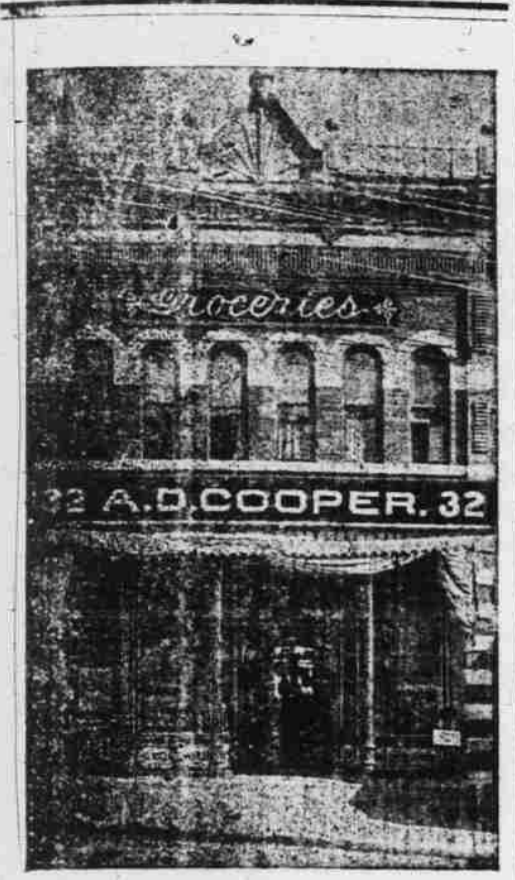


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The Asheville Register.

The Largest Circulation of Any Paper in the Ninth Congressional District.

VOL. 6.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., SEPTEMBER 1, 1899.

NO. 36.

PEARSON VS. CRAWFORD

EXTRACTS FROM BRIEF OF MR. PEARSON.

Salient Features of the Case.

"Bring out your guns and begin to shoot."—Keynote of the campaign sounded by Senator Tillman of South Carolina.

"Damn the poll list; burn it up."—Order of the Democratic judge of election at Old Fort, who confessed that he was drunk on quinine.

"The damn coons won't know the difference."—Remark of a Democratic candidate for the State Senate on the night when he offered \$100 to a Republican worker to paste the Republican device at the head of the Democratic ticket.

The district is composed of sixteen counties; two of these, Buncombe and Rutherford, contain a majority of the negro vote in the district. In those two counties there are 1,000 majority. In the other fourteen counties, which contains less than one-half of the negro vote, the contestant receives 800 majority.

A campaign of relentless rancor and terrorism, based on race hatred, culminated in the lynching of a negro on the night before the election.

The leaders of the lynching are the chief participants in a bloody political riot on election day.

Three ballot boxes were stuffed, one during the balloting, one during the counting of the ballots, and one after the official count.

One ballot box was not emptied of the tickets of the preceding election, and from this affluent box is poured out an injury of 235 votes for contestant; which is greater than his majority in the entire district.

The legislature of North Carolina, at the session of 1899, unseated two Republicans on account of a defective registration; a similar application of the law by Congress must unseat contestant.

Official Returns as Certified by the Secretaries of the States.	G. B. PEARSON	G. B. CRAWFORD
Buncombe county	4,386	484
Cherokee county	355	45
Union county	1,983	18
Transylvania county	1,044	1,044
Henderson county	579	1,166
Jackson county	1,206	1,206
McCoy county	218	1,253
Madison county	1,092	419
Forsyth county	628	488
Polk county	1,190	2,725
Swain county	1,663	404
Transylvania county	1,084	1,084
Wayne county	943	1,084
Total	18,308	10,902

showing a plurality for contestant of 237 votes. Contestant claims on his proofs, as heretofore set forth, a plurality of 267 votes.

It was called an election, it was really a proxy—performance in North Carolina. It might, with some propriety, be called a military operation, or a crusade, or a confederation; but it could not, with any regard for the meaning of words, be called an exercise of reason and deliberation.

The keynote of the campaign was sounded by Senator Tillman from South Carolina, who advised the Democrats that they were idiots if they did not stop talking and begin to shoot. Similar advice was given by other speakers. The most notable utterance was that of the Honorable A. M. Waddell, one of the fathers of the revolution, and its first beneficiary, who is entitled to the credit of stating the case for the Democrats in language as clear and elegant as it is bold and picturesque. The Wilmington Messenger of October 5, 1898, reports him as saying, among other things, the following, under the caption:

"Most remarkable speech by the Honorable A. M. Waddell, This Patriotic Carolinian Utters the Slogan of the Campaign.

And now the almost unanimous belief, even among those who instigated it, is that the greatest crime that has ever been perpetrated against modern civilization was the investment of the negro with the right of suffrage. . . . There is with the people of eastern North Carolina no question of gold or silver, or tariff or the like, and still less any question of mere local or factional politics. The man who would lead even for a moment inject an issue into the contest is both a fool and an enemy of society. . . . You may devise 10,000 remedies and think they will be effective, but I tell you, after considering this subject for years, that there is but one—it includes all others—and that is to make it impossible for a negro ever to hold office in this State.

. . . Let them understand once for all that they will have no more of the intolerable conditions under which we live. We are resolved to change them if we have to choke the current of the Cape Fear with carcasses."

It will be seen from the above, upon careful analysis, that, from the Democratic standpoint, negro domination is the exercise by the negro of his constitutional right to vote. It is shown by the record, that no negro holds, or has held, any office, county, State or Federal, in the Ninth Congressional District; that no negro serves as a juror; and that few, if any, serve as members of the school committees, even in negro schools; in a word, that the negro does not participate in public affairs in any capacity in any part of the district, and that the fear of negro rule in the district or in any counties in the district is absolutely imaginary, as absurd as a nursery tale, as devoid of substance as that great white arch in the "Light of Asia," which had "mists for glory and vapors for pillars." And yet the campaign was waged on alleged negro domination. The politicians raised a needless cry, and created a phantom fear, and with it fanned into fury the passions of the whites.

Contestee protests that he did not join in this furious crusade. He even denies that "they (the negroes) were an issue in the campaign." This denial is vain and ridiculous in the light of the testimony of his own witnesses as well as those of the contestant. It is true that the main purpose of the men who raised this cry was to capture the legislature rather than secure seats in congress. It is also true, that, in the past, when there was any force in this cry, or any real substantial fear of negro domination in the State, contestant voted with the Democrats. Contestant readily avows that he has never in his life favored negro domination, nor has he feared it within the past fifteen years nor has any other man in the district who is both candid and intelligent feared or had reason to fear it within this period.

The cry of negro domination was reiterated and reiterated in every campaign after the enfranchisement of the negro until it was seen at each recurring election that the banner Democratic districts and the banner Democratic counties in the State were the districts and counties having the largest proportion of negro votes; and the cry was exploded by the cold facts shown in the election returns. It was then that the contestant and those voters in the State who believed in the national doctrines of the Republican party began to assert their convictions; and the state was captured from the Democratic machine.

While it may be true that the contestant did not join in this cry with the same force as his political associates, it is certain that this issue was the operating force in the campaign; and the fact is demonstrated in a way that is absolutely conclusive by a comparison of the statistics of the census with the election returns. While there are comparative few negroes in the district, the census tables show that a majority of them are located in two counties of the sixteen composing the district, and the election returns show that in these two counties contestant received a majority of 1,027 votes, being a change and a net Democratic gain of 1,309 votes as compared with the previous election; and that in the fourteen other counties, which contain less than one-half of the negro vote of the district, contestant received a majority of 800, and there is practically little change in the vote, as compared with the election of 1896.

Thus the figures of the census, showing the distribution of the negro vote, and the naked returns of the election, showing the places where the votes were changed, amount to a positive demonstration which no argument can assail, that the negro question was the issue on which the campaign for congress turned; and it is perhaps due to this issue and the fierce passions which it arouses, that frauds, violence, lawlessness, hitherto unknown in the district, were resorted to by Democratic officers of election and by unscrupulous political partisans of contestant.

The political historian of the period following the Civil War will record no fact more patent and more singular than this, that while the Democratic party in the South has been waging a constant and relentless warfare against negro suffrage, it has become the sole beneficiary of that suffrage appropriating to itself all the strength of the negro vote, and casting all its odium on the Republicans; that while the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments were evidently designed to protect the freedmen in their newly conferred rights, the practical operation of these amendments to the Constitution, under the ingenious and determined management of the Democratic politicians has been to give thirty-nine seats in the House of Representatives and thirty-nine seats in the Electoral College regularly to members of the Democratic party; and the rule has

now become invariable, "The denser the negro population the heavier the Democratic majority."

A political map of the South would show that the Republican districts are confined almost exclusively to the Appalachian Mountains—in Eastern Kentucky, East Tennessee, West Virginia, Southwestern Virginia, and Western North Carolina. In these districts the negro vote is so small as to be practically insignificant, and this mountain region was about the only part of the South which stood out for the Union when all the rest of the country was engulfed in the waves of secession. In the lowlands of the South, where the negroes most do congregate, the Republican party, as an organization, has practically died out; and if the present policy and practices continue men of Republican faith in these regions will become as entirely extinct as the pterodactyl of the mesozoic period.

"Keep your seats, gentlemen;" you Democrats who represent negro districts. Thank the gullibility of the Ethiopian for the forbearance of the National Republican party. Keep your black districts and give them for yourselves, your heirs and assigns; but do not profane by your congenial practices the pure and rarified air of those mountain regions which stood above the waves of secession, which have always stood by this Union and by the Republican party, which is the bulwark of its strength and integrity.

This is the just and reasonable demand of the contestant in this case. The fact that contestant devotes more than half of his lengthy avowal to personal vituperation will not escape the attention of members of the committee who are accustomed to the courtesies of debate, and will doubtless be ascribed to a lack of argument than to the lack of a proper sense of decorum on contestant's part; and without other comment contestant proceeds to state the facts as disclosed by the record and the law and precedents applicable thereto.

(to be continued)

SOLDIERS IN BLACK.

An Able Defense of Them by Capt. Leatherwood, of the Third North Carolina Regiment.

EDITOR THE CITIZEN.—In last Saturday's issue under the head, "Negro Troops," you reprinted a news dispatch from Washington in your editorial column which said:

"Great pressure has been brought to bear on the administration to organize a colored regiment for service in the Philippines. The matter is still under consideration by Secretary Root. No decision has been reached, but it is understood if such a regiment is organized it will be officered by colored men."

In reference to this news item you say:

"This is so Root knows nothing of the negro, . . . to predict that if a regiment of negroes, officered by negroes in positions above captains is organized it will be officered by colored men."

My friends, as we can see no reason why negro soldiers would not do good service in the Philippines, but every regiment of the command by Secretary Root will require two white ones to keep down the riots.

My friend, as a late officer in the Third North Carolina U. S. volunteers, a regiment, the members of which were negroes enlisted by negroes and officered by negroes from colonel down, I beg for space to say that I regard the above editorial unfair and unjust to myself and race. It is biased and calculated to ban the minds of those who would rejoice to know that we were capable of self-government, and willing to lift ourselves above the positions in life of that of a "boot-lack," "boot-lick," hewers of wood and drawers of water. Many reasons are being given for the cause of race conflicts, race prejudice, etc., but in my judgment it is this class of editorials and the spirit in which they are written that causes friction between the races. In the first place, I would like for you or somebody else to tell me upon what grounds can such an argument be justly made. In the Spanish-American war over the protest of thousands of the Third North Carolina was organized and entirely officered by negroes. We ask you or any one opposing the organization of such regiments to point to a single official record of the Third North Carolina that stands as a blot against the regiment. I ask does the record show that the Third because of the fact that its officers were negroes was guilty of rioting and committing heinous crimes that is not common among volunteer regiments? They do not show it I say and can prove that the discipline and general conduct of the regiment was just as good as that of most regiments that were officered by white men and in many respects better. The regiment was never guilty of rioting or joined any other regiment in creating a riot. It never was guilty of declaring mutiny as one was with which we were brigaded and its chief officer was a white man. The War Department has made out no such records as is referred to in your editorial against any of the organizations entirely officered by colored men. Then, why predict such hideous perpetrations should the Secretary of War decide to form such an organization to be sent to the Philippines. Why assert that every regiment that is officered by negroes that it will take two white ones to keep down the riots? The past conduct of negro soldiers under the command of negro officers ought to be accepted as a base upon which all assertions or like assertions are made.

Besides the Third North Carolina there were in the service the Eighth Illinois, Twenty-third Kansas and Ninth Ohio officers all negroes and there never was a time when white

regiments were called to quell the riots or suppress any insubordination. Before these regiments were formed, then it was a question as to whether or not negro soldiers would obey negro officers. It has been clearly proven by the experiment that they will obey negro officers just as quick if not quicker than they will white ones. I make the assertion because I was brigaded with the Seventh and Tenth Immunes, therefore know whereof I speak. I never had any trouble in having my men to obey—true, as it is in the family circle, at times there would be a little insubordination upon the part of a few and they would take place 'on what was called camp duty. Some of the officers of the men were obedient and stood opposed to riots and would not have engaged in one. In being moved from place to place by rail the railroad officials gave the Third the credit of being obedient and there has grown up the most orderly regiment that they handled, but the prejudiced press and the people who opposed the regiment, always misrepresented the conduct of the organization. As for the Eighth Illinois, it saw service in Cuba. It did not take two white regiments to keep down the riots among the men, but to the contrary read the following dispatch from Santiago de Cuba, dated August 16, 1898, which says:

"General Shafter today ordered the Second volunteer regiment of Immunes to leave the city and go into camp outside. The regiment had been placed here as a garrison to preserve order and protect property. There has been firing of arms inside of the towns by members of the regiment, without orders so far as known. Some of the men have indulged in liquor until they have vomited. The inhabitants in some quarters have alleged loss of property by force up a feeling of uneasiness, if not alarm concerning them. General Shafter has, therefore, ordered this regiment into the hills, where discipline can be more severely maintained."

"In place of the Second volunteer immune regiment General Shafter has ordered into the city the Eighth Illinois volunteer regiment and discipline he has confidence and of whose sturdy enforcement of order no doubt is felt by those in command."

The press of this country was so biased until leading journals absolutely refused to publish the last paragraph of the above dispatch. The graph of the above dispatch, the Washington Post, at the nation's capital, would not publish it, and had it not been for the Evening Star at that place, the citizens would have been ignorant of the fact that a negro regiment, officered by negroes, had thus served our country.

I could point to many instances where white regiments proved to be insubordinate, but that I don't argue with you, but that they are unworthy of the confidence of that class of citizens who remain at home with no knowledge of the life of a soldier. If you oppose negro officers oppose them justly. Don't educate the people that we are a riotous set of people insubordinate to each other, but that when we govern similar organizations, ought to be accepted as partial evidence at least that we could, with strong men in command, govern a volunteer military organization.

THOS. L. LEATHERWOOD.

A Narrow Escape.

Thankful words written by Mrs. Ada E. Hart of Groton, S. D. "Was taken with a bad cold which settled on my lungs; cough set in, and finally terminal pneumonia set in. Four doctors gave me up, saying I could live but a short time. I gave myself up to my Saviour, determined if I could not stay with my friends on earth, I would meet my absent ones above. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, and Colds. I gave it a trial, took in all eight bottles. It has cured me, and thank God I am saved and now a well and healthy woman." Trial bottle free at T. C. Smith's and W. C. Carmichael's drug stores. Regular sizes 50 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed or price refunded.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will have constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good looking, charming woman out of a raven-haired invalid. Only 50 cents at T. C. Smith's and W. C. Carmichael's drug stores.

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INSURRECTION IN HAYTI IS GROWING

Government Apparently Unable to Cope With It.

THE CAPITAL IN DANGER

President Never Leaves Home Without Double Guard, and City is Under Military Law—Death of the Cabinet Ministers Demanded.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Santo Domingo Friday via Key West, Fla., says: The tide of revolution is nearing the capital. The revolutionists have crossed the mountains only a few hours distant by horse. The government is tottering and apparently unable to check the insurrection. Yesterday it dispatched a commission to confer with the rebel leaders for the purpose of trying to effect a compromise. Meanwhile there is great suspense. The capital may be besieged in a few days if the compromise fails.

Among the people there is general alarm. The president never leaves home night or day except with a double guard. The city is virtually under military law. The soldiers are patrolling the streets. The foreign consulates are crowded with aliens apprehensive of disorder.

The military commandant of San Cristobal was assassinated on Tuesday. Placards demanding the death of the cabinet ministers are posted nightly in prominent places. Military preparations are being hurried by the government and the reserves are under arms, but the insurrection has thus far been remarkably free from bloodshed, although there are vague reports of severe fighting in the interior.

All the telegraph lines to the interior of the island have been cut by the insurrectionists and communication by wire has been impossible for several days, but refugees say the revolution is spreading.

Governor Lyons of La Vega district has gone over to the revolutionists, taking with him many soldiers. Some of the Dominican gunboats put into the river and it is rumored that the president and cabinet in case of emergency will flee to Porto Rico.

If more serious trouble comes the people here are looking to the United States for protection. In case of rioting the New Orleans and a French cruiser are prepared to land marines to protect the consulate.

Insurgents Attack Santiago.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Porto Plata says: An attack was made by the insurgents today on Santiago. The revolutionists are gaining strength daily. Another camp of the insurgents has been formed outside this city and residents are leaving hurriedly to join it. The government has sent a committee to the revolutionists with a proposition to suspend hostilities for 30 days and then proceed to elections. Owing to its financial straits the government will not be able to sustain the present situation long. Reports are also being received that the American intervention which is feared in case there is no fighting.

A Battle at Dajabon.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Cape Haytien, Hayti, says: There was a battle at Dajabon several days ago in which, according to the reports received here, the government lost 75 men killed and wounded and the insurgents only five. General Bechoche was among those killed. Private letters from Porto Plata quote the governor there as saying that he will surrender the town on the approach of the insurgents. He says that if it is a national uprising, he would avoid shedding blood.

THE TEXAS COTTON CROP.

Leading Banker Brazos Valley Says It Will Be Very Short.

GALVESTON, Aug. 29.—Ex-Congressman D. G. Giddings of Brenham was here yesterday. He is one of the leading bankers of the Brazos valley and is in a position to know as much about crop conditions in that section as perhaps any man in the state. When interrogated on the cotton prospects in Washington county, Colonel Giddings replied:

"Conditions are very bad now. Cotton has deteriorated very much in the last ten days. I think one-half of the upland cotton is already dead, stalks and all. I never before saw so much dead cotton. We estimate that of the upland cotton, at least 25 per cent was washed out by the flood. Since then the drought has killed 25 per cent more of this upland cotton. The scour of the flood left the roots bare. At least one-half of this upland cotton is lost beyond redemption."

Star Thread Mill Sold.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 29.—Commissioner H. S. West has again sold the Star Thread mill. The former sale to Captain James White for \$50,000 was set aside by Judge Russell and an upset price of \$65,000 set on the property. Commissioner West has sold the property to Captain James White for \$65,000 and has gone to Monroe, Ga., to present the papers to Judge Russell, who will no doubt confirm the sale.

The Giant's Fall.

ATLANTA, Aug. 29.—Cal Johnson, a negro, known as the South Carolina giant, who measures 6 feet 8 inches and weighs 360 pounds, while under the influence of liquor, fell from a 4-story window. He lodged on an awning and was rescued without serious injury.

Aged Baptist Minister Dead.

FRANKLIN, Ga., Aug. 29.—Rev. U. H. Clark of this place is dead of paralysis. He had been ill for some time. Mr. Clark was about 73 years of age. He had been in the active work of the ministry for a number of years. Mr. Clark leaves a widow and five sons.

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Keep taking it until you are
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It will heal your lungs
and give you rich blood in
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cents 10 cents, 12 1-2
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for
to close, and they are
closing fast, too.

Musquito Netting for
5 cents a yard.

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for 5 cents, and the best
silk taped ever seen for
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Ladies and Children's Hats

for 19 cents up that
will be sold regardless
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to the finest.

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