

## The FIST CAMPAIGN MEETING.

**A Great Gathering.**—The Audience Estimated at 4,500—Great Enthusiasm Over the Senator.—The Speeches in Good Temper Except John Gary Evans—Some Disorder but no Serious Trouble.

**Rock Hill, S. C., June 18.**—The people began to arrive here to attend the opening political meeting of the campaign, yesterday evening. All the candidates for governor, United States senator, State treasurer, commissioner general and all other officers came in on the 7.40 R. & D. train, together with a lot of farmers from Edgefield. Property rights were represented as were the other towns where Senator Butler is strong. The town was crowded with all classes of men last night hunting lodgings, some of them sleeping on the curb stones and on the steps of stores.

This morning at the 5.30 vestibule came in it was seen that the crowd was composed of Butler men, especially farmers from Edgefield county, being very enthusiastic. Before 8 o'clock the streets were crowded with strangers from all over the State. I think every county in the State was represented. At 10.30 the south bound train pulled up carrying ten coaches pretty well filled with Tar Heels, many of whom were pretty full of mountain juice.

At 11 o'clock the crowd left the Carolina hotel for the grounds where the speaking was to be held, all the State officers and candidates going ahead in carriages and buggies. The meeting was on the grounds of J. L. Moore, three quarters of a mile north of the business center of town. The procession was headed by the Rock Hill Silver Corps which marched in splendid array.

The crowd is estimated at about 4,500. The speaker at once proceeded to the stand and when Senator Butler started up the steps a yell went up like the roar of the air, it being evident from the first that Senator Butler had the crowd.

After prayer by the Rev. W. G. White and music by the band, the speakers were introduced by the chairman of the Rock Hill democratic club. The first speaker introduced was Congressman T. J. Strait. He expressed his thanks for the opportunity of coming before the people of York again as a candidate for re-election to the office he now held. He spoke on the silver question saying at the same time that he had not made preparations for a speech, not knowing the arrangements.

The next speaker introduced was Governor Tillman, amid shouts and applause and with hats and umbrellas flying in the air. He began by saying that this was the third time he had appeared before the people in search of office, and that he was the only man in South Carolina who knew how to canvass this State, and that he was glad to canvass the people of this county as well as all over the State and a good many from North Carolina. He said: "Look how I was treated by the newspapers who were trying to overthrow my administration and the democracy of this State." He seemed to be in good humor and said that all his opponents were from the same country and that they had never had a cross word in all their lives, but that the people who elected him, Mr. B. Tillman in 1890-92, he supposed would elect him 1894 to the United States senate. "No! No! No!" came from the Edgefield crowd. He made a very strong argument on the silver question, hitting with glances off. He said that he had come here today to speak to the boys who handled the plow, that he always went for the biggest plum, going straight to the top of the tree and pulled it down. His speech was principally on the currency, explaining it fully, also reading the decision of the United States supreme court at Washington pertaining to greenbacks, silver and gold. He also referred to the crowd who had come in the morning on free passes, being loudly applauded all the way through.

Capt. Iredell Jones then came to the front and said on account of sickness Maj. White, the chairman, had been called home and he would introduce the speakers, which he did in fine style, also thanking the people for their kind attention and good behavior.

Senator Butler was then introduced amid frantic yells. Every man in the crowd seeming to be enthusiastic at sight of the brave old leader, it being some time before he could commence on account of the continued applause which filled the air. He made a splendid impression, touching on the silver question, and the tariff bill, which he said would be passed before the expiration of ten days. He was in good humor, as also was the crowd, his speech being applauded all the way through. It was evident here that he carried the day. His comparisons of Governor Tillman's record on the silver question was exec lent.

Then came ten minutes' reply by Tillman amid shouts of applause. He made some very strong remarks, punching with glove off. He was then seated and Senator Butler, amid renewed shouts of applause, came to the front once more with a ten minutes' reply.

W. H. Ellerbe, competitor general and candidate for Governor, was then introduced but said that owing to a bad cold he did not feel like making a speech until the next day.

John Gary Evans, candidate for governor, was next introduced. He began by thanking the people for the privilege of appearing before them and said that he would if elected governor do all he could to unite the people. He hit some hard blows at Senator Butler which were applauded by a few Tillmanites, but very feebly. He was interested several times by questions from the crowd and cut them off short. Gus Aiken, a voter, wanted to whip out John Gary and his whole set for remarks against Senator Butler.

Stamps Pope, candidate for governor, was introduced and made a thirty minutes' speech, denouncing Cleveland and saying that the first time he did after being elected the second time was to veto a bill for the relief of the people.

John J. King, secretary of State, was the next and last speaker, being the third candidate for governor. He spoke much as the rest of the candidates did, and expressed himself eager to discover means for the relief of the people.

So ended the campaign meeting at Rock Hill. Everything passed off very quietly. There was but very little drinking. The opinion is that Col. Ben is not in it.

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During Tillman's second speech the cheering was nearly as great for him as for Butler. His first speech excited little enthusiasm, and the Tillmanites appeared half-backed during Butler's first. It is doubtful if Butler had gained any decisive advantage from the meeting; he did not succeed in stampeding the Tillmanites. They are as firm as ever.

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The significant incident of the day was Tillman's practical rejection of the Senatorial box of the primaries.

The behavior of the crowd was orderly, and it was well policed. —*The State.*

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## The Weekly Union Times.

R. M. STOKES, - - Editor

**Friday, June 22, 1894.**

**SUBSCRIPTION, \$1 50 PER ANNUM**

### POST OFFICE DIRECTORY.

The P. O. will be opened for business from 8 A. M. to 6.00 P. M.

The Money Order Department will be opened for business from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Mail going East will close promptly at 10.29 A. M.; going West 4.40 P. M.

The mail will be taken from the street box each day 30 minutes before the trains arrive.

R. W. HARRIS, P. M.

**ED.** We learn that Rice's bridge over Fair Forest river, fell in some time last Tuesday night.

**ED.** We are informed that the campaign meeting at Yorkville was a very tame affair in every respect. One of Gov. Tillman's hand primaries, showed 3 to 2 in favor of Tillman for Senator.

The U. Q. A. gave a Gipsy Tea party to the young men last Wednesday. The fan of it was, there was a no no in it, but there was considerable *tete a tete*, and a good supply of "frozen variations," with well flavored cake bread accompaniments.

**ED.** We could find nothing in the speeches at Rock Hill that could call forth much applause or criticism. They were all very common-place, but had one very gratifying feature, they were pleasant and good natured. God grant that such may characterize the campaign to the end.

**ED.** We are pleased to see a number of neat and convenient cottages going up in different parts of the town. They are evidences of the growing prosperity, the increasing number of industry and thrift of a class of citizens that build up towns on the solid foundation of honest industry.

**ED.** The proverbial *distance lends enchantment to the view* is being practically illustrated by the young folks of this town riding fourteen miles and back on a hot summer day to a picnic at Lockhart Shoals. Whether the attraction is the ride, the picturesque scenery or the two bachelors at the Shoals, we cannot say.

**SAV.**—Where is all that crowd of people going?

Why they are going down to MATHIS' Ice Cream Parlor to get some of those Soda-light Ice Cream that he is serving daily.

**ED.** The congregations of the three colored churches of this town have combined to give a grand excursion from Shelton to Asheville, N. C., next Thursday, the 28th, and return early the next day. Tickets will be for sale at Shelson, Carlisle, Santeet, (\$1.75) Union, Jonesville, Paclet, (\$1.50) and Spartanburg (\$1.25). The proceeds to be divided between the three churches, to help pay the debt of each.

**ED.** The change of schedule that went into effect last Sunday on the S. U. and C. railroad, is quite an improvement, and is very satisfactory to the people of this section. We have four passenger trains daily: one from below arrives at 7.10 p. m., and one from Asheville at 11.10 p. m. These trains do not carry the mail. The mail train from Columbia arrives here at 1.40, and the train from Asheville arrives at 1.10 p. m., both trains stopping here for dinner.

Capt. W. M. Gibbs, who keeps the dinner house, has made a wide-spread reputation for himself, among summer travelers, for keeping one of the best dinner houses in the South, and he informs us that he intends this year to best all former records in that line. If he does that, and the Capt. generally does what he promises, one-half the passengers will want to "play over" at Union, for he feeds at the very top of the market.

**ED.** At the Rock Hill meeting last Monday, during his speech Senator Butler made the following proposition to Governor Tillman:

"I have a proposition to make to the Governor. If he will agree to have a separate ballot box at each voting precinct in which the people, I mean the white people, in the primary in September may register their choice for Senator, without the interference of rings and caucuses, I shall agree to abide by it. Will he do that?"

"Yes, I know he will," said the Senator.

"Will he agree to submit to the people whether he or I should represent them in the Senate?" I will abide by it.

In answer to the above proposition, Governor Tillman said he favored a constitutional amendment providing the election of Senators by popular vote, but that should be in the general elections. He was willing to leave the matter for the executive committee. He would be satisfied with their action, but the people could make known their wishes by voting for or against candidates for the Legislature who had declared their preferences for Senator.

Stamps Pope, candidate for governor, was introduced and made a thirty minutes' speech, denouncing Cleveland and saying that the first time he did after being elected the second time was to veto a bill for the relief of the people.

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**PERSONALS.**

Miss Nona Neal, of North Carolina, is visiting her sister, Mrs. L. P. Murphy.

Miss Lizzie Gibbs, of Augusta, Ga., is visiting her uncle, Capt. W. M. Gibbs and family, at the Union Hotel.

**ED.**

**ED.** It is always best to hear both sides of a question if you wish to be right in forming your opinion. Last week in speaking of the failure to let the contract to build the Murphy's Mill bridge we said, "we hear some bitter complaints made by the people of that section against the owners of the property in the town of Union, because they would not allow the bridge to be located so as to escape the steep hills and miserable road leading to town from that part of the country."

In that we spoke before we knew the true status of the difficulty, or, as our old friend, J. Rice Rodgers used to say, we "went off half-cocked." Since then the other side—the owners of the mill property—have given us their version of the trouble, which puts quite a new feature upon the matter, but we have not room to give it in detail, nor could we make it quite plain to our readers without giving a diagram of the location of the mill and other points on the river.

The owners of the mill property say they are perfectly willing to give the right of way to the Commissioners for the proposed location of the bridge *above* the present mill site and bridge; but as they intend building a cotton mill on the Murphy Mill site at an early day that would necessitate the building of a dam below the mill, which would endanger the *safety* of the proposed bridge from backwater and overflow, they asked that the Commissioners give all necessary security that they would be held harmless from any damage that may hereafter befall the bridge from such backwater or overflow.

It appears to us to be purely a matter of self-defence on the part of the owners of the mill property. They own a valuable site for a cotton mill, but it could never be utilized for that purpose if the stockholders of a mill built on it were subject to pay for a county bridge every time a heavy freshet came in the backwater to wash it away.

The Mill Company appear to be not only willing but anxious to aid the Commissioners in their desire to improve the road at that point, on *both* sides of the river, but they are not willing, and do not think the people would ask them, to jeopardize their interest in the property by consenting to its being put in constant danger of being held liable for damages of the bridge, without some indemnity.

We have peace, a good road to and a big cotton mill at the old Murphy Mill site.

**ED.** There are many signs of substantial improvement in this good old town of Union.

The spirit of competition that has stirred up the Dry Goods Merchants lately has brought trade in that line from all parts of the country. There's no telling how cheap you can buy dry goods here.

A few days ago a gentleman told us that in Spartanburg the week before he asked the price per yard of a piece of calico displayed in front of a store, and was told \$8 cents, and he knew the same quality of goods was selling at Union at 5 cents.

The business of the "Old Reliable" A. H. Foster & Co. has *so* increased under the stimulus of competition that they have to add a grand excursion from Shelson to Asheville, N. C., next Thursday, the 28th, and return early the next day. Tickets will be for sale at Shelson, Carlisle, Santeet, (\$1.75) Union, Jonesville, Paclet, (\$1.50) and Spartanburg (\$1.25). The proceeds to be divided between the three churches, to help pay the debt of each.

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