

MASON, CLARK.

SMITH AND PEEBLES ENABLED TO GUARANTEE EITHER OF THEM.

The Congressional Programme was to Return all the Democrats and Leave Settle and Pearson at Home—Members of the Conference Stated for Big Offices.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24.—Congressman Woodard told me last night, apropos to the North Carolina postmasterships noted in a recent dispatch to the NEWS, that he would today see Senator Butler and find out from him, if possible, what was the matter as to the "hold up." Mr. Woodard said the delay was unprecedented, and spoke of the fact that though Gaster's nomination was sent in the 27th of January, the negro incumbent had been allowed to remain in ever since, in spite of the fact that the Populists were the greatest screamers against this negro episode under Democratic administration. However, I am reliably informed that a number of Populists have written to Butler asking him to put Gaster's nomination through. Then Dr. Freeman, who was appointed for Burlington, has been kept out of his place ever since December 16th, the date of the nomination.

Ed Chambers Smith and Capt. R. B. Peebles left last night via the Norfolk boat, and Maj. Guthrie left yesterday morning. Marshal Allison, Mr. Carlton and Mr. Scales, of Statesville, will probably return tonight.

Dr. Mott is very reticent and seemed disposed to treat the "conference" in a light way last night, but I am told that things went so far as to enable Peebles and Smith to guarantee to the Democrats for Governor either Capt. Tom Mason or Julian S. Carr, or Judge Walter Clarke. It was, I have reason to believe, earnestly desired that the Democratic Congressmen would be enlisted in the movement, and just here I may refer to the Congressional programme that had been fixed up, namely, that if the Democratic Congressmen fall into line, they should be returned "dead sure." Moreover that Settle and Pearson should be left at home, with the understanding, however, that Stroud, Shuford and Skinner had to be returned.

The story will stand a little more shaking out, but the outline already sent you will serve, perhaps, sufficiently, with this addendum: That the members of the conference seem by rumor to be slated for big offices: Ed Chambers Smith for Attorney-General, Capt. Peebles for Supreme Court Judge, Capt. Charly Cooke for Secretary of State, Dr. Mott for Senator, &c. I may be able to send something of notable political interest within the next twenty-four hours. W. E. C.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Congressman Woodard saw Senator Butler yesterday touching the matter of the North Carolina postmasterships of which I have duly advised you. Senator Butler told Mr. Woodard that he would on Wednesday next report favorably to the Committee on Post-offices and Postroads the nominations sent in for Fayetteville, Chapel Hill, Wadesboro and Gastonia. As to the Burlington nomination, it seems to be hung up. In fact it is hung up for the present. Senator Butler gave the reason, but I am not at liberty to state it here and now. The fact remains, however, that the Burlington nomination will not be reported Wednesday, favorably or unfavorably. When asked as to the cause of delay, Senator Butler said he did not wish to do anything in the absence of Senator Pritchard. This sounds kind of fishy when it is known that Senator Pritchard has been absent only since the 11th of February, say now 14 days, whereas the nominations, some of them, have been hung up for over two months.

Going About It Right in Concord.—The Concord people are bestirring themselves this early to give Polk Miller a royal reception on the date of his appearance there next month. An informal meeting, at which many prominent citizens of the town were present, was held last night at the residence of Mr. J. P. Allison. Mr. L. D. Duval, as chairman, appointed an executive committee and several sub-committees to supervise and perfect every detail that will insure Mr. Miller the largest audience that can be crowded into the largest auditorium in the place. The Vance monument will rise many feet in height from the appreciation of the people of Cabarrus in whose memory Zebulon B. Vance holds an honored place.

APPOINTMENTS HUNG UP.

SENATOR BUTLER IS SUSPECTED OF THE BLAME.

The Negro Postmaster's Time Expired but the Nomination of His Successor Not Yet Confirmed—Senator Hill to Bring the Matter Up—Uncle Stroud Mortified—Personalities From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—The North Carolina postmasterships have been hanging up in the Senate in a way not entirely pleasant to Congressman Shaw, who has been busying himself recently trying to find out what was the matter.

The Burlington postmaster has not been confirmed, nor Pritchard, whose name was sent in for Chapel Hill, nor W. D. Gaster for Fayetteville.

It has been rightly or wrongly suspected that the blame of this lay with Senator Butler, who is on the committee of Post-offices and Postroads. The nomination of Gaster was placed in the hands of Butler, January 27th. The present incumbent is a negro, and his time expired on the 31st of January. Butler meanwhile has made no report. Mr. Shaw has tried several times to get him to make a report, but has failed to get any satisfaction.

But there was a meeting of the committee on post-offices and postroads on Wednesday, with Woolcott as chairman. Some enquiry was then made as to these North Carolina postmasterships by Senator Hill, who has never failed to take interest in North Carolina matters ever since Butler took his seat. Butler was not present, but it was known that he carried the nominations in his pocket, and Senator Hill will insist on hearing from him at the next meeting. In this connection, why was not Butler there? He was in the Senate yesterday, looking spry enough. If he is absenting himself for the purpose of delaying these legitimate nominations, and, in one instance, to continue a negro in office, he is engaged in small politics that will find him out. Hill is on his heels now as well as Shaw, and it is quite likely that the foxey young man from Wayne will make a "double" after a little more chasing.

Congressman Shaw said tonight that he intended to use his every effort against either the direct or the indirect fusion of the Democrats with any other party; that he saw the only safety in their keeping together. And while he did not undervalue the issue of silver, he did not believe on account that autonomy and state offices should altogether be lost sight of in the shadow of the great national financial question. The only way the state was to stand any chance of keeping any of the offices was, Mr. Shaw said, in keeping together and standing solidly toward the common enemy.

Uncle Stroud is mortified that Populist Howard should have been thought drunk; he said Howard was sick and not drunk.

Capt. Bill Day of Raleigh is here today; also Mr. W. M. Smith, of Concord; Mr. John S. Cunningham, of Person; George C. Scurlock, the Fayetteville negro anti-Fusion Republican and ex-nominee for congress four years ago. Editor Josephus Daniels arrived here this morning. W. E. C.

MURDERED IN HIS CAB.

A Seaboard Air Line Engineer Shot and Killed by a Tramp.

At Weldon, last Saturday, Matt Dodd, an engineer on the Seaboard Air Line, was shot through the head and killed by a white tramp, whose name is not known. Dodd had just pulled into Weldon from Raleigh with the Atlanta special when the tramp jumped upon the locomotive and was ordered off by the fireman. In getting off the tramp dropped his hat on the locomotive. He asked the engineer to give him his hat, which he did. No sooner had he done so than the tramp pulled a pistol from his pocket and fired the fatal shot. The murderer ran off to a house close by, where he drew his pistol and attempted to shoot another man by the name of Wright, but the weapon refused to fire. The tramp, who was intoxicated, was subsequently captured, securely tied, and threats of lynching him having been made, he was taken to Halifax jail, a few miles from Weldon.

Dodd resided at Portsmouth, Va., and was one of the most experienced and best-known engineers on the Seaboard Air Line.

COMBINATION PROPOSED.

CONFERENCE HELD LAST NIGHT IN WASHINGTON.

Butler Willing to Give the Democrats the Governor, Attorney General and Secretary—Peebles, Smith, Guthrie, Mott and Butler in the Conference—They Think Suspicious Democrats will Co-Operate—What Mr. Lockhart Says.

Special to the News.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The conference was held last night, according to programme. There were present: Capt. R. B. Peebles, Ed Chambers Smith, Wm. A. Guthrie, Dr. J. J. Mott, and Senator Butler. Capt. Peebles tells me this morning that there was the greatest harmony and he had come to the conclusion that something had to be done, and that he saw no way ahead for good Government in the State except by some such method as is now advocated. Mr. Smith said if anybody could propose anything better let them do it. I am informed that Butler was willing at the meeting to let the Democrats have the Governor, Attorney General and Secretary of State, but no cast iron agreement was made. Smith saw Mott three times yesterday and while he and Peebles were button-holing the Iron Duke, Tom Settle stepped into the Corcoran building with Guthrie, exclaiming with laughter: "Did you ever expect to see that combination?" There are quite a number of North Carolinians here, Marshall Allison among them, and the Colonel was in quite a flutter today over the story, an outline of which appears in this morning's Post, with quite a display. I talked to Mr. Lockhart last night about the plan, and he is first of all in favor of maintaining the integrity of the Democratic organization. Capt. Peebles feels confident that when the people understand that the move thoroughly, they will cheerfully fall in line, and that those Democrats now suspicious will co-operate. W. E. C.

Exciting Times Promised at Frankfort Friday.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 26.—A special to the Post from Frankfort, Ky., says:

The exciting scene in the house this morning attending the bringing up of the contested election cases of Werner-Tompkins made the taking of the thirty-first ballot for Senator in general assembly very interesting. There was a general hum when the two houses came together that indicated much excitement.

The doorkeeper had hard work to keep persons from the floor of the house who had no right to be there. The lobbies and galleries were crowded with people, who waited to see if there would be another outbreak.

The decision of the house to take up for consideration the Werner-Tompkins case Friday means that lively times may be expected on that day.

The call of the roll showed 134 members present; necessary to a choice, sixty-eight. There were only two pairs. This is one of the largest gatherings of the session.

Senator Clark cast his vote for Dr. Hunter and some applause. Bowling and Carpenter voted for Judge Holt. Hissom cast his vote for J. W. Yerkes, while Rummans, the fourth of the Republican Senators who have left Dr. Hunter, voted for John W. Lewis.

Dr. Hunter lost another vote when Representative Chambers voted for Holt.

There were no desertions from Blackburn. The ballot resulted: Hunter, 61; Blackburn, 62; Carlisle, 3; McCreary, 2; Yerkes, 1; Holt, 3; Lewis, 1, and Bate, 1.

Sunday Groggery Captured.

Sunday afternoon, the police noticed that some of the colored people coming in from Dilworth appeared unduly bilious. Finally an electric car stopped at the square and four drunk negroes got off. They were taken to the station house and two officers boarded the next outward bound car. On a tip given them by the negroes who had been arrested, they went straight to the colored pavilion in Dilworth and interviewed Alex Wilson, the negro in charge of the establishment. Alex had only a small amount of spirits left, half a dozen pint bottles and a few quart bottles. He had been doing a thriving business throughout the day. The police confiscated the remnant of his stock and brought him up town. He was arraigned before the mayor Monday and went to jail in default of \$150 bond in each of three cases.

DR. MOTT TALKS OUT.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE NEWS CORRESPONDENT.

He Defines the Status Between Himself and Mr. Pritchard—H who Would Make the Gentlemen For the Luce—He Would Have Them to Sign a Pledge.

Special to the News.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Mr. James B. Lloyd was yesterday nominated by Senator Allen for the position of acting second assistant doorkeeper of the Senate. Senator Chandler objected, but Senator Sherman interrupted with remarks that implied an argument covering this special case. At the suggestion of Senator Harris, Allen's resolution went over until today.

In a recent dispatch I referred to something of political interest which I might be able to send soon. Last night Dr. Mott finally consented to give me a short interview which will be full of meaning to those who read between the lines.

"There is an attempt being made," said the Doctor, "to impress the public mind with the belief that my position on the silver question was taken to defeat Senator Pritchard re-election to the Senate."

"This is very far from the truth, and I will give sufficient reasons to show it."

"In the first place, Mr. Pritchard and myself were friends and agreed on all party policies, including the free coinage of silver. I assisted in his election to the senate. He would have been glad to exert as senator any influence upon the national Republican party in my favor. I was in full accord with the great majority of the party in the state. I could have had the endorsement of the Republicans of every township in my own county for anything I wanted, and to prove it practically, every Republican in the county, nearly two thousand, signed written petitions asking my election to the senate by the last legislature. From a purely personal and party standpoint there were no reason why I should alienate myself from my party. There were many reasons of a personal nature why I should do just the contrary."

"To Mr. Pritchard I have been perfectly candid and open all the time. When the time arrived to consult about the matter, I asked him to leave the electoral ticket to be divided between Republicans and Populists, pledged to silver, telling him he could be re-elected by this plan, and would be beaten by any other plan."

"I wrote him a long, carefully written letter some time ago, saying that when the Populists came to fully understand the scope and meaning of an electoral ticket, half of which was pledged to the National Republican platform and candidate, they could not vote the ticket and preserve their organization—that the Populist party had no traditions to cling to, that their main issue was the financial one and free silver the bed-rock—the foundation upon which the party stood, and when they swerved from this foundation—this 'middle of the road'—they would become impotent, and the victims of the first assailant who made a lick at one of their speakers in the campaign."

"I have said on the other hand, that Mr. Pritchard's own declarations in favor of silver compromised him if he should vote for any elector pledged to free silver, especially since the people who elected him believed in silver, and that the gold standard was ruining them—that he and nearly all North Carolina Republicans had said that the Republican State Convention must declare for free silver and make a platform accordingly—that he could not consistently stand on this State platform and vote for a man standing on the National platform—that any man running for office who could not say from the stump that he would vote against a gold bug President, or any gold bug candidate for any office whatever could not be elected in North Carolina."

"Mr. Pritchard says he fears that if fusion on this double headed Janus-faced electoral ticket is not kept up, the county officers will not be re-elected again. If he makes them vote for a gold bug elector, he may swear they will not be re-elected."

"My advice to these county officers if they are free silver men is to pledge themselves to silver, and against anybody who is for a gold bug President. They will find that they will have no opposition to them for re-election, unless it comes from

a goldbug, and goldbug opposition they know they need not fear.

"If gentlemen of either party would declare for silver, must still keep in line with their national gold standard platforms and candidates, let them go along over to gold like men, and quit fooling their confiding followers. The people are in too distressed a condition to trifle with, and the man who attempts it is wicked if he will think about it."

"There are probably 500 men, women and children in the State to one office-holder who do not want and have never expected to hold office. Are they not to be thought of in this matter? Must party lines be adhered to, no matter what trouble it brings to them?"

"The way to bring these gentlemen to their senses, is to make them sign the silver pledge. Whenever one of them puts his head up for a position from primary delegate to an elector for President, ask him if his name is down for silver. If all silver men will do this, we will get free silver in a hurry."

Lodo Letter.

For the Times.
Mr. J. B. Spratt, Jr., and Miss Minnie Marks were married last night at the home of the bride, in Steel Creek, in the presence of 150 people. The bride and groom were preceded by Mr. Graham, of Summerville, as best man and Miss Maggie McLean, as maid of honor. The ceremony was pronounced in Rev. Mr. Little's own inimitable way. Among those present from a distance, were Mr. and Mrs. VanLandingham, of Gastonia, and Mr. Nance, of Shelby.

Master Edgar Byrum was thrown violently to the ground from a young mule Wednesday evening and badly hurt. There is symptoms of internal injury. Dr. Herron is attending him.

The bluebirds that put in an appearance last Tuesday, is the first that has been seen around this ranch in twelve months or more. It was a welcome visitor, and I hope it will take a liking to these parts. It is a sad reflection that the birds are slowly but surely leaving us, and more the pity too, if the shot gun has anything to do with it. The day is always more beautiful for having been ushered in by the joyous melody of the sweet singers. I cannot quit the paragraph without alluding to my favorite songster—the brown wood-thrush. In driving the cows from the woods pasture to the barn in the evening, I have often been like Layden, "and I was so ravished with her heavenly notes, I stood entranced, and had no room for thought."

Mint Hill News.

For the News and Times.
MINT HILL, N. C., Feb. 25.—There were three burials at Philadelphia church last week. On Thursday the three year old daughter of Mr. John Maxwell, of Morning Star township, this county was buried; on Friday Mr. John Lemmons, of Union county, and on Saturday Mrs. D. G. Russell of Union county.

Bain Academy is making good progress under the management of Prof. Stephens.

Capt. H. W. Clark is improving the Wallace plantation considerably. He has cleared about 50 acres of land for cultivation. When rightly improved it will be one among the best farms in the county.

Messrs. Russell will resume work next week at the Ferguson hill gold mine. They have been taking out some very fine ore.

The farmers in this vicinity are planting spring oats. The talk is "more grain and less cotton."

We are sure if the farmers will carry out this plan they will reap the benefit of it. The cotton acreage was diminished last year and now the country is filled with what it needs—food products.

Mrs. Lee Campbell died yesterday, of catarrhal fever. The remains were interred today in Philadelphia church yard.

Sudden Death of an Aged Lady.

Mrs. Cynthia Russell, an aunt of Mr. J. E. Henderson, died suddenly last Friday, at her home near Mint Hill, in this county, but across the line in Union county. She had been sick only three hours. Mrs. Russell was 76 years of age. Her body was buried Saturday at Philadelphia church.

Horses and Mules.

Mr. R. A. Dodd, the hustling and reliable horse dealer is at Wadesboro's stables again with a fine lot of horses and mules. This lot of stock Mr. Dodd is offering at private sale. Any one needing a good horse or mule would do well to see him.

the Value of Constancy.
A drop of water
may say the hardest stone;
the plow of the farmer
may say the toughest bone;
the plow of the farmer
may say the toughest bone;
the plow of the farmer
may say the toughest bone;

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... up just receive ...
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... good second-hand bicycle ...
... on liberal terms ...
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... home treatment. Last ...
... see those using to ...
... suffer. No ...
... 310 North ...
... 21-d&w-4f

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... found a better offer than ...
... ever made before. Read it, ...
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... subscriber we will give one ...
... garden seed

... a club of six subscribers we ...
... give a Harris Cotton Planter.

... a club of eight subscribers we ...
... give a pretty 22 calibre rifle.

... a club of ten subscribers we ...
... give a pretty gentleman's or ...
... watch guaranteed to keep good

... a club of twelve subscribers ...
... will give a handsome eight-day ...
... watch.

... a club of fifteen subscribers ...
... will give a fine single barrel ...
... loading shot gun.

... a club of twenty subscribers ...
... will give a good set of buggy ...
... wheels.

... a club of twenty-five sub- ...
... scribe we will give a good family ...
... stove.

... a club of thirty subscribers ...
... will give a double barrel breech ...
... loading shot gun. A good shoot-

... a club of forty subscribers we ...
... will give a handsome double barrel ...
... loading shot gun. A fine ...
... or a splendid cortland

... a club of fifty subscribers we ...
... will give a first class sewing machine ...
... complete set of attachments.

... a club of seventy-five we will ...
... give a pretty buggy that will make ...
... your girl happy.

... a club of one hundred sub- ...
... scribe we will give a first class ...
... bicycle nicely finished bicy-

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... The winner of ...
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