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TO SAVE THE STATE.

Democrats Scheme to Re-eapture North Carolina.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—(Special)

The conference to "save the State" was held last night according to advices duly wired the News and Observer. There were present Ed. Chambers Smith, R. B. Peebles, W. A. Guthrie, Congressman Shuford, Senator Butler, and Dr. Mott.

Capt. Peebles told me this morning that it was high time that something was being done, and Ed. Chambers Smith said if anybody could propose anything better than this new fusion, let him do it, or forever hold his peace.

The interesting rumor now develops that it was at Butler's invitation that these gentlemen assembled here. Butler having cut loose so radically from all gold men, and Mett not being able to deliver the Republicans, the old fusion with the gold bugs seemed to be taking the shape of an impossibility, so that something had to be done. Thus Mr. Butler picked out Mr. Smith as the "patriot" who would be willing to meet him half way.

Capt. Peebles said the utmost harmony prevailed at the meeting, but was unwilling to tell the details of the plan mapped out. From another trustworthy source, however, I am informed that, by the agreement involved in it, if not entirely reached in the conference, the Democrats are to have the Governor, the Secretary of the State and the Attorney General; the Populists keeping Worth as Treasurer, and getting the next Senator; the legislature to be divided out to the Democrats and Populists in proportion to their representative forces.

Today's Washington Post, under a display head, says:

"There is a movement on foot among leading Democrats of North Carolina which, if carried to a successful consummation, will mighty affect the political destinies of that State and completely revolutionize existing conditions. The plan, in brief, is to break up and destroy the present alliance between the Republicans and Populists that took away in 1894 the political supremacy which the Democrats had enjoyed for nearly a quarter of a century. The plan projected now is to bring back the Populists into the Democratic camp, and to receive them, not exactly on the basis of a returned prodigal son, but on an equality, as brethren unite after a period of brief estrangements.

"The common meeting ground is to be silver-free and unlimited coinage of the white metal at the ratio of 16 to 1, with the further understanding that Anglo-Saxon supremacy is necessary and must be preserved in the old North State. —W. E. Christian, in News and Observer.

Prophetic.

There are more unreasonable theories than that of Republican ex-State Chairman Eaves that Senator Butler is preparing to make his way back to the Democratic party and put himself at the head of it in North Carolina. If the plan on foot to commit the Democratic party of this State to free coinage independently of all other considerations, succeeds, and if a fusion of it with the silver forces of all other parties is effected, Mr. Butler will be the natural commander of the outfit and thence into the so-called Democratic party will be but a step for him.—Charlotte Observer.

In view of the Washington conference of last week, the above seems to have been almost a prophecy. It was said before the conference was held.

Col. A. K. McClure, editor of the Philadelphia Times, is to visit North Carolina soon. He will be the guest of Governor Carr on March 18th.

Subscribe for the DEMOCRAT.

THE LATE SILVER BILL.

A Populist Measure—Harry Skinner Says So.

We quote from the Congressional Record of February 16, 1896:

"In asking recognition of the Chair and attention from members of comment upon these conditions, I am not ashamed to be classified as a Populist and to emphasize the fact that I support the senate substitute as distinct Populistic measure, one that the country would have had presented in this shape except for the presence of the Populist balance of power in the Senate. It cannot otherwise be intelligently and consistently considered, since both the Democratic and Republican parties are committed by practice and policy to the single gold standard, and the Populist alone of the political organizations extent stands openly, boldly, and declaratively for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1."

[Now, let the 16 to 1 mourners prove what Skinner says is not true. Unless it can be done, we advise those Democrats who are promising free silver by the Democratic party to go a little slow. We have always thought the 16 to 1 business was Populist doctrine, and now Colonel Skinner says it is actually the case.—ED.]

Intended to Deceive.

The Democratic state executive committee of Texas, a majority of which is for free silver, has ordered primary elections with the professed object of ascertaining the views of the party upon the silver question and in connection therewith has played what it doubtless thinks is a very smart trick. A sound money member proposed that the issue be submitted as for or against the free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1; but no. He was overruled and the ballots were ordered to read, "For Bi-Metalism" or "Against Bi-Metalism and for the Single Gold Standard." The game is, of course, to count all those who vote for bi-metalism as for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. Now all people who know anything at all know, and the most of them are ready to admit, that free, unlimited and independent coinage of silver does not mean bi-metalism at all but means the driving of all gold out of the country or into hiding and the placing of this country on a basis of silver mono-metalism. The merit in Judge Clark's recent letter is that he makes no concealment of the fact that this is what he is trying to do. Mexico, with its \$5 per capita of circulation, is so much more prosperous than the United States with their \$23, that he wants us to come to the Mexican basis of silver mono-metalism and does not seek to throw dust in the eyes of his readers by any fine talk about bi-metalism. There is no bi-metalism in Mexico and he knows it, and knows that everybody else knows it. The only practical bimetalists in this country are the sound moneymen, who want to retain gold as our standard of value, as all other civilized countries have it, and who want to retain silver as a circulating medium to the largest extent which it is possible to use it and at the same time preserve the equality of its value along with that of gold. A proposition, therefore, to submit two sets of ballots to people, reading as those submitted to the Texas Democracy, is the manifestation of a deliberate purpose to fool somebody.—Charlotte Observer.

Rev. Dr. Baylus Cade, who used to edit the Caucasian, has been appointed chaplain of a Federal penitentiary in Kansas. Attorney General Harmon made the appointment. He is a Populist.

The Friday edition of the Statesville Landmark has been enlarged to seven columns. The Landmark is a paper after our liking. We congratulate Editor Clark.

Political Points.

The Hickory Mercury learns from reports from all parts of the nation that the silver men in all parties are getting together! This silver campaign we are having has more "wind" in it to the square inch than any campaign we have ever read of.

The Mercury of this week prints extracts from Congressman Shuford's "speech". But Shuford made no speech and the Mercury knows it. He was allowed to print some "remarks." As long as Mr. Shuford only makes "remarks" we are willing for the Mercury to drive on. But we draw the line at speeches.

The Hickory Mercury of last week says that Messrs. W. A. Self of Hickory and J. C. Linney of Alexander county addressed the Hickory Alliance last Saturday one week. Well, all we have to say is that Democrats ought to be mighty careful whose company they keep these days.

The Mercury says it's all a lie about the Fusionists meeting up at Newton and dividing up the spoils of Catawba for this year. Well, we knew when the Enterprise told of the meeting that the Mercury would deny it, and we had a notion to deny it ourselves in advance, but we didn't. We wish now we had done so, and saved this space.

Dr. Tyre York, it is said, will be a candidate for Congress in the 8th district this year, and will run as an independent.

We have not mentioned the fact that Congressman Howard of Alabama was too drunk to vote on the silver bill lately before the House, until the Populist Press had time to deny the report if it was not true. Now, that they do not deny it, we consider it no harm to publish the fact. Mr. Howard is a Populist and wrote a book, "If Christ Came to Congress." The Mercury might do some missionary work with its "moral"—"religious" sheet if it could catch the ear of Mr. Howard.

Rev. R. H. W. Leak and James H. Young, two negro politicians of Raleigh and newspaper editors are having "war" in their papers over fusion politics.

J. Logan Harris says that six years ago there were 1000 white Republicans in Wake county outside of Raleigh township, and that now there are not more than 100, the Populists having captured the white Rads down there.

Messrs. M. L. Reed and Locke Craig, of Asheville, have issued an "address to the people on the subject of 'Silver the Issue.'" It we mistake not, Reed used to belong to the Alliance and did some letter writing back in the days when "Alliance Democrats" were numerous. Mr. Craig, we hear, is an Asheville lawyer who tried to be a Collector of the Western District. The address abuses Cleveland and the gold bugs and favors

instructing our delegates to the Chicago Convention to withdraw from that body should it declare for the gold standard. These same gentlemen also assert that the 16 to 1 business has always been a fundamental principle of the Democratic party. But it never has been in a Democratic platform? Why? Why?

Dr. J. J. Mott has issued, as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Silver Party, an address to the people of the country, in which he calls on them to aid this new party to restore silver to its "Constitutional" place as a money metal. The Doctor calls

this question a "social" one and says he has renounced party ties to carry on the great work of giving the country a taste of 16 to 1. He and Butler are now one, they say.

The Enterprise says Newton has two more lawyers, Messrs. J. L. Graham and W. B. Gaither. Mr. Gaither is Postmaster at Newton.

Stray Shots at Populism.

The Mercury says: If the populists are cranks because of their advocacy of the free coinage of silver, then the Senate of the United States is composed of cranks.

Yes, we have thought so for quite a while. We are glad to know that you are getting light slowly! It seems there are 45 of them there.

It's reported that good horses are only selling for from two to five dollars each in Missouri. That's the "tidal wave of prosperity" promised by Mr. Cleveland's cuckoo.—Hickory Mercury.

We wonder why that is happening only in Missouri. But you know that is too thin! Get up something fresh!

Every indication shows that in a few years, the goldbugs of all parties will unite against the silverites. A democrat of some prominence said the other day, he hoped or believed they would. It is coming. By 1900, we may look for it. God send the day.—Mercury.

That would be "co-operation for the attainment of great principles." Do not go back on your own doctrine. Take your medicine, if it does come to that!

North Carolina and South Carolina seem to have some standing in the Senate. This is because the old line Democracy has been smashed in both these States.—Caucasian.

What must sensible people think of our men, Pritchard and Butler, when the Caucasian can only say for them that they "seem to have some standing in the Senate?" When Vance and Ransom were there, there was no "seeming" about it! And the Caucasian used to depose to that effect, if we mistake not.

Reform comes slowly, but surely. They never go backward. Slow progress is discouraging to some, but let no one fail by the wayside on that account. The seed have been sown, the harvest will be all the heavier on account of the lateness of it.—Progressive Farmer.

Very slow, indeed! For example, the sub-Treasury and \$50 per capita seem to have been on the road for some time. News has now reached us that they have fallen "by the way side," and have been left to die. Are you not a little bit frightened about the 16 to 1 business? Didn't the Farmer have "relief" in mind when it said the above? We do think the Populists are very slow about giving us the "reforms" they have promised.

Still we can take comfort at the assurance that they are on the way. But the failure to see the sub-Treasury and the \$50 per capita having in sight has dampened our ardor!

The good news from Alliance sources still comes from all sections of the State. The membership itself can't kill the Alliance so dead that it will not come again, for its principles are imperishable.—Progressive Farmer.

The sub-Treasury "principle" does not seem to have had the "imperishable" quality. Achilles like, the "demands" of Our Noble Order seem to have had one vulnerable part, and, now that it has been cut off, we suppose the remaining parts are "imperishable." You can't kill the Alliance!" Oh, no! But the struggle it is now making to revive defunct subs is significant. If the parts do die, who not the whole suffer a like fate?

Those people who think that the People's Party was formed to fuse with another party for the sake of giving them office, will please get off the earth.—Caucasian.

We wonder how such a report ever got out on you folks anyway! But no matter what you were made for, you have "fused" with the Republicans and put them in office. As to getting "off the earth," that is asking too much until you own more land than at present!

If it is an office grabbing game we have to play, the people may as well have one set of scamps in as

the other—they may as well go back to the old gang—Caucasian.

But it was one of the "old gang" and a few Pops that set up the Editor of the Caucasian in business. Talk on! But see if you don't go back as soon as the "fodder" gets short. Some people do show their gratitude in the poorest kind of a way.

From Aurora letter, Progressive Farmer:

A great many who thought four years ago that I was a crank, are beginning to learn that I was in advance of them. One of them said to me last Saturday, "you know I am no Pop, but Butler's speech beat any I ever read."

Well, what do you suppose that man is any way? Don't you think he would make a first class Pop? We should pronounce him in "advance" of some Democrats we know not all however!

The Penitentiary. Here is what the Biblical Recorder of Raleigh has to say about the management of this institution:

Superintendent Lester, of the State's prison, is to be congratulated. He has come nearer solving the penitentiary problem than any other man, if he has not actually done it. Not many years ago the penitentiary cost the people not less than \$80,000 annually. Last year it ran itself. Conditions have not changed, except as the Superintendent has changed them. The farming plan is a success. The State has done a great work along the Roanoke, redeeming the low grounds and checking the river. The other farms have been improved.

This problem is not peculiar to North Carolina. Nearly every State has it to settle. Our State has the advantage possessed by but few others, of having lands adapted to agriculture, and criminally bred to the soil, mostly negroes.

[This is Democratic "extravagance," and the Recorder's comments are referred to those who said in 1894 that the Democrats of North Carolina were "extravagant." —ED.]

The lake of Urmia, in Persia, contains more salt than any other body of water in the world. On analysis the water has been found to contain even more salt than the Dead sea, which holds twenty-six per cent, or eight times as much as the ocean.

The average height of man in the United States is 5 feet 10 1/2 inches; in England, 5 feet 9 inches; in France, 5 feet 4 inches; in Belgium, 5 feet 6 1/2 inches.

The area of the British colonies is 8,000,000 square miles, that of the French 8,000,000, of the Dutch 660,0