

THE WHITEWASH SWALLOWED.

"The whitewash report, thus almost unanimously signed, carefully avoided all statement of evidence. It was a general declaration of not guilty. But such was the weight of the committee's finding that it carried conviction to the convention and Hall's single protest was drowned in a hurricane of bores and hisses. The evidence in the case was never heard or known by the convention. But these whitewashers were destined to drink deeply of the cup of humiliation and to feel heavily the hand of MacCune crushing their manhood to the earth. MacCune was chairman and had absolute control of the Executive Board, so powerful to make or mar the fortunes of members of the order. He was the editor of the national organ, and controlled various other organs throughout the country. He was mighty in his power and merciless in his exactions. President Polk himself, who hated MacCune like poison, first felt the tyrant's power, and issued that famous proclamation declaring his anathema upon all who dared to openly assail a member of the order, which meant McCune. In pursuance of this policy he has demanded the resignation from the Legislative Committee of Hall of Missouri, who has kept up his fight on MacCune, though giving another reason for his demand. Hall, by the way, is the only farmer on this committee. Burkitt of Mississippi and others likewise bowed to the tyrant and became his obedient and slavish defenders. In the meanwhile we suggest for the deliberate and earnest consideration of honest Alliance men whether they can safely trust the leadership of a man who takes the money and espouses the cause of railroad monopoly and its hired lobbyists, or men who conspire to deceive them as to the unworthiness of the former, and to keep him in a position of power and influence in the order.

AN INTERESTING LETTER.

"In this connection the following letter from Mr. McDowell to a friend who made inquiries as to the MacCune matter is of interest.

OFFICE OF J. H. MCDOWELL, President Tennessee State F. A. & I. U. NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 31, 1904.—MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER: In reply to your favor will say there was so much of the testimony it would be impossible for me to give it in detail. It was taken down by H. C. Demming, Harrisburg, Pa. If you would write him and order him, say \$5 to copy it for you, I think he would do it. Hall of Missouri can give you some strong points drawn out by him. His Post Office is Hubbard, Mo.

The most damaging points I remember are: He (MacCune) was asked if he got any money from Pat Calhoun during the Senatorial fight. He replied that he got \$2,000 from him as a loan after the Senatorial race was over. He admitted that the *Economist* had lost \$16,000, and that he had bought a fine residence in Washington for \$3,000, paid \$100 down and \$100 a month afterwards; that he and Sledge had bought out the *Southern Alliance Farmer*, paying \$7,000 cash for a controlling interest, and that he favored and worked for the election of Pat Calhoun, a big railroad lawyer, and that he went to Washington a poor man. Mr. Hall of Missouri asked him where he got the money to meet the \$16,000 loss on *Economist*, the money to pay for his residence and the \$7,000 for *Southern Alliance Farmer*. He failed to answer except as to the latter, saying Sledge furnished his half of the \$700. Sledge also owns a controlling interest in the *Mercury of Texas*, showing that he and MacCune were trying to control the organs of other

MR. MACCUNE'S METHODS

IN THE EMPLOY OF GEORGIA RAILROAD MEN AS A LOBBYIST.

Record of the Man Who is Now Trying to Humiliate U. S. Hall—Evidence Against Him at the Ocala Convention—Interesting Letter.

Special to The Knoxville.



NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 27.—The *American* will to-morrow publish the following sensational exposure of Editor MacCune of the *National Economist*, national organ of the Farmers' Alliance. The information is given by a prominent Alliance officer and the *American* is prepared to substantiate it in court.

"Another Moses, just engaged in leading the people out of the wilderness, is C. W. MacCune, Charles Wesley MacCune—the base tool of Jay Gould's legislative attorney. When the Ocala convention of the Farmers' Alliance met grave charges were made against MacCune in connection with the Georgia Senatorial contest, in which he figured as the special champion of Pat Calhoun, head of the West Point Terminal Railroad lobby. A committee was appointed to investigate these charges, of which J. H. McDowell, president of the Tennessee Alliance was a member. That investigation showed from MacCune's own confessions, wrung by severe and torturing cross-examination from his unwilling lips, that MacCune had gone from his home in Washington to Georgia to aid Pat Calhoun in his fight for the United States Senatorship against General Gordon. It showed that he went there on a free annual pass issued him by Calhoun's railroad; that he immediately began to work the Alliance members for Calhoun, and that he received from the latter several thousand dollars in money, which he said was a loan. It was also shown that he and Sledge bought out the *Alliance Farmer*, organ of the Georgia Alliance, published in Atlanta, paying therefor \$7,000 in cash; that he used this organ to further the election of Calhoun, and also to defeat certain railroad legislation which Calhoun had been fighting in the interest of his road.

HE FOUND MONEY TO LOSE.

"Dr. MacCune was then, as now, editor of *The National Economist*. He admitted that he had gone to Washington to take charge of this paper a penniless man, and that he had lost \$3,000 on his paper; yet that he had bought an \$3,000 home in Washington, and had bought with Sledge a \$7,000 paper in Atlanta. He declined to explain where he got all the money to meet all these expenses when cross-examined on that point. In the absence of such explanation the conclusion is irresistible that he got it from the railroad company, whose attorney he was trying to elect to the Senate and whose cause he espoused against railroad bills pending in the Georgia Legislature. These facts were all wrung from MacCune himself. He did not give them voluntarily. He concealed them until the questions were driven home to him by President Hall of the Missouri Alliance. All that was known of his exploits were obtained from himself alone.

"The committee prepared two reports. One was a whitewashing report; another gave the facts as they have been stated above. MacDowell and numbers of others signed the latter. MacDowell declared that his right hand should wither before he would sign a report which represented McCune as anything other than a dishonored man. But some secret power, some hidden influence, began to work. MacDowell withdrew his signature from the damning statement, prepared and attached it to the other. Others did the same until A. S. Hall of Missouri stood alone, the only man with the nerve and manhood to defy the secret power.

States as well as the national organ, in order to carry everything their own way.

I give you these points, but in your fight with him don't bring me into it as your informant, because I do not want at this time to be forced into a controversy with MacCune. When I do want the whole record that Deming has that I may do properly furnished should he attempt to deny, Frank McGrath of Beloit, Kas., is another man who signed at first a minority report with me giving the facts. This report was afterwards withdrawn. Your friend and brother,

J. H. MCDOWELL.