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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NORTH CAROLINA DAILY.

ZEBULON BAIRD VANCE

A PUBLIC MAN IN WHOSE LIFE NO MEAN ACTION COULD BE FOUND.

MR. BRANCH'S ELOQUENT EULOGY.

Ceremonies in the House in Honor of North Carolina's Greatest Statesman--All the Tar Heel Representatives and Other Members Pay Their Last Tribute to His Memory--All the Talk in Washington is Ransom's Appointment as Minister to Mexico. Special to the News and Observer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 23. To-day was North Carolina day in the House. I had hoped to send all the speeches of the North Carolina members for publication, but could not secure them in time. They gave a pleasant and perfect picture of Vance, and as they related incidents of his great career, few North Carolinians could keep back the tears. It was truly North Carolina's greatest son, and the honors paid him were such as his great life merited.

The eulogies in the House were attended by about fifty North Carolinians, among these being: Kerr, Craig and family, Mrs. Senator Vance, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Martin, George W. Sanderson and family, W. H. Williams, Gen. Cox and a number of ladies. The delegation filed their speeches exhorting Mr. Henderson, who delivered his. The members from other States, as said heretofore, spoke.

Mr. Branch's Speech.
Representative Branch, of the First District, said:

"During my four years of service in the House the occasions have been frequent in either hall of Congress when solemn services like these are held to pay the last act of respectful duty to the memory of some departed member. These occurrences can but warn us of the precarious tenure by which we hold to the fleeting things of time and teach the impressive lesson of the instability of human life.

"It is a happy thing for a country, Mr. Speaker, when the lives of its public men can be thrown freely open to the world and challenge its closest scrutiny with a consciousness upon the part of the friendly critic, that there is no blot to be concealed and no glaring fault which a love of truth forbids him to deny and his own sense of right scarcely allows him to palliate.

"Of all the public men I have known there are none whose lives teach more impressively the great moral of the strength which public virtue gives than that of Zebulon Baird Vance. Here at least is a public man in whose life there can be found no mean or equivocal action, none of a departure from the self-imposed restraints of a lofty sense of honor, none in which either the fear of man, the seductions of ambition, or the allurements of pecuniary advancement could tempt to a deed which would destroy either his own self-respect or the respect of others for him. He knew how to inspire a people with a just confidence in the soundness of his judgment and integrity of his purpose so as to be looked to as a safe depository of trust and confidence. His popularity was not the result of those factions, which give to demagogues and political tricksters an existence, but was the natural consequence of his exalted qualities of both head and heart. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that each step in the political career of such a man should have been crowned with public honors amid all the fluctuations of public sentiment.

"Amid all the changes of party, tried in times of war as well as peace, he was found pursuing the path of duty by the light of principle, and dying he has left behind him a life of consistency and and public virtue, upon which the patriot may ponder with pleasure, and from which the mere aspirant for worldly honor may draw an instructive lesson.

His life is a true illustration that the line of duty is alike the path of safety and the way to honor. During a long and eventful period, a very large proportion of his life was spent in the public service. For nearly half a century, he devoted his energies and his talents to the performance of public duties, always performing his trust with fidelity and ability, and never failing to command the confidence, admiration and gratitude of an enlightened constituency. How happy now are the reflections of those who loved him most, that there is not another public life which can be referred to but to his honor, not a suspicion that could mar the purity and luster of his exalted life, and the remembrance of the life and work of such a man should always be an inspiration to those who are to assume the duties he so well, in his time, performed.

"Perhaps Mr. Speaker, one of the highest eulogies ever passed on a man in public life, said John Quincy Adams, is that of an Historian, eminent for his profound acquaintance with mankind, who in painting a great character by a single line says 'he was just equal to all the duties of the highest offices which he attained and never above them,' the possession of this rare political virtue was preeminently exemplified throughout the career of Zebulon B. Vance, who laid down his work without one strain upon his record, leaving as a priceless heritage to the family and his country a name synonymous with honesty and incorruptibility.

"It is a privilege and a sad pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to lay garlands upon the

tomb of the honored dead in whose memory these ceremonies are held to-day. I shall not attempt to give a review or sketch of his eventful life, nor recite the many important incidents that marked his long and distinguished public career. Colleagues of mine who have preceded me have with admirable precision of detail, and in eloquent, graceful terms of unexaggerated eulogy spoken of Zebulon B. Vance, who has left upon the historic annals of his State and country, lasting and imperishable evidences of his statesmanship and patriotism.

He was a brave, generous, magnanimous man, every pulsation of his warm unselfish heart was kindness and love for his fellow-man. The good of his State, the glory of her people, the honor and welfare of his country was the polar star ever guiding him. His thoughts were of his State and her people, he saw her wide extending fields of cotton and grain, her mines, her quarries, her factories, the hum of her wheels of industry, the song of her working men, these were his thoughts. He knew the privations, the trials, the struggles of his people, to make their burden lighter, their hearts happier were thoughts that concerned him most, and while, Mr. Speaker, the addresses on this occasion can add nothing to the future happiness of the dead, cannot augment the fame which his social virtues and his public career have earned, they tell the world that a Republic can be grateful to those who have done her services, and that the citizens of a Republic can appreciate the gentle qualities which give dignity and honor to a statesman's life and insure peace and consolation to a Christians death.

"A great man has fallen; it is fit we mourn him, indulging the hope that the light of his example may long continue to illuminate the paths of the future Representatives of the State, which honored and loved him as the swiftest in the race of ambition to serve her, the strongest in the strife for her supremacy, a State which now holds his remains and will ever cherish his memory."

Ransom's Appointment.
All the talk is about Ransom's confirmation. A number of Senators spoke to me of it. Hill said, "I am delighted," Jones, of Arkansas said, "I do not congratulate Ransom, I congratulate the United States and Mexico." Allison, of Iowa, said, "Very good appointment, I am glad to see him have it." Gibson said, "It was a deserved reward for his faithful public service, the President made the wisest choice possible to please the people of this country and the members of the United States Senate. The President by this did more towards making his record more popular with the Senate." Senator Daniel said, "It is very gratifying to the South and his friend on the floor. The greatest pleasure I have had for some time was to congratulate him." Even Call said, "It is a deserved reward, he will make a good minister." Gorman said, "When Ransom qualifies no better minister will be in service." Pat Walsh said, "He was everybody's choice and I am glad he has it." Ransom will not qualify until the fifth of March.

Only One More Week.
The adjournment of Congress is very near and as the third of March comes on Sunday, a session will be obliged to be held that day.
Many friends will part on the fourth never to meet again and the closest ties which have bound Senators and members to each other for years must now be broken and new men must step in, to cause the sad old story to be repeated, when their seats are made vacant.
"Nobody," said Senator Harris, "will be missed in Washington more than Senator Ransom; he is the old landmark of the Senate and has more friends on the floor than any other Senator."

The door to the Senate lobby will be closed and people who have come to Washington for years and have found Capt. Arthur Barnes at his old fort will miss his smiling face.
The Secretary's office will, of course, be open all the summer and until the reorganization of the Senate next December. General Cox will have his next little office which you can never enter until Peter, his faithful messenger, has entered first.

Of course in the Disbursing office Mr. Peter Wilson will be also at his desk along with Roger Watson and Chas. Lamb. The delegation will all leave on the 4th and their numerous clerks through the departments will be left to look somewhat to their own good until a new Democratic delegation shall come in '97.

On Tuesday evening Miss Laura Payne of 1229 N. street N. W., gave a Euchre Party complimentary to her guests Miss Annie Ba-bee, of Raleigh and Miss Manning, of Chapel Hill. Among those present who were from North Carolina were Misses Young, Henderson, Craige, Ethel Bagley, Belle Bagley and Collier, Messrs. Sterling Ruffin, Chas. Alexander and Thomas Ruffin.

On Tuesday evening the Alabama Association gave its reception and dance at Willard's Hall. Many North Carolinians were present.
H. H. Carrow, of Washington, N. C., was here this morning. He is on a pleasure trip and leaves to-night for New York.
Mr. Charles T. Harris left for Wilson last night.

Will Still Support Dolph.
SALEM, Ore., Feb. 23.—A majority of Senator Dolph's followers at a caucus this morning decided to continue to support him for re-nomination.

Eight ballots have been taken so far to day without result. A recess was then taken until 7:30 p. m.

RANSOM IS THE MAN

NORTH CAROLINA'S SENIOR SENATOR APPOINTED MINISTER TO MEXICO.

NOMINATION AT ONCE CONFIRMED

The Confirmation Was Moved by Senator Sherman, Who Addressed the Senate Briefly on the Fitness of the Nomination--Sketch of Senator Ransom's Life and Public Career--The Vote on the Question of Confirmation Was Unanimous.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the nomination of Senator Matt W. Ransom, of North Carolina, to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico. Immediately after the nomination of Mr. Ransom was received, Senator Blackburn moved an executive session and the nomination was forthwith taken up and confirmed by the unanimous vote of the Senate.

He was first elected to the Senate to fill the term to which Z. B. Vance had been elected, but which he was not allowed to fill because his war disabilities had not been removed, and the fact is now pleasantly recalled by Mr. Vance's friends that Senator Ransom devoted himself zealously during the early part of his senatorial career to secure the removal of the bar which had been created against Mr. Vance.

The confirmation was moved by Senator Sherman, who, in making the motion, addressed the Senate briefly as to the fitness of the nomination, which, he said, was in every way deserving and appropriate. He referred to Mr. Ransom's long term of service in the Senate and said that through his never-failing courtesy and kind heartedness Senator Ransom had won the esteem, as through his ability, character and devotion to the public welfare he has earned the respect, of all his colleagues in the Senate.

When the vote was taken there was a general response in the affirmative. The executive session lasted but five minutes.

Senator Ransom made his escape to his committee room when the executive session was moved and was not present during the executive proceedings.
Mr. Ransom has been in the Senate since April 24th, 1872, and has long been one of the popular members of that body, so that it was with pleasure that his associates took occasion to confirm the nomination so quickly.
He is a native of North Carolina, born in Warren county in 1826. He received an academic education, graduating from the University of North Carolina in 1847, and was admitted to the bar the same year. He is a lawyer and planter, and prior to entering national politics held a number of offices of trust in his native State. Mr. Ransom has been re-elected to the Senate three times and his term of service expires March 3rd next.

It is also recalled by some that he divided his first year's salary with Mr. Vance. During his career in the Senate Mr. Ransom has kept well abreast of public affairs. He has from the first held high committee places and is now chairman of the Committee on Commerce, one of the most important of the Senate committees.

Notwithstanding he served through the war on the Confederate side, Mr. Ransom first made himself prominent as a peace advocate in ante-bellum days, and he attended the Montgomery peace convention in 1861 as a delegate from North Carolina. He was in those days a Whig, but since the war has affiliated with the Democratic party.

During the war he filled in succession the grades of Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel, Brigadier-General and Major-General, which latter rank he held when he surrendered with Lee at Appomattox. He participated in many important engagements, in some of which he was in command. He was especially noted for the care he took of his men.

The salary of the Mexican mission is \$17,500.

Senator Ransom is admirably equipped for any diplomatic mission. He has served in the Senate for nearly four consecutive terms, is a born diplomat, speaks French and Spanish, and is thoroughly at home in the Greek and Latin classics. He is 68 years old, but is strong and active.

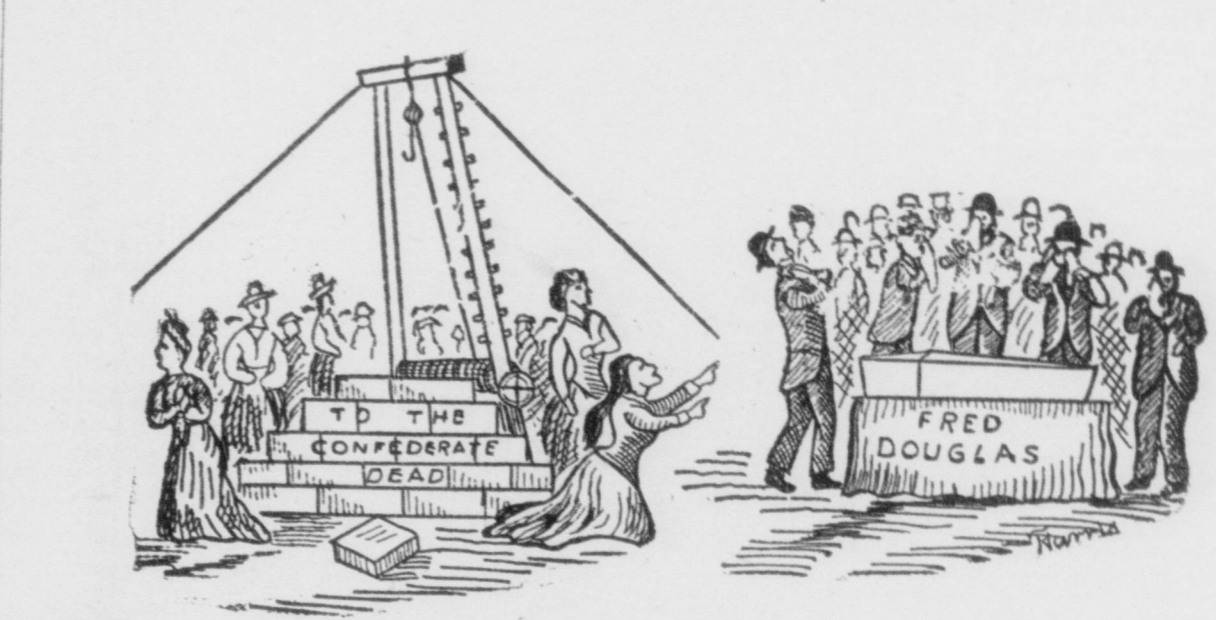
He last fall made a most vigorous campaign for his State, speaking nearly every day and often travelling all night. For twelve years he has been a member of the National Democratic Executive Committee.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Wm. H. Heard, of Pennsylvania, to be Minister resident and Consul General of the United States to Liberia.

Howgate Jury Hopelessly Divided.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 23.—After being out for forty five hours the Howgate jury reported this morning by a vote to Judge McComas that they were hopelessly divided, and there was no probability of agreement. The judge informed the jury that the court would remain in session and await further developments. The jury is still locked up.

DOVER, Del., Feb. 23.—The General Assembly had one ballot on the Senatorial question to-day. Very little interest was taken and the ballot resulted: Higgins (Republican) 7; Addicks (Republican) 5; Massey (Republican) 3; Wolcott (Democrat) 6; Causey (Democrat) 1; Bayard (Democrat) 1; Daily (Democrat) 1; Tunnell (Democrat) 1. Absent 5.



LADIES MONUMENTAL ASSOCIATION TO THE LEGISLATURE NOW IN SESSION:

Let us teach posterity that patriots die not in vain. A land without monuments is a land without memories. Lend us of your means to commemorate the virtues of our fallen dead.

THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE LADIES:

It is not your dead, but our Fred over whom we weep. "Bear with us; our hearts are in the coffin there with Caesar, and we must pause till they come back to us."

SHAME, SHAME, SHAME!

THIS IS THE INDIGNANT REPRISAL OF THE PUBLIC PRESS OF THE COUNTRY.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INFAMY.

The Brand of Disgrace Put Upon the State by the Resolution Adjourning in Honor of the Great Apostle of His Country--Lee Shows the Fate of Washington, So Say the Records--A Matter of Surprise Everywhere.

Cheap Bid for Negro Votes. Greensboro Record.

Our law makers refused to adjourn for Lee's birthday or for Washington's, but when Fred Douglass, the colored orator, shuffled off this mortal coil the other day, they adjourned in short order.

Fred was a big man as a Republican but we'll bet two cents had he been a Democrat there would have been no adjournment.

It's a cheap bid for the negro vote—that's all.

North Carolina's Mortification. Richmond Times.

We deeply sympathize with every noble and true-hearted North Carolinian in the mortification and shame he must feel by reason of the amazing action the Legislature at Raleigh took on Thursday, in preferring to honor Fred Douglass above George Washington and Robert E. Lee.

The action was so monstrous that it would be thought absurd if it did not touch deeply the very heart of our civilization.

Frederick Douglass was, no doubt, a remarkable negro, for he was intellectual and aggressive. He aspired to be and was recognized as the most distinguished representative of his race, and, for every good quality that he possessed, we would have taken special notice of his career but for the mortal offence he gave by marrying out of his color.

He found a white woman who was willing to marry him, and he married her. To the Southern mind this was an inoffensible wrong to society, and it should be so thought by all irrespective of color.

The preservation of the purity and integrity of the white race is a condition precedent to every other consideration. It is a law written by the Creator of all races in the hearts of man, and a violation of it is a breach of the law of nature itself. As a transgressor of this law Douglass became an offender in the sight of every man—white or black—who respects the instincts implanted in his very being by God himself.

The effect of this action by the Fusionists in North Carolina will be to deepen the color line again, and to furnish fresh arguments to those who already wish the extent of the political rights of the negro. It is the heaviest blow the negro has received, politically, in twenty years. The Mississippi disfranchisement is nothing to it; that action was good, and was taken by some body else, this by himself and his own chosen companions, and it will resound throughout the South.

If the Republican party of the South is to be organized on the lines of this "fusion" resolution, it had as well hang up its harp on the willow tree. The negro question has kept many a man from voting with that party who otherwise would have done so, and if the negro is so irrepresible that he must give such expression legislatively to his race pride, then great efforts will be made to keep him out of the Legislature by men who would seek his vote upon national issues.

There was such a reckless disregard of common sense and decency by the author and supporters of the Douglass resolution that there is strong hope that the infamous alliance of free silver Democrats and black Republicans will complete their political suicide. All good citizens of North Carolina and their well wishers outside devoutly pray it may speedily be done.

To those brave and good men who are

still fighting the battle of honest Democracy and uncontaminated blood, we tender our sympathy and express the hope that this dose of fusionism will sicken and bring back to the Democratic party all those who, though led astray by the free silver cry, still prefer Washington and Lee to Douglass, and the pure and undefiled Anglo-Saxon blood to the repulsive mixture which Douglass practiced.

The Fred Douglass Business.

Charlotte News.
Charlotte was a very much disgusted town when The News went around yesterday with its Raleigh special telling of the adjournment of the Legislature in honor of Fred Douglass. An action of that kind would have been enough by itself, but it must be remembered that motions to adjourn for Lee's birthday and for Washington's birthday were voted down.

The Opinion of Decent People. Durham Sun.

Our Legislature would not adjourn for Lee's birthday. "We are here to work," they said. Yet Thursday, when a negro got up and moved to adjourn in respect to the memory of old Fred Douglass, it was carried. How do you like that, decent people of North Carolina?

They See Their Own Ideal. Concord Standard.

The State has an object lesson. The Fusion Legislature saw no reasons for adjourning out of respect to the memory of Washington and Lee—both being legal holidays.

Yet a negro representative rises and offers resolutions to adjourn in honor of Fred Douglass, and under the whip, they passed by a vote of 34 to 20.

This can not be a surprise. Had Fred Douglass' death been known to be coming that date, every one, who knows the sentiments uppermost in this Fusion business, would have expected just such a thing.

But there are people in North Carolina who respect the memory of Washington, and there are men, brave men, who love and respect the name of R. E. Lee.

The Legislature ought to provide a legal holiday for Douglass, the mulatto, in whose memory it adjourned on Thursday.

Every cloud has its silver lining.

Not a Representative Body.

Richmond Dispatch.
That the party in power in North Carolina is not truly representative of the good people of that noble old State is conspicuously shown by the resolutions of respect passed and adjournment ordered in the House on Thursday in respect to the memory of Frederick Douglass.

We can appreciate the desire of the colored members to honor one of the most noted men of their race, but how their white allies could make such an invidious distinction against Washington and Lee we can explain only on the ground that they are of the opinion that Douglass was a greater and better man than either Washington or Lee.

This action, so repulsive to the feelings of the true North Carolinians, shows that the negro vote is a great power in the politics of that State. He was the instrument of whom the Populists and white Republicans made use in overthrowing the Democrats of North Carolina. And yet we are told that the negro is no longer a power in southern politics!

The North Carolina fact is at variance with the Virginia theory. The negro is a great power in North Carolina; he is a great power in Virginia. But in North Carolina he has gotten the ascendancy, while in Virginia he is waiting for the whites to divide so that they may make his vote tell against the Democrats and in favor of just such a combination as is defying the sentiment and outraging the feelings of North Carolina.

But the North Carolinians are not going to stand this sort of a thing long. Soon they will rise in their might and clear the political field of these intruders. How they will do it we do not know—but they are going to do it, and do it thoroughly and well.

A Lunatic May Have Expected It.

Norfolk Public Ledger.
The dispatch from Raleigh, which announces that the North Carolina Legislature, after refusing to honor the memory of George Washington and Robert E. Lee, had voted to adjourn over a day for the purpose of paying its respects to the memory of Frederick Douglass, will strike the friends and admirers of the Old North State with amazement. The political upheaval which took place in that State last fall produced changes of a very radical character, but nobody outside of the walls of a lunatic asylum ever thought for a moment that the Legislature of the State, which furnished such men as Vance, Jarvis and Ransom for its public service, could hold the memory of Frederick Douglass in higher regard than that of Washington or Lee.

Degraded Themselves

Wilmington Star.
The North Carolina Legislature as at present constituted has never stood very high in the estimation of the intelligent people of North Carolina, but it dropped several degrees below zero Thursday afternoon when the House of Representatives adopted a resolution, offered by a colored member from Granville county, to adjourn over Friday out of respect to the memory of Fred Douglass, the half-breed, who had too much white in him to be a representative negro and too much black blood to be classed as white. That he looked down upon his own race is shown by the fact that he married a white woman, and associated as much as possible with white people.

It is surprising that a Legislature composed mainly of white men should have adjourned out of respect to the memory of this man, and scarcely less surprising that a self-respecting negro who knew anything about him should have offered such a resolution, for while ostensibly espousing the cause of the negro, and never letting the opportunity to widen the breach between the races by attempting to force his own race to the front, he kept a sharp lookout for the interests of Fred Douglass, and he feathered his nest well. The same House of Representatives, composed mainly of white men, who adjourned to honor the memory of this man, refused to adjourn to do honor to the memory of Robert E. Lee and of George Washington. And yet it claims to be a body representative of the people of North Carolina. What can be expected from men, calling themselves white, who show respect for the memory of Fred Douglass while refusing to honor the memory of the two greatest Americans, Washington and Lee? If they had only degraded themselves it wouldn't have mattered so much, but such action brings disgrace upon the State among people who do not know what this Legislature is composed of, and may think it a representative body; but it is a disgrace to the State that men who voted for that resolution could be elected to anything.

Largest Diamond known.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The Pall Mall Gazette says the Pope has received from the President of the Transvaal Republic, a diamond weighing 971 carats. The stone was found by an African chief in the mines at Jagersfontein and is the largest known. It is of a blue white cast and almost perfect, and its only blemish is a tiny spot which is invisible to the naked eye.

John L. Still Making Things Lively.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 23.—John L. Sullivan is to day repeating his programme of yesterday and is now very much intoxicated and taking in the town in a carriage. His company are still hustling to get out of the city and the only arrangement so far made was the purchase of tickets to New York for the two children who are traveling with the troupe. John L. friends are almost in despair.

This evening Sullivan's trunks, contained his wearing apparel, were seized by the sheriff on an attachment sworn out by Miss Viola Armstrong, a member of the defunct company, who claims Sullivan owes her \$200.