

THE CAUCASIAN

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Observations on some of Mr. Pearson's remarks. Congressman Pearson has been talking, and here is what he is reported as saying:

If he (Butler) takes the course outlined in the circular as printed, he will commit an act of perfidy and dishonor, of overt treason to Senator Pritchard, without a parallel in North Carolina politics...

The "ifs" and "ands" in this utterance do not, in our opinion, constitute a qualification of its unreasonable harshness, nor do we believe it was inspired by a proper spirit.

Mr. Pearson's expression of "perfidy and dishonor" is borrowed from a man named Cleveland—a man for whom Mr. Pearson is said to have voted, once at least, for President of the United States...

It is said that a cannon ought to be one hundred times heavier than its shot; but Mr. Pearson's shot is a hundred times heavier than he is in North Carolina politics...

Under the head of Political Pot-Pourri we quote Senator Butler in words which effectually dispose of Mr. Pearson's imaginary "pledge in the Hall of the House of Representatives."

Senator Pritchard declared for free silver at the time of his election to the U. S. Senate and before, and has voted for it since his election; and it was only when he expressed an intention (by action) of repudiating his principles...

The way is clear for Senator Pritchard to continue to receive the support of the People's Party. He has only to choose that way if he wants the support.

If Senator Pritchard will remain true to the principles he professed when he was elected to the Senate, Mr. Pearson will have no cause to complain of his being "betrayed," and Mr. Pritchard himself cannot be accused of betraying any cause.

party (if the party should violate them) will call adhering to party, right or wrong, a betrayal of principle.

Mr. Pearson seems to abhor a man who repudiates his political associates more than he abhors one who betrays his principles.

If adhering to its principles defeats the People's Party, even though Mr. Pearson is carried down in the crash, he must remember that "truth crushed to earth will rise again."

But whether in the future Mr. Pearson adheres to principle, or to party at the sacrifice of principle, one thing he must learn; and that is he must abandon the billingsgate methods he seems to have learned when he was in or partly in the Democratic party.

If the House agrees to the Senate amendments to the post-office appropriation bill, the country will be primarily indebted to Senator Butler for a plan that will be of incalculable convenience and benefit to the people of the rural districts.

This has not been undertaken before because former Postmaster-Generals did not think the amount appropriated by former Congresses sufficient to make a fair trial of the system—said amount being two separate appropriations of ten thousand dollars each.

There has never been any objection to this system. On the contrary it has been advocated by high post-office officials, including Postmaster-Generals, but has never been attempted for want of means.

The scheme is practicable, because there are a number of countries doing it to-day. It has been done by the people in a number of localities on their own arrangement. The people to-day in a number of neighborhoods arrange to have a free delivery system and pay for it themselves.

EDITORIAL COMMENT. We would like to commend the temper and spirit of the communication in this issue to the study of some of our talking Republican friends—especially to Chairman Holton, the man ever forced to the alternative of trying to twist the tail of a comet or putting his "lively" energy to rest, we advise him to take the former contract as the more feasible of the two.

The New York World, says the Washington Post, has undertaken the task of nominating McKinley for the Democrats. The way the World caused out the McKinley bill some time ago, and the way it recently jumped on Cleveland about the bond deal make the possibilities of acrobatic achievement among goldbugs.

We learn from the Atlanta Constitution (silver Dem.) that Hon. Hoke Smith (gold Dem.) has utterly failed in his effort to explain his changed financial mind, and the Atlanta Journal (gold Dem.) assures us that Hon. Charles F. Crisp (silver Dem.) has been thoroughly floored by the clean-cut logic of the Secretary of the Interior.—Washington Post.

The Charlotte Observer is trying to revive the "pook! pook!" which was once used to silence the man who said that Wall Street plutocrats and money brokers based the Democratic party, Gov. Iro. Caldwell, it won't do. Even the lawyers and merchants know this is so now. Why, God bless your soul, there are no money brokers any more, there who know it. It can't be possible that you are four years behind!

Talk about nerve! The Charlotte Observer has assumed a contract to prove that Jefferson and Jackson were goldbugs. Well, in 1822 a large number of Democrats tried to prove that Cleveland was a silver man. There is about as much of sense and truth in one of these undertakings as in the other.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, a paper which falsifies its name to the extent of being a Republican paper says: "The Populist party is the only party that shouts for free silver. It is the only party that would bring free coinage if it had the power."

Poor Demy papers and scribbles. They can't understand why on earth the Pops are standing for principle. They don't know what such a stand means. Not being able to make a correct analysis of such a stand, they try to get even by abusing the Pops and trying about them at long range.

Maj. C. Dowd, of Charlotte, is collecting data and material for writing a biography of the late Senator Vance.

Read our Congressional report this week if you want to see some account of big "grack" games.

Under our special offer to send five subscriptions three months for \$1.00 or twelve subscriptions three months for \$2.00, we have received the following:

Table with columns: Name, No. of Copies, No. of Subscribers. Lists names like Amos, James, Henderson, and subscription counts.

WAKE COUNTY ALLIANCE. Lecturer to be employed, J. and a County Agency to be established.

The Wake County Farmer's Alliance met with the L. L. Polk Alliance at the A. & M. College on April 9th.

The County Executive committee has been authorized to employ an able all-iance lecturer and orator in the county.

THE CAUCASIAN has received an announcement of the marriage of Mr. John Zebulon Green to Miss Ella Caudle, at 7:45 p. m., April 25th, in the Methodist church of Peasland, N. C.

Hon. Walter R. Henry, address the people of Gastonia county, N. C., on Saturday, May 9, 1896, on the great issues of the day at Gastonia.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Some Record of What the People's Representatives Are Trying to Do.

SUBSIDY GRABBERS WIN. Interesting Discussion on Government Postal System—It is Unconstitutional To Operate It By Private Corporations—Senator Butler Secures \$70,000 For Free Mail Delivery Experiments In The Country.

MONDAY, APRIL 6TH SENATE. Eight pension bills were introduced. Mr. Pritchard presented the memorial of the citizens of Beaufort, N. C., remonstrating against the enactment of legislation abolishing compulsory pilotage.

Fourteen pension bills were introduced. The Cuban resolutions were passed by a vote of 24 to 27. At the request of Mr. Hill the following letter was read:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THE SECRETARY, Washington, D. C., April 6, '97. Sir: Complying with your request, and as requested by Messrs. Linn and Housley of the House of Representatives, I have telegraphed Landreth & Sons that their proposition to put the seeds into packages of 5 instead of 15 packets (making 2,225 packages instead of 675,000) for \$5,000 extra compensation has been accepted, and the seeds will be done up.

Improving harbor at Beaufort, \$4,000. Improving inland waterway between Beaufort Harbor and New River; continuing improvement by a vote of 206 to 40. The bill amounts, including liabilities and appropriations to \$62,000,000.

Improving Cape Fear River, above Wilmington; continuing improvement and below Wilmington; continuing improvement, \$100,000. Improving Neuse River; continuing improvement, \$200,000.

Improving Pamlico and Tar rivers; continuing improvement and maintenance, \$2,500. Improving Trent River; continuing improvement, \$200,000.

Improving Black River; for maintenance, \$1,000. Secretary of War is instructed to make preliminary arrangements for the following locations in this State: Cape Lookout harbor or refuge. For a jetty near Bogue Inlet, to remove sand bar.

Six pension bills introduced. Mr. Pritchard introduced the petition of W. H. Chadbourne and other members of the Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington, N. C., praying for the establishment of an army post adjacent to that city.

Mr. BUTLER. I introduce a joint resolution and ask that it be read at length for information. The resolution was read as follows: Resolved by the Senate, etc., That the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States be proposed to the legislatures of the States...

has fallen into disuse in a kingdom, in a monarchy, but here in this country it flourishes and is used more frequently each year. The people here are their representatives than the Houses of Congress directed to enact the will of the people into law: yet one man—not even a legislator—has the monstrous authority and power to nullify any act of Congress. A bill is passed after the most careful and deliberate consideration by the representatives of the people; yet it can be vetoed and nullified by a stroke of a pen in the hand of one man.

This is a dangerous power. When we consider to-day the tremendous patronage the free president has with which he can influence legislation, in addition to the veto power to kill what is passed, it makes him almost an autocrat. It gives him more power than any crowned head of England or, we might say, than any monarch in Europe has. We saw here in the last Congress a man who had the power and patronage of the President were used to change the opinions of Congress and to defeat the will of the people.

The "amount heretofore appropriated" referred to in this amendment is \$20,000,000 which having been appropriated by previous Congresses and never been expended because the amount was not sufficient, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, to make good a free mail delivery system in the country districts. This \$20,000,000 is included in Senator Butler's amendment, making a total appropriation for this purpose of \$70,000. The amendment was adopted.

We said last week that the corporations would get the big subsidies they were after. The Oceanic Steamship Company which carries the mail from San Francisco to New York and gets a contract price for it, asked the government to give it an additional subsidy of \$60,000 a year. The company will not yet start, nor will the ships make better time, but the Senate voted to give that company this \$60,000 annually, just as we said it would do last week. Senator Butler voted against it. Senator Pritchard voted for it.

The railroads came in for a big subsidy too. They carry the mails at a low price, but they want more; that is from the government. They had their "trifles" in the Senate to put this clause in the bill: "For necessary and special facilities on track for the postal service, Messrs. W. of New York and Washington, to Atlanta and New Orleans, \$186,614.22; provided, That no part of the appropriation made by this act shall be expended unless the Postmaster-General shall deem such expenditure necessary in order to promote the interest of the postal service."

Improving Cape Fear River, above Wilmington; continuing improvement and below Wilmington; continuing improvement, \$100,000. Improving Neuse River; continuing improvement, \$200,000. Improving Pamlico and Tar rivers; continuing improvement and maintenance, \$2,500.

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Mr. BUTLER, Mr. President, I should like to be permitted to explain the joint resolution in a few words. It is a bill to amend the wording of the Constitution and the machine with reference to the veto power just as it is now. It will be noticed that the only change it makes in the Constitution is by changing the words "two-thirds" to a majority.

He then took up the constitutional question and showed that he had given it much investigation and study. He cited at some length the highest authorities to show that the bill is constitutional, and further that it is not only constitutionally proper for Congress not to provide for the use of the telegraph and telephone as agencies of our postal system under the management of the post-office department.

In doing this he quoted from Congressional reports, from the Constitution itself, the Supreme Court of the United States, and the reports of Frank Parsons, Henry Clay, Cave Johnson, who was Postmaster-General under Jas. K. Polk, ex-Postmaster-General of the United States, and Justice Brown, of the U. S. Supreme Court, and various others. Among the citations which will be of interest to North Carolina people is an expression of Justice Brandeis of the U. S. Supreme Court, which is as follows: "Many who admit the great advantage of the telegraph and telephone being operated as a part of the postal system are deterred by the inquiry, 'Is it constitutional?' In truth it is unconstitutional for this essential branch of the postal system to be operated by a private monopoly or in any other manner than by the government. When the telegraph and telephone are placed in the hands of the government it confers its exclusive operation upon the government, and with it all means of operating it to the best advantage."

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