

The Rutherford Star

AND WEST-CAROLINA RECORD.

"BE SURE YOU ARE RIGHT AND THEN GO AHEAD."—DAVY CROCKETT.

VOL. VII.

RUTHERFORDTON, N. C., JULY 18, 1874.

NO. 23.

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[From the Charlotte Bulletin.]

Another Game of Enchre.

Played by Three Candidates.

BILL NYE, TRUTHFUL JAMES AND A HEATHEN CHINEE.

Mr. Editor:

The thunderbolts seem to be unloosed, and the fires of political rancor are blazing high. The Conservative press have brought out their heaviest ordinance, unmasked their batteries, and are now pouring a heavy fire of shot and shell upon the Independent Conservatives. But the Conventionists should really profit somewhat by past experience, and in finding their broadsides into the Independent ranks they should keep their candidate, Mr. Schenck, well out of range of their guns, else he will be riddled into atoms; not a shred of him will be left, not a vestige upon which to hang that Judicial Ermine, which he so earnestly desires.

The first thunderbolt hurled at the opposition was upon their baseness in issuing anonymous circulars, but it fell with most crushing effect upon their nominee, as it was proved he conducted the whole campaign for the nomination upon this basis. We de-pise concealment and poisoned weapons, we prefer to fight above ground, but when your enemy is undermining you, if you do not countermine you will be blown up. It is purely a defensive measure, forced on us by the underground movements of the enemy. And now, while the Conservative press are pointing out the fiercest invectives upon those Conservative candidates who are supposed to be seeking, or who are even willing to accept Republican support, their own nominee, Mr. Schenck, has been spreading his nets in the vilest manner to catch all the Radical votes he can. Mr. S. knows his own powers.—He is a rhetorician, and is endowed with a vivid imagination, which he exercises by portraying in glowing colors the mysterious terrors of the Ku Klux Klan, always, however, representing himself as a modifying element in the organization, a kind of break-water to their excesses, a shield for defenseless loyalists, who are, in truth, indebted to him for their very lives, and the only payment they can possibly make, or he accept, is to give him their votes at the coming election.

And while Mr. Schenck is thus utilizing his position in the Ku

Klux Klan, and by his artifices is securing every Radical vote he possibly can, his noble organs are piping their loudest notes of execration, are working themselves up into a white heat of virtuous indignation upon this subject of Republican support.

And the Conventionists are so full of holy horror against a class of men called Bolters. What deadly missiles they are discharging upon those Conservatives who dare to protest against the nominees of the Lincoln Convention. And yet these deadly missiles will be perfectly harmless, for they will be spent balls before they reach the Independent ranks; those fiery denunciations of Bolters fall with fatal effect upon their nominee, Mr. S. The fire of his own guns will surely annihilate him before the contest is closed. Mr. Schenck has been bolting, and sliding, and dodging, and turning ever since the surrender. He certainly makes up in suppleness and cunning what he lacks in dignity and honesty. He bolted in the campaign of '70, voting both against Shober, and in his own county, against David Kincaid. In '68 Mr. Schenck would have announced himself an ultra Radical of the most advanced type if he could have obtained the nomination for Judge on the Republican ticket, but as he failed, he whirled back into the Conservative ranks and concluded to bide his time and find his opportunity in the campaign of '74. And so he "rejoins his drooping head, restricts his terms," and is now flaming out as the Conservative candidate for the Judgeship. What has he not been? What would he not do to secure this office? He might say with Hamlet that he would "drink up Esile or eat a crocodile" to gain this object. He has trodden as many dark paths, and played as many vain tricks, and made as many frightful points as aid the heathen Chinese in that famous little game of Enchre.

"Ah! Sin was his name, — And I shall not deny."

What that name might imply." And like truthful James and his ally, Bill Nye, we must "go for that Heathen Chinese." We must overthrow him, expose him and defeat him. He has brought discord and dismay into the Conservative ranks and destroyed the solidity of our party, for it is impossible that high-toned, honorable men can sustain a nomination so based and so maintained.

There is, however, one class of men, good, honest men, who always, under all circumstances, cling to their party nomination. They are men who run in grooves, routineists, who, if a certain form be preserved, and certain observances maintained, no matter what the spirit be, the kernel may be extracted, but if the shell remain, and is placed before them they are perfectly satisfied, and will follow the flag hoisted, even if it lead them where the piper lead the children of Hamelin, into the very bowels of the earth. We do not blame them, they follow their lights. They are good, narrow, onesided people. They find their parallel in a flock of geese, the most unanimous creatures upon the face of the earth; they, the geese, always scream together. We can make no impression on them. But we feel secure of those high-toned, large-minded men, whether Conservative or Republicans, who can see both sides of a question; read the upper and under side of Jove's medal; can understand the obverse and reverse of a controversy. We must buckle on our armor and rush into battle and fight till we conquer.

We confess it, we proclaim it, we will accept every vote we can get. We have always thought the best thing a Radical could do, and the only thing he ought to do politically, was to vote for a Conservative. We urge the Republicans to rally round our leader, the People's Candidate, and

help us to defeat the nominee of the Lincoln Convention.

Col. Hoke, our candidate, is a pure, honest man, an able lawyer, with a strong, clear, impartial mind, and if elected will administer the duties of this office with impartiality and justice, while it is believed that Mr. Schenck will, if elected, use the powers of this high office to reward his friends and punish his foes. Are you willing to trust yourselves in the hands of such a man? Then come out and demand the withdrawal of the Independent Radical Logan. He owes something to a party which has done so much for him. If he will not sacrifice his personal desires in order to secure what the Radicals think is their only safety, then let them wash their hands of him, and unite with us in electing a Judge that every man in the district can trust.

Yes, we want every vote we can get. Old fossilized Bourbonaires, if there be such a thing extant. Conservatives, Liberals, Republicans, and ultra-Radicals of advanced type. We will accept help from all quarters, and feel that we are doing the State good service and achieving a grand, fine result if we drive both Logan and Schenck from the field. But if we fail, if our candidate, Col. Hoke, is defeated; if the people of this District are so unfortunate as to have the nominee of the Lincoln Convention forced on them for their next Judge, then we must have our code of honor revised, the ideas and principles which have hitherto governed those dilapidated "old bloods," for which the editor of the Democrat express such a lofty disdain, must become obsolete under the new regime. MECKLENBURG.

From the Charlotte Bulletin.
Schenck's Conservatism.

Mr. Editor:

There is one matter in Schenck's poitics which is greatly overlooked, and yet is very significant as to the depth and genuineness of his Conservatism. The whole Conservative party in 1870 and 1871 were exceedingly anxious to have a Convention called to amend and reconstruct the present Constitution of the State, so as to regain to the people and their representatives some of the powers which that instrument deprives them of.

To accomplish so desirable a result, the Conservative Legislature passed an act to submit to the vote of the people the question of "Convention" or "No Convention," to be voted on in the next August. The bill required the Governor to make proclamation of the fact in the newspapers of the State, simply advertisements to inform the people as to the nature of the election.

The Governor, to frustrate the cherished hopes of the Conservative party, refused to comply with the terms of the law, substantially vetoed it and informed the Legislature that he would not execute that part of it which devolved on him, as he believed it unconstitutional.

This action of the Governor necessarily awakened the indignation of the whole Conservative party. Everywhere throughout the State their denunciations were bitter and unmeasured, and the most unqualified epithets were heaped on the Governor for this singular and unexpected course. Such were the signs of the times on the Conservative side of the House. On the other, or Radical, however, the skies were reversed. All was bright and rosy, and the course of the Governor was received with hosannas of glory for this brilliant overthrow of the Conservative hopes.

In this hour of universal wrath there was one man, claiming to be a Conservative, who, openly abandoning his fellows and deserting their cause, took sides with the enemy. One who became a

Bolter, and gave all his aid and comfort to the enemy. Who could be so deficient in manly virtue and party feeling at such a time? It certainly cannot be one now high in party places, and whose particular friends and supporters are now denouncing as Bolters, those independent citizens who declare they cannot, they will not vote for Schenck for Judge.

Yes, Schenck was the Bolter in 1871. He the only one of all the Conservative party that felt individually called upon to write to Governor Caldwell and thank him for the cause he had pursued in this Convention matter, and complimented him for his conduct. Yes, Schenck did this at that very time, and the Radicals said even the Conservatives (?) praise the Governor for his action.

Why was there such fawning, such bowing of the knees to the Governor, in the hour of his party's dejection and the Governor's triumph? Why did he feel called upon of all the Conservative party, thus to crouch at that time and glorify his enemy? Oh! the crooked ways of the ambition politician. How he devises, plans and schemes for the future. Was this action a bid for future favor? Was it to secure Logan's old shoes from the Governor, if by impeachment or otherwise those shoes should be pulled off by the Conservative party? Such flattering attention Schenck thought could do no harm to his future prospects, and he had not the slightest idea that the writing of the letter would be made public, and he would therefore have a decided and unknown advantage over all competitors. Schenck should request the Governor to publish that letter, so that all may see what else is in it. It will not do to deny that he ever wrote it, it is too well known. He may affirm, however, that he had no forecasts in his eye when he wrote it; that it was only such a perfect overflow of gratitude and thanksgiving that he could not repress the throes of his heart towards the Governor for his great and all important and glorious act of refusing to publish an act passed by a Conservative Legislature.

To solve the riddle of such unusual action of Schenck, other facts occurring about that time should be recollected. Judge Settle, of the Supreme Court bench, had received a nomination by President Grant as Minister to Peru. His seat would be vacant and have to be filled by Governor Caldwell. Then it was that D. Schenck got up a memorial to Governor Caldwell, signed by himself and others, to appoint Col. Bynum to the Supreme Court in Settle's place. Here then we have Schenck turning his back on the Conservative party, writing to and congratulating a Radical Governor for his triumph over the Conservative party—then a Conservative recommending a Radical for the Supreme Court bench.

What a consistent Conservative does this show him to be.

The Governor did not bite at Schenck's bait. Instead of Bynum, he appointed Boyden. Had he appointed Bynum, perhaps there would have been another memorial to the Governor to give to Schenck the old shoes of Solicitor Bynum. But the whole scheme failed. Schenck is a good Conservative when the offices are in the gift of the Conservatives, but he can play a Radical card if the occasion requires it.

BOLTER.

You can not vote in any township except the one you live in, and your name must be registered in that township. If you have moved out of the township in which you formerly lived you must have your name registered in the township in which you live now.

Card.

The Southern Home of the 29th inst., has a statement that Col. Hoke appeared for "Aaron Biggerstaff, a Radical, upon whose testimony and that of his daughter, Mrs. Norrill, most of the Ku Klux were convicted." Without saying so, the inference is intended to be left that Col. Hoke appeared for Biggerstaff in the ku klux trials. This statement is not correct in any particular. Col. Hoke never did appear for Aaron Biggerstaff in any such trial—or for Mrs. Norrill. The case to which Gen. Hill alludes, was tried in the State Court at Rutherford. The facts are these: A raid had been committed on Alvin Owens. Alexander McIntyre, Amos Owens, and others were arrested on a bench warrant issued by Judge Logan. Michael Hoke Justice, J. L. Carson, L. F. Churchill, and Jno. F. Hoke appeared for the defendants—six in number. This preliminary investigation lasted eight days. On this trial Biggerstaff was a witness—Mrs. Norrill was not a witness or party. The result was that four of the defendants were bound to the Superior Court, and on motion of defendants counsel, Aaron Biggerstaff and four others were bound over to Court for a forcible trespass on the same night. This is the only case in which Colonel Hoke ever appeared in which Aaron Biggerstaff was a witness or party. Mr. Schenck in his testimony in Washington City gives a synopsis of this trial, and says that Colonel Hoke appeared for Biggerstaff, and in this states what was not the case. Gen. Hill bears an "honored name as well as our Independent Candidate." He has won for himself an envied reputation as a "soldier, a citizen" and one of the *literati* of the land. "An adventurer may take risks, for he has nothing to lose." But, Gen. Hill cannot trifle with the inheritance from his ancestors, for truth and honesty and fair dealing, and will therefore, of course, make the proper correction in his paper. The Home also states that the nominee "appeared for two hundred indicted ku klux, at a time when many lawyers were afraid to evince any sympathy for these persecuted men." Now it is known that the lawyers in every county where there were indictments against the ku klux, did appear for them without fear or restraint. It is a fact that Col. Hoke went to Raleigh in behalf of Mr. Schenck, and through his exertions and influence induced Mr. Phillips to agree to enter a *not pros* in Schenck's case, and he was discharged—and this too, when Mr. Schenck had been one of the chiefs in the order. This did not look much like fear. But did Mr. Schenck defend 200 ku klux as the Home states? Mr. Schenck says that he thought it best not to appear in Raleigh when the trials were going on. He only appeared at Statesville; and it is well known that not a man from Lincoln, Gaston, Cleveland or Rutherford was ever tried after the first trials in Raleigh when Mr. Schenck was not present; so that he has never "defended" them. What Mr. Schenck did was to submit a large number of cases at Statesville, after he was discharged, on an agreement with the Court that they should be taxed no costs—and they stand now on the records of that Court as convicted felons, liable to be punished at any time, and can hold no office of trust or profit in this State.—Other lawyers who did not submit for their clients got them off with out such a penalty. Mr. Schenck submitted for a number of his clients, too, who were not even present to give their consent to it. He even got a list of forty names in Cleveland for the same purpose, when Plato Durham interfered and stopped such a proceeding. There was no friendship in such a movement. Better had he never appeared for them. They are convicted on their own confession of felony, and by our Constitution can hold no office in our State. May our people in future be saved from such a friend. The Home says that "there were some things in that testimony that ought to have been left out." What things? Let us have the light and the proof. Let the people see the whole, so that they may judge for themselves? Let the people have what has been suppressed? They are intelligent and can form a correct opinion. PARATUR.

Go and see if your name is not registered on the poll books, and if it is not have it put on at once.