State Library

THE CAUCASIAN.

VOL. XII. GOLDSBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1894. NO. 14.

THE $25.00 PREMIUM

WHICH THE CAUCASIAN OFFERED IS BEING CONTESTED FOR.

Three More Letters—The Caucasian has Struck the Key Note.

No. 13.

Haw River, N. C., Jan. 22, '94.

EDITOR CAUCASIAN:—In a copy of your paper Jan. 4th, 1894, I see a reward offered of twenty-five dollars ($25.00) for the most feasible and effectual method for preventing fraud and securing as near as possible a fair and honest election next fall under the present election law.

Will you consider me a contestant?

In my opinion one of the most feasible things which could be done, is this, viz.: Have the Registration Books closed two weeks before the election day. Send the Registrars required to register a complete list of the names of the voters in his township to one or more of his co-registrars for immediate publication.

All minors who may become of age between the closing of the register and election day, be allowed to register before the register is closed, after having been sworn as to the correctness of his age. I believe this would give a more thorough and sufficient opportunity for challenging all illegal votes, and would be satisfactory to the public. In 99 out of 100 cases it would save a vast amount of labor and cost a very small fraction of the money on election day. Also the registrars be required to give each applicant, who may call to register, a receipt to show that he has been legally registered. With honest poll holders, I do not see why this would not give a fair election.

S.

[We all know how the law could be amended so as to get a fair and honest election, but what we want to know is the most feasible plan of getting it under a law that can be abused in the hands of unscrupulous men.—ED.]

No. 14.

Kinston, N. C., Jan. 8th, '94.

MR. EDITOR:—If the county commissioners, registrars, poll holders, and canvassing boards, were all honorable men, the present election law is good enough to secure us a free ballot and fair count. I conclude, therefore, that your object is to get a plan formulated which will prevent the dishonorable men who may fill these positions, from practicing fraud.

The first thing to be done by the reformers is to create a strong public sentiment against all abuses at the ballot box. If public sentiment favors dishonesty, the Legislature of North Carolina cannot make a law which will prevent it, and until the masses are aroused to the necessity of having fair elections, fraud will be practiced by the party in power if it is necessary to do so in order for that party to remain in power. Therefore let the first step be to preach this reform from the press, the stump, and the pulpit, and let each one of us preach it individually.

No politician, no matter how eager he may be to practice fraud himself, will dare to advocate it openly. Therefore every candidate for office should be drawn out by the reformers, and be forced to attack dishonesty at the polls. Every thing that will add weight to the demand for fair elections should be utilized and used with increased energy each day as the election draws near.

A general mass meeting should be called in each township, and the members of all parties should be invited to participate. Resolutions should there be passed condemning fraud and demanding a fair election. A large delegation should be elected by this meeting to go to the township club, and there should be a club in each township to attend the meeting of the board of county canvassers at which the poll holders are appointed, and the right kind of men should there be demanded. If the delegation is ignored, and machine men are appointed in spite of them, we should change our tactics, and become aggressive, but at the same time use every precaution to prevent fraud, or an excuse for fraud.

The registration books should be examined, corrected if wrong in any way, and copied on the last day they are open for registration. Some one should be appointed to take charge of the copy and check off the names as the voting progresses. The tickets should be of perfectly white paper, and all the other details of the law should be carried out to the letter. When the counting begins, every reformer in the township should be at the polls, grimly determined that the votes shall be fairly counted. The poll holders should be made to understand plainly that no fraud will be submitted to. In other words they should be intimidated to do right, and nothing will have such a wholesome effect in that direction as a large body of fearless determined men, whom they know are in the right. A thief well backed is a bully, without backing he is a coward, and will not dare to carry out his part. Let us see to it they are cowards on that day.

All the reformers in the country should attend the meeting of the county canvassing board, and see that the returns are correctly reported and canvassed. There should be no hesitation, or backfulness, on the part of the reformers, if fraud is attempted by the board. It should be boldly and fearlessly exposed the moment such an attempt is made.

It may be that after all this is done we will not get a fair election, but we will be much more likely to get it in this way than to remain quiet and trust to the honor of thieves.

S. H. BURGHE.

No. 15.

Derita, N. C., Jan. 19th, '94.

MR. EDITOR, DEAR SIR AND BRO.:—My plan for honest election:

First, Let us organize People's party clubs at every voting place in the State.

Second, After we are thoroughly organized send up petitions to our county commissioners to appoint honest honorable and upright men for judges and registrars.

Third, Appoint at least five good and the best men you have in your club to see that every one is properly registered.

Fourth, Appoint at least six of your true and tried men to go to the polling place and let every man that votes the People's party ticket sign a paper there in the presence of those men and swear then and there that they did vote that way.

Fifth, Let the machine know that we are after them and we are not going to have any ballot pen voting. When you get after a rascal he is of all men most honest.

Sixth, See that your votes is properly counted and then go to your county seat and see that they are counted there also. Yours,

JNO. G. MCCONNEL.

CONGRESSMAN SIBLEY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Tells Who Oppose the Income Tax in Strong and Pointed Language.

"This opposition," congressman Sibley said, "to the income tax comes from less, much less, than one per cent. of the population of this country, who from their abundance would be asked to pay taxes proportional to their prosperity. Can Eastern members, in compliance with the demands of less than one per cent. of the people by threats of defeat of the tariff bill, force an abandonment of the income tax, and be called good Democrats?

"And if members of congress here," continued Mr. Sibley, "in response to the demands of over 99 per cent of the people insist that this shall be made a feature of the bill and we say that unless the demands of 99 per cent. of the people are heeded, we will not support the bill, are we to be read out of the party? Which is the Democratic end of this question? Is it the end backed by 99 per cent. of the wealth and 1 per cent. of the population, or the end which has 99 per cent. of the population? My conception of Democracy impels me to believe that pure Democracy is represented by the wishes and the welfare of the masses. Are the howlings of syncophantic politicians, and the adverse criticism of a subsidized press, controlled by a moneyed aristocracy, perforce to fix our status as Democrats? No; the fire, sweeping from the gates of hell, represented by the press of the modern Babylon founded near the gates thereof, shall never reach the feet of those who stand on the mountain tops of Democratic truth.

"But farewell income tax for this year. Your friends are not lacking, but your enemies have the fortress and all the ammunition."

WHO AND WHAT CONSTITUTE IT.

The Crank, Who is Noisy, Very Different From the Real Element of Strength under the People's Party.

Mr. Charles Whitehead in an article in the Denver News, does some plain talking. He protests against having the People's party judged by the "cranks." We make the following extract:

"There are Populists and there are 'cranks' calling themselves Populists, but who are the most dangerous enemies to the People's party. Like the froth upon the boiling cauldron, the light substances float upon the surface while the real fire and motive influence glows beneath. The real power of the People's party is misunderstood and underestimated. It is not the Waites, the Southworths, the Mrs. Ireases, the McLallins or Rogers, who are the People's party, but it is the silent, stern, thoughtful, dissatisfied, intelligent masses of the American people—the conservative six million voters who last November declined to vote. It is the silent vote, the great, irresistible army of disgust which will constitute the army of the People's party, and which will be lead to victory when organized. And when that mighty cyclone of Popular indignation hurls itself upon the ballot boxes, as it inevitably will, then the crank element of the People's part will float before it as the fluttering paper and light straws and rubbish float before the approaching storm. The conservative element of the People's party will win for it victory, and not the mouthing bathersskites whose political principles are gauged by their lasts for office."

CLEVELAND'S "CUCKOOS."

Hon. Thas. E. Watson describes Cleveland's cuckoos as follows:

"How sweet it is to be a cuckoo!

"No wear and tear of mind; no painful investigation of questions or policies; no wrestling with mental problems; no thrill of independent resolve; no pride of opinion; no strength of character; no memory for the past; no scruple about consistency; no convictions upon any given subject; no principles, no creed, no conscience; no honesty, patriotism, or shame!

"That's a Cleveland "cuckoo!" When Cleveland speaks the cuckoo echoes the word. Pity the cuckoo,—and despise him!

"One of them is named John B. Jordon. Another, Daniel W. Voorhees. Another, Roger Q. Mills. Another, John G. Carlisle. Another, M. W. Ransom.

"All these men denounced John Sherman and his anti-silver views.

"All of them voted with John Sherman, and carried his anti-silver views into effect.

"Because Cleveland said so. Because they got patronage. Did they get any money?"

THE CHAIRMAN EX. COM.

OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY

WRITES A STRONG AND TIMELY LETTER.

Headquarters Opened at the National Capitol.—Preparing for the Next Campaign.

EDITOR CAUCASIAN:

On the 17th day of December, 1893, the People's party senators and congressmen in connection with a few members of the national committee, held a conference in Washington, D. C., and resolved to establish headquarters in this city for the campaign of 1894. I have completed arrangements to take charge of this work, and will devote my time to advancing the cause.

Fifteen hundred and sixty-four dawned upon the industrial classes of our country, as dark and gloomy as 1893 closed, on the 4th day of July, 1892, the first People's party convention adopted the following as part of its preamble:

"We meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot, the legislatures, the congress, and touches even the ermine of the bench. * * *

"The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self protection; imported pauperized labor beats down their wages; a great hireling standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down, and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions. * * * * *

"From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice we breed the two classes—tramps and millionaires. The national power to create money is appropriated to enrich bondholders. A vast public debt payable in legal tender currency, has been funded into gold bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burden of the people. Silver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor, and the supply of currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents, and it is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once it forbodes terrible social convulsion, the destruction of civilization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism." * * * * *

"We charge that the controlling influence dominating both these parties have permitted the existing conditions to develop without serious effort to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore, in the coming campaign, every issue but one. They propose to drown the outcries of a plundered people with the uproar of a battle over the tariff, so that capitalists, corporations, national banks, rings, trusts, watered stocks, the demonetization of silver and the oppression of usurers may all be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, lives and children on the altar of mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption funds from the millionaires."

These were the words spoken by the People's party eighteen months since, any casual observer who will read these lines, and then reflect upon the condition of the wealth producers, must admit that every prediction, but one, has been fulfilled, and that one is the "destruction of our civilization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism." This one will also be fulfilled, if the two old parties are to remain in power. The two greatest exponents Alexander Hamilton ever had in this country, are John Sherman and Grover Cleveland.

Within these eighteen months the courts have decided that labor has no right to organize for its protection. Workingmen have been shot down in Idaho, Tennessee and at Homestead. Millions of honest toilers have been cast out of employment to live upon the crumbs, doled out by that class who have absorbed the wealth labor created.

The value of the property of the debtor class has depreciated one-third, while that of the creditor class has appreciated in a corresponding ratio. Silver has been demonetized, gold made the money of ultimate redemption, and now Secretary Carlisle, without authority and without law, increases the bonded debt.

Desolate as the conditions are, yet, we must remember that the people are receiving that, for which the majority voted. Voting is like farming, we reap exactly what we sow.

This government must be restored to the people, and the great plain people must do it. Those sections of our country whose interests are identicle, must become political allies in the coming conflicts of ballots.

The "South and West" must unite at the polls for a common cause. The ballot is the only weapon by which this government can be restored to the people. And I earnestly request that every state, congressional, county, precinct and school house committee of the People's party go to work and organize for the coming campaign.

The committee here is considering "ways and means" to furnish campaign literature. Whenever this work is completed, a list of same will be published in the "Reform Press," so that every Populist in the land can send for copies.

I would be pleased to hear from every worker in the cause, young or old, and also earnestly request that every Populist lend a helping hand, towards restoring this government to the people.

Our cause is growing as never before. There is perfect harmony in our ranks everywhere.

H. E. TAUBENECK.

No. 450 Pa. Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

AFRAID OF OURSELVES.

Paternalism vs. Millionairism and Anarchy.

Any proposition to extend the functions of the municipal, state or general government is met by the cry of "paternalism," and this is the only argument advanced by those who possess valuable special privileges. But little heed is now given to that objection, and the sentiment in favor of collective ownership of all natural monopolies is growing rapidly. While it is not confined to any particular section, it is becoming almost universal in the West. In a recent sermon Rev. Frank Crane of the First Methodist Church of Omaha, Neb., said:

"Cast off, I pray you, the idea that a paternal government is necessarily evil. The fact is that paternalism is our only hope. It is a vastly different thing in a country where the people hold the ballot from what it is where hereditary princes rule. There is no danger from paternalism here. It is our only remedy against millionairism. The care and will be tremendous profits of untold billions in America. Our present system of individualism means that some 60 acute money getters shall have the lion's share of this; paternalism means that the people shall have it. When a man evidences signal ability, give him honor and position, that's what he wants, but take the surplus millions for the government, which is the people. No man ought to be allowed to leave more than a reasonable fortune to his heirs. Give them so much and the rest to the state.

"A stimulus to great business enterprises can be found in public honor as well as in amassing exorbitant wealth. As for corporations, whenever they assume threatening proportions let the state assume them. You fear the increase of political jobbery? Then you fear yourselves. Politics must be purified. If the American people fear politics, they fear their only savior. Cast off the millstone of party from the national neck, and the way is clear.

This government is drifting towards either paternalism or anarchy. As for me, I choose the former.—Henry R. Legget in Boston Travellar.

HUGE STUMPS.

One Removed From the Bottom of Neuse River Makes a Flat Load—An Interesting Question.

The New Berne Journal says: In our item on the river and harbor improvement work we alluded to the stumps at the bottom of Neuse river channel, on which the steam hoister Contentnea and her force were at work when we visited the scene of operations. Stump was being taken up in pieces, having been blasted, and we left when only part of it had been taken out. Afterwards Overseer Durham called at our office and gave us the following additional facts in reference to it:

This one stump loaded the flat used to receive what is pulled up. The flat is 30 feet long and 10 feet wide. This will give an idea of the stump's size.

The appearance of the tops of the majority of these stumps seem to indicate that they were cut down, occasionally one appears to have been burnt off.

If there were any possible way of finding out, it would be interesting to know when it was that the present bed of the Neuse was a forest, who the workmen in it were, and how the river took the place of the land, but these points can be matters only of the widest conjecture. Newbern was settled 184 years ago, and so far as we know there has not been in that time the slightest record or tradition, from the Indians or otherwise, of such a change as the presence of these stumps of trees at the river bottom indicates must at some time have taken place.

Engineer Chadbourne tells us the same of the Cape Fear river-that stumps have been removed from it near Wilmington at a depth of twenty feet.

INFORMATION ASKED FOR.

Clinton, N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—I heard a crowd talking around the courthouse the other day, and they said that the farmers legislature of 1891 gave Mr. Fab Busbee eight hundred dollars to draw one bill. They said it was caused by want of lawyers in that legislature. Is this true?

CITIZEN.

[The legislature of 1891 did not employ an attorney to draw a bill or to do any other work. It was the legislature of 1889, or rather the committee raised by that legislature with E. W. Kerr a lawyer as chairman that employed an attorney and made the bill against the State, and the legislature of 1891 had to either appropriate the money to pay it or repudiate the debt.—ED.]

Singleton—In her girlhood days your wife was possessed of a very sunny disposition. Has she any of it yet? Longwed—Well—er—enough to make things warm for me occasionally.—Buffalo Courier.

FORUM OF PUBLIC OPINION.

ISSUES IN THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

EDITOR THE CAUCASIAN:

I have just read a letter in your valuable paper over the signature of James McPherson Templeton, that contains some valuable suggestions. The writer is well informed on the election methods in this State, and like every patriot should do, comes out boldly for reform.

The manner in which elections have been conducted and results announced in North Carolina during the past ten years—especially during the last six years—is a disgrace to the State and a reproach to our civilization. A recital of instances where gross frauds have been perpetrated is wholly unnecessary, because no truthful citizen, I care not what his political affiliations may be, will have the temerity to deny their perpetration.

When men are appointed to offices of honor and responsibility as a reward for executing the fraudulent methods conceived and suggested by wiser heads; when those who have been commissioned by the people of the State to hold the scales of justice in equal poise, frequent the headquarters of designing politicians under cover of darkness and there in a semi-official way suggest how honest citizens may be defrauded of their right to vote, at the same time enjoining the utmost secrecy; when men descend from their high legislative positions and actively participate in defrauding citizens of their own counties out of their votes; when members of our State Legislature are ejected from seats to which they were fairly and honestly elected, to make place for some suppliant tool of an egotistical boss; I say when these things are done here in good old North Carolina, is it not time to call a halt?

What is known as the Democratic party—the Bourbon element—does not embrace a majority of the voters of the State by many thousands; but they manipulate the election machinery in their hands and the infamous elction laws as their license, there will be no more honest elections in this State until that party is dethroned and driven from power.

Can this be done? It can when men lay aside past prejudices, cease to be selfish and look only to the good of the country and the State, and the prosperity and welfare of their fellow citizens.

Every question — National and State—should be subordinated to a single issue—fair elections. Compared with this, everything else sinks into insignicance. We may differ on the tariff, on the free coinage of silver, and perhaps on some State issues of minor importance, but on the question of fair elections —every elector having the right to cast one vote, and have that vote counted as cast—we can all agree.

There are thousands of good citizens who have in the past voted the Democratic ticket from inherited prejudice, who have become disgusted with the practices of the past few years. They are ready to join hands with us in our efforts to purify the ballot box.

Just how we can all get together and present a solid front is a matter for serious and mature consideration. I have no plans to suggest. If I should make a suggestion it would be very much like the suggestion of President Grant when the Secretary called to consult with him about the resumption of specie payment. When asked his views the President replied: "The way to resume is to resume." So I say the way to get together is to get together.

The opposition in the coming campaign to the Bourbon Democracy should be represented by a single ticket for each office to be voted for. We do not want a Republican ticket, a People's party ticket and a Prohibition ticket to divide one for us. Put forward the very best men we have, irrespective of past party affiliations. If a Democrat who is willing to go with us is the choice of the people, put him forward. If a member of the People's party is the most available man select him. If a Republican can best represent the people his former affiliations should be no bar to his selection. However, as above stated, this is a matter that should receive serious consideration, and I would be pleased to see it discussed in your paper.

A REPUBLICAN.

Eagle Rock, Wake Co.,
Jan. 23, 1894.

A RIGHTEOUS DEMAND.

The State Alliance in session in Greensboro, August, 1893, passed the following resolution:

Whereas, The present election laws of North Carolina are so framed as to allow a criminal perversion of the will of the people; and whereas, the purity of the ballot is necessary for the perpetuation of our liberties; therefore

Resolved, That in our election we must have a free ballot and a fair count. We denounce all acts, by whatever party done or attempted, to reverse or thwart the will of the sovereign people of this State, and demand of the next legislature a law which will guarantee a fair election We call upon the press and good men everywhere to join us in this demand. (tf.)

Y. M. C. A. JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.— The world's committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, with headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland, have just issued a call for the 13th international conference of the Y. M. C. A. of all lands to meet in London on May 31 next.

Jonathan and His Continent.

By MAX O'RELL (Author of "John Bull and His Island," "John Bull, Jr.," Etc.) and JACK ALLYN.

Translated by Mme Paul Blouet. Copyrighted by Cassell & Co. New York, and published by special arrangement through the American Press Association.

Paul Blouet (Max O'Rell) is a remarkably clever Frenchman who has devoted his talents mostly to satirizing the Anglo-Saxon race. The book from which the following extracts are made is his latest production, and material for it was gathered during his recent visit to America.

XV—DRESS.

Light Trousers Cause a Sensation—Bonnets to Frighten a Choctaw—Veil the Past, Ladies.

In America, gentlemen's dress is plain, even severe.

I remember well the sensation I created with a pair of light gray trousers in a small Pennsylvania town. Every one seemed to look at me as if I had been a strange animal; in the hotel the waitresses nudged one another, and the street urchins followed me as if I had been a Sioux in national costume. One of the local papers announced that a Frenchman had landed in town the day before "in white trousers," and that his popularity had been as prompt as decisive.

With evening dress, the American gentleman wears no jewelry of any sort. Simplicity, rather severity, in dress is a mark of distinction in a man, and the American gentleman is no exception to the rule.

American ladies dress very well as a rule, but there are a great number who cover themselves with furbelows and jewels. The fashionable headgear during my sojourn in the States was a high, narrow construction, surmounted with feathers. At a certain distance it gave its wearer the look of an irate cockatoo. The ladies wearing them walked like English grenadiers in busbies.

There are French milliners in New York, I believe. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes pretends that they deteriorate on American soil. He said: "By the time a French milliner has been six months in New York, she will make a bonnet to frighten a Choctaw Indian."

At the theatre women wear silk, which prevents one from hearing, and hats a foot high, which prevent one from seeing.

Boston ladies eschew show and glitter and wear diamonds very sparingly, even in the evening.

But the most striking contrast may be seen by going straight from New York or Chicago to Canada. "Here we are in England once more," I thought, as I looked at a bevy of Canadian girls disporting themselves at an afternoon dance in the Athletic club of Montreal. Half a dozen New York women would have had on the worth of all the fifty or sixty toilets in the room.

American ball toilets are ravishing. Here the diamonds are in place. I do not know any gayer, more intoxicating sight than an American ball room.

Low necked dresses are much worn by American women, not only at balls and dinners, but at their afternoon receptions. It seems very odd to us Europeans to see a lady in a very low necked ball dress at 4 in the afternoon, receiving her friends who are habited in ordinary visiting toilets or tailor made gowns. In France, a hostess seeks to make show of simplicity in her reception toilets, so as to be likely to eclipse no one in her own house.

Decollete toilets are universal in America, old ladies vying with young in the display of neck and shoulders. It is true the Americans are not peculiar in this. Many times, in a European ball room, have I longed to exclaim:

"Ladies, throw a veil over the past, I pray you."

You may see some wonderful costumes in the streets of the large towns, disguises rather than dresses. I have seen dresses of an orange terra cotta shade, trimmed with huge bands of bright green velvet; costumes of violet plush, worn with sky blue hats, and other atrocities enough to make one's eyes cry for mercy. Violet and blue! O, Oscar Wilde, I thought you had been in America!

The wives of men with middle class incomes imitate the luxury of the millionaire's wife. I expected to find it so; in a democratic country, frogs try to swell into oxen. They puff themselves out until they burst, or rather until their husbands burst.

XVI—HIGH CLASS HUMOR.

Chauncey M. Depew and Gen. Horace Porter—Mark Twain.

Humor is an unassuming form of wit, by turns gay, naive, grim and pathetic, that you will never come across in a vain, affected person. What, for instance, could be more naive than the following by Mark Twain at a dinner in New York, given, of course, in his inimitable drawl:

"I was in the war, too—for a fortnight—but I found I was on the strong side—so I retired—to make the fight even."

The Americans are past masters in the art of making those light, graceful, witty little speeches which give to their dinners such a unique charm. Irony and elegance combine to make these discourses veritable little literary gems.

The chronicler, who draws upon his fertile brain for an interesting column for his paper every day, may choose his own subject, and the task, difficult as it is, is not insurmountable; but to be able, night after night, throughout a whole season, to make a witty speech on a given subject, not chosen by the speaker, this appears to me a wonderful feat. Nevertheless, it is done every year by a goodly number of Americans, foremost among whom must be named Mr. Chauncey M. Depew and Gen. Horace Porter. A banquet is not complete without the presence of one of these delightful orators.

Here is a specimen of Gen. Porter's drollery—a portrait of an old typical Puritan, given at a "New England" dinner:

"The old Puritan was not the most rollicking, the jolliest, the most playful of men. He at times amused himself sadly. He was given to a mild disregard of the conventionalities. He had suppressed bear baiting, not, it is believed, because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the audience. He found the Indians were the proprietors of the land, and he felt constrained to move against them with his gun, with a view to increasing the number of absentee landlords. He found the Indians on one side and the witches on the other. He was surrounded with troubles. He had to keep the Indians under fire and the witches over it. These were some of the things that reconciled that good man to sudden death. He never let the sun go down upon his wrath, but he, no doubt, often wished that he was in that region near the pole where the sun does not go down for six months at a time and gives wrath a fair chance to materialize. He was a thoughtful man. He spent his days inventing snow plows and his evenings in sipping hot rum and ruminating upon the probable strength of the future prohibition vote. Those were times when the wives remonstrated with their husbands regarding the unfortunate and disappointing results of too much drink, particularly when it led the men to go out and shoot at Indians—and miss them. These men generally began drinking on account of the bite of a snake, and usually had to quit on account of attacks from the same reptiles."

At the same dinner Mr. Chauncey M. Depew said, among other things:

"The Yankee had room enough in New England, but he wanted New York, and he generally wanted the earth." Later, speaking of Plymouth and the Pilgrims, he went on:

"Among the treasures which crowd the museum at Plymouth is shown the original teapot in which was brewed the tea of the Pilgrims on their voyage across the ocean in the Mayflower. It does not disturb the faith of the superintendent of the museum, or the inhabitants of Plymouth, that tea was not introduced into England until fifty years after the Mayflower sailed; but it shows that that wonderful vessel and more wondrous passengers were fully equipped in principle and in furniture for all the needs of the present and all the possibilities of the future."

All this is delicate, exquisite wit.

Gen. Porter was kind enough to introduce me to a New York audience on one occasion.

"Ladies and gentlemen," began the general without relaxing a muscle of his face, "I claim your indulgence on behalf of the speaker who is going to address you. He has to speak in a language not his own, and, besides, he has not the resource of some of our countrymen, who, when their throats are tired, can 'speak through their noses.'"

Mr. Depew has not a very high opinion of English humor. This is an anecdote he tells on the subject:

Mr. Depew and Gen. Porter were present one evening at a dinner in London. The general had just terminated a speech, and Mr. Depew was called upon for one in his turn.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I am in a great state of embarrassment. I had prepared a speech which Gen. Porter, to my great surprise, has just given you word for word. The general and I occupied the same cabin on board the steamer which brought us to England, and I strongly suspect he must have stolen my notes."

At this, it appears, Mr. Depew heard an Englishman say to his neighbor:

"It is not the act of a gentleman."

Since the death of Artemus Ward, Mr. Samuel L. Clemens, whose pseudonym of "Mark Twain" is a household word among every English speaking people, has held unchallenged the position of first American humorist.

This man of merriment is, it appears, also a deep student of serious things. His father-in-law was long anxious to have him write a life of Christ, and if he has never complied with this wish, it is only from a feeling that a volume of the kind, coming from his pen, might not be read with the reverence such a subject demands.

XVII—BOISTEROUS HUMOR.

Horse Play Wit—The Clover Club Dinner. Other "Gridiron" Clubs.

Humor only springs in simple, unaffected characters. It overflows in the well bred American, who is the prince of good fellows.

The Americans are so good at taking a joke, so good tempered that, even in public, they enjoy to banter each other and serve as butts for each other's sarcasms. There are even "Gridiron" clubs, clubs where guests are invited only to be put on the grill.

The most famous of these is the Clover club at Philadelphia. Outside Paradise there is no place where men are treated with so little regard to their rank.

The club is composed of the principal journalists of Philadelphia. Once a year they ask to their table about fifty guests, people talked about; the president of the United States himself has an invitation, if he cares to submit himself to the "grilling" process.

The president of the club, Mr. Handy, takes his place at the center of the table, and the feast begins. Choice dishes follow one another, and are washed down with choice wines. Conversation flows, and faces light up. An orchestra, placed in a neighboring room, makes pleasant subdued music. The guests begin to think over the speeches they will soon be called upon to deliver—you recognize them by their white faces; the Cloverites quietly sharpen their weapons for the fray. Presently comes dessert. The president strikes two or three little blows upon the table and rises. Now for it!

'Gentlemen,' says the president, "I have the honor to propose the first toast of the evening. Let us fill our glasses and drink to the honorable member of congress on my right. I doubt not you will push your amiability and patience so far as to listen to his speech in respectful silence. He will be all the more proud to have an audience to-night, because, as we all know, when the honorable member gets up to make a speech at Washington the benches begin to empty by magic. Gentlemen, give him a chance."

The congressman takes the joke merrily, and thus commences his speech:

"Gentlemen—I mean members—of the Clover club."

The members pocket the satire with a hearty laugh.

The second speaker speaks in a scarcely audible voice.

"Raise your voice!" cry the members.

"I'm sorry you cannot hear," quietly answers the speaker; "come nearer."

The cries of "louder!" continue.

"If I speak low," says the interrupted man, "it is in order to get down to your level."

This convulsed the assembly with laughter.

Can it be possible, I thought, that they will stand that? The joke may be new and funny, but surely it is being carried beyond the bounds. If such things went on in France one would see duels going on in all the retired spots of the neighborhood next morning.

The health of a third guest is proposed in terms as grotesque as the preceding ones. This gentleman is an American, whose daughter is the wife of a member of the English aristocracy. He begins:

"Gentlemen, when I was present at your dinner last year"——

"Last year!" cries a Cloverite; "how did you get invited again this year, pray?"

"Oh, you know you can't do without me. You must have a few respectable

CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.

A FAMILY TROUBLE

A MAN, WHO VOTED FOR CLEVELAND, AND HIS WIFE, LOSE THEIR TEMPER TRYING TO FOLLOW DEMOCRATIC ADVICE.

They Decide to Write to the Editor of The Caucasian About It.

BAYBORO, N. C., Jan. 22, '94.

MR. BUTLER,

Dear Sir—You have made the impression upon me as being a very kind hearted man and ready to give kindly advice to a fellow creature in trouble so I come to you asking to be helped out of the dilemma in which I find myself.

For thirty long years I have been following the advice of the Democratic party. At all times and under all circumstances I have taken my political ethics from their standard authorities, but now I can go no further—I have bumped against the wall. The authorities from whence to learn are divided and there is no standard edition, if there really is it cannot be expected that an ordinary individual can be a competent judge.

They went to Chicago and said the standard money metals of the country should be gold and silver. Now some of the authorities deny this while other affirm this. They said a "tariff for revenue only" and this they have been howling ever since and including the Tilden campaign of 1876, and now Wilson, the chairman of the Ways and Means committee of congress, admits they have stopped this side of the line and are yet on the protection side.

One of the great battle slogans was: "Turn the rascals out," which was interpreted to me by high standard authority to mean the radicals. Now I find Gresham one of the great headlights of the radical party, standing next in succession to the Presidency should the elected President and Vice-President be removed by death or otherwise.

I find the big-hearted and charitable Van Allen, who contributed $50,000 to help the poor down-trodden people to get rid of these "rascals," forced to resign his embassy to Rome to give place to one of these very same big rascals. Oh, what a shame, Mr. Editor, that this generous patriot should be treated in this manner.

And, again, Mr. Editor, this same standard authority told me this was a white man's government and that the Democratic party (my party) was the white man's party, and if the radicals got in power the "niggers" would go in our homes and want to eat with us and want to walk with our wives and daughters to church and other public places. Now I find one of these same "niggers" appointed Minister to Bolivia, the most enlightened and aristocratic countries in South America, and another sent as consul to one of the French cities and other minor appointments given them.

They said "give us a chance," and we'll do great things for the poor; that the "Reds" had been legislating for the last thirty years to make the "rich richer and the poor poorer," and, Mr. Editor, we gave them a chance and they met in congress in extraordinary session and repealed the silver act, but they said this was to clear the way for a better and wiser bill when they met in regular session. Now I hear, Mr. Editor, they actually refused to take advantage of the "chance" given them and had to be arrested for criminal neglect of duty.

Now, Mr. Editor, as I said in the beginning, I have been following their advice for thirty years and you see I am now against the wall. I don't know where my guide is; it looks as though the guide or guides are lost or gone astray or stolen.

But one of the latest pieces of advice I have seen purporting to come from standard authority, is to make what you eat and wear and buy nothing. Now, Mr. Editor, I thought this was beautiful advice, (you see this is sorter in consonance with a real stingy man).

So I told my wife about it and commenced to count up the cost of this article and another and so on. First I said, "We have made a plenty to eat and nothing to buy here, so you see I have done my part. Now I shall expect you to do your part." Here I paused and she turned a very serious look upon me and after eyeing me a moment, she asked: "What did you say?" and without giving me time to reply, she said: "Do you expect me to do all the washing and ironing? do you expect me to card, spin, weave, cut, and make all the clothes for the family? Do you expect me—"

I said, "stop, stop, I will write to Mr. Butler about this matter."

INQUIRER.

[We advise this man to ask his wife how to vote and then have common sense and manhood to follow her advice instead of that Democratic politician.—ED.]

DYING EVERYWHERE THE SAME WAY.

(Denver Daily News.)

Congressman Sibley, the free-coinage millionaire, furnishes the following interesting condensed object lesson from Erie county, Pennsylvania: Republican vote in 1892, 8,918; in 1893, 6,579; Republican loss in one year, 2,339. Democratic vote 1892, 7,589; in 1893, 3,886; Democratic loss in one year, 3,703. The Prohibitionists lost half of their vote in one year. The People's party made a gain of twelve per cent, while all the other parties lost votes. The Republicans losing twenty-five per cent., the Democrats and Prohibitionists about fifty per cent. in one year. And yet some people say the People's party is dead.