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NEGRO DOMINATION.

The Republican Party Dominated By the Negro.

REPUBLICAN RULE IS NEGRO RULE.

It is Useless for Senator Pritchard to Say There is no Danger of Negro Domination.

Whether those men who hold to the theory that all races are sprung from a common origin are correct or not, it is certain that there are racial differences and antipathies based on the differences between races. The Mongolian, the Indian and the negro are different in their characteristics from the white man. The negro has been the same that he is now from the earliest period of history. The Ethiopian has not changed his skin, neither has he changed his characteristics. He is on a different plane and level, intellectually and morally, from the white man. Nature has taken account of the fact, and by nature the lower organism is repulsive to the higher. The negro is repulsive to the white man. It is therefore not a mere matter of prejudice when the white man declares that negro domination is repulsive to him, but rather it is an expression of antipathy fixed in the heart of the white man by his very nature itself.

To the white man negro rule is not merely repulsive, but it is odious and oppressive, and cannot be borne.

It is the domination of the superior race by an inferior race, and it is against nature. White men cannot stand it.

The Republican party is composed of two distinct elements—30,000 white men and 120,000 negroes. As might be surmised, the strong and most intelligent element controls the weaker. The negroes control the Republican party, and whenever that party rules the State the negro becomes the ruler. It is because of these trends that the Republican party in the Eastern counties has degenerated merely into a mass of negroes.

THE NEGRO HAS DRIVEN OFF WHITE REPUBLICANS.

Formerly there were a considerable number of white men in the Eastern counties who affiliated with the Republican party. But they could not stand the rule of their negro political associates, and so they have, for the most part, dropped away from that party, leaving it composed almost exclusively of negroes. With but few exceptions, the white men who continue to affiliate with the negroes in the east, belong to the office-holding class and remain with the negroes in order to obtain offices.

Mr. E. V. Cox, who is a Republican, living in Pitt county, in an open letter, has recently said:

"The Republican party so far as North Carolina is concerned is divided into two distinct and separate parts: West and east and Black belt. The average Western North Carolina Republican, and in this respect I am sorry to say Senator Pritchard seems but little better informed than the average, but ably and incompletely comprehends the situation in eastern North Carolina where the negroes, ignorant and insolent, are entirely in control of all Republican conventions and where every effort to better the condition of affairs is counteracted by the opposition of some black-hearted white man with corrupt practices who sees in added intelligence and reputable work a diminution of his own unscrupulously acquired power. Although the Republican party has an excellent plan of organization it is scarcely ever followed on account of the ignorance and corruption of the native politicians who, being numerically strong, preside over white men, call them to order at will and occasionally consent for them to be elected delegates to a State Republican convention. The white Republican, if honest, is entirely at their mercy and under their control; if corrupt he must purchase their votes and influence. This is not an overdrawn picture. * * *

"In concluding this part of my paper, let me say a last word as to the situation in Eastern North Carolina. If the amendment is defeated by the people at the polls in August, in the future there will or may be white Republicans in Western North Carolina, and negro Republicans alone in Eastern North Carolina. The carpet-bagger, the kuklux, abuse, persecution ——— could not drive the white Republicans in Eastern North Carolina from his party. Many chose death instead. But what the kuklux and the carpet-bagger could not do, the logic and force of events is doing. I will give one example which I do not doubt may be paralleled in a majority of the counties in North Carolina, east of Raleigh. In this county, Pitt, in the 80's there were several hundred white Republicans. There cannot be twenty-five counted now. No party can hope to succeed for any length of time under these conditions. * * *"

What Mr. Cox says of Pitt, he avers to be true of other Eastern counties, and others know that his statement is correct.

ONLY OFFICE SEEKERS REMAIN IN THE EAST.

The white Republicans, except those who are on the lookout for office, have quit the negroes. Negro domination has been too much for the white Republicans. At the West, in the Western counties where the negroes are not numerous, the case is different; but in their party conventions and in the administration of public affairs by the Republican party, the negro influence is felt. The Republican organization has to take into consideration that the party is composed of four negroes to one white voter. To be sure, the influence of four negroes is more potent than one white man.

Not only then do we have the negro dominant in the Eastern counties, but dominant also in the Republican party, and whenever that party administers public affairs the negro dominates.

One of the results of this is that many excellent men who opposed the Democratic party right after the war and became Republicans, have left that organization.

Indeed, the Republican party, some years back had among its members a considerable number of men distinguished for their talents and standing. We mention Chief Justice Pearson, Ted R. Caldwell, Judge E. G. Reade, Hon. Thomas Settle, Judge W. P. Bynum, General Barringer, Taswell Hargrove, Judge Boyden, Mr. Sam Phillips and Judge Seymour, etc. But these men have passed away and so other Republicans of similar standing, talents and character have taken their places. It is evident that the Republican party in North Carolina has mightily degenerated.

Its present leaders are not equal to those whose names we have mentioned. But few men of character remain in it. It has sunk far lower than its old time level. Spoils and office are the only attractions. Those men who would sacrifice everything for office remain, but negro domination within that party has driven out of it the better element that might otherwise have become adherents of Republican principles and Republican doctrine.

It is apparent that the Republican party of to-day is on a lower plane than it was twenty-five and fifteen years ago. Then it contained men of respectable talent and character in nearly every county and the negroes were control to fall in line without asserting the full influence of their numerical strength.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS DEGENERATED.

Now, these strong and intelligent Republicans have passed off of the field of active and local leadership, or potential character, have quit the Republican party and their places have not been filled by similar men.

The negroes have asserted themselves and as a result white Republicans in the East have nearly abandoned that party, leaving it in the Eastern counties politically but a name, and the negro element largely controls the action of the Republican party in its relations to the State at large.

This is a distinct change, a notable change, a change which challenges the attention of the people. It means that the negroes, unless restrained, will dominate every Eastern county where they have the majority, and it means that the negro will dominate the State whenever the Republicans have control of State affairs.

RESULTS OF REPUBLICAN RULE.

The Republicans had control of State affairs, just after reconstruction, and such an intolerable condition resulted that the people turned them out and amended the Constitution, in respect to county governments.

By a fusion four years ago the Republicans again succeeded in getting partial control of public affairs. Let us see what the condition then was.

In New Hanover county, forty negro magistrates were appointed.

Bertie county got sixteen of these dusky dispensers of justice law and "equality." Edgecombe got nearly twice as many, or thirty-one.

Craven county was blessed with twenty-seven of the ever faithful.

Halifax county was particularly obnoxious, having promoted "Rock" Kitchin, who did not believe in negro magistrates, got twenty-nine of them.

Granville county got seventeen of the selfsame kind.

Caswell county, which had not done quite so much for "our cause," received seven.

In all there were named by the Legislature of 1895 three hundred negro magistrates in North Carolina.

So much for the dispensers of justice at the homes of the people.

Was there not a flavor of negro domination in that? But the negroes were not content with that. Years ago the negro did not aspire to the county offices. In that year, however, Craven county was given a negro register of deeds and negro deputy registers and three negro deputy sheriffs, a negro coroner and a negro commissioner.

A negro was elected register of deeds in New Hanover, negro constables and deputy sheriffs were appointed.

In Halifax, Edgecombe, Bertie, Warren, and indeed, in all the black counties of the East, negroes were elected or appointed to public office.

And if there was one office the negro was particularly unfit for it was school committeeman over white children, and yet throughout the Eastern counties there were hundreds of negroes appointed school committeemen over white children.

Nor did the municipalities escape. The charters of the towns were amended to favor the negroes.

Wilmington was protected by naming fourteen negro policemen and one of the members of the Finance Committee was a negro.

Negro policemen and aldermen were chosen in Newbern.

Greenville was gerrymandered in such a way that the negroes were enabled to elect four of the six members of the board of aldermen.

Was there not something of negro domination in that?

In State affairs:

The negro James H. Young was made chief fertilizer inspector and a director of the white blind asylum.

A negro was appointed collector of customs for the port of Wilmington and twenty-five negro postmasters were named in sundry towns of the East, at the solicitation of State Republican leaders. A negro deputy collector was appointed for the Fourth District and numerous storekeepers and gaugers.

For two years the negro was on top. He controlled the Republican party, and the administration of affairs was to his interests.

THE CRISIS OF 1898.

Then the election of 1898 came on.

In the Second Judicial District a negro was nominated for solicitor.

In the Second Congressional District a negro was nominated for Congress and was elected.

In Edgecombe county three negroes were nominated for the Legislature, two in Halifax, one in Granville, one in Vance, one in Craven, one in Pasquotank, one in Northampton, one in Warren, and others in other counties.

In Craven county negroes alone were named for the Legislature, registers of deeds, treasurer, coroner, county commissioner, standard keeper, and the candidates for sheriff and other positions in some negro precincts.

In all the great cotton counties, the drive ran not over the white man, and whenever the negro voters had any influence they were given representation on the Republican ticket. This was intolerable. A crisis had come. The white people banded together in White Supremacy Clubs and met the issue at the polls.

The white people of the State saw the evil of such an administration and put their foot heavily down upon it.

NEGROES IN OFFICE.

However, there yet remain many negroes in office, whose terms have not expired; many postmasters and Federal and county officers.

In Warren there are 21 negro Justices whose terms expire this year and next year, and there are four negro policemen in that county. At Ridgeway, Macon, Churchill and Arcola—and there may be others.

In Halifax county the following negroes were appointed by the Fusion Legislature:

N. I. KEEN,	A. J. PITTMAN,
A. C. ALLSTON,	ED CHEEK,
J. M. PITTMAN,	WILLIS PIERCE,
R. L. BERRY,	W. B. DANIEL,
L. S. HARRIS,	W. F. YOUNG,
S. P. SHIELS,	DENNISON,
P. R. JONES,	C. C. BAKER,
H. P. WILLIAMS,	J. J. B. SHAW,

WILLIAM BOWSER,
ISRAEL WHITAKER,
JACOB BOWERTON,
LOUIS WILKIAMS,
J. H. ARRINGTON,
STEWART HARDY,
THAD SHIELDS,
HENDERSON TUCKER.

There were also a good many negro constables and negro school committemen too numerous to be mentioned.

There are now negro postmasters at Weldon, Halifax, Scotland Neck, Littleton and until recently at Tillery.

The negro postmaster first appointed at Tillery, J. M. Pittman, is now in jail having been convicted in the United States court of embezzlement.

The Bertie County Black record is as follows:

Notaries public:

Lewis Bonthan, Windsor, appointed by the Governor, November 8, 1899, in office.

S. M. Moseley, Lewiston, appointed by Governor, June 16, 1898, out.

D. W. Baker, Lewiston, appointed by Governor, April 20, 1897, out. He was convicted of stealing postoffice funds.

Justice of the Peace:

D. G. Raynor, Windsor township, elected 1896, time expired.

Emanuel Taylor, Windsor township, appointed by Legislature 1895, in office.

Arthur Heckstall, Merry Hill township, elected 1896, time expired.

A. T. Wilson, Merry Hill township, elected 1896, time expired.

Black Law, Merry Hill township, appointed by Legislature 1895, in office.

Bryant Walters, Roxabel township, elected 1896 and 1898, in office.

Frank Peele, Roxabel township, elected 1896, time out.

Richard Bunn, Roxabel township, elected 1896, time out.

Wright Cherry, Mitchell's township, appointed by Legislature 1895, resigned.

Noah Cherry, Snake Bite township, elected 1896 and 1897, in office.

Haywood Cherry, Snake Bite township, appointed by Legislature, 1895, in office.

Simon Cherry, Snake Bite township, elected 1898, in office.

Geo. W. Hardy, Woodville township, elected 1896 and 1898, in office.

D. W. Stewart, Woodville township, elected 1896 and 1898, in office.

Wiley Wilkins, Woodville township, elected 1896, time out.

John A. Bazemore, Indian Woods township, appointed by Legislature, 1895, in office.

Harry B. Spivey, Indian Woods township, elected 1896, time out.

W. R. Ballard, Indian Woods township, elected 1898, in office.

Robert H. Spivey, Indian Woods township, elected 1898, in office.

Coroner:

Champ Pugh, Windsor township, elected 1896.

Constables:

Cicero Urquhart, Woodville township, elected 1896, and before his qualification was indicted and afterwards convicted of larceny of cotton from a negro who voted for him and sentenced to one year in the work-house and was allowed to escape jail the next morning, and is now at large.

Robert Smith, Roxabel township, elected 1896.

Wm. Gilliam, Indian Woods township, elected 1896.

Mesach Lee, Woodville township, elected in 1898 and could not give bond.

Ashley Smallwood, elected in 1898, did not qualify.

Member County Board of Education:

Luke Pierce, elected by county commissioners, etc., in 1897, out by act of General Assembly.

Jailer:

B. J. Askew, appointed in 1897, by Fusion sheriff, W. G. Burden, is now under indictment for permitting Cicero Urquhart, a prominent negro politician and constable and convicted of felony, to escape jail.

At the first meeting of the Fusion School Board, the following was passed:

"Ordered that the board proceed to the election of three white and two colored men from each district as a committee of the same."

The following negroes were elected by districts as follows:

No. 1.—Windsor, Granville Cherry and Primus Outlaw.

No. 2.—Merry Hill, Geo. Horley and A. T. Wilson.

No. 3.—White's, John A. Horley and Willie Cobb.

No. 4.—Coleraine, B. J. Lane and P. H. Morris.

No. 5.—Mitchell's, Willis Askew and Wright Cherry.

No. 6.—Roxabel, R. E. Bush and Walter Peele.

No. 7.—Woodville, Lewis Duncan and J. C. Williams.

No. 8.—Snake Bite, J. J. Bazemore and Imsey Cherry.

No. 9.—Indian Wood, Isaac Bond and Harry Smallwood.

Postmasters:

Lewis T. Bond, Windsor, N. C., in office.

Ed. Clarke, Kelford, N. C., in office.

J. C. Williams, Colerain, N. C., in office.

C. J. Ryan, Quitsna, N. C., in office.

Cherry, Dover, N. C., in office.

W. E. Bennett, Powellsville, N. C., in office. He succeeded Maud Wynn.

In Vance county, there were in 1898 19 negro magistrates and 22 negro School Committeemen, and the Register of Deeds, a county commissioner and a member of the school board were negroes.

We could take up several other counties, but these will do as a sample. They show the extent to which negro rule has gone in the past.

In view of these facts, it is plain that the negro has become much more influential in dominating the Republican party than he used to be; and it is plain in the Eastern counties of the State, he is almost exclusively the Republican party.

But notwithstanding all this is so plain that every one can see it and understand it, the Republican leaders pretend not to see it. It is all clear in their eyes that the negro should crook the life blood out of the white communities of the Eastern counties, if thereby the negro is kept a voter to help the Republican party in power.

WHAT SENATOR PRITCHARD PRETENDS.

It is all right in their eyes that the influence of the negro should be potent in the administration of public affairs when the Republicans are in power, if thereby, the negro voters are kept in line and by their vote and aid the Republican party gets control.

They, therefore, pretend that there is nothing at which white men should complain in all this. And they insist that there is no negro domination; that there is no negro rule; that there has been none and will be none. Senator Pritchard stands up in his place in the United States Senate and so asserts, and he and his aiders and abetters so declare on the stumps. They declare that there is no negro domination; that there has been none and will be none. If having negroes to fill all those offices we have mentioned does not make negro rule, what does it make? If it don't put the negro over the white man, who does it put over the white man? If it is not odious and oppressive and tyrannical and cruel to the white men to place negroes over them, and to have all the public offices filled by negroes, what is it? But it is all the same to Senator Pritchard and his political clique because they think it is all right.

They are the men who did it. They have no fault to find with it. And it is to be expected that they would pretend that there is nothing wrong in it, and that the white men ought to submit with gladness and cheerfully to having the negro over them, because Senator Pritchard thinks it is for his political interest that it should be that way. But, whatever Senator Pritchard may say, the fact is, whenever that party obtains power the negro is dominant. The white people know that, and it was because the white people came to an understanding and realization of the actual condition of affairs in this State that they determined two years ago on having white supremacy.

BUT WHITE PEOPLE DEMAND WHITE SUPREMACY.

They, therefore, united and elected a Legislature which, as far as the legislative power went, applied a remedy to the evil of negro domination.

And then, this legislature, representing the white voters of North Carolina with a determination to eradicate the foul blot and stain upon our State, and to remove the possibility of negro domination of white men hereafter, proposed a Constitutional amendment that would settle that matter for all time.

This amendment was not proposed as a party measure. It did not come from the Democratic State Executive Committee. It came from the sovereign people of the State, acting through their representatives in the General Assembly. It was proposed as a measure calculated and intended to suppress negro domination, and it carries with it a hope that when adopted and put into operation it will have a most salutary effect in removing race differences, in settling the race question, in rendering it impracticable for the negro to aspire to office, and in leading the negro to look to industry and labor for support instead of making him an agitator and political factor.

And it will have the effect of putting an end forever to negro rule in some of the fairest counties of the State, and imbuing the white people with hope for future good government and progress. When the incubus of negro domination is finally and effectually removed from those communities, they may be expected to range themselves abreast of the more progressive and prosperous portions of the State, and to make rapid advancement in industrial lines.

To them the adoption of the amendment will be the signal of hope, bringing with it peace, happiness and prosperity.

SWORN STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN D. BELLAMY

Concerning Actual Conditions in Wilmington Under Fusion Rule—Extract From Evidence of Mr. Bellamy in the Contested Election Case of Dockery vs. Bellamy.

Q. Did you read the deposition of one Secrest, a witness for Oliver H. Dockery, the contestant in this case, taken at Monroe, Union county, in the present case?

A. Yes; I did read it.

Q. Will you state, in substance, what the testimony was?

A. Although I hardly think it necessary to contradict the statement of Mr. Secrest, as his character has been shown by a number of witnesses to be very bad, I will do so. He stated that he was present at a political speaking where I addressed the assemblage at a school house in Union county, and that I stated that the people of Wilmington were armed with Winchester rifles and were going to carry the election if it was necessary to shoot down the negroes. I say in reply to that, that the statement of Mr. Secrest is absolutely false. What I did say, and what has been testified to by other witnesses who heard me, was this: After I had discussed the policy and principles of the Democratic party and its position upon national questions, I came down to the question of the bad government of North Carolina under fusion rule in State affairs, and then finally in local matters. I stated to the assemblage as a reason why the fusionists should be hurled from power and control in North Carolina was that they had subjected the citizens of Wilmington, Newbern and Greenville to the horrors of misgovernment and negro domination, and all that implied, and after briefly stating how the town of Greenville had been gerrymandered and put under negro control, and how the city of Newbern had been likewise treated, I then came to the city of Wilmington, where I resided and was familiar with the state of affairs.

I stated that as a result of fusion legislation the city had been put under negro control, substantially: that although the white people owned about 97 per cent of the property and paid that much of the taxes of the city, that we had a board of aldermen, with a white man for mayor, that didn't own a foot of land in the county, and paid comparatively little or no taxes; that three or four of the board of alderman were negroes; that forty of the magistrates were negroes; that from fourteen to seventeen of the thirty on the police force were negroes; that nearly all the deputy sheriffs in the county were negroes; that the register of deeds of the county was a negro; that every health officer of the city, a very important position, was held by negroes; that one of the three county commissioners was a negro; and the result of it was the horrible state of misgovernment had been brought about; that night after night burglaries and robberies took place in town without any detection; that within about 800 feet of the city hall six burglaries had been committed within ten days without a detection; that one burglar had been arrested in a lady's residence, a negro burglar was captured and held by the ladies until a police officer arrived, that, although the offense was punishable by death and not bailable, he was let off on his own recognizance or a straw bond, I have forgotten now which, and the negro escaped; that murders and crimes of all character were of constant occurrence; that within about a year six murders had taken place in the county; that the negroes showed an utter disrespect for and defiance of the law; that the city authorities, in the exercise of their discretion upon sanitary matters, had located a hospital for infectious diseases on the outskirts of the town, and the negroes, several hundred in number, a complete mob, armed with guns, pistols and other weapons, went out, attacked, shot into, and burned it down, and the mayor and policemen, although remonstrating, were powerless to resist it, and none of said negroes, were ever arrested or tried for the offense; that in the trial of the causes in the court house house it was impossible to convict a negro of crime where a question of credibility arose between white witnesses and negro witnesses, that the juries, composed partially of whites and partly of blacks, would retire and a hung jury was the result, the negroes always voting solidly in the jury box in favor of the acquittal of the negro, if a negro was on trial.

I recollect especially recalling an instance of my own experience, where I told them that I prosecuted for Mr. Hamme, a very gallant and reputable citizen, a hat merchant of this city, who was assaulted in broad daylight in his store by Richard Holmes, a negro policeman, and struck over the eyes with a pair of brass knuckles and felled senseless to the floor, and that on three trials, although the defendent himself, Holmes, did not take the stand, that the jury, although the evidence was uncontradicted, failed to agree a single one of the three times, standing the first time nine whites for conviction and three negres for acquittal; the second trial taking place at the next term of the court, all the white men on the jury stood for conviction and the negroes on the jury for acquittal; on the third trial, which took place at a subsequent term, it likewise stood eight or nine—I have forgotten the number—white for conviction and three or four negroes for acquittal, according to the number of negroes on the jury and that finally the fusion solicitor, although I myself was associated in the prosecution, nol prossed the case without even consulting me; that day after day white ladies, while walking the streets of the city were insulted, and in one instance a reputable young lady going to the cemetery was shoved from the sidewalk by a negro woman and struck over the head with an umbrella; that the daughter of one of the ablest divines of the city was brusquely hurled against the fence and bruised by a negro on the streets in broad daytime; that indecent remarks were made to ladies walking the streets by negroes, and complaint after complaint being made to the city authorities, which were the ones I have before related to you, they found themselves unable to repress it; that property and life were not safe, and that good order could not be secured in the town; that the city authorities were totally insufficient to secure it; that the Chamber of Commerce, a representative business body of that city, presided over by a Republican as president, passed resolutions stating the city authorities were unable to secure law and order substantially, and calling upon our people a matter of business and self-preservation, without regard to politics, to change existing order of things.

I will state further that having statements in that speech and substantially the same thing in many others that I delivered during the campaign, I now again affirm that the statements made are a statement of the true condition of affairs as they existed in Wilmington, and if I have failed in the statement it was in not stating other and greater wrongs which actually occurred and which I forgot to mention, among them being the publication in a negro newspaper published in the city of a vile and slanderous attack upon the virtue and reputation of the white women of our State.

GOOD ROADS NOTES.

A New Road Scheme.

DURING the last few years the Federal Department of Agriculture has largely increased its usefulness and extended the scope of its operations. It has made its methods more practical and has adapted them more closely to the needs of the country.

It was once an abuse that the seed sent out by the Agricultural Department never came up. Of course this was a libel on the department, but it is a fact that the quality of the seed distributed by the Government has been so greatly improved that no superior seed can be found anywhere.

The Agricultural Department has many other important functions besides the distribution of seed. One of its most useful bureaus is that which is devoted to the science of road building. Its directors and superintendents are men who are well versed both in the theoretical and the practical science of road building. The monographs and reports sent out by this bureau contain many valuable suggestions concerning the construction, protection and repair of roads. Practical tests of various theories and methods of road building are made by the bureau and the results are reported fully.

The work of construction, specimen sketches of roadway, was begun in 1891 and has been carried on with marked success. These sample roads have been inspected by officials and other visitors from all parts of the country and the suggestions which they offer have been in many instances embodied in practical results. The bureau now proposes the construction of steel track wagon roads. Such roads may be built much cheaper than either macadam or chert highways, and while they are not as desirable as either are a vast improvement on the ordinary dirt roads and are by reason of their smaller cost within the reach of communities who are not able to construct the best styles of road.

The general plan of the proposed road is to lay two wide steel rails on ordinary highways. The road as thus constructed consists of two parallel lines of steel plates or rails, each eight inches wide, laid at a sufficient distance apart to receive the wheels of all vehicles of standard gauge. The steel plates or rails have a slight flange on each side, which is deemed sufficient to prevent the wagon wheels from leaving the tracks easily, while not interfering with turning out when the driver desires to do in order to pass another team or for any other purpose. If one imagines to himself a street car track with the depression on the rail that accommodates the wagon wheel eight inches wide, and the rails set at such a distance apart as to receive both wheels of the ordinary vehicle, he will have a very good idea of the road in question. It goes without saying that on a road constructed in this manner very large loads can be hauled with great ease.

Experiments have shown that the steel rail road will wear well and not get out of order easily. The load which a horse can pull on such a road in bad weather is several times as great as that which he could pull on a dirt road. The cost of repairs is very small.

A first class steel rail road may be constructed for $3,500 a mile and preparations for building such highways are going on in several States.—Atlanta Journal.

The Good-Roads Question.

As an act of patriotism and devotion to his birthplace Colonel John Jacob Astor is now completing some two and a half miles of road way between Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck, which we are asked to contemplate and admire as being probably the best piece of road work in the State.

Colonel Astor has rendered a public service for which he is entitled to recognition. But at the same time it is impossible to escape the sense of humiliation over the admission that in the great and wealthy Empire State the improvement of the public highway should under any conditions depend on private generosity.

In this matter, so vital to the well-being and prosperity of the State, an example has been set us by the adjoining States of New Jersey and Massachusetts. In these States private citizens are not called on to improve the public roadways because legislative intelligence has devised an efficient plan of adjusting the relative interests of State and local assessment in providing for the cost of such improvements. They have solved the good-roads problem with satisfactory results, and year by year they are bringing their country roads out of the barbarism of neglect and improving them up to the highest standard of real civilization.—New York World.

The Work in Pennsylvania.

What the Pennsylvania Division of the L. A. W. is doing in the matter of supplying the wheelmen of that State with good roads may be judged by the result of the last meeting of the Good Roads Commission, of which H. B. Worrell, the representative of the L. A. W., is chairman. In discussing the work of the commission, Mr. Worrell said: "We have been securing data from many sources and have obtained much information from other States. We are endeavoring to prepare a broad and comprehensive plan which will be equitable in all districts. Equalization of taxation is perhaps the most important element of our work, and it is the intention of the commission to ask State aid in addition to the taxation which is now assessed by townships. Our labors will not end for some time to come, however."