

## The Fraud and Force Candidate.

## Rioters Made Rulers.

THE WILMINGTON RIOT BY ONE OF THE RIOTERS HIMSELF.

### Ruling By Fraud and Force.

Seeing Red Blood and Smelling it Hot—“Dancing Cape Fear River With Dead Negroes”—“Rule or Gray-ard”—“Rule by ‘Fire and Blood.’”  
Union Republican, June 7.

Quite an interesting article appeared in last Sunday's issue of the News and Observer concerning the “Wilmington Revolution.” And although the writer, Mr. Meares, states that this was nothing concerning politics, this article, covering more than one entire page, and conceived in the mind of the writer and written nearly two years after the “trouble,” stands as a welcome and timely contribution on the front page of this hot political sheet, the News and Observer, in the midst of another heated political campaign.

Of course this article was intended to smooth over this terrible and uncalculated riot and bloodshed and again place the perpetrators of such crime and lawlessness in a plausible light before the people in order to again get their support in the coming election and to make themselves again appear as peaceable and law-abiding citizens.

But as the history of this affair, if truly given, does not work a bad effect in determining the votes of the people we do not deem it out of place to give a brief synopsis of the affair from Mr. Meares' own words, though realizing the fact that the object of the article was to ease matters off, and believing that the account is given in as mild a form as human ingenuity can construct.

After stating under the head of “Organization Effected” that already and before any organization, men had commenced to buy firearms for the protection of their homes; and that “at a cost of \$1,200 the citizens purchased, quipped and manned a rapid fire gun,” (this of course right on the eve of the election.) the writer goes on and gives in the following paragraphs the following quotations, which give the pith of Mr. Meares' story of the awful affair:

“WRITE MAN'S DETERMINATION.”  
“The determination of the white men of this city to control its affairs had reached in the fall of that year such a state of absolute unity and stern resolution covered before it. They did not run a county ticket. The negroes, however, on the day of election, voted their full strength. The election in the city passed off quietly. The negro was permitted to vote.”

“After the election there was a strong feeling pervading this community that the negro, having voted, did not realize that recent movements in this community meant that the white man would control the community. It was intended by the demonstration that followed to make the great mass of ignorant negro voters realize the deep seated purpose of the white man to control in the future. We know he had made the Daily Record his idol. He had sustained it and endorsed it. It was intended that the paper should cease publication, its press and printing outfit should be removed from the city, and its editor banished once and for all.”

“Then on the morning of November 10, a large body of citizens of this community, consisting of a thousand or more, marched to the Record office in broad daylight, and destroyed it.”

“When the press was destroyed though it was not intended, the building was also burned. The motive which inspired the burning of this building was not an unrighteous one.”

“Early in the day the committee of twenty-five demanded of the mayor, alderman and the chief of police that they resign. They acknowledged their utter incapacity to maintain order.”

“At four o'clock in the afternoon at the agreed hour, the aldermen assembled in meeting and one by one tendered their resignations. As each one resigned they elected a successor whose name had been furnished by the committee of twenty-five and the newly elected member immediately assumed his seat. When all the aldermen had been thus changed, the mayor and chief of police tendered their resignations; and immediately the board elected the new mayor and chief of police.”

“Later in the day, when the new mayor and board of aldermen went into office, the commander of the military forces subordinated his control to the civil authorities recognizing his power to control the situation, with the support of the local State Guard.”

“A number of the negroes who were wounded and met their death were killed by the military authorities in attempting their arrest and in the suppression of lawlessness. All together there were not over eight or ten of them killed.”

“There were, as is unfortunately

so often the case, one or two of them killed who were not directly concerned in the trouble.”

“On the following day those negroes and politicians who had been imprisoned were removed from the city under a military escort and carried to the State penitentiary. A special car was provided; and this was done not only for the purpose of expelling them, but as well to protect them from danger in remaining in the city. The mayor, chief of police, Deputy Sheriff Francis, United States Commissioner, the negro lawyers, and others received their passports and will not be permitted to return by an indignant community.”

Now this picture of the scene is snappy and graphic. It will be observed that while endeavoring to make it appear that the Democrats were on the defensive in this tragic affair that the writer does not show that a single negro or other person had a single gun, pistol, or other “implement of warfare” or that a single hand was raised in his own defense after he was attacked and some of them ruthlessly shot and murdered. The writer also shows that the negroes who made it impossible for the authorities “to maintain order?” The writer goes on to say that later in the day when the new mayor and board of aldermen went into office the commander of the military forces “subordinated his control to the civil authorities, recognizing its power to control the situation. Yes there is. When their crowd went in they were willing to “recognize” the authorities. They here stand condemned in the light of their own showing. They were a confessed lot of men who would not recognize civil authorities and made it impossible for the authorities to stop them in their dastardly work of carnage and bloodshed.

The writer also undertakes to score a point in the favor by saying that the white Republicans did not line up against them. Seeing their unmanly aggressive position, and feeling the self-consciousness of guilt, they became tantalized over the fact that the white Republicans recognized law and order and the authorities and were not guilty of like crimes which they had committed.

Writer says they “snored before them.” They were sorry that the Republicans proved themselves to be such respectable and worthy citizens and attacked their business on that occasion.

The writer also says, as pertaining to the election, that “the negro was permitted to vote,” and that he did vote “his usual strength.” In the sentence just preceding the writer says that they (the Republicans) “did not run a county ticket.” Now the question is who did those negroes vote for—in their “usual strength”? Why were they fit subjects and permitted to vote on this occasion? What was the reason?

Well, after everything had gone their way and there was no opposition offered in the election how did they get it into the minds of the negroes to shoot the negroes in the back and kill a number of them? This is the excuse that the writer gives:

“There was a strong feeling pervading this community that the negro, having voted, did not realize that recent movements in this community meant that the white man would control the community. It was intended by the demonstration that followed to make the great mass of ignorant negro voters realize the deep seated purpose of the white man to control in the future. We know he had made the Daily Record his idol. He had sustained it and endorsed it. It was intended that the paper should cease publication, its press and printing outfit should be removed from the city, and its editor banished once and for all.”

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“THERE ARE THREE WAYS IN WHICH WE MAY RULE; BY FORCE, BY FRAUD, OR BY LAW. WE HAVE RULED BY FORCE; BY CAN RULE BY FRAUD, BUT WE WANT TO RULE BY LAW.”  
—Hon. C. B. Aycock, Democratic candidate for Governor, in his Snow Hill speech, March 1, 1900, as reported in Raleigh Post.

The Caucasian Asks for the Dental.  
From THE CAUCASIAN of March 22nd, in reference to Mr. Aycock's speech, we quote the following:  
“This report of Mr. Aycock's speech was published in a leading Democratic daily. Three weeks have passed; Mr. Aycock has not yet denied that he used the language. Is it possible that he said it?”

Again, from the issue of this paper of March 29th we quote the following:  
“Hon. C. B. Aycock has not yet denied his boast that he has determined to be Governor, by lawful means, if possible, but by force and fraud, if necessary. This statement was reported by the Raleigh Post, a Democratic paper. If Mr. Aycock was misrepresented, THE CAUCASIAN will gladly make the correction.”

The News and Observer's Denial.  
In a recent issue of the News and Observer we make the following extract from its editorial:  
“This is a simple, plain, unvarnished lie out of the whole cloth. Mr. Aycock never said this. He did not say it at Snow Hill nor anywhere else at any time, to any audience, or to any individual.”

It is this “PLAIN, UNVARNISHED LIE OUT OF THE WHOLE CLOTH,” then we suggest, that the News and Observer direct its severe adjectives in condemnation of the Raleigh Post, for it was the Post that first gave credence to Mr. Aycock's speech. However, we would like to see a de-

Mr. Simmons Explains His Position.  
HICKORY, N. C., June 11, 1900.  
Editor Caucasian:  
I read an article in your issue of the 7th instant, headed “Signon Deceives Himself” in which I note the following:  
“When Senator Signon, of Catawba, in 1898, was writing articles on the negro was trying to show that if the negro was eliminated from politics it would help the Republican party.”

From the above quotation it seems that you like many of the Democratic editors, entirely misunderstood the purpose of the several articles I wrote and published, bearing on the negro in politics. Nowhere can it be shown that I ever advocated the elimination of the negro from politics to the extent of depriving him of his right to vote. On the contrary, I especially emphasized the conviction that he should be a voter and be allowed to exercise that privilege as a citizen. The main purpose of my articles was to show that the negro had been given too much prominence in our political conventions and allowed too much voice in shaping our party politics. That his appointment or elevation to offices and positions of trust and profit, was a great mistake that had worked much detriment to the Republican party. I specially advocate the policy of circumscribing him in his political sphere allowing him to vote as a citizen—but to have nothing to do with conventions, shaping party politics, or the holding of office.

I stated very positively that such a policy would build up a strong Republican party in the State, by bringing to its support many of the best business men who have hitherto affiliated

with the Democratic party, contrary to their own business views, and simply on account of the odium attached to the negro's prominence in the Republican party.  
I note with much pride and satisfaction the fact that, very soon after our party leaders all over the State, and the negroes have been kept in the background at our conventions, and very few, if any, have been nominated for office.  
A. Y. SIMMONS.

of errors will creep into reports of speeches and I cannot undertake to correct all that may come out, but since several Republican papers have based upon the reported speech as a basis for inflammatory articles, I deem it due to myself and the State to say exactly what I did say, to correct the error to the end that there may be no misconception in the matter.  
Very truly yours,  
C. B. AYCOCK.

The News and Observer in commenting on the above, eases itself out of it by saying:  
“That settles this campaign lie, and settles it efficiently with all honest men of all parties.”  
But Mr. Aycock and the Observer's explanations are not conclusive. The reporter of the Post is an honorable man, one who would not misrepresent an opponent, much less a colleague, and yet he has not admitted—not will he do it—that he misquoted Mr. Aycock.

But to substantiate what the Post reporter said, we find the Charlotte Observer of last Sunday, in reporting Mr. Aycock's speech in Statesville on last Saturday, even, reports Mr. Aycock in saying the very thing in substance as follows:  
“But we do not want to use violence and force. We want no pistols, or rifles or staves. There has been enough bloodshed. We want you to come to our rescue with the power of the ballot. IF WE CANNOT PREVENT THAT BY THE BALLOT WE WILL PREVENT IT BY FORCE.”

Read it, take the case.

What Bellamy Wants.  
Colored Aristocracy and White Aristocracy and Poor White Slaves.  
In discussing “political affairs” Representative John D. Bellamy is quoted in the Charlotte Observer as saying:  
“Notwithstanding all the cry which is set up, there is a large number of the better class of negroes who will vote for the amendment. They will do so knowing that the provision as to suffrage does not disfranchise any negro who is able to read and write, and it makes of them a colored aristocracy and separates them from the low and ignorant members of their race. And thus we have it again. The negro is not objectionable in politics so long as he votes the Democratic ticket.”

And a little further on Mr. Bellamy says:  
“North Carolina will no longer be a ‘Colored Aristocracy’ which shall join the ‘White Aristocracy’ and forever rule in North Carolina. The poor white man and the unedu-

ated white man must then bow to the dictates of the “Colored Aristocracy” and the “White Aristocracy.”

“Heretofore no one has been so bold as to say that the object of the amendment was to so much as build up a ‘White Aristocracy’—though this could be clearly seen—but Mr. Bellamy frankly says that it is the object of the negro in voting in the amendment to build up a ‘colored aristocracy,’ certainly then it is the object of the white man in voting for the amendment to build up a ‘White Aristocracy.’ The ‘upper ten’ of both races are to make them a nest in the adoption of the amendment and the great masses of our good and honest citizens are to abide by the consequences and forever be powerless to help themselves.  
The struggle of the ages has been between the ‘Aristocrat,’ and the laboring man. But we are now invited to adopt a measure in North Carolina which will forever put the Aristocrat on top—aristocrats of both races—and to make it possible for other disfranchising measures to be adopted even more far reaching and terrible in their consequences.  
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They Can't Meet the People's Party Candidates in Joint Debate. Rotten Eggs--Their Only Argument Left

## Open Letter to Mr. Simmons.

BURLINGTON, N. C., June 4, 1900.  
Hon. F. M. SIMMONS:  
Dear Sir—Having received your circular letter some time since, asking me, as a Democrat, to work to get a full vote for the amendment in my township. I have this to say in reply: That it will take a great deal more than you are probably aware of to carry your disfranchising scheme in Alamance.

I am a Democrat—never been anything else—but you are attempting to fasten the most undemocratic measure on the people this time you ever have. It is bad enough for you to come before the people at all, in view of the lies and false promises which our party went into power on two years ago, to say nothing of the methods you have adopted this time.

How, in the name of God, are you going to make the people believe you are telling the truth? Are you any better than you were two years ago? You will have a hard time making them believe you are not a great deal worse. I mean the good honest Democrats, for the Republicans did not believe you two years ago, and you called them liars and fools and everything else that was mean; and we, poor fools, believed every word of it.

Now, I am just as white as anybody, and your party claims that a white man who opposes the amendment should go to the negroes where he belongs, and in calling your county convention, only those who favor your schemes are allowed to participate. These are some of the reasons which are driving hundreds and thousands of the best Democrats from the party. I mean those who are not seeking office. Take Aycock's utterances at Snow Hill—three ways by which their party could rule: FORCE, FRAUD and by law, and he admits the first two are in operation. Who is responsible for a great deal of this? I answer: THE HEAD OF THE PARTY. You cannot escape your responsibility. But you say we have to do this to get rid of the negro. Now I am one of the Democrats whom you cannot make believe you are honest in wanting the negro out of politics. If you take him out, where, in the name of high Heaven, would your party get an issue for State campaigns? You know as well as I, and better, that to take him out the Democratic party would cease to exist in North Carolina.

You have worked on the prejudices and passions of the people and rode into office on the poor old negro's back for twenty-five years, and now, to attempt to make the people believe you want to stop, is simply bosh, and you have fooled them your last time.

Why did you leave the educated negro in the amendment? I will tell you. So that in future campaigns you could abuse him for wanting to be above a certain class of whites and unlearned negroes, or in other words you will say: “White men, let us rise in defense of our homes, our mothers and sisters, and put down this negro aristocracy”—a creature of your own creating, according to your own amendment.

No, Mr. Simmons, it is useless for you to attempt to carry your dastardly scheme through. The white men of North Carolina will defeat it, not the negroes. Your vile, unjust, one-sided and fraudulent election law will disfranchise nearly all the negroes and you say the white men will all vote. If they do, and they all vote as they will do in Alamance, you had better, at your meeting in June, not only amend a part, but repeal the whole scheme, enact a just election law wherein every man stands an equal chance, and thus save your party from disgrace and ruin. But I know you will not do this, because no one knows better than yourself, that it would destroy forever your hope of ever carrying the State. Your press and candidates have heralded it from the mountains to the sea, that in order to secure good government, we should vote for the amendment. Now for the legislature to amend, modify or change a single clause in it, simply means you have lied to the people again.

If you have any respect for the party that has placed you at the head of its organization in this State you will do like Senator Joe Blackburn of Kentucky did—make a clean breast of the whole thing and ask the legislature to repeal the whole thing and enact in its place what he asked the Kentucky legislature to do. It will defeat you this time, but it will probably hold your organization together until another campaign.

You ask me to investigate the situation in my township. I have done so and I find that seven out of ten will vote against the amendment and every man who is in favor of it, and it is a useless expenditure of somebody's money for you to send speakers or literature now. I wish, for the sake of the old Democratic party to which I always belonged, that its leaders had followed the good old advice, “Honesty is the best policy,” and all this dissatisfaction and trouble could have been avoided.  
Yours truly,  
THOS. R. FOWLER.

## THE WHOLE TRUTH.

Put in a Nut-Shell—Eggs Are All a Premium.  
Our Home.  
The Democrats opened their campaign at Shelby Saturday by rotten eggs. A Populist speaker who said “abused” their party. Populist speakers should be careful how they “abuse” a party that grants license to all the liquor shops of the State and furnishes more good boys and whittlers and ruffians than any other party. These local politicians of leisure and liquor just simply will not permit their party to be abused, and Populist speakers should take warning and be careful how they “abuse” the dear old party, especially when any of its guardians and protectors are around. In the meantime merchants and others who have any rotten eggs that they can't sell would do well to write to the Simmons-machine headquarters or just send the eggs C. O. D. They need them to protect their party with. In this age of progress, education and civilization they find them to be the most effective argument that can be produced in favor of the Democracy.

(Rotten eggs sent Marion Butler to the Senate. If the craze does not send some poor, drunken cuss to hell, the boss—Christian bosses who are responsible for it—may be thankful.)

REGISTRARS MUST WIN THE CONTEST.  
The Democratic Paper Gives Out the Truth—Read and See How You Like It.  
The Laurinburg Exchange in its issue of June 13th, says:  
“The election law will aid no little in the adoption of the amendment. If the registrars do their full duty, a great per cent. of the negro vote will be eliminated. And by the way, the registrars is invested with unusual power. They have the State in their hands. That's just about what it amounts to. Notwithstanding all our campaigning and speech making, how few, torch light processions, etc., yet the registrars are the upon whom the advocates of good government depend on this contest.”

Now, reader, you can see from the above that we have been telling you truth about this matter. It is the truth that the words GOOD GOVERNMENT, but Democrats say that means Democratic party. What they propose to do for the negro, they will do for whites where it will take it to win this contest.” Watch the registrars. Make them do honest.

How It Was Kept.  
Having been a member of the House Committee I am familiar with the opinions of the members on the subject, and am conversant with the history of the work resulting in the submission to the people of the proposed amendment which will be voted on in August, 1900. It affects all alike, and there are negroes who can vote under section 5, and there are those who are not negroes who cannot vote under it. It is the incapacity to vote wisely which is legislated against.

There is not a Democratic Convention that would not spit upon a man who MIGHT MAKE SUCH A PROPOSITION. There is not a Democratic candidate for office who would not pledge himself MOST SOLEMNLY AGAINST IT—SOME OF THEM.

The Democrats will never submit any proposition to the people to take from a man his right to vote. There is not a Democratic Convention that would not spit upon a man who MIGHT MAKE SUCH A PROPOSITION. There is not a Democratic candidate for office who would not pledge himself MOST SOLEMNLY AGAINST IT—SOME OF THEM.

The Chatham Record says that Messrs. Hayes and London were nominated over their earnest protest. Of course, since both of them know so well what it means: Mr. Hayes having been twice defeated when he did not have to advocate disfranchising the poor and illiterate voters in the face of his own two-thirds circular of 1898, and Mr. London having in 1887, easily changed a large Democratic majority to a defeat, both of them knowing how generally conceded it is in Chatham that the name London is a synonym for defeat.