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VOL. III. WALTER B. BELL, Editor.

# The Elkin Times.

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## SOUTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.

### PALMETTO LAW FRAMERS AT WORK

On the New Constitution. Summarized Proceedings.

By a vote of 102 to 23, the convention refused to increase the pay of its members from \$2 to \$4 per diem, members taking the ground that they had committed themselves to the lower rate by becoming candidates under the act of the legislature fixing such per diem.

Numerous new ordinances were introduced—one providing a suffrage plan containing the same features as the Mississippi plan with alternative property and other qualifications; another providing a \$2,000 pension for widows of soldiers; another providing for divorce for adultery; upon conviction by a jury; another for the reduction of the areas of counties to 500 square miles, making the terms of county officials four years, establishing county courts and electing county judges.

An attempt made to complete the convention adjourned consideration of the formation of new counties, but it failed. The counties of the state are abnormally large and the old constitution rendering their subdivision almost impracticable, on account of its provisions to area, there is a strong lobby seeking the creation of many new counties.

The third day's session of the constitutional convention occupied only an hour and a half and there was nothing of special interest in the proceedings. Most of the work was merely of a routine character. At the end new ordinances were introduced. Provision was made for a warrant for the enforcement of rather a cumbersome department. T. E. Miller, the colored Congressman of a few weeks ago, presented a contest behalf of the negro delegation from Williamsburg county, which was referred to the committee on suffrage. Col. Robert Aldrich introduced a complete constitution which was referred. It is intended to prevent negroes from voting in any part of the State. An anti-divorce ordinance was also introduced. An important ordinance was also presented looking to the prevention of railroad corporations from securing control of passenger and competitive lines. Ben Tillman introduced an ordinance providing for the establishment of a county to be known as "Mart Gary" county in honor of the memory of General Mart Gary. After adjournment the whole body was photographed in front of the capitol.

At the third day's session of the Convention some 40 new propositions were introduced.

It is now pretty thoroughly understood that biennial sessions of the Legislature will be provided for instead of annual sessions; that the terms of the State officers will be made four years instead of two years, as heretofore; that smaller counties will be provided for; that county courts will be established, and that judges will be elected by the people direct instead of by the Legislature.

When rule 41, in regard to the ratification, was reached, the colored member, "Canary" Miller, made an effort to have it referred back to the people, presenting the following amendment to be added to the rule:

"And the said constitution, after it shall have received the majority vote of the delegates present, shall be submitted to the electors of the State of South Carolina for ratification. The vote of ratification of the people shall be taken on the second Tuesday in January, 1896. The vote shall be taken at the several precincts in each county of the State."

The form of the ballots to be voted shall be as follows: "I favor the new constitution, or I do not favor the new constitution."

Mr. Edif raised the point that this was not the proper place to present such a provision. The proper way to present it was in the shape of an ordinance later on.

Miller said that this appeared to him to be the only proper place to bring this matter up. A handful of people had no right to act for the whole people and declare that the document after they had completed drawing it up, was the constitution of the whole people.

The president said: "The chair will not entertain this in the shape of an amendatory resolution to the rule, but as a regular resolution and refer it to the proper committee." The resolution took the latter course. Miller's effort will be a fruitless one.

J. Wm. Stokes introduced an ordinance to abolish the State Supreme Court, and establish an appellate court consisting of the circuit judges.

Senator Tillman introduced an ordinance providing for small counties, 400 square miles each. The present area is about 960 square miles each.

Mr. Patton introduced a suffrage providing for an educational qualification; a property qualification of \$300, and for the disqualification of no Confederate soldier or son of such. Several ordinances providing for a four years' term of all State officers were introduced. Mr. Hodges asks for a three mill constitutional tax for educational purposes, giving the tax-payer the right to say to what school it shall be devoted. Mr. Farrow, of Charleston, presents a strong plan for the reorganization of the judiciary.

Ex-Congressman George Johnston presents a strong suffrage plan with alternative property and educational qualifications. Mr. McCown has introduced an ordinance, which is against the wishes of Tillman and Irby and the most ardent dispensary advocates, providing that the State shall never issue any license to individuals or corporations to sell liquor, but can provide for its sale under State control.

The committee on municipal corporations reported recommending the extension of voting in cities, coupled with male suffrage which allows the votes through agents. The committee has decided to vote on the matter of the General Laws for the four years.

The convention's proceedings on Saturday the fifth session, were of the greatest interest. The old family feeling existing for so many years between the Butler and Gary families was brought up in the debate, and George D. Tillman presented a eulogy on the Butler family that was of such interest and so impassioned that the large audience seemed to hang on his words. The convention has decided to establish no new counties, save one, dividing Edgefield county into two counties. There was a lively fight over the matter. Another fight ensued over the naming. Finally "Butler" was settled on as the name of the new county.

Many new ordinances and resolutions were introduced, one important one preserving the right of trial by jury for every offense.

The new county is to be named for the famed Butler family of Edgefield of which ex-Senator M. C. Butler is the representative. The old antagonism between Generals Butler and Gary was at the root of the fight. Congressman George D. Tillman, in his speech, held his hearers almost spellbound and old veterans shook his hand when he concluded. He appeared as the champion of the Butler family, notwithstanding the fact that his brother and Senator Butler had such a bitter fight for the Senate last summer. Ben Tillman was not in the hall at the time.

Among other things, he said: "But some people from miserable prejudices object to the naming of this county 'Butler.' God pity them!" He then referred to General M. C. Butler, and pointed with pride to his record on the battle-field, in the United States Senate, and in every walk of life. Yet now there is a prejudice against him.

One thing the master with these people who attack him was that he could not get office for all those who hounded him for patronage like hungry dogs after a rabbit. For two years Mr. Tillman was in Washington as a hermaphrodite member of Congress, waiting to get in before he became a regular member. He knew Galbraith Butler, and if the man ever did anything dishonorable or dishonest he never heard of it. "I hope (with deliberation) that South Carolina will always have Senators there bearing equal reputations for honesty and oratory. I am afraid, he paused for a moment or two, "I am afraid that there will be some time before there will be his superior, even his equal there." Mr. Tillman then stated that he had been shocked to see an editorial in the *Columbia Register* morning—a brutal and ignorant editorial—on this matter of the Butler name. "I am ashamed," said he, "that men live in South Carolina who can do this." In all this mass of un-founded prejudice it seemed strange for him to stand there and tell the gentlemen of that convention of the distinguished name he was advocating. It was confounded prejudice, unjust prejudice.

The convention awarded the contract for all its printing to Chas. A. Calvo, State printer, despite the fact that other bidders offered to do it for from 10 to 20 per cent less.

Miller introduced another ordinance looking to the referring of the constitution back to the people for ratification.

Mr. Patton introduced the following to prevent men from being sent to the penitentiary under the dispensary law without a trial:

"The right of trial by jury as it existed at the foundation of this government shall remain for ever inviolate; no man shall be punished under color of proceedings for contempt of injunction or other civil process or in any other manner, for the doing of any act which by the law of the land constitutes a crime, except upon conviction by a jury of his peers."

Mr. Garrison introduced an ordinance providing for the appointment of a state commissioner.

Congressman Stanyarne Wilson presented the following important ordinance:

"Whereas, By the nature of their avocation, the negroes of the Southland are at a great disadvantage in the protection of their rights of person and property, and the supervision and friendly hand of the government is needed in order that the conditions of labor may be known, evils disclosed and the cause of their existence discovered and exposed, and removal applied; a healthy system of labor removed among this original act and amendment thereof."

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A CAISSON BLOWN UP.

Shocking Disaster in Louisville. 4 Men Killed.

At Louisville, Ky., four members of the Louisville Legion were instantly killed Thursday morning by the explosion of ammunition in the caisson of a gun which was being driven to Phoenix Hill for service in connection with the G. A. R. Parade. The victims were Corp A. L. Robinson, Private C. Woods, Private A. McBride and Wm. Adams, the colored driver. The four unfortunate were seated on the caisson. The gun contained 100 pounds of powder, enough to fire forty rounds. The cause of the accident is inexplicable. Shells were taken from the neighboring houses and spread over the dead bodies.

While 100,000 people were watching the funeral of the four men at night, a portion of the grand stand on which were seated at least 15,000 people, gave way, and many were injured. No fatalities were reported.

As William Ross, his wife, and three children reached the middle of Nickajack street on the Southern Railway, near Atlanta, a freight train swept around a curve, and on the track Mrs. Ross and two children joined. Ross raised a young child into a sum of smoke filled air below, and started to jump himself, but was too late. The engine struck him and killed him. He fell at his wife's feet. She and the children were not seriously hurt.

A bridgeport (Conn.) thief got away.

Jack Urban, an inmate of the Eastern Home at 24th and Arch, near Philadelphia, has passed his 100th birthday.

The American Manufacturer notes that latest reports on the movement of iron ore from the Lake Superior region state that up to close of June the shipments aggregated 3,142,757 tons, an increase of 637,315 tons over those of the first six months in 1894.

It is now a law in Pennsylvania that no sectarian garb shall be worn by teachers in the public schools.

## NORTH STATE CULLINGS.

### INTERESTING ITEMS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

#### A TROLLEY CAR VICTIM.

Richard Wilson, the seven-year-old son of T. J. Wilson, Jr., a tobacco manufacturer of Winston, was run over and killed by a street car Wednesday. The little fellow was returning from dinner to school, and in attempting to cross the track when the car was close to him, fell, and the car passed over his body, nearly severing it. Both arms were cut off. Life was extinct in a few minutes. No blame is attached to the motorman on account of the terrible accident.

#### A MAN IN A BOX.

A Moonshiner Shipped by Express to Escape Capture.

A big dry goods box was shipped from Shell Creek, near Elk Park, a few days ago containing, instead of goods, a man. Its destination was some point in Kansas or Texas, no one save the shipper seem to know just what point. On investigation, it is learned the man was none other than one Mr. Cable, a desperate moonshiner, who participated in the battle between deputy United States marshals and moonshiners in this State recently. Cable scouted around Elk Park for several days while the officers were on the hot trail. They got so close to him that his friends were uneasy and decided to send him in that unique way to a place of safety. The officers are still on the hunt.

#### POPULIST CONFERENCE.

Senator Butler Endorses Non-Partisan Silver Convention.

The Populist leaders in the conference at Raleigh, at which Senator Butler presided, called on their people to attend the non-partisan silver convention to be held at Raleigh September 25th. Some of the Republicans make a similar call, and Senator Butler and B. F. Keith also issued a call, signing it as officers appointed at the Memphis free-silver convention. The resolution is as follows:

"A call having been made for a non-partisan State free-silver convention, uniting all persons of all political parties who favor free, independent, and unlimited coinage of silver and gold into full legal tender dollars, at the ratio of 16 to 1, and inasmuch as such convention will be on the line of the Memphis silver convention, and will tend to get all true friends of silver together under one banner to fight the foreign gold trust and its American Tory allies; therefore, we favor the holding of such silver convention, and call upon honest-money free-silver clubs of the State, and all other persons who favor the objects of said clubs, to attend."

#### NORTH STATE NEGROES.

Action of Their Committee Looking to Greater Independence.

At the negro convention at Raleigh on Wednesday C. H. King, of Raleigh, presided and J. E. Shepherd and J. D. Latte were secretaries. Forty-nine delegates were present, representing 15 counties. They were all intelligent and conservative. It is quite noticeable that the Populists ridicule this convention. The resolutions which were adopted were quite long. They declared that the time has come for the negro to assert himself; to put aside prejudice and make friends with his white fellow citizens; that sectional and party lines are being removed; that there is community of good citizens; the cry is for pure politics, better leaders; the lack of organization among the negroes is to be deplored; the new sentiment that every white man and every black man has an equal chance for education; the mistake of the negro for 30 years past has been reliance on outside influences, but the right thing is to work to the true sources, God, ourselves and our own Southland for salvation; progress since emancipation is not what is desired, but this is due to failure of the negro, to organize in his best interest; the choice of good leaders is recommended; adherence to the principles of the Republican party is also recommended; secessions from any source are welcomed and people are called on to unite; rings, cliques and party bosses are condemned; the negro is to be the greatest good; unite for pure politics; stop the negro howl and the calamity howl; let the negroes become land owners; have an interest in the soil; the late Legislature is condemned for its folly in abolishing county superintendents for schools; a board of 22 members, two from each district, and four at large, is to be created, to be known as the North Carolina advisory board, in the interest of the negro race, political, industrial, and social, its decision to be final; its members to serve one and two years each.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The membership of the Grand Army, June 30, 1894, was 371,559, and the gain during the year was 49,040.

At Fall River, Mass., the manufacturers' association voted unanimously not to advance the wages of the mill operatives and a letter to that effect will be sent to the weavers in a few days.

At Chicago, Privates Williams and Coffey, two men restrained at Fort Sheridan, were detected in attempting to rob a guard and were ordered to be held by the guard. The guard refused and the soldier fired, killing Coffey and wounding Williams, who succeeded in escaping.

#### FOREIGN.

Spain has settled up the Mora claims—\$150,000 in Spanish dollars.

The Province of Podolia, Russian Poland, has been officially declared to be infected with cholera.

#### WASHINGTON.

The United States Consul Barcalay has cabled the State department from Tangier, Morocco, as follows: "Cholera prevailing here. Is not yet pronounced of Asiatic type. The average mortality is six daily."

#### AGRICULTURE.

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#### ATLANTA.

There is a great deal of excitement in the city over the recent arrival of the Southern Railway Company's new locomotives. The new engines are to be used on the line between Atlanta and Chattanooga, and are expected to be in service in a few weeks.

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