THE CAUCASIAN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
BY THE CAUCASIAN PUBLISHING CO.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ONE YEAR.....$1.00
SIX MONTHS.....50
THREE MONTHS.....25

Entered at the Post Office in Raleigh N. C. as second-class mail matter

IT DEPENDS UPON WHOSE OX IS GORED.

We notice that a number of the machine Democratic newspapers are attacking the Supreme Court for its decision in the case of Abbott vs. Beddingfield. The Raleigh Post charges that the court has made out of the famous decision of Hoke vs. Henderson "a veritable rubber-neck to be stretched as partisan vicisitudes may suggest, and made to cover or discover a multitude of sin."

The Post and other machine ballot-box stuffing organs should look back over their files and see what they themselves said about Hoke vs. Henderson, and also about the court when this same court in the case of Wood vs. Bellamy applied the same doctrine as applied in Abbott vs. Beddingfield to put a Populist out of office and put a Democrat in. These same Democratic papers then thought that Hoke vs. Henderson was a great decision and they even went so far as to praise this present court for upholding that doctrine. It seems now that these papers had no conviction on the matter, but all of their praise was due to the fact that the decision put a Democrat in office. Their howling seems to depend entirely upon whose ox is gored, with utter disregard to principal, justice, law or consistency. But it is not surprising that a party machine, headed by a man like Simmons which doesn't hesitate to stuff ballot-boxes steal votes and commit perjury to get an office, yea, which will go even further, as this party machine did in the last campaign, and deliberately shoot in the back and murder innocent and inoffensive voters to get a few offices should have its newspaper organ to slander and villify the Supreme Court of the State, even when it had rendered a consistent decision but which resulted in keeping a Democratic heeler from getting an office.

THE CAUCASIAN has never thought that the doctrine laid down in Hoke vs. Henderson was good law but it does not lie in the mouth of any Democrat to criticise this court for re-affirming that doctrine now.

Let it be remembered in this connection that when this court rendered its first decision upholding this doctrine in the case of Wood vs. Bellamy which resulted in putting a Democrat in office and keeping a Populist out that not only did every Democratic paper in the State endorse the decision of the court, but also that Judge Clark who now dissents, then endorsed the doctrine and concurred in the decision of the court making it unanimous.

THE SUPREME COURT VS. SIMONTON.

Some weeks ago Judge Simonton decided that the Corporation Commission has no power to assess the railroads for taxation, and granted an injunction to prohibit them from enforcing the taxes against the railroads. Judge Simonton held that the Revenue Law imposes that duty and power on the Railroad Commission, which was created by the act of 1891. He held that this act was repealed by the last legislature of 1899. This crowd of 1899, in its anxiety to grab for all the offices that were in sight, or that they could create, repealed the Railroad Commission law of 1891, and then re-enacted the same thing and called it a Corporation Commission. They either in their blind racing for the offices forgot to change the revenue law so as to confer on the new Corporation Commission the power of assessing the railroads, or they intentionally failed to do so, by way of paying back the railroads some of the money which bought their seats in the Legislature. Judge Simonton says that, whether they did so purposely or not, they have done it; that they have repealed the old Railroad Commission by repealing the act of 1891 which created it. The Supreme Court, in the case of Abbott vs. Beddingfield, holds that this is not so; that the act of 1891 creating the Railroad Commission has not been repealed; that the Legislature did go through the motion of repealing it and then enacted it over again under another name, and that they did this only for the purpose of getting somebody out of office and getting some of their own crowd into offices. The Court decides to follow the decisions of Judge Gaston and Judge Ruffin when they held that property could not be taken from one man and given to another by acts of Assembly.

So the Court says that Simonton is all wrong in holding that the Railroad Commission has been abolished. The Court says that it exists and that only its name has been changed. From this decision, it follows that the Corporation Commission had and has the right to assess the railroads, and they must pay their taxes.

Judge Clark dissented from the decision of the Supreme Court and agrees with Judge Simonton.

THAT STONE UPON THE MOUNTAIN

Some months ago the Democratic Machine thought to quash all opposition to their proposed suffrage amendment by a stupefying series of grand popular rallies from the mountains to the sea.

The first of these great rallies in behalf of the amendment was to be held in the county of McDowell, from whence the hot breath of popular enthusiasm was to blow with increasing force to blight and blast everything of opposition. This cyclone centering in the great white, liberty-loving West, was to gather violence, and healing for Democracy, in the foot-hills and over the piedmont knolls, and wither and sweep away every Democrat who felt that he had been deceived by the solemn campaign lies of his party leaders, and every Populist who had dared predict in 1898 disfranchisement in the event of Democratic success, and every Republican who had sought to wrest a piece of political pie from a Democratic mouth. The havoc that this mad zephyr from out the West should work in our eastern lowlands and along our sandy coasts was terribly and joyously gratifying for these Red-Shirts to contemplate.

So the meeting in McDowell was held; and it proved to be the first and the last of a broken series! Oh, that mad wind of enthusiasm, that would not enthuse beyond its inception! "The wind bloweth where it listeth," but this only at Marion, where the Democratic Machine listed. We know whence it came, but who shall declare whither it went? It travelled no further East, it did not go West, there is no trace of it North or South; and not being found at Marion, it is generally believed that it whiffed "up the spout."

The morning after the meeting at Marion, and before the Democratic press realizep that its failure was too signal to be lied into life, the newspepers spoke of this "first of a series" in headlines (written before the meeting), that were as bold and jubilant as a bridegroom in spring And it was no mild breeze as they saw it, but "a stone," broken loose by popular upheaval, and rolling down the morning side of the mountain, an irresistible slope, to gather volume and force, convincing, converting, crashing, and crushing all opposition in its wild rush to the sea. But the first was the last reference to that stupendous rally and outburst of enthusiasm in the west. We know not whether the stone fell flat, or lodged for inspection in some freeman's mountain cove, or just would not roll for all the slope from the sky-land of McDowell to the open lands below.

This "stone," you observe, was not touched off on the sunset side of the Blue Ridge; even the machine did not expect it to roll up hill on its way to that great salt creek called the sea: but at Marion on this side.

They found that it wouldn't even roll down hill.

The illiterate white voter, even in the ranks of the Democratic party, does not intend to run the risk of disfranchisement by voting for this amendment. The man at the plow will reckon with his party in 1900, even if he cannot "read and explain any section of the Constitution."

ASTONISHING!

The News and Observer in a bit of editorial correspondence said in Sunday's issue;

"A few days ago a Republican was heard telling an uneducated Democrat that the submission of the amendment was an insult to Vance's memory. (Strange, isn't it, that these red-legged grasshoppers seek to conjure in the name of the man they always sought to defeat!) And among other things he said: "As long as Vance lived no amendment like this could be submitted. He would never have permitted it. In fact once he had to read the riot act to prevent it."

Well, now, admitting the strangeness of such conjuration, we feel bound to confess that it is hardly more strange than that the party of Vance, who as leader of it in 1875, never sought, even by a Constitutional Convention, to disfranchise any man, white or black, should now seek to conjure in the name of Vance and to distranchise the illiterate white and black, and that too, in open violation of solemn campaign pledges made by the head of the Democratic party; and through a head, furthermore, that could not be its head if Vance were living, to wit: Chairman Simmons, whom Vance would not permit to be even a "red-legged grasshopper" as long as he lived.

VICE-PRESIDENT HOBART.

The funeral of Vice-President Hobart at Patterson, N. J., on last Saturday was a marked and notable tribute to the dead statesman. Not only the President and his cabinet and the Supreme Court of the United States were present, but more than fifty Senators, and a large number of Congressmen gathered from every part of the Union to pay their tribute of respect.

Vice-President Hobart was not only a man of spotless personal integrity but he was probably the ablest and fairest and most efficient Vice-President who has ever presided over the Senate; he was not only a fine presiding officer but he was also a strong and positive force in legislation.

It is said that he not only had the confidence and esteem of men of all parties, but that not one of his rulings as presiding officer of the Senate was ever criticised by any Senator of any party.

THE GREAT QUESTION.

We give below an editorial which recently appeard in the Norfolk Landmark the largest Democratic daily in eastern Virginia, with reference to the dishonest methods of the Kentucky Democrats in trying to reverse the verdict of the majority of the voters of that Commonwealth. We give space to this editorial from the Landmark and from other Democratic papers with reference to this Kentucky affair for the reason that the Kentucky fight is to be repeated in North Carolina next year and it is well for the voters of this state to know what Democrats and Democratic papers outside of the Machines in the different states think of such dishonest methods. The Landmark's editorial shows that paper to be so much in favor of honesty in elections as in everything else that if were published within the boundaries of North Carolina, Chairman Simmons would discover that its opinions were bought and the Democratic Machine papers would proceed to read out of the party. The Landmark says:

"It was predicted that events in Kentucky would shape themselves as they are doing now if the Goebel ticket should be defeated at the polls. When the wretched election-law with which the State is burdened was pending in the Legislature, there was a tremendous protest from every section of the commonwealth.

The people knew just what was meant, and strong words came from that portion of the populace which valued its franchise and wished to keep Kentucky out of the clutches of an unscrupulous ring; but the bill was driven through under the influence of the lash which Mr. Goebel, then State Senator, had already learned to weild so well. Just after the passage of the law, the Louisville Courier-Journel, which saw fit to support Goebel in the gubernatorial campaign, declared that the men who had been responsibe for the adoption of the iniquitous statute would soon be sent into oblivion by the votes of an outraged and wrathful people.

That the returns Tuesday showed a clear plurality in favor of Taylor the Republican candidate, is not to be doubted. All disinterested authorites agree as to that. The bulletins of the Associated Press and of the Western Union Telegraph Company, compiled independently, showed practically the same result. But the Goebel forces vociferously refused to admit defeat. They claimed that later revised returns would show the victory of their great champion. They hinted at wrongly-cast ballots—at this, that, and the other possibility by which Taylor votes might be thrown out. Yesterday's news brought the announcement that an effort was made Monday to throw out the entire vote of Lewis County, which gave Taylor a plurality of six hundred, on the ground that the paper on which the ballots had been printed was "too thin." Friday or Saturday the Election Board had thrown out the vote of two Taylor precincts on this same pretext, and when the board met Monday there was a crowd of two thousand angry citizens gathered around the courthouse in an "ugly" mood. When the multitude was informed that the vote of another Taylor precinct was about to be thrown out, the demonstrations of wrath became so fierce that the gentlemen of the Election Board were frightened and proclaimed that they had reconsidered their action and would count the entire vote of the county as it had been cast.

Just as the Republicans did in the case of the famous (or infamous) Tilden-Hayes national election contest, the Goebelites are doing in Kentucky now. They are clearly beaten on the face of the returns, but they are claiming everything in sight, crying fraud in louder tones than the other side, and moving heaven and earth to drag the vote of Taylor precincts before their Goebelized election boards for examination, revision, and so forth. The distinguished statesmen who had the immortal Zach Chandler at their head in 1876 succeeded in robbing the country of a Democratic President who had really been elected. It is a question, however, in view of such incidents as that Vanceburg Monday, whether the Goebelites in Kentucky will succeed in reversing the will of the voters of that State so easily. It begins to appear that the people of Kentucky are not going to permit the returns to be counted as they were not cast. It begins to appear that there will be serious and immediate trouble for those who undertake to apply the delicate machinery of the Goebel law to the ballots by which Taylor has been elected. The Democratic party in Kentucky is going to lose the respect of the people of its State to such an extent that years of purification will be required for it to win back its lost prestige. The same thing occurred in North Carolina It occurred with certain differences, in South Carolina. It is going to occur in Virginia unless the election-law which Goebel took as his model is wiped off our statute books and replaced by one which guarantees honesty. The question of fair elections is the great and growing question in the South today. Mark that down and remember it."

It has been a matter of surprise that a legislature composed of so many lawyers should make such a botch of the laws it attempted to pass. But this is what the last legislature did, and as a consequence the state has been made laughing stock. We judge, however, that that little error of failing to confer upon the Corporation Commission the power to assess railroad property was due to the fact that more time was given in considering who was to fill the jobs of the Commission than to the duties that were to be performed.

If Congressman Roberts is expelled rom the House for having three wives he might find a good field for location in Sulu and in time return to Congress from that new acquisition of Uncle Sam's. In as much as McKinley has guaranteed protection to this style of matrimony he would probably be allowed to retain his seat.

THE APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK.

There was a large gathering of representative men from North Carolina and many neighboring States in Asheville on Wednesday of last week to take steps to get Congress to establish a great national park in the mountains of western North Carolina. The meeting was a decided success, an organization was formed to gather the necessary data and push the project vigorously before Congress this winter. There should be a great national park somewhere east of the Mississippi river, and there is no location in the whole country that does surpass western North Carolina for such a park. A park can be laid out in the Blue Ridge or Smoky Mountains that will not only preserve the magnificent forest and preserve the head waters of many of our most important water courses, but a park that will be visited and enjoyed by ten times as many people as will ever be able to visit Yellow Stone National Park. THE CAUCASIAN hopes to see Congress take favorable action at an early date to establish this great Appalachian national park.

Ex-Senator Call, of Florida has asked the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to investigate the manner of the election of Senator Taliaferro to the Senate. Senator Call claims that the Standard Oil Company was responsible for the election of Senator Taliaferro, and that it put up large sums of money to accomplish this purposes. Charges of this kind have been very frequent in the last few years, and the scandal talk thus created can have nothing but a demoralizing influence. The opportunity for such scandals should be removed and Senators elected by the People instead of by the legislatures.

One of the measures which has for sometime been pending before Congress, and which will be pushed at the coming session is a bill providing for a legalized pool of railroad interests. One of the main objections advanced by many to the government ownership of railroads is that it will cause such a centralization of power; but what else does a legalized pool mean? And to us it seems that this power in the hands of the people's government could be better wielded for the public good than in the hands of a few men whose interests are exactly opposite to those of the great public which the roads serve.

A determined effort will be made at the coming session of Congress by the gold standard men to put through a bill legally establishing the country upon the gold basis. The measure has already been prepared and it is now understood that it will be offered to both Houses during the early part of the session. It remains to be seen whether the Republicans will be able to pass the measure. They have a majority of both houses, but can they hold in line some of the Republican Senators who have strong silver constituencies? It is to be hoped that they cannot.

The News and Observer and other papers of its kind are giving the Supreme Court "fits" for following a precedent laid down by Democratic courts. In this case, however, the decision ousts a Democrat from office and when you hit the crowd that ran the last Democratic campaign on the question of office, you touch a tender spot.

The Charolotte Observer in an editorial "The Negro and his Vote" says that the Democratic party has not left untried any means to win the political favor of the negro, but that it has failed to do so. Is this the Observer's explanation for the campaign that was carried on in North Carolina last year?

Where are the Anglo Maniacs in these days of trouble England and the United States are having with their "rebellious" subject? It would seem to be a fitting time for an English-American alliance to hasten the suppression of the uprising in Luzon and the Transvaal.

We call attention to a communication from Mr. H. P. Harrel, of Kelford in another column of this issue. Mr. Harrell writes very interestingly of some of the sins of ommission and commission of the last lamented legislature.

News is again being received from Otis of the downfall of the Filipino Republic. This is the same news that the public became accustomed to a few months ago.

HERE ARE SIX DEMOCRATS

Who Will Not Vote for the Constitutional Amendment.

Editor of the Asheville Gazette.

Dear Sir—I have always been a consistent democrat, but I have at last realized the fact that the democratic party in this state will not legislate in favor of the common people. The proposed constitutional amendment will disfranchise thousands of whites in this state and I shall do all in my power to secure its defeat. I take this opportunity of announcing in the future I shall vote the straight republican ticket and I have five sons who will do likewise. There are many democrats on Spring Creek who will vote against the proposed amendment. Your paper is doing a great work and I feel sure that the people will sustain you. Respectfully,

T. L. PLEMMONS.

Spring Creek, N. C., Nov. 21, 99.

THE LEGISLATURE OF 1899.

A Success or a Failure?—Some of the Things it Did and Did Not do.—Mr. Harrell Writes of it in his Usual Interesting Way.

For THE CAUCASIAN.

It met, controlled by an oligarchy of less than three score attorneys, with the declared purpose to destroy for the future all opposition to the dominant party from without.

After having laid a sure and firm foundation for coming years from opposition within and without, it adjourned.

In one day it ground out 286 pages of caucus law, but left the grist unbolted. In June 1900 they will attend to this. In the meantime it will have soured and the rats spoiled it. In the great barbecue to be given in Hang Dog township before the August election next year, they will need this grist. Can the people swallow it, and if they do, will it not sour still more on their stomachs as they take the fool's march of fifty feet, one by one, between the "ropes or bars," to vote away their liberties?

Ropes or Bars: Ominous words, typical of hanging by the neck or peeping from behind bars of iron when our rights as freemen are gone. In this, did the leaders consult chairman Jones or Mr. Bryan; or was it Chairman Simmons and affidavit Pou who meant to disfranchise nobody?

They knew not what they did. On that fateful day they repealed the R. R. Commission Act to take effect at once, and then attempted to confer its defunct powers to assess railroad property for taxation on the Corporation Commission created on that day to take effect the 5th day of April, and so twelve million dollars worth of railroad property goes tax free. Strange that they did not on that day legislate the State into a Corporation Commission and turn Russell out, as they boasted before the election they would do.

They anpointed their pet attorneys justices of the peace and set aside as to them Section 27 of the Code and allowed them to practice law.

In violation of the Constitution of the State, they appointed men to office who already held one lucrative office, and struck out part of the oath that officers are requested to take to shield them from perjury.

In violation of a law of the State they allowed the owners of the Atlantic hotel in Morehead City to sell liquor after the question of local option had been decided by a vote of the people and license refused.

They appointed from three to five or more "discreet" County Commissioners in many counties to rule out those nominated and elected by the dominant party.

And, sad to tell, after getting into office under the cry of negro domination, they appointed a negro on the Finance Committee of this county, the home of the Grand Mogul of the white government unions, established and held on Friday nights in the school houses, where great jugs of whiskey were exploited, and a dram and a cracker offered to those whose curiosity led them there.

Sadder still, on that day, the Goebel-Simmons election law was passed that disfranchises voters before they are allowed to vote on the amendment that is to settle for them the question of their ever voting again.

Shall I speak of the solemn march of 50 feet on a fool's errand, to be taken one by one, when they must not speak or make a sign to any one but their masters, the poll keepers, who are sworn no more as they had been for 120 years, to put the ticket in the proper box, and if the wrong box it is not to be counted as it was for these 120 years past?

Shall I speak of the amendment that places the educated negro above the uneducated white man who has been taxed for thirty years to educate him and fit him for this position?

Shall men, in the exercise of the right of self-government wrested from George the Third by their fathers with guns in their hands, be told by a tyrranical legislature, when, where, and to whom they shall speak. Ropes and bars, and speaking to no one smacks too much of the tyrrannical edict of the Czar of Russia that no one by voice, clapping of hands, or movement of the feet shall manifest applause in any theatre in the Empire.

Shall I speak of the $3 to $7 tax laid on the small dealer in fresh meats (I suppose to pay the expenses of the August election next year) when the large dealer who ships thousands of cattle, sheep, and hogs to the large Virginia cities, pay no tax; or was this tax on the small dealer laid to pay the freight on the large dealer's stock? Now the small dealer is abusing the sheriff he helped to elect, and the people agree with him as to the injustice of the tax.

But I must desist for pen cannot do justice to this incompetent legislature. But I think foes will agree with me that it was a dismal failure last winter and will be again when it meets next June to provide for the assessment of railroad property, amend the amendment, and give the people an honest election law.

H. P. HARRELL.

Kelford, N. C., Nov. 27, 1899.

ROBBED THE GRAVE.

A starling incident, of which Mr. John Oliver of Philadelphia, was the subject, is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately, a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters;' and to my great joy and surprise, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50cts., guaranteed, at all Drug Stores.

A new year is announced by Branson's Almanac. Get the Almanac and read about the total eclipse of the sun

POU'S CAMPAIGN AFFIDAVIT.

ONE OF HIS METHODS OF FOOLING VOTERS IN THE LAST CAMPAIGN.

HE MAKES AFFIDAVIT THAT A PROPOSITION TO DISFRANCHISE NEGROES AND ILLITERATE WHITES WOULD NOT RECEIVE A SINGLE DEMOCRATIC VOTER IN THE LEGISLATURE AND DENOUNCES THOSE WHO MAKE THE CHARGE AS SPEAKING FALSELY AND TRYING TO FOOL THE PEOPLE.

From Caucasian Oct. 19 —

The following affidavit made by James H. Pou, ex-Chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, during the last campaign, will be interesting reading. Our readers will remember that whenever and wherever it was charged in the last campaign that if the Democratic machine under Simmons got control of the State, that they would offer a scheme to disfranchise illiterate votes, that the charge was indignantly denied and denounced by every Democratic speaker as being infamously false. Even Mr. Simmons, the Democratic State Chairman, issued an official statement to the voters of the State, branding every such charge as false in toto; saying that that campaign lie had been charged against the Democratic party before, and that the charge was now so old and so false that no one would believe it.

Mr. James H. Pou, the ex-Chairman of the State Democratic Committee, in his speeches made the same declaration. But it seems that in one of his speeches in Moore county, some members of his audidience expressed doubt of the truth of his indignant denial, and called upon him while upon the stand to know if he would make an affidavit to that effect. He publicly agreed to do so, we are informed. The result is the affidavit below, made at Raleigh, dated Oct. 14th, 1898. It will be noticed that Mr. Pou, shrewd, slick and cunning as he is, attempted to word his affidavit so as not to say explicitly what he had said publicly on the stump, and yet at the same time, to say enough to make it appear that his affidavit had made good his campaign declaration, and fool the voters into accepting his statement and voting for the machine.

The following is a true copy of the affidavit:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
County of Wake.

James H. Pou, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

"I have never said that, if the Democrats regained control of the State, they intended to disfranchise the negroes and illiterate white voters. I never have said anything like this, and I know that such is not the intention of the Democratic party. I have never heard a single Democrat give utterance to such a sentiment, and I do not believe, if such a proposition comes before the General Assembly, that it would receive a single Democratic vote. I believe that a majority of the uneducated white voters of North Carolina are Democrats. The Democratic party is appealing to them for aid in preserving white supremacy in the center west and in restoring it in the Eastern part of this State. They are responding to our appeal, and to repay them for their aid with a disfranchisement of their votes would be folly and ingrattiude indeed. The man who makes these charges know they speak falsely, but their campaign this year is run upon the idea that the people of North Carolina would rather believe a falsehood than the truth, and they would rather hear libels upon the honored dead than to hear arguments based upon truth."

[Signed] JAMES H. POU.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this October 1st 1898.

[Signed] GEO. W. THOMPSON, Notary Public.

Notarial Seal,
Geo. W. Thompson,
Notary Public,
Raleigh, N. C.

Two five cent "documentary" revenue stamps attached.

"A MONSTROUS ABSURDITY."

Many Good Democrats Opposed to the "Grand-son of His Grand-father" Constitutional Amendment Clause.

The correspondent of the Charlotte Observer, writing to that paper from Fayetteville, under date of March 4th, says:

The Observer correctly guages public sentiment in throwing out a word of warning against taking for granted the carrying at the ballot box of the suffrage constitutional amendment. It will require hard work from the rank and file and leaders of the party. There is certainly no cloud on the title of the Cape Fear Democracy to orthodoxy, but the writer is surprised at the number of leading Democrats whom he meets opposed to the amendment. The clause about the "grand son of his grandfather" is especially decried as a monstrous absurdity.

The suffrage amendment referred to above, which was adopted by the last Legislature, is as follows:

THE SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT.

Section 1. That Article VI of the Constitution of North Carolina be, and the same is hereby abrogated, and in lieu thereof shall be substituted the following Article of Said Constitution:

ARTICLE VI.

Suffrage and Eligibility to Office—Qualifications of an Elector.

[Section 1.] Every male person born in the United States, and every male person who has been naturalized, 21 years of age and possessing the qualifications set out in this Article shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people in the State, except as herein otherwise provided.

[Sec. 2.] He shall have resided in the State of North Carolina for two years, in the county six months and in the precinct, ward or other election district, in which he offers to vote four months next preceding the election: Provided, That removal from one precinct, ward or other election district to another in the same county, shall not operate to deprive any person of the right to vote in a precinct, ward or other election district from which he has removed until four months after such removal. No person who has been convicted, or who has confessed his guilt inopen court upon indictment, of any crime, the punishment of which now is, or may thereafter be, imprisonment in the State prison, shall be permitted to vote unless the said person shall be first restored to citizenship in the manner prescribed by law.

[Sec. 3.] Every person offering to vote shall be at the time a legally registered voter as herein prescribed and in the manner hereinafter provided by law, and the General Assembly of North Carolina shall enact general registration laws to carry into effect the provisions of this Article.

[Sec.] 4. Every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language; and, before he shall be entitled to vote, he shall have paid, on or before the first day of March of the year in which he proposes to vote, his poll tax, as prescribed by law, for the previous year. Poll taxes shall be a lien only on assessed property, and no process shall issue to enforce the collection of the same except against assessed property.

[Sec. 5.] No male person, who was on January 1, 1867, or at any time prior thereto, entitled to vote under the laws of any State in the United States wherein he then resided, and no lineal descendant of any such person; shall be denied the right to register and vote at any election in this State by reason of his failure to possess the educational qualifications prescribed in section 4 of this Article: Provided, He shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this section prior to Dec. 1, 1908.

The General Assembly shall provide for a permanent record of all persons who register under this section on or before November 1, 1908, and all such persons shall be entitled to register and vote at all elections by the people in this State, unless disqualified under section 2 of this Article: Provided such persons shall have paid their poll tax as required by law.

[Sec. 6.] All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by the General Assembly shall be viva voce.

[Sec. 7.] Every voter in North Carolina, except as in this Art. disqualified, shall be eligible to office, but before entering upon the duties of the office he shall take and subscribe the following oath: "I,....., do solemnly swear or affirm, that I will support and maintain the constitution and laws of the U. S. and the constitution and laws of North Carolina, not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as ..... So help me God."

[Sec. 8.] The following classes of persons shall be disqualified for office: First, all persons who shall deny the being of Almighty God. Second, all persons who shall have been convicted or confessed their guilt on indictment pending, and whether sentenced or not; or under judgment suspended, of any treason or felony, or any other crime for which the punishment may be imprisonment in the penitentiary, since becoming citizens of the United States, or of corruption and malpractice in office unless such person shall be restored to the rights of citizenship in a manner prescribed by law

Section 2. That all of the provisions of the Constitution relating to suffrage, registration and elections, as contained in this act, amending the Constitution, shall go into effect on the first day of July, 1902, if a majority of the qualified voters of the State so declare at the next general election.

Sec. 3. This amendment shall be submitted at the next general election to the qualified voters of the State in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as is provided in the law regulating general elections in this State, and in force May 1st, 1899 and at said election those persons desiring to vote for such amendment shall cast a written or printed ballot with the words "For Suffrage Amendment" thereon; and those with a contrary opinion shall cast a written or printed ballot with the word "Against Suffrage Amendment" thereon.

Sec. 4 The said election shall be held, and the votes returned, compared, counted and canvassed, and the result announced, under the same rules and regulations as are in force for returning, comparing, counting and canvassing the votes for members of the General Assembly, May 1st, 1899, and if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the said amendment, it shall be the duty of the Governor of the State to certify said amendment, under the seal of the State, to the Secretary of State, who shall enroll the said amendment so certified among the permanent records of his office.

Sec. 5. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified 21st day of February A. D., 1899.

Hemmed in by Rising Waters.

FORT WORTH, TEX., Nov. 26 — The rapid rise in the Trinity River has assumed serious proportions. Much damage to property and cattle has been reported, and tonight word comes from the country immediately north of Fort Worth that several families are hemmed in by the high waters, with little hope for immediate rescue. The river is steadily rising.

The police have notified families living along the river bottoms of the danger from inundation, and preparations are being made for a hurried scramble for safety.

Section 2. That all of the provisions of the Constitution relating to suffrage, registration and elections, as contained in this act, amending the Constitution, shall go into effect on the first day of July, 1902, if a majority of the qualified voters of the State so declare at the next general election.

Sec. 3. This amendment shall be submitted at the next general election to the qualified voters of the State in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as is provided in the law regulating general elections in this State, and in force May 1st, 1899 and at said election those persons desiring to vote for such amendment shall cast a written or printed ballot with the words "For Suffrage Amendment" thereon; and those with a contrary opinion shall cast a written or printed ballot with the word "Against Suffrage Amendment" thereon.

Sec. 4 The said election shall be held, and the votes returned, compared, counted and canvassed, and the result announced, under the same rules and regulations as are in force for returning, comparing, counting and canvassing the votes for members of the General Assembly, May 1st, 1899, and if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the said amendment, it shall be the duty of the Governor of the State to certify said amendment, under the seal of the State, to the Secretary of State, who shall enroll the said amendment so certified among the permanent records of his office.

Sec. 5. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified 21st day of February A. D., 1899.

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Three miles an hour is about the average speed of the Gulf Stream. At certain places, however, it attains a speed of 21 miles an hour, the extraordinary rapidity of the current giving the surface, when the sun is shining, the appearance of a sheet of fire.—Ex.

A Chance (?) to Win a Medal.

The Gazette will present a medal to any Democratic newspaper that will explain how an honest election could be held under the Simmons or the Goebel election law.—Asheville Gazette.