ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT.

J. F. NISBET Editor.

BRADHAM. BACK AT

Congressman Stokes Replies to an Open Letter.

PROTECTION THE POINT

On Which Alliance Bretheren Differ. Figuring on Principle and Profit. The Alliance Lash.

Congressman Stokes asks The State, in justice to him, to republish the following letter from the News and Courier:

Capt. J. D. Bradham, Masning,

S. C.

Dear Sir: Through the thought fulness of a friend I am in receipt of a marked copy of The News and Courier in which you publish my private letter to you, and your reply. Though ample time elapsed, you gave me no intimation of your purpose. I do not object to the publication, how ever-in fact I am rather glad now that it is published, since you insist upon public discussion at this time. But, mark this-my willingness in the premises, not having been ascertained by you beforehand, will not take away from the transaction the suggestion of bad faith; nor lift the flavor of sharp practice.

The close personal and Alli ance relations heretofore subsist ing between us might have warranted a more direct appeal to you to stand true to the doctrines we had together stood for in the past; but I merely asked your careful attention to a published argument, and emphasized some additional points. Read in connection with that argument much what did the Alliance and its of your ill humored criticism falls utterly pointless.

I stand by every statement of fact in my letter, as touching matters that came under my personal observation or from contact with Republican members; and time will prove the correctness of my predictions.

But let all that pass. Since you insist upon discussion of tariff now let us discuss it without heat, dispassionately. You are a farmer; so am L. We are both tariff tax from the necessities of so are your people and mine. must have." Whatever the bearing of the ques tion may be it bears upon our in- that demand in your letter-why terests alike. If we are to obtain did you not quote it all? You the relief we desire for our indus-challenged me to the Alliance try we must keep together. We view, and then you quoted only can't afford to divide, but if we a part. Why quote half a truth continue to travel tagether we when the whole truth lay right must be patient and tolerant, along ide? Did you believe that Hence I pass over much in your demand was right, captain, when letter that seems ill considered you helped to place it in the and unjust, not to say ill temper- State Democratic platform, or ed, and will confine myself to the when you endorsed it as an Alliquestion at issue.

sideration from the standpoint of what right have you, as a conthe Democratic platform, and sistant Allianceman, not to say to defend my position, I will en- up one industry at the expense deavor to treat the question spe- of another, and thus add to rathcially with reference to Alliance er than remove, tariff taxes? Can demands. You seem to forget, the fact that the benefit, if any, however, that on the tariff, and is coming south alter the princimany other issues, the Alliance ple involved or change the comdemands and the Democratic plat- plexion of the act? If we advoform (State and national) are cate a protective tariff on cotton, identical. You seem to lose sight we cannot consistently oppose a of the fact that we framed the like tariff on other necessities of Alliance demands because we life.

thought they were right; and for the same reason we placed those demands in the State Democratic platform. So that, in appealing to the platforms, I was simply ap pealing to that which you and I and beneficial from the farmer's standpoint.

I plead with you not to agitate seem unaccountably irritated and consumed with indignation on account of it. I am singing the "same old tune" now that I sung when I was, as you say, "industriously teaching that the money question, not the tariff, is the issue." You took us "at our word" then-why not now.

In a modest way I did teach at his time is conceded all round. The present tariff bill will probably remain in force at least four leaders really teach on the tariff issue? The Ocala demand on the tariff, which you and I and others helped place in our State Democratic platform, reads thus: "Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that our na tional legislation shall be so framed in future as not to build one industry at the expense of another. We further demand a removal of the existing heavy

You quoted that preamble to ance man? If you were sincere Since you seem to resent con-then, and have not changed since,

If a printective tariff on cotton cotton. I have given the subject would yield any benefit to your people and mine I might see some excuse for agitating, even though it is practically a fruitless issue. But you yourself admit that the and others had accepted as right proposed tariff tax could not help the producer of short staple cot ton, though you think it would In the first place, then, you say help the price of long staple. that I and other Alliance leaders Suppose it should increase the industriously taught you that "the price of long staple. My people do money question, not the tariff, not produce long staple cotton, was the issue." That is true but but they do use the goods made who is agitating the tariff issue from long staple. If the price be and insisting upon its discussion raised, as you profess to believe, now? I have pleaded with you my people would have to pay the and with others not to agitate it increased price upon what they now. In my published article, use; so would people everywhere which you say you read, I dis- who do not use long staple. tinctly protested against agitating What right have you as an Alli it, thus diverting attention from anceman, so jealous of consistency the money question at a time on my part, to build up the long when we should be closing up staple cotton industry at the exour ranks for the grand assault pense of other industries -- yes, at upon gold monopoly in 1898 and the expense of my constituents who produce short staple? While the long scaple was selling at 17 the tariff question now, and you to 33 cents per pound, short staple ranged at 5 to 7 cents per pound. Your proposition is to advance the price of the 30 cent article at the expense, in part, of the producer of the 5 cent article.

If you believe the Alliance demand was right when you helped how the bounty is to be paid, and put it in Democratic plarform, and have not changed since, you stand just where I do as to the that along with others, and I am principlal involved, and when still protesting against any diver- you admit that so far as my peosion of attention from the money ple, the short staple producers, quession, especially since you are concerned, the proposed tariff admit that the proposed tariff on on cotton could not benefit you cotton could not benefit producers admit everythiny I have contend of short staple cotton. That the ed for. Then why find fault with proposed tax cannot be adopted me and indulgein in considerate

My position is, "stand to principles that we profess to believe years. Then why agitate it? But right, whether the benefits are coming south or not." You say, in effect, "this proposed tariff on mands, but I never do anything if it tends to bring benefit south I will adopt it."

> In essence your doctrine sets up the dollar standard as the supreme consideration in polititrine of the old reprobate who us for not doing a furtile thing? said: "Get money, my son. money.

The unthinking and the sordid that your proposed tariff tax is a delusion, but good people every where will value principle above purse or policy as a rule of conduct in public men, and you cannot hope to escape responsibility for the doctrine you teach.

The import tax on wheat and corn is dealt with in my published article-did you really read

If they prove anything, they prove in their practical operation the correctness of my proposition the price to producers of an ex-reference to spliting the party of port crop. The statistics show that in spite of the import duty challenge me as an Alliance man Democrat, to advocate building on wheat and corn, and in spite, too, of decreased production of both, the price to the producers of each steadily declined after the tax was placed.

> As one of the few farmers in congress, I have sought to view this question from the standpoint experience the struggle of the short stable grower. All I have

tective idea could be made effect collect. tive to the producer of the short staple. You fight shy of that in our work properly and come up your reply. You admit the pro- to our part of the contract. Let posed import tax on cotton can- us quit ourselves like men and not help the short staple produ- show that we are in earnest cer, and yet when I suggested the about it, and about Alliance matonly method by which, upon the ters generally. same principle, you could help us short staple growers, you are dumb. Do you favor a bounty on short staple cotton? And, if on short staple cotton, are you willing to extend it so as to include all the other export crops? And if so you should point out how it is to reach the producer with certainty. It is not sufficient for a statement to deal with the what: he must also point out the how. Your undisc: ninating have special prices on buggies, sneer at conventionality and laudation of innovation are both irrational. It is wise to respect conventionality when it is based on principle. Innovation for mere sake of innovation, without principle back of it or benefit, be-

Your firing about none of us introducing sub-treasury bills, etc., I answer so far as it applies to me. I stand by all our decotton is wrong in principles, but for buncombe merely, and no one who knows the situation believes for a moment that any such measure could receive consideration even in committee, as the house was organized in the last cal conduct. At bottom your congress and dominated in the doctrine on this point is the doc- present one. Then who censure

fore it, is foolish.

After long and painstaking efhonestly if you can, but get fort people from all parts who think alike on our financial demand have gotten together. They may follow you for a time, until would be widely apart on the producers of short staple cotton; of life that the poor of our land they realize, as they surely will, sub treasury and other demands. Our effort is to cement tog ther the forces we have have, and add to them. Do you think this can be done by diverting attention to demands that they would feel compelled to fight us on?

> watch their representatives. I & Co., Druggist, Lancaster, S. C. do not complain at your watching us, and stimulating us to greater activity along Alliance lines. Of course when you come to congress you will expect the same treatment.

-that an import tax cannot help ing your resentment again by financial reform, I would suggest that the only ground upon which an Alliance man or Democrat could offer such a proposition as the tariff on cotton would be as a matter of party strategy, to show up the insincerty of the Republican protectionsits. But, as understand you, not only offer it, but would actually support and vote for it.

This reply has been delayed by of the farmer-the producer of sickness, in addition to the delay short staple cotton. I know by attending receipt of your publication.

Very truly yours, J. WM. STOKES. is invested in growing short staple Washington, D. C., May 5, 1897. Pitcher's Castoria.

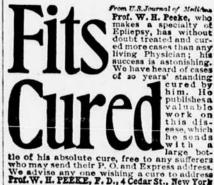
For fear the Reporters for the the closest study of which I am sub-Alliances do not fully undercapale from all aspects. I believe stand our contract with the En-I have gotten at the bottom facts, TERPRISE PUBLISHING COMPANY. I and I can see nothing for the pro- will try to explain. The ENTERducer of short staple in the pro- PRISE allows us the use of four posed tax. I have set forth my columns in the paper to publish findings in my published argu- such matter as we see proper and ment, and all I ask of my brother the different Alliances are each farmers is what I asked of you, a to have a Reporter who shall careful reading. I do not wish furnish the editor of these to force any man's judgment. I columns with articles to help believe my fellow producers of fill up our part of the paper. And short staple cotton will give me a each and every one of those Rehearing, and I believe they will porters shall act as agents for pause before committing them- the Extererise to solicit subselves to a proposition whose ad- scriptions to the paper and to vocates admit it to be wrong in collect the subscritton price thereprinciple and incapable of bene- to as well as arrearages, and the fiting the short staple producer. Enterprise people are to furnish I offered in my argument the each Reporter a list of delinonly method by which the pro-quents that he is expected to

Now, brethren, let us try to do

Lancaster C. H. Alliance meets next Saturday 22nd inst., at 3 o'elock, p. m.

> E. EVERALL, Secretary.

Our State exchange is doing a great work in the way of keeping prices down and by keeping us posted on prices by publishing a weekly price list and we wagons, harness, etc., sent us by our exchange agent that we would be glad to hand to Alliancemen any time.



WANTS

BOYS OR LOAFERS, to write, but men of ability, \$200 to \$500 per month, commission. State and RACINE FIRE general managers. ENGINE Co., Racine, W

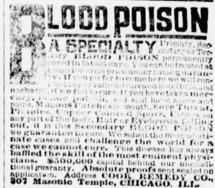
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