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CAPT. R. B. DAVIS-ELECTOR-AT-LARGE.

A very merited compliment was the selection of Capt. R. B. Davis as chairman of the meeting of the members of the Presidential Electoral College in this State, which body met here last week.

His course in the campaign represented everything required by fairness, dignity and force. The conditions under which he went into the fight were delicate and acute, and to remedy this, as far as possible, an effort was made to arrive at an understanding by which the candidates for electors on the Bryan fusion ticket should discuss national issues alone.

It is a pleasure for us to be able to emphatically declare that the understanding as to national matters was strictly and honorably adhered to by Capt. Davis. While he never, for an instant, allowed the slightest depression of the Peoples Party flag, he never uttered a word that could be possibly distasteful or unpleasant to a Democrat or a member of any other party.

This assertion cannot be made of Mr. Locke Craig, who was the Democratic candidate for elector at-large on the Democratic side of the Bryan fusion ticket. He may not have done so everywhere, but in Raleigh he made a rancorously partisan speech.

Capt. Davis had the judgment to predict—almost to know—that the conditions under which Bryan was fighting were unfavorable to his election. On September 20th the Captain wrote the editor of the CAUCASIAN a letter in which he said:

"I am quite sure that you can make no mistake in discovering the signs of these times. Bryan, as I have told you before, will be overthrown in this contest. But that will not be the end of him. On the contrary he will arise from his defeat ten times stronger than before.

The above is but one of many of the strong evidences of the superior political acumen of Capt. Davis shown during the campaign in a quiet way. His advice and opinions were impressive and greatly influenced those to whom he imparted them.

Put the country on the gold standard and then let the banks control all the paper currency and the speculators and bankers would have the country absolutely at their mercy.

coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. After that decision, no man who is opposed to that principle ought to have the effrontery to ask the people of the State to represent them in the Senate or anywhere else. The fact that the majority of people of North Carolina declared for the election of some Republicans, when the National Republican party declared for the gold standard, while they declared against some Democrats, when a part of the Democratic party professed to favor silver, has no bearing here beyond that of declaring that the Democratic party is a liar.

Now, if the expression of the popular will shall have its proper influence on the legislature in the matter of electing the U. S. Senator, and we doubt not that such influence will prevail, the proprietors will demand the election of a silver Republican as the next Senator from North Carolina. Without having taken the pains to make any inquiry, we are of the opinion that the Populist members of the legislature will be more than willing to support such a candidate.

It may be properly observed that conditions can change, and as they change the opinions and general sentiment of men may change to correspond with the changed conditions. Such change in opinion and sentiment is commendable and praiseworthy when not influenced suddenly by the hope of personal preferment or gain.

Two things of very great significance have followed closely on the heels of the election. First, Gen. Miles, the head of the army goes to see McKinley and makes an official recommendation in his report that the standing army be more than doubled. Is there any need of such an increase?

Such an army cannot be needed to meet any foreign foe that might appear, for we can always depend on the patriotism of our people for volunteers to meet any such peril when it may arise. We challenge any man who favors this increase to give his reasons—a standing army is a dead expense to the taxpayers and is opposed to the genius of our government.

There can be but one purpose and that is to train a standing army to serve monopolies and trusts, and to shoot down any who may oppose the avarice and oppression of industrial kings and monopoly tyrants. The present army is big enough for that purpose, but the fact that they want it more than doubled shows that they have planned new and greater schemes of robbing and oppression.

The Constitution provides that the government shall issue all money. It is a function of government—a function of sovereignty. To turn over to the banks the power to levy and collect taxes from the people would not be near as dangerous to our property and liberty as to turn over to them the issue of our money and the control of its volume.

Let the Legislature of North Carolina be careful not to send any man

to the United States Senate who will vote for either of those dangerous and infamous measures. Don't send a man who will side with these robbers on any question.

Congress convened last Monday. It is to be hoped that they will be able to show more statesmanship than it gave evidence of during its last session.

The President's message was received and read. This document is quite long and wearisome. We have not read it carefully, but a glance indicates the same leaning to and partiality for trusts, corporations, national banks, gold gamblers, bond issuers, etc., that have heretofore characterized the messages of President Cleveland. The Cuban question is touched upon, but in such a way that the meaning of the President is not quite clear.

A number of silver men flocked over to McKinley's ground when the last campaign because they were forced to do it to get campaign funds from the McKinley gold ring, and to be in good standing at the McKinley silver counter. In short a number of silver Republicans did what a number of silver Democrats did in 1892 when the Cleveland gold bug piece counter was in sight. But the majority of the next Legislature are silver men. Now watch and see some of these same floggers who went off under the legislature flap again. A man whose convictions before the country can turn head and tail like a weather cock with each political wind is not a safe man to legislate for the people.

Instead of the Republican committee expending two millions of dollars to carry the election for McKinley, it turns out to have been sixteen millions of dollars, all of which will come out of the pockets of the producers in some form or other. To raise this enormous sum the trusts and monopolies must either raise the price upon what you have to buy, or reduce the price of what you have to sell, thus keeping wages at a low and starvation rate.

The Democrats have been so accustomed to "whooping her up" over fraudulent election victories, that they can't break the "whopping up" habit. So when the very "stuff" was knocked out of them in the recent election, the poor devils "celebrated" all the same, and tried to drive and snivel about what they called a "moral victory." Well, all we have to say is that they have a fair show to celebrate another "moral victory" two years from now.

The most pathetically ridiculous thing that ever happened was the holding of a banquet by some Democrats a few days ago, at which they celebrated their "moral victory" in the recent election. Democracy! Moral! You couldn't any more mix these two terms than you could mix an elephant with a crocodile—no more than you could mix fire and water. Where one prevails, the other is annihilated.

The railroad men were coerced into voting for McKinley and are getting the proper reward for their servility. A general reduction of from ten to twenty per cent. in wages is reported on railroads in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska and many other places. The roads are on roads centering in Chicago since the election.

Senator Butler seems to be approaching a point at which he will favor a stock Democratic phrase, "his powers will be put to the supreme test." Democratic writers and papers are beginning to indirectly commend him. If he can survive that test, he need not fear anything else of which mortal man is capable.

It is said the Peoples Party will endorse a sort of tariff which the Republicans may suggest. The Peoples Party will endorse anything that will bring prosperity to the people, but unless better times come to the country under the new administration, no earthly power can prevent the success of the Peoples Party in 1900.

If Governor-elect Russell can manage to have the policy outlined in his interview, published in this issue, put into operation, he will make a Governor to whom a coming generation will build the biggest monument ever erected in North Carolina.

It, in common with all London, have received the news of McKinley's election with delight and satisfaction." says Baron Rothschild. Hah! He ought to be investigated some money in the work of electing McKinley.

The advance agent of prosperity does not seem to have called up his reserves yet.

The Board of Aldermen of Salisbury were petitioned to take steps towards buying the waterworks and putting in an electric light plant. A committee is to be appointed to draft a bill to be introduced at the next sitting of the Legislature, in January. This bill will provide for an amendment to the town charter in which the town will be given power to issue \$100,000 of 4 per cent bonds.

Part of this shall be applied to the purchase of the waterworks system and part to the putting in of an electric light plant.

Chas. De Brought With Goldbug Money. Hickory Mercury. The prominent Republican down East who declared the other day that Mark Hanna could buy enough Populists to re-elect Pittman to the Senate, will find himself sadly mistaken. We don't believe there is a Populist in the State who will sell himself to Mr. Friedman. Populists are not for sale.

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United States Congress. THE CAUCASIAN has secured the services of one of the foremost writers, and he will send weekly letters containing all the interesting news of the Nation's capital.

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