



THE BLADEN BULLETIN.

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We were handed this letter by Mr McDowell and permission was given us by him to publish it.

We know the writer very well and what he asserts we accept as true without further evidence, his word, with us, being plenary proof.

We are glad that Mr Sutton had sufficient love of fair dealing and felt interest enough in the event of the Convention to be impelled to give a history, a correct one, of the occur rences at a Convention that will long be memorable because of its irregularity and its remarkable proceedings.

It is as come to that pass that a few wire-pullers, tricksters, Demagogues, and political plunderers by all manner of unfair proceedings, scrupling at nothing, will have things their own way, without reference to the question of right and wrong, whether the interest of the people, whom they pretend to represent, is being served or not.

Such a course of proceedings ought to be condemned and loudly for to weakly submit is suffering dangerous precedent be established.

Things like these are entering wedges to the destruction of our LIBERTIES.

The gentlemen who withdrew from the Convention felt that they had been wronged and it was only to condemn an unfair course of proceeding that they did so, they had no selfish object in view.

One declaration we invite particular attention to and that money was offered to a Delegate. ABBRIBED! A SHAME!! SHAME!!! That it should ever come to this. In a free Country, North Carolina, in this enlightened age, when the Bible is in every house in the land that a man who is fit to represent a people of a county was not too good to have a bribe offered him. We wish we knew the parties name who offered it and we would put right down a few big Caps, Read the Letter.

Dear Sir:—It is always most pleasant to say agreeable and pleasant things, about anything, and especially in giving the news of the result of a political convention, that had just assembled, presumably for the benefit of the Democratic party, and for the general advancement of its welfare, but actually, as results show, with a state already made up, and a previous determination to carry it out, at all hazards and regardless of every other consideration.

A prominent and worthy citizen of your county, was to have been placed before that convention, and because his friends were so situated his name was not even presented is the principal reason, and my appreciation of your love of fair dealing, upon the principles of common honesty, is the general reason, why I address you this communication.

Unexplained, it would be a mortifying spectacle indeed, for the delegation from Bladen to have returned

to their homes, without having their candidate passed upon at all, the convention, but when explained, it will readily be seen, that they took the only course left them of a manly and dignified withdrawal from a body, whose sole purpose it was, to ignore every one, and every consideration or question, that did not look to, and aim at the purposes for which they had assembled. Mr. C. U. Lyon, had friends in at least five, if not more counties in this judicial district. Delegates from other counties than Cumberland, and I suppose them, said that they wished to vote for Mr. Lyon, but their county was cast as a whole, for another person. In this county he was ahead of all other competitors, having 19 votes upon a poll taken, against 17 for McIver, and 14 for McNeill. Yet in the early moments of the convention, before nominations were reached, and while a question was before the convention, not germane to the subject of nomination, and before M. Lyon's name had been mentioned (publicly) in the convention he was made the subject of a sneer and snarl, by a delegate from— county, which I only cite, to show the vindictive and malignant spirit, which actuated some who had voices on the floor of the hall. Delegates whose names were sent, as accredited, were ruled out, because they were deemed to be unfavorable to the nomination of the person chosen by the captors of the convention and in one instance, money was offered to induce a delegate to remain away from the convention, because his opinion was not in accord with those who had essayed to be the masters of the same. But the crowning act of injustice, was in taking from the Cumberland delegation, their inherent right, to vote as they pleased. Some days before the 29th ult, advertisement was made in our daily and weekly papers, for a meeting of the Cumberland delegation, at 10 o'clock in the morning for consultation, a full meeting was had, a chairman (A. A. McKeenan, Jr. Esq.) was appointed, and among other things a resolution was adopted instructing our chairman, to cast the solid vote (50) of Cumberland, in favor of continuing the 3ds rule in nominating a candidate.

This 3ds rule has always been in force in every political convention held here since the war. Under its operation McIver, the present Solicitor, was nominated eight years ago, and at the last convention four years ago. Judge Bennett and Mc Rae, Congressman Waddell, Shackelford and Green, all have endorsed it. Every county convention for the nomination of county officers, since I have been a resident here (nearly twelve years) have acted under it, conveying the idea, as it does, that unless a candidate is strong enough to secure his nomination by a two-thirds vote, he is not strong enough to put before the people as a candidate. A resolution being offered to nominate by a majority vote, the question came before the house for debate. Any person in favor of the majority resolution, had no trouble in "catching the speaker's eye," and enjoyed the largest attitude and privilege of debate: but when one opposed it, and was in favor of the 3ds rule, if allowed to speak at all, which he seldom was, was treated in a most discourteous and harsh manner: and in one instance the debate in favor of the 3ds rule, was deemed to be "out of order," when the question was stated, and before it was put, or commenced to be voted upon, on the ground that a vote was about to be called for; The vote being called for by counties, it stood, for a majority rule rule, for the 3ds rule rule. So the latter was carried by a large majority, and was never announced, Cumberland delegate (kinsman of Mr. McNeill) undertook to challenge the vote of that county, though he participated in the meeting of the delegation, which instructed that county's vote

to be cast as a unit on this single question, and after much discussion, this same delegate and his delegation would take another vote, and were said to have of the 3ds rule, he would support, we withdrew, and by an act of count stood 29 for 3ds rule and 21 against. Thus we reported to the convention and again voted our delegation as twice instructed, but we were ordered to vote, but the convention in its wisdom (I understood) to set aside the vote as cast, and divided it out as suited their purposes. At the meeting the delegates of the delegation withdrew to a body, and were followed, and thus supported in their action by the counties of Bladen and Moore, solidly, and Brunswick in part, and reassembled at the town hall over the Market House. Here a most remarkable statement was made by Mr. Studly, chairman of the Brunswick delegation, to this convention who was also chairman of the Dem. Ex Com. of that county, and a member of the board of Co. Commissioners. This gentleman, certainly a prominent man at home, publicly declared that Brunswick county had instructed her delegation to vote for the nomination of Capt. Melver, but that the main portion of the delegation vote, by some process or legerdemain, unknown to him, had been cast for a man whom he had never seen, whom the people of Brunswick county did not know, and who as he stated 9 tenths of the voters would not support! The Market House meeting was adjourned to meet at 3 1/2 o'clock of the 29th ult, at which time delegates from Robeson, and some from Mecklenburg even, joined us, augmenting the assembly, which filled the hall almost to overflowing. Yet everything was said and done in an orderly and temperate manner; when resolutions were passed protesting against the outrageous gag law, and unjust proceedings of the body of men who had that day driven four counties out of the convention and trampled their rights under foot, at this meeting Mr. Kelly of your county presided; the entire delegation of Moor Bladen and Cumberland, together with Mr. Studly chairman of the Brunswick delegation, were present, besides some from other counties.

The utmost freedom of expression was allowed, and the sentiments were unanimous that Cumberland pursued the only course left her, not abjectly supine and cowardly, the same that any other free-born American citizen would have done under similar circumstances. These are the facts of the case, and let him who has the hardihood assert, or attempt to maintain that those four counties were bolters! no sir! we make our fight inside of the ranks of the Democratic party, against oppression and wrong. I respectfully submit to you sir if such can be successfully defended: on the contrary, if it is not without precedent or parallel in the history of Conventional or parliamentary bodies, with any your experience, observation or knowledge!

Upon what principle of right or reason, could the convention set aside, the expressed will of the delegates from Cumberland and Brunswick counties, and vote it as it best suited their purposes? Upon what ground could the convention, through its chairman refuse to declare the result of the vote on the 3ds and majority rule, when it had been regularly taken.

Could 3ds rule as it had been uniformly cast be repealed except by a 3ds vote upon the principle that it takes the same strength and power to destroy (repeal) that it takes to create: an analogy may be found in the legislative manner of making constitutions. This is done by a 3ds vote, (sec. 2 art. 13) will anyone undertake to say this vote could be reduced or altered by a 1/3 or majority vote.

In our conventional bodies, in this judicial district at least, custom language have given us the constitutional 3ds rule, and by no

vote less than 3ds could it be repealed, altered or reduced: and then only upon notice from the preceding convention, so that the subject matter might be fully considered by the people and their delegate instructed upon that proposition. Again, if the vote stood as secretaries record it show it to be (159 for the 3ds rule and 144 for the former adopted) and if a voted, how can the candidate claim to be the nominee by a majority vote? And what right had the chairman to refuse to declare: it would be no more than the same as to refuse to declare Mr. Lyon the nominee, he would have been, if we had acted under the 3ds rule as by precedent immemorial usage, and the vote sustaining it, we ought to have done!

In candor, I submit sir, was such outrageous conduct ever upon enacted or heard of? can it be expected that a free people will submit to be thus treated! thoughtfully I can imagine that will correct the wrong is to lay the matter upon the D. Ss. Ex. Com. and let them call a new convention, upon which the friends of the various competitors at least have a hearing, so far as this county is concerned, let it be understood that we make no attack (although it was publicly stated to some of the successful delegates that the nominee did not want or ask for any democratic votes from the counties of Moore, Bladen or Cumberland) this high task before stated is to be made inside of the Democratic Party, and we can settle it, party quarrels always should be among ourselves; our sole have nothing to do with it; they need take no comfort or encouragement, at what their distance may seem to them, or they doubtless hope, a pronouncement of Earl, out of which they hope to make part profit capital: our friends (the enemy) "lay no such flattering unctious to their souls" It is a party fight and as a party we can and will fight it out among ourselves. But at the same time I would remind who perpetrated, and seemed to delight in the perpetration of this wrong, that it is just such wrong conduct as this that give argument to the independent candidate and vote, that destroys that strength which union and concentrated, harmonious action and effort would otherwise surely bring about: and when if persisted in will result in actually if not absolute party apathy, which if not only left to take care of itself, will finally result in the disintegration of any party or society of men, for whatsoever purpose it may have been organized.

Such conduct brings about that "division of the house" to be followed by the swift fulfillment of Divine prophecy "it cannot stand" with such connections as that of the 29th ult, the days of conventins are surely numbered, used as that one was, pliaric day the hands of a few and the people now are beginning to say "was not the old way the best?"—a scrub race for all. Every man who wants to shall have an open field and a fair fight, and stand or fall before the people, solely upon his individual merits.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully, THOMAS H. SUTTON.

T. H. Hales, If you want GOOD GOODS, CALL and see me. F.A.M. STILL IN THE LEAD. Good Up Country CORN WHISKEY. June 3rd 1886.

Copartnership.

HAVING FORMED A COPARTNERSHIP with M. Fletcher Manning, the firm name of J. R. Mansall has been changed to Mansall & M. Manning. We shall continue to do the general Commission business in Wilmington, N. C., and will occasionally ask for consignments of cotton, staple stores and country produce. We will buy, or sell on Commission all kinds of produce, CASH orders for Peanuts or any other merchandise scheduled. Terms Cash. J. R. MANSALL. Jan 7th 86 etc.

WANTED—LADY—A fine and intelligent to represent in person in the office of the... J. R. MANSALL.

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TRAIN NORTH. Arrive. Leave. Bennettsville, 8.30 a. m. Shoe Heel, 9.40 a. m. Fayetteville, 12.00 p. m. Sanford, 2.15 p. m. Ore Hill, 3.45 Liberty, 4.37 Greensboro, 5.00 Dinner at Fayetteville.

TRAIN SOUTH. Arrive. Leave. Greensboro, 9.50 a. m. Liberty, 11.05 Ore Hill, 12.00 Sanford, 1.29 p. m. Fayetteville, 3.50 Shoe Heel, 6.37 Bennettsville, 7.30 Dinner at Sanford.

5 TON WAGON SCALES, Iron Tare, Steel Bearings, Brass Tare Beam and Hook, \$60 and JONES has the freight for the Price List mention this paper and address JONES OF BIRMINGHAM, Birmingham, N. C.

Freight and Passenger Train leaves Bennettsville Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 2.30 p. m., arriving at Shoe Heel at 4.30 p. m. and Fayetteville at 8 p. m.

Leaves Fayetteville on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6.30 a. m., Shoe Heel at 10 a. m., and arrives at Bennettsville at 12 m.

Freight and Passenger Train North leaves Fayetteville Daily at 8 a. m., (connecting at Sanford with Freight and Passenger Trains at Raleigh), leaves Sanford at 11.30 a. m., and arrives at Greensboro at 5.40 p. m.

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