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WHAT THE LEGISLATURES COST.
The State legislature of 1895 was charged with graver duties and faced greater responsibilities than any law-making body that ever convened in North Carolina. The duty of revolutionizing the State government devolved upon it. A general reference has already been made to the work accomplished along that line. From time to time particulars of the work will be elaborated, and the CAUCASIAN takes the liberty of assuring the people that when this is done, they will be willing to render a verdict of "well done, good and faithful servants."

At this time, the opposition Democratic press has, without question, a more extensive and much more rapid arrangement for disseminating reports among the people of the State than the press of all other political parties combined; and people who read it and are accustomed to put confidence in it (if there are any who have confidence in it), have been persistently misinformed in every matter which has been ventilated by it. The demagogic mendacity and unqualified venality of the Democratic newspapers, in this respect, have been a matter of bulging amazement to those who have known the truth. The CAUCASIAN can assert that their general reports have been and continue to be as false as the most consummate lying ingenuity can make them, and that they are not worth a moment's serious consideration.

A sweeping statement like the above ought to call for and does call for vindication. We are ready to make it. It may be stated that the CAUCASIAN'S readers, at least, have already had one conclusive instance of the audacity and unmitigated effrontery of the Democratic press in the matter of downright and unreserved lying. Another such instance could hardly increase the public disgust and condemnation under which that press is staggering, but it might be, nevertheless, interesting.

The Democratic papers are asserting that the last legislature cost the people more than any other since 1870. They made that statement before it was possible to know what the cost would be. Almost at the beginning of the session they said and almost swore that the legislature was being conducted at a total cost of three thousand dollars more than the legislature of 1893. The CAUCASIAN at once showed that the expense was twenty-three dollars per day less than that of the legislature of 1893; and it was shown so conclusively that the Democratic sheets were very glad to turn the matter loose.

YEARS.	Cost of Legislature.	Total Amount of Money Expended.
1870	\$1,269.84	\$1,599,378.55
1871	50,259.26	1,577,941.99
1872	57,474.36	1,729,963.54
1873	58,287.71	1,938,138.57
1874	60,479.99	1,709,390.41
1875	59,501.25	2,069,510.57
1876	62,918.91	2,392,492.73
1877	62,970.78	2,442,088.33

THE LEGISLATURE OF 1895 HAS COST THE PEOPLE \$65,779.84 up to date.

See the books of the State Treasurer. The report of the State Auditor for 1895 is not ready.

"Oh, what a difference in the morning!—When the Truth and Solid Facts begin to dawn!"

Just study these figures a little. Just see how they jump up and increase from one legislative period to another. The more the people trusted the Democratic party, the worse it became, until, during the last two years it was in power, it got away with nearly two and a half millions of dollars of public money.

Just notice one thing. The legislatures of 1879-80 cost the people of North Carolina \$71,293.80.

The legislature of 1893-94 cost the people of North Carolina \$65,976.78.

The legislature of 1895-96 cost the people of North Carolina \$65,779.84, and this included an amount of more than \$3,000,000 paid to contestants for seats—an expense hardly heretofore known, and which was a direct result of Democratic fraud and rascality at the ballot-boxes in the election of 1894. And this legislature did twice as much work as any ever assembled in North Carolina.

Say, can you see? Can you add up and subtract? Do you know the significance of dry, cold figures? Do you want any more Democracy? If so you have the power to take it; but if you will excuse us, gentlemen, no more for us, please.

Incidentally it might be said that the reports of the State auditor make marvellously interesting reading for people who have the public good at heart. Suppose you send to the auditor for one—the last one for instance. Just try it.

THE FAVORABLE AND UNFAVORABLE MORTGAGE LAW.

Last week the CAUCASIAN made mention of what had become a noted "law." It was the assignment act, which some rascally Democrat, paid by foreign money, had "sneaked" in among the enrolled bills of the General Assembly, and by this means secured the signatures of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House making it a law. The bill was as follows:

Section 1. That all conditional sales, assignments, or deeds of trust, which are executed to secure any debt, obligation, note or bond, which gives preference to any creditor of the maker, shall be absolutely void as to existing creditors.

As before stated the money lenders and mortgage takers were afraid they could not get control of everything the borrowers might own under this law, and they made the Democratic press create one of their usual fogs about it, and in the meantime made much noise with fog-horns—saying the whole country had gone to the bows—wows, and otherwise attempting to alarm the people. Quiet, conservative people said nothing; but began to look into the matter; for it was claimed that chattel mortgages and lien bonds given for advances of supplies would not be good under this law.

A case was brought from Durham to the Supreme Court so that a decision as to the operation of the law might be had. The Court decided that it does not apply to mortgages executed for a present consideration. This decision is to the effect that a mortgage or lien given for supplies, or anything that the mortgage is security for, is as valid and good as it ever was.

The law as it stands will prevent anyone from making preferred creditors in case of an assignment for the benefit of creditors.

The decision in the case was handed down by Justice Montgomery, being concurred in by the Chief Justice and Justices Furches and Clark. Justice Avery filed a dissenting opinion to the effect that no properly constituted case was before the court. While Justice Clark concurred in the decision of Justice Montgomery concerning the construction of the law, he also concurred with Justice Avery concerning the status of the case heard.

But whatever the law does or does not do, it is a fraud. It is not justly entitled to publication. It appears among the laws through some shrewd scheming and manipulation—and that this scheming and manipulation was done by some Democrat, after the bill had been tabled in the House, can scarcely be doubted. A Democrat confesses to have drawn the bill at the instance of a Baltimore organization, and says that an ex-judge was connected with it. This ex-judge

is now a Durham lawyer—a partner of a firm whose senior member is counsel for the American Tobacco trust. A Democrat confesses to having introduced the bill. The bill was tabled in the House by the co-operationists, and it never went into the Senate.

The Baltimore concern sells goods to North Carolina merchants, and has lost right much money, perhaps, by being left out of the preferred creditors' list whenever these merchants failed. They wanted a law that would give every creditor at least an equal share of what any merchant had on hand at any time he might make an assignment. They were the parties most interested. They had their paid attorneys here to look after this thing. These attorneys were Democrats. They saw the bill killed in the House. It may be that some of the fees they wanted to make were to be withheld if the bill did not become a law.

THE PROTEST AGAINST THE MORTGAGE LAW.

These are some facts in the case. More will probably come, and when they do they will make a splendid illustration of the methods to which "concerns" and trusts will resort to carry out their designs and purposes. Just think a little now. Who was most interested in this bill that was killed by the people? Who most wanted it to become a law? Who wanted to be most benefited by it? Just keep up your thinking and see to what conclusion it will lead you.

Gov. Carr is taking steps to prevent the fraudulent bill from being published in the laws. His action may possibly lead to some discoveries which will be interesting. If everything that is now known could be openly proven, times would be very warm for some persons.

A "SOUTHERN" MAN FOR PRESIDENT.

Last week the Washington Post made an apparently serious suggestion that the Democratic party nominate a "Southern man" for President in 1896. "I-am-a-Democrat" D. B. Hill seconded the motion by telegraph; and, according to the Post, there is right much discussion about the matter. The CAUCASIAN has appreciated the Post as a paper of both dignity and very refined humor, even if its politics are somewhat fugacious and elusive. We now admire it as a broad brained, business paper. As manager of a "Jno. W. Wamaker" store it would evidently be a stupendously multitudinous success. We fear the Southern circulation of the Post is on the wane.

THE PROPOSITION, HOWEVER, MAY HAVE THE EFFECT OF CREATING A LITTLE FLUTTER IN THE SOUTH. A MAN WHO HAS "BEEN A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT" CAN HARDLY FEEL AS SMALL AS A TEN CENT PIECE, AND FOR A FACT THERE MAY BE SOME OLD CODGERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO EXPERIENCE A FEELING OF THAT SIZE.

But the time at, and conditions under which this proposition is torn forces us to smile a little smile. The "Solid South" has been the backbone of the Democratic party for thirty years. It has gone to the polls time and time again and sent up solid Democratic presidential electoral votes. It has never had a word to say as to who the candidates for nomination should be. It has had almost as little to say about who should be the nominated candidate. When the Northern Democrats pointed out a man who could probably carry "Noo York," that settled the business regardless of man, morals, mischief or anything else. The "Solid South" fell in line.

Does any member of the present generation recall a Democratic candidate for President who was not from a "Noo York"? If he chanced to be a Union soldier, it was all right. He was a Democrat. If the opposition candidate happened to be a Union soldier, he was a villainous vampire on the face of the earth—and everything else of a disreputable character that language could paint. Truly, of all gullible and gander-headed gumps that ever infested the globe, the Southern Democrats have been most so. They've swallowed everything and anything, not knowing or caring what it was, provided it was called a "Democrat." The Northern crowd knew they could depend upon the "Solid South" to do this every time. They have regarded the Southern Democracy just as the State Republicans have regarded the negro. Both knew that when the command was given the lines would be drawn up, whether there was any sense, honesty or decency in the order or not.

It must have been a dispensation of Divine Providence to let the element supported by the "Solid South" come into control of the government. Nothing else, it seemed, could ever convince the South of the egregious assiniuity of which it was guilty. If it is not convinced now, it is pretty reasonable to suppose that it is beyond the reach of conviction. The Northern wing of Democracy is pretty well satisfied that the party is a rank, rotten failure. Its "in power" record permits no sensible man to reach any other conclusion; and under the influence of this opinion; when the party is spoken of only with mingled sensations of ridicule, disgust and contempt; when its back-bone, the "Solid South," is shattered and broken; when its chances for life are about equal to those of a June-bug in the beak of a bee-marlin, the Northern wing magnanimously seconds the motion to nominate a Southern Democrat for the Presidency. Amen!

THE PROTEST AGAINST THE MORTGAGE LAW.

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"Devil" and "Damn," and all words of possible derivation therefrom, together with all expressions intimating close association therewith, from the choicest part of the Wilmington Messenger's vocabulary these days. It is a positive and impressive fact, that the paper over which the above mentioned prosody is spewed, has recently taken on a fiery, reddish hue, and shows a tendency to assume a sulphurous, blueish tinge. Evidence that the presiding genius (?) of this journal is seeking to form a combination with the proprietor of Hades is pretty conclusive; but in a spirit of philanthropy we warn the aforesaid "presiding genius (?) that the "days of miracles have passed." You may be forewarned "expunged from the records."

THE PROTEST AGAINST THE MORTGAGE LAW.

The protest covers two pages. But as long as it is and as strong as it is, it did not prevent the Democratic majority from appointing many negro magistrates. The extracts herewith presented may be interesting.

"The undersigned, respectfully but earnestly, protest against the policy which appears to have been approved by a majority of the Democratic members of this General Assembly in the election of colored magistrates in and for certain counties of this State."

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Nearly two and a half million dollars is quite a vigorous sum for one North Carolina Democratic legislature and administration to get away with. If they should do that one hundred times, they would spend the whole tax valuation of the State.

The press of the late Democracy can create quite a sensation by elaborating the figures from the Auditor's reports presented elsewhere. If they will do this before next week, they will get a "coop" on the CAUCASIAN.

It appears that farmers are still at liberty to plaster their farms and homes and stock over with mortgages, despite the "sneaked-in" fraudulent mortgage law. The Democratic press will please proceed to give thanks.

The Carthage Free Press, Mr. V. N. Seawell, editor, is a new addition to the list of Populist and reform papers in the State. The first number shows a force and perception that bodes no good for the old gang.

We rise to remark that when the Democrats originate their next storm, they would do well to consult the manager of the weather with a view to ascertaining the probable course of counter-acting currents.

The Democrats are now looking over the enrolled bills trying to find a t with no cross on it. If they find one, look out for another roar; but don't get nervous. There'll be no occasion for it at all.

For a gang not after "spoils" some leading Douglassians have developed a powerful grip for holding on to what they have, as well as a keen scent for anything that may possibly be grabbed.

It looks as though the South Carolina dispensary law is about to be characterized by the elements of a howling success. It promises to put about \$300,000 in the State treasury.

The despairing howl of the Democratic press over the Cleveland-Douglass fraternity, and the Oh! Ferrall-Team-Oh! affiliation does not appear to have sufficient force to wake an echo.

The anxiety of the Democrats to make it easy for the whole country to get under mortgage is somewhat touching. It might be remarked that mortgage means "death hold."

The kicking department of the Douglassians is evidently closed for the purpose of taking an inventory of stock. The assets will hardly be equal to the liabilities.

The bluff made by the Democratic press over the assignment bill was the biggest "April fool" sell of the season. It's dangerous to be (April) fooling with some people.

Dear Volunte, THE CAUCASIAN of next week will submit a few remarks concerning sundry articles and matters which have extracted certain moneys from the public purse.

The unanimity of the people in the expression of the opinion that the Democratic press is "something of a liar" is assuming convincing proportions.

And now the Democratic papers appear to be trying to divert the attention of the people from the financial question by column "write ups" of base-ball.

We fear the Democrats will experience some difficulty in harmonizing their records with their opposition to negro magistrates.

It is not uncommon for discrepancies to appear when guesses are opposed to facts. See the legislative figures elsewhere. Next!

We suggest to Gov. O'Ferrall that, when he entertains another investigating committee, he demand certificates of identity.

THE INCOME TAX.

The Supreme court of the United States has handed down a long opinion concerning the income tax. The case brought before the court to contest the constitutionality of the tax has been hotly contested by the leading lawyers of the land. The opinion of the Court is clearly expressed. The ease was heard by eight members of the Supreme judiciary. The decision is that incomes from rents, and State and municipal bonds cannot be taxed. Incomes from other sources are taxable. It was estimated that the revenue from this tax would be about \$30,000,000 per annum, if all incomes were subject to the tax. Under the decision of the Court it is thought the revenue will amount to about \$15,000,000 annually. It seems to the CAUCASIAN that the bloated bond-holder and the land-grabber have escaped their proportionate share of the burden of sustaining the government. The income tax is a tax on industry, and industrial enterprises is taxed. If the highest interpretation of the constitution permits such gross discrimination as this, the constitution needs some more amendments. The Court did not seem equal to the task of arriving at a positive decision. It

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