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THE CAPE FEAR, Wilmington, N. C.

### CAPE FEAR. CICERO W. HARRIS.

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 19, 1876

NO BACKING DOWN.

We rejoice to see manifestation: of confidence all along the Democratic lines. A halt, like Beauregard's at Manassas, after a victory, would be ruinous. The Democratic party must reap the fruits of its triumph. "On to Washington" must be its cry until the Fourth of March.

There has been too much talk by Southern newspapers of acquiescence in whatever result the people of the North may arrive at. The true policy is that of Northern leadership. Southern support. We belong to the great Democratic party. Whatever line of action it decides upon binds us as well as our Northern brethren. The Democratic party is like Webster said the Union is, "one, and inseparable." must stand shoulder to shoulder. The Southern Democrats can never play the roll of sullen Achilles in the camp while the battle goes on. Our countrymen call us to our posts of duty The contest they wage is on behalf of American liberty, and they must not appeal to Americans in vain. The interests of the cause demand that we should back our brethren. We need employ no incendiary means to preserve the integrity of our government Reason alone will triumph. But if the worse comes to the worst, by the evil and military Presidents, the South must not be lulled by promises of favor are not a race of cowards. Neither are we a race of cute bargainers with corruptionists. The peace of Hayes seated by Southern indifference or selfishness would be the peace of death. I tion is that the State shall have a vote. There must be no compromise with but, if the thing is in that condition fraut and no terms with armed despotism. Like the sons of Aaron on the mount, we must uphoid the arms of our Mees juntil God grants us final last. That is all you can say about it." delive needs the sacred conflict for human right and the preservation of broke say now?" our actional institutions.

THE NATIONAL DIBROGLIO. The acta ofion is still a matter of muddle and . Lui there are signs of improvement. The meetings to be held on the 8th of January in the Western and Northern States may cut short the desperate programme that has evidently been determ ned on by the Republican conspirators at Washington.

Turning to our exchanges for information, we find, first, the following special dispatch from Moses P. Hands. a Virginia Democrat, who is Washing-

ton correspondent of the Philadelphia BAGGING, TOBACCO, SNUFF, SOAP, LYE, CANDY, TIES, CHEESE, SPIRIT BARRELS, LARD, "The only aggressive step that has been taken by the Democrats since the election has apparently received the approval of the country. The elevation of Mr. Randall to the Speakership was by many considered of doubtful propriety, but it is but just to say to Mr. Raudall to say that nearly every man in the right place. He is busibut true to his own convictions. I believe, with many others. that his choice of the ground of battle in counting the electoral vote was unwise, but he has succeeded in winning every Democratic member of the House to his own view of the case. There is reason to believe that this ground must be abandoned for the safer one of constitutional requirement chosen by the Democratic Senators, but the very stubbornness with which it will be held for awhile will get the House into excellent discipline and good fighting condition. In other respects Randall's policy is likely to become the policy of the party when it comes down to, real work. He will insist that Tilden is legally elected and must be inaugurated; that if the Senate stulfifies itself by abnegating its own right and those of the Honse n favor of the President of the Senate the Ho se shall not be a party to such Constitution; that Adv as they voted or not at all; that in default of at election in the usual way the House shall assume the responsi-

at thus elected shall be mangurated and claim his rights, with the House of Representatives at his back, and that this body shall not appropriate money for or in CONNISSION MERCHANTS any way recognize any other President. This policy may not be wise in all its details, but Randall came to caucus the other night fresh from Tilden's presence Advertisements inserted for \$1 00 per and foreshadowed it, in a stirring speech, whose eloquence astounded those who never before saw him in fighting trim and which seemed to all woo heard it the first flash of the genits of leadership that has gladdened Democratic hearts for many a day. The s eech did not get into print, but it is leavening the lump. The Congres sional committee of advice and superwision is in line with the Speaker, and word came from New York last night that left no reason to doubt that the peaker and the President elect stand on the same-platform. Unless all signs

> policy." Next, we find the New York Herale exposing the inconsistency of leading Republican Senators. While the electoral question was under discussion at the last session of Congress Senate Morton said:

fail, it cannot much longer be said that

the Democrats are a party without a

"I do not accept the suggestion tha the Vice-President of the United State has anything more to do in the business of counting the votes for Presidentand Vice-President than that specific dut; which is prescribed for and enjoined upon him by the Constitution. That duty is in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives to open the certificates. There being no other duty assigned to him, I infer naturally that he is to do nothing more. \* There can be under the Constitution no tribunal to decide on that (two se' of returns) or any other question

arising in the course of counting the

votes. The duty is imposed upon the

two houses of Congress. They alone

can perform it." Senator Sherman, agreeing entirely as to the power of the two houses. remarked in the course of the debat. "The only question before the two houses is as to the form and sufficiency of a return, and that depends on matt rs rather of a historical character." Senator Frelinghuysen said, "The constitution imposes upon the Legislature the duty of making provision for counting the votes." Senator Christiancy argued that even without a joint rule or Mr. Morton's bill it was a reasonable conclusion that if two sets c electoral returns were presented, and the two houses could not agree upor the reception of one of the two, "There is nothing to turn the scale in favor of either. \* \* \* Could the vote be counted? Certainly not." It being urged by Senator Thurman that it-was a serious matter to deprive a State of machinations of scheming politicians its vote, Mr, Morton replied:-"There are two sets [of returns]. The Senate resolves in favor of one set, the House nor int midated by a show of arms. We resolves in favor of the other set. There is a disagreement. The Senator from Ohio [Mr. Thurman] said that it was the intention that the State should have a vote, and so say I. The inten-

> We are glad to hear it. Our druggist informs us that Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup sells better than any other med cine, and always gives satisfaction. \*

> that Congress cannot determine which

is the correct vote it will be the mis-

fortune of the State if the vote is

Well, what does my Lord Boling-

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gling. The new paper will give warm encour agement to the agricultural, mining and manufacturing interests of the State. It will urge immigration. But while 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 Caroli-

nians must build up North Carolina In presenting certain popular Literary Features the CAPE FEAR is ahead of it contemporaries. No American daily news paper places original fiction habitually befere its readers except in the form of sen sational intelligence. Stories for the fireside, both serial and complete, will be found occupying a short space in the CAP FEAR. The literary matter of the pape will, however, always be subordinated to

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NATIONAL DEMICHATIC PLAT- | Vice-President, Judges, Senators, Repre PORM, ADOPTED AT ST. LOUIS

We, 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 nomi-nees of this Convention and of the Demo cratic party in each State, a zealous effort and co-operation to this end, and do herety 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

manency 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-gov ernment; in an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority, the vital principle State and Country. In its humble way it of the Republic; in the supremacy of the will uphold the banner unfurled by Jeffer- civil over the military authority; in the son, carried aloft by Jackson and now 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 unvexed by sumptuary 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 changeful 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

DEMOCRATIC FINANCE DEMANDED. We demand a judicious system of preparation by public economies, by official retrenchments and by wise finance, which shall enable the nation to assure the 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 or execution, creating at no time an artideial scarcity of currency, and at no time alarming the public mind into the withirawal 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 wing to all our harassed industry, and set in notion the wheels of commerce, manufac ures and the mechanical arts; restore employmet to labor and renew, in all its national source, the prosperity of

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 prematters are too frequently crowded in sent tariff levied upon nearly five thousand M. Pearson, of Yadkin. articles as a masterpiece of injustice, the quality and false pretence. It yields a dwindling, not a yearly rising revenue. It has impoverished many industries to subsidize a few; it prohibits imports that might purchase 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 offi-cials 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 municipa out of Federal taxation has swollen iro: \$60,000,000, gold, in 1860, to \$150,000,000 currency, in 1870. Our aggregate taxation was from \$184,000,000, gold, in 1860, \$730,000,000, currency, in 1870, or in our 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 nore than twice that sum for the Federa jovernment alone. We demand a vigor ous 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 thrice that aggregate has disposed of less than a sixth directly to tillers of the soil.

CHRISTIAN CITIZENS AND HEATHEN CHI NESE.

Reform is necessary to correct the mistakes of the Republican Congress and the errors of our treaties, and our diplomatirelations 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, now by 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 tolerat a the revival of the Coolie trade in Mongo lian women, imported for immoral pur poses, and Mongolian men hired to pe form servile labor contracts, and demand such modification by Congress within a constitutional limitation, as shall preven the further importation or immigration o the Mongolian race.

REFORM IS THE CAMPAIGN ISSUE. Reform is necessary, and can never b ffected but by making it the controlling ssue of the election. litting it above the wo false issues with which the office solding class and the party in power sees a smother it. The false issue with which hey would enkindle sectarian strife i respect to the public schools, of which the stablishment and support belong exe'u ively to the several States, and which tu-Jemocratic party has cherished from their oun lation, and resolved to maintain with out partizanry or preference for any classect or creed, and without contributing from the Treasury to any—the false issu-by which they seek to light anew the dying mbers of sectional hatred between kin ired people, once unnaturally estranged but now reunited in one indivisible Repub lic and a common destiny.

REPORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE. Reform is necessary in the civil service. Experience proves that the efficient, economical conduct of the governmental bus iness 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 post of honor, assigned for proved competency and held for fidelity in the public employ ment. That the discretization ment. 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 profession falsified in the performance, attest that the party in power can work out no practica or salutary reform.

REFORM AMONG THE HIGHEST PUBLIS SERVANTS. Reform is necessary even more in thhigher grades of public service-President,

sentatives, Cabinet officers. These officers and others in authority, are the people' servants. Their offices are not a private perquisite; they are a public trust. When the annals of this Republic show the dis grace and censure of a Vice-Prosident; a late Speaker of the House of Representatives marketing his rulings as a presiding officer; their friends profiting accretly by their votes as law-makers; five chairmen of the leading committees of the late House of Representatives exposed in Jobbers; a late Secretary of the Treasury forcing balances in the public accounts; a late Attorney General misappropriating public funds; a Secretary of the Navy curiched or enriching his friends by percentages levied off the profits of contractors with We do here reashirm our faith in the perhis Department; an ambassador to England censured for a dishonorable speculation; the President's private secre. tary barely escaping conviction upon trial for guilty complicity in frauds upon the revenue; a Secretary of War impeached for high crimes and confessed misde. meanors-the demonstration is so conplete that the first step in reform must e by the people, or honest men from another party. The discase of one political org. n-ization infests the body politic and then by making no change of men or party, we can get no change of measures and no

> RADICALS AND RADICALISM MUST BE DRIVEN PROM POWER. All these abuses, wrongs and crimesthe product of the sixteen years ascendancy of the Republican party-create a necessity for reform, confessed by Republicans themselves. But their reformers are voted down in ecu ention and displaced from the Cab net. The mass of honest voters is poweriess to resist the eighty thousand office-holders-its leaden

> and guides. Reform can only be had by a peaceful. civic revolution. We demand a change of system; a c spec of admini traffen; a change of par ie, that we may have a change of men.

### THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

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