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WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The Closing Hours Devoted to Speech Making and Presentations to the Presiding Officers.

ELECTION LAW AMENDED

How Passed Third Reading—The School Appropriations to Encourage Local Taxations Becomes a Law—Blackburn Elected Speaker Pro Tem—Both Branches Adjourn Sine Die Tuesday at 12 Midnight.

At the opening of the Senate Saturday an executive session was held for the consideration of appointments of trustees of the Girls' Normal and Industrial School, and the following were confirmed: A. J. Moye of Pitt, J. A. Blair of Randolph, A. S. Peace of Granville.

The doors were then opened and the Senate proceeded with the consideration of bills on the calendar.

The election law bill came up as special order.

Mr. Grant explained the bill. The bill vests the power to appoint registrars and judges of election in the clerk of the Superior Court, the register of deeds and the chairman of the board of commissioners of the respective counties, thus taking the officers named a board of elections. The appointments are to be made from different political parties. The State election board feature, which was in the original bill, was cut out of the bill in the Senate. Authority to remove judges and registrars of election is given in the Supreme Court or a judge thereof.

Three boxes are to be provided—one for township officers, one for county officers and one for all other offices.

The time for registration of voters is extended to noon on the first Saturday at which hour the books shall be closed and challenges shall be in order during the remainder of the day. The person making a challenge shall state the reasons therefor and pay a fee of 25 cents for serving notice, which shall be handed to him if the challenge is sustained. The elector challenged shall be cross examined upon the matters alleged in the challenge, and upon no other matters.

It is provided that State chairmen of political parties shall file with the Secretary of State, and county chairman shall file with the clerk of the Superior court copies of the State and county tickets, respectively, to be voted at the ensuing election. Any other tickets than duplicates of those filed shall be deemed counterfeit, and persons circulating them shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished in the discretion of the court. Tickets may or may not be distinguished by devices. When two names shall be voted for upon any ticket as candidates for the same office, as when a name is inserted in writing without erasing the name of the regular candidate for the same office, the ticket shall be counted for neither of them, but the remainder of the ticket shall not be invalidated.

Offering, giving and receiving prizes is made a misdemeanor, punishable in the discretion of the court.

Electors are privileged from arrest at the polls on election day, or while going to or returning from the place of registration or any registration day preceding the election, except for treason or felony. An amendment was adopted exempting electors from arrest from the day the poll books are opened until the day after election for failure to list his property or poll for taxation.

A new registration may be ordered, whenever necessary, by the county board of elections.

When a voter changes his domicile, he may secure a certificate of registration at any time from any registrar having the registration books in charge.

Provision is made for elections in towns having no election machinery in their charters. The appointment power is vested in the county board of elections and notice of appointment to be given forty days preceding elections.

Mr. Grant said that the bill was reported as a compromise measure, and that in his opinion it was fair and just. He believed that the bill would be approved by conservative men of all parties.

Mr. Moye offered an amendment to provide for the appointment of judges of election upon the recommendation of State chairmen of political parties. The amendment was voted down.

The bill passed second and third readings.

The report of the conference committee on the bill to encourage local taxation for public schools was considered, the bill being on its third reading. Mr. Atwater offered a substitute providing for the distribution of fifty thousand dollars pro rata to the counties. Messrs. Grant, Anderson, Ashburn, Butler, and Utley supported the bill, and Messrs. Atwater and Sharpe opposed it. The Atwater substitute was voted down and the bill passed third reading.

The bill to change the charter of the insane asylums passed third reading. In explaining his vote, Mr. Person said that he was about to vote for a bill that he had persistently fought in order to obtain proper recognition of the colored man. He saw that the bill was about to be passed and he would yield to the inevitable. In his fight against the bill he had not intended to be discourteous to the Governor. If he could be disappointed in the assurances he had received during the morning, he would have the approval of his conscience in having done his duty. He was not seeking an office, but was on the floor of the Senate to represent his people. He voted aye.

The bill making appropriations for the support of insane asylums came up on second reading. Mr. McNeill offered an amendment to cut the appropriation for the Morganton asylum from $100,000 to $80,000. Mr. McCaskey moved to make the amount $90 000. The latter amount was adopted. An amendment was adopted reducing the Raleigh asylum appropriation from $63 000 to $50 000. The appropriation for an electric light plant for the Goldsboro asylum was reduced from $43 000 to $40,000. The bill passed third reading.

A resolution was adopted appropriating five hundred dollars to buy the painting of the late Senator Vance on exhibition in the rotunda of the capitol. Mr. Rollins said that the same amount had been contributed by the friends of Senator Vance in the city as part of the purchase price. He hoped that the resolution would pass without dissent. A standing vote was taken and the bill passed unanimously.

A bill to appropriate $4,000 additional to the colored State Normal schools passed second and third readings.

A bill to increase the compensation of the clerk of the attorney-general from $600 to $900 a year came up on second reading. An amendment was adopted to increase the salary of the chief clerk in the Auditor's office from $1,000 to $1,500 a year, and the bill as amended passed its several readings.

The House substitute for the bill to regulate the public printing passed second and third readings.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning.

The House proceedings of Saturday and Monday were reported in last week's issue under the head of "The Story of the Fight."

Monday and Tuesday was devoted to cleaning up the calendar in both branches of the Legislature. All of these bills were more of a local character.

CLOSING SCENES.

Mr. Scales said: "I have been called to the chair to show our respect to one of the most impartial, honest and high-minded presiding officers the Senate of North Carolina ever had, the Hon. Charles A. Reynolds.

Mr. Parker, of Alamance, said it was a pleasure to say the president, Hon. Charles A. Reynolds was a just, impartial and courteous presiding officer. He succeeded one of the best presiding officers North Carolina ever had and he could say the present presiding officer had fully sustained the former presiding officer. Governor, you have the sincere and cordial appreciation of every member of the Senate. Your rulings have been prompt and no partiality shown to anyone. We shall remember your presiding over this body with gratitude and now, Governor, we, as a slight token of our appreciation of your universal kindness, present to you this silver service. We have recognized your worth to the State and the impartiality of your rulings. This token I desire to present to you in the name of every member of this Senate. We are about to part. I know I voice the sentiment and wish of every member when I say that we wish you a long and useful life. Some of us you may meet here two years hence, but some you will not, we beg you to accept this token in the spirit it is given.

The Lieutenant Governor spoke feelingly in reply to Senator Parker, saying that the token ordinarily would not be of so much value, but coming from this body it is without price, and I except it in the same spirit it is given. In presiding over you I have at all times received your support upon all matters and if I have been wrong you have kindly pointed it out to me. When I came here to preside I said that no man should stand in the door and tell the political faith of the chair only on a tie, when the people of my party demanded it. I have absolutely learned to love you all and the happiest moment of life will be when you all can sit at my board and partake of my hospitality from the token presented to me and I cordially extend an invitation to you all. No one could presided over this body and done wrong with such a noble set of men in the body. I may preside over the Senate two years hence, and if I had my prayer it would be that every one of you could be here. And now I desire to add that every assistance that could have been given has been given me by the employees of his body, and I do not know how I could have gotten along without the servies of that efficient and best clerk in North Carolina, Hill E King.

A rising vote of thanks was tendered Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds for his kind words.

Mr. Grant said: "It has been to me a pleasant session. In heated discussions I may have said things that have wounded the feelings of some. If so, I ask your forgiveness, as I did not intend it. I have received kindest consideration from every one. If we never meet again on earth, there will be another meeting place, and my prayer is when the roll is called every one of this body will answer." Mr. Grant paid a tribute to Lieutenant Governor Reynolds, as also did Messrs. Smathers, Ray and Moye. Mr. H. E. King, chief clerk, returned thanks for the kind words.

Concurrence was voted to a joint resolution that the hour to adjourn sine die be changed to 12 o'clock. The ratification of all acts was completed, and as the clock neared the hour of midnight, the Senators gathered about the Speaker's desk and such songs as "Annie Laurie" and "Suwannee River" were song with right good will. Three minutes before twelve a roll call was ordered, which showed twenty-nine Senators present. Promptly at 12 o'clock, Senator McCaskey moved that the Senate do now adjourn sine die. There were numerous seconds to the motion and the Senate for 1897 was quickly dissolved. There were cordial handshaking farewells, and very soon all assemblymen had retired from the chamber.

The hour of adjournment was really 1:05 o'clock.

In the House there was no special business to engage the attention of the House, the only remaining work being the ratification of bills. The enrolling department seemed very much behind, and 5 o'clock came and no bills had been reported. About this time Dr. Dixon arose from his seat and proceeded in a very graceful and appropriate manner to present a massive gold-headed cane to Speaker Blackburn. Dr. Dixon said: "We have come to the closing day of the session of the General Assembly. We are soon to return—some to wives and children, some to brothers and sisters, and many of the younger members to meet sweethearts, to whom in parting, such ardent avowals and allegiance and faithfulness were made and which were so quickly broken as soon as the young beaux laid eyes upon the lovely and lovable girls of Raleigh. For truly no city can boast of fairer or sweeter ladies than can the 'City of Oaks.' You have been elevated to the Speakership of this House and it has been with pleasure that we have conferred upon you this honor. In presenting this token to our young and handsome Speaker, we trust that you may carry it with you to yet higher honors, that it may prove a strong support when the snows of age shall settle upon your head, and that in the valley of the shadow it may prove a present help."

In accepting the cane Mr. Blackburn made a feeling response to Dr Dixon's speech of presentation. He said that while he had differed very much from many of the members in politics, and opposed in many great issues where party lines were broken up, he could but feel that all had come out not scarred, but appreciating each other more and with hearts better prepared to go out into all parts of the State. As it was said that the greatest affinity existed between unlike substances, so he thought members, with all their conflicting views and interests, have learned to appreciate each other all the more. He concluded with a feeling reference to his appreciation for the token and wish that as his collegues should pursue their varied destines, their lots should be cast in pleasant places and that all might meet in the great beyond.

The cane bore the following inscription:

Hon.
SPENCER BLACKBURN,
From
The House of Representatives
for His
Firmness, Courtesy and Impartiality.
Session of 1897.

Mr. McCrary was recognized, and in an appropriate manner presented a handsome watch to the popular Reading Clerk, Mr. Benbow. Mr. McCrary said that it was a sad fact that Mr. Benbow must leave his sweetheart in Raleigh. In concluding he said that as he has "clearly read the Journal in days gone by, may you just as clearly read your title to mansions in the sky." The watch was gracefully accepted in a happy and appropriate response.

The next official to receive a token from the House was the efficient and popular Chief Clerk, Mr. Masten, of Wilkesboro. This was a splendid silver water set, and the presentation was made through Col. Lusk, of Buncombe. The efficient services of Mr. Masten were extolled to the highest degree. The tribute was a well deserved one.

On behalf of Mr. Masten, Col Cunningham accepted the present. In behalf of Mr. Masten he desired to say that the gift was appreciated most highly. He had been a member of the House in years gone by, and had many warm friends and former colleagues in this assembly. He had discharged his duties faithfully and well. He had been courteous and polite. He would take this present to his home, where it would be appreciated alike by his family and friends. The Colonel also added for himself, his associations with the members had been most pleasant among all parties and he felt from his heart that he had made many warm friendships which he trusted might continue throughout life.

The following communication from Speaker Hileman, was read, to-wit:

"To the Honorable Members of the House of Representatives:

"I regret exceedingly that I have been too unwell to preside over your deliberations during the expiring hours of the session. I extend my heartfelt thanks for the kindness and courtesy extended to me as the presiding officer by all members. I shall always remember each one with the kindest remembrance, and I shall always look back upon the legislature of 1897 with the most pleasant recollections. The work of this legislature, in my opinion, will compare favorably with that of any preceding legislature Our State institutions have been very generously provided for, and some advancement, at least, has been made along the line of public education. I desire to thank the clerks and officers generally for the efficient and courteous manner in which they have discharged their duties. I ask the blessings of our All-wise God upon the work of the General Assembly and His especial blessings upon the members and officers. I accept your elegant present, your very laudable tribute of respect and friendship, in the spirit in which it was given, and I shall ever treasure it very highly. Again thanking you all for your many kindnesses, I am,

Yours, very respectfully,
A. F. HILEMAN."

As the evening advanced it became evident that the session would extend far into the night, and the 10 o'clock sine die adjournment resolution was revoked and another passed, that the Assembly adjourn at 12 o'clock. To do even this it was necessary to turn back the hands of the clock an hour and five minutes.

At five minutes to 12 o'clock the Enrolling Clerk announced that the Secretary of State had issued a receipt for all bills ratified. Very soon thereafter Mr. Lyle moved to adjourn. Promptly at 12 Speaker Blackburn declared the House of Representatives adjourned sine die. The real time of adjournment was 1:05 o'clock.

It is what you say in your ad. that draws customers. Whether you hold them or not depends on what you do afterwards.

AN ADDRESS

To the Peoples Party Voters of North Carolina and the United States.

[Adopted and issued by a unanimous vote of the Peoples Party caucus of the General Assembly of North Carolina.]

The election of Mr. Pritchard, the candidate of Hanna, Sherman and Wall street, to represent the silver sentiment of North Carolina in the United States Senate, is a shock to every true patriot of this State, as well as the nation.

He was elected by the votes of those who called themselves Populists, and at a time when they could have as easily elected a Populist Senator. Populists who fail in a critical hour to stand for Populist principles are not the Populists in whose hands and under whose leadership the principles of the party can be carried to victory.

When the Peoples Party last summer refused to enter into a contract to support the caucus nominee of the Republican party for United States Senator—regardless of his position on the financial question (even though the governorship might have been gotten for our party in return for such a pledge), then the Republican machine laid their plans to secure the votes of enough individual Populist Senators and Representatives of the legislature for such a Senatorial candidate in spite of and in defiance of the Peoples Party organization. To accomplish such a result it was necessary for them to find some one or more prominent members of the Peoples Party whom they could influence to barter their principles and become their agents and tools to carry out a conspiracy to corrupt, debauch, and, if necessary, split the Peoples Party to accomplish their purpose.

They found one of their agents in the person of Col. Harry Skinner. The allies and satellites of this arch traitor, who were elected as Populist members of the legislature, played their part and by their acts uncovered themselves to the world in casting their votes for Mr. Pritchard for United States Senator.

The next step to their hellish plot is already being taken. Having disrupted the Peoples Party caucus and accomplished the election of a gold Senator, by open and defiant alliance with Skinner and the bolters from our caucus, they are now studiously endeavoring, by every influence at their command, to disrupt and destroy our organization, because they and every corporation, monopoly, trust and combine, which is represented by them in this contest, hate our principles and are alarmed at the growth and increasing strength of the Peoples Party, which represents these principles.

This they will endeavor to accomplish by using as their agents in every community in the State either some local Republican boss, or some so-called Populist, who is willing to accept a mess of pottage in the shape of Federal patronage from the McKinley pie county to make insinuations and false accusations against the character, motives and purposes of the majority of the members of the Peoples Party caucus and those who stand by their action. It is absolutely necessary to the consummation of their conspiracy to break, if possible, the confidence of the people at home in the men who have here fought without faltering in the face of tremendous odds and terrible temptation to preserve the integrity of the party and its principles and to retain for the people the balance of power in the United States Senate to prevent the further encroachments of the allied enemies of good government upon the liberties and prosperity of the people.

It is a part of their scheme, in attempting to accomplish this purpose, also to back up these bolting members of the legislature in their respective counties and districts with patronage and other equally substantial means (as the price of their treachery) to enable them to either capture the Peoples Party organization in their respective counties and force it to approve their treachery or to split the organization and take their corrupted portion into the Republican party. If either of these insiduous and deep laid schemes should succeed it would mean the disruption if not the death of the Peoples Party. This they know, and for this they are striving. Shall we allow this hell-conceived conspiracy against the interests and welfare of suffering humanity to succeed that a few by treachery and corruption may feed and fatten upon the misery of millions??

Certain lewd fellows of the baser sort bound themselves in an oath that they would both eat and drink of the bounty of the despoilers of the land until they had killed Paul. Shall we allow this to be done or shall we draw the line? We cannot serve both God and mammon. The fight is on. "Under which king. Bezonian?"

As the livery of Heaven is stolen to serve the devil, soevery act committed against the integrity of the Peoples Party and its essential principles here and in the nation will be attempted in the name of co operation with the Republican party in the South and with the Democratic party in the West.

Already the Populist supporters of Hanna's man here in North Carolina begin to call themselves co-operative Populists, when in truth they are nothing but Republicans, while attempting to better serve the purposes of the Republican party by masquerading as Populists. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

The only way by which the Peoples Party can be able to maintain its existence, strengthen its lines, and advance its basic principles, upon which good government must be founded, is by purging from its ranks all who have committed the crime of placing self above the welfare of the people.

Seventeen members of the legislature of North Carolina, calling themselves Populists, under the traitorous direction of Congressman Harry Skinner, aided and abetted by certain prominent Populists of other States, high in the councils of the party, have committed this crime.

The prominent Populists of other States referred to have sent letters and telegrams here encouraging the bolters and endorsing their base and treacherous action in defeating Dr. Cyrus Thompson, the Populist nominee for United States Senator, by voting for and electing Mr. Pritchard, a John Sherman Republican. We denounce and repudiate this unwarranted and strange interference by outsiders in our local affairs. But their crime against the principles and organization of the Peoples Party we leave others to deal with. But Skinner and the bolting Populists have been promptly repudiated and expelled from the organization by this caucus, and, therefore, branded as traitors to the basic principles of good government and enemies to the welfare of humanity.

The seductive but slimy old party snake has, no doubt, struck its poisonous fangs to a greater or less depth into the organization of the Peoples Party in many other States. Therefore, this purging must also be done elsewhere. It cannot be begun too soon.

The presence of this disease was painful and dangerously evident at the last National Convention of the Peoples Party.

Four years ago when the Peoples Party met in National Convention at Omaha, composed of delegates from every quarter of the Union, men who, in the past, had affiliated with different political parties—they met on common ground, moved by a unity of purpose toward a common end.

In the last National Convention we were confronted by the baneful and poisonous effects of Republican taint in the South, swinging the party to one extreme, and Democratic taint in the West swinging the party to the other extreme, which not only destroyed the harmony and unity of method, but also endangered the very existence of the organization.

There was danger that if either of these extremes had dominated, the Convention would have been rent in twain and the organization afterwards disorganized and disintegrated in detail.

Thus the heroic and patriotic, efforts of the lamented L. L. Polk in breaking down the deadly barriers of sectional prejudice and uniting the patriots of the South and West, and their fellow-sufferers everywhere under a common banner to fight for the restoration of property and the liberation of humanity, which was so nobly achieved, was threatened to be undone by the separate and joint machination of the two old parties that are co jointly responsible for the evils and miseries that exist.

The enemy, though temporally foiled, is still at work. Only last week here in Raleigh, within a stone's throw of the consecrated grave of L. L. Polk, the combined conspirators from Lombard and Wall streets concentrated all their infamous powers to deal a deadly stab at the very vitals of the Peoples Party organization and its principles, for which our fallen leader consecrated his best efforts and sacrificed his life. Thus the election of Mr. Pritchard, by those professing to be Populists, discovers a startling crisis in the history of the Peoples Party.

Therefore, let all those who believe in the basic principles of good government, as taught and exemplified by Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, take heed in every State in the Union lest the same insidious and baleful influences be at work under mining our organization and sapping the vitality of its principles.

It has been the purpose of both the Democratic and Republican parties to destroy the organic existence of the Peoples Party, and our life is endangered by the too friendly touch of either.

They co operate with us for their own advancement, and with a view to our disruption and ultimate absorption.

Only last week, immediately after Senator Pritchard's election by a bolting faction of the Peoples Party, the Asheville, (N. C.) Register, his personal organ, gloated over the apparent disruption of our ranks, and boasted that the Republicans would absorb by 1900 every Populist in North Carolina "that is worth having."

The boast and hope of the Republican party in North Carolina finds no doubt a parallel in the hope and purpose of the Democratic party against the continued existence of our organic life.

But we have not come upon the stage of political action as food to prolong the life of the two old parties, to whose corrupt practices are justly chargeable the ills the people suffer. We are here for the purpose of establishing good government on equitable principles. By the virtue of our principles, by the purity of our organization and patriotism of each member, and by the help of God we will do it.

But this purpose cannot be executed if we follow the example of the two old parties. In the unconditional repeal of the Sherman act under Mr. Cleveland, the Democratic party, for instance, submitted, for the sake of harmony patronage, without serious complaint to the betrayal of its principles. The treacherous Congressmen retained their standing in the party on equal footing with the faithful.

The Republican party has o been guilty of the same crime has elevated to high positions t who have betrayed the people.

On the other hand and in striking contrast, the Peoples Party has promptly branded the traitors and driven them in shame and disgrace from our ranks. The purpose of the Peoples Party is sterner than any plea for harmony, when harmony can be had only at the sacrifice of the party's principles and the betrayal of the rights and welfare of the struggling humanity. Therefore, the purposes of the party cannot be satisfied, nor its existence justified and maintained by a barter of its principles for patronage and personal gain.

Here lies the distinctive line of demarcation between the Peoples Party and the two old parties, and this line must be sharply drawn by Populists everywhere in the nation.

Let it be shown that the Peoples Party is distinctively a party of principle and political purity. It will then, in the great struggles before us, command the respect and confidence of every good citizen and genuine patriot still in the ranks of the two old parties. This done, and as surely as the majority of the rank and file of the two old parties are honest and patriotic, just so surely will they flock to our banner of political integrity, and thereby give to us and to them the power through the Peoples Party organization to redress the wrongs of an outraged people, restore prosperity to the Government and to redeem a betrayed Republic

This address was unanimously adopted by the caucus.

JOHN W. ATWATER,
Chairman Peoples Party Caucus of the General Assembly.

Approved and endorsed by the State Central Committee of the Peoples Party.

W. E. FOUNTAIN,
State Chairman.

Approved and endorsed by
MARION BUTLER,
Chairman Peoples Party National Committee.

CHAIRMAN BUTLER IS RIGHT.

He Does Not Recognize Factions, But Condemns Only Traitors and Disorganizers.

Rollesville (Ind.) Journal.]

In our last issue we published an interview with Senator Butler in which he says some plain things concerning those entitling themselves "Middle-of-the-Roaders." Some objected to an expression or two which seemed a little severe. Senator Butler spoke only of that faction in North Carolina, and it did not apply to any one not guilty of what he there charged. We, ourself, was ranked as a Middle-of-the Roader, but we did not feel hit by any of Senator Butler's chips. However, we have never, and will never recognize any faction in our party. We are a Populist without any qualifying adjectives. We work as hard as we can in our feebie way, and hoe out out own row with any tool we feel called upon to use. Nor do we deny this same privilege to any one else. Less carping criticism will do more good. Butler is right in his strictures on certain parties.

Grover Cleveland.

Norfolk Pilot.

In considering Mr. Cleveland, there is no doubt he has many manly qualities that would deserve all laudation had these qualities been directed by high and proper motives, inspired by high principles and an intelligent sense of duty. The fault we find with Mr. Cleveland as President of this Republic—of a government intended to be of the people, by the people, for the people—is that from the first (even before he was inaugurated in 1885) he has regarded the government as his government, and himself as Dictator, in so far as he dared and was able to do so—using and exceeding his powers of every kind at his own promises and professions, to the will of the people, to the laws, or even the Constitution itself.

And this all-involving fault runs through his whole administration—both of his administrations—the key-note, indeed, being struck before his first inauguration by his extraordinary letter seeking to restrain or direct Congress in relation to silver legislation, and especially to veto in advance (as it were) all action in favor of the restoration of silver in the line to which the party that made him President was fully committed. Whether he was for the right or wrong, whether for the constitutional or unconstitutional, whether to do good or accomplish evil, the controlling thing with him was his own pleasure; and this it is that vitiated everything he did, attempted to do, or advocated—even in the Venezuelan case (where he acted nobly, whatever his motive) being directed by his own will rather than by the Constitution or the people, or by the party to which he owed his position.

We believe that he was grossly wrong in nearly all of his administrative and executive course, and that even when he was for the right thing, or on the right side of any issue, he proceeded in wrong ways to favor, and from wrong consideration. He had no regard whatever to the constitutional separation of government into executive, legislative and judicial departments, and only observed them when forced to do so; and, judging from his acts in relation to legislation, we have little doubt that if the truth were known he has attempted to shape the decisions of our Federal courts, from the least to the highest. It is well known that in certain executive branches of the government, where certain officers are vested with judicial functions, he has personally interfered and overruled their decisions, although the provision of law is for appeal to the courts from such decisions.

Much of this, no doubt, proceeded from downright ignorance and an entire law of the sense of right and propriety; but much more was due to the obstinate, vain, overbearing, self-sufficient and arrogant character of the man—a character developed under extraordinary luck wholly unexampled before except in the stories of the "Arabian Nights," and which elevated a low, besotted and ignorant person to positions for which he was wholly unfitted by nature, education, breeding, or habit, and where the very qualities and capacities which he utterly lacked were most needed in a free, constitutional and popular government like ours.

From our point of view, consequently, Grover Cleveland as President was a bad man, a dangerous man, and one who has done more to destroy our government and our true liberty, rights and interests as a people than any man since George Washington was Chief Magistrate of the United States of America. May we never have such another enemy of our institutions at Washington.

Keep it from the Legislature.

[From Raleigh (N. C.) Observer February 24th, 1897.—Editorial.]

"A special train bearing Hon. W. C. Whitney, John D. Rockefeller, J. J. Pierpont Morgan and others passed through Charlotte last night, says the News.

"These gentlemen and their friends were returning from Jekyl Island, near the seacoast, where they went for a few days' sport, consisting of hunting and fishing.

"The train had the right of way over everything on the line."

The above article, heading and all, appeared in the columns of our neighbor, the Press-Visitor, yesterday afternoon. Countrymen! Read again, and ponder over the last paragraph. "The train had the right of way over everything on the line."

The commerce, the business, the necessities of seventy millions of who were once freemen, halted and made to stand aside while Pierpont Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, W. C. Whitney and their friends passed to their homes from a "few days' sport," fishing and hunting on the coast.

A special train costing thousands of dollars for the trip, furnished free to these money kings, while the poor men of the South who pay for it are in debt, their children poorly clad, and denied an opportunity of education.

Ride on, ye rich men. North Carolina in her poverty is furnishing by way of tribute $120 000 per annum to you, while her own children have less than four months of schooling.

Gentlemen of the the Legislature: You are told, 'Do not disturb the lease. 'Tis a sacred contract.' What are ragged, hungry children? Nothing—when you are dealing out gratuities of millions to millionaires.

If the present ninety-nine year lease stands, the State is to get only $16 800 profit annually. If it is annulled, the State is to receive $136,800 as an annual profit. It is best for the tax-payerr to be relieved annually of the sum or to give that amount as a present to the Southern Railway? That is the great question in the whole matter.

State University.

The regular monthly meeting of the Historical Society was held last Tuesday evening and the following papers were read: One by Mr. Lentz on "North Carolina Troops at the Battle of Seven Pines," one by Mr. McCormick on "The Convention of 1861." and one by Dr. Battle on "The Early History of the University."

Mr. Thos. M. Kirkland, ex-postmaster of Chapel Hill, died Friday morning of pneumonia.

"Uncle Jerry," colored, a familiar old landmark of Chapel Hill, who has catered to the "goober" taste of U. N. C., boys for years and who claimed to have waited on President Polk while a student at this University, went Friday night "to the land where all good darkies go."

The University Library has another curio added to its list. The value is not in its rareness but in its association. It was on the day of our worthy President's inauguration that some Legislators, who honored us with their august presence, left this sovenire at a moment when thoughtfulness had been "spirited" away, left it dry among volumes even dryer. To enlighten those who may be blinded by PARTY LOVE I disclose the nature of our find, It was a vessel commonly known as a FLASK and our only clew to its possessor is the name on the label—Mr. STUART'S RYE WHISKEY, Virginia.

L. F. B.

Glories in the Stand of the True Populists.

MERRY HILL, N. C., Feb. 20, '97.—I must say that I glory in your editorials. I am sure that every true Populist in North Carolina will stand by Senator Butler. I want all those bolters to go into the Republican party, where they belong. Any man calling himself a Populist and vote for Pritchard against such a true and faithful Alliance man and Populist as Dr. Thompson is unworthy of notice. Let them die the death of a traitor.

W. A. CAPEHART.

Judge Clark

W. S. Pearson, in Charlotte Observer.

We can but admire Clark. The man's variety of talent and splendid equipment for divers sorts of work is simply a marvel in slow going North Carolina. We are not used to such men. They do not belong to our past and they come in advance of a future which would properly appreciate them.

Save Justice Reed, who I take to be the finest master of curt English the State has produced, no man has surpassed Justice Clark in saying what he has to say in a manner to be remembered. Judge Pearson was great in point and perhaps dived deeper than any of his joke fellows, but even he did not swim with easier stroke than does Clark.

True, Brother.

Hickory Mercury.

Not every man who says he is a Populist, is one. We have a few all over the State who are willing to sacrifice or compromise the very principles that make a Populist, for his own gain. We have just such in the legislature. They vote for things that are just the opposite of what they professed to love before the people. It will be a long time before those Pops in the House who voted to make all contracts made payable in gold, can convince the people that they are nothing but goldbug Republicans.

A GIFT TO THE RAILROADS.

Millions of Dollars Voted as a Free Gift By Congress—What is The

MYSTERIOUS INFLUENCE?

The Conduct of The Railroads in The Last Campaign They Reduced The Number of Employees and Reduced Their Pay, While at The Same Time Increasing The Pay of Their Officials—Why The Railroads Went Into Politics—They Were The Most Powerful Allies of The Gold Trust—Why This Reckless Waste of The People's Money to Help The Shylock Campaign Fund?—Some Startling Facts and Figures.

The following is taken from the Congresional Record of February 27th, giving a part of the discussion on the proposition to vote big subsidies to the railroads for carrying the mails, in addition to the high price paid per ton and for rent of cars. Senator Butler exposed the steal and presented some startling facts and figures which no Senator was able to answer or explain away:

SPECIAL RAILWAY MAIL SUBSIDIES AND THE PART PLAYED BY THE RAILROADS IN THE LAST CAMPAIGN.

The Senate having under consideration the bill (H. R. 10289) making appropriations for the service of the Post-office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898

MR. ALLISON. I ask now for the consideration of the next amendment which remains undisposed of.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The amendment will be stated.

The SECRETARY. On page 8, line 24, after the word "service," it is proposed to insert:

In the discretion of the Postmaster-General, any unexpended balance of the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, for necessary and special facilities on trunk lines, may be used for other fast-mail facilities.

So as to make the clause read:

For necessary and special facilities on trunk lines from New York and Washington, $171 238 75; PROVIDED, That no part of the appropriation made by this paragraph shall be expended unless the Postmaster-General shall deem such expenditure necessary in order to promote the interest of the postal service. In the discretion of the Postmaster General, any unexpended balance of the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, for the necessary and special facilities on trunk lines, may be used for other fast mail facilities.

MR. BUTLER. I move to strike out the clause just read, from line 17, on page 8, down to and including line 3, on page 9, inclusive.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from North Carolina.

MR. BUTLER. Mr. President, this is a subsidy, pure and simple. It should be stricken from the bill. Subsidies are bad enough when the people get some benefits in return for them, but they are utterly indefensible when they are voted as a free gift. I challenge the Committee on Appropriations or any Senator on this floor to give a single good and sufficient reason for appropriating this sum of $171,238 75. No estimate has been made or submitted for it. No head of any Department has recommended it. But on the other hand the head of the Post office Department has positively refused to recommend it. I have heard the Postmaster General and the Assistant Postmaster General often quoted here in this discussion so far. I have here some reports, and I hope those who have asked us to listen to the suggestion of the Postmaster-General and the Second Assistant Postmaster General and all the generalettes will now pay due heed to what the Postmaster-General says about the subsidy.

MR. CULLOM. It has been read a dozen times.

MR. BUTLER. It has been read a dozen times and twenty times, and yet it has not converted the Senator from Illinois.

MR CULLOM. Yes, it has.

MR. BUTLER. Will the Senator vote with me on my motion?

MR. CULLOM. I have always voted in that way.

MR. BUTLER. Good. The Senator from Illinois will vote with me on this motion, and he always voted against this subsidy. I am glad to have such valuable authority in addition to the Postmaster-General to back up my motion.

Several Senators around me say let us have a vote and we will knock out the section and carry my motion If the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations will agree to the motion, I will not detain the Senate for another minute.

Several SENATORS. Vote!

MR. STEWART. What is the motion?

MR. BUTLER. I have made a motion to strike out the clause which proposes to vote a special subsidy to certain railroads addition to the enormous price that we now pay these corporations for hauling the mails. Several senators seem very anxious to have no discussion of this matter. I should judge that they favor the subsidy, for reasons best known to themselves, or else do not understand the facts in the case. In either event discussion is very necessary. I do not desire to detain the Senate at this late hour, but unless the committee will agree to the motion, or unless there is some indication that the Senate is ready to sustain the motion, I shall detain the Senate to put on record the reason why it should be stricken out.

MR. FAULKNER. The committee can not agree to it.

MR. DANIEL. It is a part of the bill as it comes from the other House.

MR. WILSON. I want to hear from

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