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Address: THE CAPE FEAR, Wilmington, N. C.

CAPE FEAR.

CICERO W. HARRIS.

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 15, 1876

THE OUTLOOK.

We rely on the returning sense of justice, and the feeling of apprehension entertained by our Northern fellow-citizens, to counteract the frauds of canvassing boards and the plots of Grant, Chandler, Morton & Co. The hope of the country is in the better sense of the North asserting itself, even amidst the cry of arms and the blood-and-thunder talk of the conspirators and their minions.

Just now the outlook is equally. The Republican leaders, with a shameful disregard of consequences, are arranging a programme for counting Tilden out. It is the most barefaced rascality ever conceived in the human brain. The Senate is to usurp functions that belong to the two houses of Congress, the presiding officer opening and assuming to pronounce upon the validity of the electoral vote and declaring the result. It is decided to throw out the Tilden vote of Oregon, which is regularly certified by the proper legal authority, and to count in the fraudulent votes of Louisiana, South Carolina and Florida. This nice little operation would give Hayes a majority of one. Then Grant is to rendezvous the army in Washington and provide means by which the voice of the people shall be stifled and the man whom they rejected at the ballot-box inaugurated as President. Once in by fraud and force, there will be no redress for Tilden or the people.

This caps the climax of Radical infamy. Never before in the history of this nation has there been such a shameless avowal made by any party or faction. Aaron Burr was tried for treason, but Burr's crime, even as it appeared to his contemporaries, was a luminous deed of patriotism compared with this projected crime. Burr conspired to overthrow another government and establish an empire of his own creation on its ruins. Grant and his fellow-criminals conspire to overthrow their own government and subvert the very ground-sill of American liberty. Burr's crime had a touch of chivalry in it. It was ambition driven to the point of madness. The crime of the Radical conspirators has no glamor of this sort. There is nothing noble or heroic connected with it. The seating of Hayes attended by such circumstances would be the culmination of low-born selfishness. Hayes was not elected. He would be simply a usurper sitting in a place wrung by fraud, chicanery and violence not only from his successful competitor but also from the people, whose rights the Republican tyrant would trample under foot with the ruthless will of an Oriental despot.

The people of the North cannot submit to this crowning outrage. If there is a spark of the manhood left which showed itself in a flame of fire at Bunker Hill it will surely be kindled during the next ninety days. Submission to this infamous conspiracy will seal the doom of the American Republic. Americans have not lost their spirit.

THE PRESIDENT-ELECT.

President-elect Tilden is the ablest politician in America. He is, besides, the coolest and bravest man the country has in this her hour of greatest need. It is stated that Mr. Hewitt, Speaker Randall and other gentlemen have been to see him at Albany. A dispatch says it is understood that the gentlemen when they called on Gov. Tilden found him in no mood to surrender his right to the Presidency. He believes that he is the choice of a majority of the American people expressed at the polls, and that he has fairly and legally carried much more than the necessary majority in the electoral colleges. He considers that his right to the vote of the electoral colleges of South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana

is as broad and unquestionable as to the vote of any one of the other States which have declared for him. He does not counsel and does not wish anything like revolutionary measures, but as he knows himself to have been elected to the Presidency, he intends to use and advise the use of all available means to secure the possession of that office.

That is the way to talk. There is wisdom and patriotism in it, and grit without which Tilden and the people might as well throw up the sponge.

THE CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS.

The National Democratic Committee have issued a short address congratulating the people on the election of Tilden, as a victory for Reform. We quote about half of the address: "It now only remains for the two Houses of Congress, in the performance of their duty, on the second Wednesday in February next, to give effect to the will of the people thus expressed, in the constitutional mode, by a majority of the electoral votes, and confirmed by a majority of all the States, as well as by an overwhelming majority of all the people of the United States."

Congress must meet the people's demand. Tilden must be declared elected, and he must be inaugurated on the Fourth of March.

The address of Gov. Palmer, Judge Trumbull, Gov. Bigler, George W. Julian, George B. Smith and P. H. Watson, the Tilden Commissioners who attended the open sessions of the Kellogg return board in Louisiana, has just appeared. It is a pamphlet of seventeen pages, and reviews the law and facts of the case with singular clearness, and exposes the illegal and atrocious acts of the Kellogg board with an unsparing hand. It is addressed to Hon. Abram S. Hewitt.

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The new paper will give warm encouragement to the agricultural, mining and manufacturing interests of the State. It will extend the hand of welcome to the sturdy foreigner or other immigrant, it will seek to impress upon the people already here the necessity for economy, thrift, labor and fidelity to home and State. North Carolinians must build up North Carolina. In presenting certain popular Literary Features the CAPE FEAR is ahead of its contemporaries. No American daily newspaper places original fiction habitually before its readers except in the form of serials, both serial and complete, will be found occupying a short space in the CAPE FEAR. The literary matter of the paper will, however, always be subordinated to the news.

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THE WEEKLY SUN.

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NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM, ADOPTED AT ST. LOUIS, FEBRUARY 23, 1876.

the delegates of the Democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, do hereby declare the administration of the Federal Government to be in urgent need of immediate reform; do hereby enjoin upon the members of this Convention and the Democratic party in each State, a zealous effort and co-operation to this end, and do hereby appeal to our fellow-citizens of every former political connection to undertake with us this first and most pressing patriotic duty for the Democracy of the whole country.

We do here reaffirm our faith in the permanency of the Federal Union, our devotion to the Constitution of the United States, with its amendments, universally accepted as a final settlement of the controversies that engendered the civil war, and do here record our steadfast confidence in the perpetuity of republican self-government; in an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority, the vital principle of the Republic; in the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; in the total separation of Church and State, for the sake alike of civil and religious freedom; in the equality of all citizens before just laws of their own enactment; in the liberty of individual conduct untrammelled by summary laws; in the faithful education of the rising generation, that they may preserve, enjoy and transmit these best conditions of human happiness and hope. We behold the noblest products of a hundred years of changeable history; but while upholding the bond of our Union and great charter of these our rights, it behooves a free people to practice also that eternal vigilance which is the price of liberty.

DEMOCRATIC FINANCE DEMANDS. We demand a judicious system of preparation by public economies, by official retrenchments and by wise finance, which shall enable the nation to assure to a whole world, of its perfect ability and perfect readiness to meet any of its promises at the call of the creditor entitled to payment. We believe such a system well devised, and above all, entrusted to competent hands for execution, creating at no time an artificial scarcity of currency, and at no time alarming the public mind, into the withdrawal of that vast machinery of credit by which 95 per cent. of all business transactions are performed—a system open, public and inspiring general confidence, would, from the day of adoption, bring healing on its wings to all our harassed industry, and set in motion the wheels of commerce, manufactures and the mechanical arts; restore employment to labor and renew, in all its national source, the prosperity of the people.

REFORM IN TAXATION. Reform is necessary in the sum and mode of Federal taxation so that capital may be set free from distrust and labor lightly burdened. We denounce the present tariff levied upon nearly five thousand articles as a masterpiece of injustice, inequality and false pretence. It yields a dwindling, not a yearly rising revenue. It has impoverished many industries to subsidize a few; it prohibits the purchase of the products of American labor; it has degraded American commerce from the first to an inferior rank upon the high seas. It has cut down the sales of American manufactures at home and abroad, and depleted the return of American agriculture or industry, followed by half our people. It costs the people five times more than it produces to the treasury, obstructs the processes of production, and wastes the fruits of labor. It promotes fraud and fosters smuggling, enriches dishonest officials and bankrupts honest merchants. We demand that all customhouse taxation shall be only for revenue.

RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENSES. Reform is necessary in the scale of public expense, Federal, State and municipal. Out of Federal taxation has swollen from \$60,000,000, gold, in 1860, to \$450,000,000, currency, in 1870. Our aggregate taxation was from \$184,000,000, gold, in 1860, to \$730,000,000, currency, in 1870, or in one decade less than \$ per head to more than \$18 per head. Since the peace the people have paid to their tax-gatherers more than thrice the sum of the national debt, and more than twice that sum for the Federal Government alone. We demand a vigorous frugality in every department and from every officer of the government.

WASTE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS. Reform is necessary to put a stop to the profligate wastes of the public lands and their diversion from settlers by the party in power which has squandered two hundred millions of acres upon railroads alone, and out of more than three that aggregate has disposed of less than a sixth directly to tillers of the soil.

CHRISTIAN CITIZENS AND BROTHER CHIEF.

Reform is necessary to correct the mistakes of the Republican Congress and the errors of our treaties, and our diplomatic relations which have stripped our adopted citizens of foreign birth and kindred race recrossing the Atlantic of the shield of American citizenship, and have exposed our brethren of the Pacific coast to the incursions of a race not sprung from the same great parent stock, and in fact, in law denied citizenship through naturalization, as being neither accustomed to the habits of a progressive civilization, nor exercised in liberty under equal laws. We denounce the policy which thus discards the liberty-loving German and tolerates the revival of the Coolie trade in Mongolian women, imported for immoral purposes, and Mongolian men hired to perform servile labor contracts, and demand such modification by Congress within a constitutional limitation, as shall prevent the further importation or immigration of the Mongolian race.

REFORM IS THE CAMPAIGN ISSUE.

Reform is necessary, and can never be effected but by making it the controlling issue of the election, lifting it above the two false issues with which the office holding class and the party in power seek to smother it. The false issue with which they would enkindle sectarian strife is respect to the public schools, of which the establishment and support belong exclusively to the several States, and which the Democratic party has cherished from their foundation, and resolved to maintain without partisan or preferential bias, sect or creed, and without contributing from the Treasury to any—the false issue by which they seek to light anew the dying embers of a sectional hatred between kindred people, once unnaturally estranged; but now reunited in one indivisible Republic and a common destiny.

REFORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Reform is necessary in the civil service. Experience proves that the efficient, economical conduct of the governmental business is not possible if its civil service be subject to change at every election—be a prize fought for at the ballot-box—be a brief reward of party zeal, instead of a merit of honor, assigned for proved competency and held for fidelity in the public employment. That the dispensing of patronage should neither be a tax upon the time of all our public men, nor the instrument of their ambition. Here again professions falsified in the performance, attest that the party in power can work out no practical or salutary reform.

REFORM AMONG THE HIGHEST PUBLIC OFFICIALS. Reform is necessary in the higher grades of public service—President,

Vice-President, Judges, Senators, Representatives, Cabinet officers. These officers, and others in authority, are the people's servants. Their offices are not a private possession; they are a public trust. When the annuals of this Republic show the disgrace and ensure of a Vice-President, a late Speaker of the House of Representatives marketing his rulings as a presiding officer; their friends profiting secretly by their votes as law-makers; five chairmen of the leading committees of the House of Representatives exposed in Jobbery; a late Secretary of the Treasury forcing advances in the public accounts; a late Attorney-General misappropriating public funds; a Secretary of the Navy enriched or enriching his friends by percentages levied off the profits of contractors who were barely escaping conviction upon trial for guilty complicity in frauds upon the revenue; a Secretary of War impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors—these are the fruits of a Republic in which the first step in reform must be by the people, or honest men from another party. The disease of our political organization festers the body politic and thereby making no change of men or party, we can get no change of measures and no reforms.

REFORMS AND RADICALISM MUST BE DRIVEN FROM POWER.

All these abuses, wrongs and crimes—the product of the sixteen years' ascendancy of the Republican party—create a necessity for reform, confessed by Republicans themselves. But their reforms are voted down in convention and displaced from the Cabinet. The mass of honest voters is powerless to resist the city thousand office-holders—their laws and guides.

Reform can only be had by a peaceful, civic revolution. We demand a change of men; a change of administration; a change of policy, that we may have a change of men.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

Names of Officers.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.
Governor—Curtis H. Brodgen, of Wayne.
Lieutenant Governor—R. M. Arnold, of Iredell.
Secretary of State—W. H. Howerton, of Wake.
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Clerk of Supreme Court—W. H. Beley, of Wake.
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Officers of the Municipality of Wilmington.

Mayor—W. P. Canaday.
Aldermen—T. M. Gardner, J. J. Canley, B. G. Bates, J. H. Neff, R. C. M. Hiran, Hanks, col., Duban, Holcomb, col., W. H. Brewington, col., W. E. Banks, col.
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Chief of Fire Department—Roger Moore.

Federal Officials.

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Deputy Collector—R. W. Chadwick.
Postmaster—E. R. Brink.

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Sheriff—S. H. Manning.
Commissioners—J. G. Wagner, District Attorney, col.; Stacy VanAntwerp, D. Davis.
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