

# The Wadesboro Messenger and Wadesboro Intelligencer.

J. W. G. BOYLIN, Publisher.

The Wadesboro Messenger and Wadesboro Intelligencer Consolidated July, 1888.

PRICE, \$1.50 a Year.

NEW SERIES--VOL. IX--NO. 29.

Wadesboro, N. C., Thursday, January 30, 1896.

WHOLE NUMBER 790

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## THE SPOILSMEN FALL OUT.

ALL IS NOT HARMONY IN THE FUSION RANKS.

The Program of the Populist Ross Excites the Ire of Mr. M. L. Wood, of Bertie, a Populist, who Believes Butler would "Sacrifice" the Senator, Governor and All Way Station State Officers for the Sake of Carrying Out His New Scheme of a "Non-Partisan Electoral Ticket."—Butler's Strictly Confidential Letter to Mr. Wood, Along With the Latter's Sarcastic Reply Thereof, Gets into Print.

Raleigh News-Observer.

A week ago news came to this paper that two letters were being circulated among the Grand Schemes of the Populist party—"one of them giving Butler's plan and the other skinning him from head to foot." Yesterday these letters came into our possession. They are both printed and addressed in the handwriting of Mr. M. L. Wood to a gentleman who shall be nameless here. It seems that a limited number were circulated with a view to eliciting the opinion of prominent Populists upon the Butler policy, and the Wood objection.

The correspondence is as follows:

LEWISTON, N. C., Jan. 17, 1896.

Mr. M. L. WOOD, N. C.

Dear Sir—I have received a circular letter from Senator Butler, of which the following is a copy:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30, 1895.

Mr. L. WOOD:

Dear Sir—A great deal is being said about co-operation for the next campaign and the lines on which it should be made. One wing of the Republican party is understood to claim that they want co-operation on the State ticket, provided they can have the candidate for Governor, but that they want three electoral tickets. Another wing of the party is understood to want fusion on the electoral; that is that one-half of the electoral ticket shall be Republicans and pledged to vote for nominee of the Republican party, whoever he may be, and the other half Populists. This wing is also understood to claim that they want the nominee for Governor.

Your State committee is not ready to concede the nominee for Governor. But there is not so much a principle involved in who shall be the nominee for Governor, as there is with reference to the electoral ticket. Your committee is of the opinion that both of these plans as to the electoral ticket will at least cause friction if not cause worse results to our party.

To carry out either of the above plans, every Populist in the State would have to co-operate with and vote for men who were trying to elect a goldbug for President, or vote for electors who would vote for a gold man for President. This we cannot consistently do. In our opinion, if such a line of fight were attempted, our party not only would not grow, but our present party ranks would be demoralized to some extent, while on the other hand it would have the effect of solidifying the Democratic party as nothing else could.

Your State committee held a meeting recently to discuss the question. It was the unanimous opinion of the committee that the only way to obviate the difficulties mentioned above, in the way of co-operation, would be to have a non-partisan electoral ticket, like our Supreme Court ticket in our last campaign, and that each man on the electoral ticket should be pledged not to vote for a gold man for President.

This would not only be consistent but would put us in the position of co-operating for a great and fundamental principle, and avoid being successfully charged with co-operating for spoils. Certainly our friends who claim to be against the gold standard cannot object to such a line of battle against the common enemy, or otherwise they would be helping the gold-bugs, instead of fighting them. Our committee wants to know if you endorse this plan for a non-partisan electoral ticket, pledged against any gold-bug candidate for President. The committee would also be glad of any suggestion you can make for a better plan.

Since I have been in Washington I have learned that there is more division in the old parties on the financial question than I had supposed, and I believe that there will be large accessions to the People's party from both of the old parties. Besides, I think that the various old organizations will endorse our party for President.

ident for 1900, but the situation, grows more encouraging each day, and if the demoralizing of the two old parties continues as it is going on now, we will have a chance to elect our candidate for President in the next contest.

Please consider this communication confidential and give no public announcement of our position on this matter till the time comes for us to take official action.

Please write your answer on this sheet of paper and return it to me here.

Very truly,

MARION BUTLER,

Ch. in P. P. State ex. Com.

To the above letter I have replied as follows:

Senator Marion Butler, Chairman People's Party State Executive Committee United States Senate, Washington, D. C.:

Dear Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ult., in which you inform me that your committee were unanimously of the opinion that there should be put in the field a full electoral ticket, regardless of party affiliations, but pledged to vote for the silver candidate for President; and that while your committee is not yet ready to concede to the Republicans the nominee for Governor, you intimate that you are willing to do so. I note your silence as to nominees for Congress and the United States Senate, members of the General Assembly, Lieutenant Governor and other State officers and Justices of the Supreme Court; and I further note that my advice is not asked as to anything except as to the electors for President and Vice President. From this I must infer that in your opinion, it is of no consequence if the people's party surrenders to the Republicans the Congressmen, the United States Senators, the General Assembly, the Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Attorney General, etc., provided we get the 11 electoral votes for our candidate for President, who, by the way, you ought to know, cannot possibly be elected. In other words your committee seems disposed to turn over our home government entirely to the Republicans, and lead the People's party into the Republican camp, in fact amusing our people, meanwhile, by burrowing for what you know they have at heart, but at the same time, in the next campaign at least, unattainable. Consistency indeed! Is there any consistency in yielding to the Republicans absolutely, and sending to the United States Senate a Republican who chaps under the wings of Senator Chandler and is an ardent supporter of Governor McKinley, for the sake of pleasure of throwing away 11 votes for President.

Why did the People's party co-operate with the Republicans in 1894? Because, and only because, the Democratic party had put upon such a system of elections that it was impossible to have recorded the wishes of the people; and to secure the freedom and political equality of the people it was necessary to secure fair election laws, honest election officers. Why is it again necessary to co-operate with them? To preserve the admirable work of our last Legislature in this regard and thereby secure to every elector the right to vote and have that vote honestly counted. If you believe that the Republicans in full power will conduct and manage our State affairs in accordance with the views and wishes of the Populist or People's party I beg to call your attention to the last General Assembly, and the constant and vigilant work of yourself and the able and patriotic coadjutors, to whom every lover of his State should be deeply grateful.

The really important officers who have the most power for good or evil are the Governor of the State, and the United States Senator. Can it be called "co-operation" to give both to the Republicans, or should it not be more properly called "surrendering into the hands of the Republican party?"

I am, for reasons too numerous to mention, opposed to the Democratic party, and I believe it to be in the interest of the State that it should go under its control. But I am not a Republican, and am not willing to turn over the State to their tender care. The generosity and patriotic understanding of the proposition of the Republican party to co-operate with the People's party, as reported by you, and which you seem to approve of, except as to the electoral ticket unless we with admiration unhesitatingly "Wait late my parlor, said the spider to the fly." Your committee should promptly decline, with thanks, of course; and I beg to say that if it does not it will fall to votes the sentiment of its party. The People's party must have the Governor, or the United States Senator, and it cannot be induced to co-operate on any other terms, including of course, an equal and fair adjustment of the other offices along down the line. If this kind of co-operation cannot be effected we will preserve intact our organization, go into the next campaign under our own banner alone, and let the people decide between the two parties.

I cannot understand how turning over the State government, honor, faith and devotion to the Republican party, while we get only the privilege of voting for a presidential candidate who will have no real reason outside of election, in co-operating for a

## spoils for the rank and file of the People's party.

Your State committee held a meeting recently to discuss this question. "Where and when was this meeting, and what members were present? Being 'recently,' it must have been in Washington City, and the members present Senator Butler and Representative Skinner.

While you sit in the marble halls and decorated walls of "Fame's proud temple," do not forget that in the humble homes of your friends and promoters, the tolling, wringing, pining, agonizing people, whose rights supreme and all pervading in their patriotic bosoms the love of liberty and equality, and that they will not submit to the autocratic rule of any man or "committee" however exalted. That this is peculiarly so of the people of the South, Cleveland, almost universally hated by our people, who were once his ardent admirers, Gorman, who has his own party rejoicing in his downfall, and Watson, the elegant, suave, and courtly autocrat, who few do him honor, are shining examples.

Again: Suppose we demand of the Republican that they support a full electoral ticket pledged to vote for the silver candidate for President, have you any idea they will consent to surrender their own party candidate, thereby giving up all chance or hope of the rich patronage of the administration in case of the election of the Republican candidate for President? Do you expect them to sign the "green fields and pastures new" for the sake of the meagre salaries of the State officers? Would a herd of hungry cattle turn from fields of rich clover and orchard grass to luxuriate in oak leaves and broom straw? Not much, and therefore, such ultimatum on our part would result in three separate and distinct tickets, national, State and county, and then—the People's party would be only a memory and nothing more.

Living down here in the woods of Bertie, away from the center of political thought and scheming, and out of reach of the political leaders, I have been wondering why some were Republican candidates galore, some of them openly canvassing the State for the nomination, and all of them calling themselves "co-operation" candidates as if it had been settled that there should be co-operation with a Republican at the head of the ticket, while only now and then could I hear some faint whisper of the possibility of nominating a Populist Governor. But your circular letter to me throws a flood of light on the subject, and I begin to see.

We North Carolina Populists must not be dependent on the Republicans; we are willing to co-operate or act jointly with them to secure, maintain and preserve the purity of the ballot-box, honest government, with such safeguards as will prevent the predominance of the ignorant and corrupt, a non-partisan judiciary, and non-partisan control of our charitable institutions, but we will rebel against any attempt at fusion or union or blending together of things which are essentially the enemies of the Republican party. We are ready and anxious to co-operate not only with the Republicans, but with all persons, regardless of party, color or previous condition of politics, who desire the attainment of our purposes. With this platform and an able, experienced and conservative man at the head of our ticket, in whom men of all parties have confidence, we may win without the Republican party; and if Mr. Butler is to be thrown a flood of light on the subject, and I begin to see.

With highest esteem for our State executive committee, personally, and with much regard for the wisdom, skill, patriotic and useful and unselfish labors in behalf of the People's party, I have the honor to be your obedient servant, M. L. WOOD.

If you have no objection, I will be glad to hear from you on the important questions herein discussed.

There are two things I wish to know as soon as possible:

1. Is the People's party to be directed and controlled by the people belonging to the party or by the State executive committee?

2. Will it submit to be led and become a part and parcel of the Republican party?

With the earnest hope that the People's party and its principles may live forever, I am, Your friend,

## Small Farms.

Tenants, buy a farm. If you can only get three acres; buy a farm; by all that is sacred in your household; by your wife and helpless babes; by your love of home and hope of future rest, buy a home, however small it may be. Buy it now while lands are cheap. Do not wait until foreign immigrants come in and purchase all of the surplus acres, when you will have to pay three or four times the present price for a little homestead.

Things will change soon, diversified crops and high price for cotton will soon create a demand for southern lands. Foreign immigration will soon flow to us in tidal waves. Let every farmer's son mark him out a home and pay for it before he gets married. Let every couple from the rural districts unite two homesteads with their two hearts and thus let the old chivalry of the south still dominate the new civilization which is rapidly coming upon us. A county sheriff has become a president in the party report. A tenant may become a president in the near future. We are all Americans and the pathway to the highest position is open to all.

## VIRTUE IS CONTAGIOUS.

Rev. Geo. H. Hopworth, in New York Herald.

Let him do likewise.—Lute, III, 11.

Some one has said that if he were able to create a world he would make virtue contagious instead of vice.

A small degree of observation will show that his efforts in this direction would not be necessary, for the Lord has already done so.

It is not as had a world as the pessimist would have us think, for the general trend of things is toward the good and not toward the evil, and if you look into the matter carefully you will find that what you call contagion inheres in the pure and noble quite as much as in the impure and ignoble. If it be true that faulted and successful life allures a great many it is also true that an honest and knightly life does the same thing.

The career of a business man who brushes aside the restraints of moral principle, who is little more than a highwayman at heart, and who boldly robs, under cover of law, until he counts his millions, is certainly very degrading. No one may measure the extent of its unhappy influence. It is startling and dazzling and enticing. A proportion of our youth become bewildered as they look upon it, and forgetting that there is a moral law which forces a man to pay his debts either before death or after, they pursue the tactics of their idol. There is undoubtedly an appealing inspiration in the life of the wildest adventurer, who defies fate, challenges the world, and by dint of audacity, if not of courage, achieves what he calls success. I have no inclination, therefore, to ignore the fact that there is contagion in a life which is brilliant, even though it be at the same time criminal.

But I insist that there is just as much contagion in a good deed as in a bad one—that the holiness of one life conveys itself into another life and produces the same results there.

In physical experiences the agent of communication is a germ or a microbe; in spiritual experiences it is an idea. I have heard physicians say that the contagion of a disease depends largely on circumstances. If you are in a thoroughly healthy condition your system closes every door and the germ cannot enter. You enjoy absolute immunity from danger. If, on the contrary, you are susceptible, or predisposed to the malady, then the germ takes root and you become ill. Whether or not you catch the disease is determined by the weakness or strength of your own body. Nurses may watch over the dying and never feel the effects of the ailment which saps the life of the sufferer.

It is the same in the moral world. Contagion there depends on yourself also, and to a far greater extent. If you lack spiritual strength and ambition, if your sense of honor is only slightly developed, if your self-respect is at a low ebb, then the example of a man who wins a fortune by nefarious means—like the microbe of typhoid—finds a lodgment in your soul, is cherished and multiplied by its environments, until at last immorality has the resistless sweep of a blizzard and tears up by the roots every heavenly and every manly aspiration.

If you had impregnable uprightness of character, if nefarious methods were abhorrent to you, there would be no attractiveness in vicious deeds and they would have no more alluring power than the fire has which may coax you to thrust your hand into it, but which coaxes in vain. There is contagion in goodness provided you are in a condition to receive it. A grand and glorious life rouses you to imitation. The reputation achieved by honest methods so arouses us that we build a monument to the man who possesses it, and tell our boys to go and do likewise. I don't believe that the influence of a pure life can be reckoned, so far reaching, so inspiring is it.

It is said that the pregnant wives of the Athenians used to spend hours gazing at some beautiful statue in the belief that something of its beauty would be transferred to the child that was coming into the world. Beauty was contagious and the little one, slumbering amid the mysteries of a baby's life, caught it.

When Father Damien died among the lepers of the Sandwich Islands his heroic and self-sacrificing life was so contagious that scores of applicants prayed for the same.

## THE SHERIFF WAS POLITE.

A Hanging in Mississippi That Was Conducted According to Rules of Society.

Mississippi Star.

"The most polite man I ever knew," said J. D. Evans, "was a colored man in my county. He belonged before the war to Colonel White, one of the most cultured and polished gentlemen in the South. During reconstruction days Tom was elected sheriff, and the first year he held the office a white man was sentenced to be hanged. I knew the doomed prisoner and at his request was with him several hours a day for the last week of his life.

"The sheriff came in the first time I was there, and addressing the prisoner, said, 'Excuse me, Master Bob. I jess come for jess a little advice. Yo, see, we ain' neither ob us as used ter ceremonious occasions ob dis kin' an' I jess want ter know how yo would like ter hab de gallows facin' de sun or de oder way.'

"The prisoner told him to have his face away from the sun. 'Thank you, Mars' Bob. I don hab it dat way. We don' want' to make no expositions of ourself by not doin' what is propah sich events.'

"Upon the next occasion the sheriff came in: 'Mars' Bob, sense me one moment, show me once mo' how you don tie dat knot. Mos' curious knot I eber seed.'

"Upon the morning of the fatal day, as I went in, the sheriff had the doomed man's foot thrown over a chair and was backing his boot, the other one having already been polished. 'Mawin' sah, he said to me, 'Mars' Bob jess gettin' ready, I done borried a suit an' necktie from de cunnel an' jess' elikin' 'im up. Den I gits inter my own dress suit dat I had made a puppus, an 'Mars' Bob an' me we gwine ter be de best dressed ob anybody.'

"Arrived in full evening dress, the convicted man and the sheriff mounted the scaffold when the time came. 'All right, now, Mars' Bob,' said the sheriff, 'as he adjusted the cap, 'Sense me, sah, jess a minute,' and he touched the spring.'

If there is any one thing that needs to be purified, it is politics, so the reformer says, and many agree thereto. But blood, tears, and a blood purifier and liver corrector, such as the Liver Regulator, is the best medicine. 'Use it in preference to any other.' So wrote Mr. S. M. Hysell, of Middleport, Ohio. And Dr. D. S. Russell, of Ferrville, Va., writes, 'It fulfills all you promise for it.'

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## Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

## Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

## A Voice Of Hope And Encouragement.

Tom Watson, of Georgia, says that the socialists in the Populist party are trying to drive him and men of his thinking to the wall just as they drove Dunning and the National Watchman. He says that it is not his purpose, and never was, "to substitute socialism for Democratic-Republicanism," and he "will have nothing to do with any lot of extremists who make war on private property." Mr. Watson inveighs strongly against the "stealthy approaches which the socialists are making to secure control of the People's party and its newspapers."

He shows that the socialists have thought "to push the People's party father and father, slyly but resolutely, until they got it committed to their own radical and vicious doctrines. Perhaps they will succeed."

The Georgia Populist leader says he is a Jeffersonian Democrat, has meant to do all he could "to restore the government to its original landmarks," has won his spurs "batting for a restored and purified Democratic republic," that "the government of Washington and Jefferson and Jackson is good enough" for him, and he means "to open the eyes of the people to the stealthy approaches which the socialists are making to secure control of the People's party and its newspapers."

This ringing denunciation of socialism by Mr. Watson is the most encouraging voice of the new year. Many of those, not Populists, who are "batting for a restored and purified Democratic republic," have watched with astonishment, pain and sorrow "the stealthy approaches" of socialism. They have seen their neighbors and kinsmen being led, "slyly but resolutely" from one extreme to another until they were ready to follow even Coxy himself in his raid upon private property and his attempted destruction of the "original landmarks." Since 1840 there has been no socialism so sweeping, no radicalism so extreme, no Coxyism so nauseating for a large number of North Carolinians to swallow without a wry face. Doctored so long upon the extract of prejudice, the oil of hate, the tonic of envy, some good men have accustomed themselves to one poisonous nostrum after another until Pefferism, Coxyism, socialism, and even anarchy has found defenses in a State long noted for its conservatism and devotion to the "old landmarks."

In the place of a spirit of friendly co-operation, working to remedy the evils that have come upon the whole country through selfish and sectional legislation, there has come a spirit of distrust, of class hostility, and of envy of the prosperous which today are a blight and a disgrace to our civilization, and stand as an impediment to action looking to better law and better conditions.

A Machine to Shake Up the Human System.

Nicola Tesla, the electrician, has directed his inventive genius in a new direction. He has produced a machine which he calls an oscillator, and its object, briefly stated, is to produce a shaking up of the human system, thereby causing certain physical conditions which will result in the healing of some ailments.

He has also produced an artificial light, which, under certain conditions, is powerful enough to penetrate the human body. The last named was taken up some months ago by a physician in Vienna, who, it is said, has discovered by its use the bacilli of tuberculosis may be destroyed. By its means the most remarkable medical cures may become possible.

The oscillator is a platform, which produces a number of more or less violent mechanical vibrations are in need of exercise, this is said to be peculiarly useful. Force of movement can be given to the oscillator equal to the exercise or shaking up of the system which could be obtained by walking or riding for half an hour or even an entire day. These results are obtained without the fatigue which would result were the exercise taken in customary ways. These conditions are brought about through the use of electricity, powerful but minute electric shock being rapidly distributed through the system.

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## Don't try to Cheat a Lawyer.

A young lawyer, just starting in his profession, hung out his sign in a Connecticut town where there was only one other lawyer, an aged judge.

A close-listed old fellow, thinking to get legal advice for nothing, called upon the young man, told him he was very glad he had come into the town, as the old judge was getting superannuated, and then contrived in a sort of neighborly talk to get some legal questions answered. Then thanking the young man, he put on his hat and was about to leave, when the young man asked him if he should charge the advice, for which the fee was five dollars. The old fellow went into a violent passion, and swore he never would pay. The young lawyer told him he would sue him if he didn't.

So the old fellow went down to see the judge, found him hoing in his garden, and said: "That young scamp that's just got to do all he could 'to restore the government to its original landmarks,' has won his spurs 'batting for a restored and purified Democratic republic,' that 'the government of Washington and Jefferson and Jackson is good enough' for him, and he means 'to open the eyes of the people to the stealthy approaches which the socialists are making to secure control of the People's party and its newspapers.'"

"Hold on!" said the judge; aren't you going to pay me?" "Pay you? What for?" "For legal advice," "What do you charge?" "Ten dollars."

The result was that the old fellow had to pay five dollars to the young lawyer, and ten dollars to the old one.