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THE FORCE BILL A MENACE TO LIBERTY and PEACE

FEDERAL ELECTION LAW.

WHAT THE BILL UNDERTAKES TO DO--ITS PROVISIONS.

It is the Most Dangerous Centralization of Power--The Most Dangerous Foe to the Freedom of Elections--The Most Desperate Attempt by Desperate Men to Continue in Power by Prostituting the Judiciary This Country Ever Witnessed.

After the war we had military districts in the South. There were no real State lines. The States had no rights. The votes that were cast in North Carolina were carried to South Carolina by Federal soldiers who declared the result to be what suited their purposes. The Union League menaced the property, the lives, the purity of the white men and women in the South. The Ku Klux Klan was the result, and its excesses horrified all good citizens.

Then the soldiers were withdrawn. Then the Union League collapsed. Then the Ku Klux Klan disbanded. Then the white men of the South took control of the government. Schools were opened for the whites and blacks. Peace prevailed. Prosperity smiled upon us. The races have come to live together in peace and concord. Here we hear not a discordant note to break the fraternal regard of the two races in the South, except an occasional violation of law which is seen the world over.

But now comes REED, DUDLEY & Co., who have determined to control the country, and declare that this state of affairs cannot longer continue. They see that the Republican party had a minority of the vote of the people at the last election. They propose, by the passage of the Federal Election Law, to do their "own registrations," their "own counting," and attend their "own certification." That is the programme, and for purely partisan purposes they now propose to plunge the South into a new reconstruction period with all the horrors of that period.

What is it that they propose? The CHRONICLE is not big enough to publish the infamous bill which fills a big book. It denies to the State the right to determine the qualification of voters, and transfers that power to a "cheer" of the Republican faith. The Chief Supervisor of each judicial district is to be appointed for life, and his chief requisite will be a willingness to do anything to secure Republican success. The best evidence of the partisan intent of the bill is that it passes it will go into effect at the elections in November of this year. This is an admission that in no other way can the Republicans control the next House.

Under the law the Chief Supervisor, who is to be appointed by a Federal Judge, is to have great power. He is to have charge of the Federal officers who will control elections. He is to examine voters under oath, and receive the returns. He will have power to order arrests. He will declare that he shall have power at "elections at which Representatives or delegates in Congress are voted for." If, as in North Carolina, State officers are elected at the same time as Congressmen, these supervisors would have power to control State elections. In fact, such power is his, for he is the judge of who can vote. We have but one registration book. He can strike off any name, or add any name to the registration book that he decides ought to be on the book.

There are to be three of these supervisors at every polling-place, two of whom shall be of the same political party, and they are to control the election. This means, not that two shall be Republicans and one Democrat. Not at all. But two Republicans and one of some other party. There are a dozen or more so-called parties, and the judge would appoint in many instances from some bulk of a party a man who is at heart a Republican, and these three would proceed to do their own voting, counting, and certification. They would imitate SPEAKER REED and count a "quorum" of Republicans whether there were enough ballots in the boxes or not. There is no way to secure a fair election by such partisan agents, and there is no way to separate the State and Federal elections where they are held on the same day. It is direct usurpation of power, and there is no warrant in the Constitution for it. If Congress can pass this law giving Federal officers the right to control elections for members of the House of Representatives, then it can pass a law giving them the right to control the election of members of the State Legislature, for they elect U. S. Senators. If one is right--if one is lawful--both must be.

Supervisors may be appointed on the request of the chief supervisor of 100 persons in any city or town having 20,000 inhabitants or upward, or in any entire Congressional district, or in any part which is within any city or town of 20,000 inhabitants and upward, or on the request of fifty persons "in any one or more counties or parishes in any Congressional district."

The New York World, in an admirable review of the bill, says that in a Congressional district consisting of half a dozen counties, two Republican and four Democratic, the polls in the two Democratic counties could be managed by Republican supervisors, who need not be residents of the counties, but might be brought from distant parts of the district. In the other counties the machinery of elections would be in the hands of local officers. The bill, therefore, is a device by which the Republicans may manage all elections, no

matter what may be the politics of a community.

Arrangements are made in the bill whereby local party committees may be employed. This is effected by a provision authorizing persons to apply to the chief supervisor for appointments. Care is taken also that supervisors may be appointed on the very eve of an election, in order, doubtless, that if the character of the appointments may be avoided.

The chief supervisor is permitted to name double the number of supervisors that can be required in his whole judicial district. In this way the Republican party can pay an army of workers at the polls from the Federal Treasury.

Supervisors may be transferred from one part of a Congressional district to another, so that the voters may have no acquaintance with the men who are "guarding, supervising and scrutinizing" their election.

The Work of the Supervisors.

The existing law has permitted John I. Davenport and men like him to perpetrate many outrages, but it is inoffensive in comparison with the present bill. It simply authorizes the Federal officers to oversee the count of ballots and to formulate and forward their conclusions to be used as evidence.

The new bill requires the supervisors to perform all their duties, and besides--

1. To challenge the right of any person to be registered, and to "require" of the State or local officer that he do not register the name or that he strike off the name of any person already on the register.

This is a distinct interference with State elections. There is only one registry list, and if a person's name is stricken off he is thereby disqualified from voting for State officers. The bill, therefore, permits these Federal officers to forbid citizens of a State to vote for their own local officers. A supervisor can thus affect even a town election.

2. The supervisors are to have access to all books of registration, &c., for the purpose of making evidence for a contest.
3. They are to make a house-to-house canvass of persons registered in all cities having 20,000 inhabitants or upward. They may be accompanied by deputy marshals. In cities of 100,000 inhabitants or upward they are to make a thorough house-to-house canvass five weeks before election. In other words, the local registers are to be given to Republican campaign workers to enable them to spy upon people, to intimidate them as Davenport has done in New York, and to bring their own voters to the polls. The Republican campaign, State and National, is to be conducted at the expense of the General Government.

4. The supervisors are authorized to administer the State statutory oath if the local officers decline, and to examine persons offering to vote as to their qualifications under the State law.
5. If the State officers, obeying their own law, refuse to receive a proffered ballot, the Federal officers may first direct them to do so, and then, on refusal, may themselves receive and deposit the ballot.

6. The are to have access to the court records of naturalization, and to make lists of papers and to inquire into the right of citizenship of the persons named. Special supervisors, called "discreet" in the bill, are to be detailed to prevent fraudulent naturalization. What can be accomplished under this power was shown in New York by Davenport in 1878, when he arrested many persons who were not tried, while 3,400 were kept away from the polls by intimidation and threats of arrest. The supervisors may use the deputy marshals and the army in this nefarious work.

This bill repeals or annuls all State laws that are opposed to it.

It directs the manner in which all ballots shall be counted. The supervisors are to take part in the count.

If ballots for Congressmen are found in the wrong box in States where there are more boxes than one, the chairman of the supervisors shall take charge of them.

The Board of Canvassers.

The Board of Canvassers of the Congressional vote is a body which makes the canvass for the United States. It is appointed by the Circuit Judge, who is dragged into party politics by nearly every section of this extraordinary bill. The Board consists of three, only two of whom are of the same political party. If their certificate differs from that of the State officers their CANDIDATE IS TO BE SEATED. If the opposing candidate appeals it must be to the Circuit Judge, who is consequently a returning officer. The decision of the Judge is to be conclusive with the Clerk of the House. The arrangements for counting in Republicans are almost perfect.

Permanent Law.

The appropriations for the payment of all the expenses of this Federal interference in State affairs, including the pay of chief supervisor, supervisors and deputy marshals, are made permanent. This is anticipatory of the refusal of a Democratic House to appropriate money for the execution of the law.

Further Interference With States.

The Circuit Court is empowered to compel State Boards to rectify alleged errors in their count.

The supervisor may go into the voting booths with a voter to assist him in the preparation of his ballot, if a State election officer may go for the purpose of giving needed instructions.

The bill provides that juries shall be drawn by Commissioners appointed by the Circuit Judge, who may all belong to the same party. Again the judiciary is dragged into party politics, and made subservient to campaign managers.

Federal Punishment of State Officers.

The bill provides for the punishment

of State officers for violation of State laws and provides that the army and deputy marshals shall keep the peace. This is in direct contravention of the instructions given to a United States marshal by Mr. Evarts in 1868, when he was Attorney-General of the United States. A chief supervisor may also concentrate the deputies and the troops at any place where he may allege that he expects a breach of the peace.

THOUGH DEAD HE YET SPEAKS.

At the Democratic State convention in Rochester in 1871, the late great Democratic leader, SAMUEL J. TILDEN, made a speech against centralization which deserves to live forever. His wise words have special significance now, when it is attempted to pass the law that would do more to establish centralization than any legislation of an hundred years. He said:

The Democracy advances to fight anew the battle against centralism and corruption to which it was first led by Thomas Jefferson in the nation and by George Clinton in the State of New York.

The equilibrium of our whole political system is in danger of being overturned and a despotic and corrupt centralism established. The whole value of the arrangement by which our world is kept in its place in the solar system is the balance between the opposing forces. It would matter little to us which of these forces should be allowed to prevail. If the centrifugal tendency should dominate, our planet would shoot madly into the realms of endless space, far away from the source of heat and life, until every living thing upon its surface would perish. If the centripetal tendency should prevail, the earth would rush with inconceivable velocity toward the sun, until it would be engulfed in the burning mass. So it is with the adjustment of powers between the State and Federal Government; disunion would generate the centralism of military despotism in the separate States; centralism attempted on areas and populations so vast would break the parts asunder, and fill our continent, as it has filled every other, with rival nations.

Our wise ancestors devised the only system possible to avoid these opposite evils. They formed a Federal Government to manage our foreign relations, to maintain peace and unity between the States, and to administer a few exceptional functions of common interest; and they left the great residuary mass of governmental power to the States. The creed of the Democratic party is comprised in two ideas: First, to limit as much as possible all governmental power, enlarging always and everywhere the domain of individual judgment and action; secondly, to throw back the governmental powers necessary to be exercised as much as possible upon the States and the localities, approaching in every case the individuals to be affected.

These ideas dominate over the Democratic party, and find in it their best representative. The opposite ideas, to meddle with everything properly belonging to the individual, and to centralize all governmental powers, express the tendencies of the Republican party.

Under this inspiration the Federal Government is rapidly seizing upon all the powers of human society. It has assumed to regulate the suffrage and threatens to take the control of all elections.

I oppose centralism because it is incompatible with civil liberty. I oppose centralism because it creates an irresponsible power, and an irresponsible power is always corrupt. A government ruling all the affairs of individuals and localities, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, would be the most incompetent for what it would undertake, the most oppressive, the most irresponsible, and the most corrupt government of which history affords any example.

MR. BLAINE DEPRECATES FORCE.

In his letter of acceptance in 1884, Mr. BLAINE said:

It would be a great calamity to change these influences under which Southern commonwealths are learning to vindicate civil rights and adapting themselves to the conditions of political tranquility and industrial progress. If there be occasional and violent outbreaks in the South against this peaceful progress, the public opinion of the country regards them as exceptional, and hopefully trusts that each will prove the last.

We could multiply expressions from the writings of all the great men this country has produced to show that this bill is dangerous, and could likewise give columns of quotations from able Republican papers against the bill. But space is too valuable. Every patriotic man knows that this is the attempt of a party to take a mean and contemptible advantage of a people they have subjugated and systematically robbed through unjust taxation.

Will they succeed? Nobody can tell. The Democrats will fight it to the end and do all they can to prevent its passage. If it be true, as stated, that there are enough Republicans in the Senate who really desire to see it defeated to join with the Democrats; it will not become a law. But we see no good reason yet to believe that the Senate will rise above the dictation of REED. We fear the worst.

HON. B. H. BUNN

REFUSES TO SIGN THE DEMANDS OF THE ALLIANCE--

And Gives His Reasons--Mr. Stroud Signs the Demands--Two of Mr. Bunn's Letters.

Secretary E. C. Beddingfield has written the CHRONICLE a letter stating that Mr. Bunn had refused to sign the demands of the Farmers' Alliance. Accompanying Mr. Beddingfield's communication were two letters from Mr. Bunn, all of which are herewith given:

Mr. Beddingfield's Communication.

The demand cards of the Alliance were yesterday presented to the candidates in the 4th Congressional district for their signatures.

Mr. Bunn refused to sign them, and says that his reason for doing so was "because of the time, place and manner of their presentation." I wish to say this was the first time he had come to Raleigh since the "cards" were gotten up. The place was the Yarbrough House Hotel and the cards were presented by a gentleman, and I am assured by other gentlemen present that his manner was that of a gentleman.

Mr. Scarborough has signed the demands. Mr. Stroud is not yet heard from, but his position will be made known before the Convention meets. In order that no injustice may be done Mr. Bunn, I here offer both his letters for publication. Let me say here that Mr. Bunn's letter to the County Secretary is an answer to the questions asked by the Wake County Alliance, but is not an answer to the demand of the National Alliance.

E. C. BEDDINGFIELD.

Letters from Mr. Bunn.

E. C. BEDDINGFIELD, Esq., SECRETARY:

MY DEAR SIR:--Mr. J. J. Dunn, secretary Wake County Alliance, called on me last night with the demands of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, &c. I am surprised that they were presented just upon the eve of the convention. I am a friend of the Alliance and its demands, but I cannot sign the paper now. It would be unmanly in me to do so at this time.

My views upon all these questions are fully expressed in a letter written by me to Mr. J. J. Dunn, secretary Wake County Alliance, written 7th June, 1890, when it was thought I would have no opposition. If the Alliancemen in my district wish to know my views, I will thank you to cause it to be published. My refusal to sign these pledges is not because I do not favor the measures, but because of the time, place, and manner of their presentation.

Very truly,

B. H. BUNN.

The Letter to Secretary Dunn.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. June 7, '90.

J. J. DUNN, Esq., Sec'y Wake County Alliance,

DEAR SIR:--Your letter conveying to me the resolution passed by your Alliance has just been received, and I beg leave to answer you as your Alliance, through you, that I am in hearty accord with your wishes as suggested by the resolution. I have fully answered the question as to the Sub-Treasury, in my reply to the letter from your president, and all I wish to say now is to explain this reply.

I intended my reply to mean that I would suggest amendments to the bill, which I thought necessary to its perfection to your legislative committee of which Dr. C. W. Macune is chairman, and that after I had discussed them with him and the committee, I would do all in my power to pass the bill, whether they approved my amendments or not. If they approved the amendments, I would try to have them put on in the House; if they opposed them I would favor the bill without the amendments--my sole object being to give to the agriculturists of my section, the best bill possible, and the measure which to them promised the most speedy and substantial relief.

I am opposed to the present National Banking system. I am in favor of free and unlimited coinage of silver.

I am in favor of a railroad commission for the State of North Carolina.

You will understand from my reply herein that my reason for not answering the communication signed "Constituents" is that I cannot answer questions propounded by anonymous correspondents. No public officer can do this with safety to his public trusts. He is responsible to his constituents, but he has the right to know them before they can claim any rights of him.

My people need not fear to trust me, nor am I afraid to answer any question frankly and honestly, they ask me. They have the right to instruct me in matters concerning their welfare, and I would be unfit to represent them if I failed to heed their instructions.

I am now at home sick, hardly able to be up. I shall remain here about one week, and if I gain my health sufficiently, hope to come to Raleigh on Friday next, in which event I shall glad to talk with you about any matter of legislation of interest to your people. I shall always be most happy to receive any communication, official or otherwise, you shall be pleased to make to me, and promise my immediate attention to your commands. I am, sir,

Very truly,

B. H. BUNN.

Mr. Stroud Signs the Demands.

A special telegram to the CHRONICLE from Durham last night says that Mr. Stroud signs the Alliance Demands.

Norris & Carter.

Dexter's knitting cotton 5 cents; former price 10 cents.

NORRIS & CARTER.

THE FARMERS AT GREENSBORO

A Grand Rally of 5,000 Men--Big Speeches by Great Men--Col. Polk to Speak To-day.

[Special to the STATE CHRONICLE.]

GREENSBORO, N. C., July 23.--Farmers are here from all over the State to attend the Alliance rally. The crowd is estimated at five thousand. A procession was formed in front of the Benbow House at 10:30 a. m., headed by the Pilgrim Cornet band, of Davidson county. Following were prominent Alliance men in carriages, among whom were Dr. D. Reid Parker, President A. Q. Holladay, of the A. & M. College; Mr. N. A. Dunning, Washington, D. C.; Prof. W. F. Massey, Col. John M. Robinson, Hon. S. B. Alexander, W. H. Worth and John Cook, president Guilford Alliance, followed by different Alliances, numbering near a thousand men on foot and a number of buggies and wagons.

At the grove the exercises were opened by prayer by Rev. C. W. Hunt, of the Nash county Alliance, at the conclusion of which Dr. D. Reid Parker, State Alliance lecturer, in a neat speech, introduced Mr. N. A. Dunning, editor of the National Economist, as the orator of the day.

Mr. Dunning spoke more than two hours. He explained the objects and purposes of the Alliance, and spoke at length in favor of the free coinage of silver and the sub-treasury bill. His speech was an able one, and was listened to with attention, occasionally interrupted with applause.

This afternoon Capt. Alexander and President Holladay delivered addresses. Col. Polk arrived to-night, and will speak to-morrow.

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS.

San Salvador and Guatemala in Conflict on the Field.

[By United Press.]

NEW YORK, July 23.--The Herald's special cablegram from La Libertad, San Salvador, says:

"The latest news from the frontier confirms the reports in respect to the victory of Salvador over the forces of Guatemala in the battle of July 17th. The Guatemalans, 4,000 strong, invaded San Salvador, under command of Camilo Alvarez, Narciso Valez and Pedro and Perez Karillas. They killed numbered over 200, with many wounded. Thirty refugees from Salvador, among them Gen. Montrosa, have given themselves up to the Salvadorians.

Another Report.

CITY OF MEXICO, July 23.--The Guatemalan minister has received a telegram from the Guatemalan ministry of foreign affairs which says: Against the positive orders which the government had given, one of our officers took some of the troops across the line. There was skirmishing of slight importance and our troops, few in number, were ordered to return. They lost nothing. The officers who disobeyed orders by crossing the frontier are under arrest and will be court-martialed.

The President of Guatemala telegraphed the minister to Mexico that the Salvadorian enemies of Ezeta were met and routed by Ezeta.

AND STILL THEY COME.

The Editors Have Captured Durham, Including the Bull.

[Special to STATE CHRONICLE.]

DURHAM, N. C., July 23.--Since writing to-day the following editors have arrived: V. W. LONG, Winston Sentinel; J. D. KERNODLE, Alamance Gleaner; ROBERT HAYDN, Charlotte Chronicle; J. P. CALDWELL, Statesville Landmark; HON. JOHN R. WEBSTER, Reidsville Weekly; JAMES T. GRIFFIN, Marion Free Lance; E. W. FAUCETT, Milton Advertiser; R. A. DEAL, Wilkesboro Chronicle; G. A. BIGHAM, Gastonia Gazette; JOSEPH A. HARRIS, Hillsboro Observer; J. F. MURRILL, Hickory Press and Carolinian; C. H. LITTLE, Dallas Eagle; J. B. CRAIGMILES, of the Murphy Advance.

THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

Bryan Nominated for Judge on the Fifty-Seventh Ballot.

[Special Cor. of STATE CHRONICLE.]

WELDON, N. C., July 23.--The Second District Judicial Convention assembled here at 3 p. m. Two hundred delegates were present.

After taking thirty-five ballots the convention adjourned until to-night. The last vote was: Peebles, thirty-five; Phillips, fifty-nine; Montgomery, sixty and Bryan three.

Necessary to a choice 104.

Bryan is the Choice on the 57th Ballot.

The Convention reassembled at night and Henry R. Bryan, of Craven county, was nominated for Judge of the Second Judicial District on the fifty seventh ballot.

BROWER RENOMINATED.

But the Convention Refused to Make it Unanimous.

[Special to STATE CHRONICLE.]

GREENSBORO, N. C., July 23.--Brower was nominated today by the Republican Convention for Congress on the third ballot. A motion was made to make the nomination unanimous but the opposition refused to do so.

THE PROPOSED BOYCOTT.

SENATOR VANCE IS OPPOSED TO IT AND SAYS IT IS SENSELESS.

[By United Press.]

Views From Organizations and People all Over the Country--The Movement is in Disfavor With the Majority.

NEW YORK, July 23.--A number of dispatches are published in the New York papers this morning, from points in the Southern States on the subject of the suggestion put forth by the Atlanta Constitution, and endorsed by Governor Gordon of Georgia, that in case the Federal election bill becomes a law, a boycott should be resorted to against Northern commercial houses and Northern products. The Herald's Atlanta dispatch says the chambers of commerce of New Orleans, Birmingham, Lynchburg, Augusta, Montgomery, Savannah and other Southern cities telegraph to the Constitution favoring a convention of the commercial South to consider the course to be adopted if the force bill passes. Richmond telegraphs that it does not deem anything like a boycott advisable, as do Charleston and Mobile. Baltimore and Chattanooga say their organizations are non-political, but they are strongly against the force bill.

The World's Richmond special gives the following as the text of the reply of Richmond chamber of commerce to the Constitution inquiry:

"While deprecating the passage of the force bill, the Richmond chamber of commerce thinks it unwise for the South to indicate in advance of its passage any course of action."

A special from Birmingham, Ala., states that a mass meeting will be held there to-day to protest against the passage of the force bill. Also that a meeting of the chamber of commerce has been called for the same purpose.

Dispatches from Atlanta report the following prominent men as favoring the boycott idea: Ex-Governor Bullock, Patrick Calhoun, of the Richmond Terminal system; Hugh T. Luman, cotton merchant and bank president; Lowry, Hill & Hurt.

Col. Shorter, president of the Alabama railroad commission, also deprecates the passage of the bill.

Reports from Little Rock indicate that while the passage of the bill would be very offensive to the business men of Arkansas, a boycott is not generally approved.

Lieut. Gov. England and President Allis, of the First National Bank are among those mentioned as taking this view.

Prominent citizens of Austin, Texas, look upon the boycott suggestion with disfavor. They insist that no good would come of it, and that if enforced the South would suffer as much as the North. The belief there seems to be that the conservative and patriotic element of Congress will be able to defeat the bill.

The Herald's Washington correspondent says that such of the Southern men there as he spoke with deprecate the boycott idea, while most of them declined to talk about it.

Senators Vance and Gorman, however, freely expressed themselves as opposed to the boycott agitation, which they consider as "senseless."

THE THIRD DISTRICT.

Some Lively Balloting on Many Congressional Candidates--Twenty-Eight Ballots with No Choice.

[Special Cor. of STATE CHRONICLE.]

CLINTON, July 23d.--The Democratic convention of the Third Congressional District met here to-day.

The first ballot was: Green, 107, McClammy 116, Aycock 79, Grady 11, Thompson 24.

Second ballot: Green 112, McClammy 104, Aycock 85, Grady 20, Thompson 24.

Green has led since that time running as high as 127.

The 24th ballot was: Green, 114; McClammy, 102; Aycock, 98; Grady, 20; Thompson, 1.

The 25th ballot: Green, 105; McClammy, 70; Aycock, 87; Grady, 82.

The 27th ballot: Green, 105; McClammy, 72; Aycock, 96; Grady, 68.

The 28th ballot: Green, 110; McClammy, 92; Aycock, 119; Grady, 20; Thompson, 5.

Necessary to a choice, 169.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The Senate Asks About the Imprisonment of Missionary Diaz in Cuba--The Bankruptcy Bill in the House.

[By United Press.]

WASHINGTON, July 23.--Senate--The Senate resumed consideration of the Indian appropriation bill and disposed of all but a few pages of it.

A resolution was agreed to calling on the President for information touching the alleged illegal imprisonment of A. J. Diaz in Cuba.

House.

The House devoted the day to debate on the bankruptcy bill. Speeches were made by Messrs. Abbott, of Texas, Frank, of Missouri; McCord, of Wisconsin, Perkins, of Kansas, and others. The debate was closed by E. B. Taylor.

A vote will be taken on the bill to-morrow.

Norris & Carter.

Fine shoes being closed out at less than manufacturer's cost.

NORRIS & CARTER.