

THE REPORTER.

J. PEPPER, Sr., J. T. DARLINGTON, Editor.

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COL. HUGHES' NEW PARTY THEORY

Last week we published a letter from Col. S. M. Hughes, on the subject of a new political organization, to be known as "The Taxpayers' Party." The basis of this proposed party seems to be antagonistic to both of the existing parties, hostile to bondholders, and, in a positive sense, revolutionary and hurtful to all the interests of civil government.

Being old friends, as Col. H. suggests, "we can surely agree to disagree on all such subjects." We take little interest in the discussion of this question, because if it has any weight or influence whatever it cannot be otherwise than dangerous and demoralizing.

Under our form of government, history teaches that one section cannot be arrayed against another without involving the peace of both sections; neither can one class of our citizens oppress, persecute, or systematically oppose another class, without inflicting upon all classes the evil effects consequent thereto.

Therefore, it is with us a question whether or not we are serving a good purpose by commenting upon the propositions advanced by our friend, or if it would not be better to let "the taxpayers' party" in Stokes work out its own destiny.

Again, we are fearful that a mistake has been made in the selection of Stokes county as the birth-place of a great national party destined to accomplish miracles in the purification and reorganization of American politics.

If it should be a mistake, then, by treating this matter seriously, we would expose ourselves to the imputation of being vain and presumptuous, or designing and unreliable.

However, we have very little faith in the ultimate success of a third party in this country, whosoever it may originate; and regard what we have heard of it in Stokes simply as the feeble echo of the wallings of the political infant, borne to our ears from its Western cradle.

But, let the facts regarding its origin and strength be what they may, and if the new party is really as pure as its friends represent it to be, the present is not the proper time for the introduction of new measures and policies.

interest of honesty, public virtue, prosperity and country, at this time to weaken the power, influence and prestige of the Democratic party by even the agitation of any third party scheme. The time may come when such a departure might be in order, but at present it would be nothing more or less than positive treachery to the only party now in existence that can secure to us the blessings of a better government, and at the same time extending hope and comfort to our infamous enemies.

But even should that time ever come, do we want a third party whose foundation is veritable Communism? Col. H. may talk about bondholders, monopolies, money powers, and other similar wrongs, growing out of fraud and corruption.

On questions of grievance we agree with him; yet we warn him against any theory that tends to excite prejudice—that will array workmen against employers, the poor against the rich. We do not believe that this is his design, yet the legitimate and inevitable drift of his arguments can be in no other direction.

In a country like this, where ignorance everywhere abounds and passions are easily inflamed, it might be difficult to make a great many understand that the wealthier class was more entitled to their broad fields and plethoric pocket-books than others are to their interest-bearing bonds.

An equal distribution of all property was once a sweet delusion fondly nursed in thousands of bosoms in this country; and the hope is not yet so deeply buried but what it might be resurrected. The man who seldom has a surplus dollar in his possession, readily imagines that five hundred dollars is a fortune and its possessor, being wealthier than himself, belongs to the "moneyed aristocracy," and no better than a bondholder, or other oppressor of his class.

Thus a feeling of envy and hatred springs up, which as in Pittsburg and other places last summer, always culminates in fire, blood, and ruin. The malcontents then imagined that they were oppressed by wealthy corporations and illiberal monopolies, and in order to reduce all to a common level, force was resorted to, pillage and robbery held high carnival, and what could not be carried away was wantonly destroyed.

Millions of dollars' worth of property was thus swept away by men who had been taught to hate bondholders, distrust the wealthy, and regard every man as a scoundrel who did not work as they worked, or pay tax as they did.

So much for the proposed third party, as we understand it. Are we ready for it, or can our people endorse the movement? Gentlemen may disguise the objective point by fine-spun theories, reference to the past, appeals to prejudice, or direct charges of want of fidelity. We do not claim that the Democratic party is without spot or blemish, but that it is far better and preferable to the Republican party, and never can prove itself so utterly pernicious, dangerous, revolutionary and treasonable as any third party founded upon COMMUNISM.

Words to the Point. At the meeting of the New York bond-holding anti-silver delegation with the Senate Finance Committee, Mr. Bland the author of the silver bill, was present by invitation and spoke to the point. After alluding to the recent labor strikes he said:

"I want to say now, with all due deference, you had better accept this proposition, if I know the people I represent, and I think I do. Throughout all the West and South, we had a little experience of their feeling last summer, when there was an uprising all through this Union, and promises were made that this financial matter should be attended to—that these men (meaning the striking laborers) went home, and are looking to Congress to-day. But I tell you if you put on the screws much further, and reduce these people yet further to necessities, when that uprising comes again there is no power in the Government to put it down, and instead of your bonds being paid in gold, they will be wiped out as with a sponge. I stand here as a conservative man when I say so. I am willing to pay it as demanded in the bond, and for which the contract calls; and unless this measure is adopted, you will see men in the next Congress that will place you back where you were in 1869, making your debt payable in paper. I speak to you as a friend, and not as an enemy, as a friend to my country; and I want you now, sincerely and honestly—and take care of the warning—you had better not oppose this bill."

To Republicans.

It is now probable that, unless the Democrats commit some suicidal folly—a thing which their past history renders quite likely—the election of 1880 will give us a Democratic President by such an electoral majority that no device can avail to set it aside. That party already has a majority of the House of Representatives, and appears likely soon to have a majority of the Senate, and thus when a Democratic President is inaugurated, the legislative and executive branches of the Government will be entirely in the hands of the Democrats.

If the Democracy should thus come into power it will come to stay. The Republican party has now been in possession of the Government for more than sixteen years, and if the Democrats, after they get in should live up to their professions of strict fidelity to the Constitution, economy in administration, and hostility to all subsidies, sinecures, and corruptions, they may count upon a long tenure.

What especially disables and ruins the Republican party, at present is the Electoral Conspiracy of last year and the fact that in their name a man who was not elected now exercises the office of President. It is the guilt of this sin which crushes the Republicans, and, unless they earnestly repent of it, bringing forth works meet for repentance, it will crush them for a long time to come. But repentance and reform ought not to be a difficult task. The masses of the Republican party are honest and patriotic men, and were led into the Fraud through political desperation and through a party zeal that in its essence was patriotic; but, now that they can look at it coolly and see it is all its enormity, they should make haste to clear themselves of all lot and all part therein.

There is another reason of an imperative nature which should weigh upon every honest Republican: The Democrats are apparently bound to come into power, and then there is always a likelihood that in their turn they will become so corrupt and so odious that the people will finally rise up against them and endeavor to turn them out and put others in their places. Rather than go out, they may attempt to repeat the Republican Fraud of 1876. They may falsify the votes of the people, and through Returning Boards established for the purpose, create, in their own interest, electors of President and Vice-President.

They may gather troops at Washington to overawe the Houses of Congress, threatening revolution and bloodshed against any stir of opposition to their scheme; and, finally, by an unconstitutional Electoral Commission, they may declare the beaten candidate elected, and install as President a man who has been rejected, both at the polls and in the electoral colleges. All this may hereafter be done by Democrats, unless the Republicans now join in such a condemnation and such a political punishment of the crime of 1876, that the most reckless of politicians will never dare to think of renewing it.

In this case love of country and love of their party dictate to Republicans the same course of action.—New York Sun.

The Issue Sprung.

In the reorganization of silver and the repeal of the resumption act the issue has been sprung between the bond-holding, interest-drawing class and the wealth-producing, tax-paying people. It is a question of vital importance and one that demands and will force attention.

Heretofore the money-power has been mighty and almost omnipotent in Congress. It ran conventions, nominated and elected under false issues the men whom it afterwards manipulated as its interests dictated.

The legislation on finances has been entirely in their interests for years and nothing they asked was refused, for where they met with seeming or real opposition their bribes were successful. As a remarkable fact, in part illustrative of what we say, the great bulk of the vote in Congress against the repeal of the resumption act came from the members (of both political parties) representing large cities, because in the cities the rings and bond-holders centre. The supporters of that measure came, with a few exceptions, from the South and the West—a very significant fact. The South and the West are agricultural chiefly. Their fields of grain, cotton and sugar, produce practically the wealth, and practically speaking they pay the taxes and support the government.

The bonds representing the debt of the nation on which hundreds of millions are paid annually in interest are exempt from taxation, while every industry of the land is directly or indirectly taxed to downright oppression if not absolute destruction.

Until within the past few years the South had no voice in the halls of Congress, and the West was led by the party managers from the East. She, however, has declared her independence and begun to think and act for herself.

The consequence is a unity of sentiment between the South and the West on the money questions, and an exhibition of strength before which in the lower House of Congress the bond holders are powerless. The dependence of the latter is still on the Senate which they may yet control, or the President whom they may influence to veto measures objectionable to them. This, however, should it be so, will only be a temporary victory, or a short postponement of the result which is bound to come. The next Senate will be unquestionably Democratic, with an almost absolute certainty of a Democratic President elected on a platform emphatic on this point. Then it will be a one-sided question, whose settlement will be in the irresistible power of the South and West and the Eastern Democrats in sympathy with them.

The ball has opened and it will not close until the people are relieved from these crushing burdens, and a financial system just to them and to the creditors of the nation alike is devised; in other words until there is no discrimination between the stamped paper and stamped metal of the government, and no discrimination between the money of the people and the money of the bondholder—one and a uniform currency for all. That's patriotism, that's statesmanship, that's justice.—Greensboro Patriot

How They Drink in the Hills. At an early hour one morning last week Wm. Paxton, City Marshal, who had just retired, was aroused by a wild, haggard-looking man, hatless, coatless, bootless, with hair disheveled and eyes rolling in mad frenzy. He was armed with a revolver, and said that a party of four men and two women had driven to his house in a wagon and had attempted to rob him, and that in self defense he killed one of the men, when the others tumbled the dead body into the wagon and rapidly drove away. His object was he said, to give himself up to the authorities for the killing. Paxton soon discovered that the unfortunate man was in the mental storm and suffering the full torments of that most terrible of all diseases, the delirium tremens, and to pacify him went with him to the scene of the conflict to see the tracks left by the wagon. It is almost needless to say that the said tracks were in the red hot imagination of the horror-racked man, and of course the City Marshal failed to see them. Paxton then went home, and soon the man had another paroxysm and went careering down Main street, shouting "Murder!" at every leap, and rushed into Bill James' meat Market in mortal fear, with an unseen foe close at his heels. Bob Handy, who was attending shop, seeing the crazed condition of the man, very coolly and properly disarmed him to prevent his doing harm. The little cabin where this man lived, and whence he emerged in his delirium, had contained two others also in the agonies of mania-a-potu. The last seen of one of these he was running down the valley road, bare-footed and hair on end, the night previous, yelling like a demon, with a back of grinning, hissing blue devils close in his waks. A man galloping past on a horse was hailed by the afflicted one, who requested to be allowed the privilege of grasping the horse's tail, saying that he could not travel fast enough to get out of the way of the pursuing fiends. He is no doubt lying dead somewhere down the valley, if he did not find a watery grave in the Boise. Whilst hell was thus holding back its lurid curtain to give these two fitful glimpses of its horrid panorama, the third and last remaining man in the house, too weak to escape the frightful picture by flight, struggled against the imaginary pandemonium as he lay between the blankets of his humble couch; and as the candle flickered out in its socket at about six o'clock yesterday morning, so, too, went his life; for in one of the many fearful convulsions with which he had wrestled during the night he died—died a victim to an uncontrollable appetite for alcohol. And he died a most horrible death. Meeting him in the street ten days since, we asked him how long, should he persist in his present course, he expected to live. He replied that it mattered not when the end came, that he had no desire to live. We whispered words of cheer and hope; but he was lost, utterly lost, in the depths of black despair; lost beyond reformation on this earth. Thus perished one who

possessed the warmest and most generous of hearts, and who, but for the one thing, was a useful and respected member of society.

Since writing the above we are informed that the dead body of Michael Murry, one of the three occupants of the cabin in a back alley who were afflicted with the delirium tremens, and who was last seen running down the valley for dear life, has been found in the Payette Valley. Whether the report is true we do not know, but it is highly probable.—Idaho City World.

An Awkward Bridegroom.

HOW HE RESSENTED A REPROOF AND ABANDONED HIS BRIDE AT THE ALTAR.

The guests at a recent expected marriage in a certain church of the West Side were treated to a singular and rather startling sensation at the very moment when the connubial knot was to be tied. The bride and groom were a young couple, and had made all the necessary preparations for the anticipated happy event that was to unite them as one, and it was thought by the respective friends of the pair that the course of true love had run quite smoothly with them, and a genuine mutual affection existed between them. The invited company had entered the house of worship, and the attendants on the couple had taken their places around the altar, while the minister remained in waiting to perform the ceremony. The bride, attired in all the gorgeous finery customary on such occasions, alighted from the carriage, and the groom stepped blithely and lightly after her and upon her long trail. As he did so the fair lady uttered a low cry, and exclaimed sharply, "Oh, dear; how awkward you are!"

The young man's face colored as he stumbled off the rich garments, and he gave his arm to the lady while laboring under a confused mind. The pair walked into the church and down the aisle to the altar. All eyes rested upon their movements, and a murmur of voices arose as they came in and took their positions before the minister. The ceremony proceeded, the minister asked the bride if she would accept the groom for her wedded husband, and received the usual affirmative answer, and was about to interrogate the young man, when the latter impulsively and unexpectedly said to the bride: "Oh, dear; how awkward you are!" and quickly turning on his heel walked out of the edifice without another word of explanation, leaving the astonished bride standing at the altar in mute bewilderment, and the minister and guests in blank amazement. The young man went his way in a carriage, and the disappointed bride and the maids who sought to comfort her left the church for their homes. The occurrence was an actual one, and has created no small amount of gossip in the vicinity where the church is situated.—Chicago Times

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

STATE NEWS. Tom Black, a "cultid citizen" living near Charlotte, hurled a brick at his wife, who was rocking him, and broke her skull. It is thought that she will die.

The young man High who tried to kill his father and mother in Columbus county last week, was pursued and captured in Greenville, S. C., a requisition obtained from Gov. Vance, and he was returned and lodged in jail at Whiteville.

Washington Press: We learn from the Tarboro Southerner that the elephant belonging to the circus that visited that place last week, on his way to Halifax met an old lady on the road in a cart, and ran his snout under the cart, turning it over and breaking the back of the old lady.

Bruce Yount and A. Kale, up in Catawba county, were discussing whether a pistol in the hands of one was loaded or not. He who maintained the negative held up his hand, pointed the pistol, pulled the trigger. A bullet in the hand of one and the neck of the other decided the matter in the affirmative.

A colored woman fell in attempting to get on an excursion train at Hickory last Sunday and had her leg so badly crushed as to require amputation. When taken to the family where she had been employed it was found that she had a quantity of jewelry which she had stolen from the lady of the family, and which had not before been missed.

GENERAL NEWS. Rmgor hath it that Beecher, Tilton and Elizabeth are about to proclaim "grace, mercy and peace."

A Pole has been arrested in Berlin on suspicion of intending to assassinate the Emperor William and Prince Bismark.

Austin (Tex.) Gazette: El Paso is the theater of continued disturbance. The Mexican population have organized and claim the right to govern by mob law. They refuse obedience to the civil authorities and threaten resistance should attempt be made to control them.

The Roanoke Valley, published in Mecklenburg county, Va., remarking on the bill for a survey of Dan river, says: Should it be passed, the good it will do this country is incalculable.

Lexington (Va.) Gazette: About fifty members of the colored Baptist church in this place, were dropped from the roll at their church meeting on Tuesday night last for attending the circus.

A wife murdered Asa Magson, has received a singular sentence in Vermont. He is to be confined 18 months at hard labor in the penitentiary and then to 6 months solitary confinement and then to be hanged in Nov., 1879.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Republicans Senators frequently refer to Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold but Patterson and Conover say the Baltimore Gazette continues to vote with the Democrats in the discussion on the Butler case.

We rather think our Washington contemporary, the National Republican, has about struck the nail on the head. Instead of speaking of certain events as events that happened during President Grant's administration, it refers to them as events that happened "before President Hayes was invented as the Executive of the nation." "Invented" is a good word; we rather like it; but we scarcely expected to find it in the Republican—at least so soon. The whole history of the invention will come out after awhile.

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