

# The Hickory Press.

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## Chairman Simmon's Unsworn Statement Flatly Contradicted by the Sworn Testimony of Some of the Best Citizens of Wilkes County.

Chairman Simmons, in an interview published in the News and Observer of October 20th, gave out the following statement:

"Chairman Simmons said to a reporter yesterday evening that Col. Call had just handed him a secret circular, sent out he presumed, by the Fusionists, for it is not signed by any one, charging that he, Chairman Simmons, said in a speech at the Congressional convention in Wilkesboro, August 18th: 'The Democrats favor the passage of an election law similar to the one in Mississippi and South Carolina, and would pass it if they secured the Legislature.'"

Mr. Simmons said he had never seen or heard of the circular before yesterday, and that the charge that he made any such statement as that attributed to him in the circular was in every respect and particular false, and without the slightest foundation in fact. He said he not only did not make any such statement in his speech at Wilkesboro, on the 18th of August, but that he did not in that speech even mention the subject of suffrage or in anywise mention or discuss the election laws of North Carolina, Mississippi or South Carolina, present, past or contemplated. This is contradicted by the following affidavits:

### Affidavit of Sheriff Call

NORTH CAROLINA, Wilkes County: Clarence Call, of Wilkesboro, N. C., being duly sworn says, that he was present at the courthouse in Wilkesboro, N. C., on the 18th of August, 1898, when F. M. Simmons made a speech before the Democratic Congressional Convention. That among other things he said, was the following in sum and substance, as he now recollects, and he was particular to charge his memory with it, to wit: The negro on the south of us is disfranchised in South Carolina and Mississippi; and on the North of us, in Virginia, is virtually disfranchised, on account of the "Australian Ballot System," and North Carolina will become the home of the negro; they will flock here from these other States, in order to be allowed their freedom of ballot, if we white men do not rise in our might and elect a Legislature that will enact similar election laws to the States of South Carolina and Mississippi."

(Signed) CLARENCE CALL.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this October 24th, 1898.

A. M. VANNOY, C. S. C.

Mr. Call is the present Sheriff of Wilkes county and the affidavit is sworn to before Mr. Vannoy, a Democrat, and Clerk of the Superior Court of Wilkes county.

The following is the affidavit of M. J. W. Davis, a well known and highly respected citizen of Wilkes county.

The following is the affidavit of Mr. J. W. Davis, a well known and highly respected citizen of Wilkes county:

NORTH CAROLINA, Wilkes County:

This day personally appeared J. W. Davis, of Gilteath, N. C., who, after being duly sworn, says that he was present in Wilkesboro, N. C., on the 18th day of August, 1898, and heard F. M. Simmons make his speech. That among other things he said was, "That when the Democrats got control of the State, they would pass an election law similar to the South Carolina and Mississippi election laws so as to disfranchise the negroes in this State," or words to that effect amounting to the same in sum and substance.

(Signed) J. W. DAVIS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this October 22nd, 1898.

A. M. VANNOY, C. S. C.

Mr. A. C. Bryan, Deputy Marshal in Wilkes county, makes affidavit to the same state of facts.

Hon. Thos. J. Duly a prominent lawyer of Wilkesboro, N. C., certifies to the truth of the affidavits. Now let the people answer who told the truth.

The declaration of Chairman Simmons, which he now denies was published in over 150,000 circulars and sent broadcast over the State for more than thirty days before his denial.

## VOTERS BEWARE!

We want to say to the Republicans and Populists that it is very important that the voters of the precincts meet a night or two before the election and thoroughly organize, and see that every one of our voters go to the polls and vote the fusion ticket. See every doubtful voter on the day of the election and secure his support for the fusion ticket.

Our success largely depends upon our efforts on the day of election. All kinds of reports will doubtless be circulated to create friction between the Populists and Republicans. It is all done for the purpose of defeating our ticket. Don't trade.

We wish to impress upon the minds of every Populist and Republican the necessity of their going to the polls early and voting the full fusion ticket. Don't scratch a single name. Get the right ticket. Read your ticket carefully. Look out for bogus tickets. Democrats will likely have them with some Populists and Republicans mixed in with their own candidates. In order to control the next Legislature, they will offer to swap nominees for county offices for the Legislature. Don't swap. Vote the ticket straight. Don't be deceived. Democrats will tell Populists that the Republicans are going to scratch the Populists. They will tell Republicans that the Populists are going to scratch Republican nominees. Don't let them fool you.

If the Republicans and Populists are loyal to the fusion ticket, we will win the fight by a larger majority than at any time in the past. We have the Democrats in a hole as sure as we unitedly support the fusion ticket. Don't pay any attention to false alarms of riots and race wars, etc, which may be circulated just before and on the day of election. Don't pay any attention to false telegrams which may be sent out on election day to deceive voters. Do not be deceived or frightened by the cry of "nigger", "nigger", by the little two-by-four Democrats. We all believe in white supremacy and good government. Let your watchword be work, work, work.

A. Y. SIGMON.

L. M. TOTTEN.

J. H. SHERRILL.

### The Knock-Down Policy in North Carolina.

The New York Sun says: Senator Tillman's assertion that the only way for the Democrats to carry North Carolina is to carry it with shot-guns is being verified by the Tar Heel Democrats, with the assistance of a number of zealous Democrats from Senator Tillman's State. The purpose of the gentlemen with shotguns is to frighten the negroes from attempting to vote the Republican ticket and by producing a condition of lawlessness and a race war to force white Republicans into voting the Democratic ticket as the sole defence against the negroes.

The programme has been well carried out. Armed parties of whites and armed parties of negroes have taken the field or fortified themselves. We have noticed that in little martial divisions of this kind it is not the Caucasian, however great his alarm for the future of Caucasian civilization who gets shot. The white vote will not greatly suffer by the present troubles, although it may be found necessary, as a war measure, to shoot a few obstinate white Republicans to encourage the others.

The Hon. Daniel L. Russell, Governor of North Carolina, has issued a proclamation in which he declares that the political canvas "has been made the occasion and pretext for

ness in certain counties, such, for example, as Richmond and Roberson," and that "certain counties lying along the southern border of the State have been actually invaded by certain armed and lawless men from another State," viz., the Hon. Ben Tillman's.

Governor Russell asks good citizens to obey the law, orders the visitors from South Carolina to leave North Carolina, and generally discourages the present exuberance of Democratic enthusiasm, under the influence of which Republican meetings have been broken up, Republicans whipped or shot, and other convincing methods of inducing Republican voters to neglect to register adopted.

Russell is a Republican, and there is no probability that his suggestions or orders will be respected by vigorous partisans armed with shotguns. Such proud-spirited citizens despise government by proclamation almost as much as they despise government by injunction, or government by majority, in case the majority is not theirs.

The Hon. Benjamin Ryan Tillman of South Carolina seems to be conducting a successful campaign in North Carolina.

Has the Hon. Richard Croker congratulated him on this application of the knock-down argument?

To be entirely relieved of the aches and pains of rheumatism means a great deal, and Hood's Sarsaparilla does

## KEEP THE PEACE.

### Gov. Russell's Proclamation.

#### HE MAKES PUBLIC A MANIFESTO.

Enjoins Keeping the Peace and Obeying the Laws.

RALEIGH, Oct. 25.—Governor Russell has issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas, The constitution of the United States secures to every State in this Union a republican form of government, protection from invasion and freedom from domestic violence, and

"Whereas, The constitution of North Carolina guarantees to all people of the State the inherent right to fully regulate their own internal government, to peacefully assemble for purposes of consulting for their common good, to hold peaceable and quiet elections, and to discharge and exercise in an orderly and quiet manner their manifold duties and privileges of good citizenship, and,

"Whereas, The constitution of the State and laws made in pursuance thereof forbid that any citizen shall be deprived or restrained of his liberty, but upon indictment for and conviction of crime, and,

"Whereas, It is ordained in the same constitution and laws of this State that writs for protection of citizens and processes of courts for the protection of society shall never be suspended, neither by usurping executives nor by turbulent mobs, using weapons of intimidation and violence, and,

"Whereas, It has been made known to me by the public press, by numerous letters, by oral statements of divers citizens of the State, and by formal written statements, that the political canvass now going forward has been made the occasion and pretext for bringing about conditions of lawlessness in certain counties in this State, such, for example, as Richmond and Robeson counties, and,

"Whereas, It has been made known to me in such direct and reliable way that I cannot doubt its truthfulness, that certain counties lying along the Southern border of this State have been actually invaded by certain armed and lawless men from another State; that several political meetings in Richmond and Halifax counties have been broken up and dispersed by using threats, intimidation and in some cases actual violence; that in other cases property has been actually destroyed and citizens fired on from ambush; that several citizens have been taken from their homes at night and whipped; that in several counties peaceful citizens have been intimidated and terrorized by threats of violence to their persons and their property until they are afraid to register themselves, preparatory to exercising that highest duty of freedmen—casting of one free vote—at the ballot box, for men of their own choice, in the coming election.

"Now, therefore, I, Daniel L. Russell, Governor of the State of North Carolina, in pursuance of the constitution and laws of the said State, and by virtue of authority vested in me by the said constitution and laws, do issue this my proclamation, commanding all ill-disposed persons, whether of this or that political party, or of no political party, to immediately desist from all unlawful practices and all turbulent conduct and to use all lawful efforts to preserve the peace and to secure to all people the quiet enjoyment of all their rights of free citizenship; and I do further command and enjoin it upon all good and law-abiding citizens not to allow themselves to become excited by any appeals that may be made to their passions and prejudices by representatives of any political party whatsoever, but to keep cool heads and use their good offices to preserve the public peace and to protect the humblest citizen in all his rights, political and personal, and I do further command and enjoin it upon all judges and other civil magistrates, and upon all solicitors, sheriffs and other officers of the law, to use their best efforts, under the constitution and laws of the State, to apprehend and bring to speedy trial all offenders against persons and property and political and

this State whomsoever, and I do further command and require that all persons who may have entered this State from other States, in pursuance of any unlawful purpose, instantly to disperse and leave this State, upon pain of being arrested and dealt with according to law.

"Done at our city of Raleigh, this the 25th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and in the one hundred and twenty-third year of our American Independence. (Signed) "DANIEL L. RUSSELL.  
By the Governor:  
Baylus Cade, Private Secretary."

## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

ISSUED BY PRESIDENT MCKINLEY AT WASHINGTON.

Calls the American Nation to Prayer, Nov. 24th.

Washington, Oct. 28.—The President after the cabinet meeting today, issued the following Thanksgiving proclamation:

By the President of the United States:  
A PROCLAMATION.

The approaching November brings to mind the custom of our ancestors, hallowed by time and rooted in our most sacred traditions, of giving thanks to Almighty God for the blessings He has vouchsafed to us during the past year.

Few years in our history have afforded such cause for Thanksgiving. We have been blessed by abundant harvests, our trade and commerce have been wonderfully increased, our public credit, has been improved and strengthened, all sections of our common country have been brought together and knitted into closer bonds of national purpose and unity.

The skies have been for a time darkened by the cloud of war, but as we were compelled to take up the sword in the cause of humanity, we are permitted to rejoice that the conflict has been of brief duration and the losses we have had to mourn, though grievous and important have been so few, considering the great result accomplished as to inspire us with gratitude and praise to the Lord of Hosts. We may laud and magnify His holy name that the cessation of hostilities came so soon as to spare both sides the countless sorrows and disasters that attend protracted war.

I do, therefore, invite all my fellow citizens, as well those at home as well as those who may be at sea, or sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of November, as a day of national thanksgiving, to come together in their several places of worship, for a service of praise and thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings of the year; for the mildness of the seasons and for fruitfulness of the soil, for the continued prosperity of the people, for the devotion and valor of our countrymen, for the glory of our victory and the hope of a righteous peace, and to pray that the divine guidance which has brought us heretofore to safety and honor may be graciously continued in the years to come.

In witness whereof, etc.  
WILLIAM MCKINLEY,  
By the President.  
JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

Oliver Dockery, Jr.; Co-Operative Candidate for Solicitor in the Fourth Judicial District, Bombed and Captured Morro Castle.

Oliver Dockery, Jr., was advised to speak at Goldsboro on the night of October 25th. The Democratic heeled notified the Republicans and Populists that they could not have speaking there; that "if Dockery speaks he would leave in a box." Dockery arrived in Goldsboro about the hour for speaking and found that his advertisements had been torn down and his crowd scattered. He at once notified them to prepare their box, that he would speak there on the night of the 26th, struck off his posters, continued his canvass and returned to meet his appointment. He spoke to a good crowd without molestation; no "box" appeared, and is still in the land of the living.

This is a sample of Democratic bulldozing.  
A. E. HOLTON.