

HOW THE PLATFORM WAS CHANGED.

Copy of it was Handed to a Reporter Before it was Amended, Hence was Published Incorrectly.

Chairman Rollins has sent out the following explanation of the different wording in a plank of the Republican State platform. It seems that a copy of the platform was given to a reporter of the Post before it was amended and adopted, and the reporter failed to note the change: To the Republicans of North Carolina:

The Democratic papers and the Democratic speakers are making the statement that the temperance plank in the Republican State platform which I am sending out has been changed, and is not a copy of the plank as it was adopted by our State Convention. This charge is absolutely false, and without foundation and simply shows to what desperate straits the Democratic politicians are driven for an issue. The platform published in the Raleigh Post, on the morning of May 19th (the day after the Convention), was printed from a rough draft which was handed to Mr. Pence, the reporter, before the Convention was called to order on May 18th, and thinking it would be adopted as prepared, he mailed it to the Post, without waiting for the Convention to act upon it. The platform as drafted was amended by the Committee on Platforms and Resolutions and adopted by the Convention as reported by the committee and the platform I am sending out is an exact copy of the platform adopted by our Convention. The attached letters from Hon. T. T. Hicks, Hon. H. C. Cowles and Prof. J. J. Britt, are self-explanatory and corroborate what I have stated.

Very truly,
THOMAS S. ROLLINS,
Chairman Rep. State Ex. Com.

THE REPUBLICAN TEMPERANCE PLANK EXPLAINED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PLATFORM

Asheville, N. C., Sept. 12th, 1904.
Mr. Thos. Rollins, Chairman Greensboro, N. C.

Dear Sir:—I was chairman of the Committee on Platforms at the late Republican Convention, and I wrote every word of the temperance plank and know that the platform sent out by you contains the identical temperance plank adopted by the committee and ratified by the Convention.

Very truly,
J. J. BRITT.

Henderson, N. C., Sept. 8.

To the Editor of the Morning Post: I have read in this morning's Post the accusation that the Republicans have changed and are issuing a different platform than the one adopted by the Convention of May 18th. The facts are that the platform as published in the Post and News and Observer of the 19th of May was offered in committee, of which I was a member. I moved that the following be struck out, "but we denounce the Democratic Legislature for the enactment of the Watts law, for the reason that it was conceived and enacted for political advantage, under the guise of temperance reform, and for its unjust and unfair discrimination in conferring rights and privileges upon the inhabitants of incorporated towns and cities which it denies to the citizens of the country."

There was considerable discussion upon it, participated in by Messrs. H. L. Grant, Judge Robinson, Hon. C. A. Reynolds, Prof. J. J. Britt and myself, and nearly all the other members of the committee, after which my motion prevailed, and the words I have quoted were not reported nor read to the Convention nor adopted as a part of the platform, but were marked around or cancelled. I was

surprised on seeing them in the published platform the next day and was about to publish a correction, but I doubted if one would be printed, and seeing that it was printed correctly in Republican papers at once as reported and adopted, I thought to let the matter rest, until seeing your accusation, I request the publication of this statement.

Yours truly,
T. T. HICKS.

Statesville, N. C., Sept. 13, 1904.
Hon. Thos. S. Rollins, Chairman Republican State Executive Committee, Greensboro, N. C.

Dear Sir:—Replying to your inquiry, I beg to say that I was a member of the Committee on Platforms and Resolutions at the last Republican State Convention, and would respectfully state that the platform you are sending out is an exact copy of the platform as reported by the Convention. The statement that the platform has been altered or amended in any manner, shape or form is absolutely without foundation.

Very truly yours,
H. C. COWLES.

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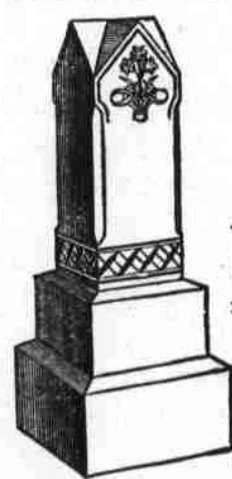
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