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THE CIRCULATION OF THE MORNING STAR IS LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN NORTH CAROLINA.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Possible candidates upon the Radical Presidential ticket are canvassed very freely by leading Republican journals.

The New Hampshire election involving an emphatic repudiation of Grant and his administration, and the numerous enmities which the President has recently incurred, have measurably diminished the sentiment in favor of Grant.

The prospects of Logan as the Republican candidate for the Presidency are considered to be greatly aided by his position as Commander-in-Chief of that mammoth humbug, the "Grand Army of the Republic."

The embarrassing occurrences at West Point are still discussed with interest in political circles in Washington.

"It was certainly the duty either of the President, Secretary of War, General-in-Chief, Superintendent of the Academy, or some other officer or official, to order an investigation and bring to justice the cadets who willfully violated the articles of war and the rules of the Academy; and it appears to be equally certain that the person upon whom this duty devolved has failed to perform it, without any apparent cause for the neglect."

"If the very troops of the household speak in this irreverent manner of the chief, what may not strangers be expected to say! But the President has a rough side to his own tongue, as is shown by his putting a resolution of the House on the same footing with a town-meeting."

A recent declaration attributed to the President is, that, in the event of Democratic success in the Presidential election next year, the regular troops now sent to South Carolina will be withdrawn, and he (G.) would advise all the Republicans to quit the State at the same time.

It differs with its party on the radical question of general amnesty, but it adheres to its faith, and though willing to clog it with intolerable conditions, it reminds its associates of the danger of non-action in this wise.

The declaration of leading Cincinnati Republicans in favor of universal amnesty is a movement of significance. The gentlemen concerned are among the leading thinkers of the Republican party in the West, and where they point the way many thousands are ready to follow.

It is pleasant to quote candid condemnations by the Tribune of the policy of its own party.

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The impeachment trial of the Radical Governor of Nebraska—whose name is Butler, be it remembered—goes on finely, it has already been proven that Butler misappropriated seventeen thousand dollars of the school fund of the State, using it for his private purposes.

"The mills of the gods grind slowly," but they finally get these Radical thieves in the hopper, and then comes the judgment.

Chicago boasts a musical critic who has performed the somewhat extraordinary feat of writing up a concert, rebuking the apathy of the public who did not attend in satisfactory numbers, and criticizing the various performers, when the concert did not take place until the next week.

GRANT TO BE EMPEROR. HIS SON TO SUCCEED HIM.

Holden Wishes for an Empire.

Testimony of Rev. J. Brinton Smith Before the Committee of Investigation on Southern Outrages.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17.

Rev. J. B. Smith sworn and examined. By the Chairman:

Question: What is your present residence and occupation?

Answer: I reside in Raleigh, N. C., and I have charge of the normal school for the education of colored teachers.

Question: How long have you lived in North Carolina?

Answer: For more than three years; I went there in December 1867.

Question: From where?

Answer: I went from New Jersey.

Question: What opportunities have you had for knowing the condition of affairs in North Carolina or any part of it, as effecting the security of person or property? Give us your means of information, and the knowledge you have upon that subject.

Answer: I have, of course, knowledge of the country where I reside; I have acquaintance with many persons in different parts of the State; I had acquaintance with the members of the convention and of the Legislature which met in Raleigh.

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Question: From where?

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Answer: Under individual control of trustees.

Question: Organized by trustees?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: For what purpose?

Answer: The education of colored teachers. I was secretary of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and was requested to undertake that work. I have done so, and established this institution, a school with boarding houses, where we give the pupils their board and education, and the free use of books. It is the only school of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the entire South.

Question: How old are your pupils?

Answer: From 14 to 85, and even 40 years.

Question: Have none of these pupils ever complained of wrongs committed upon their race by the Ku Klux of North Carolina?

Answer: Never.

Question: Not one.

Answer: Not one.

Question: With what political party have you acted since you went to North Carolina, if any?

Answer: I voted for General Grant. I have never acted with a party in my life. I was reared a Whig; my father was a Whig.

Question: In the division of parties existing in North Carolina at present, do you act with or sympathize with the Conservatives, or Radicals, or Republicans?

Answer: With the Conservatives.

Question: Has the question of the treatment of the colored race and the outrages of the Ku Klux assumed in any form a political aspect in the State?

Answer: I have stated that numbers of the Union League assumed the badge of the Ku Klux, and whipped colored people—their own race; so that I do not believe, from the information I have received, the organization has any political character whatever.

Question: Which organization?

Answer: Any of these clubs that exist in different localities.

Question: Neither the Union League nor the Ku Klux?

Answer: I say the Ku Klux. I do not think they are political in their character—in other words, that the design is a political design.

Question: You do not think it is?

Answer: No, sir; merely to punish stealing and other crimes.

Question: Upon what do you base that belief?

Answer: Upon the fact that persons of both parties have been punished by it. I have no knowledge of their efforts having been directed or confined to persons of one party.

By Mr. Bayard:

Question: How long have you been connected with the ministry?

Answer: About twenty-five or twenty-six years.

Question: Continuously?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Always been in the ministry of the church you have mentioned?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: You said you were Secretary of the board of missions?

Answer: For that department of work among the colored people.

Question: Was your appointment as Secretary of the board of missions in any way recognized by the State authorities of North Carolina?

Answer: No, sir; no connection with the State.

Question: You are not dependent upon it in any way?

Answer: No, sir; in no way. I was requested by General Howard to go to North Carolina when I proposed to establish a normal school.

Question: For the purpose of educating colored people, in order to make them competent to teach their own race?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Do you continue in that relation?

Answer: I do. The school is going on now.

Question: Have you, since you have been in North Carolina, found any prejudice against you or unkindness on account of your occupation?

Answer: I have not found any unkindness toward me from the people of North Carolina. No one has treated me unkindly.

Question: Have you, on the contrary, met with personal kindness from the people there?

Answer: Yes, sir; the very best people of the State, all through the community, have treated me with the utmost kindness; visited my family, and myself.

Question: Your duties there brought you in contact immediately with the colored people who came to you?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Are those who are in your school generally the more intelligent of the race?

Answer: That is our purpose; to take the more intelligent and educate them.

Question: Do they talk to you freely about the condition of their race and their prospects in the State?

Answer: They talk as freely as pupils generally do.

Question: Among these people is there a sense of security as to their person and property and rights of the State?

Answer: I know of nothing among them evincing that they do not feel perfectly secure. I think some of them may have the idea that political rights are not secure from what they hear or read in the papers, because it is charged that the purpose of the present administration in North Carolina is to take away the rights of the colored people, and ignorant people, those who are not thoroughly intelligent, may be disturbed by such things.

Question: Does this lead you to the examination generally of the condition of the black people of the State?

Answer: Certainly; I am interested and constantly inquiring and conversing with the colored people; and I may say that I organized, on going there, a land and building association for the colored people which brought me into intimate contact with them. I am the treasurer of it. The object is to secure to them a homestead.

Question: You spoke of the existence of Union Leagues; did you obtain your information that such societies existed from the colored people around you?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Did they exist throughout the State?

Answer: So far as I know.

Question: Do you meet from the information given you by those colored people?

Answer: Rather from the public statements. I do not know that the colored

people have said to me in so many words that it existed throughout the State, but I know of the fact of its existing in Raleigh by the statements of the colored people.

Question: Do you know whether Governor Holden was President of the State League?

Answer: I know as well as I can know, without being in it myself. It was notorious that he was the president of the league.

Question: Do you know whether this league was bound by oaths?

Answer: I understand that they were.

Question: Had they passwords and secret signs, and other accompaniments of secret societies? Is that the general understanding in the community?

Answer: That I understood to be the case; the way of knowing their members.

Question: In your opinion is it perfectly safe for any man, black or white, to keep a colored school anywhere in that State, if he confines himself to the legitimate duties of his profession?

Answer: That is my opinion.

Question: With perfect safety?

Answer: I think so.

Question: Would you hesitate to establish a colored school in any portion of the State under the care of a judicious and sensible man?

Answer: Not at all.

Question: Would you think his life and personal property safe?

Answer: Perfectly.

Question: You said you voted for Gen. Grant in the last election?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Have you had any conversation with Gov. Holden relative to the late election?

Answer: I have had several conversations with him.

Question: In regard to the condition of the State?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: How did he express himself in regard to the politics of those who were opposing his election?

Answer: I had a conversation with him, I think, last April. * * * Governor Holden was very much excited about the recall of the United States troops, and had received no assurance then that there would be any troops to supply their place. Well, I spoke to Governor Holden, and said, "Governor, what distresses me is, that you should put these colored men up for Congress, for responsible offices. I notice in my work among these people that there is a great moral injury done to them throughout the State; the effect is very bad; it unsettles them; they do not seem to be disposed to go to regular labor, because they are looking to political preferment." He then expressed himself in respect to the colored people, and said that Congress had seen fit to pass a law by which they were admitted to seats in the State Legislature, and he wanted them to have some of the same themselves, and therefore he went for sending them to Congress. Then he said to me, or rather to us, "Now, if the Government does not send these troops, I shall arm the colored people. I can control by my word 80,000 men. I can go to the convention that is to meet here next week (a Republican convention) and control them by a word." I remarked at the same time, "That is dangerous power—very dangerous power in the hands of one man." He then said to me, in the presence of these gentlemen, "What is to hinder the Ku Klux from taking you, Dr. Smith? Are you not afraid?" "Not at all," said I. "I said he, 'There is nothing to hinder them from taking you or any other Radical.'" Said I, "Excuse me, but that is not my name. I am not a Radical." Well, then he went to say that for his own part, in his opinion, Gen. Grant would hold the Government of the United States, no matter what the election was in 1872, that he desired him to be Emperor, and his son to succeed him as Emperor.

By the Chairman:

Question: That is, that he, Gov. Holden wished it?

Answer: That he, Governor Holden wished it.

By Mr. Bayard:

Question: Was that 80,000 men of the league?

Answer: I understood him to mean the colored voters of the State.

Question: Do you understand that the colored vote of the State is generally bound together by this Union League?

Answer: I do.

Question: In your connection with the colored men, as members of your institution and as members of the building association, did any one of them ever complain to you of the wrongs done to their race by the Ku Klux?

Answer: No, sir; I have not heard of any wrong in the county of Wake. The building association is composed of persons in the county of Wake; therefore they had no complaint to make.

Question: I speak of wrongs to the race in the State.

Answer: Oh, I heard a colored clergyman say—

Question: That is not the point. Did he complain to you of any wrong done to him or his people?

Answer: No, sir; there was no wrong done to him.

Question: You occupy the position, then, of head of a school for the general education of the colored man, and no single colored man in North Carolina has ever come to you to complain of any wrong to his race?

Answer: No, sir.

By Mr. Nye:

Question: You do not believe in opposing the Government?

Answer: As a clergyman?

Question: I am now asking about what you would do as a man, irrespective of your position as a clergyman. Had you been in North Carolina when the rebellion broke out, would you as a man have gone with the rebels?

Answer: I would like, if I answer that question to answer it in full. North Carolina was a thoroughly Union State. A large majority of the people voted against the convention. The gentlemen in my board of trustees were men of that character, men who opposed secession, and who accompanied after Virginia had gone out, South Carolina having gone before. Feeling themselves between two stones, they succumbed.

By the Chairman:

Question: Assuming the government of the United States to be the power that it was in 1860, if the State of North Carolina had set itself up against the government of the United States, which would you have gone with, North Carolina or the United States?

Answer: I have been educated in the North, and I regard my allegiance as due primarily to the United States Government, as political heresy. I regret that the people of the South were ever educated in that heresy; but from the fact that they were educated in it, I believe they were as conscientious in what they did as I was in sustaining the United States Government.

* * * There is one thing I would like to state: I asked a leading member of the House of Representatives of North Carolina, knowing him to be a man of principle, "How could you vote for the Shoffner bill, to empower the Governor of the State to declare at will a county to be in insurrection, if none existed?" The word insurrection being a well defined term. He said, "Oh, we passed such a law, but it will never be executed." Said I, "Then, why did you pass it?" "Now, Doctor," said he, "it is necessary to hold this State as Republican for three or four years longer, and the passage of that bill was necessary to enable us to hold it."

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