

"Democracy's Deplorable Plight."

Under the above heading the Charlotte Observer pays the following beautiful tribute over the remains of the late defunct democratic party. It is well worth the reading of it:

The pitiful plight to which the once proud and victorious democratic party has been reduced, could not be better illustrated than by the statement that the whole of its strength in the electoral college derived from last week's election, is found in eleven Southern States and four Western rotten boroughs: Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nevada. It has not even held the solid South in which were formerly included Maryland and West Virginia, now as in 1896 gone for McKinley. New Jersey, so staunchly democratic that even in 1864, when the passions of war were highest, it gave its electoral vote to McClellan, democrat, in preference to Lincoln, Republican. Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming, which Bryan carried in 1896, have gone for McKinley, and in return for them the democrats have only Kentucky, which McKinley lost four years ago and which the republicans claim he carried this year on an honest ballot but which will be counted against them under the Goebel election law. Outside of the South the democrats will have only 13 votes in the electoral college when it next meets. We have slapped the old-time combination—New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana—in the face and have swapped their 67 electoral votes for the 13 from Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nevada, in addition to losing the 14 of Maryland and West Virginia, and the 3 of Delaware, heretofore a democratic State and properly accounted a Southern State, since it is on this side of Mason and Dixon's line. The South is now completely at the mercy of Congress, which has not since 1868 been so heavily republican. In the worst days that this section has seen since the civil war there has always been some Northern Senator—some Kiernan, McPherson, Thurman, Pendleton or Vorhees—to speak a word in its defence. After the 4th of next March there will not be one.

And this is the condition to which the national democratic party has been reduced. Consider the facts and answer the question if it is not time for the democratic masses to take

matters in their own hands, hurl their hair-brained "leaders" from authority, again officer the party with men of approved capacity and go to battle the next time with a democratic candidate on a democratic platform.

This, of course, is an expression from one of democracy's own congregation, and we suppose as mild terms as possible are used in thus funeralizing over the late departed, but an "outsider," as we, might think of a lot of other things which might be added with great aptitude as bearing on this particular subject. There cannot be too much pains taken in the selection of "other leaders"—not only as to their "capacity" but also as to their integrity. The party has narrowed down to almost the point where they have to go in with uprolled sleeves and take by force what they get. It is very much as Mr. Aycock put it, "we have ruled by force we can rule by fraud," and the time has about arrived when, if they are to get any control at all they must get it either by force or by fraud. These methods might work in some distant island beyond the pale of civilization, but in this enlightened country it will not go. And the longer democracy depends upon such methods for its success, let its leaders be who they may, the worse it will be for the democratic party. We will not say more here lest we detract from what the Observer has already said.—Union Republican.

Election Notes.

It's amusing to read the democratic papers now and hear them tell how it was the land slid the other way. Some of them take up four columns to tell how it happened. It's dead easy. About 10 years ago thousands of democrats in different parts of the Union became tired of bossing and ring rule and walked out of the party and set up shop of their own. The old party floundered round and commenced to trim and steal the platform of the bolters and traitors, as they called them. They nominated Bryan to kill the Populist party, and killed their own party. Bryan took sides with Goebel and would not condemn redshirtism in North Carolina. He lobbied the United States Senate once too often. He left the financial question to catch the gold element and caught the devil. In a nutshell the Populists to a man refused to vote for Bryan on the 6th. The democrats are not all fools and pie hunters. The great mass of that element who carry the brains and cash of the old democratic party walked in at the front door and voted for McKinley. When the smoke cleared away the democratic party and Bryan were found to be too dead to skin. That's all that's in it.—People's Paper.

Older Than The World.

Everybody has been supposed to know that the world was created 4,004 years before the Christian era, hence that it is now just 5,904 years old. There can be no doubt about it, for chronological annals, tables, and charts have been published in all sorts of forms and sizes in which "Creation of the world 4,004 B. C." heads the long list of events, including the Deluge and the Destruction of the Temple, down to the election of the last President of the United States previous to the date of publication. There are chroniclers who gave the hour of the day on which the work of creation was finished and the history of the world began, but this was carrying the thing a little too far. Unquestionable authority rested with the year of the creation being 4,004 B. C.

Now comes a Pennsylvania archaeologist with the assertion that some thousands of years before that time there was a flourishing civilization; that at Nippur, seventy miles south of Bagdad, there was a mighty city, with an immense temple to the god Bel, and a vast library, two or three thousand years before Adam and Eve made their appearance in the Garden of Eden. What is more, he says he has the books to prove it. The books themselves, volumes, or rather tablets, of baked clay, were thumbed by the Nippur students many hundreds, some of them thousands, of years before Cain and Abel were of kindergarten age. Evidently the accepted chronology which places the origin of the human race less than 6,000 years ago is wholly at fault, or Prof. Herman V. Hilprecht, of the University of Pennsylvania, has misread the clay records he dug up at Nippur.

The professor has just returned to Philadelphia from another year's work of excavating the enormous mound at which he has been for several years digging at the instance of the University of Pennsylvania and subscribers to the exploration fund. This year has given the most astounding results of all in the discovery of the great temple library. The work of previous years showed that a high state of civilization existed there 3,000 years B. C., and there were indications of still higher antiquity. This year he went still deeper, and among other discoveries found an immense building, over 600 feet long on the front and buried beneath ninety feet of rubbish. There were at least two stories, with little windows

for air, but not for light. The houses, he concluded, were used for sleeping purposes, and business was transacted in the open air. From the indications and the objects found, playthings for children, &c., he believed the building could not be later than 4,000 years B. C. that is to say, when by accepted chronology the world was only four years old.

Further exploration revealed part of the great temple library, an immense collection of clay "volumes," the most recent of which was not later than 2,200 B. C., and the more ancient date back far beyond any knowledge, actual or traditional, previously possessed of the world's history. The tablets found in the royal library of Nineveh, which date about 600 B. C., were but modern editions of the ancient temple library at Nippur, the volumes of which were thousands of years older.

Prof. Hilprecht says the tablets contained grammatical sentences, written half a dozen times, as by a pupil practicing upon them. Then there were lists of words for chairs, stools, and other articles; lists of words of animals, birds, or plants. There were the grammatical and arithmetical and astronomical literature of the Babylonians. In addition to these were lists of the kings of dynasties following each other and the years of their reign and what the king did each year. There were large numbers of astronomical, astrological, and mythological tablets and beautiful hymns, as well as a large number of historical tablets. There was practically every branch of literature known to the Babylonians represented in that library.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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