

# THE RALEIGH REGISTER.

J. C. L. HARRIS, Editor.

"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace—unwarped party rage to live like brothers."

[W. M. BROWN, Publisher.]

VOLUME I.

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## The Weekly Register.

It is stated that under an act of Congress passed during the war, preference is required to be given to disabled Union soldiers in the appointment of keepers of national cemeteries, janitors of public buildings and lucrative offices of like character.

### THE CIVIL SERVICE ORDER.

President Hayes, in conversation with Representative Harner, is said to have remarked that the civil service order had been much misinterpreted. It is not designed, he said, to deprive officeholders of rights enjoyed in common with other citizens, to take an active part in politics after nominations are made, but solely to reach that class of politicians who have held office for political ends only, have brought discredit and dissension into the party, and have united in efforts to intimidate conventions and force them into support of particular individuals.—*National Union.*

The above from the administration organ, at Washington, should be sufficient to set at rest the grumblings of the disappointed who are ever ready to find fault with the President's effort to carry out genuine reform.

### GOOD FOR OLD ORANGE.

Orange county was always noted for progress. It was among her hills that the first thunders of the American Revolution were heard. At Alamance, the first conflict of arms took place, and the first armed resistance to tyranny was made. Its people laid dormant politically for a number of years, but after the war, the "fierce Democracy" of that section again took the lead in affairs of State, and the declarations of its leaders have been made rallying cries in every campaign. When the Orange Democracy have taken snuff, every locofoco in the State has sneezed. They have become the *avant couriers* of the line of policy the party always takes. Immediately after the war, under the leadership of Rev. Wm. E. Pell, the mechanics of Raleigh organized the "Conservative-Democratic" party. It took for its motto—"the constitution and the laws"—and its adherents declared that it had "accepted the situation," so far as the results of the war were concerned. The Orange Democracy protested, and when a State organization was effected, and the title of the party transposed, it was one of the illustrious sons of old Orange who gave the party a rallying cry under the banner of the "White Line." When Horace Greeley was nominated for the Presidency, the first Democratic convention in the State that declared in favor of his support, was held in Orange.

We have not heard, as yet, of these sagacious freemen endorsing the administration and policy of President Hayes, but they are evidently in favor of "Reform." They have already sounded the tocsin, and its tones are positive and determined. They mean business, and if their policy is adopted, the effects which resulted from the bold and revolutionary stand of their forefathers will not be more marked and beneficial. Here is what the Orange Democracy demand:

"At a public meeting, held in the town of Hillsboro on the 16th inst., it being Tuesday of October court, [don't this sound like a tone from the revolutionary era?] a large number of the citizens of the county of Orange being in attendance," the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The people of North Carolina since the year 1860 have had little or no voice in the conduct of public affairs, and especially in the important matter of making candidates, therefore

Resolved, That we propose a change and reform in the manner of making candidates; to the end that the people may be heard and felt in this all important business.

Resolved, That A. W. Graham, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Democratic party of Orange county, be and he is hereby requested, full three months before the election for members of the General Assembly, to advise for the polls to be opened at each voting place in the county by the chairman of the Executive Committee of each township, assisted by a clerk or such judges of election as the chairman shall appoint to hold the election, for Democratic voters to choose their candidates by ballot. The ballots to be sealed up and forwarded to the chairman of the county, who will count and announce the result.

Resolved, That Henry A. London, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Democratic party for this Congressional District, full four months before the next election for Congress, advertise for the polls to be opened at each voting place in the District, that the Democratic voters may vote direct for the man of their choice for candidates for Congress under such rules and regulations as the Chairman of the Committee shall adopt; that the vote be sealed up and forwarded to Henry A. London, Chairman, and who shall count the vote, and announce the result through one or more Democratic newspapers of the District.

And whereas, The State of North Carolina has, on several occasions, been without a representative in the United States Senate; and whereas, much valuable time is often wasted by the General Assembly in unavailing efforts to elect a Senator; therefore,

Resolved, That this meeting suggest to the Democratic voters of the State, and to the Executive Committee of the State, the propriety of opening the polls under the order and direction of the Executive Committee, to allow the Democratic voters of the State the privilege of voting who shall be their candidate for the United States Senate. The polls to be opened on the 23d of February or the 4th of July next. The Democratic committee for each township to hold the election and report to the chairman of the county who shall report and forward the vote of the county to the chairman of the Executive Committee of the State at Raleigh, whose duty it shall be to announce and publish the result of the election.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Hillsboro Recorder, Raleigh News, Raleigh Observer, Charlotte Observer, Charlotte Democrat, Wilmington Star, Milton Chronicle, Oxford Torchlight, and that Democratic papers throughout the State be requested to copy.

JAS. R. HARRIS, Ch'n.

WM. G. MANGUM, Sec'y.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLORED CONVENTION, HELD IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH ON THE 18TH AND 19TH OF OCT. 1877.

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 18th, 1877.

Pursuant to a call issued by a number of leading colored men, a Convention assembled in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Thursday morning, 18th inst., at 10 o'clock.

The delegates were called to order by J. H. Harris, of Warren county, who requested J. E. O'Hara, of Halifax, to read the call. The call being read,

On motion, a temporary organization was effected by the election of W. P. Mabson, of Edgecombe, President, and J. E. O'Hara, of Halifax, Secretary.

Mr. Hill, of New Hanover, moved the appointment of a committee on credentials.

Mr. Abbott, of Craven, offered an amendment, to the effect that the roll of counties be called to ascertain what counties were duly represented, and that the Convention then resolve itself into a mass convention.

Mr. Hill, the suggestion of the gentleman from Craven meets my approval and I withdraw my motion.

Mr. Harris, of Warren, could see no objection to the adoption of the original motion. The mode of procedure in all delegated bodies was the appointment of a committee on credentials. He could find no precedent for a departure from the rule. He renewed the motion for a committee, which was carried.

Mr. Abbott moved that the roll of the counties be called and that delegates hand in their credentials to the Secretary. Carried.

The roll was called and about forty counties were found to be represented.

The chair announced the committee on credentials, after which the Convention took a recess of twenty minutes.

At the expiration of the recess, the Convention was called to order, and on motion of Mr. Hill, of New Hanover, J. T. Reynolds, of Halifax, was invited to address the Convention.

Mr. R. came forward and thanked the Convention for the honor done him, and said that he was unprepared for any extended remarks. He was here in obedience to the call and the wishes of his people. He highly approved the objects for which the Convention had met, and urged a united and vigorous endeavor on the part of the thinking portion of the colored people, to raise the standard of morality, education and industry.

The committee on credentials reported thirty-three counties represented by about one hundred and thirty duly accredited delegates, and recommended that several gentlemen present from other counties without credentials be invited to take seats as delegates. The report and recommendation were adopted.

Mr. Hill, of New Hanover. I move, Mr. President that the convention proceed to a permanent organization; and to this end, I place in nomination a gentleman in every respect qualified for the position. One who, if elected, will discharge with grace and dignity, all the duties of the responsible position. I nominate for President of this Convention, Mr. J. H. Harris, of Warren.

Mr. Williamson scolded the nomination of Mr. Harris.

Mr. Randolph, of Craven. I rise to place in nomination for President of this convention a gentleman of whom we may all feel proud. He is a young man of rare merit and undoubted qualifications. If elected, he will preside over our deliberations in a manner that will prove acceptable to all. I name for President of

this Convention, Mr. J. C. Price of Craven.

J. T. Reynolds, I nominate, Mr. J. E. O'Hara.

Messrs. Dancy and Abbott were appointed tellers. The election resulted in favor of Mr. Harris, which, on motion was made unanimous.

On taking the chair, Mr. Harris briefly addressed the Convention, returning thanks for the distinction conferred upon him, and counselling thoughtful attention and interest in devising means to effect the ends for which the Convention had met. The permanent organization was completed by the election of J. C. Price, G. L. Mabson, H. Cale, M. Ransom, and Henry Powell, Vice-Presidents. J. C. Dancy, of Edgecombe, Secretary.

On motion the chair appointed committees on rules and resolutions, after which the Convention adjourned to 7 1/2 o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION.

The Convention reassembled at 7 1/2 o'clock. President J. H. Harris in the chair, on motion, J. A. Hinton was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

On motion the chair appointed a committee of seven on finance.

The following resolutions were then offered by Stewart Ellison; a resolution opposing all colonization schemes.

By A. Lloyd; a resolution to encourage the colored people to acquire property and education.

The Committee on Resolutions made a report through J. C. Hill, Chairman.

The resolutions affirm that the time has come for the colored people to think and act for themselves and to assume the task of moulding their own destiny as citizens of the American Republic; and that education, morality and industry must constitute the basis of their elevation as a people; that the disappearance of race prejudice and the growing feeling of cordiality and friendships between the races were among the encouraging signs of the times; that the efforts of the State administration and the influence exerted by the press in the direction of providing ample and efficient means for the education of the colored people, should be recognized and appreciated; that all colonization schemes were impracticable and should be discouraged, &c. A series of amendments, all the resolutions were adopted with the exception of the third, which recognized and appreciated the efforts of the State administration and the press in the direction of providing ample and efficient means for the education of the colored race.

This resolution created a warm debate between Messrs. Hill, Leary, G. W. Pell and G. L. Mabson, for and against O'Hara, J. C. Price, Williamson, Abbott and Wm. Am against adoption. It was finally laid on the table, and the convention adjourned until Friday morning 4 o'clock.

### SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, OCT. 19th.

The convention met pursuant to adjournment in the hall of the House of Representatives, President J. H. Harris in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Ransom, of Orange.

Minutes of preceding session read, corrected and approved.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by the convention, C. N. Hunter was appointed convention reporter for the press.

On motion of Mr. Wassam, of Wayne, the chair appointed Messrs. Wassam, G. L. Mabson and C. N. Hunter a committee to revise and prepare the minutes for the press.

The committee on finance made a report as to the cost of printing, &c., which was considered, and recommended to the committee with instructions to make a proportionate assessment upon each member of the convention.

Mr. Williamson offered the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, Intemperance is one of the greatest evils that can befall a people; therefore

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the people of the State, the importance of organizing temperance societies, and to give them when organized, their hearty support.

Resolved, That men who occupy high public positions, should, when they become subject to intemperance, receive the condemnation of every intelligent person in the community.

On the adoption of the resolutions Mr. Williamson took the floor, and made an earnest and well conceived argument in favor of their adoption. No second was offered on our part, so our part was other provided so as to retain our growth and prosperity, as that of intemperance.

Day by day, this prolific source of vice and crime, was contributing large numbers of our people to the penitentiary, already overflowing. It was our duty to want, degradation and death upon thousands of innocent victims—the women and children of our land. To this source might be traced four fifths, if not five sixths of all the crimes of our land. He was sorry to say that the church had not met the requirements of this important issue. So far from throwing their powerful influ-

ence in the way of its onward and ruinous course, many professing christians, he had been reliably informed, in the city of Raleigh, had favored and voted to continue the whiskey business. He hoped the convention would see proper to adopt the resolutions.

Mr. Mabson was heartily in favor of the resolutions, but had been led to think, from the remarks of the gentleman from Franklin, that they contained something reflecting upon the church. He characterized the remarks of that gentleman, as far as they related to the church, as wholly unbecoming. He did not think this the place to arraign the church for its attitude on any of the great moral questions of the day. He thought the church fully able to take care of itself and meet the requirements of its great and holy mission.

Mr. Williamson disclaimed any intention of reflecting upon the church. He simply stated incontrovertible facts when he said that many members of the church and ministers of the gospel had not been backward to meet this question.

Rev. Mr. Ransom spoke in favor of the resolution. Thought that both the resolution and the remarks of the gentleman from Franklin were in their place and highly appropriate.

Rev. Mr. Crosby thought the adoption of the resolutions would be the best work of the convention. He thought the speech of Mr. Mabson an ingenious argument against the resolutions. The delegate from Franklin had drawn the picture none too strong.

After some further debate participated in by Messrs. O'Hara, Ellison and Taylor, the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The following resolutions were then offered.

By Mr. Wassam: That the chair appoint a committee to take into consideration the feasibility of establishing a newspaper for the colored people of North Carolina. Adopted and the committee appointed, Mr. Wassam, Chairman.

By Mr. Price, of New Hanover: Approving the appointment of a State Executive Committee to take into consideration matters affecting the Education, Moral and Material welfare of the colored people of the State. Adopted, and the committee appointed, Mr. Price, Chairman.

By Mr. Caswell: A resolution to the effect that the system of the State press and the efforts of the State administration in the direction of providing more ample and efficient means for the education of the masses, were recognized and appreciated by the colored people of the State. Laid over.

By Mr. Abbott: A resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee of five to memorialize the Legislature, &c. Adopted.

By Mr. Holt: A resolution favoring compulsory education, and recommending the adoption of means looking to that end. Referred to a special committee consisting of Messrs. Holt, Leary, Crosby and Wassam.

By Mr. —: A series of resolutions favoring the inauguration of county normal schools for the preparation of teachers. Adopted.

By Mr. Crews: A resolution providing for the distribution of the minutes of the convention. Adopted.

By Mr. F. D. Dancy: A resolution concerning the laboring men of the State. Adopted.

Mr. Ellison called up the resolutions offered by himself, opposing all colonization schemes, and moved their adoption.

Mr. O'Hara thought that the adoption of these resolutions would only bury the minutes with unnecessary matter. This resolution on that subject reported by the committee was amply sufficient. It was moved to lay the resolutions on the table, which was carried.

Mr. D. P. Allen offered a resolution favoring the adoption of means by which the public school terms might be extended. Adopted.

The resolutions introduced by Mr. Lloyd to encourage the colored people to acquire property and education, were taken up and adopted.

Mr. Powell, of Anson, offered a resolution asking the recognition of colored men in the appointment of committees for colored schools in the different counties of the State. Adopted.

The chair announced the committee on address, J. E. O'Hara, chairman.

O. Zutter, Jr., offered a series of resolutions looking to the establishment of intelligence offices in the different counties. Referred to the committee on address.

The resolutions offered by Mr. Caswell complimenting the State press and the State administration for their efforts in behalf of the education of the colored people were taken up.

Mr. Wassam took the floor, in opposition to the resolutions. He could see no difference between these resolutions and those reported by the committee, which were voted down. The Governor and the Legislature had only performed a part of their duty toward the colored people, and he saw no good reason for profuse compliments. Several members spoke in favor of adoption, after which the resolutions were tabled.

On motion the convention adjourned to 7 1/2 o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION.

The convention assembled at 7 1/2 o'clock. President J. H. Harris in the chair.

Mr. Price, from the committee on organization; Mr. Taylor, from the committee on labor; Mr. Wassam, from the committee on newspaper; Mr. O'Hara, from the committee on address, submitted reports from their respective committees, which were adopted.

Mr. Boyd, of Edgecombe, offered a resolution to memorialize Congress, to appropriate the public lands to educational purposes. Tabled.

Mr. Price, of New Hanover, resolutions of thanks to the State authorities and press, for courtesies extended the convention adopted.

By Mr. O'Hara: A resolution asking the appointment of colored teachers for colored schools. Adopted.

Dr. W. J. Palmer, of Canada, and the Hon. J. M. Wilson, of Washington, D. C., being present, were, on motion, invited to seats on the floor. They were afterwards introduced to the convention and made brief speeches commendatory of the objects for which the convention had met.

Mr. — offered a resolution asking the removal of the State Normal School to a place more accessible to the masses of the colored people.

Mr. Harris moved to amend by inserting Warrenton as a proper locator, and spoke in its favor. The amendment was voted down and the original resolution was adopted.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the delegate from Onslow, Mr. Morten, was invited to address the convention which he proceeded to do to the entire satisfaction of all present.

The most important work of the convention was entrusted to committees who had not completed their work up to adjournment. It cannot, therefore, be known until the minutes are published.

much of the work done, if practically enforced by the colored people of the State, will result in great and lasting good. The convention was composed of the most intelligent colored men in the State. Among them were men of talent, and eye-scholars.

At a late hour Friday night the convention concluded its labors and adjourned sine die.

JAMES H. HARRIS, President.  
J. C. DANCY, Secretary.

SENATOR MORTON AND THE PRESIDENT.

A VIGOROUS ENDORSEMENT OF THE ACTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 22, 1877.

The following editorial in *The Journal* expresses Senator Morton's views upon the duty of Republican members of Congress, having been read to him and receiving his hearty approval as embracing his ideas:

While there are few Republicans who can give a full and hearty endorsement to every act and declaration made by the President, which go to make up what are known as his Southern and civil service policies, yet we have seen nothing, taken either separately or together, to justify the Republicans in distrusting either his patriotism or his Republicanism. There seems to be a feeling on the part of those who disapprove of certain acts of the President that they are better Republicans and more faithful to the principles of the party than he. Such assumption does injustice to the President. He is an original Republican and has been tested for twenty years as a soldier and civilian, and has never wavered or been found wanting in his devotion to the great fundamental doctrines of the Republican party. He was elected as a Republican and it is impossible for him with the present organization of parties, even if he should desire, to be other than a Republican President, not in an offensive partisan sense, but in his devotion to the principles and desire for the perpetuity of the Republican party. Until it is demonstrated that he has not this devotion and this desire the Republicans in Congress should not break with him of mere questions of policy. President Hayes has a most difficult role, and instead of receiving the unfriendly criticisms and attacks of his party friends he should have their support and be given their best and truest advice. The President's paramount duty is to the country, and if he were to place simple party success above public interest he would render himself hateful to every right minded man and infamous in history. We do not suppose that a single one of the Republicans who differ with him on questions of policy would ask the President in plain terms to assume such a position, and yet they do this in effect when they denounce his policy because of the damaging effect it may have upon the party without reference to its probable effect upon the higher interests of the country. The President is in the best possible position for knowing what ought to be done. He is acting under a solemn oath. He is more largely responsible than any other living man for the consequences of his acts, and having decided upon a certain course as essential to the public welfare, that course should not be obstructed by his party friends unless it is in plain conflict with the principles of Republicanism. He is certainly not in his position of President the mere creature of Congress, and should not be the mere tool of party. The day for discussion has passed as to the right or wrong of the Southern policy of the administration. We might not have gone to the same extent in placing the South upon its honor and good behavior. We might, after what has transpired in the past years, have required some protection or exacted some bond to keep the peace; but President Hayes has seen proper to accept the assurance of the people at the South that they will maintain the law and protect the equal rights of all classes, and if they keep faith with the administration his Southern policy cannot fail. The same policy might have been inaugurated at any time since the close of the war had the people of these States come forward with an honest purpose and proffered the same pledges. As long as these pledges are kept and peace maintained the policy should be supported, and to that end we would sustain the President in the efforts he is making for peace and conciliation. When these States fail to maintain the law and protect the equal rights of all classes we shall expect the peace policy to be abandoned by the administration and a force policy inaugurated.

The President was elected under a pledge of civil service reform. The pledge was made by his party and was fully approved and indorsed by him. The votes of the people had been procured for him upon his solemn promise, made in the Cincinnati platform and in his letter of acceptance, that he would inaugurate the reforms demanded. He took a comprehensive survey of the whole subject. The English system of civil service, which is substantially promotion in office as we promote in our army and navy, could not be safely adopted until he had obtained a sound starting basis and sifted the material at hand. In consultation with his Cabinet he laid down three leading rules:—

First—That he would not remove any faithful, competent officer without some cause, and would not retain an incompetent or dishonest one for any cause.

Second—That while he would freely advise with Senators and members of Congress, their recommendations should not be imperative, and in no case lead him to violate the first and fundamental rule.

Third—That any one assuming to perform the duties of a public office and receiving its reward should give to it his undivided attention.

Who can object to one of these rules? Are they not sound and for the public good? They may work occasional hardships, as all general rules do, but some rules must be laid down and rigidly adhered to. The details for the execution of these rules must necessarily be left largely to the departments. The executors may and we doubt not have drifted into some proscriptive measures which they would have to abandon. The details may not have been applied practically. It is not likely that the administration can control the action of civil officers connected with the detail work of their party, nor do we believe there is a necessity for any attempt to do so. Liberty of thought and action should not be abridged because a man happens to be in office. When a civil officer performs faithfully and honestly the duties imposed by his office—this is all that should be required and all that can be required, and an attempt to dictate which political work and officer may perform for party must, of right and necessity, fail. This will be discovered by the President about as quickly as it will by Congress, and it is a matter of minor importance upon which it is childish to make an issue. Congressional patronage may have been abused. We have no doubt it has been; but it is impossible that the President or his Cabinet should know all the applicants for office in the several States, or that they should know even one good man for each of the offices to be filled. And we know of no safer advisers in reference to such applicants than the Senators and members of Congress who represent the people of the localities wherein the duties of such officers are to be discharged. If any Senator or other should prove himself an unsafe advisor, then the President would be justified in ignoring him and seeking information from other sources, and, in fact, he should seek such information from all sources and judge for himself, with all the light he can obtain, as to the fitness of the applicant. The Republicans in Congress should not embarrass the administration by any factious opposition to the measures inaugurated or appointments made and should seek to promote the harmony of the party, in which none are more interested than the President and his Cabinet, and to secure which they have only to remain steadfast Republicans.