EASTERN COURIER.

Onward and Upward.

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AYCOCK'S NOMINATION,

Speaks Before the Convention on Accepting the Nomination For Governor.

TELLS OUR PAST EXPERIENCE WITH THE NEGRO.

Extracts from his Splendid Speech of Acceptance. Mr. Aycock Addressed the Convention Two Mintes After His Nomination,

Mr. Aycock addressed the convention:

The language of gratitude ought to be brief, for inadequacy of speech is never so apparent as when it seeks to convey a sense of obligation. I am grateful to you and to the people whom you represent. I cannot tell you how deeply so. My past life and service to the State have so little justified the great confidence which you show in me to-day that I am made humbly anxious for all the rest of my life to approve to your judgment the action of your affections. This nomination has not come to me unsought, but I can say with truth that I have sought it in honorable fashion and it has come to me free from the taint of contrivance and combination. For the office of governor itself, dignified and honorable as it is, made glorious by the records of a long line of the State's greatest and best men, I have not wished, but I have earnestly desired that manifestation of affection on the part of the people of North Carolina which finds the expression in election to the governorship. This unanimous nomination is a joy to me, because the good-will of my fellow citizens has ever been a thing of delight to me. When I consider the character, the ability, the service, the fitness of the gentlemen who were named in connection with this nomination, anyone of whom would have done honor to the State, I am pressed with the consciousness of my obligation to you, and with fear of my inability to meet the demands which your kindness makes upon me. But the fight is not mine, nor shall I claim the victory when it is won. The contest this year is to be made by the people of North Carolina and the personality of men will count for little.

THE GREAT ISSUE.

The question for settlement is of the utmost importance. It touches the race question and deals with conditions. For thirty years our political battles have been fought from time to time along race lines, while we have sought in vain to make the theory of universal suffrage work out good government and private virtue. We have found by actual trial that it cannot be done.

INTELLIGENCE BY INHERITANCE OR EDUCATIN.

Senator Cullom tells us in his report of the Hawaiian Commission "the American idea of universal suffrage presupposes that the body of citizens who are to exercise it in a free and independent manner have by inheritance or education such knowledge and appreciation of the responsibilities of free suffrage and of a full participation in the sovereignty of the country as to be able to maintain a republican form of government."

THE NEGRO HAS NOT CAPACITY TO GOVERN.

All parties have in different ways and to different extents recognized the incapacity of the negro for government. In 1875 the people changed the Constitution at the instance of the Democratic party, and authorized the Legislature to provide for the government of the counties. Under that constitution the Legislature provided a system of county government by which the justices of the peace in the various counties were appointed by the Legislature and not elected by the people. These justices in turn chose the county commissioners who appointed the various school committees and passed upon the bonds of the county officers chosen by the people.

ALL PARTIES SAY SO.

The counties of Western North Carolina gave up their much loved right of local government in order to relieve their brothers of the east from the intolerable burden of negro government. For twenty years the Republican party waged unceasing warfare upon us against the form of county government adopted by the Democratic party. They appealed to that desire which has always characterized our people to participate in the selection of the officers closest to them. When the Populist party came into existence it joined with the Republicans upon this issue and together they won a victory over the Democracy. They came into power with the distinct pledge to restore to the people local self-government, and indeed the act changing the old system is entitled "An act to restore to the people of North Carolina local self-government," and yet coming into power as they did upon this distinct pledge they were afraid to trust the negro with the government, and put in the statute a provision for the appointment by a judge of the Superior Court of two additional county commissioners, and clothed those two with more power than the other three chosen by the people possessed. Fear of negro rule compelled the Republicans and opulists to introduce for the first time in North Carolina since the Democratic party abolished it under the leadership of that true-hearted and great North Carolinian, Governor David S. Reid, a government by freeholders, for this act distinctly provides that the two additional commissioners shall only be appointed upon the application of 200 citizens, 100 of whom shall be free-holders. The Republicans and Populists themselves thereby, to some extent, restricted suffrage to those who owned land in order to escape from the unbearable burden of negro rule in the eastern counties.

WILL ANY MAN DENY.

Is there any Republican, is there any Populist who will deny that this provision was put in the statute as a safeguard against the evil of negro suffrage; will any of them pretend that any such provision would ever have been made if only white men could vote? They thereby confess, and they have put this confession in the form of a statute and written it in the law books of North Carolina forever, that the negro where he predominates in numbers cannot be trusted to govern. They themselves declared his unfitness and published his incapacity.

GOV. RUSSELL BEARS TESTIMONY.

Again in 1897, there came into the executive chair in North Carolina a man, who in a public speech had declared that he was not a friend of the white man nor a friend of the negro, but a friend of Man. With his advent to power the negro naturally forgot the days when he was regarded as a savage and with expectant joy listened to the inaugural address which was to usher in that new and glorious day of political equality, but before that address closed we hear this friend of Man warning the Legislature not to turn the cities of the State over to the "ignorant and propertyless elements,' and thereby this friend of Man declared that, fond as he was of universal mankind, he realized that the negro is incapable of governing the cities in which he predominates, for surely it will not be contended by anybody that Governor Russell had other reference than to the negroes when he spoke of the "ignorant and propertyless elements."

THE FUSION LEGISLATURE ASSENTS.

And the Legislature of 1897, violent as it was, determined as it showed itself to be to break all ties with the past and to repeal all Democratic legislation, followed the advice of the governor to the extent of providing for the appointment by the governor in the cities of New Bern and Wilmington additional aldermen to those selected by the people.

* * *

SENATOR BUTLER'S EVIDENCE.

Further confirmation of the unfitness of the negro to govern may be found in the open letter which Senator Butler addressed to the people of North Carolina just before the election in 1898, in which he pledged the Populist candidates for the Legislature to introduce bills providing a special form of county government for certain eastern counties where necessary.

In what eastern counties did Senator Butler suppose a special form of county government was necessary, and why was it necessary? Plainly he meant in those eastern counties where the negro predominated and because of the unfitness of the negro to rule.

SENATOR PRITCHARD'S OPINION.

A more recent and convincing evidence can be offered. Senator Pritchard, in his speech delivered in the United States Senate on January 22, 1900, uses this language: "In the very nature of things it (negro domination) cannot be. From the earliest dawn of civilization to this good hour the great white race has given to the world its history, its philosophy, its laws, its government, and its christianity, and it will continue to do so."

WHAT H. L. GRANT THOUGHT.

In a recent speech delivered in Goldsboro by Maj. H. L. Grant, before the Republican convention of Wayne county, he declared "that the negro could not longer hold office, and that for twenty years he had fought to put down the idea of negro supremacy; that while the negro, under the constitution, has a right to hold office public sentiment was stronger than law, and public sentiment was opposed to the negro holding office." Indeed it has become the fashion among Republicans and Populists to assert the unfitness of the negro to rule, but when they use the word rule, they confine it to holding office.

WHAT THE WHITE FOLKS MEAN

when we say that the negro is unfit to rule we carry it one step further and convey the correct idea when we declare that he is unfit to vote. The causes which have brought about this consensus of opinion have in large measure forced themselves on public attention within the last few years. We have had but two periods of Republican rule in North Carolina, from 1868 to 1870, and from 1896 to 1898. That party contains a large number of respectable white men, but the negro constitutes over two-thirds of its voting strength. Government can never be better nor wiser than the average of the virtue and intelligence of the party that governs. The Republicans insist that we have never had negro rule in North Carolina, that the Republican party elects white men to office, and that this fact gives us a government by white men.

GOV. RUSSELL MISSES THE POINT.

Governor Russell, in his message to the last Legislature, vindicates himself against the charge of appointing negroes to office and proudly boasts that out of 818 appointments made by him not more than eight were negroes. He misses the point which we made and make against him and his party; it is not alone that Governor Russell put the eight negroes in office and his party a thousand more, but that the 125,000 negroes put HIM in office over the votes of WHITE men—it is the party behind the office-holder that governs and not the office-holder himself. There is no man in the State today more certainly conscious than Governor Russell that he has failed of his purpose because he had behind him the negroes of the State and not the white men.

WHITE OFFICERS DOMINATED BY NEGROES WON'T DO.

We had a white man for governor in 1870 when counties were declared in a state of insurrection; when innocent men were arrested without warrant by military cut-throats; when the writ of habeas corpus was suspended and the judiciary was exhausted. We had a white man for governor in 1898 when negroes became intolerably insolent; when ladies were insulted on the public streets; when burglary in our chief city became an every-night occurrence when "sleep lay down armed and the villianous centre-bits ground on the wakeful ear in the hush of the moonless night;" when more guns and pistols were sold in the State than had been in the twenty preceding years; when lawlessness walked the State like a pestilence and the governor and our two Senators were afraid to speak in a city of 25,000 inhabitants.

THE NEGRO GOVERNS THROUGH HIS OFFICE.

It is the negro behind the officer and not the officer only that constitute negro government. Major Grant now repudiates Congressman White and draws the color line against negro office-holding, but it has not been two years since a Republican convention, composed in part of white men, applauded to the echo the declaration of White that the industry of negro office-holding had but fairly begun. We have taught them much in the past two years in the University of White Supremacy; we will graduate them in August next with a diploma that will entitle them to form a genuine white man's party.

THE PEOPLE HAVE DECREED IT.

This movement comes from the people. Politicians have been afraid of it and have hesitated, but the great mass of white men in the State are now demanding and have demanded that the matter be settled once and for all. To do so is both desirable and necessary——desirable because it sets the white man free to move along faster than he can go when retarded by the slower movement of the negro—necessary because we must have good order and peace while we work out the industrial, commercial, intellectual and moral development of the State.

THE PROBLEM SOLVED.

The amendment to the constitution is presented in solution of the problem. It is plain and simple. It proceeds along wise lines. It is carefully and thoughtfully drawn. It stays inside of the fifteenth amendment, and, nevertheless, accomplishes its purpose. It adopts the suggestion of Senator Cullom and demands the "existence of sufficient intelligence either by 'inheritance or education,'" as a necessary qualification for voting—it requires of the negro the qualification by education because he has it not by inheritance and demands of the white man only that he possess it by inheritance—it does not sweep the field of expedients to disfranchise the negro which is held constitutional in the Mississippi case, but seizes upon his educational unfitness and saves the whites from participation therein by boldly recognizing the claims of their hereditary fitness.

WHO DENIES THE SUPERIORITY OF THE WHITE MAN.

The amendment makes a distinction between a white man and a negro, but it does so on the ground that the white man has a knowledge by inheritance which the negro has not. Has the white man such superior knowledge? Will any man deny it? Will Senator Pritchard deny it? Hear what he said in his recent speech in the Senate. "It is absurd to contend that there is any danger of negro domination in North Carolina. In the very nature of things it cannot be. From the earliest dawn of civilization to this good hour the great white race has given to the world its history, its philosophy, its laws, its government, and its Christianity, and it will continue to do so." Why, unless the white man is superior? Will Senator Butler deny it? Ask the Caucasian, evidently named in honor of that great race. Will Governor Russell deny it? Surely he will not assert that unlettered white men are no better than "savages." If then it be true that unlettered white men have a knowledge of government superior to that possessed by unlettered negroes I want to know if Senators Butler and Pritchard and Governor Russell want the Supreme Court to hold that the fifteenth amendment demands a LIE.

THE DEMOCRATIC TRUTH.

The Democratic party knows the truth—it is certain that the unlettered white man is more capable of government than the negro. It is so certain of it that it has put its opinion in writing—has printed it in the laws of 1899—has submitted it to the people and it now challenges any white man in North Carolina to deny it: Republicans are professing a special love for the poor and unlettered white man, but at the same time they assert that the law can make no distinction between him and the negro. The Democratic party takes the true, bold ground that a white man is superior to a negro and that the law of man will follow the law of God in recognition of it. If we are wrong about this, then God pity us for that sense of superiority which beats with our blood and boastfully exclaims with St. Paul "I am free born."

THE CHILDREN WILL LEARN.

But the opponents of the amendment attack it on another ground. They say that every child who comes of age after 1908, white and black, must be able to read and write before he can vote. This is true. The amendment does so provide. We recognize and provide for the God-given and hereditary superiority of the white man and of all white children now thirteen years of age, but for the future as to all under thirteen we call on them to assert that superiority of which we boast by learning to read and write. The schools are open and will be for four or more months every year from now to 1908. The white child under thirteen who will not learn to read and write in the next eight years will be without excuse.

THE DEMAGOGUE'S INSULT.

With the adoption of our amendment after 1908, there will be no State in the Union with a larger percentage of boys and girls who can read and write and no State will push forward with more celerity or certainty than conservative old North Carolina. The day of the miserable demagogue, who seeks to perpetuate illiteracy in the State will then have happily passed forever.

THE NEGRO MUST PAY HIS POLL TAX.

There is one other provision of the amendment to which I must advert, and that is the payment of the poll tax by March 1st of election years as a condition to voting. The largest part of the poll tax goes to public education under the constitution. If our boys are to be educated as a condition precedent to voting after 1908, then no man who will not contribute to that end ought to vote. Nearly all white persons liable to poll tax pay it now. If the negro wants to vote it is no hardship on him that he should be required to pay his tax to the support of those schools from which his race gets more than its pro rata of the public fund.

THE FIGHT IS ON.

The various provisions of the amendment work together for good to all men. We are going to carry them through to success. The fight is on. We unfurl anew the old banner of Democracy. We inscribe thereon white supremacy and its perpetuation. Under that banner we shall win, and when we shall have won, we will have peace in the land. There will be rest from political bitterness and race antagonism. Industry will have a great outburst. Free from the necessity of voting according to our color, we shall have intellectual freedom. Error will come face to face with truth, and shall suffer that final crushing which the poet denies to truth. With freedom of thought will come independence of action and public questions will stand or fall in the court of reason and not of passion. To these great ends I beg your unceasing activity during the present campaign. Let your work be with zeal and earnestness. Remember that the peace of the State is at stake. Do not forget that the safety of our women is dependent upon it. Ladies refugeed from Wilmington in 1898 as they did before the advance of Sherman in 1865. The county in which we are assembled is named in honor of a woman. Esther Waite.

EVERY MOTHER IS A QUEEN.

The city in which we are is named for that gallant gentleman whose most famous act among his many great and illustrious deeds is that he spread his cloak upon the ground in order that his queen might walk dry-shod. In North Carolina in every home there is a queen—wife, sister, mother or daughter. LET US RESPECT ONE ANOTHER.

Let the adoption of the amendment furnish us the occasion for a better understanding one with another; and while restoring to white men the rightful superiority which God gave them, let us, in the assurance of better government, learn not toleration only, but respect as well for the views of those opposing us. In coming together for the common good we shall forget the asperities of past years and shall go forward into the twentieth century a united people, striving with zeal and in generous rivalry for the material, intellectual and moral upbuilding of the State.

AN ERA OF GOOD FEELING.

May the era of good feeling among us be the outcome of this contest. Then we shall learn if we do not already know, that while universal suffrage is a failure, universal justice is the perpetual decree of Almighty God, and that we are entrusted with power not for our good alone, but for the negro as well. We hold our title to power by the tenure of service to God, and if we fail to administer equal and exact justice to the negro whom we deprive of suffrage we shall in the fullness of time lose power ourselves, for we must know that the God who is love trusts no people with authority for the purpose of enabling them to do injustice to the weak. We do well to rejoice in our strength and to take delight in our power, but we will do better still when we come fully to know that our right to rule has been transmitted to us by our fathers through centuries of toil and sacrifice, suffering and death, and their work through all those centuries has been a striving to execute judgment in righteousness.

HIS BEAUTIFUL PEROMATION.

The morning of the new century—there is work to be done. The old old combat between freedom and force is even now upon us and the mighty roar of traffic and industry cannot drown the treble notes din of that conflict. Our industries are to be multiplied, our commerce increased. We are to have an educational awakening that shall reach every son and daughter of North Carolina. We may not grow in numbers as rapidly as some other States, but we shall multiply many times the effective power of the State in the next ten years by the strength which comes from the wide diffusion of knowledge.

It is my happiness to have been nominated by you for the governorship of that State in which these things are to be done. I shall come to that great office, if elected, with an honest desire to serve faithfully and well. I shall have no enemies to punish and no private ends to gain. I shall be the servant of the whole people of the State. Are you rich and powerful? Then I shall meet you as your equal; for surely he who has garnered this harvest of hearts has a goodly heritage and possesses a power which only folly can dissipate. Are you poor? Still I am your equal, possessing no other riches than the love of my friends. I shall respect the rights of property and rejoice in prosperity, but I shall not forget that they who toil constitute not only the largest class of our people, but from their labors can spare little time to urge their views upon those whom they have chosen to serve them.

ON THE AMENDMENT.

Hon. James E. Shepherd Answers Questions.

HE GIVES THE FACTS AND SAYS

The Amendment Not Unconstitutional—Explains the Situation Fully.

The following letter and opinion by Hon. James E. Shepherd, ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was written by him in reply to a letter received from a prominent Democrat in the State, asking his opinion upon the two questions discussed in his letter:

Dear Sir: I do not understand that in reference to your first question—that is, as to the constitutionality of the proposed amendment to our State constitution—you expect me to write an opinion. I am glad of this, as the ground is so completely covered by the able arguments of Judges Merrimon and Connor, Representatives Pruntree and Winston (who I think were in charge of the bill), Maj. Gutheie, Mr. Busbee, Mr. Simmons and other prominent gentlemen, both in and outside of the legislature, that anything I might say would be but needless repetition. I will, therefore express my concurrence in the conclusion they have reached, that the amendment is not in conflict with the Federal Constitution and the amendments thereto.

BUT SUPPOSE SECTION 5 IS NULLITY?

2. The second question put by you is, whether if section 5 were declared unconstitutional the other parts of the proposed amendment relating to an educational qualificatfiion, etc., would be held valid. In view of the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States I cannot understand how there can be any doubt as to the proper answer.

SOME CASES IN POINT.

In Pollock vs. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., 158 U. S., 601, it is said:

"It is elementary that the same statute may be in part constitutional and in part unconstitutional, and if the parts are wholly independent of each other, that which is constitutional may stand while that which is unconstitutional will be rejected. And in the case before us there is no question as to the validity of this act, except sections twenty-seven to thirty-seven inclusive, which relate to the subject which has been under discussion.

WHAT THE RULE IS.

And as to them we think the rule laid down by Chief Justice Shaw in Warren vs. Charleston, 2 Gray, 84, is applicable, that if the different parts are so mutually connected with and dependent on each other, as conditions, considerations, or compensations for each other, as to warrant a belief that the legislature intended them as a whole and that, if all could not be carried into effect, the legislature would not pass the residue independently, and some parts are unconstitutional, all the provisions which are thus dependent, conditional or connected must fall with them. Or, as the point is put by Mr. Justice Matthews in Pickdexter vs. Greenhow, 114 U. S., 270, 304. "It is undoubtedly true that there may be cases where one part of a statute may be enforced as constitutional, and another be declared inoperative and void, because unconstitutional; but these are cases where the parts are so distinctly separable that each can stand alone, and where the court is able to see and declare that the intention of the legislature was that the part pronounced valid should be enforceable even though the other part should fail. To hold otherwise would be to substitute for the new law intended by the legislature, one they may never have been willing by itself to enact."

The principles thus declared by the court are not denied in the dissenting opinions. Indeed, they are conceded, but it was contended that they did not apply to the case under consideration, inasmuch as the sections of the act relating to a tax upon incomes derived from other sources than rents and invested personal property (which latter were held unconstitutional) were clearly separable and admittedly enforceable without reference to the invalid sections. The court held, however, that they were all the parts of a scheme that must be considered as a whole, and that all of said sections, valid as well as invalid, were void. It is upon the ground that the lawmakers could not have intended that any of those sections should go into effect independently of the others.

ANOTHER CASE IN POINT.

Again, in Sprague vs. Thompson, 118 U. S., 90 (cited and fully approved in the case just referred to), it appears that the legislature of Georgia passed a compulsory pilotage law which excepted from its operation "masters" in Georgia and between the ports of Georgia and those of South Carolina and Florida. These exceptions were held to be illegal discriminations under an act of Congress and therefore void. The court said:

"It was held, however, by the Supreme Court of Georgia, in the case now before us, that so much of the section as makes these illegal exceptions may be disregarded, so that the rest of the section as thus read may stand, upon the principle that a separable part of a statute which is unconstitutional may be rejected, and the remainder preserved and enforced. But the insuperable difficulty with the application of that principle of construction to the present instance is, that by rejecting the exceptions intended by the legislature of Georgia the statute is made to enact what confessedly the legislature never meant.

THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT MUST NOT BE DEFEATED.

It confers upon the statute a positive operation, beyond the legislative intent and beyond what anyone can say it would have enacted in view of the illegality of the exceptions. We are, therefore, constrained to hold that the provisions of sections 15 of the Code of Georgia can not be separated so as to reject the unconstitutional exceptions merely that the whole section must be treated as annulled and abrogated by section 4237 of the Revised Statutes."

The facts in these cases are stated because they serve to show how far the court has gone in holding an entire law void by reason of the unconstitutionality of a part only. It will be observed that in these instances there was absolutely no difficulty in separating and enforcing valid parts and that the decisions were based purely upon the principle that the law makers could not have intended to have assented to the law in its expurgated form. The case of Sprague vs. Thompson (supral) is so clearly analogous to the question under consideration that to my mind it puts an end to any controversy upon the subject. The act of Congress provided that, "No regulations or provisions shall be adopted by any state which shall make any discrimination in the rate of pilotage or half pilotage between vessels sailing between the ports of one State and vessels sailing between the ports of different States, etc." It seems that before the passage of the act there was no compulsory pilotage law in Georgia as to any vessels whatever. The legislature attempted to impose pilotage fees upon all vessels except those sailing between the ports above mentioned. It had no intention of imposing these restrictions upon the vessels within the exceptions, but if these discriminating and illegal exceptions were simply stricken out or disregarded the act would then have applied to all vessels, thus including those the legislature had excepted. The court, as we have seen, declared the whole statute void because the statute "would be made to enact what confessedly the legislature never meant."

According to the present constitution

THE PROPOSED RESTRICTION AND THE EXCEPTION.

no educational qualification is required and illiterate persons, white or black, may vote. The proposed amendment, section 4, provides for an educational qualification, but in the 5th section it is proposed to except from this requirement all male person who on January 1st, 1867, or at any time prior thereto were entitled to vote under the laws of any State of the United States wherein they resided and also the lineal descendants of such persons.

THE OBJECTION BASED ON THE EXCEPTION.

It is urged that the exceptions are void because they discriminate in favor of the white and against the negro race, and that by reason of such discrimination the right of a large number of negro voters is abridged on account of their "race," color or previous condition of servitude." Now, it is manifest that if the exceptions are ever declared void it must be so declared because of this alleged discriminating purpose of the lawmakers—that is to say, that their real intention was that the educational qualification should not apply to the present illiterate whites but to the illiterate blacks. There can, I feel sure, be no escape from this position.

THE OBJECTION CAN NOT BE SUSTAINED.

If, hen, such was the intention of the lawmakers, that is to say, that the whites should not but the blacks should be subject to the educational qualification, how is it possible under the principles above stated and especially under the ruling in Sprague vs. Thompson, that the courts can disregard the exceptions and sustain that part of the amendment repuiring educational qualification for the whites as well as the blacks, which it must necessarily declare was not really intended to be the law.

THE LEGISLATIVE INTENT GOVERNS.

To so hold "would (in the words of the court) be to substitute for the law intended by the legislature (or the people) one they never have been willing by itself to enatct" or adopt. There is, as the court says, "an insuperable difficulty" in reaching such a conclusion.

Authorities may be multiplied upon this point, but as it a Federal question and must, if ever tested, be determined by the Supreme Court of the United States, it is deemed unnecessary to cite anything in addition to its own decisions, which, in my opinion, seem to put the matter entirely at rest.

OBJECTION CAN NOT BE MADE TO SECTION 5.

There is another view which I think is equally conclusive. It is of course apparent that it is not section 5 that can be made the point of judicial attack. That section neither abridges suffrage nor confers it upon any one, and if it were stricken out the educational restriction would still exist as to both races. The former slave or his descendant has no standing in court simply for the purpose of preventing whites or any other race from being exempted from an educational qualification. There is no question of the competency of the lawmakers to impose or dispense with such a restriction.

THE ONLY LEGAL GROUND COVERS THE WHOLE PLAN.

The only ground that the former slave can take is that his right to vote has been abridged on account of race, color, etc., and his attack must and can only be directed against the very clause imposing the restriction. In order to remove the restriction it is plain that the restriction itself must be assailed, and it is claimed he can do by showing in view of the exceptions contained in section 5, so much for section 4 which imposes an educational qualification is unconstitutional, in that it is but a part of a scheme to abridge his right to vote on account of race, color, etc., and therefore in conflict with the 15th amendment.

IF ANY PART FALLS ALL MUST FALL.

If he should succeed in his contention, then it is clear that the clause imposing the educational qualification must be declared void as to both races. In consideration of the principles declared by the highest tribunal in the land I really can not entertain a doubt as to the correctness of this conclusion.

Respectfully,
JAS. E. SHEPHERD.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

Biscuit Work Cushions.

Biscuit-work cushions are among the latest things out in the way of fancy work. They are made of little balls of cotton covered with bright-colored silks or ribbon. The balls are all stitched together and sewed on to the silk or woolen foundation, which is made into a case, which buttons over a square pillow of down or feathers. The effect is very handsome. The sending of a biscuit pillow or cushion is understood to mean that the recipient "takes the cake." Some of the little silk-covered balls are delicately tufted to resemble a biscuit.

Arranging the Table For a Formal Dinner.

The plates, which should be placed at even distances apart, usually two and one-half feet, should be as handsome as one can afford, and the silver is arranged with two dinner forks, a fish and an oyster fork at the left of each plate. At the right are two dinner knives and a soup spoon. Fish knives are no longer used, the fork being considered sufficient to cut the fish. A cut-glass or Bohemian glass goblet for water should be placed at the right. The goblet is now deemed more elegant than the tumbler. The ice-water is not placed upon the table nowadays, but is left on the sideboard in glass pitchers, from which it is served by the servant when needed. The floral decorations vary according to individual taste. A centre-piece should never be too large, and should never extend within a foot of the plates, nor be so high that the guests cannot look over it.—Woman's Home Companion.

Beauties of "Blue Rooms."

There is no color so valuable in decoration as blue, nor one from which so many schemes may be evolved. For a sunny room blue may be used entirely, as far as wall-papers, carpets or draperies are concerned, or blue and green. A blue and green room looks best with green stained furniture, and is more appropriate for a library or bed-room, but as this furniture is found sometimes in dining-rooms and halls it may be used there also.

An artistic though inexpensive dining-room for a small house can be well carried out in blue and green. As there will be but little space the walls may be painted in pale blue, and the wood-work should be in a deeper shade. A square of blue carpet should cover the floor, and the window curtains should be of a bright shade of green. A nice suit of green-stained and red-seated furniture, consisting of sideboard, table, two armchairs and four small chairs can be bought at a moderate price, and these with some blue and white ornaments will look effective.

Convenient Book Weights.

Nothing harms a handsomely bound book more quickly than to "stand on a strain." When placed in this ungainly position on the book shelves—intended to stand upright, but leaning crookedly to one side because of extra space—the binding soon becomes loosened, and the volume takes on a look of want of care. Extra volumes to fill in the space and keep each book in a firm, upright position, cannot always be had, and it is then we realize the advantage of the book weight.

These book weights are among the latest ideas in library conveniences. They are intended to stand on the shelves or desks at the ends of rows of books. They come in various forms and styles—triangular, cube, octagon and wedge shape.

Everyone who has ever attempted to set a row of books upon a shelf or table will realize the convenience of articles of this sort. Square blocks of granite, marble or agate are always useful. Blocks of onyx framed in silver are very handsome, and the plain blocks of onyx are also used, but these prove rather expensive, and no more convenient than the cheaper weights.

With so many conveniences for book marking and binding and holding in proper positions when stored upon the shelves there is no reason why the book-lover should not own a fine collection of the works of favorite authors and keep them in attractive form at very slight expense.

Recipes.

Apples Fried in Batter—Beat three eggs well, add a tablespoonful of sugar and three of flour; slice the apples; dip them in the batter and fry in butter; take them up, sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve hot.

Fruit Jelly—Dissolve one-half box of gelatine in twice the quantity of water (it will require about one hour to do this); add the juice of two lemons and strain; when it begins to thicken add two oranges, cut up, two bananas, one-quarter of a pound of figs and one-quarter of a pound of English walnuts and set away to cool.

Cheese Canapes—Cut bread into slices one-third of an inch thick. Cut these into rounds with a biscuit cutter or remove the crusts with a knife and serve in squares. Season with some grated cream cheese with cayenne pepper and mustard. Fry the bread in butter. As the bread browns remove to a pan. Sprinkle with the grated cheese and place in a hot oven until the cheese has melted.

Chicken Cutlets—Cook half a cupful of flour in one-third of a cupful of butter, add one cupful of stock, one-third of a cupful of milk, a beaten egg and a pint of chopped chicken. Season with level teaspoonful salt, saltspoonful pepper. When cold form into cutlets, dip in egg and bread crumbs. Press a duchess potato mixture around the edge of each. Bake until brown. Fill the spaces with peas. Only one-half can of peas is needed.