

THE WASHINGTON GAZETTE.

"THE OLD NORTH STATE FOREVER."

VOL. XIII.

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NO. 6.

State Subscription

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DIRECTORY.
STATE AND GOVERNMENT.
Governor, Daniel G. Fowle, of Wake.
Lieutenant Governor, Thomas M. Holt,
of Alamance.
Secretary of State, William L. Saunders,
of Wake.
Treasurer, Donald W. Blair, of Wake.
Auditor, George W. Sanderlin, Wayne.
Superintendent of Public Instruction,
Sidney M. Finger, of Catawba.
Attorney General, Theodore F. Davidson,
of Beaufort.

SENATE CHAMBER, June 28, '90
Elias Carr, Esq., President Farmers' Alliance of North Carolina, Old Sparta, N. C.
DEAR SIR:—So many reports concerning my position on what is known as the Sub-Treasury or Farmers' Warehouse bill have been circulated in our State, and I have received so many letters of inquiry on the subject that I have deemed it my duty to answer them all in this way. I write to you as the honored head of the Farmers' Alliance of North Carolina, and desire in this manner to make known to the people my honest opinion on this and cognate subjects. I do this all the more readily because I am conscious that I have never, in the course of my political life, concealed from the people who have honored me my candid conviction in regard to any important public matter. It is too late now for me to begin such a course.

On the 24th day of February, 1890, at the request of Col. L. Polk, president of the N. E. Alliance and Industrial Union, I introduced in the Senate, bill 2806, popularly known as the Sub-Treasury bill, and procured its reference to the committee on agriculture and forestry, where it was supposed that it would receive more friendly consideration than from the committee on finance, to which it otherwise would have gone according to the rules. On receiving it I told both Col. Polk and Dr. Macune, the chairman of the legislative committee of the Alliance, that I was not prepared to promise them to support the bill; that it was a great and radical departure from the accustomed policy of our legislation, and that there were questions both of practicability and constitutionality, which I wished to reserve. I told them also that I hoped for good results from its introduction, and believed that its discussion would attract the attention of the country to the condition and the wants of the agricultural classes, and if this bill was not deemed the proper one, that some other would be formulated in the direction of the needed relief. I procured an early consideration of the bill by the committee, and a very able and most interesting discussion by Messrs. Polk and Macune was had. But so far without result. The committee has not yet made a report, though I am assured that a majority of its members are anxiously seeking to devise a method of relief which shall not be open to the objections of that bill.

My own position remains the same. I cannot support this bill in its present shape. But I am not opposed to the principle and purposes of the measure. On the contrary, they are those which I have for ten years advocated, and for the accomplishment of which I have in every county in North Carolina again and again urged the organization of farmers, pointing out how that all other classes of society were organized for the promotion of their separate interests. It is a shameful truth, that in the enormous growth of the wealth of our country in the last twenty years, the farmers have not proportionately participated. All candid men admit that they have not had their share of the aggregate prosperity of our country. The reason of this is as plain to be seen as any cause for any effect. For a quarter of a century the legislation of our country has been notoriously in the interest of certain combinations of capital. The manufacturers have been protected by enormous duties upon foreign imports, many of which are also lately prohibitory. The currency has been systematically contracted by the withdrawal of circulation of a friend and fellow worker of the same political faith, I may say to you that you may do much

to prevent this popular cry for redress from becoming a clamor for revenge. Guided within the proper channels and by wise counsel, I believe it is the movement for which all patriotic men in our country have waited and wished so long, and that it will result in juster legislation and more equally diffused prosperity. But if recklessly, unwisely and selfishly directed, it may result in incalculable injury to our country and especially our Southern portion of it.

I notice with pain that much of the ill feeling of the farmers is directed, not against the authors and upholders of this nefarious legislation, but against their nearest neighbors and friends—those whose interests are as intimately connected with their own as is that of members of the same household. I observe that bitter feeling is springing up between town and country—between the farmer who brings his product to town and the merchant who buys it and in return sells him his daily supplies—that often the farmer is taught to believe that the lawyer, the doctor or the professional man is hostile to him or is in some way responsible for the ills which he suffers. I need not say to you that this is all wrong, unwise and hurtful to a degree to all concerned. It saps the strength of our people and weakens their power to procure redress. We need every- body's help, because our oppressors are a great party entrenched in the strongholds of the government. Naturally the redress of wrongs occasioned by unjust legislation is the repeal of that legislation. The great Democratic party of America, now in a large numerical majority, but deprived of the control of the government by the most unscrupulous methods, openly and almost with unanimity, favors the repeal of all the legislation of which you complain. A little strengthening of its hands, and but a little, will enable it to triumph. Its triumph will be yours. A little sapping of its strength, a little diversion of its strength, a little diversion of its ranks, will be its defeat again. Its defeat will likewise be yours. The danger is that oppressed freemen become impatient, and impatient men are often unwise. Your great organization is but little more than two years old—it is not yet grown. It cannot look for great harvests of result before the sowing and the maturing of the crop. Already wonderful things have been achieved. Venerable legislators, lifelong servants of corporations and Wall street policy have already come to know that there is a large class of the American people called farmers and who have rights and privileges like other men. No greater shock for years past has been given to the sleek and comfortable recipients of class legislation than the recent passage through the Senate of the bill to restore the unlimited coinage and legal tender character of silver. This was undoubtedly due to the Farmers' Alliance. For the past six months there has been more discussion upon the condition of the farmers and matters pertaining to their interests than had taken place within ten years previous. The more of this talk the better for the farmers. Their wrongs are so palpable that the justice of redressing them will become more and more irresistible as the light is turned on. The policy of the farmers, being now right, is to keep within the right. Demand nothing that is illegal, ask nothing that is unreasonable. Especially, it seems to me, they should be careful not to injure their friends.

They should hold their forces in hand ready to aid those who favor them and to strike those only who are hostile to their purposes and principles. To attempt to make a political party of the Farmers' Alliance for the purpose of supplanting either of the great parties who divide the American would be a great mistake. In the South it could only destroy the Democratic party and leave in undisputed control that other party which is the author and upholder of the evils by which we are afflicted. By your own rules you exclude from membership a majority of the community and for that reason, alone, you should not undertake to become a political party. I see many indications of that tendency which give me much concern. In the neighboring State of South Carolina there is a contest

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Very truly yours,
Z. B. VANCE.

SENATOR VANCE

Declares That He Cannot Support the Sub-Treasury Plan of the Farmers' Alliance.

But he points out the ways in which the Agricultural depression can be relieved—he gives the Farmers' Alliance credit for the passage of the Silver Bill through the Senate.—The farmers should demand their rights but do nothing to injure their friends.—Centralization constantly threatens a centralized self-government of the people of the States.

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creditor class. In this way the inevitable results have been produced. The enormous wealth of our country has more and more ceased to be widely distributed and has become concentrated in the hands of a few. Overgrowth for times have been accumulated by the favored ones, whilst mortgages have been the chief acquisition of the many. The farmer being compelled to sell his surplus wheat, beef and cotton in free trade markets of the world, was not allowed also to buy his supplies in the same place, but was compelled to bring his money home from Europe and buy his iron, his clothing and all his farm supplies from the domestic manufacturers at prices enhanced not only by these enormous tariff duties, but likewise by this severe contraction of the currency. What else could possibly have followed but indebtedness and bankruptcy for that class who had thus to bear the ultimate burdens caused by this disturbance of the laws of the economy, and by which alone the undue riches of one class were secured?

All efforts to secure the repeal of this outrageous taxation and to restore the full use of silver as money, having so far proved unavailing, reasonable men are not surprised that the oppressed class of our people have at last organized and determined to do something. For one I sympathize most cordially and sincerely with this determination. Inasmuch as it is impossible to compensate the farmer for the robbing of him under this tariff taxation by imposing tariff duties for his benefit,—also for the reason that similar products to his are not imported into this country—the question arises, how shall he be compensated? If some way be not devised, and we continue to impose these tariff taxes on him, we simply admit that he is to be oppressed forever or until he is sent to the poor-house; and that whilst we have power under the constitution to destroy taxation one class of citizens, we have neither the power nor the disposition to compensate that destroyed class, nor to equalize the burdens of life among the people. I never will agree to this, and I stand ready to vote for any measure for the relief of the agricultural classes of the community that will serve the purpose, asking only that it be within the power conferred upon Congress by the constitution. We live, happily for us, in a government of limited powers; but because, as I believe, the present tariff duties are utterly unconstitutional, and but "robbery under the forms of law," I cannot gain my consent to vote for this Sub-Treasury bill, which provides for the loaning of money to the people by the government, and which, in my opinion, is without constitutional authority. I believe, however, under that clause of the constitution which gives Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign countries and among the States, that the bonded warehouse now in use for the reception of foreign importations might also be used at every port of entry in the United States, and others established elsewhere as well, for the reception of domestic articles, intended for export or for sale in other States, and that the government could be made to receive these articles and issue receipts therefor, upon which the holders could readily borrow money. This, I believe, would answer every purpose contemplated by the Sub-Treasury plan, except that of borrowing money at a specified cheap rate. However this may be, I know, my dear sir, that neither you nor the good and true men whom you represent would ask me to infringe in any way upon the organic law of our country, in the faithful observance of which alone consists the safety of our people.

Permit me to say that there is at this time a great responsibility resting upon you. There is an uprising of the agricultural class of our people, the most powerful class of our society, which amounts to little short of a revolution. This revolution is directed toward a redress of the evils arising from unjust legislation. You are the chosen head and representative of that class in the State of North Carolina, one of its most honored and respected citizens. I feel, sir, that with the freedom of a friend and fellow worker of the same political faith, I may say to you that you may do much

to prevent this popular cry for redress from becoming a clamor for revenge. Guided within the proper channels and by wise counsel, I believe it is the movement for which all patriotic men in our country have waited and wished so long, and that it will result in juster legislation and more equally diffused prosperity. But if recklessly, unwisely and selfishly directed, it may result in incalculable injury to our country and especially our Southern portion of it.

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Proceedings Beaufort County Board of Commissioners.

All the members were present, and W. B. Rodman, Jr., acting attorney. F. P. Hodges authorized to have necessary repairs done to Tranters creek and Latham bridges. W. A. Harvey made application for 5 convicts to work on public road as soon as they can be spared. J. W. Potter, bridge keeper, ordered to buy a boat for the use of county. Sheriff Hodges ordered to have necessary repairs done on bridge house. T. H. Blount appointed on finance committee. C. M. Brown, Dr. Stilly and Arthur Mayo were elected by the magistrates, but C. M. Brown had declined to serve. The following were licensed to sell spirituous liquors: A. J. Mitchell, B. W. Bergeron, D. S. Simmons, R. W. Minor, C. J. Lockyer, Cratch and Jones, Jno. W. Mayo, Wm. Baynor, W. H. Wilkinson, J. S. Hodges, C. C. Walker, W. M. Marsh, C. K. Gallagher. Penny E. Allgood taken from pauper list. The following poor allowances were made: Missouri Riley, \$1.50, Jane Thompson, \$2; E. Wilkens, \$1; W. F. Wall, \$4. Jesse Watkins, furnishing poor house milk and ice \$2.03. Olivia Buck, \$1.50; Henry Carrow, \$2; Elizabeth Harris, \$3.50; Mary White, \$2; Silva Oden, \$2; Catherine Gibson, \$1; Hambrick Williams, \$1.50; Rebecca Keys, \$1; Daniel Stewart, \$1. Annie Brock, 10 yards of homespun, 2 pair hose. W. F. Walls, 1 pair overalls, 12 yards homespun. Claims were audited and allowed amounting to \$481.99.

\$100 Reward \$100.
The readers THE GAZETTE will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, they offer \$100 for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. Kneass & Co., Toledo, O.

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Very truly yours,
Z. B. VANCE.

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to prevent this popular cry for redress from becoming a clamor for revenge. Guided within the proper channels and by wise counsel, I believe it is the movement for which all patriotic men in our country have waited and wished so long, and that it will result in juster legislation and more equally diffused prosperity. But if recklessly, unwisely and selfishly directed, it may result in incalculable injury to our country and especially our Southern portion of it.

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