

# The Chronicle,

WILKESBORO, N. C.

### Brides at Auction.

Within half a dozen miles of Simla, the summer capital of India, there is annually practiced one of the strangest of the many strange customs which obtain in the East. This is known as the annual marriage fair of the hill tribes, and is one of the most important of all the festivals.

You might imagine that the origin of this institution was to get husbands for all the unattractive females. To the contrary, however, the marriageable maidens are usually more than commonly handsome and well formed, though they are so scented with garic that European might incline to the opinion that distance lends enchantment.

They wear the most brilliantly-colored of costumes—deep pinks, primitive greens, and glaring yellows which are all in keeping with the gorgeous tints one only sees beneath the Oriental sun. In accord, too, is the tinkling of the silver bangles which they wear round their ankles.

They wear but the flimsiest of veils, through which their brilliant, black eyes, with a heavy jet lined beneath them, gleam coquetishly.

To within quite recent times these maidens were openly sold to their future husbands; but during the last few years the commercial part of the ceremony has been carefully kept in the background.

### Clever Story of a Man, a Maid and an Iron Kettle.

Here is an ingenious Circassian story: A man was walking along one road, and a woman along another. The road finally united and the man and the woman, reaching the junction at the same time, went on from there together. The man was carrying a large iron kettle on his back; in one hand he held by the leg a live chicken, in another a cane, and he was leading a goat. Just as they were coming to a deep dark ravine the woman said to the man:

"I am afraid to go through that dark ravine with you; it is a lonely place, and you might overpower me and kiss me by force."

"If you are afraid of that," said the man, "you shouldn't have walked with me at all. How can I possibly overcome you and kiss you by force, when I have this great iron kettle on my back, a cane in one hand and a live chicken in the other and am leading a goat?"

"Yes," replied the woman, "but if you should sick your cane in the ground and tie the goat to it, and turn the kettle bottom side up and put the chicken under it, then you might wickedly kiss me in spite of my resistance."

"Success to thy ingenuity, O woman!" said the man to himself. "I should never have thought of this expedient." And when they came to the ravine he stuck his cane into the ground and tied the goat to it, gave the chicken to the woman, saying, "Hold it while I cut some grass for the goat," and then lowering the kettle from his shoulders he wickedly kissed the woman, as she was afraid he would.

### Sacriligious Words on a Bible.

An irreverent and sacriligious workman caused no end of trouble for the congregation of the contractor who built the New Trinity Methodist church at Third and Guthrie streets. In the southwest corner of the handsome new edifice back of the pulpit is the pipe organ. Over the organ is an arch and a dome. In this dome is frescoed an open Bible. This work was done some weeks ago with great care and trouble. Scaffolding had to be built, and the task, though difficult, was excellently done. Across the face of the Bible were frescoed, according to directions, the words "Pax Vobiscum."

But when the congregation inspected the new church, or surveyed from their pew the organ and the dome above, they noticed under "Pax Vobiscum" another inscription. One member provided himself with a pair of glasses and turned them on the inscription. To his horror he read, "This was done in a hell of a rush." This inscription was right across the face of the Bible. The contractor went to the trouble of erecting new scaffolding and had the offensive inscription erased. Every effort has been made to discover the offending workman, but to no avail.

### Superintendent of Convict Camp Convicted of Manslaughter.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 21.—W. S. Stancill, superintendent of one of the convict camps in Mecklenburg county, was yesterday afternoon convicted in Gaston county court at Dallas, N. C., of manslaughter, he having shot a negro convict whom he was trying to capture.

The case presents some rather unique features. Stancill, learning that the negro, who had some time previously escaped from his camp in this county, was in Gaston county, went there to arrest him. Stancill arrived at the house late at night and when he knocked at the door the negro jumped from a window and ran. Stancill fired at him, but as the negro disappeared he came on back to this city without knowing what had become of him. The next day the negro was found in an unoccupied house badly injured and died a few hours later, and Stancill was arrested. The defendant claimed that he did not intend to shoot the negro, but only fired to scare him. Stancill appealed to the supreme court.

Cotton is down a little and cotton goods up a little. The prospects are that they will get together before a great while, though it will be matter for regret if this is at the expense of the price of cotton.

### WE NEED A REFORM SCHOOL.

More than one third of a million dollars is annually expended in the cost of criminal prosecutions in the State of North Carolina, to say nothing of more than \$100,000 expended for the State penitentiary, and the vast cost of the workhouses and jails. A single workhouse in one county cost over \$5,000 in 1898.

What is accomplished? The old criminals are kept from their nefarious avocation for awhile, and the younger are taught in these schools, of crime how to be more expert and law-defying.

We begin at the wrong end. The wrong-doer should be taken charge of when he commences his career. The only hope of purifying the stream is at the fountain head. The young offender begins often in carelessness or ignorance; sometimes for want of livelihood or training to earn a living, and sometimes under the control of wicked and lawless parents or others.

Under the direction of the Board of Public Charities, the writer, in the autumn of 1898, made an investigation of records, so far as preserved of municipal police stations in the State for the previous year. In Wilmington there were 686 commitments to lockup, of which 160 were minors. In Washington 200, of which 50 were minors. In Wilson 600, of which 50 were minors. In Asheville about 1,000, record of minors not being kept. Raleigh, 1,350, of which 186 were minors, and of these 48 were under 16 years of age. There is no space for further statistics, but these tell the story.

For two hundred years the jail has failed; now let us try the reform school. It will save money (the least of all), lives, property, character, happiness, peace, human souls.

How do we know that? Because it has become the refuge of civilization. Every enlightened country is increasing and enlarging them. They reduced the number of criminals in England 10,000 in a single decade. In the three States of the Union where they have been best developed and cared for, crime is actually diminishing, while it is increasing everywhere else, and in one State, denials to the contrary notwithstanding, it is advancing rapidly.

What makes us believe in reform schools? Because we have seen them at their blessed work training and disciplining the young; in one case twelve hundred happy children were snatched from the slums and police courts of New York City; because every State except half a dozen, maintains them, including our Southern States Maryland, Kentucky, Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia; because from correspondence by the writer, nobody was found in public life in any State where a reform school exists to be willing to see it given up; because the U. S. Government itself for a number of years has maintained with increasing efficiency one of the best districts of Columbia.

In 1896-'97, the last year of full reports, 83 reform schools in this country contained 21,243 pupils in school, departments and 11,657 learning trades. The average number committed is about 9,000, and about 6,000 are annually returned. The governmental report says: "Of those released more than 75 per cent. are self-supporting, leading useful lives, and are honest and respectable citizens of the communities in which they live."

In reply to the inquiry of the mayors and chiefs of police in any State, as to the best thing to be done to prevent crime, and with one voice the answer is, "Keep children from the streets alone at night, and institute a reform school."

The Judges of the State agree in the importance of this action, the leading religious bodies, and the associations of teachers.

Let us give all our aid and influence to this effort to save the young. Write to your member and ask him to consider favorably the proposition.

It may be modestly begun for \$20,000 a year for two years, located on a farm, and supplied with workshops. Thus situated, it may be largely self-supporting. Let us begin and test its value before the people.

C. B. DENSON, Secretary State Board of Charities.

### Killed by a Street Car.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 22.—The first death ever occurring here as the result of a street car accident happened to-night, when Joseph Sossaman, an aged man living here, was run over by an electric car while attempting to get off.

Sossaman left the car before it came to a stop, as a result of which he fell beneath the wheels and his leg was completely severed. He died shortly afterward. Sossaman was a man of family, and by trade a painter.

The newly elected Mayor of a country town was about to make his first journey in that capacity through the place. The townspeople had arranged that from an arch of flowers under which he was to pass a floral crown should hang, surmounted by the words, "He Well Deserves It." But the wind blew away the crown, and when the pompous Mayor passed under the arch, to the great joy of those who had voted against him, only a rope with a noose at the end of it dangled there, with "He Well Deserves It" standing out in bold relief above it.

The timid suitor had finally stated his case. "H-m-m!" began the girl's father, looking at him sternly. "Young man, can you support a family?"

"Great heavens!" cried the young man, "have you lost your job?"

Hon. H. G. Connor, of Wilson, will not be a candidate for the United States Senate.

### STATE NEWS.

Rev. W. H. McLaurin, who was nominated by the Prohibition party for congress, declines to make the race.

The Charlotte Observer estimates from talks with farmers, that where a farmer made 77 bales last year, he will make about 40 this year.

Senator Marion Butler, whose term of office in the United States Senate, expires March 4, has announced his intention of making Raleigh his future home.

The Greensboro Patriot says that every available room at the Greensboro Female College is occupied or engaged, and that the enrollment is very gratifying.

Canton flannel is now manufactured by the Revolution Cotton Mills of Greensboro—the first of this class of goods ever manufactured south of New England.

With cotton at 10 1/2 cents, as against 6 1/2 last year at this time, and cotton seed at 2 1/4 as against 1 1/4 last year, the North Carolina farmer is doing pretty well, thank you.

It is reported that since the August election every operative who voted the Democratic ticket at Maiden has lost his job in the mills there, either voluntarily or by discharge, with one exception.

It is the current comment of both Democrats and Republicans that they have never seen a duller national campaign in this State than the one now in progress. There is no "ginger" in it. The fact seems to be that the State campaign was so lively as to make the national one seem flat in comparison.

The recommendation of the Southern Cotton Spinners Association that its members curtail their production of yarns as much as possible for 60 days has been complied with by enough mills to bring about a reduction in the Southern output of about 40 per cent. Two large mills at Maiden, have suspended altogether.

Prof. H. H. Ransom, who is principal of the Ball High School of Galveston, writes his wife and sister at Newton that all the North Carolinians at Galveston are safe, but adds that more than 400 of his students lost their lives in the storm. All of his property was totally destroyed leaving him destitute and in want.

The Asheville Citizen tells a thrilling incident of a negro man and woman crossing the river on a bridge when the horse took fright and backed, breaking the railing, when all went plunging into the river twenty feet below. The horse swam out with the buggy and the man got the woman to a sand bank, all with little hurt.

News comes that General Julian S. Carr is making a great campaign in his senatorial fight. His mail daily consists of more than a hundred letters from business men throughout the State, all pledging their undivided support. One day recently some four or five hundred letters of the same character were received.

The annual report of the Peabody fund for the State has been completed by State Superintendent C. H. Mebane. The receipts were \$4,450 and of this \$2,000 was given to the Normal and Industrial College at Greensboro, the remainder to various schools. Then \$600 was allowed for negro teachers' institutes. Of this latter sum \$500 has been expended.

### Second Texas Flood.

DALLAS, Texas, Sept. 21.—A cloud burst which occurred near Fort Worth today is reported to have caused great loss of life, and damage to property. A wall thirty feet high said to be sweeping now down Trinity river valley towards this city. It reports terror among the inhabitants and says they are fleeing to high grounds. It is feared Handly, Arlington, and Grand Prarie will be wiped out by the great wall of water that is rushing onward. It has carried other villages equally defenseless against the flood. Already bodies have been recovered at Fort Worth.

### Couldn't Lose Him on a Cotton Deal.

When the cotton market was coquetting around the 11-cent mark a bustling resident of this county emptied the cotton from his cotton mattress and put it on the market, remarking that he couldn't afford to sleep on cotton when it was bringing 11 cents a pound. He sold his "mattress" to the Belmont Cotton Mills. Our informant didn't tell us how long this creator of wealth had been "holding" his cotton.

### The Bogus Refugee.

As might be expected the bogus Galveston refugee has commenced to make his appearance in the land and several of them have already turned up at the mayor's office in New Orleans asking for help. Those who have been proven imposters have been dealt with severely in New Orleans and two or three of them are now working for the city. The mayor of New Orleans has announced that all refugees from Galveston must produce a letter from Mayor Jones, of Galveston, to show that they have left that city and had suffered by the storm.

Richard Croker has not bet \$60,000 on the election of Bryan with the expectation of losing it. That is one of the numerous things worrying the Republicans.

Now it is in Washington that a cry has gone up asking the District Commissioners to suppress the hugging and love making that goes on in public, especially in street cars, theatres and public parks. And Congress is not in session either.

### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

#### LESSON I, FOURTH QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, OCT. 7.

Text of the Lesson, Luke xiv. 1-14. Memory Verses, 12-14—Golden Text, Luke xiv. 11.—Commentary Prepared by the Rev. D. M. Stearns. (Copyright, 1900, by American Press Association.)

1. "They watched Him." The wicked watcheth the righteous and seeketh to slay him (Ps. xxxvii, 32). Remember always that Jesus was, God manifest in the flesh, God the Great Creator of all things, on earth in human form to live the life that man should live and by taking man's place as a sinner against God and bearing that which was due to us for sin, providing for us the forgiveness of sins and the power to live the life that He requires.

In the gospels we see Him coming to Israel as their Messiah, if perchance they will accept Him, that He may set up on earth the kingdom of which the prophets had spoken and for which some devout ones were watching (Luke ii, 38; Acts i, 6), but instead of receiving Him they hate Him and watch Him and seek to find something against Him that they may kill Him (Math. xii, 14; John v, 16).

2. Being anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power, He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil (Acts x, 38), and every sick or suffering one with whom He came in contact gave Him an opportunity to show the work of God (John ix, 3; xi, 4). He seems to have gone willingly where He was invited, but always, as when He was 12 years old, about His Father's business. He was always living before God and doing that which was pleasing in His sight.

3. "He took him and healed him and let him go." In chapter xiii, 14, we read that a ruler of a synagogue was indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day, so now He says to the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?" But they would not answer Him, so He just healed him and let him go. Every such miracle was a foreshadowing of the kingdom where "the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick, and the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity." The blind shall see, the deaf shall hear, the lame shall leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing; joy and gladness shall prevail, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away (Isa. xxxiii, 24; xxxv, 5, 6, 10).

4. "They could not answer Him again to these things." Sometimes they talked back to Him, and very wickedly, while at others they seemed awed before Him. How solemn it will be when His people stand before Him at His judgment seat, and how much more awful when the ungodly stand before the great white throne (Rom. xiv, 10; Rev. xx, 11). As to the Sabbath day, they did not seem to distinguish—between man working and God working. Man is given six days in which to do his ordinary works, but on the seventh God invites him to spend the day specially with Him that He may in a special manner bless him. God is ever working for the good of all His creatures, and happy are the people who allow Him to work in them all His pleasure.

5. "Pre-eminence, or to be first among people, is that which many love." The best clothing, the best home, the best room, the best seat, the first place—these are things of times desired and sought for, and even in the church there is many a hot contest who loves the pre-eminence instead of seeking all things to give it to Him who alone deserves it (II Cor. ix, 9; Col. i, 18). Even at the Passover and the supper on the night before His crucifixion there was a strife among the apostles as to which of them should be accounted the greatest (Luke xxii, 24). How unlike Him whose they were!

6-10. Meekness and humility are rare graces and are the work of the Holy Spirit in us. Do not think something of ourselves and esteem ourselves better than others is natural, but in lowliness of mind to esteem others better than ourselves (Phil. ii, 3) is spiritual and Christlike. It is not for us to appoint ourselves places of honor, but rather for those who invite us. When the mother of James and John asked that her sons might sit on His right hand and on His left in His kingdom, He said that such positions would be given to those for whom they had been prepared by His Father (Math. xx, 20-23).

11. Not the exaltation of self, but the denial and humiliation of self is our business here. The time is coming when all the loftiness and haughtiness of man shall be brought down and laid low and the Lord alone shall be exalted, when at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of His Father (Isa. ix, 11, 17; Phil. ii, 10, 11). He, when on earth, never sought His own will nor His own glory (John vi, 38; viii, 50), and we are here that His life should be made manifest in us (II Cor. iv, 10, 11). Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are the meek.

12. Having spoken to the guests, He now has a word for the man who invited Him. He ever has at heart the welfare of all men. He is not willing that any should perish, and He desires not only to give life, but abundance of life. He desires not only that His redeemed ones be rewarded, but that they have a full reward (II Pet. iii, 9; John x, 10; II John 3). There is no credit in doing good to those who can do the same to us or, as we say, "return the compliment," but if we do good and lend, hoping for nothing again, then our reward shall be great in heaven (Luke vi, 32-35).

13, 14. "Remembered at the resurrection of the just." When our Lord would assure John the Baptist that He was indeed the Christ, He told John's disciples, among other things, to tell John that the poor had the gospel preached to them (Luke vi, 22). If we have the spirit of Christ, we will live to give the gospel to every creature without special regard to the recompense we may here receive for our services, knowing that in the resurrection morning He who judgeth righteously will reward every one according to his works (Math. xvi, 27; Rev. xxii, 12) and that not even so little a matter as a cup of cold water given in His name shall lose its reward (Mark ix, 41). Note here that the first resurrection is spoken of as a special one, "the resurrection of the just," and we are told in Rev. xx, 5, that the rest of the dead, the ungodly, shall not rise till after the thousand years. Note also that our rewards for service are not given at death, but at the resurrection, at His coming (I Pet. v, 4; II Tim. iv, 8).

### HOBSON SPOILS A GOOD STORY.

Baltimore Sun.

Lieutenant Hobson is quoted in a dispatch from Vancouver, B. C., as stating that in the naval engagement near Manila which resulted in the destruction of the Spanish squadron the enemy's ships were sunk by their own officers and not by the guns of Dewey's fleet. "Our shell fire," Lieutenant Hobson is reported to have said, "did very little damage. The Spaniards pulled out the plug, and opened the valves. They sank the ships themselves." A Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia Public Ledger intimates that the Navy Department may call Lieutenant Hobson to account for making a statement which reflects upon Admiral Dewey's conduct of the battle of Manila Bay. If Lieutenant Hobson said no more than is attributed to him in the Vancouver dispatch, it is difficult to conceive how his remarks can be twisted into a reflection upon Dewey. Lieutenant Hobson, in the capacity of naval constructor, was sent to Manila to superintend the work of raising the Spanish warships. He had the best of opportunities to ascertain the extent of the damage done to the Spanish vessels by the guns of the American fleet. If he found the hulls of these vessels practically intact, thus showing that they had sustained no injuries below the waterline from the fire of our gunners, it is a fair inference that the ships were sunk by the order of the Spanish officers. Such orders would not have been given, however, unless the Spaniards felt that they were over-matched and unable to cope with the ships of the American fleet. Possibly if the Spanish squadron had been handled by better men Dewey would not have won so easy a victory. In view of the superior personnel of the American fleet and the fact that our ships were in far better condition than those of the Spaniards, the defeat of the Spanish squadron was not such an extraordinary accomplishment. All that the Spaniards possessed was courage, for their gunners could not shoot and their ships, during the Spanish-American War, were wretchedly handled in every engagement.

If Lieutenant Hobson said only what the Vancouver dispatch represents him as stating, there seems to be no reason why the Navy Department should treat him with severity. The indiscretions which were charged against him two years ago, due to the adulation of hero-worshipping women, have been forgotten by the public. If these indiscretions made him unpopular with naval officers there ought to be a limit even to their resentment and dislike. All that should be remembered now is that he challenged the admiration of the world by a deed of startling bravery at Santiago, for which he has never been rewarded.

Perhaps he should not have said anything about the condition of the Spanish vessels at Manila and the public should have been left to believe that our gunners riddled these ships with shot and shell and sent them to the bottom of Manila bay. But because he has shattered one of our dearest idols he should not be punished with unnecessary harshness at the instance of officers who have never been held up by romantic maidens and made to pay oratory toll, as the hero of the Merrimac adventure was. Lieutenant Hobson is a gallant officer and accomplished gentleman, and deserves to be forgiven for the indiscretions of his youth. Perhaps some of the angry graybeards of the navy would have done as Hobson did if they had ever been given the opportunity.

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Senator J. K. Jones, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, returned from his Eastern scouting trip to-day and said: "I am satisfied that Bryan will be elected."

He said that Croker told him he would carry the city of New York for Bryan by a majority of 100,000, and that every vote above 70,000 would represent Bryan's majority in the State of New York. Richard Olney's letter, said Senator Jones, has been of great benefit to the Democratic cause in the Eastern States. The New York Democrats in general seem to be pleased with the make-up of the Democratic ticket, he says, and Coler's defeat for the nomination for Governor has not weakened the ticket, because Coler is working enthusiastically for the ticket. Senator Jones is sure former Secretary Carlisle will not support Bryan.

In commenting on the Eastern situation Senator Jones said: "I talked with people from Maryland, West Virginia and Delaware, and they seemed to be confident that the Democrats would carry those States."

SSenator Jones said that D. B. Hill will make speeches in the West some time after October 10.

REGULATORS WORK QUIETLY.

A telegram states that the old-fashioned regulators are getting in their work at Wadesboro. The result is that the neighborhood is now minus several whose absence, while desirable, could not have been secured possibly through legal channels.

The regulators worked in a quiet and orderly manner, simply giving the undesirable parties notice to leave and no outrages were committed. The citizens of Wadesboro generally deplore the necessity for the regulators, but highly approve of the work done by them. Altogether about five parties were notified that their departure was desirable and all of them departed, without causing any trouble or stopping to argue the question.

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Jarvis Out as a Candidate.

RALEIGH, N. C., September 21.—Ex-Senator Thomas J. Jarvis has announced his candidacy for United States senator. This makes four candidates in the field, the others being Simmons, Carr and Waddell. Pressure is being brought to bear on Henry G. Connor to induce him to become a candidate.

Jim Howard Gentry.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Sept. 26.—Jim Howard, who has been on trial here, charged with the killing of Gov. William Goebel, was this morning found guilty of murder in the first degree.

Judge Powers, who was appointed Senator from Utah by the acting Democratic Governor while the Republican Governor was out of the State, has declined the appointment.

### Factories Engaged in Their Political Schemes.

New York Journal.

The Hartford Post asserts that many of the contracts now being made for next winter's business are conditional on the re-election of McKinley. If Bryan is elected the deals are off. This, our contemporary thinks, "is not politics, but cold blooded business."

Oh, no, it is not business, but politics of the most familiar kind. There never is a Presidential campaign without the same dodge. In 1884 the late P. T. Barnum announced that he would sell all his property at Bridgeport for 50 cents on the dollar in case of Cleveland's election. When Cleveland was elected Barnum was asked to "make good," but he preferred to hold on to the property. In 1896 there was a general announcement on the part of factory owners that they would shut down in the event of Bryan's election and that if McKinley should be elected they would run on full time at increased wages. McKinley was elected, and many of the factories that had made these promises shut down, and of those that kept open a number reduced wages.

Pre-election threats and promises are politics. Post-election performance is business. The Republican party is never without its Barnum.

Most Famous St. Bernard of Switzerland With a Record of 40 Lives Saved.

LONDON Dispatch.

A monument is to be erected on a mountain in Switzerland to Barry, the most famous of St. Bernard dogs. Barry in ten years saved forty lives. His most creditable achievement was when he found a child of ten years in the snow succumbing to the fatal slumber which precedes death. The dog first warmed the child with its breath and licked it until it awoke. Then by lying on his side the dog gave the child an obvious invitation to ride. The child mounted on his back and Barry carried it to the convent. The dog's death was due to the timidity of an unknown man who fancied that his open mouth looked threatening and hit the dog on the head, killing him.

What Mr. Hobson Said.

There is a disposition manifest, says the Chicago Tribune, to make a needless fuss over the story told by Lieutenant Hobson to the effect that Admiral Dewey's fleet did not sink three of the Spanish vessels in the memorable engagement off Manila, but that they were sunk by the Spaniards themselves. It is evident that Hobson, in what he said, had no intention of casting a slur at Admiral Dewey. He simply stated the condition of three of the vessels after they were raised. Their upper works being ruined by Dewey's shells, the Spaniards sunk them because they were no longer tenable.

A study of the Porto Rican Act shows plainly the hypocrisy of the Republicans in protesting against the restrictions of the suffrage in the south by an educational test. Official reports to the war Department show that no less than 150,000 out of the 200,000 males of voting age in Porto Rico are deprived of the suffrage either by educational, or, worst of all, by property qualifications. The Republican act, passed last winter in the face of the united protests of that country, provides that: "At such (all) elections all citizens of Porto Rico shall be allowed to vote, who have been bona-fide residents for one year and who possess the other qualifications of voters, under the laws and military orders in force March 1, 1900." To ascertain what the laws and military orders in force March 1, 1900, one has only to look at paragraph 8, page 3, of General Orders No. 160, issued by General Davis, Military Commander of Porto Rico, October 12, 1899, which says: "An elector, to vote at such elections, shall possess the following qualifications: He must be a bona-fide male resident of the municipality. He must be over 21 years of age on date of election. He must be a taxpayer in the municipality in which he votes at the date of this order, and he must be able to read and write." While a number of states, such as Massachusetts, North Carolina, Connecticut, and Louisiana, have prescribed educational qualifications for voters this Republican measure enacted for Porto Rico is the first attempt in the history of our Republic to prescribe a property qualification since Thomas Jefferson, the great champion of human rights, succeeded in giving to every man, rich and poor alike, the right to exercise his elective franchise as a free American citizen.

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