

# The News and Observer

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

### Court-martial For Eagan

#### THIS IS THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION AFTER LONG AND CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

#### The Specific Charge on Which he Will be Tried Will be Conduct Unbecoming an Officer and a Gentleman.

#### The Penalty is Dismissal from the Service.

#### The Cabinet Unanimously Approves the Decision of the President.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The President today announced to the Cabinet shortly after it assembled for its regular Tuesday session that he had decided to order a court martial to try Commissary General Eagan for the abusive and violent language he had used respecting Major General Miles, while on the witness stand before the investigating commission last Thursday. Ever since the sensational event the President has been carefully deliberating over the matter, and has had frequent consultations with army officers and others regarding the steps that should be taken, for he was convinced at the outset that the question for consideration was what action should be taken and not whether any disciplinary measures at all should be had. A determination to take some action was vigorously expressed at the last Cabinet meeting, but the President reserved final decision. Today just before the Cabinet session he held a conference with the Secretary of War and Adjutant General Corbin. It was long in duration, but the action to follow General Eagan's utterances was decided, and when the Cabinet met, the President announced that he had reached his decision in the matter. He said he had determined that there was only one course to adopt, and that was to order a court martial to be convened at once to try General Eagan. The decision which was reached only this morning notwithstanding reports that a court martial had been decided on yesterday, met the unanimous approval of the members of the Cabinet. Three of the President's official advisers, Secretary Alger, Secretary Wilson and Postmaster General Emory Smith were absent, but in each instance their views are known to coincide with the President's decision.

The details of the action were left to the Secretary of War, who had withdrawn just prior to the session to return to the War Department, to put in motion the machinery for the convening of the court. While it was not definitely stated after the Cabinet meeting what specifications would be made against General Eagan, it is understood that the specific charge on which he will be tried will be conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. The personnel of the court was not taken up, but that phase of the action being held to be not a Cabinet matter, but one that rested between the President and the Secretary of War. General Westcott, Jr., former commander in chief of the Philippine forces, has been mentioned as likely to preside over the court, and a Cabinet official said today he would not be surprised at General Merritt's designation. Contrary to general expectation no announcement of the personnel of the court was made at the War Department up to the close of business this afternoon. Adjutant General Corbin, at the last moment, in reply to a question, said that he had nothing whatever to make public touching the Eagan case.

In the absence of the announcement of the detail for the court martial there was a good deal of speculation as to its composition. General practice is for a majority of the court to consist of peers or superiors in rank of the defendant. This would make the task of selecting a court a hard one, because it is not easy to find a sufficient number of general officers ranking with a Brigadier General to make up a desirable quota. But latitude is permitted in the appointing authority in such selections, as the ninth article of war reads:

"No officer shall, when it can be avoided, be tried by officers inferior in rank."

It will be noticed that the phrase "if it can be avoided" leaves opportunity for the appointment of junior officers. The mention of General Merritt's name as President of the court was due to the fact that he is the only available Major General of the regular army, the others being General Brooke in Cuba and General Miles here, neither regarded as available. The friends of General Merritt are hoping that he will not be selected, fearing that he will be accused of prejudice by or perhaps by both sides. The penalty of the offense, which General Eagan probably will be tried—conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman—is one of the most severe known in the army, being dismissal. Article 61 reads as follows:

"Any officer who is convicted of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman shall be dismissed from the service."

If the court shall find General Eagan guilty, even with extenuating circumstances, they must attach this sentence, and then the only hope for the officer would be in the exercise of clemency by the President, based perhaps upon the court's recommendation.

Just prior to the Cabinet meeting General Miles made a rather unusual call upon two of the members of the Cabinet, Secretaries Hay and Long. He had

just returned to the city from New York and when spoken to with reference to the Eagan case, adhered to his original declaration that this was not a time for him to act, if at all, leaving the implication that if the commission did not act, or the Administration, it would then be time for him to take some steps.

The Commissary General was on duty as usual at his office, and business was apparently going along in the usual way, although it was noticed that there were more callers upon General Eagan, of the official class, namely officers of his own corps, than is usually the case. Prior to the Cabinet meeting he said that he was prepared to accept loyally whatever action the President might decide to take.

#### ACCEPT EAGAN'S STATEMENT.

No Objection to it in Its Amended Form.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The war investigation commission today made public the amended statement filed by Commissary General Eagan yesterday. The commission permitted the representatives of the press to read the statement, and it was formally announced to newspaper men that General Eagan had eliminated all objectionable statements and therefore the document would be accepted officially by the commission as evidence.

As already stated the changes made by General Eagan in the document are mainly in the line of excision, yet the Chronology has been also altered frequently. He refers to General Miles as "the senior Major General, Nelson A. Miles," and while keeping strictly within the line of propriety in the judgment of the commission in a negative manner at least, he resents any assumption of General Miles' superiority and asserts that he is as good, as old and as experienced a soldier as General Miles. It is believed that so far as the commission is concerned the incident is now closed.

Another witness was heard today in the person of Colonel Gibson, the distributing agent of the National Relief Commission at Santiago. He testified that he carried supplies to the sick there on the Resolute. He had great difficulty in landing these supplies, owing to the confusion. General Shafter had refused him assistance, and it was with great difficulty that he was able to hire horses. He succeeded in this finally, with the assistance of General Wheeler the supplies were carried inland.

Respecting the quality of the beef furnished the troops, Colonel Gibson said the canned corn beef was bad—unfit for use and should not have been issued. It was repulsive in appearance, stringy, and he himself had been unable to eat it. The refrigerated beef was likewise bad, being covered with a green beard caused by exposure to the sun's rays. The commission adjourned until tomorrow.

#### QUAYS SUCCESS IN DOUBT.

#### Result of the First Day's Battle for Senatorship.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 17.—The end of the first day's fight in the battle for United States Senator leaves the result very much in doubt. It is Senator Quay against the field, and the indications are that there will be a deadlock, lasting some days at least. The Republicans are divided between Mr. Quay and eight "favorite sons," and the Democrats are united on George A. Jenks. The Senate and House voted separately this afternoon and will take a ballot to-morrow in joint session. There was no election to-day, and should the ballot show no election to-morrow the balloting will continue daily until a selection is made. Senator Quay's total strength in both Houses was 112 votes, 16 less than the number necessary to elect on joint ballot, assuming that the full membership of 254 is present, a condition that does not seem possible as there are several on the sick list now.

The fifty-one Republican Senators and members who have signed the second anti-Quay pledge voted as they promised. Representative Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia, who is opposed to Senator Quay, but declines to act with his opponents, voted for President Charles E. Rice, of the Superior court. This makes fifty votes which the anti-Quay leaders claim Senator Quay cannot get while he is a candidate. Representative Timlin (Dem.), of Lackawanna, cast his ballot for Superior Court Judge Peter P. Smith, of Scranton. He was the only Democrat who failed to vote for Jenks, the party choice.

The essence of the situation is that so long as the anti-Quay Republicans are united and the Democrats vote for Jenks, Senator Quay cannot be re-elected. His friends are confident, how-

ever, that he will steadily gain votes after to-morrow, while the leaders of the other side are just as confident that he has reached the high-water mark. Governor Stone is the Senator's friend and is aiding him in his campaign. The Senator is on the ground managing his canvass and expects to stay during the early stages of the contest.

The anti-Quay Republican Senators and members have agreed to meet daily until the fight is settled. They are divided on Congressman Dalzell and Stone and other independent Republicans. Their leaders say it is too early to concentrate on one candidate against Senator Quay.

#### JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG DIES.

He Was Librarian of the Congressional Library.

Washington, Jan. 17.—John Russell Young, librarian of the Congressional Library, died at his residence here at 9:40 this morning after an illness of several weeks.

Mr. Young was at the point of death nearly all of yesterday. This morning it was evident that the end was close. There were with him at his death Mrs. Young, Berkeley Young, his son; Dr. Freer, his physician, and Ralph J. Meeker, one of the old newspaper friends of the librarian.

Dr. Freer, the attending physician, made a brief written statement that death was due to "acute Bright's disease with complications, due to work and too much brain work."

#### THEY ENDORSE BUTLER

#### ONE CAMP OF CONFEDERATES APPRECIATES HIS PENSION AMENDMENT.

#### Carried Out, They Say, it Would Show the World that the War Between States Was no Rebellion.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Senator Butler received today the first endorsement of his proposition to pension Confederate soldiers, which he has yet had. It came from a camp of Confederate veterans at Columbus, Ga., who, writing him, argued that while they don't want pensions as mendicants, they believe that pensions should be granted to ex-Confederates in response to the spirit manifested by the President as showing to the world that the war between the States was not a rebellion.

The letter was sent to Senator Butler, evidently with the thought that he was General Butler, of South Carolina; for he was unable to get the petition read and published in the record, as he hoped, but it was a long argument in favor, not only of the decoration of the graves, but of the pensions as well.

This is the first paper that has come from Confederate veterans any where, endorsing the Butler idea. There were fifty-five signers to the request that Senator Butler do not abandon his bill.

Among other petitions and memorials on the same subject presented in the Senate to-day were resolutions from Vicksburg, Miss., Batesville, Ark., and Baltimore camps of Confederate veterans; all of them protesting against, not only the pensions, but the Government caring for the graves.

Judge Ewart is here looking after the interests of his case, which he has before the Senate.

#### A RARE TREAT.

#### Prof. Joyner's Lecture at the Tabernacle Last Night.

The Sunday school room of the Baptist Tabernacle was all last night to hear the lecture of Prof. J. Y. Joyner, of the State Normal and Industrial school, on "The Other Side of Life." Rapt attention was given to him for the three quarters of an hour that he spoke. The other side of life that he referred to was the spiritual one, and he sounded in the very beginning a warning lest in the hurry and bustle of this materialistic age of ours we forget that to be is always infinitely greater than to know or to do. He preached for the cultivation of the soul of man, and to this end urged the reading and studying of good literature, especially of that kind which is best calculated to develop and inspire the imagination—poetry, he said, is the natural language of the soul of nature, and of God. It is the first, the truest and the greatest form of language into which human thought is ever cast. Poetry, said he, is the language of rhythm, and rhythm is the language of God. All great feeling finds expression in rhythmical utterance, and perhaps the charm and deathless interest of poetry consists in the fact that the great heart of the poet who wrote it keeps beating forever through its rhythmical sentences.

The lecture throughout abounded in beautiful thoughts most beautifully expressed. Not in many a day have the people of Raleigh had the opportunity of hearing so chaste and beautiful a dissertation on "The Other Side of Life." The privilege of hearing it was a rare treat, and we hope that it will be published so that many others will enjoy so rich a gem.

Col. S. H. Fishblate, ex-mayor of Wilmington, is in the city. Referring to the political situation of Wilmington, Col. Fishblate said: "There are no factions. The people are thoroughly united and at the election in March it will be seen that Wilmington will be all one way."

"We are going to build a \$75,000 cotton factory in Roxboro," said Col. John S. Cunningham, who is in the city. "It will have all modern equipments and give employment to quite a number of people."

### PASSES NAVAL PERSONNEL BILL

#### Fight Won After a Ten Years' Struggle.

#### WHAT THE BILL MEANS

#### STAFF OFFICERS ARE GIVEN POSITIVE RANK.

#### PAY EQUALS THAT OF ARMY OFFICERS

#### Marine Corps to Consist of 6,000 Enlisted Men.

#### Banking and Currency Bill Re-committed. Nicaragua Canal Bill in the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The House today passed the Naval Personnel Bill without division on the final passage, thus accomplishing what the officers of the navy have striven for during more than a decade. By its provisions the line and engineer corps are welded into an amalgamated line, staff officers are given positive rank, but their command is limited to their own corps, and a system of voluntary and compulsory retirement on three-quarters' pay as of the next higher rank of forty officers a year, is established, which is designed to remove the congestion in the lower rank of fifty-five. The bill also practically equalizes their pay with that of army officers. Three important amendments were adopted. One creates a judge advocate's corps, another abolishes prize money, and a third provides for the retirement, on three-quarters' pay of enlisted men and petty officers in the navy after 30 years' service.

But the most important change in the bill as reported was the adoption, after a hard fight, of a substitute for the organization of the marine corps, by which the corps is to consist of 6,000 enlisted men and petty officers with general officers and staff. This will increase the marine corps by 1,200 men, and increase the cost of its maintenance \$1,500,000. Several unimportant bills were passed by unanimous consent, before the personnel bill was taken up.

The consideration of the Brown-Swanson contested election case from Virginia had been set for to-day, but was postponed until Thursday, in order that the House might proceed with the Naval Personnel Bill.

At the beginning of the session Mr. McCleary, (Rep. Minn.), on behalf of the Banking and Currency Committee, made a statement to the effect that the vote on the Currency Bill reported at the last session had been irregularly taken in the commission, and he therefore, asked that the bill be re-committed.

"This does not mean that the bill is to be abandoned?" asked Mr. Richardson, (Dem. Tenn.).

"The other side promised currency reform," continued Mr. Richardson, "and would like to know if the bill is again to be reported."

"I am neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet," responded Mr. McCleary.

Mr. Mitchell, (Rep. N. Y.), explained that there had been some irregularity in the vote, and in order to avoid any show of unfairness to the opponents of the bill this action had been decided upon. There was no objection and the bill was re-committed.

The House at 5:20 o'clock p. m., adjourned.

### THE PHILIPPINE BOARD

#### THE PRESIDENT NAMES SCHURMAN, DEWEY OTIS AND WORCESTER.

#### Cabinet Meets, and Advices Reach it from the Philippines, Stating that the Situation is Still Further Improved.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The session of the Cabinet today occupied about an hour and a half. Advices were received from Manila that the situation on the islands is very quiet. The dispatch was to the War Department and proved the most gratifying official news from that quarter received since the state of affairs in the archipelago recently assumed a serious phase. It is announced that the people who had moved out of the city of Manila owing to alarming and unfounded reports, were returning to their homes.

At Iloilo affairs are progressing satisfactorily, and a gratifying fact reported in the cablegram was that the officers aboard our ships and the individual surgeons were fraternizing freely on shore and that there were no signs of trouble. President McKinley announced during the session that he had finally passed on the personnel of the commission to visit and report on the Philippine Islands as follows:

Messrs. Schurman, Dewey, Otis, Denby and Worcester.

Their selection already had become known and official announcement shortly will follow.

### BRYAN WARNS AGAINST GREED

#### Ahab's Covetousness Led to Death and Shame.

#### AHAB AN IMPERIALIST

#### NABOTH'S VINEYARD COMPARED TO PHILIPPINES.

#### RESULTS OF HOLDING THEM BY FORCE

#### Imperialism Might Expand our Territory but Wou'd Contract our aims a Step Backward to the Narrow Views of Despots.

Denver, Colo., Jan. 17.—Colonel W. J. Bryan made two public speeches in Denver to-day, both of which were listened to by audiences only limited by the capacity of the auditoriums. The first was at 2 o'clock in the Hall of the House of Representatives, to which only those who held tickets were admitted. The other was at 8 o'clock at Coliseum Hall, the largest room in the city, where thousands struggled for standing room while other thousands turned away disappointed in not even getting a glimpse of the great silver champion.

In his address before the Legislature, Mr. Bryan devoted most of his time to a discussion of the duties of legislators and other public officers whom he designated as servants, not masters of the people.

After this address, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan repaired to the residence of Governor Thomas, where they were entertained at dinner to which half a dozen of the leading Democrats in the State, including ex-Governors Grant and Adams and a number of ladies were the guests. The crowd which greeted Mr. Bryan at Coliseum Hall to-night began gathering at 4 o'clock, four hours before the time set for the meeting. At 8 o'clock when Hon. Milton Smith, chairman of the State Central Committee, called for order there were 5,000 persons in the hall and as many more outside pressing for admission. Governor Charles S. Thomas was present as chairman of the meeting, and in an eulogistic speech introduced Colonel Bryan, who was received with prolonged applause.

Mr. Bryan spoke in part as follows: "The Bible tells us that Ahab, the King, wanted the vineyard of Naboth, and was sorely grieved because the owner thereof refused to part with the inheritance of his fathers. Then followed a plot, and false charges were prepared against Naboth to furnish an excuse for getting rid of him."

"Thou shalt not covet," thou shalt not bear false witness, 'thou shalt not kill'—three commandments broken, and still a fourth, 'thou shalt not steal,' to be broken, in order to get a little piece of ground. And what was the result? When the King went forth to take possession, Elijah, that brave old prophet of the early days, met him and pronounced against him the sentence of the Almighty: 'In the place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even this!'"

"Neither his own exalted position nor the lowly station of his victim could save him from the avenging hand of outraged justice. His case was tried in a court where neither wealth, nor rank nor power could shield the transgressor."

"Wars of conquest have their origin in covetousness and the history of the human race has been written in characters of blood because rulers have looked with longing eyes upon the lands of others."

"Covetousness is prone to seek the aid of false pretence to carry out its plans, but what it cannot secure by persuasion it takes by the sword."

"Senator Teller's amendment to the intervention resolutions saved the Cubans from the covetousness of those who are so anxious to secure possession of the island that they are willing to deny the truth of the declaration of our own Congress that 'the people of Cuba are and of a right ought to be free.'"

Mr. Bryan then proceeded to apply the story of Naboth to the Philippine question and argued that a war of conquest would be wrong in principle as well as expensive, and as harmful to the people of the United States as to the Filipinos. He spoke at considerable length and concluded as follows:

"Imperialism might expand the nation's territory, but it would contract the ward's purpose. It is not a step forward toward a broader destiny; it is a step backward toward the narrow views of Kings and Emperors."

"Dr. Taylor has appropriately expressed it in 'His Creed of the Flag' when he asks:

"Shall we turn to the Old World again. With the penitent prodigal's cry? 'I answer, never. This republic is not a wayward son; it has not spent its substance in riotous living. It is not ready to retrace its steps, and with shamed face and trembling voice, solicit a humble place among the servants of Heaven, and God grant that the crowned heads of Europe may never have occasion to kill the fattest calf to commemorate its return from reliance upon the will of the people to dependence upon the

authority which flows from regal birth or superior force.

"We cannot afford to enter upon a colonial policy. The theory upon which a Government is built is a matter of vital importance. The national idea has been a controlling influence upon the thought and character of the people. Our national idea is self-government, and unless we are ready to abandon that idea forever, we cannot ignore it in dealing with the Filipinos.

"That idea is entwined with our traditions; it permeates our history, it is a part of our literature.

"That idea has given eloquence to the orator and inspiration to the poet. Take from our national hymns the three words, Free, Freedom and Liberty, and they would be as meaningless as would be our flag if robbed of its red, white and blue.

"Other nations may dream of wars of conquest and of distant dependencies governed by exterior force; not so with the United States.

"The fruits of imperialism, be they bitter or sweet, must be left to the subjects of monarchy. This is the one tree of which the citizens of our republic may not partake. It is the voice of the serpent, not the voice of God, that bids us eat."

#### LODGE GETS SENATORSHIP.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 17.—Each branch of the Legislature balloted for United States Senator to-day, and Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, the Republican nominee received heavy majorities in both houses.

#### THE SEABOARD IS SOLD

#### THE TRANSACTION DELAYED BY RYAN IS NOW CLOSED.

#### Syndicate Headed by John Skelton Williams Secures 8 300 Shares of the Seaboard and Roanoke.

Baltimore, Jan. 17.—Eight thousand and three hundred shares of stock, a controlling interest in the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad Company, parent company of the Seaboard Air Line, were transferred today by Louis R. McLane and Lezh R. Watts, pool managers of the majority stockholders, to the syndicate headed by John Skelton Williams, the Richmond banker, and President of the Georgia and Alabama Railroad Company. The consideration was \$200 per share as agreed upon several weeks ago, the consummation of the deal was delayed by a temporary injunction restraining the transfer secured some days ago by Thomas F. Ryan, of New York, but Judges Wickes and Stockbridge dissolved the temporary injunction.

#### THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

#### Discuss Textile School—Takes Action on Death of Mr. W. R. Tucker.

The Chamber of Commerce met in the mayor's office last night President W. N. Jones presiding.

The following resolution was offered and adopted relative to the proposed exposition to be held in October next:

"Whereas the State Fair of 1898 held in this city in October, under the wise, energetic and business-like management of Col. John S. Cunningham, its President, was a marked success and especially as to the exhibit, variety and character of the exhibits in every department thereof, as well as the high water mark attained in point of attendance, and whereas Col. Cunningham has again accepted the Presidency of the Fair for this year, 1899, therefore

Resolved, That the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce heartily approve and endorse the ideas and suggestions advanced by the President of holding a great State Exposition here during the fall of 1899, under the auspices of the North Carolina State Agricultural Society, and the Chamber hereby pledges its cordial and earnest support in all matters pertaining to the success of the said State Exposition."

The textile school matter was thoroughly discussed and it was the opinion of the Chamber that the best interests of the State demanded that the school be established at the A. and M. College, near this city. The following committee was appointed to look after the establishment of the school: Messrs. R. H. Johnston, chairman; J. E. Pogue, A. A. Thompson, J. S. Wynne, Frank Stronach, P. O. Moring, Josephus Daniels, A. M. Powell, W. N. Jones.

The following committee was appointed to use their efforts to secure the repeal of the merchants' purchase tax by the Legislature: Messrs. D. T. Johnson, Frank Stronach, M. T. Norris, John R. Ferrall, Sherwood Higgs, James I. Johnson, T. H. Briggs and F. T. Ward.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Joseph E. Pogue and adopted:

"Resolved, by the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and Industry that the sad intelligence of the death of our late colleague, Mr. William R. Tucker, is received with profound regret, and that the sympathy and sincere condolence of this body be conveyed to the sorely stricken family of the deceased."

"Resolved further, That a committee of five members be named by the President to draft suitable resolutions relative to this sad visitation of Providence to be reported to this chamber at its next regular meeting."

Mr. Drewry, by request, stated the changes in the bill which has been drawn up under the supervision of the board of aldermen for the purpose of amending the city charter. He also stated that a bill would be introduced to allow the city to vote on the issue of \$100,000 bonds for street improvements.

Dr. J. M. Ayer and Mr. A. M. Powell were elected members.

The poor man never troubles himself about the troubles of the millionaire.

### ISAAC SMITH GOES A-SNIPE HUNTING

#### The Colored Member Talks Out in Meetin'.

#### ABOUT HERTFORD MAN

#### SAYS HE'S GONE BACK ON HIS CONSTITUENTS.

#### DESERTED NEGROES THAT ELECTED HIM

#### A Warm Debate and a Vote Full of Explanations

#### That Didn't Explain. The Governor's Message Read in the House.

The talkers got loose in the House yesterday and it took over two hours to corral them.

Even the call of the "Previous Question" would not do it, for after that stopper had been applied almost every Republican son of them, and some Democrats too, insisted on explaining their votes at great length and in tedious detail.

As a result the House did little business yesterday, beyond listening to the Governor's special message and introducing some forty new bills and resolutions.

The immediate cause of the deluge of talk set adrift yesterday was what is known as the Hertford county bill—an act increasing the number of county commissioners from three to eight.

Immediately upon the reading of the bill, Mr. Snipes (Rep.), of Hertford, hobbled up with the back-alley declaration: "This is one time you have me where the hair is short."

With this he went on drivelling out a rehearsal of his former speeches, about all the officers being white men—men of high reputations and graduates of famous institutions of learning, &c., &c., &c. The bill, he denounced as a deep-laid scheme to deprive the present county officers of their offices."

"The only respect in which Hertford county is negro-ridden," he declared, "is in her school affairs, and on a proposition to change that so as to eliminate the negro, you shall have my vote. And if there was a colored man among the present county officers I would favor this bill also."

This latter declaration gave to Isaac Smith, the colored member from Craven, the opportunity he had been longing for to go "snipe hunting."

"I want to inquire," Prof. Smith began, with great earnestness and deliberation, pointing his index finger at the members from Hertford and looking him steadily in the eye—"I want to inquire why so much stress is laid upon the words, 'All white men,' 'all white men?' And then why do you add, 'if there was a colored man among the officers I would be in favor of this bill?' (Laughter.)

"The men named in the bill before this House are all white men too. (Applause.)

"On the 8th day of November, the people spoke, you said they wanted to take charge of their own affairs. (Laughter and applause.)

"The men put in by my race in Hertford and some other counties represent only a part of the people of the county. The Negro is not opposed to having the other part represented. It is that unrepresented part that has most at stake, and is the Negro's best friend."

"The men put in by my race in Hertford, sent here by negro votes and yet his first act here is to turn against those who gave him their support. 'All are white men, all are white men, if there was a negro among them I would be against him,' he says. (Applause and laughter.)

"Mr. Speaker, I shall vote for this bill and feel that I'm doing my race a service."

"When I speak I represent a half million people; when you speak you represent 1,600,000 souls; when he speaks (pointing to Snipes) I don't know how many he represents. (Laughter.)

"I shall vote for the bill and hope it will pass."

Mr. Hampton, of Surry: "I rise to enter my protest against the passage of this bill. The object of the bill is to centralize the county government of Hertford in this General Assembly, and to take it out of the hands of the people. We were sent here to enact law not to create offices and with them pay for party services. This bill creates new offices and when offices are increased the burden of taxation on the people is increased."

There is no evidence here that the present county officers are not competent men—no complaint against them whatever. They are white men, men of education and experience. So war as the school law is concerned I'm with you. I want whites to control white schools and negroes to run the negro schools. I hope to see either a new school law enacted, or the old one amended so as to remedy such defects as this.

But, it has been objected, the present county commissioners were not elected by the wealth and intelligence of the county, and therefore are unfit for office. The wealth and the intelligence can take care of themselves. It is the poor and the weak we must look after. We were not sent here to legislate for wealth and intelligence alone. There are others who have rights.

Mr. Hampton spoke of the commission-

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