HE WEEKLY ERA.

LICAN WEEKLY NEWS
THE CENTRAL ORGAN
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W. M. BROWN, Manager.

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HE WEEKLY ERA.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
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THE PAUPERS OF JONES COUNTY.

DEMOCRATIC LYING ON THIS SUBJECT EXPOSED.

LETTER FROM JACOB F. SCOTT, WITH NUMEROUS AFFIDAVITS.

Askew Shows up in his True Colors.

TRENTON, JONES COUNTY, September 25, 1875.

To the Editor of the Constitution:

DEAR SIR:—As you see a card known as the Askew card, is going the round of all the Democratic papers, relative to negroes bidding off white paupers in the county of Jones, I beg that you will insert the following true statement of all the facts as they actually occurred. It was the custom in the county of Jones before the war to let out the paupers of the county to various parties, and said custom has been continued down to the present time, and both Democrats and Republicans have encouraged it. I denounced it my-self publicly on the stump, but was overruled by the Commissioners backed up by the Democrats, on the ground that it would be a saving to the tax-payers. I further state from good authority that twenty years ago there was a white pauper let out to a negro to be taken care of by a Democratic Board. I further state that no white pauper under Republican government has ever been kept by a negro. As the pauper Metts has been named in the Askew card, I will state that he himself has informed me that he has never been kept by a negro, that he always drew his own orders and spent the money himself.

I can further state that reliable parties inform me that the negroes who lately bid on the white paupers in this county were instigated and encouraged to bid on the white paupers by several leading Democrats here, who told them you are free and have as much right to bid as any man, both for white and black. The bidders on that day were very much under the influence of whisky, which was furnished them by the Democrats. Reference is made to the sworn affidavits annexed.

Very respectfully,
JACOB F. SCOTT.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for the county of Jones, Joseph Burney, who being duly sworn, depose and says, that he was County Commissioner in the county of Jones during the years 1872 and 1873. That he is a colored man and that he was urged by some of her own white people to bid on Mrs. Nancy King, as she had no husband and was getting children. That he bid her off, but she always resided with her white people who received the pay for her from the Commissioners. That he was present in April, 1876, when the white paupers were let out, and heard Benjamin Askew tell colored men to bid on white paupers and run them down, as the county was run to too much expense.

his
JOSEPH X BURNEY.
mark.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of Sept. 1876.
JAS. H. C. BRYAN, C. S. C.

STATE OF NORTH CAOLILA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me, James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court of Jones county, Isaac T. Wilson, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners in and for said county, who being duly sworn deposes and says, That he has been clerk of said board for the past two years, and that he has never issued and delivered an order to any colored person for the maintenance of a white pauper during that time.

ISAAC T. WILSON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this, September 26th, A. D., 1876.
JAS. H. C. BRYAN.
Clerk Superior Court.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for the county of Jones, Furnifold Mercer, C. D. Foy and James C. Moore, who being severally duly sworn, each for himself deposes and says: That for a number of years before the war, it always was the custom for the paupers of the county to be let out to various parties to be supported. That no colored man has ever had charge of a white pauper in the county of Jones.

F. MERCER,
C. D. FOY.
JAMES. C. MOORE,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of Sept., 1876.
JAS. H. C. BRYAN, C. S. C.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me, James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court, in and for the county of Jones, James McDaniel, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he was born and raised in the county of Jones, and has resided within one mile of Trenton for the past thirty years, and that for several years before the war it always was the custom to let out paupers to various private citizens, and that said custom still exists in the county; that he has never known a white pauper to be kept by a colored person during the whole time of his residence in said county.

JAMES McDANIEL.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1876.
JAMES H. C. BRYAN, C. S. C.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me, James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for the county of Jones, E. M. Jerman, who being duly sworn, deposes and says, That he is one of the Commissioners of Jones county, that he was present at a meeting of the Commissioners of Jones couty in April, 1876, and that the paupers were let out to the lowest bidder because there was no money to fit up the poor house, which only consists of two houses and has no furniture or bedding. That no colored man in the county of Jones has ever kept a white pauper at any time. That he was present on the day when the white paupers were let out in April, 1876, and heard Benjamin Askew and other Democrats urging colored men to bid on the white paupers, saying, "Go ahead boys, that is right, for the paupers of the county are getting too much." E. M. JERMAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of September, A. D. 1876.
JAMES H. C. BRYAN,
Clerk Superior Court.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Jones County.

Personally appeared before me James H. C. Bryan, Clerk of the Superior Court in and for the county of Jones, John S. Andrews, who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he was born and raised in the county of Jones and has resided within a few miles of the town of Trenton for the past fifty years, and that for more than four years before the war it always was the custom to let out paupers to various private citizens, and that he was Sheriff of the county of Jones from 1870 to 1872, and that said custom was continued during the term of his office, and still exists in the county. That he has never known a white pauper to be kept in the house of any colored person during the whole time of his residence in said county.

JOHN S. ANDREWS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of Sept., 1876.
JAS. H. C. BRYAN, C. S. C.

From the Washington Republican.]

SOUTH CAROLINA RIOTS.

The Real Facts in the Case.

SIMPLY A WHOLESALE SLAUGHTER

BLACKS SHOT WHILE AT WORK

Taken from the Train and Killed

Slaughtered by the Roadside

No Organization of Colored Men.

The following letters have been received by Senator Patterson, of South Carolina, from a gentleman who is perfectly reliable:

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 20, 1876.

Fearful reports of the disturbances have just reached here from the vicinity of Ellenton, Barnwell county. A gentleman who went down on the train from Augusta, Georgia, has been to see me this morning, and reports only what he saw with his own eyes. He says S. P. Coker, member of the General Assembly, and a delegate to the convention from the county of Barnwell, who left here for home on Monday, was (Tuesday) taken from his home, carried to Ellenton

AND THEN SHOT TO DEATH.

I will tell the story as it was told to me, and in the language of the relator, as nearly as I can:

"I left Augusta for Beaufort Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock. We proceeded as far as Ellenton, when Captain M. M. Hudson, conductor of the train, refused to go further, as reports had reached him of a proposed collison at Roberts, a few miles below. While waiting at Ellenton, probably not more than half an hour, I saw S. P. Coker walking with several white men with guns on their shoulders. I do not think he felt that he was in any danger. He went over to a store near the station, and in plain sight, but a few yards away, and sat down on a bench and talked with the white men. After a few minutes they all got up and walked about thirty or forty yards into a field, under a large oak tree, all talking together. The white men then led Coker about thirty yards off and shot him. Two men shot him after he fell. I saw all this while sitting in the cars. I also saw two other men

DEAD BY THE SIDE OF THE RAILROAD,

one with his head blown almost entirely off. A colored man named Morrison was on the train. I think he was once a member of the General Assembly from Beaufort. A. P. Butler, I think, is his name, a brother of M. C. Butler, while on the train, was elected to command the company of white men then on the train. He went up to Morrison, and, drawing his pistol, was going to shoot him at once, and would have done so if the conductor had not told him that Morrison was in his charge and should not be hurt. He (the conductor) finally put Morrison in the baggage-car, and told him to lock himself in and stay there until he told him to come out. Morrison went to Augusta from there. Butler was very drunk. Most of the men I saw there were from Columbia county, Ga. They said they had

KILLED EVERY NIGGER THAT THEY HAD SEEN,

and I think they had. I saw two lying by the side of the railroad, and one with his head shot almost entirely off, and the other shot in several places."

This gentleman is, I believe, thoroughly reliable, and tells only what he saw.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 21, 1876.

The troubles which have prevailed here for several days, of a bloody encounter between the whites and the blacks, are found to be only too true, at least so far as shedding blood is concerned. The Democratic newspapers agree in their statements that at least

FORTY PERSONS HAVE BEEN KILLED,

and, as usual in such encounters, the colored men are the greatest sufferers. Up to this time, there is no definite information of the death of a single white person, although the sheriff of Aiken reports three killed, or rather says three "are reported killed." There has been no encounter at all so far as we have been able to learn, but rather a

WHOLESALE MURDER OF COLORED MEN

wherever they could be found. In the cotton-fields at work or traveling along the highway they were deliberately shot down in cold blood, brutally mangled after they were dead, and left to lie in the hot sun with no one to remove or inter them. There has been no hostile gathering of the blacks, unless you can call a meeting of from six to ten of them a "hostile gathering." Nor have they fired upon any one except, perhaps, in self defense. I believe at least

ONE HUNDRED NEGROES HAVE BEEN KILLED

since Sunday morning last in the two counties mentioned, and I do not believe a single white man has been harmed. If you will carefully read the account published in the Augusta (Ga.) *Constitutional*, and copied into our papers yesterday, you will at once see the absurdity as well as the falsity of the whole story.

The writer says the negroes in ambush fired a volley upon the whites, but "without doing any damage;" but when the whites returned the fire, several negroes were killed or wounded. The sheriff of Aiken, in his official report to the Governor, or rather in his official telegram, says he saw no armed bands of negroes anywhere, but did see the whites in armed bands. Others confirm this report. In my judgment it is a simple slaughter of the negroes without justification or defense. Both Coker, of Barnwell and Holland, of Aiken, members of the last General Assembly, are reported killed. Coker was shot in open day at Ellenton, and in presence of dozens of men. He had but just returned from the convention here, where he was a member; but the Democratic papers say he had several papers on his person implicating him in a conspiracy against the whites. All bosh. You, of course, know that this is only a story trumped up.

FOR EFFECT AT THE NORTH.

There never was a time when the negroes of this State were more quiet or desirous of peace than now. Reports also reach us of trouble about eight miles from Marion. What there is in it I do not know, as the news has but just reached here. Great excitement prevails.

The following dispatches have been sent to Governor Chamberlain while on his way to Massachusetts for his family. The Governor passed through this city yesterday on his way South:

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 22, '76.

Governor D. H. Chamberlain:

Riot in Aiken county broken out again. Troops have been sent to the scene. They will need fresh orders. Eye-witnesses report negroes shot down in the fields. Democratic papers report twenty-five negroes killed and two whites. Have telegraphed Sheriff Jordan for particulars.

WALTER R. JONES,
Private Secretary.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 23, '76.

Governor D. H. Chamberlain:

There is quiet now in Aiken and Barnwell. The negroes are in the swamps; the whites have returned home exhausted. Casualties, as far as heard from, about thirty negroes killed and two whites.

WALTER R. JONES,
Private Secretary.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that every letter and official document written by Vance in favor of justice and civil liberty, and every word written or uttered by him in behalf of the persecuted and outraged Union men of North Carolina, WAS WRITTEN OR UTTERED PRIOR TO MAY, 1863. During the summer of 1863 Vance visited Richmond, and came back a changed man. The glittering hope of a presidential succession was held out to him, and from that hour until the end he was a subservient tool of the Davis despotism.

The Grand Lodge of the United States, I. O. O. F. have adopted a resolution establishing the Junior Degree, to be composed of sons of Odd-Fellows of the ages from 15 to 21.

[From the Washington Republican.]

SOUTH CAROLINA

TESTIMONY OF EYE WITNESS!

THE DAILY SCENES OF OUTRAGE

OPEN THREATS OF REBELLION MADE!

Colored Citizens Hunted and Shot—Federal Authorities Openly Defied—Horrible Condition of Affairs—Virtual Insurrection of the Government!

General H. G. Worthington, ex-member of Congress from Nevada, and at present collector of the port of Charleston, S. C., arrived in the city on Tuesday. The General is known as one of the most conservative Republicans in South Carolina, and has persistently declined to accept office under the government of that State. He has never been connected with any of the political combinations said to exist in South Carolina, and it, therefore, cannot be alleged by his worst enemy that he has ever made a dollar dishonestly there. His voice has ever been uplifted in behalf of peace and order, and he has never failed to rebuke intemperate utterances, regardless of persons by whom they were made. With a view of obtaining his opinions upon the disgraceful state of affairs which now distract South Carolina, a *National Republican* reporter called upon him at his parlors at the Imperial hotel when the following coloquy ensued:

Republican. We desire to be informed, General, of the condition of affairs prevailing in your State, their causes, &c.

Worthington. It is with unfeigned regret that I tell you that the utmost state of

DISORDER AND RIOT PREVAILS

all over South Carolina, especially in Charleston and neighboring counties on the sea coast which hitherto have been noted for their peacefulness. The trouble appears to be the fixed determination of the Democratic leaders to wrest the State by force of arms from the Republicans, to the end that the old rebel leaders may again revel in ill-gotten gain and once more subsist upon the ill-requited labor of the freedmen. Ostensibly they cry "reform," but in reality it is the same old cant of the "outs" against the "ins." I will venture the assertion that not before in fifty years have the affairs of South Carolina been so economically and judiciously administered as they have been in the past two years. Within that time taxation has been greatly diminished, and the old ulcer upon the State, the notorious

BANK OF THE STATE,

which was originally founded to supply the wants of the old aristocracy, has been equitably closed and its assets paid over to claimants and depositors. Never before have all classes in the State been more prosperous. The husbandman has been liberally rewarded, and as a class the people are remarkably free from debt, and present a happy contrast to the over-taxed and half starved masses in the neighboring State of Georgia. And yet, notwithstanding all their material prosperity, the old rebel leaders have systematically raised the cry of "reform," the better to enable them to obtain the "ear" of the Northern people and present an excuse for all the glaring outrages which they are now practicing upon defenseless and inoffensive Republicans.

Republican. Is it true that the rebels in Charleston are in arms, and that officers of the Government are daily subjected to insult?

Worthington. The facts are that Charleston is at present

A MILITARY CAMP.

On every side you meet armed soldiery, who halt pedestrians upon the streets, heaping the bitterest invectives upon Republicans. Their plan appears to be to drive Republicans to the wall and force them to assume the defensive, when they will then commence a wholesale slaughter of such as refuse to join their political party. In other words, they have resolved to carry the State for Tilden and Hampton, and many boast that the streets of Charleston shall

BE MADE RED WITH BLOOD

or they will overcome the eight thousand Republican majority there. They even have artillery placed in conspicuous localities about the city, and during nights cannons were stationed in the streets near the Charleston hotel, and no one could go in or out without passing through bristling bayonets. Whenever my duties call me away from the custom-house I am constantly insulted by jeers and curses from the so-called best young men of Charleston. No epithet is too obscene or low for them to apply to me.

REPUBLICAN. Would it not be well to go well-armed in such apparently blood-thirsty community?

Worthington. That is just what these fellows want. If they could only get me to reply to their abuse they would instantly attack me, and all the arms in Christendom could not save me. While I have never been accused of being timid, yet I am persuaded that the most foolish thing I could do would be to notice these persons, as I know that a rejoinder would certainly result in my

INSTANTANEOUS ASSASSINATION.

Republican. Are not the men who thus behave from the lower order of Charleston society?

Worthington. No, sir; they belong to the oldest families in the city—men who boast of family trees, &c. They are no common characters whom policemen can quiet. A policeman would not dare to arrest one of them should he shoot down a man in open day; they regard themselves as privileged characters, and therefore they have been "privileged" to shoot down in cold blood several citizens. Nor is the chaos confined alone to Charleston. In Aiken county recently the Klans made an attack upon a community of colored men, and

SHOT DOWN OVER FORTY OF THEM.

The Georgians soon made their appearance on the ground, and had it not been for the arrival of a company of soldiers from a neighboring village hundreds of Republicans would doubtless have been killed. The Klans in that part of the State are under the command of one Butler, who was said to be one of the leading spirits in the Hamburg massacre and at present the Democratic nominee for the State Senate from Aiken county. In Laurens county the Klans are fully organized and nightly go about on the plantations whipping colored men and forcing them to join Democratic clubs. In Colonel Wallace's district the Klans are as powerful as they were in 1870 and 1871, and unless the strong arm of the Government is at once more effectually interposed that gentleman will not only be defrauded out of his election to Congress, but hundreds of negroes and white Republicans will be assassinated. In the city of Columbia, Hampton's home, the rebels are defiant and scoff at the authority of the Government. They make no hesitancy in declaring that they are

READY TO AGAIN JOIN ARMS

with the Government, and declare that Attorney General Taft's order is revolutionary and void, and will not be respected by them. In short, the present is no mean conspiracy in South Carolina. The same men who met the forces of the Union upon many hard fought battles during the late war are now in arms, and it is the sheerest nonsense to suppose that undrilled and disarmed Republicans can confront them. Nothing but the presence of a strong force of soldiers and a declaration of martial law will prevent the massacre of thousands of loyal men this fall. It is painful to contemplate the present depiorable state of South Carolina Republicans, who have entailed upon themselves murder and outrage, simply for attemping to exercise rights given them by a victorious country. I shall continue on in the even tenor of my way, but I will not be surprised to see

A GENERAL UPRISING IN CHARLESTON

in a few days or weeks at furthest. The people, naturally turbulent, are being egged on by a scurrilous press, and in my opinion are as rife for blood and carnage now as they were when they fired upon Sumpter in 1861.

[From the New York Tribune.]

Defeated by its own Blunders.

The Democratic party of the country has illustrated nothing so successfully during the past twelve months as its capacity for blundering and a perverse instinct for frittering away great opportunities. For twenty years it has done nothing whatever to entitle it to public confidence. Two or three times it has been trusted with a taste of power in some of the States, not because of anything it had done, but simply because its opponents had gone wrong and been careless and headstrong under bad leadership, and had received from the people deserved rebuke. And yet, so soon as the Democrats gained the least success, they turned to and upset it all by such behavior as drove away the strength and support which brought them victory. They never profited by any wisdom of their own, but only by the follies of their opponents. The Republicans have always brought them into power wherever they have gained it, and they themselves have invariably turned themselves out. So constant has been this process that it almost assumes the character of Providential interposition. Whenever the Republican party became reckless and headstrong through its uninterrupted possession of power, the people have brought the leaders to their senses by the chastisement of defeat, and it must be said that no party was ever so quick to learn the lesson and so ready to apprehend the meaning of defeat as the Republican, while none was ever so ill calculated as the Democratic to bear prosperity and keep upon an even keel before favoring gales. Two years ago, when the leadership of such men as Butler and their influence in the party and with the Administration had brought disaster to the Republican party, and introduced the Democrats to what seemed to be only a foretaste of larger and more extended political successes, the whole current of public opinion seemed to be running in favor of the Democracy. They had one branch of Congress, and had gained largely in the Senate, and in all the States seemed on the rising tide. One session of Congress has changed all that. Had the Presidential election been held before the Democrats of the present Congress began to show their incompetency and insincerity, they would no doubt have carried it. But the fatality of blundering has been following them from their first moment of triumph till now, when, as it seems to us, their last chance of carrying the country has disappeared.

It is not necessary to enumerate the blunders they have made. Much less space would be required to name the instances in which they have exhibited ordinary sense and prudence. Their whole Congress from the descent of the hungry hordes upon it at the outset, to the final carouse in which it had its ending, was a succession of blunders, almost unrelieved by a wise or politic act. The blundering of the Presidential campaign began with the outbreak in the party organs of a series of wild and inexcusable personal attacks upon the character of their most prominent candidate for nomination, and was followed by the selection of Hendricks for Vice-President, and has been ever since, a constant succession of mistakes and blunders, abortive tricks and weak expedients. Scarcely and whenever they have undertaken a step in the canvass. The last blundering, and probably the worst in its bearing and effects upon the party prospects, was here in New York in the nomination for Governor. The nomination of Mr. Seymour in the face of his positive refusal was, under the circumstances, as sublime a piece of stupidity as was ever perpetrated by grown men. A convention of blue ribbon donkeys at an agricultural fair would have been wiser. The second convention came together in a condition of hopelessness and helplessness, for which there was neither succor nor relief, and if it did not make matters worse it certainly did nothing to improve them. The vital point in the line was abandoned when the State of New York was given up, as it virtually has been, by the persons who undertook to manage these two conventions and botched them both. A fatal facility for putting its foot in it is the great trouble with the Democracy. The desire for office and for power which seems to be its only actuating motive does not furnish base enough for the managers to work together upon. They are constantly at cross purposes, and constantly upsetting their own plans. The party is as good as defeated in the Presidential race already; and defeated more by its own blunderings than anything else. Perhaps the best means to prevent the party from ever carrying a Presidential election, the surest and most efficacious, is to give it one branch of Congress in the middle of a Presidential term. All that the people need is to see it on exhibition, and all that the party needs to effect its own ruin is the opportunity of a brief and partial exercise of power.

The Indiana Canvass.

They are making things hot in Indiana, and the liveliest canvass is now in progress that has ever been prosecuted in any one State. There is no disputing the importance of the Indiana election in October. Upon it hangs ALL the hopes of the Democracy. If they are beaten in that State, it is a collapse of their Presidential bubbles. Republicans are anxious to carry the State, because in such an event it will render the canvass elsewhere a one sided affair, so far as they are concerned. Victory in Indiana is a prime necessity to the Democracy, and a secondary matter to Republicans. The Indianapolis *State Journal*, of the 26th inst., makes the following comments:

The list of Republican appointments for the remaining two weeks of the canvass in this State is without a parallel, no such array of speakers ever having before been congregated in any State within the same period. During the next fortnight there will be about six hundred speeches made in the State, or an average of six to each county. If it should seem to persons at a distance that the people are in danger of being talked to death, we have only to say they like it. They seem to crave political information and discussion, and all our speakers agree in saying that they never saw larger or more enthusiastic meeting. The list of speakers now posted shows the following strong array of talent: "Senator O. P. Morton, one of the most powerful campaign speakers in the country; Gen. Ben. Harrison, our gallant and popular candidate for Governor; Major J. W. Gordon, our eloquent candidate for Attorney General; Hon. James G. Blaine, a bold and eloquent speaker; Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, of Illinois, one of the most fervid and impassioned orators of the day; Senator Booth, of California, who unites grace and culture with sound logic and common sense; Hon. B. H. Bristow, of Kentucky, whose strong and earnest convictions are well matched by his strong and earnest manner; Hon. Carl Schurz, the eloquent German orator, whose keen and trenchant blade never strikes without cutting; Hon. John A. Logan, United States Senator from Illinois, whose ringing voice has led Republicans to victory in many a contest; Hon. R. J. Oglesby, also of Illinois and a very effective speaker; Governors Stone and Kirkwood, of Iowa, long recognized as pillars of the Republican party in that State; Hon. John A. Kasson, a leading member of the congressional delegation from Iowa; Governor Harriman and Senator Cragin, honored and eloquent sons of the old Granite State; Hon. Eugene Hale and Hon. William P. Frye, of Maine, both members of Congress and men of high ability; ex-Governor Noyes, of Ohio, one of the most popular speakers of the day; General Fred. Hecker, the veteran German orator from Illinois; Hon. Marshall Jewell, of Connecticut, who is known to Indiana Republicans by his effective efforts in former campaigns; General Judson Kilpatrick, whose aggressive oratory reminds one of his dashing cavalry charges during the war; Hon. Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, a veteran Republican, and for several years Speaker of the House; Hon. Edward McPherson, of Pennsylvania, formerly clerk of the House, and one of the best informed politicians of the day; Hon. A. W. Tenney, of New York, already widely known here as a speaker of rare powers; Hon. E. A. Storrs, the celebrated lawyer and brilliant orator of Chicago; Hon. William C. Goodloe, a bold and able champion of Republicanism from Kentucky; Governor Pease of Mississippi, a very effective and popular speaker; General S. A. Hurlbut, a leading member of Congress from Illinois; General Nat. Kimball, formerly of this State, but now of Utah; Hon. Schuyler Colfax, ex-Vice-President of the United States and an honored son of Indiana and of the Nation, and many others of this and neighboring States. This list, we think, fully sustains the assertion that no such force of speakers was ever before collected in any State, and it is hardly necessary to say that during the next two weeks they will make things hot.

For the Constitution.

Hon. W. A. Smith.

MR. EDITOR: The following little incident may not be without interest to the many friends of this gentleman, and give those not personally aquainted with him some insight into the private character of him whom we expect soon to make Lieutenant-Governor of North Carolina.

In the Fall of 1870, a poor Confederate officer, who had lost his all by the war, found himself unable to provide food and clothing for his wife and children. He had served about four years in the army of Gen. Lee, and after the surrender united himself with the Democratic party, and gave his active and enthusiastic support to its nominees. In his distress he applied to his old friends and comrades—told them his condition, and begged their assistance—begged for work—anything that would enable him to support his family. They all expressed great sympathy for him, and promised they would do their utmost to procure him a situation. Day after day he called on them to do something, but to no purpose, until at last in despair he went home one evening and told his poor wife that he saw no hope for them, that his friends could not aid him. She thought a moment and then asked him if he had tried Major W. A. Smith, then President of the North Carolina Railroad. He replied that he had not, for the reason that he had always opposed him politically; that he had no claim on him whatever, and that if his political friends, upon whom he thought he had some claims, would do nothing for him, how could he expect anything from Major Smith? She replied that she had always heard Major Smith spoken of as a very kind and charitable gentleman, ever ready to help the poor, and she believed that he would help them. With but little hope of ever hearing from it again, the husband wrote to the Major that night, told him his condition, and by return mail received a very kind and flattering letter, assigning him to duty at once, expressing the greatest sympathy for him and his family, and what is more, containing *substantial evidence* of sympathy, of which no mention was made in the letter, and for which he had always refused to be reimbursed.

That night the poor mother slept sweetly once more, and in a few days the father went to work on the road. Since then fortune has oftener frowned than smiled on the family, but in sunshine and storm, the mother holds fast to the Major's letter; teaches her little ones to read it; tells them never to forget him, and when they pray, to pray for Major W. A. Smith, their friend, mother's friend, father's friend, when no one else would be a friend. The whole family are grateful, and will work, hope and pray that he may be the next Lieutenant-Governor of North Carolina.

Mr. Editor, you must not suppose this an isolated case. Far from it. In his neighborhood there are many such. Many a poor man, ruined by the war, is now prosperous and doing well, who could never have risen again but for Wm. A. Smith. Many a heart to-night is glad that would have been bowed with grief but for him. Many a bright-eyed boy and girl trip their happy way to school, who would have been in ignorance and rags but for W. A. Smith. Such a man is an honor to our race—such a heart is an honor to humanity. North Carolina can honor herself no more than in honoring him. I see an appeal is made by eastern Democrats to the gallant West to come to her aid and relieve them of negro rule. If they are really under negro rule—if they really want their aid—western Democrats can render it in no way more effectual than by voting with us for Wm. A. Smith.

Old Johnston is fully aroused, and will go for him by the largest majority she has given for years. The poor are not often ungrateful, and the poor who know him are for him. Men of the mountains, we learn you have received our countryman with open arms. Your kind hospitality could not have been extended to one more worthy. He is emphatically the champion of labor—the poor man's friend, and will never sneer at the honest poor, or cringe or bow to a purse-proud aristocracy. All honor, say we, to our fearless standard-bearer, Thomas Settle, and his worthy associate, W. A. Smith.

H.

A LANDSLIDE.

It is reported on good authority that Joe Davis, candidate of the Vance wing of the Democratic party for Congress from this district, has deserted his master. It is said that in a speech in Johnston county a short time since "he said that he was not carrying Vance and did not intend to," and that he was not carrying the amendments.

Davis has the reputation of being as sly as a fox and we have no doubt that he has discovered that Vance is a dead load. Davis, however, is but little if any better than his boss Vance. It is true Vance has committed more mean acts, but it is only because he had a better chance. It may be said that Vance overdid the thing in the way of meanness, while Davis has had a chance to do some little good for the people of this district but failed to make use of it. During the entire time he was in Congress he sat like a drone and only exhibited the slightest energy when the time arrived to draw his pay. The fact is, Joe Davis is what might be termed a wooden man. There is nothing in him, and never was, we can truthfully say that the people of the Fourth Congressional district has had no man who might be properly called a representative in Congress during the time Davis has attempted to fill the position. As a didapper he has few, if any equals. There is only one thing that he possesses to perfection, and that is fox-like qualifications and this he exhibits, when he tries to dump Vance overboard.