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VOL. XIV.

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NO. 20.

## ABOUT THE JURY SYSTEM.

### Some Remarks on The Policy of Trying To Secure The Twelve Biggest Idiots as a Jury.

### A NEW COURT RULING.

Men Who Read and Reason Not Qualified For The Most Responsible Duties of a Citizen—Blockheads and Foolish Men—Intelligent and Just Verdicts Can Only Come From Intelligent Men.

Recently there have been a number of trials in the courts of this State in which the verdicts of the jury have shocked honest men and disgusted intelligent people. A great cause, perhaps the chief cause, of this is the too persistent, and too often successful, efforts of lawyers to compose a jury of idiots and fools. As an exception to the general rule, in which a jury of intelligent men heard a case, the lawyer appearing for a criminal recently asked the Judge to set aside the verdict and gave as his reason for the motion that the jurors read the newspapers. Commenting on this the Philadelphia Item forcibly says: Judge Barrett of the New York Supreme Court, in refusing to set aside the conviction of Police Inspector McLaughlin, because several jurors were admitted to the trial, had not admitted having read the newspaper charges against the accused man, has set an example which should be generally adopted. The jurors, when questioned, declared that they had formed opinions from what they read in the newspapers. Commenting on this the Philadelphia Item forcibly says: Judge Barrett of the New York Supreme Court, in refusing to set aside the conviction of Police Inspector McLaughlin, because several jurors were admitted to the trial, had not admitted having read the newspaper charges against the accused man, has set an example which should be generally adopted. The jurors, when questioned, declared that they had formed opinions from what they read in the newspapers. Commenting on this the Philadelphia Item forcibly says: Judge Barrett of the New York Supreme Court, in refusing to set aside the conviction of Police Inspector McLaughlin, because several jurors were admitted to the trial, had not admitted having read the newspaper charges against the accused man, has set an example which should be generally adopted. The jurors, when questioned, declared that they had formed opinions from what they read in the newspapers.

### A CALL TO ACTION.

Mr. E. F. Keith, of the National Silver Conference, Urges Quick Work Importance of Early Organization.

Mr. E. F. Keith, committeeman for North Carolina of the National Silver Convention, has appointed chairmen for the various counties, and is sending to them the following letter:

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 16, '96.—It is a matter of FIRST IMPORTANCE that you use every effort to hasten the organization of the silver forces in your county as rapidly as possible. Very much depends upon prompt and efficient action. We hope to be sufficiently advanced in organization to call a conference of the clubs of each county (in May or June) to adopt a plan of action for the State and national campaign. The importance of this work cannot be too strongly urged, as it means to us financial and industrial freedom, which the South so much needs to assure its advancement and prosperity. WE CANNOT ACT TOO PROMPTLY NOR TOO PROMPTLY. The national banks and the advocates of a single gold standard are actively at work and have their emissaries everywhere to antagonize our effort. If they succeed in the attempt to control both the old party organizations it is industrial slavery, the further centralization of wealth and power, which threatens the destruction of our form of government. If we succeed, it is industrial freedom and national prosperity. Very respectfully,  
E. F. KEITH,  
Nat. Com. for N. C.

## WHY WE LEFT THE OLD PARTIES

### We Did it to Build Up a Party That Would Stand Squarely For Principle.

Would Hate to See the Democratic "Machine" Regain Power—But Rather Than a Sacrifice of Principle—In Favor of Fighting All Monopoly Parties to a Finish.

For The Caucasian.]  
PICK, N. C., March 21.—It will not be long until the people will have another chance to vote. The only way that the people can make their wishes and desires effective is through the ballot box. Therefore, this is the only way by which we can make things better. A great deal is being said about co-operation. The Republicans are very anxious for us to co-operate with them provided we will agree not only to approve of their running a goldbug candidate, but also to help them elect him. They also claim the Government hold us and that we are now for operation. That is, they want us to co-operate with them to help elect a goldbug President, and to help elect their candidate for Governor. I submit that this is not only not fair to the People's Party, but it would be to agree to it. I submit that co-operation, even on those terms, might be best for the office seekers and office holders who want to be re-elected under any condition, but how would it be for the hundreds who do not hold office, and who do not care for any? We did not leave the old parties simply for the purpose of trading with them for a few offices. We left those parties because we believed it was absolutely necessary to build up a new organization that was not controlled and dominated by the in-fighting and the money of the party, but a party that would stand square for principle and the people, appeal to patriots everywhere to join it, and fight to the end the common enemy. As much as I would hate to see the Democratic party get back into power in North Carolina, I would rather see that happen than to see the People's Party sacrifice its principles and take such a position that no self-respecting citizen would ever in the future leave the old parties and come to us. The principles that we have are not new, but great issues in the coming campaign. Both of the old parties are divided on these issues, and are bound to split on them. The best men in both parties are now admitting that the People's Party is right, and unless we cowardly betray the principles that they will come to us by the hundreds and thousands. I want to say to the people of the State through THE CAUCASIAN that there is not a Populist in this section who will support a goldbug under any circumstances. We are in favor of co-operation, and can be co-operation for principle, and if there is such co-operation we believe that the People's Party should have the candidate for Governor, and we shall insist upon this to the end. If we cannot co-operate this way, then we are in favor of raising our banner and making a fight to the finish against both of the old monopoly parties.

Yours truly,  
JOHN C. CURRIE.  
An Unnecessary Convention.  
San Francisco Examiner.]  
Chairman Carter of the Republican National Committee said in the Senate yesterday that if the next Republican platform should announce "that the plank on bimetalism adopted at Minneapolis was a delusion, a fraud and a snare" (that is, if it should not advocate free silver) "it should be just as well for the Republican party not to make a nomination at St. Louis at all." Senator Carter is a pretty good Republican authority, but Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island is a pretty good Republican authority too, and he says that the Republican party will never consent to independent free coinage. In this statement he is undoubtedly correct. Between these two eminent authorities, therefore, it appears evident that the best thing for the Republican National Committee to do is to see how much of a rebate it can get from the St. Louis hotel-keepers on its deposit for headquarters and declare the convention off,

## BURKE IS FOR SILVER.

### An Enthusiastic Convention of Representative People of all Parties Declares For Reform.

### PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER.

Resolutions Denouncing The Gold Standard and Condemning Bond Issues—No New or Novel Legislation Asked—Partisan Politics Consigned To Oblivion.

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2. That while we are assembled neither to sever old party ties nor to form new ones, we believe that in the coming campaign the question, whether the mints of this country shall be opened for the coinage of silver, at the ratio of 16 to 1 and to their full capacity, will be considered by people devoted to the culture as paramount to all other issues, and that farmers, who have felt the curse of the single standard shrinkage in the diminished value of their homes, and in the inadequate remuneration of their toil, will not permit an attempt on the part of any party to deceive them with Janus-faced planks in their platforms or uncertain or deceptive deliverances upon this vital subject.

3. We ask no novel legislation, we advocate no financial experiment, we urge no new policy, but desire and design to reinstate the law in force from the time of Washington to the time of Grant; and, against that money good from the days of Abraham until the financial reign of John Sherman, we demand that the single gold ratio, if the hand of hostile legislation and unfriendly administration be once removed.

4th. We denounce as unjust, unprecedented and oppressive the attempt to fix the gold standard upon the people of this country, and we condemn all persons in authority in every department of the government, who have lent their influence to this wicked scheme to further ensue the people by subjecting them to the burden and suffering of the power to resist the sway of national banks by a needless reduction of the currency issued by the government.

5. We urge to public confidence the gallant defenders of the people's rights—the money of the poor man and the producing nations—who in the Senate of the United States have withstood the temptations of patronage and the abuse of that portion of the press controlled by capital, and adhered with fidelity to the cause of the people.

6. We cannot close our eyes to the fact, that popular indignation has been justly aroused against the policy of the present administration in discrediting silver and enhancing the value of gold, and allying itself with the leaders of the party nominally opposed to it to carry out its plans. We believe, that the revolt against our own State government, the overthrow of those in power in Maryland, and the marked changes in political sentiment in other States are unmistakable evidence of a purpose to rebuke the disposition in high places to yield to the dictation of banks and chambers of commerce in the administration of the financial affairs of the government.

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6. We cannot close our eyes to the fact, that popular indignation has been justly aroused against the policy of the present administration in discrediting silver and enhancing the value of gold, and allying itself with the leaders of the party nominally opposed to it to carry out its plans. We believe, that the revolt against our own State government, the overthrow of those in power in Maryland, and the marked changes in political sentiment in other States are unmistakable evidence of a purpose to rebuke the disposition in high places to yield to the dictation of banks and chambers of commerce in the administration of the financial affairs of the government.

Now is the time for action. The enemy is sowing tares. Let the people sow good seed. Five copies of the CAUCASIAN 3 months for \$1.00. Twelve copies 3 months for \$2.00. Send a club quick.

Everybody put a shoulder to the wheel now. The goldbugs are sowing the country down with their misleading literature. Let's meet them. Send \$1.00 for five copies of the CAUCASIAN 3 months.

## LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

### Various Matters on Which The Popular Opinion is Expressed—All Sections Interested.

### LIVING ISSUES FORWARD.

If the Republicans Want to Stand Alone, Let Them Try Their Hand. Pope Taking in Mecklenburg—And Making Us Where—No Man for Office who is Not For Silver.

Senator Fritchard May Fool Himself. For The Caucasian.]

BENNETT CITY, N. C., March 21, '96.—No true Populist or silver voter can or will vote for any man for the general election. We prefer to pledge to the cause of silver. And if Senator Fritchard thinks that he can vote for silver in the United States Senate and then vote for a goldbug for President, and at the same time secure the Populist vote for a thousand times over, let all on Butler's side up here and will remain so. Continue to give the boys hot shot. Yours truly,  
C. A. THORNTON.

Will Not Support a Goldbug. For The Caucasian.]

CATAWBA, N. C., March 21, '96.—I heartily commend your position on the national platform. We cannot under any circumstances or for any consideration support a goldbug. Should our Republican friends decline to support a non-partisan electoral ticket, and agree to side in what matters, that, if we do, we will remain in the field. We will not support a goldbug for President. Butler, nor any other Populist leader in the State, will ever be able to deliver any representative Populist in Catawba to a division of electoral ticket, one-half to support a goldbug. We prefer to see a thousand times over all on Butler's side up here and will remain so.