THE CAUCASIAN.

VOL. XV. RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1897. NO. 28

FOR AND AGAINST A CONFERENCE.

A SYMPOSIUM OF OPINIONS FROM LEADING POPULISTS AS TO THE WISDOM OF SUCH A COURSE.

THE CAUCASIAN publishes below a letter from Hon. A. J. Streeter, the candidate of the Union-Labor party for President. Since the organization of the Peoples Party he has been an ardent Populist. He was also a greenbacker and follower of Peter Cooper. His experience has been long and wide. Every Populist should weigh the wisdom of his words.

We also publish below several articles from leading Populists on the same subject, clipped from a symposium published by the Nonconformist last week.

Hon. A. J. Streeter,

[Candidate for President of the Union-Labor Party, 1888.]

NEW WINDSOR, Ill., May 11, 1897.

SENATOR BUTLER, Chairman Populist party, Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir: I think you acted wisely in not not calling a conference of the Populist party, as requested to do by the so-called middle-of-the-road Populists. This disatisfied element is still unhappy, and in fact they have been troubled that way ever since they split off from the majority at the St. Louis convention.

Now, since you did not call a conference for them as requested, they are pleased to call one for themselves. Let them have it; throw no obstacles in their way. For the most part they are honest and mean well. They say the purpose of the conference will be to re-organize and harmonize the party.

In this commendable desire they will be disappointed. Because the temper of the dissatisfied element who want the conference is not in condition to harmonize with the majority at this time. And I believe that the result of such conference would be bad, would widen the breach and do more harm than good.

The only way to make the conference to be held in Nashville July 4th, harmonious is for the majority to stay away from it. This I advise to be done, and hope you, Mr. Chairman, will approve of it.

Such policy, I am satisfied, would be satisfactory to many of the leaders now working up the convention. Among them, I might mention Paul Vandervoort, who over his own signature, in a late number of the Chicago Sentinel, speaking of delegates to the Nashville convention, says: "They must see that none but true Populists are elected as delegates to that convention. Inasmuch as the motto is that no fusion conspirator need apply." Do such words breathe a spirit of harmony? I think not. Now take my case as a sample. I have worked to educate the people and to maintain the principles of the Populist party since the days of Peter Cooper, was in the convention that nominated him for President and voted for him at the election. Have been working for the cause ever since; been used as a candidate when wanted and spent my money freely. Finally I went to the St. Louis convention, acted on my best judgment for the good of the cause—helped to nominate W. J. Bryan and voted for him for President. Thousands more did the same, who are now called "fusion conspirators who need not apply" for a seat in the conference. Is this the way to harmonize? No! It will make wider the breach. Those who voted for Bryan did so conscientiously, and so far as I am concerned will not bend my knee before the radical element to gain their favor, nor go to their conference here I might be a disturbing element. Let the minority meet and enjoy sweet harmony.

"Cyclone" Davis, of Texas, sees how inopportune and ill-advised the conference may be. In his paper he says: "If Watson and the middle-of-the-road faction succeeded in forcing a conference over Butler and the committee's protest and cut loose from Butler and the rest, the party will be split with only one congressman, Howard, on our side, having twenty-one on the other, with all of the Senators, Governors, and other officers in the Northwest together with most of their people on the other side. Two thirds of the form papers will likely be on the other side. We in the South will be left as a struggling band at the mercy of a brutal Democratic majority. This must not be."

Evidently, then, Cyclone Davis, and I regard as one of the ablest leaders and managers in the party, sounds the call now under consideration an unwise, ill advised and under hot and indiscreet methods of those pushing it to the front, it will be an irreparable blunder. I thank you for what you have done and approve your policy in this unpleasant business.

Dr. G. W. Taylor,

[Editor Medical World, Philadelphia,

Editor Nonconformist: My Dear Sir: In reply to your request I will say that conferences among reformers are always desirable. I grasp every opportunity to confer with Populists from all parts of the country when they happen to be in my city. I often confer with our national leaders by mail and we very frequently have local conferences here. My voice has always been for such conferences among ourselves which may lead to more efficient exposition of our ideas and principles among those who are not yet convinced.

As to the proposed conference at Nashville, on July 4th, is of an entirely different kind. The animus of it seems to be to criticise the conduct of the last campaign. Looking backward is unprofitable. It also seems to be the purpose of those urging this movement to determine action for 1900. Considering the rapidity of changes during these closing years of the century I think it very unwise to say now what we will do or what we will not do so far ahead as 1900. As for myself, I intend to do what seems right then. I do not consider myself or anyone else capable of deciding now what will be right then. As Hon. J. Ed. Leslie, of McKeesport, Pa., (our State Chairman) recently wrote me, "I don't think we should shout from the house-tops what we should do in 1900. Keep educating, and adapt ourselves to the conditions that arise." This is my sentiment exactly.

It seems that this proposed delegate conference will endeavor to supplant the regular Peoples Party organization in party authority. Whatever that conference may do will be considered authority by those identified with it and in sympathy with it. Those not identified with it, and those who deem such a conference unwise, will continue to consider the action of the St. Louis convention the highest party authority. This will lead to an inevitable and unnecessary split. While local and informal conferences may be very helpful, and should be encouraged, the proposed National Delegate Conference at Nashville, July 4th, is a threatening danger to our party integrity. I hope that those who have been instrumental in proposing it will prudently drop it.

Ex-Senator Peffer,

[Editor of the Advocate, Topeka, Kan.]

Editor Nonconformist: There ought not to be any objection to the proposed conference at Nashville. The right of peaceful assembly is a right that free men will never surrender. In the multitude of the counsellors is safety. And if the Peoples Party is worth saving, it would seem that no harm can come from a couference among its friends. It is nonsense to charge as the party's enemies such of its members as meet to consider means best calculated to preserve its integrity. But the conference will have no authority to act or speak for the party. That authority was conferred, by the last National convention, on a committee, and the committee has not called or authorized this conference; hence, while the conference is in every way lawful and may work good results, it can represent only the persons then and there assembled.

Hon. John Davis,

[Formerly Populist Member of Congress, Fifth Kan. District.]

I see by the papers that some super-holy men, styling themselves "Middle-of-the-road Populists," have issued a call for a conference, or conspiracy, or something of that sort, to be held at Nashville, Tenn., on July 4th, 1897. Nobody objects, probably, at first sight, to that if things were as they seem. But are they? Let us see.

(1) These superlatively holy men desire to use the Populist organization to forward their schemes, and to give them respectable standing with the common people. I do not think that that is right. It is taking our lightning to illustrate their thunder. It is theft. The last Populist National convention thoroughly organized the party for official action, by the election of officers to perform official acts, to direct the action of local organizations, and to call conventions, conferences and meetings of a national character.

(2) The Populist National officers are supreme in their sphere of action, under the laws and instructions of the party. They should not obey the commands of any other organization, no matter how bright and dazzling the livery it wears or the name it bears. And, in my judgment, Chairman Butler has shown both his wisdom and patriotism in refusing to call this conference on demand of a self-constituted clique, which is striving to become a rival and hostile organization.

(3) Some of the backers of the movement bear names that have not been forgotten since the services they rendered the Republican party in the campaign of 1896. Take the name of Vandervoort, for example. His meetings in Kansas last fall were attended mostly by Republicans. And, in every way Republicans showed themselves delighted with services he rendered them. If they did not pay him, he was, evidently, unjustly treated. Then take the case of Watson. Vandervoort and his co-workers were uproarious for Tom Watson. And, so were the Republicans with lip praise. Anything to divide the Pops, seemed the spontaneous policy of the entire crowd. Watson's politics were mainly personal, against Sewall and for Watson. Sewall was a banker. That was bad. We all felt it to be so. Watson's chief political companion and political advisor, was the president of the Brunswick National bank, Georgia. That, of course, was not bad. Who ever said so? Nobody. Why? Because most men are broader and more liberal-minded than Mr. Watson. Messrs. Washington, Jefferson, Henry, et al, were slave holders, yet they earnestly contended for the rights of mankind. This proves that a man's principles and patriotism may sometimes reach out beyond his direct personal interests. Mr. Watson, no doubt, will admit that even a bank president may sometimes be patriotic and trustworth; for example, Mr. Reed, of Brunswick, Ga. Then, if the bank president, why not the stockholder, sometimes.

In my opinion, Mr. Watson is not broad and liberal enough for a safe political leader. And, the other fellow, in my opinion is unsafe and unreliable. The Nashville conference, in my judgment, is a conspiracy against the Populist party in the interest of our enemies. And my belief is positive that all good Populists should avoid taking part in it.

THE STATE NORMAL AND INDUSTIAL SCHOOL.

A Commencement Which Constitutes a Historical Incident—Some of The Incidents.

The commencement exercises of the State Normal and Industrial School at Greensboro were held last week, and were of such value and interest as to almost constitute an historical incident. This institution has grown to be an honor to the State that stands second to none. It is to be regretted that limited space does not permit us to give, in detail, a report of the proceedings.

Among matters of interest was a memorial exercise in honor of Hon. S. M. Finger, late Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Col. J. S. Carr, the wealthy and liberal philanthropist of Durham, delivered a splendid oration on Dorothea Dix, the woman who made herself famous by great work, especially in the matter of securing State care for the insane.

Among the many interesting incidents was the presentation to the school by Miss Rogers, in behalf of the Sophomore class, of a beautiful silk flag of North Carolina. President McIver accepted the token in a characteristically graceful speech.

A spontaneous and beautiful surprise was added to the exercises by a medal presented by Rev. J. L. M. Curry at the end of his scholarly address. He announced his intention without the slightest fore-knowledge on the part of President McIver. It was to bestow the medal upon the young woman who had been the most faithful in her duties and who had made the greatest sacrifice in order to procure her education. He asked Dr. McIver to designate some one to whom he should give it. Although Dr. McIver had not the slightest intimation of this, he unhesitatingly announced that in his opinion, Miss Phoebe Pegram, of Surry county, deserved it.

The long and hearty applause of the students showed it to be most worthily bestowed. Dr. Curry then presented the medal in a short speech, full of splendid advice.

Dr. McIver then arose and said that so far as he knew, Miss Pegram had never, during her entire stay at school, failed to do, or at least faithfully attempt to do, her duty.

On Tuesday the exercises were richly interesting. The programme for the day was:

Annual address, Mr. Walter H. Page, of the Atlantic Monthly. Subject—"The Forgotten Man."

Awarding Diplomas, by President McIver.

Presentation of Bibles, by Rev. L. W. Crawford, D. D.

Presentation of Constitutions, by Governor Daniel L. Russell.

8:30 p. m.—Entertainment by the Adelphian and Cornelian Literary Societies.

President Charles D. McIver's address to the graduating class, in presenting the diplomas, was one of the best things of the commencement. It was impressive and gave a serious and solemn view of life.

Governor Russell called Mr. Page's oration "A great speech," and praised him for his boldness and truthfulness.

The Governor rang out strongly for public education for men and women alike. His preface to his remarks in presenting the constitutions was happy and witty.

GRADUATING EXERCISES.

Tuesday evening, May 18th, was the time set apart for the exercises of the graduating class. The class of '97 numbers twenty-three. All are strong, intelligent young women, and will help the State in its onward march of progress. The members of the class and subjects of their theses, are as follows:

Minnie Frances Barbee, Durham county ....."Unheralded Patriotism.
Harriet Morehead Berry, Orange county ....."The Jingle of a Guinea"
Nellie Ashburn Bond, Bertie county, ..."The State's Greatest Need.
Irma Carraway, Guilford county.. "Ring Out the Darkness of the Land."
Mary Faison DeVane, New Hanover county....."Ideals of Womanhood."
Bertha May Donnelly, Mecklenburg county.....
"The Duty of the Class of '97 to the State."
Iola Vance Exum, Greene county, ..."Tennyson's Teachings."
Frances Margaret Eskridge, Cleveland county.....
"Perhaps It May Turn Out a Song, Perhaps Turn Out a Sermon."
Celestia Jones Gill, Vance county, ..."The Old Woman."
Emily Gregory, Guilford county.....
"Imagination, a Formative Influence on Character."
Annie Royal Hankins, New Hanover county .....
"Elementary Science in Elementary Schools."
Francis Lois Hill, Carbarrus county.....
....."The Modern Soldier."
Fannie Louise Harris, Mecklenburg county .....
....."Relation of Myths to Life."
Lyda Howard Humber, Moore county....
...."Philosophy of Sin in Macbeth."
Mary Best Jones, Wayne county.....
"The Kindergarten Uplifts the World."
Sabrella James, Sampson county....
....."Unconscious Tuition."
Madge Francis Little, Anson county....
....."Yesterday and To day."
Martha Livermon, Bertie county....
....."Parsons in Literature."
Bessie Rouse, Lenoir county.....
....."Noiseless Revolutions."
Grace Middleton Smallbones, New Hanover county ......"Truth's Martyrs."
Grace Louise Scott, Buncombe county....
....."Relation of Literature to Life."
Willie Louise Watson, Warren county..
..... :The Queen of the Antilles."
Mary Cheves West, Buncombe county....
...."Poets and Poetry of the South."

Shorter Wars.

[Boston Advertiser.]

Since 1865, with the general introduction of the telegraph, the electric cable, and the modern system of railways, war has become a matter of a few months at most. In 1866 Prussia defeated Austria in seven weeks. Prussia defeated France in about two months. The war between Russia and Turkey began in April, 1877, and was practically finished by the close of that year. The war between China and Japan began about midsummer, 1894, and ended in March, 1895. The present war between Turkey and Greece seems to be practically ended in about four weeks from the outbreak of formal hostilities. It seems to be shown by experience that two important civilized nations in these days of telegraph and railway cannot conduct wars for any length of time unless the contending countries are separated by the ocean or some other natural barrier.

A NOTE TO GO TO SPAIN.

THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN TO SECURE INDEPENDENCE FOR CUBA.

He Waits For Mr. Calhoun's Report and Will Then Ask That Cuba be Allowed to Purchase Her Freedom From The Spanish.

The President's policy in regard to Cuba has been determined upon.

As soon as Commissioner Calhoun's report of the condition of affairs in the island is received, which will be in about three weeks, unless he has received orders to delay it until after the tariff bill has been passed, and if it confirms the statements made in the reports of Consel General Lee, the President will address a note to the Spanish government suggesting that Cuba be allowed to purchase her independence. The note will be friendly in its tone, but will be emphatic in expressing the President's opinion of the best solution of the difficulty.

If Spain should refuse to entertain the proposition, the President is fully determined to take more radical steps, even to the extent of declaring intervention. He has discussed this matter with several of his friends and advisers and would have taken more positive action ere this but for the appeal of Senator Hanna that recognition of the Cuban question by the administration would be disastrous to the commercial and financial world. The petition received by the Secretary of State from the leading commercial houses of the great cities, however, has made it apparent to the President that peace upon the island is desired as the first step toward restoring a paralyzed commerce, and he will undoubtedly give the petition his careful consideration. There may be no further action until Mr. Calhoun's report is received, but at that time some action on the part of the President looking to the independence of Cuba through purchase or otherwise is as certain as fate.

There will be no consideration of the tariff bill in the Senate until there has been a vote on the resolution recognizing the belligerency of Cuba. Notice to this effect will be served upon Senator Aldrich when he returns.

This is the most interesting as well as the most important of the actual developments in the Cuban situation yesterday. Besides this fact, the events of yesterday included another meeting of the Cabinet on the Cuban question and an afternoon of the livelist debate that has been heard in the Senate this sessionsion. The principal speech was made by Senator Mason, of Illinois, and his remarks were of a character to excite the immense crowds in the galleries and upon the floor to a manifestation of the most enthusiastic applause. He made a most eloquent plea for Cuba, and at times was thrillingly eloquent. That he caused laughter by side remarks more humorous than dignified is true; but this was more than atoned for by his earnestness and his sincerity.

His speech had the effect, if it had nothing else, of bringing the Cuban situation in the Senate to a climax. Senator Morgan's belligerency resolution is now the regular order of business in the Senate, from which position it cannot be displaced except by a majority vote. It has been supposed that the resolution would be out of the way before next Monday, at which time the tariff bill is scheduled for consideration, but it is now quite evident that the Senators who are classified as Spanish sympathizers do not propose to reach a vote thus speedily. Consequently, when Monday arrives and the Cuban resolution is laid before the Senate at 2 o'clock, there will be a clash between it and the tariff bill. The latter could, of course, be taken up by unanimous consent, but this will not be given. There will be a yea and nay vote.

THE TARIFF BILL WILL BE SHELVED.

The possible result of that vote was a matter of much comment among the Senators yesterday. If the Democrats, the Populists and the Silver Republicans vote solidly against taking up the tariff bill the latter will temporarily be sidetracked and Cuba will remain at the front. Speaking as a Populist, Senator Butler of North Carolina, said yesterday that he believed all the members of his party would rather see something done for Cuba than vote to take up the tariff bill, while Senator Mantle, one of the silver Republicans, said that he for one was tired of seeing a few Senators hold up the Senate to prevent a vote and therefore he would stand by the Cuban resolution. "Every one knows," said he, "that the Cuban resolution will not get more than half a dozen negative votes, and it is these half dozen Senators who are preventing a vote. I shall be in favor of keeping the Cuban resolution before the Senate until we get a vote." Other silver Repnblicans spoke in the same strain. Senator Lodge and Senator Gallinger are two straight out Republicans who believe that a vote on the Cuban resolution will come before the consideration of the tariff bill. Sonator Gallinger told Senator Hoar, in the course of the debate yesterday afternoon, that the non disposition of the Cuban matter would work to the disadvantage of the tariff bill. Senator Mason takes even a more radical ground. "I intend to have a vote on this question," he said yesterday in his speech, "if it takes all summer," and he positively announced earlier in the day that as between Cuba and the tariff he would vote for the former.

KISSES.

Men scorn to kiss among themselves,
And scarce would kiss a brother;
But women want to kiss so bad,
They kiss and kiss each other.

(THE OTHER SIDE.)

Men do not kiss among themselves,
And it's wise that they refrain;
The bitter dose would vex them so,
They would never kiss again.

As sometimes on poor woman's lip
Is applied this nauseous lotion,
We have to kiss among ourselves
As a counteracting portion.

THE WOMAN'S EXPOSITION.

The Finest Art Exhibit Ever Shown South—Some Notes of One of The Greatest Successes on Record in The State.

Special to The Caucasian.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May '97.—The Women's Exposition of the Carolinas was formally opened at Charlotte on the evening of the 11th, with an address by Mrs Cotton, one of North Carolina's representative daughters. The building was well filled and a few nights later, when the Mexican band filled an engagement, there were at least 500 people turned away from the building.

The Art exhibit is one of the finest ever shown South, and is altogether too much for picture lovers to undertake to see in a single visit. The pictures number something over 300, almost all of which are exposed for sale at prices ranging from $2,000 down, some very pretty water colors being shown for a few dollars. The refining influence of fine paintings cannot be overestimated and our readers will do well to see this exhibit of rare painting.

THE MUSEUM.

A stroll through the Museum which is placed on the same floor as the Art Department, will be time well spent for all interested in curios and obsolete objects, historical relics etc. It were impossible in this short space to outline in a comprehensive manner the great number of objects on exhibition, all representing unfamiliar objects of use or else connected in some way with historical happenings and their associations.

The Bunker Historical Society sends, through their historian, Mr. R. L. Reed, of South Acton, Massachussetts, a most interesting and valuable collection, while from the Old North State University comes the famous death mask of Napoleon, valued at $30,000, and other rare relics.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBIT.

The Industrial exhibits to be found installed on the first floor of the building cover a floor space of about 9,570 square feet.

It is far more extensive than the management intended, and will be a surprise to visitors because of its completeness. It is here that the 700 light plant is placed, which furnishes light for the building and court. The dynamo is directly connected to a 60-horse power ideal engine of peculiar beauty.

Gingham, sheeting and towel looms will be kept in operation, as will also stocking, banding and clothes line machines.

All the printing of the Exposition will be done in this department, where two presses will be kept in operation.

The machinery exhibit is placed in the centre, and the electrical illuminations are scattered throughout the building. The exhibits by local merchants are the finest ever shown in the Carolinas.

All kinds of goods are exposed for sale at less than usual prices. Entertainments are provided almost nightly.

SUPPOSE THIS FELLOW WAS A POOR MAN!

One Representative of the Sugar Trust Behind the Bars—He Doesn't Mind It, But Regrets the Loss of His "Constitutional."

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Elverton R. Chapman, the recalcitrant sugar trust witness, who refused to answer the Senate committee's questions as to whether he had acted as a broker for any Senators in speculations in sugar, occupies a cell at the jail tonight, and he will continue therein for 25 days.

Chapman surrendered himself to United States Marshal Wilson at 4 o'clock today, in accordance with an understanding previously reached. The commitment papers were given Deputy Marshal Cook, who, in a private carriage, escorted the broker, who was accompanied by Attorneys Wilson and Dittenhoffer, and Broker McCartney, to the district attorney's office. There Mr. Chapman met the warden and soon took possession of his cell. He was very cheerful, and inclined to be jocular. He said he felt no anxiety whatever, save as to the loss of his daily "constitutional" for he is an enthusiastic pedestrian. Two cells have been assigned him, one for sleeping purposes and the other as a sitting and office room. Rugs cover the floors and a table, brass bedstead, chiffonier and several chairs adorn the cells, but no luxurious curtains hang over the iron bars, nor do decorations set off the walls. He will, however, have plenty of reading and writing materials to busy himself with, and the calls of friends to entertain him during the visiting hours. Mr. Chapman was much surprised at the cleanliness of the institution. The jail will furnish him his ordinary fare, while soup and fancy dishes, served by a private waiter, will be sent him from a hotel. Mr. Chapman's lodgment in the jail releases his bondsman, Louis Y. Davis, of this city, who furnished $1,000 bail. His sentence is for thirty days, which with the rebate for "good behavior" makes an actual period of 25 days.

ANOTHER WASH OF THAT WAVE.

One of the Largest Wholesale Houses in the State Assigns.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., May 19 — R. M. Nimocks, one of the leading wholesale and retail naval stores merchants in this State, who is largely interested in business enterprises in this and other Southern States, assigned today to W. L. Cook. His preferences amount to $68,750. Other liabilities cannot yet be estimated. The assets are about $100,000. Mr. Nimocks assigns the cause of his failure to the long continued financial depression and inability to realize money except at ruinous rates on his property. His largest creditor is the Bank of Fayetteville. Their claims amount to $15,050, which is amply secured by mortgages and collaterals.

Pulmonary consumption, in its early stages, may be checked by the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It stops the distressing cough, soothes irritation of the throat and lungs, and induces much-needed repose. Hundreds have testified to the remarkable virtues of this preparation.

A GREAT EVIL--THE REMEDY.

AN ILLUSTRAUION OF HOW LAWS ARE FREQUENTLY RUSHED THROUGH.

How The Mill Grinds—And How Schemers Take Advantage of The Rush—Some Suggestions That Would Remedy The Trouble.

Hon. Ignatius Donnelly is a member of the present State Legislature of Minnesota. He describes in his paper the Representative, a great evil that is a curse to every State Legislature that has not yet had the wisdom to change their legislative systems. When Marion Butler was a member of the State Senate in 1891 he introduced a comprehensive measure that would have made it possible for a Legislature to give proper deliberation to important questions. Read Donnelly's description of the evil:

"The Senate law mill is in working order. It ground out thirty bills in two hours, from 4 to 6 o'clock last evening, at the rate of one in four minutes. It was 'touch, bang and she's a law.'

"Up to yesterday morning only about 150 bills of this session, out of about 1,800 introduced, had become laws. But in the morning the Senate yesterday passed twenty-two bills, not to mention those killed and the raft of other business on hand, and in the last two hours of the afternoon thirty more bills were taken from the calendar and passed. The Senate, in other words, passed fifty-two bills in one day, as gainst 150 bills that were made laws by the legislature from January 1 to April 17. At this rate, heaven only knows what laws may be turned out between Monday morning and Tuesday midnight, when the law making ends.

"The innocent reader wants to know, are all of these bills which go through at the rate of one in four minutes carefully read and considered? Are they discussed? Are their constitutionality and expediency and necessity to public welfare weighed in statesmanlike style?

"Perhaps the best answer is to present a list of the measures passed and the method of passing. The reader will be able to judge for himself as to the amount of deliberation invested in the law making process when he reflects that the passage of a bill is supposed to involve the following process: First reading of the bill, which may consist of one to a dozen folio pages; second, discussion; third, roll call of the house, which is then supposed to be verified, and a second call of absentees; fourth, counting of the vote by the clerk and announcement of the result by the chair.

"Immagine thirty laws made by the above process between 4 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, after a hard day's grind.

"I don't see how they can read thirty bills in two hours, let alone pass upon them," the innocent reader again remarks, Well, there is reading and reading. Sometimes, the reader gets through a bill and sometimes through a paragraph or a sentence or two. Old slow-coach States down East may take time. But that will not do with the aggressive West. We do things up ship-shape here. We do. We can grind out more statutes in two hours than the taxpayers who pay the bills can read in two days. Fifty-two laws in a day is a small record compared with what may be done to-morrow and next day, when the last whirl comes. Things will whiz at double speed to-morrow and the bill that gets four minutes' time will be a daisy."

Who profits by this state of things? The corporations, the rings the plunderers of the people, the lobbyists, the knaves. Who pays for it all? By one act passed by the present legislature, the taxpayers may be robbed of enough money to keep the legislature in continual session for a year."

The remedy for all this is simple. The local legislation that makes up the great majority of the bills introduced and which take the larger part of the time by members, should never come to the legislature at all. It should be attended to by the county commissioners of each county. Why should a legislature be called upon to incorporate churches and school houses, to prevent fast driving over some bridge, or to regulate the hunting or fishing seasons in a certain county. If this and all similar local legislation were turned over to the county commissioners there would be three or five men to pass upon the matter. They are as equally familliar with questions and equally as competent as the one man sent to the legislature. Besides, if there is any division among the people in a given locality as to the wisdom or necessity of a proposed measure of local legislation, they can all go to the county seat and both sides be heard by the county commissioners. The men who are sent to the legislature pledged to secure certain local legislation too often gives all his time to such matters, while the important matters of State legislation are neglected, and the corporations push through their jobs which the members don't find out till after they have gone home.

Another remedy would be to have a general law prescribing the privileges that corporations may get in their charters, and then force them all to come under the same general terms. This would keep corporations from coming to the legislature and corrupting it or fooling it into giving them special and unusual privileges. They would all be forced to go before the Secretary of State and there get a charter according to the terms of a general law that would apply to all corporations of their kind. We have such a law now on the statute books but the legislature suspends it by not observing it. To make this last reform effective a constitutional amendment would be necessary. The first reform can be secured by act of the legislature.

The measure introduced by Senator Butler in 1891 covered this point, but his time was so engrossed in pressing the Railroad Commission law, fighting the Petersburgh charter and in trying to force the Atlantic Coast Line to pay taxes on its vast property, that he did not have time to press this important reform

GOV. RUSSELL TO AN EDITOR.

The State Executive Gives The Newspaper Man Some Information—And Then The Newspaper Keeps Mum.

Some weeks ago the North Carolina Christian Advocate commented on the "99 year lease" in such a manner as to indicate that that paper leaned to the position of the Southern Railway on the lease question. Governor Russell saw the comment and then wrote the editor a letter with a request that he would publish it. Nothing was heard from the editor for some days. After a lapse of time he was asked about the Governor's letter. His reply, in substance, was that it had not been published because it was not the policy of the paper to deal with such matters as the letter referred to. This was a peculiar reply—a reply of course which the editor of the Advocate had a perfect right to make—but nevertheless peculiar; for the paper assumed the right to "deal with such matters" when it ADVOCATED THE CLAIMS of a big monopoly, but could not assume that right when a presentation of facts UNFAVORABLE to the monopoly was involved. The Governor's letter was as follows:

RALEIGH, March, 29, 1897.

To the Editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate, Greensboro, N. C.,

DEAR SIR:—When a paper like yours, representing a high moral standard takes a position against the material interests of the State and puts its opposition on moral grounds, I am disposed to ask that you listen to a reply in behalf of the people of the State. The substance of your contention is that the State like an individual, owns most of the North Carolina Railroad and that the State leased it to the Southern, and having done so it has no right now to say that it has made a bad bargain and seek to annul the contract.

Please bear in mind that the State did not make any contract with the Southern Railroad; the contract of the lease was made by the North Carolina Railroad Company. But it is true that the State stock was voted for the lease. The State can only act through agents. Now the State contends that its agents and the Southern were guilty of FRAUD in this transaction, that its agents acted negligently and wantonly in performing their trust, that they permitted themselves to be grossly imposed upon by misrepresentations and false pretenses of the Southern Railroad Company; that they made a contract which was void in law because it was not authorized BY THEIR PRINCIPAL, the State; that they exceeded the delegation of power intrusted to them by their principal, the State and made an alienation of its property without its authority. Now, all that the State asks is that it shall be permitted to make these allegations in its own courts and to join an issue with the Southern Railroad Company to be tried and determined just like any ordinary controversy between ordinary persons. This is all that the State is asking and this is just what the Southern Railroad Company is trying to prevent.

Now, will you please put yourself in the position of the State. Suppose yourself to be the owner of a piece of property and that you had delegated to an agent authority to manage it, but no authority to sell it; and that without your authority this agent does sell it and sells it secretly, and keeps off bidders and is guilty of questionable and apparently fraudulent conduct in making the sale and negligently suffers himself to be imposed upon by the purchaser and conveys away your property for a grossly inadequate consideration. Will you please tell me where is the moral wrong in your coming into the courts of your country and seeking relief by rescinding the contract of your agent? This is all that the State is asking,—simply the poor privilege of suing for an alleged right. If the Southern Railroad Company is innocent and these allegations are not true, why does it try to avoid the issue and the trial in our own courts?

Why does it try to get the State in a Federal Equity Court where a jury trial is denied and where the Judges, with now and then an exception, are notoriously the partisans of plutocracy—a court which at the demand of imperial railroad power has actually committed the monumental outrage of enjoining railroads from cutting rates and thus denied to the people the benefit of competition among common carriers.

If the State's agents had the right to make the ninety-nine year lease, which is equivalent to a sale, then the courts will so decide and the title of the Southern will be perfected; but in order to avoid this issue and this trial, they seek to deprive us of the right even to pray for relief, and laugh at our calamities which they have wrought and mock at our misfortunes as from their bad eminence they look down upon the depleted form of a defrauded and prostrate State.

DANIEL L. RUSSELL.

WILLING—SHOTT.

A Mr. Shott and a Mr. Willing fought a duel in which both were wounded. This circumstance gave rise to the following lines:

Shott and Willing did engage
In duel fierce and hot;
Shott shot Willing willingly,
And Willing he shot Shott.

The shot Shott shot made Willing quite
A spectacle to see,
While Willing's willing shot went right
Through Shott's anatomy.

It is a fortunate day for a man when he first discovers the value of Ayer's Sarsaparilla as a blood-purifier. With this medicine, he knows he has found a remedy upon which he may rely, and that his life-long malady is at last conquered. Has cured others, will cure you.

RULE OF MONOPOLY.

NO DESPOTISM WORSE THAN THAT OF PLUTOCRACY.

It Must be Broken and Power Restored to the People—Henry L. Grant Issues Some Good Advice in Our Behalf—Municipal Ownership.

It is idle to talk of taxing the people prosperous. It is the quintessence of folly to talk of making the foreigner pay the revenue through a tariff with which to pay the running expenses of the government. No one, but political demagogues and arrant fools will waste any time discussing these questions. Then what is the trouble, and what the remedy? The trouble is that the people do not rule. The synd cates and trusts run the government to suit their interests. Ninety-five per cent. of the people are robbed of the greater portion of what they produce by rent, usury and what great thieves are pleased to call profits. The coal fields and the oil wells of the country are monopolized by syndicates and trusts, and private enterprise is shut out. This enables the trusts to make great profits on these products, or rather, to remorselessly plunder the people. The land is fast passing into the control of monopolies. Already great tracts are owned by syndicates and many thousands of people are robbed by rent. There are many other trusts and monopolies which are daily robbing the people. The result is that the wealth of the country is accumulating into the hands of a few and the highways are filled with tramps, the jails are gorged with criminals, the insane asylums packed with the insane, the alm-houses are overflowing with helpless paupers and the life of the great Western republic is in great peril.

The lines of transportation and communication have always aided and fostered the other great trusts and corporations. Rockefeller could never have monopolized the coal oil but for the railroads. He not only got cheap rates for his oil, but the railroads charged all other oil dealers excessive rates and a part of that excess went to Rockefeller; thus he could make money if he did not sell a gallon of his oil. The failure of the United Press has given an object lesson on private ownership of the lines of communication. It cost the New York Journal $225,000 to get a franchise from the Associated Press, which now has a monopoly on news. Papers in little country towns are mulcted $10,000 to $20,000. This does not pay for the news, but simply for the privilege of getting it. This would be impossible under proper conditions.

Every city and town should own its water system, street railways and lighting plant. Millions of dollars are annually fleeced from the people by monopolies. They must be suppressed.—H. L. Gant.

THE TOCSIN SOUNDS FROM IREDELL.

People are Forcibly Reminded of What Has Been and What Is—And What May Be.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Peoples Party of Iredell county, held at Statesville, N. C., on the 15th day of May, 1897, the members desiring to give expression to their political brethren—taking into consideration the fact, that the arrival of the "advance agent of prosperity" has not lessened the burdens of the great masses; but whose daily hints thereof has been additional announcements of breaking banks and assignments of business men, and who now seeks to obscure the true issue with a wilderness of fallacies, i. e., taxation as a means of prosperity; trusts and combines flourishing—the few enriched at the expense of the many—all destructive of the interests of our common country, and a continuation of that administration, whose betrayal of the people's rights, is too recent and disastrous to be forgotten, calls for the watchman upon his tower to be upon his guard.

Higher prices, an overflowing treasury, with less money in circulation, is a theory not yet comprehended. The people have mourned under their burdens because the wicked have reigned. There is no present help and none can be expected from either of the old parties. The national extravagance of both the old parties is horrible, while the masses are heavy ladened. Their present contest over the tariff is a delusion and a snare. We would condemn both for their protecting arm thrown around corporations and trusts; their aid, almost solidly, in the last legislature, in continuing the lease to the railroad thus giving thousands of dollars to it; their aid in sustaining and retaining the present passenger and freight rates, the same being based upon a watered valuation and not upon the true valuation of the investment.

We commend the stand taken by the Peoples Party and those of other parties who manfully stood by the cause of the people in that hour. We would heartily endorse the action of Senator Butler, both in State and National affairs, his every act and word being in favor of the issues of the party he so faithfully represents, and we do most readily tender him our aid and utmost confidence.

We would endorse the action of our representatives in the performance of their duties and the firm stand they have taken as set forth in their memorial, and made known by open letter that we have the utmost confidence in our central committee, and we endorse their actions at and during the session of the last legislature as proper and right.

J. D. ELLIOTT,
A. W. COLSON,
W. H. ADERHOLDT.

To make the hair grow a natural color, prevent baldness, and keep the scalp healthy, Hall's Hair Renewer was invented, and has proved itself successful.

See-in-Law Symptoms.

When we see a neat, pretty girl, with a free but innocent air, with cheeks like roses, and heavenly blue eyes, which seem to repose in serenity beneath their silken lashes, we always wish she was near a mud-puddle and we had to help her over.