

ASHEVILLE DAILY CITIZEN. By RANDOLPH-KERR PRINTING CO. The Daily Citizen, Democratic, is published every afternoon (except Sundays) at the following rates—strictly cash: One Year, \$6.00; Six Months, \$3.00; Three Months, \$1.50; One Month, 50c; One Week, 15c.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1892. The state of Missouri is in such a prosperous condition that it is feared it will soon have to face the problem, "What shall we do with our surplus?" Just let the republicans get hold of the state government for a year or two and the difficulty will be permanently removed.

The democrats will see what virtue there is in the gerrymander in New York, and the republicans will try their hand in Ohio—and there is no doubt some excuse for applying this great political rectifier in both states. That a redistricting bill is demanded in the interests of justice in New York there can be no question, as shown by Governor Flower's message to the legislature.

Mr. SPRINGER, chairman of the ways and means committee of the house of representatives, said in his response to the toast, "The Issues of the Day," at the Business Men's Democratic Association banquet in New York Friday night: "I can state, without any fear of successful contradiction, that there is not the slightest probability of a free coinage bill becoming a law during this congress, nor is it likely that any amendment of the existing law will be made. If any measure on this subject is passed it will be one which democrats—north, south, east and west—can, and will, cordially support. It is possible that some such measure, acceptable to democrats generally, may be agreed upon and become a law during this session of congress."

This looks as if free coinage is not a possibility during the session of the present congress.

Honesty the Best Policy.

The seventy-ninth anniversary of the battle of New Orleans which brought to a close the "War of 1812" was celebrated by the New York Business Men's Democratic Association on Friday night, by a banquet at the Hoffman house. The event commemorated particularly the memory of him who won the battle, "Old Hickory," and was participated in by about one hundred and fifty democrats. The toast, "The day we celebrate," was responded to by Ex-President Grover Cleveland. Like all of Mr. Cleveland's speeches, it was full of courage, good common sense and sound advice. The keynote of his speech was contained in this paragraph: "The democratic party of today, which continues with the name of Jackson, has attacked a monstrous evil, entrenched behind a perversion of governmental power and guarded by its selfish beneficiaries. On behalf of those among our people long neglected, we have insisted on tariff reform and an abandonment of unjust favoritism. We have thus adopted an issue great enough to deserve the undivided efforts of our party, involving considerations which we profess to believe, lie at the foundation of the justice and fairness of popular rule."

Mr. Cleveland is evidently as much in favor of making this year's presidential fight on principle as he was in 1888 as these paragraphs show: "I hope, then I may venture to claim in this assemblage that, even if there had been but slight encouragement for the cause we have espoused, there would still be no justification for timidity and faint-heartedness. But with the success we have already achieved, amounting to a political revolution, it seems to me that it would be the height of folly, considered purely as a question of party management, to relax in the least our determination and persistence. If we suspect anywhere in our councils compromising hesitation or a disposition to divert the unity of party efforts, let us be watchful. The least retreat betrays servation, and an army scattered into sections invites defeat."

"We have preached the doctrine that honesty and sincerity should be exacted from political parties. Let us not fall under the condemnation which waits on shifty schemes and insincere professions. I believe our countrymen are prepared to act on principle, and are in no mood for political maneuvering. They will not waste time in studying conundrums, guessing riddles, or trying to interpret doubtful phrases. They demand a plain and simple statement of political purpose."

There can be no sort of doubt as to Mr. Cleveland's honesty or sincerity. They stand out boldly in his every public utterance. And there is no sort of question as to his utterances being soundly democratic, and if he should be nominated again this year, and fail of an election, it would pretty clearly indicate that these United States do not want a democrat in the White House.

Democratic Victory in New York. There are perhaps few people, comparatively, who have taken the trouble to read the history of the contested election cases in New York with sufficient thoroughness to know just what those contestants involved, and just what the supreme court of that state decided when it gave the democrats control of the state senate, and thereby the legislature. There were three cases upon which the court passed. First, Mr. Sherwood, republican candidate for the state senate in the twenty-seventh district, was ineligible. The constitution of New York declares that "no person shall be eligible to the legislature who, at the time of his election, is, or within 100 days previous thereto has been, a member of congress, a civil or military officer under the United States, or an officer under any city government." Mr. Sherwood was at the time of his election a park commissioner of Hornellsville. The court decided that a certificate of election issued to such a man would be an absolute nullity, and his case, as well as that of his competitor, was referred to the senate itself, which has jurisdiction to determine all questions of fact and law involved in the matter.

The second case was where the republican county clerk had distributed improperly marked ballots in the twenty-fifth senatorial district. Ballots officially marked and signed by the county clerk for the first district in one town were distributed and voted in the second district, and those for the first and second districts in another town were transferred and thus used in the election. The law plainly requires that in all cases the designation or number shall be that of the polling place or election district where the vote is offered, and no other, and that "no ballot that has not the printed official endorsement shall be counted." The endorsement on the ballots objected to was such that any one could tell for whom the elector was voting, thereby violating the ballot law as to its secrecy. These two decisions of themselves were sufficient to give the democrats control of the senate.

But there was a third case, and this can be looked at only as a fight for partisan advantage by the democrats. In the fifteenth district Mr. Deane, the republican candidate, died soon after the election. There was no question as to his being legally elected. The county commissioners refused to count certain ballots cast for him because the inspectors of election had written his name incorrectly on blanks containing their returns, and a certificate was issued to Mr. Deane's democratic opponent. The clerk refused to sign this certificate, and a mandamus was issued ordering the returns to be sent back to the inspectors for correction. The court afterwards ordered a certificate, based upon the corrected returns, to be issued to Mr. Deane. The certificate issued to the democrat reached the state canvassing board. The one issued to Deane never arrived, owing to the methods of Gov. Hill. The only questions before the court of appeals were as to the validity of the certificate, which had not been signed by the clerk, and the right of the lower court to issue an order to the state canvassers not to canvass an illegal return.

The supreme court decided, in effect, that the lower court had a right to issue its order to the board of canvassers, but if the second certificate was not before the board of canvassers when they issued their certificates, they could issue upon the certificate not having the signature of the clerk. This the canvassers did.

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THE TATTLE.

What He Sees and Hears Worth Talking About.

Speaking of the street cars, reminds me that I often wonder what is the matter in Raleigh. The papers there frequently raise a holy howl about the service, and particularly about the noisy and indolent and sometimes insulting motormen and conductors. Where did they get such a crew? It seems more like a road gang than a set of people who ought to practice politeness at all times. She is in luck in this respect, for Asheville has a very manly and goodlooking set of carmen.

I will give the young women of this town a bit of advice right here. If you want a catch before the Leap Year is over, and out the young men who belong to the Bachelors' club. It's an almost sure sign of readiness to succumb to the wiles of the fair damsels and embrace the opportunity of entering the married state, when they band together. Go it, girls, and may the best man win!

I am going to say something now that will make somebody dub me an unappreciative crank. It is just this: that the Y. M. C. A. slightly missed it in getting the Rutgers club here. That's my unvarnished opinion. There was some good singing, to be sure, but a lot that was tame. Imagine anything worse than "Swanee River" as those fourteen youths sang it. And "Old Kentucky Home." There wasn't the slightest suspicion of the old plantation music in either one of them. I verily believe that within a day a club of half a dozen young men could be gotten up here that could sing those good old songs with letter and more of genuine melody than this club ever dreamed of. I reckon, though, a man shouldn't expect a whole show to be good. Then again I may not have that "cultivated ear" said to be necessary to the enjoyment of such performances. Now, don't all speak at once.

Every now and then we see a discourse against the Sunday newspapers. Some think it a sin to read them, that they keep people away from church, etc. Why don't they preach against the Monday paper, nearly all of the labor on which is done on Sunday. The matter is as broad as long, with any possible odds on the side of the Sunday paper, I expect.

I misquoted Prof. Claxton in my column early in December, in referring to a talk he had had with his scholars about the Bill Nye lecture soon after the Bard of Buncombe lectured here. And to that extent I did him an injustice, which I disclaim all intention of doing. I simply misunderstood the story. It is one of the kind of errors that a fellow will fall into when depending on "second hand" news. I believe in justice to all, hence this explanation.

There will now be a squelching of the Christmas joke, but alas! the Leap Year joke fiend will be on hand from now on, and the gentle sex may expect to pass through the year besieged on every hand by newspaper paragraphs which paint them as the most persistent and heartless schemers on earth. Here's my sympathy, fair ones—if desired.

The question of store rents is being talked over pretty considerably here. A prominent merchant said to me the other day: "There," pointing to a store near, "is one instance of a raise in rents, and I know of several others. Now, I don't mind paying a fair, reasonable rent, but when it comes to giving up all my profits to pay rents, why that's different. I can plow, and I'll do it, in preference to worrying myself to death and then hand over everything to my landlord. I think the merchants ought to combine and declare solemnly, 'Thus far thou shalt go, and no farther.' We know very well what is fair and just, and that is as much as ought to be required of us." And I thought to myself, in this day of combines of every sort, what's the matter with a renter's combine?

I see that the local board of managers of the World's Fair have decided to allow liquor to be sold on the fair grounds. I would much rather see the Fair kept open Sundays. Still, if liquor is to be sold at all, it would better be where its sale can be controlled. That's the view held by The Tattler.

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