

ASHEVILLE DAILY CITIZEN
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1892.

Mr. STEVENSON has the solid look of a man of great good sense, combined with a high degree of intelligence. We believe he will wear well with the American people, and continually grow in the affection of all Democrats.

The words and actions of Gov. Flower of New York in connection with the Fire Island's mob of the most cruel people on earth are as refreshing as a drink of cool water on a hot day. First of all the Governor makes himself responsible for the payment of \$210,000 for the purchase of the Island to receive passengers from the cholera ships, and then when the attempt is made to nullify this generous act he calls this mob by its right name and crushes out the riotous spirit in a few hours. If the State of New York made a mistake in electing Roswell P. Flower governor, the fact has yet to appear.

SOMEBODY BLUNDERED

It is stated that it will probably be two or three weeks before paving is begun on Patton Avenue. "The Board of Aldermen," says Alderman Starnes, "would not care to have both inlets to the city, on the south and west sides, blocked at once." If there is no better reason than this, paving on Patton Avenue ought to begin at once. In the first place, we believe the contract with the pavers provides that both sides of a street shall not be paved at one time; and, in the next place, even if Patton Avenue is temporarily blocked, there remains Haywood street by which the western part of the city can be reached.

If, however, it is a fact that only enough bricks of the first class can be obtained to keep the pavers going on South Main then residents of Patton Avenue might as well make up their minds to see no paving this fall that will amount to anything, unless we are favored with the exceptional weather that is sometimes a feature of Asheville's winters.

The fact that the situation is just as it shows that somebody has blundered.

IT IS NOT KERMAN

The Bay City, Mich., Times-Press says: "Let the veterans remember, when they read extracts from the North Carolina Globe condemning pensions and abusing the Union soldiers, that they are written by a man lured by the Republican committee and were penned in the interest of Benjamin Harrison's reelection."

It must be confessed that it looks that way, but we find the Times-Press draws its conclusion from wrong premises. It supposes that the ravings of the Durham Globe are written by Will H. Kerman who once fired the northern heart by "bloody shirt" editorials paid for, as it was afterwards proved, by Republicans. The Times says in this connection:

"One day last spring Kerman drifted into The Times-Press office, seedy, dirty and hungry, and begged fifteen cents with which to get a lunch, saying he had eaten nothing in twenty-four hours. He was on his way to Alpena, where he had been engaged on the Evening Echo, which was then under the management of Taylor & Co. During his stay in this office Kerman disclosed the true inwardness of his connection with the Okolona States, which created quite a furor in the campaign of 1876, by its lurid sentiments on unionism. He stated that he was employed by the Republicans to go South and start a paper that could be used to prove that the South was as disloyal as ever and that he accordingly went to Okolona, a small village in Mississippi, where he started a weekly paper called the Southern States, and opened on the Union, the soldiers and the North in the style which many will recall, and they will remember that it was exactly like the ravings quoted above from the North Carolina paper. His salary during his connection with the States was paid by the Republican committee."

The similarity of the rot the Durham Globe is printing with Kerman's wild shrieks is being remarked in several northern papers, and THE CITIZEN has been carefully studying the Globe in that connection for several weeks.

Another northern paper says that the Durham Globe is not supporting Cleveland, but is an Alliance paper. This is partly a mistake. The Globe pretends to be supporting Cleveland, while, at the same time, doing more than any Republican paper of equal pretensions to defeat him.

We state for the information of the Times-Press that the editor of the Globe is not the notorious Kerman, but one Al. Fairbrother, well known in Nebraska as a Republican and not very well known here as anything political. However he is not past finding out.

STATE POLITICS.

The Democratic convention of Cleveland nominated Sylvanus Erwin for the house, M. N. Hamrick for sheriff, J. F. Williams for registrar, J. S. Way for treasurer, Roberts for surveyor, R. B. McBrayer for coroner. The convention was large and enthusiastic.

The Democratic canvass is being vigorously pushed in every part of the State. Democrats are determined that the people shall be educated in sound doctrine. The State is being thoroughly covered by competent orators, and their work is having a good effect. There comes daily news of the downfall of some Third party orator.

The Raleigh Signal, the organ of the Mott wing of the Republican party, attacks in unmeasured terms the Republican State convention. It says: "It would be a great calamity if by any means Baves and his vernal and corrupt negroes should be put in control of the eastern counties. They would rob and plunder as they did twenty-three years ago. Knowing that the nomination of the Purches ticket has a strong tendency to lose Harrison the electoral vote and ruin forever the Republican party here, it is our duty to oppose this ticket, and to do all we can to bring about a crushing defeat for it."

—Peggy Williams, the "nigger trader," has been quietly working up business in this State and in South Carolina, and says that he has got 5,000 negroes corralled and ready to be moved to Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas.

GEN. STEVENSON'S SPEECH.

Delivered in Asheville This Afternoon.

My fellow citizens, I desire very briefly to give you some of the reasons why in my judgment Mr. Cleveland should be elected and the Democratic party restored to power. The four years' administration of President Cleveland was confessed to be an honest administration. Under his administration no scandals attached to his appointments to office. Under his administration the bonds of the government were paid at maturity, and, as you all remember, during the last two years of the Cleveland administration the question was, What shall be done with the surplus? Under his administration, wise and economical as it was, the receipts in the treasury exceeded the necessities of the government more than \$100,000,000 a year. So that I say the question was, What should be done with the surplus. Do you hear the question that kind asked now? Under the three years of a half of Republican administration the question is not what shall be done with the surplus, but where will we get the money with which to make good a deficit of fifty-two millions of dollars and the bankruptcy with which the treasury of the United States is now threatened.

The Tariff

Shall there be a revision of our tariff laws, and as a consequence of such legislation a reduction of taxation, or shall it become the policy of our government to maintain, permanently, high protection? The position of the two leading political parties upon that question cannot be misunderstood. The Republican party is in favor of the repeal of the McKinley law, stands for a high protection—in other words, a prohibitory tariff. The Democratic party, as emphasized by its utterances and its acts, is the advocate of tariff reform. The issue is squarely presented. Upon the one side are the advocates of a high protective or prohibitory policy—a policy that enriches the few at the expense of the many. On the other advocates of such reduction of tariff duties as will give to our manufacturers the benefit of cheap raw material, and lessen to the consumer the cost of the necessities of life.

A Burden on the Masses.

With the war closed, a Republican Congress relieved the manufacturers from their special taxation, and added to their profits and to the burdens of the people increased duties. I grant the necessity of repealing these internal war taxes when the exigencies of war no longer demanded their continuance. But why did not the Republican Congress repeal the war taxes—tariff taxes which bore so heavily upon the laborer, upon the mechanic, upon the farmer, upon the great mass of our people? Why remove from the manufacturer the tax of less than five per cent, and leave him the burden of the duty on his goods, six, six and a half, eight per cent, upon hats, upon shoes, upon blankets, upon clothing?

The protected classes growing year by year stronger and more powerful with the protection afforded them, demanded of the fifty-first Congress yet higher duties. By "infant industries" they had been for the time content with the moderate protection given by Mr. Clay. Later, they had demanded the higher duties imposed by the Morrill tariff, and that of later Congresses. In 1890 during the first session of the fifty-first Congress their demand was in substance for a prohibitory tariff. The response to this demand was the passage by a Republican Congress of the McKinley bill, which, by its prohibitory features gave its beneficiaries a practical monopoly, and enabled them in fact to levy an additional tax upon the consumer, to the extent that the duty had been increased.

The Repeal of the Sugar Tax.

I have shown that instead of a surplus of little less than one hundred million dollars left by the Cleveland administration, the treasury is now confronted by bankruptcy. This is the result in part of the reckless extravagance of a Republican Congress. It is in a large measure the result of the election of McKinley tariff. By that bill the treasury was deprived of fifty millions of revenue by repealing the sugar tax; but in order to compensate the sugar grower for this loss of the "protection" afforded him, ten millions of dollars annually, for fifteen years, are to be paid him out of the treasury as a bounty. The consumer is to be deluded into the belief that he is the recipient of great benefits under the free sugar clause of this bill, while under another section of the same bill ten million dollars are to be taken annually from the pockets of the tax payers and given to the sugar grower.

What the Force Bill Would Cost.

In other words, the officers who have been selected are to be displaced and their places taken by agents of the party in power. You need not be told that such legislation argues unmistakably a lack of confidence in the people and when the Republicans tell you that they are not in favor of that bill, remember that that bill passed the Republican house of Representatives of the Fifty-First Congress, the Democrats voting against it. Every Republican voted for it but three—two from the South and one from New Jersey, and every Democrat of the house of Representatives voted against it. Stop to think what it would cost this country if the force bill passed by a Republican House of Representatives should be put in successful and general operation throughout the United States? It put in operation in every district in the United States as it might be, it would call for the expenditure of \$10,000,000. If need not tell you that with that law in operation if it had passed the Senate, as it passed the House, there would be no possible chance for change in the federal administration of this government, but it could remain permanently in the hands of a party which was disposed to use all of this agency and its army of officers for the purpose of perpetuating its own power.

the protected classes, be the settled policy of our government, or shall there be relief to the people from the burdens of unjust taxation?
Importance of Present Contest.
The contest upon which we have now entered is one of great importance to all of the people of this country. It is especially important to the people of the Southern States. With them it is not merely a question as to who shall hold the high office of president of the United States, but to the people of the South it is a question as to whether your State government will remain in your own hands or be under the control of the federal government. The issues involved in the pending struggle for political supremacy are of great importance to all of the people of this country, but to the people of the South, burdened as you are with debt, left as a heritage of Republican misrule, the importance of the question cannot be overestimated. The question before you is simply this: Whether in this great struggle, involving, as it does, your dearest interests—the protection of your hearthstones—you will support the Republican party or whether you will take your place within the columns of the great Democratic party. If you desire the enactment of the force bill, with all its train of evils, cast your vote for the Republican candidates, but if you desire the peace that comes from good government, then let me say to you that your only place is in the ranks of the Democratic party.

Carpet Bag Rule.

In North Carolina under the reconstruction policy of the Republican party, carpet bag rule was, in 1868, substituted for the government of the State by its own people. From the mountains to the sea the State was in the clutches of the plunderers. During the first session of the legislature, both branches of which had large Republican majorities, bonds of the State to the amount of \$25,350,000 were authorized to be issued. On this enormous amount \$14,000,000 for the avowed purpose of building railroads, were actually issued—and not a mile of railroad built. It is possible that the people of North Carolina have forgotten how that legislature robbed them of their school fund. For the education of their children the State had the bonds of the Wilmington and Weldon and the Wilmington and Manchester railroad companies to the amount of \$420,000. This was a sacred fund and should have been sacredly guarded by those in power. Was it not a Republican State Treasurer in order to pay the cruises of that legislature, by its authority, sold these bonds for \$158,000. So that the poor children of the State were robbed of this school fund by the men who were solemnly pledged to its protection. These were but a part of the schemes devised by this legislature to plunder the people. By the close of the legislature the debt of the State had been increased until it exceeded one third of the taxable property of the State. You need hardly be reminded that during this long night of horror the administration of justice was a mockery. The triumph of the Democratic party in 1876 arrested the old north state from those who had robbed the people of their heritage.

In Alabama.

The Republican party had complete control of Alabama from 1868 to 1874. The best citizens of that state were disfranchised. They had no voice whatever in public affairs. The result was that the people, already impoverished, became literally the prey of those who under Republican domination were sent to rule over them. During this saturnalia of misgovernment the plunderers of the people were those who, in many instances, held high place among them. How did the people of Alabama escape? They escaped only through the efforts of the Democratic party that came into power and turned the plunderers from their places, and the result was that twelve years after the Democratic party came into power in the state of Alabama one-half of the indebtedness had been paid off and the taxable property of Alabama had increased more than \$100,000,000. Do you think the people of Alabama would like to turn again to carpet-bag domination and Republican misrule?

Redeemed South.

From the hour of its redemption from the curse of carpet-bag rule, which was but another name for Republican misrule, the South entered upon a career of prosperity of Democratic rule. The necessary result of the election of representatives to Congress. This is to be accomplished by substituting Federal officers provided for by your State law. **What the Force Bill Would Cost.**

In other words, the officers who have been selected are to be displaced and their places taken by agents of the party in power. You need not be told that such legislation argues unmistakably a lack of confidence in the people and when the Republicans tell you that they are not in favor of that bill, remember that that bill passed the Republican house of Representatives of the Fifty-First Congress, the Democrats voting against it. Every Republican voted for it but three—two from the South and one from New Jersey, and every Democrat of the house of Representatives voted against it. Stop to think what it would cost this country if the force bill passed by a Republican House of Representatives should be put in successful and general operation throughout the United States? It put in operation in every district in the United States as it might be, it would call for the expenditure of \$10,000,000. If need not tell you that with that law in operation if it had passed the Senate, as it passed the House, there would be no possible chance for change in the federal administration of this government, but it could remain permanently in the hands of a party which was disposed to use all of this agency and its army of officers for the purpose of perpetuating its own power.

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