

BEN DUKE TALKS!

He Makes a Statement Concerning the Durham Bull Deal.

He Says That Carr's Card Did Not Tell It All.

THE CORRESPONDENCE IN THE CASE

People Who Come and Go—Brief Briefs of Interest to All Readers of The Globe.

I have seen a card published by Mr. J. S. Carr, of Durham, in Raleigh newspapers and by hand bills in the streets of that city recently. It purports to be an answer and denial of a letter written by me to Mr. Frank Stronach, of Raleigh, and is so misleading in its tone and spirit that I am forced to say more. There have for months past—but more frequently in the last month—been articles in various newspapers of the state, charging in substance that The American Tobacco company, of which I am a director, and with which my family is prominently identified in North Carolina, had attempted to absorb Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, of which Mr. Carr is president, and that some kind of force or oppression had been resorted to, in order to overcome and capture it. These statements have always been accompanied by express or indirect eulogies of Mr. Carr, for his nobleness in resisting the approaches, and bravely in repelling the assaults of The American Tobacco company and disparaging comparisons of my family, or some of us.

Knowing that no honorable instincts should willingly profit by false statements, made in his praise, and in discredit of his neighbors, I hoped that Mr. Carr would, if he did not direct or inspire such publications, take the manly course of denying their truthfulness, but such hope was vain. The conclusion was forced upon me that he was not unwilling to gain fame at the expense of others and of truth. Amidst these publications, which had begun to multiply, I received on May 11th, the following letter addressed to W. Duke, Sons & Co.:

RALEIGH, May 11, 1892.

Messrs. W. Duke, Sons & Co., Durham N. C.

"GENTLEMEN:—It is being circulated all over North Carolina, in the press of the state by the friends of Col. Julian S. Carr, who is a candidate for the office of governor, that he had an opportunity, but refused to join The American Tobacco company. In the last issue of the Western Free Lance, published at Marion, N. C., is the following, viz: 'But instead of joining the company, Carr refused to enter it and told the members of the trust that he would conduct his business, which is the largest tobacco business in the world, independent of all trusts and combines; that he would have nothing to do with any trust.' Again in an article signed 'Via Media' which appeared in the Wilmington Messenger of the 10th, instant and which Colonel Carr's friends have had copied in various papers in the state, the following is to be found: 'He is in full sympathy with the tolling masses. He might have advanced his personal interests by millions of dollars by accepting the offer of one of these syndicates, but his regard for the right and the interests of the people rose entirely above all selfish considerations.' It has also been charged that The American Tobacco company attempted to force the Blackwell Durham Tobacco company; of which Mr. Julian S. Carr is president, to sell their business to The American Tobacco company and Mr. Carr had refused to have anything to do with it or to be a party to the transactions.

If any negotiations were had in regard to this matter, by whom was the subject brought forward? Did The American Tobacco company approach Col. Carr and his associates of The Blackwell Durham Tobacco company, or did Col. Carr and his associates approach The American Tobacco company people on the subject? And are the statements contained in the Western Free Lance and the Wilmington Messenger, above quoted, true or not? Please give me in reply to this letter a full and complete statement of what took place between Col. Carr and his associates and The American Tobacco Company, in regard to the matter above mentioned, and much obliged.

Yours truly, FRANK STRONACH.

The matters inquired of in that letter not being within the personal knowledge of any officer of W. Duke, Sons & Co., I replied to the same as follows:

DURHAM, N. C., May 12, 1892.

Mr Frank Stronach, Raleigh, N. C.

DEAR SIR—Your favor of the 11th received. I beg to say that the statements referred to, as appearing in the Western Free Lance, of Marion, N. C., and many other papers of the state, that The American Tobacco company, of which I am a member and director, had endeavored to force Mr. J. S. Carr, or the Blackwell Durham Tobacco Co. to sell their business are absolutely false, and have done my associates and myself an injustice. The American Tobacco company, nor any member or representative of it ever approached or sought to approach Mr. J. S. Carr, or any member or representative of Blackwell's Durham Tobacco Co.,

relative to buying out their business, consolidating it with The American Tobacco company, or to secure possession of it in any shape or form. But, on the contrary, Mr. J. S. Carr and one of his Philadelphia associates visited the head office of The American Tobacco Co., 45 Broadway, New York, and endeavored to effect a sale of the Blackwell Durham Tobacco Co. to The American Tobacco Co. I was present at these interviews, and Mr. Carr was apparently anxious to have the trade consummated. The entire consideration to be paid by The American Tobacco Co. to the Blackwell Tobacco Co., in event of sale, was to be STOCK OF THE AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., and nothing else.

The negotiations were concluded by The American Tobacco Co. declining to purchase. Mr. Carr was not offered or promised the presidency or any other office in The American Tobacco Co., nor any salary whatever. He stated he would retain the management of the business then conducted by the Blackwell Durham Tobacco Co., if The American Tobacco Co. desired his services, but as he had been so long in business would prefer to retire.

Yours respectfully, B. N. DUKE.

And that the public, who care to know all of this matter, may have the whole correspondence together, I give the card of J. S. Carr:

A Card.

I have reliable information that typewritten copies of a letter, emanating from Mr. B. N. Duke, managing director of The American Tobacco company, and an avowed republican, charging me with an attempt to connect myself with that trust, have been secretly circulated. While this letter is being withheld from the public generally, I am advised that the charges contained in it are being insidiously and systematically repeated to delegates upon the streets of Raleigh for the purpose of injuring my reputation. The resort to such unfair methods compels me to come before the public to vindicate myself, or rest quietly under unjust imputations which have been disseminated only by whispers and insinuations.

I have not sought by private word or public declaration or personal effort of any kind to contest with any man the nomination for governor before the democratic convention. But now on the very eve of the convention it is sought to destroy my political reputation and impair my business integrity in the minds of my fellow citizens by this charge. The trust itself, through this life-long republican manager, makes the attack in a letter addressed to a prominent democrat in Raleigh.

Strange combination; a cutter trust director, a life long republican, a Raleigh democrat! The charge that I have ever desired to absorb, or to enter The American Tobacco company trust, the cutter trust, the Duke trust, or any other trust, is absolutely false. During the year 1891, without my knowledge, Messrs. M. B. McDowell, John A. McDowell, S. H. Austin, Jr., and J. M. Duncan, all of Philadelphia, owning three-fourths of the stock of Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, began private negotiations with certain directors of The American Tobacco company. After the negotiations had been pending for a week, I was summoned to Philadelphia by a telegram to attend a meeting of the directors of Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, of which I was president. At that meeting I was informed of the pending negotiations, whereupon I declared emphatically to my associates that if they effected a sale it must permanently sever my connection with the business, lock, stock and barrel. I would not under any circumstances have any connection with The American Tobacco company in any capacity.

As president of Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, and resident at its principal factory, I did, by direction of its board of directors, visit afterwards the office of The American Tobacco company, with Mr. Austin, to give certain information about the company's business. My statement is confirmed by the following letter recently received from S. H. Austin, Jr., vice-president:

Col. J. S. Carr, Durham, N. C.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your letter of Tuesday last, in which you say, 'Please refresh your recollection and say whether or not you recollect the fact that while negotiations were pending with The American Tobacco company, I stated among ourselves that if the sale was consummated, it must be upon the basis that I must be entirely relieved from any connection whatever with the company.' In reply to this I telegraph you, 'My recollection, also Duncan's is exactly as you state, which I now confirm, and further state that not only then, but at other times you have expressed exactly the same decision. Yours very truly,

S. H. AUSTIN, JR., Vice-President.

I declare distinctly and unequivocally that neither I personally nor Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, of which I am president, has now or ever had any connection with The American Tobacco trust, or any other trust. I have never seen the day, and God forbid that the day ever come, when I could so far violate my own conscience and my sense of humanity as to enter a trust of any sort for the oppression of the already sorely oppressed farmers of North Carolina. But what a spectacle, my countrymen, is furnished by this affair: I am charged with

being friendly to trusts, and the charge is made by a trust itself. Was there ever an instance before since the world began when a trust attacked a man for being its friend? I am charged with wishing to fly in the flock of trusts, and being ejected from that royal roost: Who ever heard of a trust refusing addition to its power? Rare phenomenon! Fellow democrats, of North Carolina, has the disintegration of our party come to such a point that gubernatorial nominations can be made or marred by letters from self-confessed directors of trusts and life-long republicans? Have our people become so far used to oppression that they lick the hands that smite them? Have they learned to love the 'Cutter Trust,' and to follow its commands? Shall the 'Cutter Trust,' through its republican directors, now invade the sacred councils of the democratic party, where sit the representatives of a free and unshackled people, and control their action? It is of the greatest importance that unmanly methods be rejected; that republican counsels be rejected; that we fight our battles without the friendly help of a trust. Let us close up our ranks, bear our disensions and stand firmly together for the welfare of our common country. In that contest I shall fight, in any event, as I have always done, with my face to the foe, and my right arm true to my countrymen. J. S. CARR.

It will be observed that in my letter I stated several facts.

1. That the charges that The American Tobacco company had endeavored to force Mr. Carr or his company to sell their business 'are absolutely false.' Mr. Carr does not attempt to deny this statement, but raising a hue and cry of 'Trust, Trust, Republican, Republican' seems to hope to evade it.

2. That no member or representative of The American Tobacco company ever approached or sought to approach Mr. Carr or any member or representative of his company, relative to getting possession of said company in any way. This is a plain and positive statement which is either true or false. It is important, and calls for prompt denial if untrue. How is it? Mr. Carr SILENTLY admits it and apparently hopes for the reader of his card to give him the benefit of a position he does not openly take.

3. That J. S. Carr and one of his associates WENT TO THE AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY AT ITS PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS, in New York city, and OFFERED to sell their business. Is this true? Carr admits it. And I will add that during such visits Mr. Carr was active, enthusiastic and anxious for the sale to be completed.

4. That I was present at the interview had by Carr and his associate with the

efforts to induce the company to buy them out. He does not deny this.

5. That Mr. Carr was apparently anxious to have the trade consummated. Not a word of express denial of this vital statement. Indeed he substantially admits its truth.

6. That the ENTIRE CONSIDERATION to be paid to his company in the event of sale, was STOCK OF THE AMERICAN TOBACCO CO. Who denies it? Mr. Carr declares with a blare of trumpets that he informed HIS ASSOCIATES that he would not have any connection with The American Tobacco company in any capacity. Why does he stop at this interesting part of the narrative? How was he to get out? Was he to receive nothing for his one-fourth of the business and property? If anything, what, and where from? Why does not he or his witness, Mr. Austin, tell us who was to give him the cash or other substitute for his share of the stock, which was to be paid? Such an important transaction must have been agreed on in its details.

7. That the negotiations were concluded by The American Tobacco company declining to purchase. This he does not attempt to deny.

8. That he was not offered or promised the presidency or any office or salary in The American Tobacco company. This is silently admitted.

9. That he said he would retain the management of the business then conducted by his company, if The American Tobacco company desired his services. This statement is nowhere clearly met, though he declares the falsity of any statement that he ever 'desired or attempted to enter The American Tobacco company trust, etc.' I presume he intends this to be construed as a denial of my statement, though it is not responsive to the charge; yet I distinctly reiterate: that in the presence of Mr. J. B. Duke, the president of The American Tobacco Company, he plainly declared his willingness, if the sale should be made, to remain in charge of the business of his factory at Durham, if The American Tobacco company desired it; and furthermore I state that such declaration was volunteered by him, without any of the company's officers suggesting to him their wish or expectation that he should so serve. And I distinctly declare that he did not, at any time, by word, act or sign, indicate any disinclination to complete the trade or show any disfavor of any of its terms or conditions.

During the negotiations, and in my presence, Mr. Carr asked Mr. J. B. Duke, president of The American Tobacco company, if there was to be any cash paid, if the trade was concluded, and Mr. Duke replied that there was not; that the whole consideration would be stock of The

American Tobacco company, and furthermore that Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company would have to convey its land and other property absolutely, by deed and bill of sale, free and clear of any debt or encumbrance, and with the consent of every stockholder of the company. Mr. Carr, or his associate, replied that it might be impossible to get the consent of every stockholder, because there were numerous small and scattered holders, owning about 8 per cent of the stock, and suggested that in such event an order of court might be obtained, authorizing the transfer and providing for the rights of such minority stockholders.

There was some discussion of this proposition, all objections to it, coming from Mr. J. B. Duke, whereupon Mr. Carr voluntarily asserted that he had influence enough in North Carolina to get the legislature to pass a special act allowing the majority to convey its property absolutely for the benefit of all, and protect The American Tobacco company from any litigation of any stockholders of Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company who might be dissatisfied with the sale. The assurance was given by Mr. Carr and his associates, that the title should be such as The American Tobacco company would be satisfied with. Upon this assurance, and because Mr. Carr seemed impatient for the trade, and urged the sending of its expert by The American Tobacco company to Durham, to examine his company's business affairs, and property, and his offer of every facility for inspection and investigation. The American Tobacco company, did, shortly send its expert and its president, and Mr. W. A. Marburg, to his factory and office, where Mr. Carr extended to them every opportunity for examination. After a thorough examination, The American Tobacco company declined to purchase at the price discussed.

I have tried to calmly state facts, and can at any time verify them by several witnesses who were present—some at all and some at part of the interviews referred to. I dislike controversy, and am unaccustomed to it, and seek to avoid notoriety, but have tried to submit to a competent, and I believe just public, the facts, that they may decide whether Mr. Carr's card was a fair and reasonable statement or not. B. N. DUKE.

HOTEL BEGUN!

A REC-LETTER DAY IN THE HISTORY OF THE BULL CITY.

The Old Claiborn Hotel Being Torn Down to Make Room for the New Hotel Which Will Be Built. From Monday's Daily.

The work of tearing down the old Claiborn hotel was commenced to day and the workmen are making rapid headway.

In a few days the large and elegant new structure which Colonel Carr proposes to erect will begin to rise from the chaotic pile.

This is a red letter day in Durham's history and her citizens rejoice.

THE PROGRAMME.

What Will Be Done at Trinity Commencement June 9.

Sunday, May 29, Sermon before the high school, by Rev. G. W. Callahan, Randleman, N. C.

Friday, June 3, 8 p. m., Literary Address before the high school, by President Crowell.

Saturday, June 4, 8 p. m., Freshman Oratorical Contest.

Sunday, June 5, 11 a. m., Annual Sermon before Theological Society, by Rev. D. Atkins, D. D., Hendersonville, N. C.

Sunday, June 5, 8 p. m., Annual Sermon before the Y. M. C. A., by Rev. W. L. Cunningham, Henderson, N. C.

Monday, June 6, 8 p. m., Sophomore Oratorical Contest.

Tuesday, June 7, 8 p. m., Junior Oratorical Contest.

Wednesday, June 8, 10 a. m., Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Wednesday, June 8, 11 a. m., Baccalaureate Sermon, by Bishop W. W. Duncan, Spartanburg, S. C.

Wednesday, June 8, 2 p. m., Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association.

Wednesday, June 8, 3 p. m., Senior Class-Day Exercises.

Wednesday, June 8, 4 p. m., Presentation of Society Medals and Prizes.

Wednesday, June 8, 8 p. m., Alumni Address, by B. B. Nicholson, Esq., Instructor in Law, Trinity College, N. C.

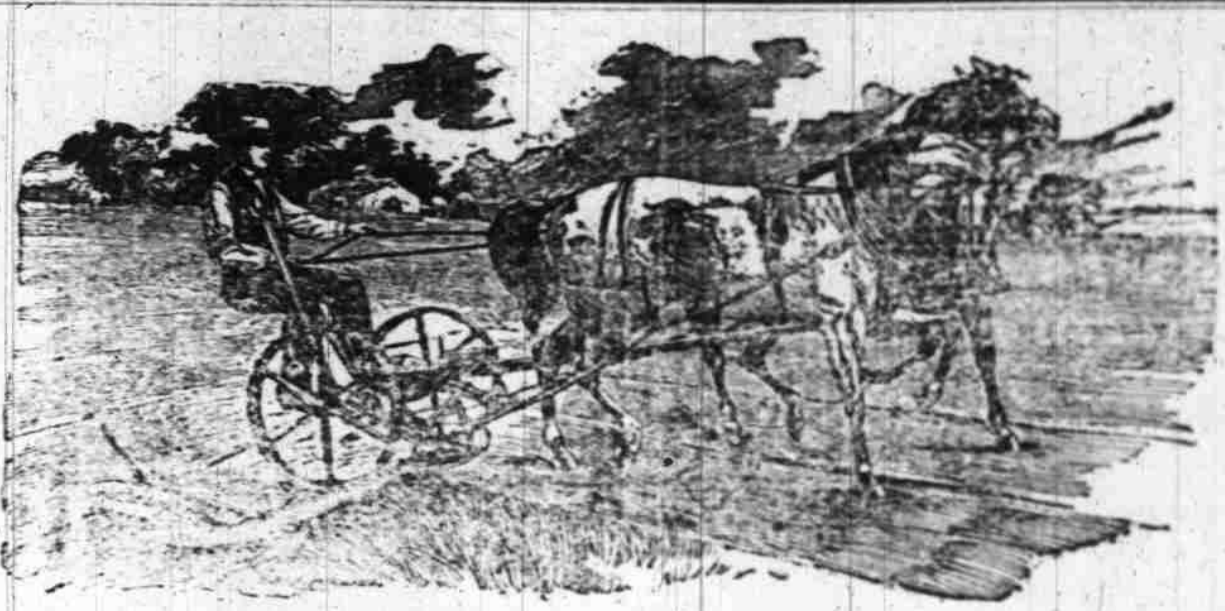
Thursday, June 9, 11 a. m., Graduating Exercises.

Thursday, June 9, 8 p. m., Senior Concert—Music by Salem Orchestra.

BROKE JAIL.

A Negro Breaks Jail at Oxford and is Captured Here Today. A negro, charged with several things, broke jail at Oxford yesterday and was arrested here this morning and will be returned.

After the Grip. And after typhoid fever, diphtheria, pneumonia, or other prostrating diseases, Hood's Sarsaparilla is just what is needed to restore the strength and vigor so much desired, and to expel all poison from the blood. It has had wonderful success in many such cases. Hood's Pills act especially upon the liver, rousing it from torpidity to its natural duties, cure constipation and assist digestion. The time is now ripe for the hospital to be talked about again.



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Received a Special Award at the N. C. State Fair, October, 1890. (This year there was no award, as only one maker exhibited.) Here it is:

"Kranich Upright Pianos, exhibited by the North State Music Co., and not placed in competition, should receive a special award, as they are the best pianos on the grounds in every particular detail." DR. AUG. KURSTEINER, V. C. ROYSTER.

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