

McLAURIN'S DEFENCE.

Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, inaugurated his campaign of defence, and his proselyting work on behalf of the Republican party with a speech at Greenville, Wednesday. We have read it carefully because while it is ostensibly intended for the Democrats of South Carolina this campaign was practically inaugurated in this State when the Senator made his speech at the meeting of the Southern Cotton Manufacturers' Association, which speech was substantially the same as that delivered at Greenville, which was somewhat more elaborate than the Charlotte speech. But in the cardinal points they are the same.

He starts out with the declaration that he is a Democrat and "hopes" to remain one, that is he will continue to be a "Democrat" provided the Democratic party conforms its platform to Mr. McLaurin's ideas, otherwise he will either take to the middle of the road, or to the woods, or vote with the Republican party, as he may deem best when that question comes up. If his language means anything, and we catch the meaning of it, that's the kind of Democrat Senator McLaurin is and "hopes" to remain.

In his position now he is in complete accord with the Republican party on all the issues of the day. He is with it on the protective tariff, on the question of expansion, on the subsidy question, in its policy in the Philippines, and in its large standing army. If there be anything on which he is not with it he didn't state it or hint at it in that speech. Why, this being the case, Senator McLaurin should still claim to be a Democrat we fail to see, for if having accepted the issues which divide the Republican from the Democratic party, and dilating on the beneficial results, past and prospective, of the Republican policies does not make him a Republican we would like to know what would.

He explains his inconsistency in his vote for the ratification of the Paris treaty after having shortly before that delivered a scorching speech against imperialism by saying that it was the firing by the Filipinos on our troops which stirred his patriotic blood, and suddenly caused him to 'bout face and vote with the Republicans instead of with his Democratic colleagues, as they all felt sure he would do. In this sudden resolve, so sudden after he had months to think over that question, he seems to have lost sight of the fact that the first shot fired was by an American sentinel, that the first man killed was a Filipino soldier, and that the shots fired by the Filipinos were caused by the indignation occasioned by this deliberate shooting down of one of their comrades by their presumed friends, the Americans. If he had thought of all this perhaps he might not have been so precipitate in flopping over. He says the vote he cast as the result of this sudden conversion is the proudest act of his life and one of which his children will be proud.

But Mr. McLaurin could have made quite as good and a much less emotional defence if he had left out this shooting episode and said that he was shawing danger (as he does say in this speech) of complications with other countries which might have involved us in war, and to avoid that he voted for the ratification of the treaty which changed the situation and averted possible war. That would have looked like conviction upon due reflection and would command more respect than the impulsive decision under the excitement of a reported shooting. Senators are supposed to have some stability in them and to be level-headed enough not to lose their heads, be swept off their feet and turn somersets under the influence of wired reports, the truth of which they had no means of testing. But the Senator seems to be satisfied with that spasmodic performance.

Reduced to its substance Senator McLaurin's defence and contention is that the Democratic party not only of South Carolina but of the country should accept and endorse the policies of the Republican party, because a majority of the voters of the country have declared in favor of these policies. That is the logic of his contention, and if that were accepted and acted upon the Democratic party would have retired long ago and let Republicans run the Government without opposition. There would have been but one party and use only for one. The other would have no excuse for existence; but Senator McLaurin says two parties are necessary, that he is a Democrat and hopes to remain a Democrat, but doesn't propose to be "bossed" by anybody.

We have noticed in an experience which has extended over some years that whenever a man who has been posing as a leader wants to break with the party he had been acting with the usual excuse is that the party has proved untrue to its mission and principles and has severed itself from him, who still remains the custodian of those principles and the true exponent with the level head. And we have also noticed that with rare exceptions these custodians of principles, etc., generally land in the other party, into which they drift as a log thrown into a branch river drifts into the larger stream, after temporarily lodging here and there. It is only a question of time with the log, and with them. Lack of moral courage or something else may prevent them from going over at once, but that wouldn't be a whit more to their discredit than going over by degrees and fabricating pretences on the way to justify the steps they take in that direction.

THE JOY OF THE

house is the baby. No matter how many have come before, the latest arrival brings joy to all. When the little one takes his first glimpse of the world, he is in, it is a minute of keenest joy. Father is proud, mother is fond, brother is eager, sisters are tender, nurse is devoted; the whole human world is kind. There is another, an uglier, world with enemies in it. When baby gets into its shadow, be quick with Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil—he is sure to get into its shadow; let him get no further than into the edge of it. Health is the baby's life.

There is a great lack of thrift in North Carolina, more noticeable in some communities than in others, but to a greater or less extent in all, as a result of which we send thousands of dollars out of our counties and millions out of the State that could and would be kept at home if better and more thrifty methods prevailed. As an illustration of this we quote the following from the *Morganton Herald*.

There are 15,000 people in Burke, outside of Morganton, and 2,000 in town; yet the 15,000 in the county don't feed the 2,000 in town. They don't feed themselves. The *Herald* finds meat in Morganton eating beans from McDowell, potatoes from Catawba, butter from Pennsylvania, corn from the West, meat from Chicago and St. Louis. They are feeding their children on imported goods from Richmond. Add to this the heavy drain for clothing, and the wonder is that Burke is not in one big poor house. At a conservative estimate, more than a half-million dollars go out of Burke county every year in clean cash for things that ought to be raised on the rich bottoms of the Catawba, John's, Linville, Lower Creek and other streams and to speak our fertile uplands. All this vast amount of money should be kept at home. The salvation of our country is in its farms. The wholesale destruction of our soil is not only a tub to the whale, and will leave us poorer in the end. There is nothing worse than nothing in tan bark. Some time ago a farmer in the county raised a crop of cotton worth \$100 in his place, and got \$6 for the bales. There is little profit in cutting and hauling wood, and too often it is done at the neglect of the farm. All this must come some time and leave our children poorer than we are.

There are few more favored counties in the State, than Burke, of which this is written. The soil is productive, and when given anything like reasonably intelligent tillage will grow any fruit, grass, grain or vegetable that can be grown in this latitude, and yet it is probably better known outside of the State and in some portions of it through a famous pipe made by an old woman who lived, and perhaps still lives, some where in the neighborhood of Morganton, than through any of its natural products with the exception, perhaps, of its gold. But there is more money and more profit in the soil of its farms than in its mines. If they showed half as much push and industry in working the farms that the miner does in working the mines, Burke would be a flourishing and rich county. But there are others besides Burke, too many of them.

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SPIRITS TURPENTINE

Large shipments of peas, cabbages and early truck are being made from the ports to the westward. One citizen, Mr. S. B. Barlett, recently shipped 35,000 head of cabbages, receiving an average price of 8 cents a head therefor. But an indication of the possibilities open to the truckers of this section:

—Kinston Free Press: We are told of something of an uncommon freak of nature. About ten days ago a heifer calf was born to a cow belonging to Mrs. Jacob P. Parrott. The calf is perfectly blind, without eyeballs. Otherwise it is perfectly sound and well. Mr. Parrott informs us that his mother, his young calf seem uncommonly affectionate toward each other.

—Statesville Landmark: Mrs. "Yank" Gaither, of the upper part of Davie county, ran off from home Wednesday and had not been found Sunday night. The whole country has been searching for her. She is afflicted mentally and it is said that she is not looked after carefully by her family. She had been gone from her home several days before the public knew of it.

—Monroe Enquirer: Mr. Ervin Medlin, an old well known citizen of East Monroe township, died at his home last Monday, May 20th, 1901, after a long illness. Mr. Medlin was about 70 years old. The most remarkable cow story comes from a gentleman whose veracity cannot be questioned, our old friend Mr. B. B. Howie. Howie lives about seven miles west of Monroe, has a calf about one week old which is giving a teacup full of milk a day. Mr. Howie discovered that the calf aimed at. As that policy would recoil and be disastrous to the countries adopting it, so it is a serious drawback to our manufacturers in competing with those countries. What they want is a free hand and open field, with as little tariff hampering as possible and then let them rely upon their own genius, energy and skill in the race for commercial supremacy.

—Wadesboro Messenger-Intelligencer: Mr. Robert Tucker, a prominent citizen of Mt. Croghan, S. C., and his wife, after having been married over 40 years, have been separated for 40 days. The day of the separation Mrs. Tucker went to the home of her son, Mr. Frederick Tucker, in Wadesboro. She was in trouble, whereupon the younger woman became a raving maniac. No explanation is given of the trouble. It is impossible to estimate the damage done to the crops by the tremendous rains of Monday and Tuesday. Lands have been badly washed and many acres of small grain, on bottoms, will be a total loss. The river and smaller water courses are in a high stage, but only one bridge in the county, that over Mill creek, at Parsons mill, in Morven township, has been washed away.

—Statesville Mascot: A thoughtful and observant citizen of this county has had the idea of planting a half acre of the county will with favorable seasons show an increase of 20 per cent over last year. The acreage is increased and the present crop is more highly valued than ever. The farmer, Messrs. W. S. and J. J. Brawley, of Shiloh township saw a novel sight. A king snake about three feet long and a copperhead about the same length and about the same color, were seen together. The king snake wrapped his tail around the copperhead's neck and dragged him into the ditch, where the copperhead's head was held under the water. The king snake then swallowed the other snake, although the copperhead was the largest, except in length. Mr. W. S. Brawley tells us that the king snake was about three feet long and the copperhead was about the same length. 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