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DEVOTED TO POLITICS, MORALITY, EDUCATION AND TO THE GENERAL INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY.

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FOR THE PICKENS SENTINEL.
Campaign Signs for 1880.

I, the writer, recognizing that there is a great deal of unnecessary and uncalled for apprehension among the people concerning the political condition of our country do, therefore, as one who has endeavored to keep posted on the general tenor of affairs during the time between this and the last election, beg leave to present the following to their notice. As one who has at heart the interests and the welfare of the people of not only the Old Palmetto State, but the whole country, I shall be compelled to say we, as a State, are in a critical position, politically and socially speaking, for the eyes of the whole country are turned upon us, and to a great extent we possess the salvation of the Democratic party; therefore it is indispensable with us that we give them no room or possible grounds for political criticism. The revenue cases of the mountains has already gained notoriety throughout the Union, and the Northern journals (as I have before said) are busily engaged in manufacturing and flooding the country with shameful descriptions of the so-called resistance, by the people of South Carolina, of Federal law; they stand aghast at the hearing of our new deeds, and often, we might add, the timid Republican editor falls to the floor shrieking and wrestling with his bloody recitals of our crimes. Now, while all of this uncalled for and malicious disturbance is going on, I think it expedient and highly necessary for some to act the part of reconciliators, and to give the whole people a true and just representation of affairs as they are.

There has been heretofore two similar cases to that which has just transpired in this country, one in our sister State, North Carolina, and one in Delaware, where the state of affairs were identical; (a so-called conflict between State and National law.)—And still we have all of the anathemas and blame to bear of the styled conflict. We have went no further in the prosecution of our rights according to constitutional authority than they, yet the demoniacal journals of Republicanism have the audacity and boldness to attempt to raise the hue and cry of, the spirit of sixty-one is down there yet. If it is in our midst we know not of its existence, and all we have done or attempted to do is granted and protected under the color and by authority of the constitution of this State and the constitution of the United States of America, those rights which are as sacred as the men that made them, and as eternal as nature itself, we have acted under and have been guided by.

We know no North, no South, no East, or West, but one grand Union of all, and the rights and immunities granted by that noble, grand and immortal old document, we intend to stand by and claim its protection.—No bayonet rule shall ever crush it out of us; we may be overpowered, or even intimidated, but never, while we own the name of our ancestors, will we give over or consent that wrong is right.

The South has laid aside her arms, her sword is sheathed, we want no dissection, but peace we desire; our struggles have ended, the war has closed on our part years ago, and we are in the Union once more and there we intend to stay so long as the name of Union is to be found, or its spirit exists. Never again will we err, if it were error, no more will the war cry resound in our ears raised by our own people. The dead of the sixties shall pass their long sleep in peace, our wrongs, our rights will never desecrate the burying grounds of their hallowed repose, our spirits are one. Again we wish our hearts united, and never while we exist shall

the echoing bugle raise them to fields of strife.

And now all we ask of the true and patriotic men of the North is a fair and just consideration of our conditions, and we will again possess the name among them of a State of peace forever. But we are compelled to leave this part of the subject, as it is not necessary for me to comment upon it to a great length, and neither was it my intention at the outset to give it the notice I have, but I cannot well leave off when I have once begun on it.

The present prospect as to the number of parties is very flattering. There will in all probability be three parties during the next presidential campaign. The new one being what is known as nationalists, a composition of labor parties, anti-resumptionists, socialists, &c. The platform of the new party is now in construction and the most prominent principles are very indefinitely known at the present, but as the time approaches for the final declarations of each party's platform we shall be able to give them more elaborately. The party known as nationalists is a combination of the minor sects, such as has been noticed. The most notable feature of them is what they call equality as relates to their positions socially and in the possession of property. They desire a common ownership in all things a thorough change in government and free and equal citizenship. They claim to be the poor laboring man's friend, and that their principles are his natural and inalienable privileges which have been abused, and they desire to restore them. They want all equal to the middle class, the rich brought down and the poor and degraded elevated, and all such things as land, railroads, canals, machinery and commerce equally owned by them all, and so made to work by the government, as the main system is regulated at the present, for the good of the whole. To abolish the wages system and substitute in its stead co-operative productions, with a just distribution of its rewards. Such is a state of feelings that is beginning to possess the party mentioned above, and more especially the part known as communists. The anti-resumptionists and others are not so vehement or radical, but they desire their opinions spread in concert with the balance, if they can not work to suit their own interests during the campaign. The nominee of the party is not known yet. One of their strongest friends and one most prominent is Ben Butler, he has one eye on the Presidential chair, it is thought, and desires it through them as the acting medium. Kearney, of California, has also a strong hold on the voters of the West. He is a live, energetic politician, and has done wonders in his own State in the way of breaking up the two older parties in the recent excitement out there. Schwab the communist, holds a strong hand with the beer drinkers of New York and Ohio.

If we had time and space we would like to devote more to this part of the subject, but at the present neither will permit. We should, as we are about to begin on Republican side, give the reader a general view of the situation of the Northern and Western States, but we shall have to forbear, through necessity this time, from so doing. The Republican party at the present time is, it seems, rather in a dilemma as how to act.—They have not recruited sufficiently since the adjournment of Congress to be strictly united, but nevertheless they think their chances for the next President very good, and they will offer stout resistance to all opposing candidates. The recent Potter investigation committee had a marvelous and instantaneous effect on the

Republicans, and it threw them into a general and consolidated state of planning as to how they could defeat its inevitable issues; but as that has gradually subsided, they have quieted with it. The party at large are not in active service during the present time; they are waiting for the Democrats to make the outset, (as they have already begun to do,) and when they have themselves then it will be their policy to consider our actions. Their platform will be substantially the same as that of '72 and of '76. The Republicans are setting their political dead-falls and waiting for the other parties to walk into them. The next House of Congress and the Senate will be decidedly Democratic, and the returning board scheme will have played out before them, the Congress that's to be elected this fall will not meet until December next year, long before then specie payment will have been resumed and the currency question will be forever settled with us.

These candidates for the Presidency is a very important part of the subject. And just here we will take up that part for awhile. Grant, it is thought by a great many, will be their nominee, but such we don't think is their intention, for these reasons. Grant, as we know, does not desire the nomination, and neither he nor his party have started all of this fuss about his election to a third term. As all who are acquainted with the facts of our political history will say, he did not desire nor seek the second term, and it was his desire to leave politics and return to his farm at the expiration of his first. But why did he not say that he did not desire a third term, some say.—Well, Grant is a very peculiar kind of human nature, as we all have found out down South. He can't be driven. The newspaper men who were opposed to him declared he would not have the office and he would not be tricked by them. They did such for capital, and he took the hint and hence he acted the way he did. The chances of Grant for the nomination are about as good as any and he is a very strong man in his party, doubly to that of Hayes', but still we don't think that he will be nominated for the simple fact no candidate was ever yet nominated, whose election was talked about three years before it came off, and again Grant's friends are not making this fuss about him, setting up a monarchy here, but it all was started by Democrats to keep the people alive as they thought, but really it is awakening their opponents, and they too are watching our movements to take actions accordingly. But to sum it up, their strongest men are still unheard of, and they purpose to keep quiet until the time comes for them to appear.

To consider the third party and then we close. The Democrats are highly favored at the present when we take them generally, for we have nothing to plan upon so much as to execute, the principles we intend to adhere to are already laid down, we are to follow the essence of the platform of '76, again during the next contest, and fatten as a nation by our State, act with their model harmony of a few days ago, when they met in State Convention, and adjourned, without the least evidence of anything but unanimity. As I have already stated the next House of Congress will undoubtedly be Democratic, and that cuts off all chances of returning board ideas of a repetition of it, some have begun to think, although we are safe in this respect, that there will be three contesting candidates. Well if such is the case and Congress can not settle it otherwise, they will proceed to ballot and elect a President of the Senate, and he will become by succession the lawful and legal chief magistrate, and hence there is no possible room for defeat if we will

act our part well. As to those who are most likely to be the nominees of the party. Hendricks was talked of by the leading men a while, but they have concluded to drop him, and then they took up Tilden for a renomination, but his course has also proved satisfactory to them, and from all sources, we are rather of the opinion that Thurman stands the best chance so far, but these remarks as to whom the real nominee will be are mere conjectures, as the time is too far distant to attempt to make any decided conclusion as to who will be the lucky man. To close for this time, we will say the outlook all over the Union is promising and we should act accordingly and do all that we can to promote the interest of Democracy.

Yours most obediently,
AUNT JERUSA.

Fatal Affray in Edgefield—Four Men Killed and Six Wounded.

On Monday, the 12th, the day of the Democratic celebration of the beginning of the campaign of 1878, in Edgefield county, a desperate encounter took place in the village of Edgefield, in which Brooker Toney, James Booth and Thomas Booth were instantly killed, and Benjamin Booth mortally wounded. The fight was the result of an old feud which originated years ago, and was between parties of a desperate character. It begun in a bar room more than a mile from where the public meeting was being held. In the morning, Mark Toney, W. L. Coleman, Wade Scott, Dr. A. W. Sanders, Stearns Ryan and Clarence Seigler were wounded, but slightly.—When the news of the fight reached the place of the Democratic meeting, Governor Hampton ordered General Moore to proceed to the scene with the Edgefield Rifles and quell the disturbance, but it was all over when they arrived on the ground. The affair had no connection with politics, but resulted from the animosity and revenge of parties, which had long been awaiting the opportunity for violence.

Revenue Matters.

Under instructions from Commissioner Raum, C. M. Brayton, re-organized the force of special Deputy Collectors, stationed in the mountain districts, on Saturday last, Capt. E. G. Hoffman, with a force of four men, consisting of Capt. J. O. Ladd, C. C. Carson, J. E. Giles and William Kennedy, will operate in the counties of Greenville, Pickens and Oconee. Capt. S. P. Landford, assisted by H. H. D. Bryon, M. W. Watson, R. P. Scruggs and C. W. Cummings, will look after the counties of Spartanburg, York and Union. The most important duty of these officials will be to see that the mountaineers who were benefited by the leniency of the Government, do not violate the obligations imposed by the Court. They were specially instructed by Mr. Brayton to exercise prudence and leniency in the performance of their duties, and they will be held to a strict accountability for misconduct.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—Mexican affairs were again discussed in the Cabinet to day. The result was instructions to the Secretary of War to issue an order reiterating the provisions of that already existing, requiring our forces to protect the property of Americans on the Rio Grande at all hazards, and, if necessary, to pursue the raiders into Mexican territory. It is to be done, no matter what show of resistance is made.

A dispatch from Washington states that it is decided to have Chief Justice Wait to go to South Carolina, about September 1st to sit with Judge Bond on the trial of the Revenue officers charged with the murder of Ladd.

Extract from the Presentment of the Grand Jury.

The following is an extract of the presentment of the Grand Jury of the United States Court, now at session in Greenville:

"The enforcement of the Revenue laws is a matter of great and special importance to the people of this section of country. We are fully satisfied that their violation is confined to a narrow strip of country through the mountains, and the sentiment of the great body of the people is strongly averse to the violations of these laws, and that a failure upon their part to afford active co-operation in the vigorous enforcement of these laws is chiefly ascribable to the misconduct of some of the subordinate officers, who have been charged with the delicate duty of making arrests and seizures. Some of these have been discharged, and we are informed that others will be; but we desire to say that the Marshal and the Collector cannot be too careful in selecting men for these important duties, and should watch their conduct as much as possible; for of all the officers these are the ones who come most directly in contact with the people, and by them and their conduct the course and policy of the Government towards its citizens is judged.

"We desire, in this connection, to express our hearty approval and commendation of the wise and beneficent policy adopted by the Government towards this class of the violators of its laws.

"We trust that gratitude and honor as well as a proper regard for their own interests, and the welfare of their families, will cause these men not only to abstain, themselves, in the future from all participation in violation of these laws, but to exert themselves actively to persuade and, if necessary, to compel all others to do so. The sympathies of a great many good citizens, who would not themselves violate the law, have been enlisted on behalf of their unfortunate neighbors, on account of the hardships which they have suffered, whether justly or not. But, in our opinion, the magnanimous course of the government should, and we believe will have the immediate effect of determining all good citizens actively to aid the Government in suppressing all violations of the law, and will tend to promote that spirit of obedience to law without which no community or neighborhood can be peaceful, prosperous and happy.

"We have heard with pleasure that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has sent a special and reliable agent to go through the revenue section of these upper counties to explain the law to these people and encourage them to engage legally in the business. The people in the main who have engaged in the business illicitly are ignorant and poor. They have not the means of transporting their little surplus of crops to market to realize even enough money to pay their taxes. To distill it, is not only profitable and affords a better market, but converts it into a more portable form, and these constituted a great temptation to illicit business. When it is explained to them that they can distill legally without incurring an expense beyond their means, we have no doubt that legal distilleries enough will be established to remove this temptation, and the Government will get its revenue."

Stanley, it is reported, will again set out for Africa; this time under the auspices of the King of Belgium.

The millenium is certainly at hand. Work has been resumed on the Washington monument.