

THE DEMOCRAT.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1892.

NO. 48

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4 2 6 m.

ZEB. B. VANCE.

**HIS LETTER TO THE PEOPLE
OF NORTH CAROLINA.**

ALL WILL READ IT.

In response to the following let-
ter from Mr. F. M. Simmons, Senator
Vance issues the accompanying ad-
dress to the people of North Caro-
lina:

RALEIGH, N. C., August 10, '92
Hon. Z. B. Vance, Gombroon, N. C.:

MY DEAR SENATOR:—In common
with all the people of North Caro-
lina, I greatly deplore your inability
to take part in the pending cam-
paign. It is an inestimable loss to
the party and the people, for I need
not tell you the confidence and af-
fection which the people of North
Carolina entertain for you would
secure for you from them a hearing
such as they would accord to but
few in the State.

It occurs to me, while your health
will not permit you to meet the peo-
ple face to face upon the stump, a
letter from you, reviewing the whole
situation, and discussing the ques-
tions which are uppermost in the
minds of the people, especially the
causes of the agricultural prostra-
tion now existing, and the relief
which would be afforded through
the enactment of such tariff and
financial legislation as the Demo-
cratic party propose, would be
carefully and considerably read by
all the people of North Carolina
and would do a great deal of good
at this time.

Such a letter, I am persuaded,
would have immense weight with a
large number of people who are
now hesitating as to what
course to pursue in the coming elec-
tion. Of course I do not want to
overtax you, even to do this great
service to the party and the people.
I trust you will not undertake it
unless your health is fully equal to
the task.

Sincerely joining with all the peo-
ple of North Carolina in their an-
xiety about your health, and in the
earnest hope that you may be speed-
ily restored, I am, yours truly,
F. M. SIMMONS, Chairman.

MY FELLOW CITIZENS:

For many years past I have been
in the habit of visiting you in per-
son during important campaigns
and addressing you upon the politi-
cal issues of the time. Being on
this occasion prevented this privi-
lege by the condition of my health,
and earnestly believing that the
questions to be decided by our No-
vember elections are of vital impor-
tance to the public welfare, I am
induced to contribute in this way
my share in the discussion of them.

I regard the situation as most
critical. Since 1860 the legislation of our
country has been almost exclusiv-
ly within the power of one political
party. Naturally it has ceased to
be general in its beneficence and
has become local and partial in the
extreme. The law-making power
has become the fearfully efficient
implement of such classes, corpora-
tions, cliques and combinations as
could by fair means or foul obtain
control of it. It has been made to
subserve purely personal ends. In
divers ways the taxing power of
the government has been perverted
from public to private purposes;
money is levied thereby to enrich
manufacturers, to suppress rivalry
in business, and in every conceiv-
able way to help the favored few at
the expense of the many. The var-
ied corrupting influences upon the
business world arising from this
legislation produce their natural ef-
fect. The classes whose business
was thus favored flourish apace,
whilst the unfavored have experi-
enced in the midst of peace and
plenty all the losses and hardships
which are commonly felt only in
times of public calamity; and the
extraordinary spectacle is presented
of a nation whose aggregate wealth
is rapidly and vastly increasing,
whilst the individual wealth of its
chief toilers and wealth-producers
is diminishing in proportion there-
to.

From the Republican party, with
its disregard of the limitations of
the Constitution and its natural
dependence for support upon the
money of the people whom it had
enriched, all of this corrupt legis-
lation has proceeded. Without it
there was nothing evil done that
was done.

It follows as an undeniable truth,

that whoever directly or indirectly
upholds, helps or supports that
party is a friend to the corruptions
which it has produced, and is an
enemy to those who would repeal
that legislation and reform the
abuses founded upon it. There is
no escape from this.

The Democratic party, on the con-
trary, believes in the strict limita-
tions of the Constitution, and has,
as a party, steadily opposed all
abuse of the taxation power or any
other power of the general govern-
ment for private purposes, and has
unceasingly advocated the most ab-
solute and perfect equality of all
citizens in the legislation of our
country.

There is not a single wrong or in-
justice of which complaint is made
in our laws for thirty years past
which can justly be charged to the
Democratic party. Not one. It has
even been a break-water against the
tyrannical tendencies of the Republi-
cans; and though in a minority has
been able to prevent some of the
worst legislation ever attempt-
ed, and to modify other laws which
in their original inquiry would
have been intolerable.

This statement of the acts and
purposes of the two great political
parties cannot be truthfully denied.
Now what is the situation? What
is the manifest duty of our people
to do in the coming elections?

The two great political parties
into which our people are mainly
divided are once more in the field
with their platforms of principles
and their candidates, State and
Federal, thereon. The Republicans
profess all of their old doctrines
from which have come the evils of
which the people complain; they
glory in that abuse of the taxing
power which has made a few rich
and millions poor, and seeking new
fields of injustice and oppression,
they openly declare their intention
to take from the States the right to
control the election of their own
representatives, which is the chief
bulwark of their rights and liber-
ties.

The Democrats re-affirm their ad-
herence to the Constitution, their
opposition to the tariff robbery,
to banking monopoly and to corporate
oppression in all its forms; and
their desire to leave the power to
control elections where the Consti-
tution left it and where it has re-
sided for more than one hundred
years. Primarily it would seem
that no Democrat, and especially
no Southern Democrat, could hesi-
tate for a single moment as to which
of these parties deserves his sup-
port.

But a new party has arisen which is
endeavoring to make the people be-
lieve that the Democratic party is no
longer to be trusted. The argument
to prove this is a travesty on com-
mon sense: That because for thirty
years they have as a party steadily
opposed all abuses and have not
been able at any time to prevent or
reform them, therefore it is no longer
worthy of the support of those
who desire reform. The meaning
of this is, the Democratic party has
been guilty of being in a minority.
Its sin consists in not having done
that which it could not do! Then
let it be condemned, whilst the Re-
publican party, which has had the
power and actually did all these
things, and still had the power to
undo them and does not, is acquit-
ted. Nay, we will help it to keep in
power by betraying and destroying
its only enemy. Therefore, as the
Democratic party, with its vast or-
ganization in every State, county
and township in the United States,
with its control of one branch of
Congress and comprising in the
popular vote a large majority of all
the people in the Union, has not
been strong enough heretofore to
effect the reforms for which it has
labored and wished, being without
the Senate and executive, they
claim the only chance for reform is
to vote for the candidates of this
Third party, whose existence in the
national government and power to
control legislation are evidenced by
three or four members of the House
of Representatives and two in the
Senate.

Common sense and self-preservation
would seem to dictate that we
should help the Democrats, who
are almost in power, to get altogether
in power, and trust them to cor-
rect abuses as they have promised.
One strong pull in November next
would give them control of both
branches of Congress and the exec-
utive, and the long night of misrule
and injustice would burst into the

dawn of a new and better day. It
would be time enough to leave them
and form a new party when they had
been tried and proved faithless.

But the leaders of this new party,
falsely called the People's, insist
that you should abandon the Demo-
cratic party now and vote with them.
I am grieved to know that there are
quite a number of our fellow-citizens
in North Carolina who propose to
follow that advice. It strikes me as
the very extreme of unwisdom; and
when done with a full knowledge of
the consequences it ceases to be
merely folly and becomes a crime.
For whatever may be the hopes or
the wishes of these men, they know
as well as they know of their own
existence, that this party has not
only no chance of electing their can-
didates at the polls, but also none of
throwing the election into the House
of Representatives, about which they
appear to be most sanguine. Let no
man be deceived about this. The
handful of votes which will be cast
for Weaver in this State, be it as
large as they can earnestly claim,
cannot wrest the electoral vote from
both Cleveland and Harrison, so as
to help throw the choice into the
House. It is absurd to hope so. But
thirty thousand (30,000) votes taken
from Cleveland and given to Weaver
will throw the vote not indeed into a
Democratic House, but into the
hands of Harrison. This result was
so plain that the Republican lead-
ers, notwithstanding their profes-
sions to the contrary, determined to
not let slip the opportunity, and
they are now ready with full tickets
and a complete organization to avail
themselves of everything which the
dissection and folly of our people
may throw into their laps. Their
promises to run no State ticket were
manifestly made with the intention
of alluring a Third party ticket into
the field, trusting that when men
got hot and had blood prevailed,
they might walk off with the prize
in both State and Federal elections.
Alas! that want of reflection or pa-
triotism should render this scheme
a probable success. Indeed, it is so
plain that no intelligent man can
fail to see it or honest one deny it,
that the only probable, not to say
possible, result of the Third party
movement in North Carolina this
fall will be to elect a full Republi-
can State ticket and to aid in the
election of a Republican President
and House of Representatives. What
is to be gained by that result I need
not ask. How the reforms which
they profess to desire are to be ob-
tained through Republican success
is something which surpasses human
conjecture. No true friend of this
commonwealth, I am sure, will con-
tribute to this result. It is reported
that a prominent candidate on the
ticket of the Third party says he
had rather submit to negro or any
kind of rule than such as we have
at present; but I am forced to be-
lieve that, if this be true, there are
very few other white men of North
Carolina who are outside of the pen-
sionary and who ought to be out-
side, who entertain sentiments so
fool and brutal. Our people know
that under Democratic rule they
have had good laws, low taxes,
no enemy, and purity in the admin-
istration of their affairs, and I hope
and believe they will not lightly
risk its overthrow by casting use-
less or hopeless votes in November.

The class of our people who have
had greatest cause to complain of
vicious legislation is the agricultural
The party which has steadily resist-
ed this, and continually declaimed
against it on the hustings and have
struggled manfully to repeal it in
the halls of legislation, is the Demo-
cratic. You will bear me witness
that unflinchingly since I have been
your representative in the Senate I
have both spoken and voted against
that unjust legislation. At home,
as you know, I never ceased to ex-
pose its inequalities and to advise
the farmers to organize for resistance
to it. When they did begin to com-
bine they had the sympathy and
good wishes of almost every just
man in the United States who was
not in some way the recipient of the
plunder arising from this abuse.

Never was there a political move-
ment of our people founded upon
better grounds or more reasonable
complaint. But that which I feared,
and against which I earnestly warn-
ed them, soon came to pass. Men
who had little interest in their own
fortunes, seduced to be its leaders.
Often men who had failed to obtain
office from either of the old political
parties concluded to farm the farm-
ers and raise personal crops of

honor and profit out of them. They
pressed to the front, thrust the real
farmers aside, and involved the Al-
liance in the wildest and most im-
practicable propositions ever heard
of among sane men, and in defiance
of their constitution soon converted
it into a mere political party com-
posed of the discontented and the
disappointed elements of society,
professing no fixed political prin-
ciples or regard for the Constitution
of their country, but striving only
to obtain the very worst of class
legislation, which is their sole idea
of statesmanship. Their proposition
to purchase and control all the lines
of transportation and telegraph in
the United States at the expense of
many billions of dollars, and of re-
funding to the soldiers the difference
between paper and gold at the date
of their payment, at least a billion
more; of loaning people money on
real estate at lower rates of interest
than the market rates, and kindred
schemes, are so preposterous, that
to argue them seriously is a slander
upon our civilization; and the advan-
cacy of such measures for the bither-
to most conservative element of our
society is a notification to all the
world that we are approaching that
stage of demagogism and commu-
nism which marks a people as unfit for
self-government.

My unflinching confidence is in the
true farmers of North Carolina, who
as members of that Alliance will,
I trust, not permit their noble Order
and their just cause to be thus per-
verted and debased. Rest assured
that no real friend of that noble
class of men who, under the provid-
ence of God, give us our daily
bread, will ever consent to this de-
gradation of their cause into the ob-
sequious tool of unscrupulous, am-
bitious men, forfeiting sympathy of
all moderate people, making the
very name of Alliance to stink in the
nostrils of justice and common
sense. I can but believe the good
judgment of our farmers will enable
them to see where these leaders are
taking them, and that their native
honesty will impel them to draw
back in time to save their country.

Many of our people, it is true,
have objected to Mr. Cleveland, and
preferred that he should not have
been nominated. I confess that I
was among that number. But an
individual preference before the nomi-
nation of a candidate is one thing,
and the duty of a true man after that
nomination has been fairly made is
another and very different thing in-
deed. In the one case a preference
may be indulged in properly, without
danger to the principles in charge;
in the other case we endanger both,
and falsify our pretensions, by con-
tributing undeniably to the success
of our adversaries. If we refuse to
abide by the voice of the majority of
our fellow-Democrats, freely and
unmistakably expressed in friendly
convention, there is an end of all
associated party effort in the gov-
ernment of our country; if we per-
sonally participate in that consulta-
tion or convention and then refuse
to abide by the decision of the tribu-
nal of our own selection, then there
is an end of all personal honor ac-
mong men, and the confidence which
is necessary to all combined effort
is gone forever. The man who bets
proposing to collect if he wins and
to repudiate if he loses, is in all
countries and among all classes of
people considered a dishonest man.

But if the considerations of good
faith do not influence men's actions
in such a case as this, surely those
which pertain to the public welfare
ought to be decisive. If not satis-
fied with Mr. Cleveland, it seems to
me an honest man should balance
accounts, pro and con, in this way:
Cleveland agrees with me in desir-
ing to reform the oppressive tariff
taxation, to restrict the abuse of
corporate privileges, to repeal the
tax on State banks and thereby to
expand the currency, and above all
he is vehemently opposed to Force
bills and all similar attempts to de-
stroy the rights and liberties of the
States. In all essential reforms he
agrees with me except in the single
matter of the free coinage of silver,
and in respect to this there is reason
to hope that the same candor
and vigorous investigation which
brought him in full sympathy with
his party on the great question of
tariff reform will soon bring him to
see the absolute necessity of main-
taining both of the precious metals
on a par to meet the urgent needs
of the currency of the world. Har-
rison, on the contrary, agrees with
me in nothing; there is no change
or reform which I desire that he is

not bitterly opposed to, and his
party with him. Why, then, should
I hesitate? Either my vote for Weav-
er will help Harrison and injure
Cleveland, or it will not—it can not
avail. Weaver for he has no chance
whatever, will probably not carry a
single State; why, then, should I
risk doing a damage to the candi-
date who would do most for me,
though he does not promise to do all,
and contribute to the election of the
one who promises me nothing but
an indefinite continuance of existing
wrongs and an insolent threat of
other and greater wrongs so soon as
he has the power to perpetrate them?

It seems to me, fellow-citizens,
that the path of duty was never
more plain or the necessity of walk-
ing in it more imperative than it is
at this moment. Let me beg your
earnest consideration of the situation
before you vote in November, and be-
fore you cut loose from the old con-
stitutional Democratic party, which
in times of our extreme peril has so
often brought us forth out of the
house of bondage, and abandon its
sinking banners to follow reckless
and incompetent men into the wil-
derness of their unreal schemes.
Think well of the possible result of
your action; how easy it is to destroy,
how hard to rebuild. I recently cut
down in my mountain home, in
about five hours, a tree that had
taken five hundred years to grow.

The Democratic party is strong
and able and willing to help you;
its arm is not shortened that it
cannot save you; to cherish and
uphold it is the dictate of patriot-
ism and common sense.

Your fellow citizen,
Z. B. VANCE.
GOMBROON, Sept. 17, 1892.

"A Back Number."

This is the slightest remark that is
often applied to women who try to
seem young, though they no longer
look so. Sometimes appearances
are deceitful. Female weakness,
functional troubles, displacements
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years to a woman's looks. These
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