

A BIT AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL.

This writer is under very special obligations to The Fayetteville Observer, Charlotte Observer and Raleigh News and Observer for very kind and appreciative articles upon his long service in North Carolina journalism, and in behalf of the democratic party. It was all unexpected that is so generously said by our able, leading contemporaries, as it did not remotely suggest itself that our bit of personal reminiscence would draw out comment much less such cordial and magnanimous words of approval. We return hearty thanks and trust it may stimulate to farther efforts, if not better effects in behalf of good, equal, economical government in North Carolina and in the union.

As we have turned into our seventieth year we embrace the occasion to refer again to our journalistic work as we may never have occasion to do so hereafter. We wrote our first newspaper article, a communication, in July, 1846. After that from time to time in our boyhood and early manhood we wrote for the newspapers. In November, 1857, we began preparation to edit a literary paper published at Oxford and called The Leisure Hour. The very highest praise we ever received was during the first six months of our editing. Since then we have been connected in some way, either as correspondent or editorial writer with many newspapers. We were connected with The Roanoke News as correspondent, and at another time with The Fayetteville Gazette, whose editor removed to Tennessee and died, and of The Petersburg Express. We were editorial writer for The Tarboro Southern at one time, Raleigh Daily Record, Oxford Torchlight, Memphis Baptist, and Wilson Advance under its first management, and New York Watchman, Dr. Deems's paper. We have edited the Leisure Hour mentioned, The Warrenton Indicator, The Raleigh Sentinel, The Raleigh Evening Crescent, The Wilmington Star, for twelve years and three months, and The Wilmington Messenger since May 24th, 1889. We have been editorial contributor to the Raleigh Biblical Recorder and Raleigh Christian Advocate, having edited the latter for a while during a long vacation of the editor. Three times we were urged to accept the editorship of The Advocate in the war. At the Raleigh conference we received every vote of the stockholders, twenty-one the number. Our venerable friend, Dr. John F. Poard, was president of the board, and still lives. We might perhaps say that we could have had the place four times, for at Louisburg the foremost men in the body favored our election, and Dr. Moran interviewed us to try to persuade us to accept. We never accepted either proffer for reasons that appeared to us paramount. We edited a Sunday school monthly in Memphis for seven months. We also edited two monthlies in this state—the Educational Journal and Our Living and Our Dead, Colonel S. D. Pools publications. This embraces in outline all of our work. We were offered some quarter of a century ago a chair in the editorial rooms of Harper's Weekly, which our old friend Dr. Deems got for us from Mr. Fletcher Harper, his personal friend. We were also tendered a place on Butterick's fashion monthly to go to London or Paris or both as correspondent, but declined. We have never sought to write for any publication in the north, or indeed in any southern paper outside of North Carolina. We are so thoroughly North Carolinian we have been content to do such work as we were able to do within the state, the only exception being those named, writing for a Virginia paper as correspondent and for Dr. Deems in New York. We have been asked to write for several magazines, but have never done so. We have continuously striven to do our duty. With many mistakes, many shortcomings and imperfections, with limitations we well understood as to capacity, we have been diligent, anxious and strenuous to serve the two generations in which we have lived and to be a positive blessing to humanity. We have not been endowed with "large discourse of reason, looking before and after," but we have essayed to be honest and faithful in opinions, and to maintain the basic principles of a free and enlightened government. We have cherished with admiration and love the "legendary virtue carved upon our fathers' graves" and have in a pure sense, we trust, worshipped the "light ancestral" that indeed makes "the present light a crime." If that be wrong or evidence of blindness then we crave pardon for we have sinned openly and honestly.

"So high to grandeur is our duty; So near to God is man, when duty whispers Lo, thou must." Duty is imperative, above all consequences. When it calls we must obey. Fiat justitia, percat mundi. We must dare to do right always. To move straight forward, animated by faith in God, sustained and cheered by His promises, feeling secure that He will fulfill all and make good to each, all He has declared. Presently we must stand before Him to give an account of our stewardship. May it be to receive the plaudit of well done good and faithful servant. It is a most cheering, comforting thing to know that God is

to be the judge and not poor, spiteful, mean, degraded man. The searcher of all hearts will sit upon the throne of Judgment in the time of the Great Assize. It will be then known who is right and who is wrong, who is just and who is unjust, who is pure and who is vicious and foul. May the good Lord save all who feel the need of His grace.

While it is nearly forty years since we began our journalistic work, probably our total service will not exceed thirty-four years not counting a good deal of work done through the years of our own volition in the way of literary criticism, political correspondence, etc., but without newspaper connection in any formal capacity. These added would perhaps make thirty-six years of newspaper work.

Dandruff is an exudation from the pores of the skin that spreads and dries, forming scurf and causing the hair to fall out. Hall's Hair Renewer cures it.

HOME FOLKS.

It requires no seer or man with a political telescope to discover Butler's maneuvers in the political sky. He is the Comet in politics in North Carolina. He is ready to unite with the radical burnt-out moon or to strike the democratic sun with his tail. He is up to anything that will give him continued lease on power and help him to be the theme of newspaper speculation. He will be sure "to fine the radikils" if the "radikils" will let him. But he is spent force, and if the leaders of the black and tan take him aboard their already floundering boat he will prove a Jonah and will provoke a storm.

One of the worst signs of the day is the large element of superstitious and most credulous people in this and other southern states. How could such baseless "isms" flourish and fatten in our midst but for man's extreme ignorance and the intense superstition begotten of it? Who would have believed in A. D. 1850 or 1860 that the crudest of the crude religions—Mormonism originating with an impostor and liar and based on polygamy—could ever delude the number of people in this and other southern states that it has deluded and even entice to their degradation and ruin? And there are other "isms" floating around that may be possibly without any more foundation in truth and intelligence.

If we thought that the governor would regard us as serious we would tender our condolence. They call fast riding on the bike a "scorching." Some of the party friends of Russell appear to be riding at him in a very "scorching" rate of speed. They are less than kind, for they are taking advantage of the situation—rather melancholy to the tsar—and are thrusting cruelly after he is done. His imperial highness is now in the dust of the arena prone, in an attitude of defencelessness. He has neither helmet, sword, lance nor shield. In fact, he is unhorsed, at the mercy of his enemies, and in his own party, and not a man to do his fighting for him who is capable. Our sympathies should be awakened. Russell knows he has been hit. Is he like that famous scientist who lost all interest in his subject?

"When A chunk of red sandstone took him in the abdomen; And he smiled a kind of sickly smile and curled upon the floor, And the subsequent proceedings interested him no more."

A hacking cough keeps the bronchial tubes in a state of constant irritation, which, if not speedily removed, may lead to chronic bronchitis. No prompt remedy can be found than Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Its effect is immediate and the result permanent.

NO COMPROMISE WITH WRONG.

Our excellent friend, Major Hale, editor of The Fayetteville Observer, copies a paragraph from The Messenger headed, "The Party of the Future." He is correct in thinking that The Messenger has no purpose to so much as suggest the possibility of a new party. That was not in all its thoughts. The Messenger is a democrat, fighting for democratic supremacy in North Carolina. There is no possible way out of the wilderness of sin and darkness and desolation but through triumph of the grand old democracy that has been ever faithful, ever serviceable to the state and a positive protection and help and blessing to the people at large—blessing its enemies as well as its friends by its benignant, fair, honest and frugal government. The long editorial of the 25th inst.—last Wednesday—upon "The Necessity of a White Man's Party," shows precisely what The Messenger was seeking—the real bull's eye on the target at which it aimed. Let us reproduce enough here to indicate its purpose, its meaning:

"The negroes practically are the radical party, aided by a 25,000 or 35,000 white contingent who prefer office or the hope of it to their own race and the real welfare of their state, native or adopted, as the case may be. They vote as commanded, and know not the consequences of what they are doing. They have about as much

Hood's Pills. Cure sick headache, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, gas in the stomach, distress and indigestion. Do not weaken, but have tonic effect. 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

knowledge of the great fundamentals of government and the basic principles of parties—of finance, of the tariff, of states rights, of governmental limitations of power, of the duties of citizenship, of all that enters into a great, puissant, free republic, as the blacks in the Dark Continent have of the Great Government in its history, deeds and successes as well as of its powers and mode of procedure. It is a marvellous thing that after thirty years' of voting that the most of them are children in the knowledge of government and are submissive slaves to their imperious white masters."

This showed The Messenger's view of the dense ignorance and utter incapacity of the negroes for voting or governing intellectually, equitably, wisely. It showed also what a helpless condition North Carolina is in when the radicals are in power, the negroes constituting 110,000 of the 140,000 members, voters of that depraved party. We then said of the hope of success of the white radical ringmasters: "Their sole hope of success is in the plastic character and profound ignorance and blundering stupidity of the negroes." Seeing all these things were elaborated in a long column of fine type—that North Carolina was wretchedly, corruptly, oppressively bossed and abused by the 110,000 negroes under the lead of 30,000 or more whites, that there was an imperative duty among the true whites, a solemn obligation of citizenship resting upon all voters who opposed robbery and vicious legislation and arbitrary rule and wasteful taxation. We quote again:

"That the campaign henceforth must be fought on strictly race lines is apparent. This noble old commonwealth must be saved, must be rescued from the hands of the spoiler and the political humbug. The White Man's party must be made a most imposing reality. Nothing can be expected from the negroes. They will no more change parties than the leopard will change his spots. The Anglo-Saxon in no land was ever saved, must be rescued from servitude. He is the born leader of the world just as much as the Roman was of ancient days. He must rule, he will rule, and that is both the long and short of it. He will call no man master. He will not be dominated by an inferior race, be yellow, or red, or black. So in North Carolina there simply must be hereafter, as heretofore, a white man's government. Nothing else will do. Disgrace, oppressions, robberies, waste, ruin, anarchy itself will follow if the government continues as it has been lately, under the combinations of wickedness, stolid ignorance and unbridled recklessness."

In this it was distinctly intimated what kind of "White Man's Party" was meant. It was clearly said that "in North Carolina there simply must be hereafter, as heretofore, a white man's government." The "heretofore" shows what was the intent. When the white men ruled in equity and honesty in North Carolina the democratic party drew to itself a clear majority of the voters—nearly all white. It did not "look the gift horse in the mouth." When an honest republican helped to put true and good men in power he was welcomed. If a "colored man and brother" sought to help on good, honest government he was not forbidden to co-operate with his white benefactors and friends, but cordially greeted. We wrote on last Wednesday of The Messenger, in the editorial above quoted from:

"The redemption of North Carolina from the predatory and incapable vandals who now rule in ruin is the imperative demand of civilization and honor and liberty itself. "Holding this, it favors in the state campaign the great rallying cry that this is and shall be a White Man's government. It stands ready to welcome all well disposed and patriotic men of all classes and conditions, of every persuasion, who are willing to co-operate in behalf of equal, just, enlightened, honest government."

While seeking aid from all the friends of just, economic and pure administration, that North Carolina may be redeemed and disenthralled from the Vandals, The Messenger does not in the least propose to lower the democratic standard and principles or to trail its flag in the dust for any purpose whatever. The democratic party has always been a White Man's party and will be so until its last work is done.

Which is worse, imprisonment for life or a life-long disease, like scrofula, for example? The former, certainly, would be preferable were it not that Ayer's Sarsaparilla can always come to the rescue and give the poor sufferer health, strength and happiness.

PENSIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

We mentioned quite recently that the pensioners now on the roll nearly reached 1,000,000. It is believed and predicted that in spite of many deaths the McKinley gang will run it up and keep it up beyond the 1,000,000 mark, and that too in the face of the fact that the war, ended over thirty-two years ago. The sum heretofore paid out to the pension suckers is enormous. The following table gives the amounts for every four years. You will see how rapidly and vastly it has grown. The sum paid already is two-thirds or more of the cost of the great war for four years:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. Total: \$2,994,172,841. When General Grant, the victorious soldier, was president, he distinctly declared that he was not in favor of increasing the pension appropriations beyond some \$30,000,000. Our recollection is that he was a little under that great sum. But think of it, that under republican waste and plundering rascalities it has been run up as high at

one time as \$170,000,000 in a year. When President and General James A. Garfield was a member of the house of representatives he said this in 1872:

"I am the last man to say a word against voting pensions to all persons who deserve them. But I wish to say to the house that more frauds are being perpetrated on the government by claim agents in different parts of the country than from almost any other single source."

He said furthermore that the total appropriations for pensions should never exceed \$31,000,000, or possibly it was \$32,000,000, we do not distinctly recall which. If Generals Grant and Garfield were living in 1897, we can well believe where they would stand and on the side of better economy and against an outlay for pensions that in four years reached the tremendous sum of \$581,364,073. The Messenger has several times stated in editorials discussing the oppressive pensions, that the pensions of our country today exceeds the cost of the vast armies of Russia or Germany or France. It is the great tax upon the people they impose, thus hugely increasing public expenditures, coupled with the known general extravagance of government officials, and the wild appropriations of the federal congress that makes it impossible to raise enough money now under any tariff to meet expenditures.

The idea of razeing the enormous list of appropriations, cutting down salaries, reducing the great number of public officials, and saving at every possible time does not occur to the congress or the administration as desirable and necessary, whether of one party or the other. All are smitten with the same curse, are equally generous in making way with the moneys of the people. Whenever the people shall be fully aroused to the magnitude of the great and inexhaustible outlay in government expenditures—at least \$200,000,000 annually more than a frugal government would allow—then men will be sent to Washington to legislate, and men will be elected president who are genuine economists and reformers and who will strive honestly and willingly and from conviction to greatly reduce public expenditures and lift a good part of the accursed burdens of taxation from the shoulders of the bowed and broken people. They will also have burdens equalized and the very rich compelled to pay their just proportion of taxes like the honest yeomanry pay now and have always paid—the real burden-bearers and hope of this land. But a great change is imperatively needed and the people have to force it or it will never come. Politicians in office some how become spendthrifts of other people's money.

SNAPS.

There are more Italians living in New York city than in the Italian city of Bologna. The population is stated to be 40,000.

It is prophesied that cotton will advanced farther. It is to be hoped that the farmers will get the benefit instead of the bulls and bears.

If the tsar of Russia should indeed forbid the exportation of wheat, as reported as his determination, it will give still greater demand for American wheat.

At Greenville, S. C., on 24th inst. there was a grand gathering of the confederate veterans. They were royally entertained. A great crowd is on hand, and the festivities will continue for several days.

It is not surprising that there is a reign of terror in Uruguay since President Borda fell a victim to a conspiracy of assassins. No ruler now-a-days seems safe, and mailed shirts and other guards are in order.



Beautiful eyes grow dull and dim As the swift years steal away. Beautiful, willowy forms so slim Lose fairness with every day. But she still is queen and hath charms to spare Who wears youth's coronal—beautiful hair.

Preserve Your Hair and you preserve your youth. "A woman is as old as she looks," says the world. No woman looks as old as she is if her hair has preserved its normal beauty. You can keep hair from falling out, restoring its normal color, or restore the normal color to gray or faded hair, by the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Advertisement for Castoria. SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF CHARLES H. FLETCHER IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. Castoria is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." See that you get C-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

JONAH'S GOURD VINE GREW UP IN A NIGHT.

It has taken years for Wilmington's Big Racket Store to become firmly rooted in the hearts of the people. But it is there, and there to stay. We have always so conducted our large dry goods business that the people who knew us had confidence in our goods and prices. We sell the best values and always at bottom prices. We sell in the dry goods department, on the first floor, on your left as you enter the front door, silks of all prices—nice black Silks, Gros Grains, Taffeta, Black Satin, Colored Satin, China Silks, Drapery Silks and Silkines. Black and Colored Satin from 25c to \$25 per yard. In Dress Goods we have a very large assortment. We bought from Mr. McIntire all of his stock of Dress Goods, so that we can afford to sell much under the price, as I bought his stock for the spot cash at a discount, and I can afford to sell them for less than his first cost. We have all prices in Black Goods from 10c, 12 1/2c, 18c, 20c, 25c; 44 inches wide at 35c, 45c and 50c; 50 inches wide at 75c, 80c, \$1.00, \$1.25. We have the Gold Medal Brand, every piece warranted by the company not to change its color. We sell all grades of Organzies, Lawns, Shalies, Dimities, that we are trying to sell regardless of cost. We do not feel able to pack up the goods and carry them over to next season. A good Lawn at 4c; it is the best cloth for the money you ever saw. Shalies at 3c. White Cross-Bar Lawn at 3 1/2c. On the same side lower down, in our store, you can find Wash Goods—White Goods, Duck, Piques, Cretons. We can please the most fastidious as to quality and prices. We have TABLE LINEN in large quantity. We sell it, 60 inches wide, bleached, at 25c; Turkey Red, 50 inches wide, warranted fast colors, at 25c; remnants from 1 to 2 yards in Turkey Red Table Linen at 16c a yard; better, bleached and unbleached Table Linen, 60 to 72 inches wide, from 35c to \$1.25. Doilies from 25c to \$2.00 a dozen. LACE CURTAINS—We carry a large variety. We sell them from 50c to \$2.00 a pair. On the same floor we carry Corsets—everything in the Corset line, from 21c, 35c, 50c, 65c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 a pair, and if you need a pair of Corsets at any price, see ours. We sell Warner's, H. & P., and R. & G., Globe, Kabo, and several other brands. We carry Shoes on one side of our store, which is 112 feet long, from the ceiling to the floor, about 6,000 pair, and sell them cheaper than regular dealers, and can cut the price, as we have other things to help to pay ex-

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