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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

The subscription price of the Weekly Star is as follows: Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.00; 6 months, 60 cents; 3 months, 35 cents.

SENIOR VANCE'S LETTER.

As is well known the condition of Senator Vance's health is such as to prevent him from taking an active part in the discussion of the issues involved in the contest now being waged, as he never has done heretofore when the cause of his people or of his party was at stake.

In all this land there is not a man who when duty called more promptly or with greater zeal obeyed that call than our own Vance, and there is not a county in North Carolina where when the contest waxed warm, his was not a familiar voice.

While as a loyal citizen of North Carolina he was always true to and proud of his State, as a representative true to and solicitous for the happiness of all her people, regardless of class or condition, still as the son of a farmer, and having been raised upon the farm and spent his young manhood with and among farmers, he always felt a special, a kindly and a kindred interest in them, and hence in our own State contests or in discussions in Congress involving issues in which their interests were involved no one ever came more promptly to the front or more zealously or ably championed and defended them than Zebulon B. Vance, with whom it was not only a labor of duty but a labor of love.

This is the man who from his mountain home, where he is forced by fate to be an inactive spectator of the giant contest in which his people and all the people of this Republic are engaged, writes this letter, sends out this warning and pleading to his people whom in other years he has met face to face on a thousand hustings.

It is a cool, calm, earnest, honest, plain, comprehensive statement of the situation, of the conditions that confront us, and of the dire consequences if folly and obstinacy should prevail over wisdom and patriotism. There is no harsh criticism of any one, no effort to humiliate, no language to wound, no invective to excite, no appeal to passion or to prejudice; it is the voice of a patriotic, earnest, honest man, with wisdom matured by age, study, observation, experience and knowledge of men gained by mingling with them and watching the career of called or self-constituted leaders, speaking to a patriotic, earnest, honest people who seek relief and reform of abuses, and are laboring in good faith for that consummation. The people are honest, as they always are, though some of them may for a time be deluded by the specious appeals of designing men, and follow them in the vain effort to achieve impossibilities. It is to these the sage of Grobman addresses this wise, warning, pleading letter, inspired by the love he feels for them, for our grand old State, and for the Republic, the welfare of all of which is involved in the happy or unhappy decision of the contest which is now being warmly waged from Ocean to Ocean, from the Lakes to the Gulf.

North Carolinians, take it, read it at your hearth-stones, ponder upon it, and then like men, North Carolinians, and as patriots, do your duty as you have done it in the past, to yourselves, your State and our common country.

PLAYING MARTYR.

General Weaver seems to have been demoralized at Columbus, Ga., when Mr. Horton, of the Atlanta Journal offered to read the affidavits showing Weaver's misdoings when in command in Tennessee, to prove that he had not been misrepresented and lied about, as boldly charged by Mrs. Lease, the Kansas female stumper.

He went from Columbus to Atlanta, where he was announced to speak Friday night, and where an audience of 5,000 people had assembled to hear him, but instead of speaking he declined to speak, giving as his reason that there was "no free speech in the South," notwithstanding the fact that he was assured by the audience and also by the

THE WEEKLY STAR.

Chairman of the Democratic State Committee and by Governor North...

It is said now that he will issue an address to the people of the North declaring that there is no free speech in the South, which will carry the lie on its face for he and Gen. Field and Mrs. Lease have canvassed several Southern States, have had respectful hearings everywhere, and at no meeting, as far as we have read, have they met with rudeness. In all the Southern States where the Third party is organized its speakers are in the field and although the excitement runs high sometimes and the respective sides indulge in a good deal of noisy demonstration, as happens at times at political meetings in all sections of the country, no one of them has felt compelled to abandon the hustings because there was "no free speech," as Weaver alleges. In that same State Tom Watson is carrying on a very aggressive and in some respects a most offensive campaign, and holds the fort where Weaver backed down.

If Weaver had tried to speak and met with opposition then he might with some apparent reason have quit the rostrum and made the charge which he now makes. But he didn't do that, for he had probably made up his mind to quit his Southern canvass and was seeking for an excuse to do it, and to write just such a letter as he proposes writing. He does not expect to carry any Southern State, and probably not more than one or two Northern States, if so many. As between the Democratic and the Republican party, he is for the Republican party all the time, and his purpose and effort will be in this letter to drive Third party men who formerly belonged to the Republican party back into that party to cast their votes for Harrison and Reid. He will lose nothing by this, but will help the election of Harrison and Reid, which next to his own election if that were possible, he desires.

MR. STEVENSON'S TOUR.

Mr. Stevenson's tour through North Carolina has had a happy effect, for it has demonstrated to those who may have had doubts upon that subject that the Democracy of North Carolina is awake, and entered for duty. He may travel through other States, but we venture to say that even in his own Illinois, he will never meet with a more cordial reception than has greeted him everywhere in this State, nor with a more generous outpouring of the people. These were not mere party demonstrations either, for he was warmly greeted on his entry, and in his progress through the State, by citizens of all parties, while in some cities the residences and business places of Republicans as well as of Democrats were handsomely decorated and illuminated in recognition and in honor of his presence. As he said in his speech here, the memory of this tour will be, regardless of the result of the pending contest, the pleasant memory of a life-time.

While the fact that Mr. Stevenson is of North Carolina lineage had much, doubtless, to do with the generous cordiality of his reception, the fact that he is the representative of principles upon the success of which the prosperity of the people and the preservation and perpetuity of our free institutions rests had much more, and coming at a time, as he did, when the party of which he is one of the two leading, distinguished and honored standard-bearers is contended not only by the old foe but by a new one, the Democracy, true to the traditions of their heroic past, were more determined to emphasize their devotion to their principles by these cordial demonstrations of respect and admiration for him who represents them so ably, zealously and gallantly.

We are glad he came, we are glad our people had an opportunity to thus throw open their doors and their arms to him, and now as he is homeward bound we wish him, and his good wife, who accompanies him, God speed to their home in the prairie land, where they can tell how North Carolina, through him, shook hands with Illinois, and pledged anew her fidelity to constitutional Government and to our common country.

Pot Hunters Beware.

The annual misunderstanding has arisen among sportsmen regarding the bird law, and it may be well to inform them now that the Legislature of 1891 amended the law and as it now stands the close season extends from March 15th to November 1st. The law makes it a misdemeanor to shoot, trap, net or kill any partridges, doves, robins, larks, mocking birds or wild turkeys between those dates. The penalty is ten dollars, and each bird killed constitutes a separate offence. That is to say, a bag of ten birds will cost you just one hundred dollars. The law should be amended so as to make it a misdemeanor to kill one at any time should be twenty-five dollars.

THE BRITISH STEAMSHIP LEADER

The British steamship Leader and the Norwegian barque Fridrich arrived at Southport quarantine yesterday.

THE RICE CROP.

Seriously Damaged by Hains in South Carolina and Georgia—The Cape Fear Planters in Luck.

Rice planters in the Cape Fear section have been more fortunate than the planters of South Carolina and Georgia this season. Their crops have sustained no damage so far and with a continuance of the good weather they are now enjoying harvesting will soon be completed. Reports from South Carolina and Georgia, however, are of a very discouraging nature. In the Georgetown section much of the rice is becoming over-ripe and the floods in many of the fields have greatly impeded the work of harvesting the crop. What makes this state of affairs all the more annoying is that up to the present time everything pointed to an exceptionally large crop. Nearly every planter in that State has suffered from the protracted rains and floods.

The situation in Georgia is not much if any better. Reports were received in Savannah on Wednesday from the Alabama and Georgia rivers that the rice fields are flooded, and the rice is floating about on the water. The prospect is a very gloomy one to planters. Two weeks ago the crop was estimated to be the finest in years, both as to yield and quality. The quantity will be diminished, if any, by the rains, but the quality will be greatly injured.

CAROLINA CENTRAL SCHEDULE.

A Change to be Made—It Seems to Suit All Interests Except the Morning Papers of Wilmington Better than the Present Schedule.

The details of the new schedule to go into effect on the Carolina Central railway October 2nd have not been fully arranged; but it is certain that the present afternoon train will be discontinued, and that it will be succeeded by a mixed mail, express, passenger and freight train leaving here at 7:30 p. m., and the freight train now leaving here at 5 a. m. will run only three times a week. There will be no change, it is supposed, in the present schedule between Charlotte and Hamlet. It is probable, though not yet decided, that the new train will leave here every day, or night, Sundays included.

The situation is a little hazy, but so far as the STAR can penetrate it, the new arrangement will suit every interest except the morning papers of Wilmington better than the schedule now in force. Mr. Robinson, President, and Major Winder, General Manager of the Seaboard system, as well as the officials of the Carolina Central, have all expressed regret that the schedule cannot be so arranged as to suit all parties interested, but they say this is impossible; that the Carolina Central is losing three thousand dollars per month on the day train now running, and they are driven to the necessity of reducing expenses.

THE STAR, of course, regrets, on its own account, the necessity of this change; but on the principle of "the greatest good to the greatest number," it does not see how it can reasonably complain.

COLLECTOR J. A. YOUNG.

Indicted for Illegally Voting at the Election in November, 1890. J. A. Young (colored) collector of customs for the port of Wilmington, was indicted yesterday in the Criminal Court of New Hanover county for illegally voting at the election in November, 1890. Announcement of the finding of the grand jury created a considerable sensation among the colored leaders of the Republican party here. Young was arrested and brought into the Court room. His counsel, Mr. John D. Bellamy, asked the Court to try the case at the present term. His honor, Judge Meares, stated that the prisoner was entitled to a speedy trial and that if the State was ready there would be no delay. Solicitor Moore had no desire to delay the case; but he said, the first witness named in the bill of indictment—J. C. L. Harris—is absent from the city. The Court said that the case if tried at this term must be tried this week, as the Superior Court convenes on Monday, and it was finally agreed that the case should be called on Saturday, if the witness—Loge Harris—could be gotten here in time.

THE SEABOARD AND ROANOKE RAILROAD CASE.

Judge Augustus Seymour, of the United States Court, has filed his opinion in the case of the State ex rel D. W. Bain, Treasurer, against the Seaboard and Roanoke railroad, in an action brought by the Treasurer to recover taxes due by the railroad under an act of incorporation and under an act of the last Legislature, amounting in round numbers to about \$60,000. The Raleigh News and Observer says the decision rendered by Judge Seymour is in favor of the State.

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THE RISE IN COTTON.

The Crop Coming in Slowly—Seriously Injured by Hains—Good Prospects for Higher Prices.

Cotton is coming in slowly at all the ports, and the fleecy staple is rapidly advancing in price. There are discouraging reports from all sections as to the condition of the crop, resulting from the recent heavy rains. The crop is late everywhere, the acreage has been largely reduced, and in North Carolina the yield per acre is far below the average, according to reports received by cotton dealers in Wilmington. The quality of the crop, so far, has been good, but it is apprehended that bad weather will cause it to deteriorate.

The Savannah News says: Conservative cotton men here estimate the shortage in the Georgia and Carolina crop at from 20 to 35 per cent. Every day the rain continues increases the injury to the crop. Commercial travelers report that cotton is badly rusted in many localities on sandy lands, and some farmers declare they have already harvested their fall crop, the rust having caused them to open at once. Many fields on high lands have been given up to grass, the cotton evidently not being worth the trouble of harvesting.

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WEAVER AND MRS. LEASE.

The Third Party Leaders at Columbus—A Sensational Scene with a Newspaper Reporter.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Sept. 29.—The Third party meeting here to-day drew together about eight hundred persons, one-third of them were Third party men. Weaver and Mrs. Lease arrived at 10 o'clock. They were met by the depot by a committee and escorted to the hotel in carriages, and thence to the Opera House. Weaver was introduced by Cary, Y. T. Horton, this city, and was received with applause. His speech was on the same line as the former one, and consisted of denunciation of the Democratic party and charges that all the evils of party and distress were attributable to that party. He was followed by the Kansas speaker, Mrs. Lease, who sat in the Democratic party lively. She catalogued Weaver and the Third party, was particularly severe on the Democratic press, and characterized the Atlanta Journal as a lying sheet and its representative as a liar. Thad. Horton, the Journal reporter, who got affidavits of parties in Pulaski showing their brutality during the war, was on the stage and immediately sprang forward, stating he had affidavits in his pocket to prove the correctness of the Journal's reports and would read them. Weaver declared that he had engaged the house and that Horton should not read the affidavits. Great confusion ensued with cheers and hisses. Horton, who had taken the stage, stage. He told Weaver that he could not resent an insult from a woman—that her sex protected her—but he would read the affidavits of any man who would step out at her champion. Afterwards Horton made a speech in front of the Opera House, in which he upheld the publication in the Journal, and was loudly cheered by the Third party in the afternoon for Macon. There was no demonstration at their departure and a handful of people saw them depart.

NO TIME TO DIVIDE.

All Good Men Should Unite to Avert the Force Bill Calamity.

Extract from Letter of W. A. Guthrie. I myself, in 1868 voted with the Republican party for the reconstruction of the Southern States under the act of Congress of March 2, 1867, which put the ballot in the hand of the negro, and I did so as a choice of evils between civil government with negro suffrage and military government with no suffrage at all, and just such laws for our government as a General of the army, as a department commander, from headquarters at Charleston, South Carolina, might see fit in his fancy to prescribe for North Carolina. I voted with the Republican party to get rid of the military in 1868. Could I consistently vote in 1892 for men and measures calculated to bring the military back?

While negro suffrage alone has turned out to be bad enough in all conscience, the negro suffrage and military government together are a still more terrible military rule on top of it. We have had enough reconstruction of the South for one generation at least. We have felt and realized to its fullest extent the wisdom enunciated in the above quoted plank in the Republican platform of 1892, and I, for one, believe to-day in the doctrine, advocated by Mr. Lincoln in 1860, even though it be given the color of law, that the "lawless invasion by armed force of any State, no matter under what pretext, is among the gravest of crimes."

A word to you, my People's party friends: A few weeks ago you tendered to me, without my solicitation, your nomination for the highest judicial office in your gift. I thanked you then and I still feel and shall ever feel grateful to you for this manifestation of confidence, though I had to decline it. Since then the Republican managers who hold the Republican party in North Carolina by the throat, have, as it is reported and generally believed, broken faith with you and put up a State ticket. The danger now confronts you of turning over our State government to men who favor the National Force bill with its attendant evils, and the vote of North Carolina will be a "strong contest." Let me beseech you, as patriots, rebuke that spirit by your votes and let us stand together and maintain, inviolate the rights of the State, which are essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depends. That balance of power once subverted and destroyed, we may bid a long farewell to the constitutional republic. We may expect, too, in its stead, to be governed by orders from the headquarters of a military chieftain, such as our own eyes have seen in this Southland not very many years ago. I myself would rather see the very worst system of civil government to the best form of military despotism. WM. A. GUTHRIE.

THE DUPLIN DEMOCRACY.

An Enthusiastic Meeting and a Big Club Formed at Magnolia.

MAGNOLIA, N. C., Sept. 23.—After dark this evening the citizens of Magnolia gathered upon the formation of a Cleveland and Carr club, and succeeded so well that before 9 o'clock fifty-nine names had been secured, and the organization perfected, with Dr. Wm. D. McMillan as President; Capt. S. A. Johnson, W. R. Newberry, A. W. Wells and Hiram Scarborough, Vice Presidents, and W. W. Wilson, as Secretary and Treasurer. The club was addressed by Messrs. D. M. Hardy and W. E. Murchison, who had stopped at Magnolia on their way to Hallsville, where they go to-morrow to fill the appointment of members of the State Democratic Convention. The club was organized and succeeded so well that before 9 o'clock fifty-nine names had been secured, and the organization perfected, with Dr. Wm. D. McMillan as President; Capt. S. A. Johnson, W. R. Newberry, A. W. Wells and Hiram Scarborough, Vice Presidents, and W. W. Wilson, as Secretary and Treasurer. The club was addressed by Messrs. D. M. Hardy and W. E. Murchison, who had stopped at Magnolia on their way to Hallsville, where they go to-morrow to fill the appointment