SCHOOLS OF THE SOUTH

OUGHT TO HAVE THE AID OF THE NATION.

The Reasons Why Clearly Stated by a Southerner, a Democrat of Forty-Six Years' Standing.

To the Editors of the Appeal:

NASHVILLE, TENN., June 21.—There is a question which is of practical importance and about which I regret to say there is not unanimity of opinion—that is the policy of national aid to education, embodied in what is known as the Blair bill. I do not hesitate to avow myself in favor of this measure and shall proceed to give my reasons.

I am for it because it is Democratic. The National Convention which nominated Grover Cleveland for President and Thos. A. Hendricks for Vice-President adopted as a part of their platform the following: "We favor the diffusion of free education by common schools, so that every child in the land may be taught the rights and duties of citizenship."

This must have referred to national aid to education. The Federal Government has nothing to do with purely local matters, and a national convention would not say anything in reference to them. The great body of our laws are purely local, and therefore the National Convention had nothing to say about these laws because the Federal Government had nothing to do with them.

The fact that the National Convention did speak out on any question shows that they considered it a national question. Whether the States as States should encourage education—public school education—if it had been merely a local question, could not have been interferred with by a national convention, which only looked to matters requiring Federal legislation. This is conclusive as to the views taken by the Democratic party in convention assembled. No one will contend that the National Convention could interfere with a purely local matter.

Again, the leading statesmen of the country who had a hand in making the government and were assisted in framing the constitution maintained that the Federal Government was bound to aid in establishing public schools and in aiding education. George Washington, who presided over the convention that framed the constitution, and who was the first President under it, said in his farewell address that Congress should "promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge." Thos. Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, and who was in his day the distinguished leader of the Democratic party, said in his annual message in 1806:

When both these branches of revenue shall in this way be relinquished, there will still, ere long, be an accumulation of moneys in the Treasury beyond the installments of the public debt which we are permitted by contract to pay. They cannot, then, without a modification, assented to by the public creditors, be applied to the extinguishment of this debt, and the complete liberation of our revenues, the most desirable of all objects; nor, if our peace continues, will they be wanting for any other existing purpose. The question, therefore, now comes forward, to what objects shall these surpluses be appropriated, and the whole surplus of impost after the entire discharge of the public debt, and during those intervals when the purposes of war shall not call for them? Shall we suppress the impost, and give that advantage to foreign over domestic manufacturers? On a few articles of more general and necessary use the suppression, in due season, will doubtless be right, but the great mass of the articles on which impost is paid are foreign luxuries purchased only by those who are rich enough to afford themselves the use of them.

Their patriotism would certainly prefer its continuance, and application to the great purposes of the public education, roads, rivers, canals and such other objects of public improvement as it may be thought necessary to add to the constitutional enumeration of Federal powers. By these operations new channels of communication will be opened between the States, the lines of separation will disappear, their interests will be identified and their union cemented by new and indissoluable ties.

In his last annual message, in 1808, he again said: "Shall the revenue be reduced or shall it not rather be appropriated to the improvement of roads, canals, rivers, education and other great foundations of prosperity and union under the powers which Congress may already possess, or such amendments of the constitution as may be approved by the States?"

With such men as these advocating national aid to education, who can doubt that it is a Democratic measure?

Again, in our own day and time, when such men as L. Q. C. Lamar, A. H. Garland, Wade Hampton, J. L. Pugh, Howell E. Jackson, D. W. Voorhees and hundreds of other leading Democrats advocate this bill how can anyone question its being a Democratic measure? It is Democratic, because it gives to the States the right to manage the fund—to select not only the books but the teachers; or, in other words, it completely recognizes the doctrine of States rights, as will appear from examining the bill.

I am in favor of it because it is right, because it is necessary, because it is indispensable. In a republic the people must be educated to sustain the government, and uphold popular institutions. Men of wealth are able to educate their children at private schools, but the great mass of the people are laborers who are unable to educate their children except at public schools. These are often the most valuable portion of the community, and constitute the governing classes of the country. I am aware that it is contended by some, but by only a few, I trust, that education unfits a man for manual labor. This is a great mistake. Proper education qualifies a man for labor of any kind, and causes him to honor it. A man is not a mere horse or mule, that is only valuable in proportion to the amount of manual labor he performs; he is given intellect which it is his duty to cultivate, and which fits him for all the relations of life, including labor. The better educated any community is the more prosperous it is, as well as the more happy. For these reasons it is the duty of the government to foster, encourage and maintain public schools. In our State the people are not able by direct taxation to maintain an efficient public school system. The taxation is now very heavy, and yet there is a great deficiency. In many of the counties the rate of taxation for school purposes amounts to 20, 30, 40, and in some counties to 50 cents on the $100 worth of property, besides the State tax, which is 10 cents on $100, and yet we see that there is great illiteracy among our people. Our scholastic population is 609,628. Of these only 373,877 are enrolled as pupils, and the average of daily attendance is only 192,403, not one-third of the scholastic population. The average number of days taught in the year is eighty, not one-fourth of the days in the year. The number of private schools is 865, the number of pupils enrolled is 25,569, and average daily attendance 2050. Average cost of the pupils in the public schools is 72 cents per month.

These figures show how little is done even with the present high rate of taxation. We must have assistance from some quarter. Where can we get it more appropristely than from the Federal Government. The Blair bill proposes to give Tennessee an average of $800,364 per annum. This, added to our present school fund, would give us $1,846,613, which properly managed would establish an efficient system of public schools. This $1,846,613 will be circulated among the people, and will in that way be of great pecuniary benefit in addition to its educational advantages. It has been contended that the object of the Blair bill was to deplete the Treasury so as to make a high tariff necessary. This is not true. The depletion of the Treasury would render a reasonable reduction of the tariff necessary, because a reduction of the tariff would increase the revenue instead of decreasing it. But I am for the Blair bill on its own merits; because it is just and right; without any regard to the tariff.

This is not a party question. Its leading opponents are Democrats and Republicans and its leading advocates are Democrats and Republicans. The question of national aid to education has heretofore been sustained by all parties. We must either receive national aid or abandon our school system, because the people of Tennessee are unable to bear sufficient taxation to sustain an effective system and any other is worthless. While I highly respect those who advocate a strict construction of the constitution and who are against enlarging the powers of the Federal Government, yet I think they carry the doctrine too far when they oppose national aid to education. The appropriation of money to improve rivers in the States is a far greater stretch of power in the Federal Government and has a much more centralizing tendency than national aid to education, because in the case of river improvements the Federal Government employs the hands to do the work and controls the money, while in national aid to education the State employs the teachers and controls the money.

As this measure is clearly constitutional and in accordance with Democratic usage, recognizing, as it does, the rights of the States, it cannot be objected to, because the Southern States get $61,000,000 out of the $77,000,000 appropriated. This is done, not because they are Southern, but because they have the greatest amount of illiteracy, growing out of the presence of a large black population. Shall we reject this offer, and thereby necessitate the abandonment of public school education or largely increase taxation necessary to maintain an efficient system of public schools? This is the real question and we cannot evade it. Let us be wise in time.

I have not gone into a discussion of the details of the Blair bill, because I deemed that unnecessary. The conditions which are contained in the bill do not interfere with the right of the State to manage the fund. They are only such conditions as are necessary to secure a faithful execution of the trust, and cannot be objected to by any who are really in favor of national aid to education. While I am not in favor of making support of this bill a test of Democratic fealty, I cannot see how any Democrat can oppose it.

A Large Dividend to Railroad Employes.

Mr. Chauncy J. Stedwell, train-master of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis railway, was said to have held one fifth of ticket No. 76,244 in the Louisiana State Lottery, which on May 11th drew the capital prize of $75,000. May 26th he told a *Plain Dealer* reporter at his residence, 152 Lake street, Cleveland, O., that "it is true that the $15,000 drawn by the fifth of this ticket was paid to me, but I only acted as collector for others. The fortunate holders were five employes of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis railway, in my department, as follows: H. Johnson, brakeman, 461 Sterling avenue; J. Lahiff, conductor, 35 Seymour avenue; Thomas Murphy, conductor, 44 Bailey street; F. Williams, conductor, 75 Delaware street; R. Constant, brakeman, 1187 Lorain street, who came and urged me to attend to the collection of the money and divide it. I forwarded the ticket to New Orleans and it was promptly paid, and I paid each of them $3000.

The Harness Manufacturers.

PITTSBURG, PA., June 22.—The harness manufacturers of the United States, in convention here today, permanently organized under the name of the National Association of Saddlery and Harness Manufacturers. The following officers were elected: President, Owen C. Gathright, Louisville; secretary and tressurer, N. J. Demorest, Newark, N. J. Executive Committee, W. L. Tompkins, Newark, N. J.; George Wery, Concord, N. H.; E. F. Breck, Newark, N. J.; Benjamin Bourne, Hartford, Conn. The object of the association is protection against strikes. The convention adjourned at noon to meet in New York next month.

Young Lady Drowned.

DENVER, COL., June 22.—A Glenwood Springs special to the *Republican* says that yesterday while Miss Belle Sager and two men were crossing the rope suspension bridge across the Roaring Fork, one of the posts to which the cable was fastened was pulled out of the ground and the three were thrown into the swift current. The two men clung to the ropes, which were washed against the bank, and escaped, but the young lady was carried into the Grand river and was drowned.

Fatal Accident.

PITTSBURG, PA., June 22.—A Newcastle (Pa.) special says: A party of three women and three children, while returning from a dance in the country, were thrown from their vehicle this morning at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Henry Carbaugh had her right arm broken and her infant son was instantly killed. Mrs. Archback is injured internally, and is now in a critical condition. Mrs Mullen and the two other children were bruised badly but will recover.

They Are Not Sorry.

There is one thing nobody ever regrets—that is, the day they first adopted Parker's Tonic as their regular family medicine. Its range is so wide, and its good effects so sure, that nothing else, except good nursing, are needed in a great majority of cases. Buy it, try it, and afterward it will not require any praise from us.

The Irish Parliamentary Fund.

NEW YORK, June 22.—The Irish Parliamentary Fund Committee met last night. Mr. Eugene Kelly presided. The amount subscribed last night was $19,643. Mr. Kelly stated that yesterday he had cabled $19,594 to London. The first subscription last night was $5000 from a gentleman whose name, at his own request, was withheld. The announcement was received with cheers. The total amount raised to date by the committee is $98,663.

THE TARIFF REFORMERS.

MEETING OF FRIENDS OF THE MORRISON BILL.

Committee Appointed to Issue an Address to the Country—Characteristic Speeches.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—About 100 of the representatives who voted for the consideration of the Morrison tariff bill assembled in the House last night. Representative Bragg, of Wisconsin, was chosen chairman and Representative McRae, of Arkansas, secretary of the conference.

Speaker Carlisle opened the proceedings with a stirring speech, urging the members to stand firm in their purpose of tariff reform, and pointing out the necessity of united, harmonious action.

Mr. Cox, of North Carolina, offered a resolution instructing Mr. Morrison to renew his motion to consider the tariff bill tomorrow.

Considerable opposition was manifested, however, as Mr. Morrison himself expressed a desire to be left free to act in the matter as seemed best to him. The resolution was finally withdrawn.

Mr. Morrison then moved that the tariff reform Democrats select one member from each State to constitute a committee which shall consider the advisability of issuing an address to the country explanatory of the position of that element; the committee to report to another conference to be held later in the present month.

This motion gave rise to considerable discussion, mostly of a friendly nature, however, and afforded Mr. Allen [Miss] an opportunity to deliver one of his characteristic speeches. He realized, he said, the responsibility of his position as leader of the majority and distrustful of his own strength, he sought the appointment of a committee to relieve him by suggesting a plan of operation in the present emergency. The people demanded prompt, energetic action and less talk. In illustration, he told the story of a Texas man indicted for the murder of a guest. When called on to plead the Texan told how the stranger had partaken of his hospitality and reviled and insulted his household goods. All his contumely and insult his host had borne with patience, but finally the man talked tariff to him and he "rose up and shot him."

Even Mr. Morrison joined in the laughter that ensued.

The resolution was adopted.

The discussion turned on the present state of business in the House and several chairmen took advantage of the occasion to impress upon the meeting the necessity of action upon some of their bills. It was finally decided to call a full Democratic caucus for next Wednesday night to agree upon future procedure.

It can be stated on the best authority that the Democratic leaders regard last Thursday's vote on the Morrison bill as finally defeating any tariff legislation during the remainder of the session, and that any attempt that may be made to again call up the bill will be only for the purpose of more strongly emphasizing the principles of the tarifi reformers.

AMUSEMENT NOTES.

EVANS and Hoey will play the *Parlor Match* eight weeks in New York City next season.

CHAS. S. DICKSON, for several seasons with Robson and Crane, joins the Gillette-Kennedy organization next season.

THE two commedians, M A. Kennedy and William Gillette, will star jointly the coming season in a new farce comedy.

E. C. STONE will leave for Europe shortly to bring back with him the original scenery and mechanical effects of the Paris production of *Theodora*.

THE *Queen's Favorite*, which Genevieve Ward will produce next season, is a lively comedy from the French of Eugene Scribe, adapted by Sydney Grundy.

MANAGER HAYMAN, having learned of another play of the same name, has given up the idea of calling Osmond Tearle's new drama *Man to Man*. He is now looking up another title.

THE preliminary season at the Lyceum Theater, New York, will commence in September with an elaborate production of H. C. de Mille's and Chas. Barnard's new play, *The Main Line*. It is classified as "a drama of the railroad."

COL. MCCAULL says the opera company which will play the *Black Hussar* on the road next season will be one of the best he ever organized, which is certainly a good guarantee, as Manager McCaull has yet to break faith with the public the first time.

The Michigan City Cock Fight.

To the Editors of the Appeal:

MICHIGAN CITY, MISS., June 21.—There seems to be a misunderstanding among the cockers of Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee as to the date of the fight at Michigan City. Please state through the columns of your paper that the fight will be on the 2d and 3d of July, positively. Those wishing to attend from a distance can get conveyance from Lagrange and Grand Junction, Tenn., and Michigan City, Miss.

Freight Wrecks in Ohio.

PITTSBURG, PA., June 22.—Freight train No. 78, coming over the Fort Wayne road, jumped the track near Canton, O., early this morning, and eight cars containing fresh beef, beer and live stock were badly wrecked. Henry Harrington, a boy, who was stealing a ride, was crushed to death between two cars, and L. F. Emerson was slightly bruised and scratched. The rest of the crew escaped injury by jumping. Several head of hogs and sheep were killed and others maimed. The accident was caused by a broken rail.

The Boundary Question in Texas.

GALVESTON, TEX., June 22.—A special to the *News* from Austin says: "The rumor which had gained currency that the boundary commission now in session at Austin, charged with determining the boundary line question between the United States and Texas relative to Greer county, had decided against Texas, is not true. The dispatch says that the members of the commission deny positively that they have reached any definite conclusion. It is believed that the circulation of this report was undertaken in the interest of persons who wanted to bear veteran scrip, in order to purchase it cheap.

Photographers' National Convention.

ST. LOUIS, MO., June 22.—One thousand photographers from all parts of the United States and Canada have arrived in the city to attend the seventh annual convention, which held its first session today, and many foreign artists not being able to attend personally have sent specimens of their work to represent them. An interesting feature of the convention is the exhibition by the various photographers of views from the United States, Canada, England and Germany of an infinite variety of subjects which cover all of the available space upon the walls of the meeting-room, as well as those of the fourteen smaller adjacent halls, and 5000 square feet of partitions which have been especially erected for the purpose. There is also on display a most complete exhibition of all apparatus known to the art. The convention was called to order at 10 o'clock by the president, Mr. W. X. Potter, of Indianapolis. Mr. George Crone, of St. Louis, delivered an address of welcome to the delegates to St. Louis. The president's response to this was followed by the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous convention, which was in turn succeeded by committee reports.

HELENA, ARK.

Abatement of the Excitement Over the Congressional Nominations.

[SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL.]

HELENA, ARK., June 22.—The political excitement attendant upon the Congressional contest in this district has about abated, and the nomination is conceded to the Hon. Poindexter Dunn.

The Judicial Convention of this district meets tomorrow at Brinkley. The candidates before this convention are Judge M. T. Sanders and Judge A. N. Hutton for Circuit Judge, and S. Brundidge, jr., and C. Warner for Prosecuting Attorney. The district is composed of seven counties. Sanders and Brundidge have already received instructions sufficient to guarantee their nomination.

EVOLUTION.

What the Venerable Ex-President of Yale Says.

At a meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club in New York, May 25th, the venerable ex-President Porter of Yale College, read an able paper upon Evolution, from the point of view of the philosopher and theologian. He said, as reported in the New York *Tribune*:

"Evolution is more than a scientific or philosophical question. Pushed to its logical outcome, it comprises theism, ethics, and all the sentiments from which our Christian civilization starts. If we accept the evolutionist's doctrine, we must accept his atheism, materialism and conventional morals. Darwinism traces the origin of all species back to three or four, perhaps to a single species. Environment and natural variation are the factors in this development. But within the historical period species have not changed, and in the prehistoric period there is no evidence that other than the two Darwinian factors have not been at work. In biology, too, there are only indications and analogies, not facts, to prove a graduated evolution. By its doctrine of the correlation of forces, evolution endeavors to transform all phenomena, whether of mind or matter, into modes of motion. Vital force, life itself, it transforms into a name for a subtle combination of mechanical movements. By calling it a highly differentiated mechanical force the evolutionist hypostatizes an agent which is mechanical only in a nebulous and hazy way. Evolution must assume the atomic theory, that all particles are qualitatively alike. It reduces life to chymism, chymism to mechanism, and mechanism to chance combinations of atoms. Ethical and mathematical truths, thought relations, are made to depend upon integrations and differentiations in the brain. What is truth, what is science, what even is the theory of evolution itself, if tomorrow it may disappear with a new vibration in our brains? All certainty becomes uncertain, even the certainty of evolution itself. The evolution theory is made up of a few well-established truths and a large number of analogies and more or less daring hypotheses. It destroys the self conscious agent and substitutes for it blind materialism. Its logical outcome is mechanical atheism, unsettled morals, denial of immortality or personality to man or God."

Crooked Lawyers.

TRENTON, N. J., June 22.—Ex-Judge McCarter made a motion before the Supreme Court last week to disbar Judge J. Frankfort and Joseph A. Beecher, prominent members of the bar in Newark, on the ground of alleged unprofessional conduct. They were charged with having attempted, under a professional mask, to defraud a widow who had previously retained ex-Judge McCarter as her counsel. Great excitement was caused among members of the legal profession, owing to the prominence of the parties concerned. The case has been pending since, but it was virtually dismissed yesterday by the decision of the court not to grant the motion.

Judge Davis's Condition.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., June 22.—The condition of Judge David Davis is in nowise improved.

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Scrofulous, Inherited and Contagious Humors,

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James E. Richardson, Custom-House, New Orleans, on oath, says: "In 1879 scrofulous ulcers broke out on my body until I was a mass of corruption. Everything known to the medical faculty was tried in vain. I became a mere wreck. At times could not lift my hands to my head, could not turn in bed; was in constant pain, and looked upon life as a curse. No relief or cure in ten years. In 1880 I heard of the CUTICURA REMEDIES, used them, and was perfectly cured."

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