

PROBABLE PRESIDENTIAL

Candidate For the Peoples Party in '96 - A Strong Patriotic and Interesting Character.

HON. JOSEPH C. SIBLEY.

Member of the Farmers Alliance - Twelve member of Congress - A Man of Wealth and Principle - One of the Peoples Party Leaders in the Battle Against the Stockholders. Hon. Joseph C. Sibley has frequently been suggested as a suitable candidate to be supported for President in 1896, by all who love country better than they love party, by all who are opposed to the gold trust and who will vote against it. Whether he is the candidate for President or not, he is a remarkable man and a very interesting character. Therefore we will give the readers of the CAUCASIAN a sketch of his life: He is just forty-five years old, having been born February 18, 1850, in western New York, at Friendship, Allegany county, a dozen miles from the Pennsylvania line. He was educated in the common school, and in the Springville and Friendship academies, and with so much cultivation of a sound mind and sound body, he started out as a young man without a dollar, to make his own way and build his own fortune. He grew up at the time of the oil excitement in western Pennsylvania, and at once devoting himself to the oil business, he laid the foundation of what is now a very considerable fortune. He became, and still is, a very large manufacturer of lubricating and signal oils, and his companies furnish railroads covering three-fourths of the mileage of the country. He is also engaged in various other manufacturing enterprises. In 1880, after several years of an exceedingly active business life, his health became somewhat impaired, and he retired, for a time at least, to a partial retirement from the daily routine. Accordingly, he bought a farm in western Pennsylvania, and has been for many years the largest farmer and stock raiser in that part of the State. He has been president of the State dairymen's association; was one of the American cattle club; was a member of the State board of agriculture, and a director of the national association of trotting horse breeders. He takes a lively interest in the Farmers' Alliance and is an active member of both organizations. He has lived for many years in Franklin, Venango county, Pennsylvania, and in 1879 was mayor of the city, which is the only office, except that of Congressman, for which he has ever been a candidate. Mr. Sibley was raised a Republican, and continued to belong to that party until a short time before the Presidential campaign of 1884. A course of study and reflection, aided by the retirement of his farm, which close attention to business had denied him the opportunity of doing, led him to the financial policy of the Republican party was wrong. If he had not retired from active business and begun the close study of economic questions he would most probably never have made this discovery. Believing that the Democratic party, if in power, could come nearer standing by the financial measures of Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln than the Republican party did, he voted the Democratic ticket in 1884. It is easy today to see what he feels and thinks when he sees Cleveland and Sherman conspiring together to make the financial condition worse than ever. In 1892 the Democrats of the Congressional district adjoining his own thought they saw a chance of electing a Democrat to Congress if they elected the right man. Their district, composed of Crawford and Erie counties, was Republican by a considerable majority, and, after having tried all other remedies, he crossed the line into the next district and asked Mr. Sibley to become their candidate. He was averse to any nomination, but especially was opposed to making the race in a district in which he did not live. He, however, yielded to repeated and urgent appeals, entered the field and personally canvassed the district from end to end. His record as a private citizen and man of business was thrown open, and an official investigation of his treatment of labor in his manufacturing enterprises was made by the Knights of Labor. The district gave Cleveland 13,755 votes and Harrison 16,670 votes, a Republican majority of 2,915 votes. For Congress, on the same day, Sibley received 17,887 votes and Flood, Republican, 14,500 votes, a majority of 3,387. Sibley received 1,132 votes of Cleveland and Flood getting 1,570 less than Harrison. But this was not a Democratic victory, for no man standing by the policies of Grever Cleveland had been elected. It was a Sibley victory—it was a victory for the principles of the Alliance and Knights of Labor—it was a victory for the financial principles of the Peoples Party. Shortly after the election, Mr. W. F. Harris, chairman of the national Democratic committee, sent out a Democratic circular asking how they stood on the repeal of the Sherman act, which was known Mr. Cleve-

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Various Matters on Which the Popular Opinion is Expressed. All Sections Interested. LIVING ISSUES FORWARD. Content and Rationale for the Democratic Press—Sorrow at the Degradation of Democracy—Shame for the Man Who Sticks to Old Ideas (Part II). For the Caucasian. SMITHFIELD, N. C., April 1.—Your last week's issue (March 28th) is grand. It exhausts the Douglas matter. Very truly, P. T. MASSEY. For the Caucasian. SEMORA, N. C., April 3.—Can't do without it (THE CAUCASIAN). It is the only paper in the State that gives the truth. L. B. SCOTT. For the Caucasian. CONCORD, N. C., April 2.—I could have sold many CAUCASIANS of March 28th. Send me, worth of same date, it is a clincher on the rotten Democracy. J. For the Caucasian. FLORAL COLLEGE, N. C., April 1.—Your explanation of Fred. Douglass resolution is perfectly satisfactory to your friends and all reformers. Give the Democrats the—every time you can. W. R. Henry's article is interesting reading. D. H. Gill's sentiments in regard to the News and Observer coincide with all Populists. I should think the Democrats themselves would become disgusted with their press. Very truly yours, THOS. B. RUSSELL. For the Caucasian. CONCORD, N. C., April 3.—Dear Sir: I have read Mr. W. R. Henry's long letter to Hon. M. W. Ransom. This carried me back to 1884 when I asked the Democrats of Cabarrus county for the office of register of deeds—this, too, after losing \$4,000 by the war, all the money I had, and I a cripple. I did not own any real estate. The Democrats kicked me aside and kept in office a man who had not lost a cent by the war, and had been in office six years. Gratitude among Democrats is a lost jewel. The same party treat a one-armed soldier, J. H. Moore, just as bad. "Lay on McDuff, Ke." THE CAUCASIAN of the 28th is a hummer. Financial poverty is all that prevents me from ordering a lot to circulate in Cabarrus, as an antidote to the poison disseminated by such papers as The ——— and ———. The ——— uses such expression about the legislature as "compost heap." Such sheets will sooner or later find their level. They can live and abuse the good people of Cabarrus as long as he remains postmaster, at a salary of \$1,600. All the work in the postoffice is done by the young ladies for \$150; the postmaster-dictor spending all his time in the publication of The ———. The government pays the postoffice rent. J. W. MEHAFFY. For the Caucasian. LOUISBERG, N. C., April 3.—Enclosed I send you — I want as many copies of the CAUCASIAN of March 28th date as the money will buy. Mail to me at Louisberg, N. C. I want to thank you for that issue. It is plain and strong—facts boiled down—just what we want the people to know. The course that Observer, has taken is none by two which belonged to another, he hoped no man would ever vote for him for a dollar; if it were true, he would never be a candidate for popular support. No political opponent could be found to make any charge against him. Mr. Sibley is of handsome appearance and charming manners. Tall, well shaped, athletic, his strong featured, clean-shaven face speaks of the honest, kindness, absolute good faith and, at the same time, resolute will and determination of the man himself. He is pleasant and agreeable in conversation, having read much and seen a great deal of the world. No one who knows him can fail to respect and admire him. He has a heart full of loving kindness, and his great aim in life is to do good for his fellows. He is wealthy, but is and always has been and always will be one of the people. No better man could be selected to carry the banner of the people and storm the strongholds of the shysters and gold bugs in 1896.

THE NEW SCHOOL LAW.

As Examiner of Public School Teachers to be Annually Appointed—The Com. to Meet in July and January for the Purpose of Examining Especially School Teachers—County Superintendents of Public Instruction Abolished. The act passed by the last legislature amending the general school law of North Carolina is as follows: The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: Section 1. That section 2,545 of the school law be and the same is hereby repealed. Section 2. That the office of county board of education is hereby abolished, to take effect the first Monday in June A. D. 1895. All the powers and duties of said county board of education shall devolve upon and be discharged by the board of county commissioners of the several counties of the State; and, for the purpose of attending especially to school matters, the said board of county commissioners shall be required to meet on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January and July in each year, said meeting not to continue longer than two days at each of said meetings. Provided, they may attend to any matter pertaining to school interests at any of the regular meetings of said board as provided by law, but the expense of all such meetings shall be paid out of the general county fund of the county. Section 3. That section 2,548 is hereby repealed. Section 4. That the office of county superintendent of public instruction is hereby abolished, to take effect the first Monday in June, A. D. 1895, and all the duties provided by law to be performed by the said superintendent as secretary of the board of education shall be performed by the clerk of the board of county commissioners. Section 5. That the clerk of the Superior Court of the several counties in the State shall, on the first Monday in June A. D. 1895, and annually thereafter, appoint an examiner, whose duty it shall be to examine all persons desiring to teach in the public schools of the said county, in conformity to law. The said examiner shall be a citizen of the county, and shall be good for one year from the date thereof. All such applicants shall pay to the examiner, in advance, a fee of one dollar for such examination. Provided, that the examiner may examine applicants for teachers' certificates at any other time or place, but when so examined the applicant shall pay to the examiner, in advance, a fee of one dollar and fifty cents for such examination. Section 6. That section 2,555 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction" wherever they appear in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the words "chairman of the board of county commissioners." Section 7. That sections 2,567, 2,568 and 2,569 are hereby repealed. Section 8. That section 2,570 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction," in line one, and insert "the clerk of the board of county commissioners." Section 9. That section 2,571 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction" wherever they appear in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the words "chairman of the board of county commissioners." Section 10. That section 2,572 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction," and insert in lieu thereof "county examiner." Section 11. That section 2,573 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction," in line one of said section, and insert in lieu thereof the words "clerk of the board of county commissioners." Section 12. That section 2,574 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "clerk of the board of county commissioners." Section 13. That section 2,575 be repealed, and the following be inserted in lieu thereof: "That for all such clerical work as shall be performed by the clerk of the board of county commissioners, he shall receive such compensation as in the discretion of the county commissioners may be deemed just and right: Provided, the same shall not be a greater amount than the amount allowed by law for similar services performed by said clerk as clerk of the board of county commissioners: Provided, further, that such clerk shall render an itemized account, under oath, for all such services, and the same shall be paid out of the general county fund when approved by the said board of county commissioners." Section 14. That section 1,579 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction" wherever they appear in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the words "clerk of the board of county commissioners." Section 15. That section 1,586 be amended by striking out the words "county superintendent of public instruction" wherever they appear in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the words "clerk of the board of county commissioners." Section 16. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed. Section 17. That this act shall be enforced from and after its ratification. In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this 13th day of March A. D. 1895.

WHAT RANSOM HAS GOT.

A Little Record of the Cash He Has Scooped—For Being a Cleveland Cuckoo. A QUARTER OF A MILLION. The First Man Killed in the War Was a North Carolinian—The Last Man Killed Was a North Carolinian—Some Interesting Incidents. General Henry Harnden, the officer of the Union army who captured Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States, was in Chattanooga recently with the Wisconsin commission to locate the position of the troops of that state in the Chickamauga national park parade. It is not true that President Davis was in a woman's attire when he captured him, he said. "It was about day-break when I arrested him, and he had a woman's shawl over his shoulders. The story about hoop skirts is entirely false." Then General Harnden, who belonged to the First Wisconsin cavalry, told how he was given 150 picket horses and given orders to capture Mr. Davis. They rode three nights and three days without rest. The capture was made near Irwinstown, Irwin county, Ga. Just before the capture, a body of Mexican cavalry on a similar expedition and General Harnden's men collided, a fight ensued and two of our men on either side were killed and a number wounded before it was found out they were friends instead of enemies. "When I reached the Davis camp," he continued, "the first man I spoke to was the Texas gentleman, now Senator Reagan, who told me that he was the post master-general of the Confederate States. President Davis was sitting near by on a log with a shawl, I presume his wife's, over his shoulders, as it was a cool morning." "How did the story get out that he had on dresses and hoops?" asked the reporter. "Well, when I went to Macon and reported to General Wilson, my superior officer, he had the story telegraphed to the press, and a number of our soldiers, who had been exaggerated into female attire. In the excitement he may have misunderstood me, or the newspapers exaggerated it. I have tried for years to correct the story, but have been unable to do so entirely. It is very hard for truth to overtake a lie. In Grand Army posts when I attempt to explain it, I am some times hissed. If the writer of history gets it circulated for future generations, I shall feel better." The Last Man of the Retreating Army. It may not be generally known that North Carolina furnished the first and last brave men that laid down their lives in defense of the Lost Cause. The first Confederate soldier killed in the war was named Wyatt, a member of the famous Edgecombe regiment. The father of the soldier was Rev. Melrose, who formerly preached in Greensboro, and who will be remembered by many of our old citizens. Judge Melrose of Rockingham another son of Rev. Melrose, was one of the youngest enlisted men in the service. Mr. Hamilton, Who Planned the Escape From Loby Prison in 1864, Killed. MORANTON, Ky., April 3.—Morgan is in a fever of excitement over the murder which occurred at 1 o'clock this morning of Major G. M. Hamilton, the famous originator and executor of the escape from Loby Prison in 1864. Sam Spencer has been arrested and placed in jail with evidence against him. Alfred Belcher, who was with Spencer, says Spencer is the man who fired the shot. Major Hamilton's name is famous throughout the country and he has received many notices from the magazines in the United States. The escape of Major Hamilton and his 140 associates from the famous old prison, is one of the most interesting incidents of the war. Major Hamilton was of the Twelfth Kentucky cavalry, and with him were captured Captain James Johnson, of the Eleventh cavalry, and Edward Noble of the First cavalry. With only a few crude implements they made their tunnel. Digging for 45 nights they saw daylight, and with the 140 other officers made their escape. The officers made their appearance in Louisville on the night of March 19, 1864. The tunnel was 57 feet long and 5 feet in diameter. Many of those who escaped were recaptured, however. THE CAUCASIAN WILL MAKE IT HOT FOR ENEMIES OF REFORM ALL THIS YEAR. IF YOU WANT TO KEEP POSTED IN REFORM WORK, SEND US YOUR NAME FOR A YEAR. A stubborn and disagreeable sub-official in the interior department refused to audit an account in which Hoke Smith had charged up to the tax-payers a \$500 set of harness. The size of the bill for the harness would indicate that the obliging dealer must have thrown in a horse or two along with the harness.—Current Voice.

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