

The Lenoir Topic.

VOLUME XVIII.

LENOIR, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1893.

NUMBER 86.

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Statesville, N. C., Jan. 5, '93.

CLEVELAND'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

My Fellow Citizens:

In obedience to the mandate of my countrymen, I am about to dedicate myself to their service under the sanction of a solemn oath.

Deeply moved by the expression of confidence and personal attachment which has called me to this service, I am sure my gratitude can make no better return than the pledge I now give, before God and these witnesses, of unreserved and complete devotion to the interests and welfare of those who have honored me.

I deem it fitting on this occasion, while indicating the opinions I hold concerning public questions of pressing importance, to also briefly refer to the existence of certain conditions and tendencies among our people, which seem to menace the integrity and usefulness of their government.

While every American citizen must contemplate, with the utmost pride and enthusiasm, the growth and expansion of our country, the sufficiency of our institutions to stand against the rudest shock of violence, and the wonderful thrift and enterprise of our free government, it behooves us to constantly watch for every symptom of insidious infirmity that threatens our national vigor.

The strong man, who, in the confidence of sturdy health, courts the sternest activities of life and rejoices in the hardihood of constant labor, may still have lurking near his vitals the unheeded disease that dooms him to a sudden collapse. It cannot be doubted that our stupendous achievements as a people and our country's robust strength have given rise to a heedlessness of those laws governing our national health, which we can no more evade than human life can escape the laws of God and nature.

A SOUND CURRENCY NECESSARY.

Manifestly nothing is more vital to our supremacy as a nation and the beneficent purposes of our government than a sound and stable currency. Its exposure to degradation should at once arouse to action the most enlightened statesmanship, and the danger of depreciation in the purchasing power of wages paid to toil should furnish the strongest incentive to a prompt and conservative perception.

In dealing with our present embarrassing situation as related to this subject, we will be wise if we temper our confidence and faith in our national strength and resources with the frank concession that even these will not permit us to defy, with impunity, the inexorable laws of finance and trade.

At the same time, in our efforts to adjust differences of opinion, we should be free from intolerance or passion, and our judgment should be unmoved by alluring phrases and unweaved by selfish interests. I am confident that such an approach to the subject will result in prudent and effective remedial legislation. In the meantime, so far as the executive branch of the government can intervene, none of the powers with which it is invested will be withheld, when their exercise is deemed necessary to maintain our national credit or avert financial disaster.

THE EVIL OF PATERNALISM.

Closely related to the exaggerated confidence in our country's greatness, which tends to a disregard of the rules of national safety, another danger confronts us not less serious. I refer to the prevalence of the popular disposition to expect from the operation of the government special and direct individual advantage.

The verdict of our voters, which condemned the injustice of maintaining protection for protection's sake, enjoins upon the people's servants the duty of exposing and destroying the kindred evils which are the unwholesome progeny of paternalism. This is the bane of republican institutions and the constant peril of our government by the people. It degrades to purposes of wily craft the plan of rule our fathers established and bequeathed to us as an object of our love and veneration. It perverts the patriotic sentiment of our countrymen and tempts them to a pitiful calculation of sordid gain to be derived from their government's maintenance. It undermines the self-reliance of our people and substitutes in its place dependence upon governmental favoritism. It stifles the spirit of true Americanism and steepens every ennobling trait of American citizenship. The lessons of paternalism ought to be unlearned and the better lesson taught, that while people should patriotically and cheerfully support their government, its functions do not include the support of the people.

The acceptance of this principle leads to the refusal of bounties and subsidies, which burden the labor and the thrift of a portion of our citizens, to aid ill-advised or languishing enterprises in which they have no concern.

RECKLESS PENSION EXPENDITURE.

It leads also to the challenge of a wild and reckless pension expenditure which overleaps the bounds of grateful recognition of patriotic service, and prostitutes to vicious

uses the people's prompt and generous impulse to aid those disabled in their country's defense. Every thoughtful American must realize the importance of checking, in public or private station, any tendency to regard frugality and economy as virtues which we may safely outgrow. The toleration of this idea results in the waste of the people's money by their chosen servants, and encourages prodigality and extravagance in the home life of our countrymen.

Under our scheme of government the waste of public money is a crime against the citizen, and contempt of our people for economy and frugality in their personal affairs deplorably saps the strength and sturdiness of our national character.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURES SHOULD BE LIMITED BY PUBLIC NEEDS.

It is the plain dictate of honesty and good government that public expenditures should be limited by public necessity, and that this should be measured by the rules of strict economy; and it is equally clear that frugality among the people is the best guaranty of contented, strong support of free institutions.

CIVIL SERVICE UPHOLD.

One mode of misappropriation of public funds is avoided when appointments to office, instead of being the rewards of partisan activity, are awarded to those whose efficiency promises a fair return of work for the compensation paid to them. To secure fitness and competency of appointees to office, and to remove from political action the demoralizing madness for spoils, civil service reform has found its place in our public policy.

The benefits already gained through this instrumentality and the further usefulness it promises entitle it to the hearty support and encouragement of all who desire to see our public service well performed or who hope for the elevation of political sentiment and the purification of political methods.

TRUSTS AND COMBINES.

The existence of immense aggregations of kindred enterprises and combinations of business interests, formed for the purpose of limiting production and fixing prices, is inconsistent with the fair field which ought to be open to every independent activity. Legitimate strife in business should not be superseded by enforced concession to the demands of combinations that have power to destroy, nor should the people be served less the benefit of cheapness, which usually results from wholesale competition. These aggregations and combinations frequently constitute conspiracies against the interests of the people, and in all their phases they are unnatural and opposed to our American sense of fairness; and to the extent that they can be reached by Federal power, the general government should relieve our citizens from their interference and exactions.

ALL MEN FREE AND EQUAL.

Loyalty to the principles upon which our government rests positively demands that equality before the law, which it guarantees to every citizen, should be justly and in good faith conceded in all parts of the land. The violation of this right is followed by bad citizenship wherever found; and, unimpaired by race or color its sacredness appeals for recognition to American manliness and fairness.

RELATIONS WITH THE INDIANS.

Our relations with the Indians located within our borders impose upon us responsibilities we cannot escape. Humanity and consistency require us to treat them with forbearance, and in our dealings with them to honestly and considerately regard their rights and interests. Every effort should be made to lead them, through paths of civilization and education, to self-supporting and independent citizenship. In the meantime, as the nation's wards, they should be promptly defended against the cupidity of designing men and shielded from every influence or temptation that retards their advancement.

TARIFF REFORM.

The people of the United States have decreed that on this day the control of the government in its legislative and executive branches shall be given to a political party pledged in the most positive terms to the accomplishment of tariff reform. They have thus determined in favor of a more just and equitable system of Federal taxation. The agents they have chosen to carry out their purposes are bound by their promises, not less than by the command of their masters, to devote themselves unremittingly to this service. While there should be no surrender of principle, our task must be undertaken wisely and without vindictiveness. Our mission is not one of punishment but of rectification of wrongs. If, in lifting the burdens from the daily life of our people, we reduce the inordinate and unequal advantages too long enjoyed, this is but a necessary incident of our return to right and justice. If we extract from unworthy minds acquiescence in the theory of an honest distribution of the fund of governmental beneficence, treasured up for all, we but insist upon the principle which underlies our free institutions. When we tear

aside the delusions and misconceptions which have blinded our countrymen to their condition under vicious tariff laws, we but show them how far they have been led away from the paths of contentment and prosperity. When we proclaim that the necessity for revenue to support the government furnishes the only justification for taxing the people, we announce a truth so plain that its denial would seem to indicate the extent to which the judgment may be influenced by familiarity with the perversion of the taxing power; and when we seek to restate the self-confidence and business enterprise of our citizens by discrediting abject dependence upon governmental favor, we seek to stimulate those elements of American character which support the hope of American achievement.

CO-OPERATION IN THE WORK NECESSARY.

My anxiety for the redemption of the pledges which my party has made, and my solicitude for a complete justification of the trust the people have reposed in us, constrain me to remind those with whom I am to cooperate that we can succeed in doing the work which has been especially set before us only by the most sincere, harmonious and disinterested effort.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE.

Even if insuperable obstacles and opposition prevent the consummation of our task we shall hardly be excused; and if failure can be traced to our fault or neglect, we may be sure the people will hold us to a swift and exacting accountability.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE.

The oath I now take to preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States, not only implicitly defines the great responsibility I assume, but suggests an obedience to constitutional demands as a rule by which my official conduct must be guided. I shall, to the best of my ability, and within my sphere of duty, preserve the constitution by loyally protecting every grant of Federal power it contains, by defending all its restraints when attacked by impudence and restlessness, and by enforcing its limitations and reservations in favor of the States and the people.

AN IMPRESSIVE CONCLUSION.

Fully impressed with the gravity of the duties that confront me, and mindful of my weakness, I should be appalled if it were my lot to bear unaided the responsibilities which I await me. I am, however, saved from discouragement when I remember that I shall have the support, counsel and co-operation of wise and patriotic men, who will stand at my side in the cabinet places or will represent the people in their legislative halls. I find also much comfort in remembering that my countrymen are just and generous in the assurance that they will not condemn those, who, by sincere devotion to their service, deserve their forbearance and approval.

Above all, I now there is a Supreme Being who rules the affairs of men, and whose goodness and mercy have always followed the American people; and I know that He will not turn from us now if we humbly and reverently seek His powerful aid.

THE EXCELLENCE OF DELIVERY OF THE ADDRESS.

The characteristic feature of the inaugural address was the clear, steady and excellent enunciation with which it was delivered and the absolute absence of any gesture.

Mr. Cleveland gave no other emphasis to his remarks than that derived from the emphatic tone and determined nod of the head with which he at times stated some of the more forcible passages of his oration. He spoke without notes and turned from one part of the assembled crowd to the other, sometimes addressing the multitude in front of the stand and then again turning to the side and addressing himself more particularly to the people on the stand. In the confusion caused by the crowding, a lack of observance of the arrangements made and the wind, it was impossible for persons within forty feet of Mr. Cleveland to follow his remarks from the beginning to the end. The people on the plaza immediately in front could hear part of the salient features and whenever they signified by cheers their approval of special parts of it, the demonstrations were taken up by persons further off and who were unaware of exactly what had been said. The reference to the currency question provoked considerable cheering, but the loudest approval was given on the tariff section.

The President began the delivery of his address about 1:30 o'clock and it occupied 25 minutes.

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"I've noticed a queer thing about nervous people," said Withersap. "Most of them haven't any nerve."

The New Vice President Comes in.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The Senate was already overcrowded, but it did not prevent the Cabinet, the Generals of the army and navy, who had been distinguished, from taking their places to the left of the President's chair. It was nearly one o'clock when Mrs. Cleveland was seen fanning herself vigorously. There was a rustle and a murmur through the chamber, the doors opened noiselessly and Vice President Stevenson entered on the arm of Senator McPherson, of New Jersey.

Senator Hill fixed his glimmering eyes on the Western statesman, who walked up the aisle with a light step of a dancing master, and without trepidation he went through the form of taking his seat, and was sworn in by Mr. Morton. Mr. Harrison appeared a few minutes later on the arm of Senator Teller and carrying a handsome umbrella. He wore black gloves and there was an air of business about him, and he could not have been more at home had he owned the Senate and the army.

Mr. Cleveland followed on the arm of Senator Ransom. He walked very slowly and with the air of a man who had just come in from a Virginia oyster hunt. He was evidently physically fatigued from the exertions and worry of the day. But his face did not show it. He was as unruffled as a summer sky. Mrs. Cleveland shot a comprehensive glance at the scene and beamed with satisfaction. Her mother appeared greatly pleased. Then came the official speeches of the day. Retiring Vice President Morton delivered his farewell address.

When Mr. Morton declared the Senate adjourned and Vice President Stevenson took the chair. As provided by President Harrison before retiring from office, an extra session of the Senate was held to conduct the opening business of the new administration. The proceedings began with a prayer from Chaplain Butler, during which Mrs. Cleveland bowed low, as did her husband and Mr. Harrison and Senator Teller beside him. This over Vice President Stevenson delivered his maiden address. He had a Wash accent reminding one of a Western clergyman. Hill watched him sharply and the retiring Cabinet listened with indifference. Noble and Wamsaker did not even look at him.

Mr. Stevenson spoke as follows:—SENATORS—Deeply impressed with a sense of its responsibilities and of its dignity I now enter upon the discharge of the duties of the high office to which I have been called. I am not unmindful of the fact that among the occupants of this chair during the 104 years of our constitutional history have been statesmen eminent alike for their talents and their tireless devotion to public duty. Adams, Jefferson and Calhoun honored its incumbency during the early days of the Republic, while Arthur, Hendricks and Morton have at a later period of our history shed lustre upon the office of president of the most august deliberative assembly known to men.

I assume the duties of the great trust confided to me with no feeling of self-confidence, but rather that of grave distrust of my ability satisfactorily to meet its requirements. I may be pardoned for saying that it shall be my earnest endeavor to discharge the important duties which lie before me with no less of impartiality and courtesy than of firmness and fidelity. Earnestly invoking the co-operation, the forbearance, the charity of each of its members, I now enter upon my duties as president of the Senate.

Sunlight Breaks Out.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Then, when the formalities were ended amid cheers that re-echoed from the great walls of the Capitol and through the trees and down across the avenue where the clubs were still coming to join in the grand review, the new and old President stepped down from the portico. And as they did so the sun broke into view and music rent the air.

It was "Cleveland luck" once more. The election returns had told the story time and time again and the inauguration weather had proven it. It was under snowless, rainless skies and in a brisk, bracing breeze that the pageant, horse and foot, came back from the Capitol to march in review before the stand at the White House.

Memories of the last inauguration were rife in Washington today. Men made no bones about rehearsing those memories. They told you how in 1889 the weather was fair enough, and the populace, even the hard hit, long suffering Democratic element, was jubilant in its demonstration until in his carriage Grover Cleveland, by the will of the people, was compelled to take Benjamin Harrison as a passenger for the journey to the Capitol. Then the skies changed, "and the rains descended and the floods came," and the great concourse of people stood in water to the half of their shoe tops, and breathed pneumonia and excreted the elements, and said it was hard luck that the Indians here couldn't have had a better show.

Cost of the Next War.

While the Reichstag and the German nation in general are considering the cost of "armed peace" the former Minister of State, Schaeffle, a well known statistician, in a letter to the *Deutsche Revue*, has figured out the cost of the inevitable "War of the Future." The Franco-German war, he says, cost 12,000,000 marks; if we consider the percentage of the increased war footing of the contending nations, Germany, Austria, Italy versus France and Russia, we must calculate on an increase of at least 8,000,000 in the cost of its successor. This is the very lowest figure, and it means at 4 per cent. interest \$200,000,000 a year!

"During the last Franco-German war the battles deciding its fate were forced upon France in quick succession. France was weak then in numerical strength as well as in her army leaders. She is strong today in both. If we do conquer her the struggle will be a long and fierce one. In 1870-71 the contending armies faced each other in the field nine months. It has been calculated that with the increased efficiency of firearms, the smokeless powder, etc., the duration of the war of the future would be shortened. Yet our great strategists assume, and they have doubtless good reason for their assumption, that the war of the future will last at least 3 months.

"Those 20,000,000 marks must be raised in cash within those nine months. Where are they to come from? The imperial war fund, together with the cash on hand in the national banks of the empire, would not suffice for the purpose. Cash payment would have to be surmounted in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Italy and France, and paper money issued, unredeemable paper money. The citizens of each of those nations must accept this unredeemable paper money in lieu of cash. In 1870-71 we succeeded, after the invasion of France had lasted only a few weeks, in obtaining the means for carrying on the war in the enemy's own country. Will we be able to repeat this experience?

"If in one of the contending countries a social revolution, such as the Socialists of Germany, the Nihilists of Russia and the Communists of France threaten, should break out the estimate of cost must be further increased.

"Russia, which does not force her entire people to take up arms in case of war, will eventually be able to stand the strain of a war and its consequences as far as 'human material,' or flesh and blood, is concerned, longer than either of the nations in the Triple Alliance or France. Germany and her allies, as well as the French Republic, could not engage in a war such as the war of the future will turn out to be for longer than nine months. But the advantage held by Russia is liable to be discounted by the circumstance that she will be unable to provide food for her millions of soldiers for longer than the period mentioned.

In the financial calculations which the *Press* quotes from the expert German authority only the direct costs of the war are mentioned. Nothing is said of the losses entailed by the standstill of all industrial institutions, by the scarcity of work in all mercantile branches and the inability of land owners to make their estates productive. Furthermore, there is nothing said of the money value of the 'human material' retained in the field and eventually crippled or destroyed. Another fact that must not be lost sight of is that the German statistician seems to assume that the war of the future must necessarily have France for its stamping grounds. Now, if France should have profited by Prussia-Germany's example in 1864, 1866 and 1870, and this time become the aggressor—what then?

Now that the Montana Legislature has adjourned without electing a Senator, the appointment of a Senator will devolve on the Governor. This insures the selection of a Republican, as the Governor belongs to that party. "I do not think the Governor will be in a hurry to make the appointment," said a Montana man to me yesterday. "There are a dozen or more applicants for the place. It has been intimated that the Governor might find it convenient to have business out of the State, with the understanding that the Lieutenant Governor would appoint him Senator in his absence. This arrangement would not be distasteful to the Lieutenant Governor, as it would be the means of making him Governor. If the Governor makes the appointment himself, his choice is likely to lie between ex-Senator Sanders, Mayor Nantle, of Butte City, and Chairman Thomas H. Carter. There is less interest in the matter since the control of the United States Senate does not rest with the successor of Mr. Sanders."

The talk about hypnotism in the newspapers amuses people who are familiar with the subject. Hypnotism is a chestnut. It was fully investigated many years ago, and it is a settled fact that there is very little in it—so little that it is a waste of time to bother with it.

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