THE ROANOKE NEWS.

A DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED BY HALL & SLEDGE.

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july 13 1y

THE ROANOKE NEWS.

VOL. XI. WELDON, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 13. 1882. NO. 19.

AS YEARS ROLL ON.

The hopes and joys of life are passing,
Soon to be gone;
The friends we know in youth no longer
Make life all cheerful, faith still stronger;
As years roll on.

When those we loved have passed to rest
From strife and wrong,
Who longer then would wish to stay
Where gloomy phantoms haunt the way,
As years roll on?

We are not as in years gone by,
So fresh and strong;
Time stamps his frostwork in our hair,
Imprints our brows with lines of care,
As years roll on.

Our sky is hung with leaden clouds,
And we are young
Shall hear the voices of the blast,
Bending as other into rest,
As years roll on.

Nature with each returning spring
Her robes shall don,
As we shall find our peace of rest
Upon the cold and damp earth's breast
As years roll on.

But then a bright and glorious day
On us shall dawn,
When we shall leave the grave's dark night
And soar to scenes of peace and light
As years roll on.

Father, and source of life and joy,
Who art woman con,
Keep us and guide our souls above
Into thy realm of perfect love
As years roll on.

NEA LY A MI T KE.

"Better be an old man's darling than a young man's slave."

This had been Jessie Vernon's constant refrain in answer to the many questions heaped upon her as to her strange choice of one only because James Ulfilton had been a man of twenty-five when Jessie's violet eyes first had opened upon the world.

She was nineteen now, and he a man of forty-four.

An old man's darling indeed.

His darling, yes, but in the sight of an old man, a hundred times no!

The wonder lay that he should have stooped from his grandeur to win her.

But he asked vainly when he listened to her repetition of these things.

"I don't think you quite realize the gulf of years between us," he would answer her. "Think, Jessie—in six more years I shall be fifty, and you will scarce be twenty-five. Are you sure, darling—sure you will never regret?"

Once, when he had said to her something like this she answered him tears.

"Hush, hush!" she entreated. "You speak as though the heart might grow old. As long, Jamie, as I do not seem too frivolous a child to be loved by you, never again wound me by a doubt."

The words sank deep into his heart.

In future years he had sore need to find comfort in their memory.

The wedding day at last dawned clear and bright.

He vowed, as he uttered the solemn pledges at the altar, that at any sacrifice he would make her happiness.

It was a silent vow, but none the less sacred.

* * * *

Two years passed on.

He would have held time back in the new joy of experience.

Their boy was not a fortnight old when he entered his wife's room with an open letter in his hand.

She was resting in a large arm-chair, the violet eyes, bent downward with new beauty in their depth to scan the little face pillowed on her breast.

"See, little mother," he cried, "I have just heard from Carl. He is coming home. He will be with us almost any day."

"Oh, I shall be glad to know him," she replied; "but jealous, James—a little jealous, I fear—you love him so well."

"As well as though he were my son," he answer red fondly. "No—not! I used to say that, but I know now differently. It will be for him to feel jealousy, my darling, not for you. He will find two usurpers in the place he used to fill."

And he stooped to kiss the two faces, between which he liked to trace the strange like ness.

Carl Howard had grown to Jessie almost to be a household word.

He was her husband's ward—the son of a friend who had been to him dearer than a brother, and who, dying, had constituted him sole guardian of his only child.

The young man had just commenced his college career when his father died.

After finishing it he had gone abroad and it had now been fifteen years since his leaving his native land.

To Jessie he seemed still a boy, for as such James spoke of him.

Unconsciously, now that he was coming home, she found herself devising schemes for his amusement.

He might find their country home dull, beautiful as it was in its June dress of rose.

Perhaps, now that she had grown strong and well again, she might invite a gay party of young people to fill it.

But before she had time to put any of her plans into execution Carl arrived.

She and James were sitting together on the piazza when a carriage drove hastily up and out of it sprang a young man, tall, broad-shouldered, and even in the dim twilight, unmistakably handsome.

James started up to meet him, taking both outstretched hands in his in a way which showed how genuine was his welcome.

Then he led him proudly to his wife.

"Jessie, this is Carl."

"Why, uncle,"—this was the title he had always given him since his child-hood—"I thought this was some little girl visiting you!"

And truly, in her white wrapper, buried in a great arm-chair, Jessie looked but a child.

All three laughed merrily.

The ice was broken—Carl was one of them.

Looking back at that hour, as the weeks sped on, how strange it seemed to look beyond.

Before Carl came seemed almost a blank, so did his young life fill the place.

Jessie never had had a brother; but she felt this gap in her life was filled now.

She and Carl were sworn friends.

It was he who rode with her when James cared not to go—who walked with her when James was busy—who stood ready at all times to be her humble and devoted cavalier.

She had expected a mere boy; she found a traveled man of the world, full ten years her senior.

When she told him of her plan to fill the house, he would not listen to it.

"Let us be alone," he pleaded; and she was but too willing to give assent.

It was a joyous summer.

They allowed no sovereignty save baby.

Over all three, he held undisputed sway.

"You have made my uncle young again," Carl said to her, one day.

"Hush, she replied. "That is treason. We cannot make him what he has never been."

"You are happy?" James would sometimes say to her, yearningly—"quite happy?" as though he dared not believe in the sunny brightness of his life.

"Jessie," Carl began once, as they sat alone together, "I am going to confide to you a secret no one knows yet, not even my uncle. I am in love. I have been fighting against it and myself for long. In my wandering life I had grown suspicious as to marital happiness. What I have seen here has renewed my confidence, and I intend to put my fate to the test, and if I am fortunate next summer I shall bring my bride here. Will you open your heart to her, too?"

"Indeed—indeed I will," she answered earnestly.

And from that hour a new tie bound them.

"Why do you not tell James?" she would often ask him.

But he always answered:

"Wait."

Once he came to her with a letter in his hand, and had come from a slight sum for.

"It is all right, Jessie," he cried out. "Oh, can I tell you how proud and glad I am? And it is to you I owe it. It is you who taught me the power of love—what it is, what it may do; you who have given me this happiness. I might never else have tested. Jessie, Jessie! why did I not meet you earlier?"

"Oh, Carl, you can never love as I do!" she answered, when something sounded through the room as she uttered the last word.

She glanced up.

The master of the house stood in the doorway, white and stern, and with an awful sorrow in his kind eyes.

Jessie sprang to his side.

"What is it, darling? What has happened?"

Could it be that she did not know he had overheard Carl's last words to her, he wondered.

Could it be that she had grown so accustomed to their meaning that she shall not comprehend the awful visits they opened before his hitherto blinded eyes?

Could it be that she was so versed in deception that she could so readily call up the old love-light in the sweet face, where he had thought to read the content he had given her?"

"It is nothing" he said hardly, and turned away.

Something in his manner hurt and chilled her, but when they next met it had gone.

He was more watchful, more tender—that was all.

Of the long dark hours he had passed she could dream nothing.

"I strove to make her happiness," he would repeat drearily to himself, "at any cost—at any cost! And it is all my fault; I threw them together. How well they are suited to each other! With such of life is just beginning; with me—oh Heaven—I wound that it had ended ere I lived to see this hour. But how can I make her happiness—my darling's happiness? I will find a way, and Heaven will forgive the sin."

Three days passed.

What had happened to her husband?

Once Jessie found his eyes fixed on her face as though they would pierce their way into her soul.

"I believe James suspects we have a secret, she said to Carl one day. "Will you not let me tell him of our happiness?"

"Yes, you may tell him now he answered. "He will understand why I gave you my confidence, even before him."

In the twilight she knocked at the library door.

There was no answer, and she opened it softly and went in.

A letter lay on the table, addressed to herself.

She tore it open, and with blanched face and wide staring eyes, read the written page.

He wrote—

"Good bye, my darling. I have found out (how, matters not) that you and Carl love each other. I do not blame you. No momentary doubt of your womanly truth and purity has crossed my mind but I swore to give you happiness at any cost, and I go to keep my oath. If ever long news of my sudden accident death comes to you, you will know that I did not count the cost lightly, and remember that I died blessing you, and that it is my wish you and Carl should find with each other the happiness you missed with me. I could not hope, darling, to blend your young life with mine, yet the dream while it lasted was full of sweetness. Perhaps Heaven will give it back to me in eternity."

Like a spectre she hastened back to the room she had left, and she clutched the letter, on which the ink was hardly dry, into Carl Howard's hands.

"Find him" she moaned, "find him. Bring him back to me, or never let me look again upon your face."

Then with a shrill scream from the young lips, as the full extent of her misery burst upon her, she fell fainting to the floor.

For hours she was unconscious, but when at last the violet eyes opened they looked into her eyes husband's face.

Carl had found and brought him back to her.

With a few hasty words all had been explained.

Through an accident of time the dread verdict "Too late" had not been pronounced.

The handsome face bending over her pillow was aged with misery, but to her it had the light of eternal youth.

She heeded not his passionate prayer for forgiveness.

She forgot that he had wronged her only, with her clinging arms about his neck she drew him down—down to the sacred shelter of her breast.

STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

A GRAND AND EARNEST ASSEMBLAGE.

BY ACCLAMATION NOMINATES BENNETT AND RUFFIN—AN ADMIRABLE PLATFORM—RINGING SPEECHES BY JARVIS, MERRIMON AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED MEN.

On July 5th at 2:20 P M., Capt. Coke called the Convention to order in Tucker Hall, Raleigh, in a speech such as he only can make. He paid his respects to the Republican and Liberal parties. His speech was received with cheers.

He named Col. J. A. Long as temporary chairman, who, on taking the chair, said with a graceful delivery:

To preside over the Democratic Convention of the State of North Carolina is an honor of the highest character, and which would be gratifying to any Democrat. He did not know how to express the thanks that he felt on this occasion, but he appreciated the honor and would strive to discharge the duties acceptably. Whatever he lacked in ability and experience he would seek to remedy by an endeavor to faithfully and impartially administer the rules of the convention.

He said we meet today under circumstances most auspicious for the Democratic party. We find the enemy in front of us in battle array, under officers who are deserters from their former friends, but the army, the foe we have have to contend with, is the same old foe we have beaten on so many occasions. We have only to meet them again to route them once more. We meet today to put in nomination the man who shall lead us to victory. He did not doubt that the selection would be wise and patriotic. There is no middle ground to stand on—the people are with us. Let us then press on to the victory that awaits.

Amid much applause Capt. Long announced the convention ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Robert M. Furman, of the Asheville Citizen, was then, on motion of Capt. Coke, made secretary.

Hon. J. J. Davis moved that all resolutions offered to the convention be referred to the committee on resolutions without debate. Adopted. Mr. Davis then read the following resolutions, which he offered:

Resolved, That we regard a free and fair expression of the public will at the ballot box as the only sure means of preserving our free American institutions, and we denounce the Republican party and the interference of its federal officials for their gross frauds upon the election franchise, whereby whole districts, States and the Union have been deprived of their just political rights; and we believe the corrupt and corrupting use of federal patronage and of public money, drawn by taxation from the people in influencing and controlling elections, to be dangerous to the liberties of the State and of the Union.

Resolved, That we are in favor of educating the children of the State as far as our means will permit, and that to the end that we may be the better enabled to educate them, we are in favor of the abolition of the internal revenue system with its corrupting horde of officials, thereby enabling the State through its own electors, sheriffs, and other officers under its own control, to appropriate a large amount to purposes of education.

The roll of counties was then called.

After a recess for dinner, the convention reassembled at 5 o'clock.

The committee on credentials, through M. D. W. Stevenson, Esq., made a report, to the effect that all the counties represented had presented proper credentials. In regard to the votes to be allowed certain counties, it had decided as follows: Durham, 9; Franklin, 14; Granville, 12; Orange, 9, Vance, 8; Warren, 7.

The committee on permanent organization reported as follows: For president, Col. Thomas M. Holt, of Alamance; vice-presidents; first district, W. D. Pender, of Chowan; second district, R. B. Peebles, of Northampton; third district, Capt. J. B. Smith, of Cumberland; fourth district, Jos. J. Davis, of Franklin; fifth district, Geo. Gregory, of Guilford; sixth district, James A Leach, of Anson; seventh district, J. S. Henderson, of Rowan; eighth district, T. F. Davidson, of Buncombe.

For secretaries, R. M. Furman, of Buncombe, and Fred. A. Olds, of Wake.

The report was unanimously adopted.

Col. Holt was then escorted to the chair by J. C. L. Kerr and Hon. J. J. Davis, and was introduced by the temporary chairman in a graceful manner, as a man whom every North Carolinian knew, honored and admired.

Col. Holt said this great honor he appreciated. He was proud of the convention, which was an honor to North Carolina. He was for the white people, the backbone of the State, and there were in the State enough men with brains and patriotism to carry the ship of State through all dangers. There were troubles ahead, but the Republicans, whose aggressive platform was known to all, must be met in their own way. He was an Anglo Saxon, and he knew the temper of this convention. Speaking for himself, he said that, sink or swim, survive or perish, he intended to stand by the people of eastern North Carolina. [Cheers.] He urged the Democrats to stand together and oppose a united front to the enemy. The campaign is to be an earnest one, and energy and unity of action are the prerequisites to success. The white Democrats of North Carolina can pledge themselves to show these. Col. Holt's speech was fervent and earnest.

The Convention then took up as its first business nominations for Congressman at large.

Col. Harry Skinner, of Pitt, placed in nomination Hon. R. T. Bennett, of Anson, whom he termed a man among men, one around whom the Democrats of eastern North Carolina would rally as they never rallied before—a man whom all delighted to honor—a man whom all trusted, all honored, all admired—a man whose name in this hour was a tower of strength. His name inspires the Democracy to that unity of action which means assured success, for that glorious party will be found working together for one purpose, and that purpose victory. With him as a leader our banner will float gloriously.

A motion was made by Mr. J. L. C. Kerr, that Col. Bennett be nominated by acclamation.

The motion was put to a vote, and carried unanimously with a storm of cheers prolonged for a minute.

On motion, Messrs. Harry Skinner, Paul B. Means and Walter L. Steele were appointed a committee to escort Judge Bennett to the chair.

The nomination for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court being next in order, Judge Thomas Ruffin was nominated by acclamation amid great applause and enthusiasm. The chair man was by vote instructed to notify him of his nomination.

A motion was made that the convention endorse the nominations for Judges as made by the several judicial districts. This was adopted and the nominations as made were ratified.

In response to calls, Hon. John Manning made a few remarks, stating that he did not desire to speak at length. He took occasion to pay the convention a high compliment upon its personnel and harmony, which was an assurance of success.

Long and loud were the calls for Gov. Jarvis, who addressed the convention in a stirring speech which was received with prolonged applause.

The following is the platform adopted by acclamation:

We congratulate the people of North Carolina on the era of peace, prosperity and good government which has been unbroken since the incoming of a Democratic State administration; upon the pure and impartial administration of justice and the honest enforcement of the laws; upon the efficiency of our common school system and great advance made in education, and the general improvement and enterprise manifested in every part of the State, and we pledge ourselves to exert all efforts to advance the material interests of all sections of the State in the future as we have done in the past. And we challenge a comparison between a Democratic administration of our State affairs and the crimes, outrages and scandals that accompanied Republican misrule. Affirming our adherence to Democratic principles, as defined in the platform adopted by the National Democratic Convention, held at Cincinnati in 1880:

Resolved, That we regard a free and fair expression of the public will at the ballot-box as the only sure means of preserving our free American institutions, and we denounce the Republican party and the interference of its federal officials for their gross frauds upon the elective franchise, whereby whole districts, States and the Union have been deprived of their just political rights; and we believe the corrupt and corrupting use of federal patronage, and of public money drawn by taxation from the people, in influencing and controlling elections, to be dangerous to the liberties of the State and the Union.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the entire and immediate abolition of the internal revenue system, with its attendant corruptions, and that we denounce the present tariff laws as grossly unequal, unjust and vicious. We favor such a revision of the tariff as will produce a revenue sufficient for the economical support of the government, with such incidental protection as will give to domestic manufactures a fair competition with those of foreign production. That there should be an immediate repeal of all laws imposing a direct tax for the support of the government of the United States, but if it should prove impracticable to abolish the internal revenue system with all its attending demoralization, fraud and corruption, then we urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress the importance of so amending the law that the revenue officers who now receive in salaries in North Carolina alone more than $500,000 shall be elected by the people of the localities to which they are assigned.

Resolved, That the course of the Democratic party since its accession to power in North Carolina in furtherance of popular education is a sufficient guaranty that we earnestly favor the education of all classes of our people, and that we will advocate any legislation looking to an increase of the fund for that purpose that will not materially increase the present burdens of our people.

Resolved, That the question of prohibition is not now, and never has been, a party question in North Carolina, and never been endorsed by the Democratic party, and the people of the State at the general election, in the year 1881, having by an overwhelming majority voted against prohibition, and the Supreme Court having decided that the prohibition act is not and never has been a law we regard the matter as finally settled, and any attempt to renew the agitation is merely a weak effort of designing persons to divert the minds of the people from the dangerous principles and corrupt practices of the Republican party.

Resolved, That while we are not wedded to any particular form of county government, we recognize the fact that a large part of the taxes of the State are paid for the common benefit by the white people of our eastern counties, and that we consider it the bounden duty of the white men of the State to protect these people from the oppressive domination of ignorant blacks, and pledge ourselves to such legislation as will secure this end.

And whereas it is seriously suggested that a vigorous effort will soon be made to compel the State, by judicial proceedings, to pay the fraudulent and unlawful special tax bonds, amounting to $22,000,000, issued under legislation passed by the Republican Legislature in 1868 and 1869; therefore,

Resolved, further, That the Democratic party will resist such recovery and the payment of such bonds by every lawful means.

The above resolutions were read seriatim, and on motion were adopted as a whole as the platform of the Democratic party of North Carolina.

On motion of Mr. Furman, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the present faithful and efficient State Executive Committee of the Democratic party, with Col. Oct. Coke as chairman, be and is hereby continued as the executive committee of the party, thanking them for the untiring zeal and triumphant result of their past services.

Hon. A. S. Merrimon being called on, delivered an address of marked ability, the synopsis of which we regret we cannot print in this issue.

On his conclusion Mr. Paul B. Means moved that the thanks of the convention be tendered to Judge Merrimon by a rising vote for his able, masterly, eloquent and instructive address. Which motion being carried, all the members of the convention rose to their feet with a shout of applause, a compliment as handsome as it was deserved.

TURNING THE WRONG MAN.—A man named Cornwell, who was charged with having been drunk, got tired of waiting for tardy justice and suddenly adjourned from the recorder's court, without giving bond. The police had a lively race after him, but failed to fall in company with Cornwell, who was in a hurry to see his wife's people. Frank Hovenkamp, of Birdville, came in town just as the policemen became tired out, and he was duly clothed with authority and some other clothes, and armed with a big gun and bloodhounds, and directions to bring the body of the absconding Cornwell into court. The dogs struck the trail and ran well, followed closely by the gallant Frank, who was well mounted. Soon the dogs "treed" something in a thicket, and Frank approached with a pistol at full cock and ordered the malefactor to descend. "Go' Gho, massa, shoot dem dogs; dey's mad, sho' Dey done run me right up de tree and got part of my breeches in der mouth now," said a negro six shades blacker than the ace of spades. The man who got away was a fair-skinned white man.—Fort Worth Democrat.

An enterprising patent medicine man down East offers a reward for the discovery of other comets. He probably designs passing them all over with advertisements.

A little girl, who had been to a children's party, being asked by her mother on returning how she enjoyed herself, answered: "I am full of happiness. I couldn't be happier unless I were to grow.

"Grandma, the sun is brighter in summer than in winter, is it not?" "Yes, and its warmer and enjoys better health." "Why does it enjoy better better health?" "Because it gets up earlier."

A pretty girl in Sweden turned up her nose at her poor but devoting lover and it from that position. Now she doesn't know whether to enter on the world or to hire out to stand in somebody's hall as a stack.

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