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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THE "LILY WHITE" CROWD

WE hear much talk among the Republicans of the splendid convention held at Graham, on the 7th. Oh, it was composed of white people entirely, not a negro delegate present. Staunch and true men were appointed as delegates to the different conventions. A patriotic speech was made by Mr. John T. Fogleman; Heenan Hughes was elected chairman of the Executive Committee, and everything went off as smooth as a blunderbus in the hands of a scared English coachman. And they are laughing themselves hoarse in the belief that they have fooled the people and made them believe that they have eliminated the negro from politics. A "lily white" convention! But why the absence of the negro? Because, weeks before, runners were sent to every precinct in the county instructing that no negro delegates be appointed, and insisting that the negro stay in the background and avoid making himself obnoxious until after the amendment question had been settled. When before has a convention ever been held in Alamance county, when the negro was so conspicuous by his absence? Why does the negro thus consent to stay in the background? It is because the Republicans realize that if the negro enters politics this year and makes himself obnoxious as usual the feeling of contempt which has been bruising for so long and which is manifesting itself in an effort to forever eliminate him from politics, by the passage of the Constitutional Amendment, will be increased and his fate, together with that of the politicians dependent upon their vote, will be sealed so far as a says-so in the government of our affairs is concerned. Hence his absence from the convention on the 7th.

Tell us not that the negro would thus submit to being ignored; tell us not that he has quietly given up his part in politics of his own accord, and betaken himself to this political

xile; tell us not that he has gone back to his farm and his plow, and quietly quitted himself from this contest which is so vital to his interest. No. He has resigned his position in this campaign only for a moment, and that only at the earnest pleadings and appeals of his political leaders. We do not believe he would, of his own accord, at this hour, still his voice which has been heard in the political wrangles of the Republican party for a quarter of a century; and we are sure that the leaders in this convention; especially, would be the last to want his permanent retirement—if so, why are they working so hard against the amendment which would certainly secure this end. This is the thinnest ruse we ever heard of. To try and make us believe that the negro has quietly betaken himself from politics, at this hour, at a time when they are wrought up as never before, when their franchise right hangs in the balance, and when their very soul is stirred within them, is foolishness. And equally as foolish to seek to make us believe that they have compelled his withdrawal from politics when they are working night and day against a measure which would accomplish this withdrawal.

They realize that they need the negro in politics and realize it forcibly, and they realize that if he does not stay in the background, but is allowed to take part in this campaign he will render himself so obnoxious by his actions that members of his own party will be so disgusted with him as to vote for his disfranchisement, and hence their absence at this convention. There is not a word of truth in their claim of a white man's convention, for the negro had just as large a representation in that convention through delegates elected and instructed by them as if they had been there in person, as the action of the convention proved—for we deny that their actions were the will of the better element of the Republican party, but that of the side controlled by the absent negroes.

The ruse won't work. The Repub-

lican party in Alamance county is just as much a negro party to-day as it ever was AND A GREAT DEAL MORE SO.

Gen. OTIS has been relieved of command of the Philippines and Gen. McArthur put in his place. It is true that Otis has made a dismal failure in bringing the campaign to a successful end, but we have our doubts about McArthur improving the situation. We have expended millions of dollars and sacrificed thousands of lives in the war of contest, and it seems to us that it is no nearer an end now, except in official reports and the imagination of some than when we started in. Gen. Otis has probably done his best as commander in the Philippines, but he found much more opposition against American authority than he expected, and the magnitude of his task of conquering was greater than could have been anticipated. We are afraid that the cessation of hostilities is in the distant future.

The experience of Texas, Mississippi and Georgia, and other Southern States every year or so in having many of their cities and towns washed away by floods makes us thankful that we live in a country where nature is kind and where there is no danger of our waking up any morning to find our house floating around in an improvised ocean, or turned up-side-down by a cyclone. In the great flood in Texas, last week, lives were lost, Crops were destroyed and millions of dollars worth of property washed away. In many places the inhabitants had to anchor their houses to trees with chains to keep them from going to destruction with the others. We are glad that we do not live in a country where we are in perpetual dread of destruction at the hands of the elements.

In the vote for Lt. Governor, last week, Turner received 555 votes and Cunningham 417. On motion, Mr. Turner's nomination was made un-animous.

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