The Pickens Sentinel.

VOL. XXI — PICKENS, S. C., THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1892. — NO 33.

PATRIOTIC GORDON.

HE EXPOUNDS SOUND DEMOCRACY TO THE FARMERS.

The Only Hope for the South Lies in Democracy—The Republican Party Responsible for All the Evils from Which the Country Suffers.

AUGUSTA, GA., April 27.—The following letter, written by Senator J. B. Gordon to a number of gentlemen who had requested him to give his views on the political situation, was published in the Chronicle a few days ago. It is worth reading:

I heartily thank you for the confidence implied by your request for my views on the political situation. Before beginning the discussion, however, you will indulge me in one or two personal allusions.

First. I am not now a candidate for office and the approaching elections cannot effect my political status in any way whatever. I have therefore, no possible political or personal interests at stake except such as are common to every citizen of the State.

Second. I am in the fullest sympathy and accord with the general and laudable purposes for which the Farmers' Alliance was organized. Their principles are my principles; their people are my people; their interest is my interest, and their calling my calling. Nor am I a new convert to these views. For nearly twenty years I have urged the organization of the farmers for their own protection, and have battled for the prime objects which called the order into existence. In season and out of season, in public and private life, for a long series of years and without change or shadow of turning. I have spoken for, written for, and labored for the success of the essential measures which now so deeply concern and so profoundly agitate the agricultural and laboring masses of our people. The public records prove that no man in this whole Union has longer or more consistently and persistently labored for the reforms and the relief which the people need and ought to secure. I enlisted in the cause long before the present farmers' war upon protected privilege and governmental partiality was declared, and I am enlisted for the whole war. I was in the fight when it was not popular and when the few who fought with me were in the minority. Through years of discouragement and disparagement, I have stood by the cause and followed its flag and propose to still stand by it, if my life is spared, until the victory is won and relief secured.

This much it seemed important for me to say for myself in order that our intelligent, honest and patriotic farmers might fully understand my position. If my sincerity and devotion are doubted, then there is no efficacy in works as proof of one's faith.

Let us now come squarely and fearlessly to the discussion. If we can find the road to relief, I propose, for one, to follow it to the end. But in searching for the right road, let us not be deceived by flaming sign boards placed on the highway by designing hands. In other words, let us not be deluded by the fiery declamation of those who are interested in misleading us. One thought I would solemnly impress at the outset—I would hammer it into the very fiber of every farmer's brain in the country. It is this: Our condition is so serious and threatening that we cannot afford to make a mistake, and the only way in which to avoid mistakes is to find the truth; and then to stand by it; and the way to find the truth is to sift the evidence and rely upon established facts and not upon mere theories.

Now, in order to recognize truth with certainty, let us lay down a few fundamental propositions to which all will agree, and then bring every suggestion to the test of these maxims.

1. Reform or relief must come, if it comes at all, through a change of these governmental policies which have produced the wrongs from which we seek relief.

2. A change of policies requires a change of rulers; and our only way of changing rulers is through ballot boxes, by votes.

3. A change of rulers to be effective involves the necessity of electing by votes a President and both houses of Congress, who are the avowed and known opponents of the men who have inflicted these wrongs upon the country.

4. There is no hope of electing such a President and such a Congress except by the united votes of all the friends of reform.

5. If we can ascertain with certainty what party is responsible for the wrongs of which we complain, we shall have located beyond doubt the enemies of reform and of relief. Locate the men who perpetuated the wrongs and you locate those upon whom it is your duty to make war.

Now let the investigation proceed without fear or favor. Let the specific wrongs of which you complain be taken up one by one and each wrong laid at the doors of the men who are the authors of it and laid nowhere else.

I shall only be able to summarize, but I challenge successful denial of a single one of the propositions submitted.

One of the most serious complaints is against the national banking system, against its partiality and its incompetency to furnish a sufficient and low rate circulating medium. Who imposed this system upon the country? The answer is, a Republican House, a Republican Senate and a Republican President, and in doing this they destroyed your State banking system. I cannot pass this point without briefly contrasting the two systems.

Under the national banking law one thousand dollars of gold will not pay for a one-thousand dollar bond on which to issue bills, and, therefore, each thousand dollars of gold under this system would furnish less than one thousand dollars for circulation; whereas, under the State banking system each thousand dollars of gold furnished the basis for $3000 in bills, or more than three times as much money for circulation as is possible under the national banking law.

Again. With the national banks, your land is not regarded as security. Under State banking, real estate was one of the best of securities.

A second complaint is that the country's currency is concentrated largely at certain seasons on Wall street and in the money centres. This was impossible under the State banking system, because the currency was local and largely confined to the limits of the State; but it answered all the purposes for which the people needed money.

I will not stop now to show, by further argument, how the national banking system necessarily contracts instead of increasing the currency, nor how it taxes the people to pay the interest upon the bonds on which the system rests. It is enough for my present purpose to fix upon a Republican Congress and President the responsibility for that system and for the destruction of the State banks.

A third and general complaint is that silver has been demonetized. Who is responsible for this? Who struck down this class of dollars and dishonored a currency which had successfully maintained its position in this country three-quarters of a century? The answer again is that this outrage was consummated by a Republican House, Senate and President.

A fourth wrong of which we complain is the needless and cruel contraction of the greenback currency in the mad and untimely efforts to force specie payments by too rapid strides.

Who is responsible for this great wrong upon the debtor class and upon the masses of the people? Who controlled the government and established the policy of rapid contraction, by which general and abounding prosperity was suddenly changed to universal panic and widespread ruin? The same answer is the true answer—a Republican House, a Republican Senate, a Republican President.

A fifth and most just murmur of discontent comes from farmers, producers and intelligent laborers, because of the unjust and discriminating protective tariff, which, like legalized theft, is enriching one class of citizens at the expense of other classes. Why is it, that the righteous demands of the Farmers' Alliance and of other industrial organizations for the reform of these iniquitous tariff laws have not been heeded at Washington? It is because the ears of Republican lawmakers have been deaf to these appeals for relief. It is because the efforts of tariff reformers in one branch of the Congress have been defeated by high Republican officials in other branches of the government. If there be any answer to this allegation let the objector demonstrate its untruth.

A sixth cause of discontent is the stupendous national land grants and subsidies which have enriched gigantic corporations and encouraged extravagance and corruption in high places at Washington. The sole responsibility for this policy also is upon a Republican House, Senate and President.

A seventh complaint is that while every item of property belonging to the farmer and the laborer is subjected to taxation, there is no tax, graduated or otherwise, upon the princely income of the rich, who are most able to pay and who receive a larger share of governmental protection without bearing a just portion of the government's burdens. Where rests the responsibility for this condition of affairs? Again the answer is that a tax upon the incomes was once imposed, but the law has been repealed by the action of a Republican House, a Republican Senate and a Republican President.

Another outcry is made by the farmers and the industrial classes against the needless accumulation and extravagant expenditures by the government. Who are the authors of this monstrous imposition upon the country's toilers and producers? Again the answer comes with marvellous monotony that the Republican Congress and Republican President are responsible. During the recent Congress, when the Senate, House and Presidency were all controlled by the Republicans, they not only expended the $100,000,000 of a cumulated surplus, but, in scornful defiance of the people's demands for economy and lower taxes, they loaded us down with still more grievious burdens of increased tariff taxation.

It will be seen, therefore, that in this long list of grievances, every one of them is chargeable directly and solely to the Republican party in every instance; without one exception, the Republican party is the author of each and every wrong of which we complain.

On the other hand the constant, avowed and only available opponent of that party in all these years was the persistent, resolute and indomitable organized Democracy of this Union. This is the simple, unvarnished, unanswerable truth. Yet we witness the painful and astounding spectacle in Georgia of a few would be leaders seeking to mislead our people by the unworthy and untruthful declaration that we have no more to hope for from the Democracy than from the hostile Republican party. Such a declaration is so absurdly untrue that our honest people will not long be deceived by it.

I will not now discuss the proposition to elect United States Senators by popular vote; because it requires an amendment to the Constitution to accomplish it, and is therefore remote; and, because there is no immediate benefit or damage to the people, in either its adoption or rejection. So far as immaterial whether we be for it or against it.

Nor do I propose to discuss at length the demand for government ownership of railroads; because it is wholly impracticable, and even if it could be accomplished it would not bring the relief sought. It would involve the appointment, by central authority, of thousands of agents, and it would result at last in general disaster. Surely the experience of Georgians in the management by the State of one short line of railroad ought to be a sufficient warning against the policy of government ownership of all the railroads. Even when managed by our best and ablest executives before the war, the State Road rarely paid, was frequently in debt, and yet transportation over it was more expensive to the people than it is now. And after the war, when that same road was managed by the Republican party, it involved the State in debt and ran down to the very verge of wreck and ruin. The only sensible solution of the great problem of transportation is in "the most rigid, honest and just State and National governmental control and supervision."

In the light of the serious and undisputed facts enumerated in this letter, I appeal to the dispassionate, sober judgment of our people for one sensible reason or excuse for abandoning the Democratic party and trusting our hopes and fortunes and liberties to an untried, untrained and heterogeneous Third Party.

Does any one answer that the Democratic party does not grant the needed relief to the people? Upon what facts does he base such an opinion? The Democratic party has not had control of the government for one session or one day in the last thirty years; and in those thirty years of Republican rule, every evil of which you complain has taken root and become embodied in our laws as the avowed and permanent policy of Republican administration.

During all that long period, the united Democracy has carried the flag of revolt against the Republican policies, arraigning its leaders, denouncing its extravagance, its corruptions, and its usurpations—confronting and fighting it in States and nation, until a majority of the States and an overwhelming majority of the people have enlisted under the Democratic banner of reform. What possible excuse, therefore, for deserting our flag now when glorious victory seems within our grasp and when Democratic victory means defeat to the authors of all the wrongs of which the people complain.

But commanding as are the considerations above set forth, there are still more momentous reasons for standing unitedly and firmly in the ranks of the Democracy which is the true party of the people.

First and paramount among these reasons is the fact that desertion by Democrats now, renders more probable the continued supremacy of Republicanism in the government, the perpetuation of their hurtful policies and the indefinite postponement of the day of relief.

With the Republican ranks united and Democrats divided, we may lose control of the next House of Representatives, as well as of the Presidency, and thus render possible the passage of the hydra-headed force bill, with its endless trains of evils, the horrors of which no language can exaggerate. In the great and memorable battle against the force bill and for the rights and liberties of our people there was no difficulty in locating our enemies on the one side and our friends on the other. There were some brave and magnanimous spirits among the Republicans who appreciated the enormity of that iniquitous force bill and who revolted against the party which sought to inflict the measureless wrong upon the Southern people. But the vast majority of the Republican party wrote for, spoke for, or labored for the passage of that bill.

Where did the National Democracy stand in that fearful crisis? There was not a solitary Democrat in any State, city, town or country district in this whole Union who deserted us in our extremity or who failed to oppose this threatened destruction of the prosperity, tranquility, peace and liberty of the Southern people. How then can any Southern man, who loves his country get his own consent to desert our Democratic brethren after such an exhibition of fidelity to principle and such devotion to our essential rights?

The Southern people are not ingrates. They have never been charged with ingratitude, and I do not believe that they will subject themselves to criticism now by deserting the friends who did not desert us, either in the force bill fight or during the reconstruction reign of terror.

There is no short or royal road to financial relief, but there is a very short and rough one to political and industrial ruin.

Relief can only come through ultimate and complete triumph over the party, which, for thirty years, has inflicted upon the country, as I have said above, all the evils of which our farmers and the masses of the people complain. This single and only road to governmental relief, although a long one, can and will lead us to success if we press forward with singleness of aim and compact ranks.

But we shall certainly fail and invite defeat and bring to our people still greater financial and political woes, if we now give heed to those who counsel division in our ranks and seek to prejudice our people against the only party which has any prospect of triumph over our enemies.

The Southern man who seeks now to lead us away from the Democratic fold assumes a truly fearful responsibility. We may not all agree as to the special methods of relief, but we do agree as to the necessity of relief. Some favor free coinage; some land loans; some a subtreasury plan; some the lending of money by the general government to the States and by States to individuals; some the restoration of banks of issue in the States; some the purchase of United States bonds by treasury notes issued in payment, and some the purchase with greenbacks of a much larger amount of silver buillion. All these plans have their advocates, who earnestly and ably support them. But insistance upon specific plans breeds dissension. On the main issue, however, we are practically agreed.

We are all in favor of lower tariff and taxes, lower interest for money and largely increased volume of money. On these vital issues an overwhelming majority of Democrats are in absolute accord with the producers, farmers and labor unions of the country. How much wiser, then, to cease quarreling about the plans and fight together for the general cause.

How infinitely more sensible to stop the chimerical efforts of organizing a new party, which insures division and invites defeat? How much more patriotic to rally to the glorious banner of Democracy and reform, with the enthusiasm and fidelity and heroism which have made Southern men famous, and bear that flag to triumph in State and nation?

I cannot lay down my pen without one more solemn warning to my friends and countrymen who have contemplated joining the Third Party movement.

Of course they do not wish to disorganize our agricultural industry and burden it with additional trials by converting again our contented, orderly colored laborers into active and violent politicians and dissatified place hunters.

Of course they do not wish to see returned to power and to the control of our State that inglourious mass of ignorance and political mockery from whose deadening clutch we rescued Georgia some twenty years ago.

Of course they do not wish to see our State plunged again into that abyss of political woes and financial bankruptcy and social disorders, which for some years after the war filled our minds with apprehension and our hearts with anguish.

Our Third Party friends would turn with horror from the contemplation of any such direful calamity resulting from their movements; and yet so sure as effect must follow cause, so sure are they courting danger and hurrying forward these dreadful pitfalls, by dividing the white race and enticing our people to abandon the Democratic ark of safety.

Turn back, my countrymen. You cannot afford the risk. It will be too late to turn back when dissensions shall have resulted in our ruin. I am, faithfully, your friend and fellow-citizen.

J. B. GORDON.

A FIGHT TO THE FINISH.

Gov. Sheppard's Answer to the Request for Him to Withdraw.

EDGEFIELD, S. C., April 14, '92.

Editor Advertiser: In the issue of your paper of this date, appears a very temperate and respectful editorial, entitled "Advice to Governor Sheppard." You thereby, in the presence of the people of Edgefield county, Advise me to "withdraw from the race" for Governor of South Carolina. Permit me to say, in the same audience, that I did not enter the race for Governor of my own accord, but was called upon by a large body of representative South Carolinians—a majority of whom were farmers—to go before the people as a candidate for Governor, upon a platform of peace and unity in the Democratic party, which is essential to the maintenance of white supremacy, which is essential to the maintenance of good Government in our State.

I accepted the commission thus imposed upon me as a high and a holy trust, and shall hold it sacred to my heart without the slightest regard to the consequences that may fall upon me. In bearing this message of peace to our people, I shall not inflict upon them a "useless, senseless and bitter conflict," but will conduct myself and the campaign so that when the result is known it will be a matter of partriotic pleasure to every Democrat in the State to "close up" and march shoulder to shoulder to certain victory for the nominees of the party. You may rely upon it, Mr. Editor, that if our people shall "be torn into factions, harassed and distracted by the bitterness of the canvass, and convulsed perhaps by internecine strife, brother against brother, son against father," the fault will not be mine. God knows that there was "bitterness" enough in 1890. Was I responsible for that?

My desire and mission now is to heal the wound then inflicted, to close the breach then created, to the end that hereafter, as well as heretofore, the Democracy of South Carolina may be invincible at home and respected abroad.

I acknowledge gratefully my indebtedness to the people of Edgefield county for the support they have given me, and for the honors they have conferred upon me. In their presence I declare that I have never been forgetful of their interest, nor unfaithful to any trust they confided in me; and I obligate myself, by every consideration that is binding upon my conscience, so to conduct myself as to justify their confidence in me.

Thanking you for your suggestions "in the interest of peace and harmony," you will permit me to ask if you sincerely believe that you are contributing to "peace and harmony," when you refer to some of our people as "Goat Democrats," and to others as "Sheep Democrats?" Are we not all Democrats alike? Have you and I not stood shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, in all that pertains to the honor of our State, and the welfare of our people? So hereafter let us stand for the honor of the State we love, and for the welfare of the people whose destiny is our destiny. Very respectfully,

J. C. SHEPPARD.

Three Cheers for Moses.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 23.—Congressman Charles Moses said last night before leaving for Washington: "The old Fourth District is all right." He has been over it pretty thoroughly since he came home and he is now perfectly easy. There are ten counties in his district and not one of them is a Third Party county, he says. Every county will give a good Democratic majority. Over in one of the counties the local leader of the Third Party told his followers not to attend a meeting at which Col. Moses was to speak. The leader, however, went himself. Col. Moses spoke and converted the leader. Now that leader is writting for Democratic campaign literature and he is going in to convert all his followers in his county to the Democracy. The "movement" is moving backwards now. Col. Moses says that he would come back any day from Washington to meet "Little Jack" Stewart in Troup County. Mr. Turner used to live at LaGrange and Col. Moses has particular reasons for wishing to meet the little warrior over there.

A Boy Murderer Hanged.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 22.—Charles Miller, the boy murderer, was hanged a few minutes after 9 o'clock this morning. He showed no anxiety about his future and died like a dime novel hero. He sang a song on the scaffold which he had himself composed. Miller was but seventeen years of age, and when but fifteen years old shot and killed Waldo Emerson and Ross T. Wishbaugh in a box car, a few miles from East Cheyenne, in 1889.

CAMPAIGN MEETING.

TILLMAN AND SHEPPARD MEET ON THEIR NATIVE HEATH.

Several Candidates Make Speeches to a Crowd of About Three Thousand People. There is no Howling Down on Either Side and Everything Passes off Quietly.

EDGEFIELD, S. C., April 23.—The second meeting of the campaign took place here today. There were about 3,000 people present, and the crowd was a thoroughly representative one, coming from all parts of the county and included many ladies. The gathering was entirely good natured and, with a few unworthy exceptions, sober. Not a single fight occurred during the five hours the speaking lasted. A stand had been erected and was occupied by Gov. B. R. Tillman, Ex-Gov. Jno. C. Sheppard, Col. Jas. L. Orr, Attorney General J. L. McLaurin, Col. L. W. Youmans, Secretary of State Jas. E. Tindal, W. W. Dixon and several others. The meeting was called to order by Ernest Gary, as chairman, and prayer was offered for a ruler who fears God.

The first speaker was Gov. Tillman and as he arose he was greeted with loud and enthusiastic cheering. He opened his speech by saying:

"I was born in Edgefield, as you all known. I have been away from you for about eighteen months, sent to Columbia to perform a public duty, and I need not tell you it affords me exquisite pleasure to return and look you in the face. Sir Walter Scott in one of his novels gives the history of Rob Roy, the famous Scotch freebooter. His hand was against every man, that is he resisted oppression, and the outlawry pronounced against him and the effort to capture him were so strong as to make him change his name to Campbell and acknowledge the fealty of the chieftain of another clan. After escaping from capture and going back to his followers, a stranger addressed him as "Campbell." His feelings were highly wrought up, and this free-born Scotchman drew himself up and exclaimed: "My foot is on my native heath and my name is Macgregor." And I, who have been equally traduced and maligned and charged with all the sins of the decalogue since I commenced your battle, am proud to be among you, look these men in the eye and let you judge between us. I have everything to gain and nothing to lose by a cool and calm discussion that will lay everything bare.

I have a rough outside. God did not make me of silken material to bamboozle men, to how-dye-do them, to give them lip-service and pretend kind feelings, but my heart beats as warm and true as any one's does, and those who know me best love me most. When you gave me your banner two years ago I had a long and stumpy road to travel, but I won the fight. I told you then I would be watched closer than any Governor ever has been, and scruthized and criticized more. I foresaw exactly the line of conduct my antagonists would pursue.

We used to have stagnation in our politics. The politicians used to force you to swallow the nominations, but at last we have a genuine Democracy. The Governor then rehearsed his Greenville story about the ring wiggling together, and declared that even his enemies said that he made a good Governor. The reason he assigned for the March convention was that there was disintegration in the ranks of the politicians of the Farmers' Movement; that the Legislature did not support him, and that the newspapers heralded these things about. Were these papers subsidized? Were they bought? A bank president of Greenville and another bank president and railroad man of Columbia have said that the banks and railroads would raise $100,000 but what they would beat us, but I tell you one hundred million can't buy you, but a very few thousands can buy these little penney-a-liner newspapers. Who led the pack? Who was the lead dog whom all of them followed and copied after. It was N. G. Gonzales—Haskell's man Friday, who edits that infamous, independent paper at Columbia. This Haskellite sheet was founded in hate and malice to keep alive the embers in order that it might live. Gonzales, you know, was out of a job. When I tell these fellows their movement is Haskellism in disguise it harrows their souls. Tell me the company a man keeps and I'll tell you what he is. They consort with Haskellites and are hand in glove with the representatives of corporations and banks. He said "nobody bothered the corporations" until he got in office. They had their own sweet way and because he "resisted their encroachments they carried the State into the United States Courts where you and I can't go." He declared that all who were opposed to him had favored Coosaw, and they would have let Coosaw go on in spite of the law. He did not come of the compromising sort. "What I am, I am."

He said that one of the planks in this Farmers' Movement platform was in relation to school districts. The Legislature would not touch it with a ten-foot pole. I could'nt get them to do a thing with it. He favored increasing the poll tax to $3 because the free school system was a humbug.

The Governor said that Sheppard never originated anything for the benefit of the farmers. When Sheppard accepted the nomination he said it would be a dishonor to go back with pledges not carried out. Of course that was aimed at me. That's the old straw Earle threshed.

Orr says I have not tried to do my duty.

Col. Orr—I said you had failed.

Governor Tillman—You will remember that I always said that I must have the help of the Legislature. If I am beaten I'll swear you will see the tail wag one dog. There is no question of Sheppard's swinging on to Orr's coattail, because it's a proven fact.

The Governor tackled the Legislature again. He said two years ago only a Tillmanite could be elected a member, but "you let some boys throught the gap. You have got to watch 'em now. I had a so-called Tillman Legislature, but there was lots of driftwood in it. I asked them to carry out their pledges, but they would not."

Touching the law about violation of the fertilizer law, he said "Smythe and some other lawyers" in the Legislature incorporated the word, "willful" before the word "fraud" in the bill and that he wrote to members warning them that this would defeat the purpose, but that his advice was not heeded. The reason for all the things we failed to do was because the Legislature went back on us. The excuse for his action in the tax extension case was that the interest on the public debt was about due, the banks were quarreling, and he did not know whether they would lend the money or not. "I put the bill in my drawer. I wanted to scare as many people as I could."

He said his office had no connection with the the railroads. In January McBee sent him a pass as Governor which he accepted as Governor. He knew he could not be bought and his record proved it. Individually, as regards my unpopularity, it was the worst mistake I ever made in my life. It hurt me, but it don't hurt you.

Speaking of his refusal to accept the division of the Morrill fund proposed by Secretary Noble he said that before he would take it on those terms it could stay there forever. As to the Agricultural Hall scrape he said the man who brought it was a man of straw and that the lawyers only wanted to test the validity of the Blue Ridge scrip.

In explaining his remarks that he would rather go to hell with the Tillmanites than to heaven with the other side, he simply used it as a strong simile as meaning that he was with the farmers and would die with them. I am no member of the Baptist Church who gambles and drinks. I am nothing but a poor sinner, rough and uncouth, but honest.

Sheppard said the State had survived Chamberlain and Moses and could survive Tillman. What right has this man to put me on a par with those men. He knows and you know that in comparison as to honesty, integrity, truth and virtue he is not my equal.

Now for Col. Orr, the Piedmont giant, the Shanghai. No, I will not call him a Shanghai. Orr: "A game cock." No, you're too big and blundering for a game cock, but you're game all the same. Who is he to say that I am unworthy to unlace the shoes of W. H. Wallace? The Governor then reviewed Col. Orr's record, showing up some of the matters he referred to at Greenville, and said: He not only helped to put a negro over a Confederate soldier, but he was a Republican office-holder himself. [Col. Orr: "That is not true."] He denies it. Well, all I know is that his father was Minister to Russia and he was there with him. [Col. Orr: "I was his private secretary and drew no salary."] Your father got $17,500 and that was enough for both of you.

EX-GOV. SHEPPARD SPEAKS.

Ex-Gov. Sheppard, who was the next speaker, opened by saying that this was not the first time he had the pleasure of standing before an Edgefield audience. Ever since 1876 I have been the recipient of numerous expressions of the unbounded confidence of the good people of Edgefield. I have served you in numerous capacities, both as public officer and private citizen, and if there has ever been a solitary spot on my record I have never heard of it. I am proof against any vile imputations that can be cast upon my character as a responsible South Carolinian. I am here in an humble way, engaged in a work as important as any that ever inspired the heart and nerved the arm of the patriot, and I propose to conduct it on the highest plane.

He spurned the imputation that there was Haskellism in this movement as unworthy because Tillman knows that there lives no man in South Carolina who is truer than I am to the people of the State. He is hiding his failures as a Governor under tons of denunciation which he cannot sustain and justify.

He went all over South Carolina denouncing the public officials as being guilty of all manner of crimes, and he went into office and committed the very same thing that has been the source of the "debauchery" of those who went before him. No reason could be fixed for salaries being high two years ago. Tillman demanded then that they should be reduced. Yet now, when there is greater cause for economy, not one salary has been reduced. Is there a man in Edgefield county whose taxes have been reduced one dollar? My friend poses as the friend of the farmer, yet his recommendation was to increase the poll tax to $3.

Tillman says there is danger of the State being controlled by corporations. The Legislature passed an act giving the Railroad Commission power to control the roads, but Tillman vetoed it. He knows I had no reference to him as an individual when I spoke of Chamberlain and Moses and Scott. I said the people could survive any Governor. When I was Governor I made more recommendations in my one message looking to the improvement of the condition of the farmers than the Governor has since he has been in office for the last two years. I met him after that message and he said to me: Old fellow, I told you this was the opportunity of your life and nobly have you done your duty.

Governor Sheppard said that Col. Orr voted for Willard against McGowan because Willard had decided for the Democratic party, while he was a judge, and the party owed it to him to elect him for an unexpired term. "You may strike this man," said he, referring to Col. Orr, "wherever you please, but there is not a truer-blooded Democrat South of Mason and Dixon's line." Should Tillman complain when he employed a Republican lawyer to help him in the Agricultural Hall litigation?

Tillman—Because on the spur of the moment I had to employ a lawyer, the Attorney General and his assistant being absent, and I was among a lot of Haskellites, and I will take a Republican every time in preference.

In speaking of the convention that nominated him Sheppard said he had no doubt that there were some friends of Haskell in the recent convention, but Chairman Irby invited them to come back and they are now in the party. I give my personal pledge that every man on the ticket will abide the result of the Democratic primary. This movement is intended for the unification of the State.

I want to talk for the benefit of the reporter of the Register. I want him to tell the truth when he goes back home. His editor published that I lent money, as president of the bank, to farmers in order to secure their support in the race. Is there a man within the sound of my voice who has ever heard me inquire of a man as to his politics when he came to me for money? I want to show this thing up squarely. If there is a single man among you that I approached, as between Tillman and me, or to whom I loaned money for his support, let him hold up his hand. I say, he continued, it was the slander of a viper, the slander of a liar. Whoever said I was ever thus influenced knew he told an untruth, and whoever repeats it from this day will know likewise.

Sheppard closed by saying when death's sullen stream shall o'er me roll, my last aspiration shall be to have the Democratic party intact and the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon race established in South Carolina.

COLONEL ORR SPEAKS.

Col. Orr opened his speech by saying that Edgefield should be proud, as which ever way the fight went she would have the governor. South Carolina from the mountains to the seaboard will have a Democratic Governor, and by reason of the action of the Peace and Harmony convention, Independentism has been wiped out.

Governor Tillman worked himself into a fine fury of acting about my agreeing to accept office. Oh, he has declared for years that he didn't want office. Who deserves more contempt—he, saying he would not have office, running for a $3,500 job, or I for an office that pays nothing but $10 a day during the session of the Legislature? I agreed to run this race in the face of great hardship and I told them if they would nominate me it must be for an office which paid no salary.

Tillman said it was an outrage on the administration of justice that the State employed lawyers to hold it in court, yet he goes ahead and employs more than all preceding Administrations for the last ten years, and he has not even stuck to Democratic lawyers in employing assistance.

There is no man in the State I love better than Judge McGowan. I studied law in his office and he has been like a father to me. I did not even know Willard personally. But I voted for him to pay a political debt that the Democratic party made when they promised to let Willard serve out the balance of his term, about a year, in consideration of his help in putting our people in power. I believe a political debt is just as sacred as any other debt, because my honor and my politics are the same as my business and my politics. A large majority of the Democrats composing the Wallace House voted for Willard, as I did, and you see what this blowing amounts to.

The negro Sam Johnson supported Hampton. He was not a Republican, as Tillman tells you. He carried 1,800 colored votes for Hampton in Anderson.

Tillman says he wants the people to rule, and yet he told you at Greenville that he is going to write you out a new platform, and that you must make every candidate take the Bible and swear that he will support it. God forgive the day when the people do this Tillman wants the right to set aside your choice for sheriff and put in his appointee. Such power should never be given to any man by a free people.

Referring to Tillman's management of the State's finances he said that when he went into office the State's bonds were quoted at 103 and now they are 93. It's the first time it occurred since the settlement of the debt of South Carolina in reconstruction. Those bonds are due in a year or two. If the State's credit were good people would be glad to take up those bonds at 4 per cent. Now they can't be funded for less than 4½ or 5 per cent. which comes out of your pockets.

Every administration beginning with Hampton declared against Coosaw and when its time was out Tillman had nothing to do but to carry out these recommendations.

Tillman—Why do you blame me for it, then?

Orr—For the foolish way in which you did it. Tillman stopped these people from digging phosphate and paying the royalty into the State treasury, and thereby lost the State $135,000.

Tillman tells you that he pigeon-holed the resolution extending the time for the payment of taxes. The newspapers published that he was going to veto it.

Tillman—That ain't the first lie the newspapers have told against me, and it won't be the last.

Orr—Many of you, on account of his action, had to scramble to get money together to pay his taxes before the three days allowed by law had expired.

Tillman claims to be the friend of the poor man and yet wants to increase your poll tax to $3. Some of you can't stand that, and the law allows them to put you in jail if you don't pay your tax.

Col. Orr was followed by Tindal, Murphy, Farley, Dixon and others, when the meeting broke up in perfect good nature.

Drowned In a Hole.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 21.—Twelve men were caught by a flood in Lyttle mine, near Minersville, yesterday instead of two as first stated. They were rescued today, leaving ten in the mine, who are without doubt drowned. Two of these were experienced miners engaged in timbering. The others were Italian laborers driving a gangway in the lower portion of the mine, and the water rose two hundred feet above the place where they were working. Both of the rescued men are this afternoon working to rescue the others. Their nerve is not shaken a particle by their close shave. Their names are Bell and Doblin.

Put Up or Shut Up.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 23.—Congressman Livingston has talked himself pretty well out of voice. He has been waging a furious campaign the last two weeks, and he says that Congress will be restful after a fortnight on the stump in pursuit of the elusive Third Party leaders. "I have made this proposition," said he, "while I have not announced myself a candidate for Congress, I have proposed that if it will settle this matter I will go into primaries with Col. Peck in his own county, Rockdale, and if he can carry it I will retire, provided that the Third Party will shut up shop if they do not get a majority."