic, and three South American countries; in other words we are the weakest naval power. When the vessels already authorized, contracted for or commenced are completed, say four years hence the United States will, in naval power, outrank Brazil, Chili, Argentina, hina, Japan, Greece, Norway, Portugal and Sweden; be on a par with Turkey, Spain, Holland and Denmark, and be surpassed by England, France, Germany, Austria, Italy and Russia alone.

Secretary Manning has returned to the city and will resume the Treasury portfolio. He will, however, be careful to avoid that close application to the details of his office and the harassing interviews with callers which brought him so near death's door a few months ago. The able Assistant Secretaries Fairchild and Thompson will relieve him of much labor and care. It is reported that Assistant Secretary Thompson has matured a plan for the reorganization of the Treasury Department. The policy adopted by Secretary Manning has been pursued by Secretary Fairchild, namely, of putting the redemption of Government bonds to the double use of reducing the national debt and also regulating the money market. Within the last few weeks the rate for short loans has changed from two to three per cent to three times those numbers. Every lender knows that the Federal Depository stand open for the redemption of bonds whenever and by whomsoever they may be presented, so by that means millions of dollars may be released and circulate through the various channels of trade.

In anticipation of the building of the National Library tentative plans have been prepared to aid a determination of its position within the site fixed by Congress, care being taken to keep important lines of view open, to present both the Library and Capitol to advantage, secure convenient approaches and connections by walks and wheelways, and while enclosing the Capitol grounds to include the Library, to preserve, as far as practicable, all the advantages presented.

The soldiers seem to thrive under Cleveland's administration. The Civil Service Commission, a majority of whom are Democrats, have modified their rules so as to give precedence to Union veterans in the matter of appointments. This action was taken the very day that John Sherman, in a partisan stump speech, was denouncing the Administration for turning its back on the old soldiers.

The colored people's exhibition was formally opened yesterday at four o'clock. Today the various committees in charge were busily engaged receiving exhibits, which are coming in very rapidly. There was a fair attendance at the hall, a large proportion of the visitors being white people, who were surprised and interested in the exhibits of the skill and genius of the colored people. A large attendance is expected tonight and preparations have been made to accommodate the visitors. Although the fair is a creditable success, it must not be understood that this is by any means the first of its kind, nor the greatest, as some papers have represented. In North Carolina there is annually held a colored people's fair, which is wonderful in the variety and excellence of its exhibits and also in the success that attends it. "People should remember," said Mr. Lamar, "that one of the best and most successful departments of the New Orleans Exposition was that devoted to the colored people. It was presided over by Senator Bruce, and was a revelation to those who were fortunate enough to see it. There were exhibits from every State and Territory, and they would have done honor to the white people of those States and Territories. It was a great disillusion to people who think that the colored people are not progressive."

A peculiar virtue in Ayer's Sarsaparilla is, that while it cleanses and purges the blood from all impurities, and thereby roots out disease, it invigorates the whole system, and makes one young again.

## The Authorized Life of Abraham Lincoln.

Century.

The editor of the Century thus announces in the October number the important enterprise upon which that periodical is about to enter; namely, the publication of the long expected authorized life of Lincoln, by his private secretaries: "To this day the life of Abraham Lincoln has never been told. Many biographies of the President, of varying value and interest, have been written; one of the best, considering the promptness with which it was prepared, being by Dr. J. G. Holland, our former editor-in-chief. Dr. Holland's work is to be classed among those prepared by accomplished authors who enjoyed no personal acquaintance with the subject, nor any unusual means of access to authorities; several interesting books have also appeared bearing the names of men personally acquainted with Mr. Lincoln, and giving details of more or less authenticity, particularly as to his early career. But only his private secretaries, John George Nicolay and John Hay, have had the opportunity and the authority to tell the complete story of Lincoln's life, and particularly that part of it which pertains to the Presidency. When Lincoln died these two returned to the White House, where they were still living, though already appointed to Paris; they gathered together the President's papers, and handed them to Robert Lincoln and David Davis, who sacredly guarded them till the return of the secretaries from Europe. They were then delivered to the latter, for the purposes of this history, and have never been in any other hands. They have served as an important part by no means the whole—of the data preserved by the biographers for the purpose of presenting to the world the record of their illustrious chief, in all its truth and fullness. This history includes not merely the personal career of Lincoln, but a graphic account of the events which led to the civil war, and a history of that war from the point of view of the White House—the point of view in fact, of the commander-in-chief of the armies and navies of the United States.

"Friends and admirers of President Lincoln have sometimes perhaps wondered at the liberty we have allowed certain contributors in their criticisms of the martyred President. But it has been our belief that the freer the discussion of the motives and actions of Abraham Lincoln, the brighter would emerge the character and genius of that extraordinary man. And beside, we have been planning for the presentation to the world in these pages of this, the only authoritative life of Lincoln—the first installment of which will be given in the November number of The Century.

"The appearance of this life in the pages of The Century is at a time most fortunate. The war series (not yet concluded in these pages) has brought an audience to the reading of the true life of Lincoln unprecedented in numbers, as it is also one peculiarly interested in the subject. This applies not merely to the soldier-and-sailor audience, but to the 'general reader' of The Century whose interest in the war has been quickened by the absorbing narratives given during the last two years by leaders and other participants in the great conflict. In writing editorially of the war series in March, 1885, we then said that our readers of a younger generation, would, after following these narratives, be 'all the better prepared by inclination and temper for an examination of the real causes of the struggle, concerning which the last word has by no means yet been spoken.' This inclination and temper of the public mind is still more evident today, and the life of Lincoln will be largely devoted to a study of the causes of that war, which, when considered in itself, or in its results, must be regarded as one of the momentous events where with human history has ever had to deal.

"There are other considerations which make the appearance of the authentic life of Lincoln most timely. The South long since gave up its championship of slavery. That doctrine is dead. The doctrine of disunion is also dead. There is no longer any one section of the country that can claim an exclusive devotion to the sentiment of nationality. The doctrine of disunion, we say, is dead—but, naturally enough, not yet quite in the sense that the doctrine of slavery is dead. The once Secession States have long since accepted the situation; the leaders, with a few and marked exceptions, have accepted it as loyalty as the rank and file of rebellion. There is no danger to the Republic from that quarters so far as the dead doctrine of disunion is concerned. But it is particularly desirable at this time, with a new generation rising up and coming to the front in the South, that the sentiment of nationality should be fostered and strengthened as it can alone be by a study of the political causes of the armed conflict which happily ended in the salvation of the world. From Lincoln the Southern citizens of the Republic are prepared to learn again that lesson of nationality which

## Constipation

Is a universal and most troublesome disorder. It causes Headache, Mental Depression, impairs the Sight and Hearing, destroys the Appetite, and, when long continued, causes Enlargement of the Liver, Inflammation of the Bowels, and Piles. Constipation is speedily cured by Ayer's Pills.

For a number of months I was troubled with Constipation, in consequence of which I suffered from Loss of Appetite, Dyspepsia, and a disordered Liver. My eyes also troubled me. I was compelled to wear a shade over them, and, at times, was unable to bear exposure to the light. I was entirely

## CURED BY USING

three boxes of Ayer's Pills. I have no hesitation in pronouncing this medicine to be the best cathartic ever made.—James Eccles, Poland, Ohio.

I suffered from Constipation, and, consequently, from Headache, Indigestion, and Piles, for years. Ayer's Pills, which I took at the suggestion of a friend, have given me effectual relief. I commenced taking this remedy two months ago, and am now free from Constipation, the removal of which has caused my other troubles to disappear, and I feel improved in general health.—W. Keeler, Amherst, Mass.

I suffered from Constipation, which assumed such an obnoxious character, that I feared a stoppage of the bowels. Two boxes of Ayer's Pills cured me, completely.—D. Burke, Seaco, Me.

## Ayer's Pills,

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Medicine.

Washington alone has illustrated with equal lustre and devotion.

"From Lincoln we say,—for he, a Southerner by birth and ancestry, not only quelled the Southern insurrection, but was destined by his precepts and career and by the sympathetic nature of his personality, to be a perpetual guide any influence in behalf of national unity,—an example, a precedent, an enlightenment to all sections and not the least to that section which it was his life-work to oppose and thwart in its most cherished social and political theories and schemes. We do not hesitate to say that the political gospel of Abraham Lincoln is the one which the new South is more in the mood to study and to accept than that of any other American statesman. It is one of the most moving and significant facts in history that the pathetic affection lavished by Lincoln upon his disaffected fellow-countrymen, to be met during his life with little else than scorn and insult, was finally, after his untimely death, returned to him with remorse and unending regret. Before the murdered body of Lincoln was cold, the word leaped from many a Southern tongue, 'The South has lost its best friend!'—how good a friend was thus lost the new life of Lincoln will for the first time, authoritatively relate! Such is the sure effect of consistent devotion to the unchanging principles of freedom and 'the deep heart' of man."

"But it is not only the principle of nationality which needs fortifying at this moment, in view of the 'manifest destiny' of the united Republic in the future of civilization, but also those underlying principles of human brotherhood, of individual liberty and civil rights which the career of Lincoln conspicuously illustrates, and which have of late been confused in many minds among us; but principally in the minds of certain bestial refugees from the Old World whose compliment to the free institutions of America is their attempt to destroy them.

"Starting as did we ourselves upon the reading of the life of Lincoln and Hay with a deep interest in the subject and a special enthusiasm for the personality of the man we found the record a revelation of even a finer, more winning, more ideal, and more masterly character than we had hitherto imagined. Indeed as we read the manuscript of this work—a work remarkable for its thoroughness, its historical accuracy, its literary force, its revelation of secret events, and its illustration of events hitherto only partially understood; and supremely great, moreover, in the dignity of its subject; as we have read this great work it has seemed to us that the fame of Lincoln might as it already is, could be compared to a gigantic statue set up in the open square, but still partly veiled from the public eye. A statue which, notwithstanding that its form and features are only vaguely visible, yet awes by the grandeur of its proportions, and the wrong lines which show beneath the folds that hang over it. The reading of this minute and illuminating history for us, as we believe it will be for the world, the unveiling of the statue of Lincoln!"

## Peach Tree Box.

The simple little device is said to prevent the depredations of the peach borer. It has stood the test of several years' trial. It is simply a box of four pieces of plank, about fifteen inches long, of wood that will not easily decay. It is made around the tree and sunk an inch or two into the ground. Thus the moth, from which the borer is produced, is unable to pass under. The sides of the box should be not more than two or three inches wider than the trunk of the tree. As the trees grow, the boxes can be replaced by larger ones. The spider, that is almost sure to spin its web at the top of the box, provides ample protection where the box is small.