Prof Collier Cobb
C071
C371
Folder

The Daily Caucasian.

VOL. I. NO. 8. RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1895. PRICE 5 CENTS.

STATE SOLONS IN SESSION.

The House Democrats Practicing Obstructionist Tactics.

IMPORTANT BILLS IN THE SENATE.

The House Worries With Filibustering Over the Public Printing—Elder and Payne Whose Seats are Questioned—Lead in the Game of Obstruction—Internal Revenue, Free Silver, Etc., in the Senate.

HOUSE.

The House met promptly at 10 a. m., Mr. G. Z. French, of Wilmington, in the speaker's chair, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. N. G. Cobb, of this city.

The clerk read a note from Speaker Walser, which is as follows:

"I hereby authorize the Hon. G. Z. French to act as Speaker of the House of Representatives for Monday, January 14, 1895. ZEB. V. WALSER, Speaker."

While the journal of the House was being read the vacant seats were gradually filled up by the incoming members.

The Clerk presented depositions in the contested election case of W. H. H. Cox vs. A. A. Lyon, signed by N. Y. Ammon, commissioner at Washington. Were referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

The following resolution, on the contested election case, was introduced and referred to the same committee:

"Resolved, That the seats in this House now occupied by James E. Elder and D. D. Carlyle, from Robeson, be declared vacant; and that R. M. Pearson and John A. Smith be entitled to seats in this body as the legally elected members from Robeson county."

NEW BILLS.

The following bills were then introduced and referred to appropriate committees:

Mr. Williams, of Craven—H. B. 61. An act to provide an election law for the State of North Carolina and to secure a free ballot and fair count to the qualified voters thereof.

Mr. George H. Burnham—H. B. 62. An act to change the name of the Broad Bank and Trust Company, to the committee on finance.

Mr. J. W. Council, of Yadkin—H. B. 63. An act to incorporate the town of Boonville, Yadkin county.

Mr. Norman—H. B. 64. An act to amend Chapter 117, section 1, to Laws 1893.

Mr. Smith of Gates—H. B. 65. An act for the protection of girls and the promotion of chastity—to the committee on the judiciary.

Mr. Burnham—H. B. 66. An act to amend section 1111 of the Code of North Carolina.

Mr. McLeod—H. B. 67. To change the time of holding the February term of Hoke Superior court.

Mr. Williams, of Craven—H. B. 68. To regulate the state surveying.

Mr. L. Nelson—H. B. 69. A bill to prohibit the sale of liquors within the limits of Hibriten Mountain Academy, Caldwell county.

Mr. R. L. Stevens—H. B. 67. Bill to amend chapter 34, section 2121 of the Code.

Mr. Self, of Chatham—H. B. 68. To make stock law fence between the counties of Chatham and Alamance.

Mr. Crawford—H. B. 69. Bill to provide for the working of convicts on the roads in McDowell county.

Mr. Jan. H. Leary, of Chowan—H. B. 70. An act to amend the charter of Jan. Education.

Mr. Lord moved that nothing before the House be special order at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Lord moved to reconsider the vote by which the public printing business was made special order, so that the House could act on it at once.

Mr. Jan. question to reconsider a point of order sprang up, which consumed the whole time, over an hour, when the special order itself arrived, and the House came up on the passage of the bill to repeal the law of 1893 relating to the public printing.

Mr. Pearce, of Macon, offered a substitute striking section 3, act of 1893, authorizing the bids for the public printing to within a convenient distance of Raleigh, and spoke of his substitute as fair to all parties.

Mr. Nelson offered an amendment to the substitute, so that it would read: "Strike out section 3, to which objection was raised by the Populists and Republicans but amend section 2 as follows."

Mr. Peebles gives notice of an amendment to strike out the words "Secretary of State" and insert Treasurer of State.

Mr. Pearce withdraws his substitute for Mr. Nelson accepts the amendment of Mr. Peebles and offers his motion as amended as a substitute for the bill now before the House.

Mr. Peebles said: He had views on the subject which were not suggested by the recent cyclone as had been in evidence by the other side, but views he held in 1891. He favored this because it is not right to tax the people of the State for the support of a party newspaper. All who have given the subject except the gentleman from Wilkes (Mr. Henderson) have agreed to a *bonus* to the public printer. Now instead of having a public printer the Secretary of State to let the public printing I propose by amendment to substitute a Popular Treasurer, so that our friends on the other side may control their own money.

He said we had this *bonus* for years. If it took us (the Democrats) twenty years to find out our error, it did right it, we do not want to re-enact that wrong.

Mr. Lusk: "Do you acknowledge that your party has done wrong for the last 4 years?"

Mr. Peebles: "I say any party that gives the class *bonus* to a public printer does the wife of a man a wrong."

Mr. Henderson to Mr. Lusk: "Will you tell the House what was done by the Republicans in 1868 and 1870?"

Mr. Lusk replied: "Where the Republicans were in control of the State of *one* dollar the Democrats have robbed it of ten. If we are to be blamed for letting out the public printing we will let you come back and abuse us as we charged you with robbing the people of their money by giving it for public printing. In the last twenty years you have had single Republican or Populist have a single cent that comes through the Democratic legislature. In my county not a single Republican has had an opportunity to do any of the public printing of the county when the Democrats were in power."

Mr. Ray responded to the charge that the Democratic party had plundered the State of North Carolina by showing that they had reduced the price of printing to about one-half what it was in 1868 when the Republicans were in control.

"Will the gentleman tell us what a bushel of wheat was worth then?"

Mr. Ray continued:

"A great many things then were as cheap as they are now. If we have plundered the people for twenty years in the public printing we plundered them just half as much as the Republicans plundered them before the Democrats got control of the State government.

"When the Republican party was in power the credit of the State went down, down, down into the dust. The Democratic party touched the public credit of North Carolina and it arose out of the dust of the dead. We found nothing when we came into power: no penitentiary, though there ought to have been one; no public school system worth naming; no money in the treasury, and our bonds at a great discount on the market. Now our credit is good in all parts of the United States and in England."

If the Democrats had robbed the State he would vote for an investigation, but he appealed to his friends on the other side in the name of justice and fairness not to deceive the people.

Mr. Ewart, of Henderson, said:

The gentleman who has just taken his seat reminds me of that mountain preacher whose friend went to several places at different times to hear him speak, and each time he heard him his text was, "And Peter's wife's mother lay sick of a fever." (I am not much of a Bible student, and if I have not quoted the text aright I refer you to my friend from Buncombe. Mr. Lusk, who is a very diligent student of the Bible.

After his friend had heard him on several different occasions, with several years intervening, he said: "Great God, ain't that old woman dead yet?" Ain't the proceedings of the legislature of 1868 dead yet? You know that you had in that legislature Democratic thieves as well as Republican thieves. We are not here to consider what that legislature did, but what this legislature is going to do.

This committee to let out the printing might be composed of a majority of Populists and give it to THE CAUCASIAN. THE CAUCASIAN is a good paper, and they might use it to convert Republicans to the ranks of the Populists; or they might give Republicans, and give it to the Wilmington papers to convert Populists to Republican ideas.

The records of 1888 and 1889 show that Jeter C. Pritchard made a motion to give the public printing to the lowest bidder, and that Mr. Ray opposed it then.

Mr. White, of Bladen, moved that the bill be referred to a committee of five to report tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

He did not propose, he said, to go on record as voting for the unconditional repeal of the law of 1893.

Mr. Peebles made another speech in defense of the Democratic party, and insisted on his substitute, which, he said, would make it impossible for them to do wrong if they wanted to do right.

He was followed by Mr. Campbell, of Cherokee, who charged that the Democrats were actually taxing the people more than the Republican legislature of 1868 did.

Mr. A. A. Campbell, of Cherokee, in reply to Mr. Ray, of Macon, and Mr. Peebles, of Northampton, said he would acknowledge that the Democratic party was a party of retorm and retrenchment. That the State and National legislation of the party had reformed the price of cotton from ten cents to four or five cents per pound in a very short time, and he emphatically pronounced the present State government as being decidedly more extravagant than it was under Radical and Carpet-bag rule in 1869 and 1870.

At that time the State owed $45,000,000, and now the State only owes about $25,000,000. In 1869 and 1870 there was only $65,000,000 worth of property to tax to carry the enormous indebtedness of the State.

Mr. Peebles, by permission, asked Mr. Campbell "how much of the $45,000,000 indebtedness that party paid?" To which Mr. Campbell remarked that the question asked was not pertinent to the question before the House, and continued by saying that the State now had $270,000,000 to tax, and the rate of State tax was 25½ cents on the $100 worth of property, which was a higher rate than $1.07 on the $100 in 1868 and 1870, as the Democratic party had increased the valuation of property four times what it was in 1869 and 1870. He again repeated that the present State government was the most expensive since the declaration of independence, and that he would take his seat and give any gentleman an opportunity to refute the charge.

Mr. Lineback, of Forsyth—The Democratic party, through the Democratic Secretary of State, have used this public printing to advance Democratic interests. It seems as hard for them to give it up now as it was to give up the election. I won't make a personal attack on the gentleman from Macon. In all the years when the Democrats were in power it is known that no man was allowed to get any benefit of the public printing except as a reward for party services. I can assure the gentlemen who are so much concerned about the printing business, that no outrage will be committed on the treasury by us.

Mr. Monroe confessed that he had done the gentleman from Cabarrus an injury in his remarks. He finds that Mr. Hileman wes not in the last Legislature, but he was in the one before, and he stood then where I stand now, on the question of public printing.

Mr. Henderson, of Wilkes, related the story of the white man and the Indian about the division of their game, when the white man wanted to take the turkey and give the Indian the buzzard all the time. The Democrats have kept the turkey all the time, and they want the Republicans and Populists to have nothing but the buzzard.

An Irishman, in loading his gun, said, "Be jabers! I'll load this gun so heavy, if it don't kill the thing it shoots at, it will kill the fellow that shoots it." You Democrats loaded up with the Alliance to kill the Republican party and it shot back and killed you, and I can you tried to kill the Alliance.

Mr. Kendall, of Duplin, said: The section which we Populists oppose and decide to amend as the most objectionable section of the law, is that which gives so much power to one man. Putting the Treasurer in the place of the Secretary of State will not remedy this defect, and the amendment of the gentleman from Northampton to substitute a Populist Treasurer for a Democratic Secretary of State was only intended to catch votes.

Mr. Young of Wake said on Saturday I moved to put this bill on its immediate passage. We have had three hours discussion. We were sent here to take the places of those upon whom it took twenty years to find that they were doing wrong. The gentleman from Macon who almost shed crocodile tears for fear we would make a mistake about the public printing, had a chance to do this thing which his party was in power, but they did not pass the bill till the last of the session in order to the scrap. Now, they are afraid we will beat ourselves. I move the previous question.

The call for the previous question was sustained.

The substitute of Mr. Peebles was lost, and the bill passed its second reading in the House.

A motion was made to suspend the rules and put the bill on its third reading.

The Democratic lawyers contended that it would require a two-thirds vote to suspend the rules for that purpose. The Chair decided that the House has already repealed the rules of the former House requiring a two-thirds vote and that a majority vote was sufficient to suspend the rules.

An appeal was taken from the decision of the Chair, and the ayes and noes were called. The vote stood—ayes, 67; noes, 45.

Mr. Lusk called for the previous question on putting the main question.

Mr. Ray called for the ayes and noes.

Mr. White of Bladen, said, in explanation of his vote, "I am in favor of rushing business after we have had sufficient time for thorough investigation; but this bill has not even gone before a committee. I therefore vote against sustaining the previous question.

Mr. White voted no.

The call for the previous question was sustained: Vote by call—ayes 70; nays 15.

The bill was about to be put on its final passage, when Mr. Stevens, of Union, moved to adjourn.

The motion to adjourn was voted down.

The bill was then, under a suspension of the rules, put upon its third passage and ordered to be engrossed by a vote of 70 ayes to 45 nays, and the House adjourned at 3.25 a. m.

The Democrats have on their side many lawyers, and they used all their powers to stop the passage of the Senate bill through the House.

It was a sharp and lively contest, and the gallery was filled with interested spectators, whose sympathies seemed to be on the side of the Democrats, but the Populists and Republicans won at last.

HOUSE PERSONALS.

Mr. McClammy, of Wilmington, Mr. Monroe of Goldsboro, and other members on the Democratic side of the House came to the front today in discussing the points of order made by the chair.

Mr. French makes a good presiding officer.

There will be a joint caucus of Populists and Republicans in the House at 9 a. m. today.

CORRECTION.

In our report of Saturday's proceedings we credited Mr. Howard with the introduction of House bill 48. The bill relates to the re-charter of the town of Elizabeth City, and should have been credited to Mr. W. G. Pool. The reporter of the House proceedings endeavors to do full justice to every member regardless of his politics, and will always be glad to make any corrections of errors in his reports.

SENATE.

The Senate was called to order at 3 o'clock, and opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. J. W. Carter, of the First Baptist church. He returned thanks for civil government, and invoked guidance for conducting it properly, and prayed that those to whom the making of laws had been entrusted, might clearly see their duty and be led to perform it.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

The following bills were introduced and appropriately referred:

By Senator Fortune, of Cleveland, to prevent the sale of adulterated and impure kerosene oil in the State.

Senator White, of Alexander, offered a batch of bills and resolutions, as follows:

A bill to extend the provisions of section 980, of The Code, relating to the time within which corporations shall begin construction of their roads; and to amend the charter of the Norfolk, Wilmington and Charleston Railroad company.

A bill to prevent female convicts from working on the public roads.

A bill to repeal the law imposing the "Merchants' Purchase Tax." This bill provides for the full repeal of that section of The Code requiring merchants to report the amount of purchases made during the year, and also repealing the present purchase tax thereon. A provision of the bill is that no merchant shall be required to make returns of purchases after January 1st, 1895.

A bill to prevent usury. This bill provides that no greater rate of interest than 6 per cent shall be charged on principal in business affairs of any kind. The penalty for a violation of the provision is a forfeiture of principal and interest; one-half of which shall go to the State and the other half to the party giving information of the violation.

A bill providing for the registration of chattel mortgages separate from mortgages on real estate.

By Senator Snipes, of Hertford, a bill to incorporate a bank in the town of Edenton.

By Senator Grant of Wayne, a bill to amend chapter 119 of the laws of 1889, for the relief of the soldiers of the late war between the states. Chapter 119 is the State pension law, in which there is a provision that certain soldiers of the late war, possessing real estate to the value of $500, shall not receive pensions. Senator Grant's bill is to strike out this $500 provision.

By Senator Moody, of Haywood, to establish a criminal circuit for the counties of Buncombe, Madison, Haywood and Henderson.

THE STATE BANK TAX.

Senate resolution No. 15, requesting the Senators and Representatives in Congress to work and vote for the repeal of the ten per cent. tax on state banks, was put on its second reading and failed to pass by a vote of 32 to 8.

THE REVENUE LAWS.

Senate resolution No. 16, requesting the North Carolina Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence to repeal the internal revenue laws, was put on its second reading.

Senator Starbuck, who offered the resolution, stated that he was not a champion of whiskey in any sense, but he knew that many good people of this State entertained the belief that it was legalized by the government, and against which there were many handicaps and recklessness in the enforcement of the laws regulating it. There has been and was great oppression in this matter, and therefore he desired the repeal of the system.

Senator Crother, of Jackson, did not want to take violent issue with Senator Starbuck, but he confessed to being a Prohibitionist, and did not wish to encourage any measure which would make it easier for the whiskey business, for he regarded that business as subversive of the best interests of the State. If the enforcement of the revenue laws were harsh, he would prefer to put the conducting of the system under the civil service, so that the officers possible for executing the law might be had.

Senator Starbuck stated that the officers of the internal revenue service had already been placed under the civil service. He said that the greatest denunciation that the Prohibitionists put on any party was the license and licensing of the liquor traffic.

Senator Carver said he was a Prohibitionist, and expected to be one for some time. He had had experience in connection with the license system, and while it was bad when he was connected with it, the system had become tenfold worse now. He favored the repeal of the entire system altogether. He regarded the system as one which favored many to the benefit of the few, and which ennobled the hungry people, and thereby starved and clothed the naked.

On motion of Senator White, of Alexander, the resolution was referred to the committee on federal relations.

A resolution to print 5,000 copies of the governor's message was passed.

FREE COINAGE OF SILVER.

Senator Abell offered a resolution, a long preamble, citing various distressing conditions among the people, which conditions arose from a contraction of the currency, requesting our representatives in Congress to use their influence to secure the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1.

Senator Cook said the resolution had been referred to the proper committee, and he thought this resolution might take the same course.

Senator Abell thought Senator Cook mistaken. He said a similar resolution had been introduced in the House and his (Abell's) resolution was offered to forestall in the Senate the action of that body. He had hoped that the Co-operationists would take the matter up, but they had not done it. He requested that the resolution be put on its immediate passage. He said the principle of the resolution was in the platforms of all the parties, and its passage would emphasize the position of the Senate.

Senator Wickey (Pop.) thought the only result of putting the resolution on its passage would be to ascertain the sentiment of the Senate. It was a good thing. He was glad a Democrat had offered it. In fact, he said, the Democrats are stealing all the good ideas which the Populists have sent and worked for for the past two years, and he hoped they were coming over into the right road.

Senator Mewborne (Pop.) said the Senator had done a good thing as far as he had gone, but he had not gone far enough. He wanted some declaration in favor of a currency circulation of fifty dollars per capita. He said these matters were being discussed in groups and otherwise, and hoped that within the next two years Senator Abell could come into a Populist caucus. He suggested that in referring to platforms in the future Senator Abell should specify whether he referred to the State or national platform.

Senator Cook (Rep.) moved that the resolution be referred to the committee on federal relations.

Senator Carver (Rep.) was willing to vote for the adoption of the resolution now, and asked permission to cross the chamber to welcome Senator Abell into his party. He then stepped up to Mr. Abell and gave him a cordial grasp and handshake with both hands amid the laughter of the Senate and galleries.

Senator Dowd (Dem.) wanted to know to which party Senator Carver had welcomed Senator Abell.

Referring to his resolution, Senator Abell said (turning to Senator Cook, Rep.): "It was your party which demonetized silver in 1873, and that party is responsible for existing conditions today. * * I do not expect this Senate to adopt this resolution, and I do not expect the Republican party to enact a law for the free coinage of silver, but I do expect my Populist friends to come to my support.

Senator Franck (Pop.) said there was no need of any hurry about the matter, and that any delay to which it might be subjected here would not affect it. He could assure the Senator from Johnston (Abell) that there would be no free coinage for the next two years.

The question recurred to the motion of Senator Cook to refer the resolution to the committee on federal relations, and on that motion the yeas and nays were ordered.

"That means to put the resolution to sleep," said Senator Dowd.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes—Ammons, Black, Brown, Candler, Cook, Dalby, Dula, Farthing, Fortune, Franck, Grant, Hamrick, Hurley, Long, Mewborne, Moody of Haywood, Moody of Stanly, Norris, Paddison, Sharp, Shaw, Sigmon, Snipes, Stephens, Wall, White of Alamance, White of Perquimans.

Noes—Carver, Dowd, Forbes, Fowler,

[Continued on fourth page.]

PRITCHARD NOMINATED

The Republican Caucus Last Night on First Ballot.

A VOTE OF 37 TO 22.

[illegible] Republicans Caucused Last Night on First Ballot, Pritchard Nominated by a Vote of 37 to 22—Senator Cannon Withdraws—Vote of Jackson—Senator Pritchard Will Be Formally Nominated Today—Democrats Will Nominate Senator Vance—Senator Cannon Withdrew—Senator Pritchard Nominated—Senator Vance Will Be Nominated Today