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VOL. XIV. RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1896. NO. 27.

LEGAL TENDER BY STATES

Maj. W. A. Guthrie Suggests Some Constitutional Inquiries—And Shows the Way

WHAT A STATE CAN DO

As a Constitutional Right—Under the United States Constitution May Make Gold and Silver Coin of the United States, Including "Trade Dollars," as Well as Foreign Coin, Legal Tender—Administrations of Jackson and Tyler Contrasted With That of Grover Cleveland.

1. "*The Congress shall have power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin.*"—U. S. Constitution, Sec. VIII, sub. sec. 5, Article 1.

2. "*No State shall . . . . . coin money.*" U. S. Constitution Sec. 10, Article 1.

3. "*No State shall . . . . . make any thing BUT GOLD AND SILVER COIN a tender in payment of debts.*"—U. S. Constitution, Sec. X, sub. sec. 1 Article 1.

The first and second citations above, from the Constitution of the United States, plainly mean that it belongs to Congress, and to Congress alone, to coin money, and to regulate the value of all American coins as well as to regulate the value of all foreign coins which circulate within the United States.

It is equally plain from the third citation above, from the Constitution of the United States, that the States are prohibited and restricted in making legal tender laws, to the making of nothing else "but gold and silver coin," a legal tender in the payment of debts. This last citation above, by plain and necessary implication means only one thing, and that is: that any State may, if it chooses, by its local State legislation, make gold and silver coin a legal tender in the payment of debts. Now what kind of coin is meant? Is it United States coin, or is it foreign coin, or is it both? Whatever contention might arise as to foreign coin circulating in the United States, and as to which the goldbugs have repealed the former laws, and Congress has passed no law now in force regulating its value for debt paying purposes; (but has "regulated its value" as "Money of Account" in collecting *ad valorem* tariff taxes on imported goods), is there any man who could reasonably doubt that United States coin, (both gold and silver), is clearly embraced in the above cited Constitutional provisions? And to my own mind it is also clear that the gold and silver coin of foreign countries is also embraced in the above Constitutional provision, subject however, to the other provision that Congress may "regulate" its value.

The silver coin of the United States which is commonly called the "Standard Dollar," is made a legal tender in the payment of debts by act of Congress; but what is stamped and known as the "Trade Dollar" is not a legal tender in the payment of debts, either by national or State legislation, and hence the "Trade Dollar" has become an article of merchandise and no longer money, or a legal tender coin, in the payment of debts. The "Trade Dollar" is a United States coin, issued by authority of the United States government, with the government's stamp on it, calling it a "Dollar," and has stamped upon it "420 grains 900 fine," and thus answers every requirement of the United States Constitution conferring on Congress the power to "coin money."

My own opinion is: that it is just as competent for a State to make the gold and silver coin of the United States, and foreign coins too, at their regulation value given them by Congress, a legal tender in the payment of debts within the State, as it is for the United States government to pass a legal tender law applying to all the States. This is one of the reserved rights of a State in the above Constitutional restriction, for otherwise the above last cited provision in the Constitution of the United States would have to read "No State shall make ANYTHING a tender in the payment of debts," and thereby strike from the Constitution the exceptional, and pivotal operative words which qualify the whole provision, to-wit: "BUT GOLD AND SILVER COIN."

Every intelligent reader knows that all silver coin of the United States, (both "Trade Dollars" and "Standard Dollars), are 900 parts fine in quality, that is, in every one thousand parts of metal to be coined, 900 parts are pure silver, and the other one hundred parts are alloy. And this provision applies as well to the alloy in gold coin. I quote from the Mint law:

"That the standard for both gold and silver coin of the United States shall hereafter be such, that of one thousand parts by weight, 900 shall be of pure metal, and 100 of alloy; and the alloy of the silver coin shall be of copper; and the alloy of the gold coin shall be of copper and silver, provided that the silver do not exceed one-half of the whole alloy."

So, the quality of the metal in the "Trade Dollar" is precisely the same as that in the "Standard Dollar." But how about the relative weight of the two coins? The answer is, the "Trade Dollar" is the heavier coin, and contains by weight seven and one-half grains more of standard metal than the "Standard Dollar" contains; the "Trade Dollar" weighing 420 grains while the "Standard Dollar" weighs only 412½ grains. The "Trade Dollar" therefore contains seven and one-half grains more metal than does the "Standard" Silver Dollar, and both are of the same quality. Both of these coins were issued by the United States, and each is plainly stamped "Dollar." And yet, by vile and fraudulent legislation of Congress the lighter "Standard" Dollar is a legal tender for its face value, and used every day in business transactions in the payment of debts, dollar for dollar; but the legal tender property being taken out of the heavier "Trade Dollar," in which there is more metal than there is in the "Standard Dollar," the "Trade Dollar," on that account, has become an article of merchandise only, and may be bought for about fifty cents on the dollar. I have some of these "Trade Dollars" myself, which I bought from a bank not long ago for fifty cents each. Here then, is a plain object lesson which it seems to me the most stupid mind might understand, and see that as to money metals, the law can elevate or depress prices and values. My point is, that the time has come, if ever, for the States, each acting for itself, to exercise the above Constitutional reserved power of making all silver coin of the United States, (including "Trade Dollars") a legal tender in the payment of debts. Let North Carolina, one of the old original thirteen States, take the initiative on this subject, and I would be glad to see the People's Party put a plank in its State platform upon this subject. If no other State will follow us, let us draw to the money circulation of our State the "Trade Dollars" now held in our own and other States, and at least put that much more United States silver money already coined, in circulation, and give them a legal tender debt paying quality in North Carolina.

The statistics of the United States Mint show that the total number of "Trade Dollars" coined was ($35,965,924) thirty-five millions, nine hundred and sixty-five thousand nine hundred and twenty-four, of which there were redeemed under the act of March 3d, 1887, $7,689,036. There have been deposited and purchased as bullion at the Mints $944,757, making the total number of Trade Dollars redeemed and purchased as bullion $8,633,793, leaving STILL OUTSTANDING ($27,332,131) twenty-seven millions, three hundred and thirty-two thousand, one hundred and thirty-one Trade Dollars.

In the good old days, more than fifty years ago, when John Tyler was President of the United States, and before the days of Grover Cleveland, the Congress of the United States passed an act which President Tyler approved, regulating the currency of foreign gold and silver coin in the United States. This was in the days when the United States was in truth and in fact, an independent nation, and before the latter days when our so-called statesmen were wont to speak of "international ratio," "international agreement," and all that kind of international nonsense, and international treachery to subvert the liberties of the American people. I quote below the act in full, and it is interesting to note that by it foreign gold was made receivable by "WEIGHT," and foreign silver coin of Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and Spain were receivable by "TALE," that is, by number or count, at their face value as "Dollars," or "One hundred cents."

"An Act Regulating the Currency of Foreign Gold and Silver Coins in the United States.

"That from and after the passage of this act, the following gold coins shall pass current as money within the United States, and be receivable by weight, for the payment of all debts and demands, at the rates following, that is to say the gold coins of Great Britain, of not less than nine hundred and fifteen and a half thousandths in fineness at ninety-four cents and six-tenths of a cent per pennyweight: and the gold coins of France, of not less than eight hundred and ninety-nine thousandths in fineness, at ninety-two cents and nine-tenths of a cent per pennyweight.

SEC. 2. That from and after the passage of this act, the following silver coins shall pass current as money within the United States, and be receivable by tale, for the payment of all debts and demands, at the rates following, that is to say: the Spanish pillar dollars, and the dollars of Mexico, Peru and Bolivia of not less than eight hundred and ninety-seven thousandths in fineness, and four hundred and fifteen grains in weight, at one hundred cents each; and the five franc pieces of France, of not less than nine hundred thousandths in fineness, and three hundred and eighty-four grains in weight, at ninety-three cents each.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause assays of the coins made current by this act, to be had at the Mint of the United States, at least once in every year, and to make report of the result thereof to Congress.

Approved March 3, 1843."

It will be remembered that President Tyler while a United States Senator, and before he became President, firmly supported the administration of General Andrew Jackson, and voted against re-chartering the United States Bank. And when Mr. Tyler became President, he, (unlike Grover Cleveland of our day), refused to become the slave of concentrated wealth which then, as now, clamored for national banks, and control of the peoples' currency. History tells us that President William Henry Harrison, (not our Ben of "Force Bill" notoriety, but Ben's grandfather, the old hero of "Tippecanoe," whom our whig ancestors loved to honor), soon after his inauguration, when the times were financially out of joint, issued a proclamation, convening Congress for an extra session on the 31st of May, 1841, to consider "sundry weighty and important matters, chiefly growing out of the state of revenue and finance of the country." But President William Henry Harrison did not live to submit his remedial plans—dying after a brief illness on the 4th day of April, 1841, exactly one month after coming into office, and President Tyler being then the Vice-President, succeeded him. Congress met in extra session on May 31st, 1841, and continued in session until the 13th of September. On July 27th, a bill for the establishment of the "Fiscal Bank of the United States," passed the Senate by a vote of 26 to 23, and was concurred in by the House of Representatives on the 6th of August by a vote of 128 to 91. President Tyler, however, vetoed the bill, and it was lost for want of a Constitutional majority. But the friends of a national bank were not to be deterred from their purpose by a single repulse; another bill, (about the same in substance), was immediately hurried through both Houses, under the title of "The Fiscal Corporation of the United States," and this also shared the fate of its predecessor, and failed to become a law on account of President Tyler's veto."

So, it occurred that the friends of a national bank system of finance, failed in 1841 to carry out their scheme of financial relief, which if adopted, would no doubt have produced about the same "relief" which we now enjoy in our day under the "relief" of the hundreds, and even thousands of national banks scattered over the United States, and controlling and manipulating our currency. I believe we have to-day something over three thousand national banks left, and in operation since the "Banker's panic" of 1893. How did the people during President Tyler's administration get financial relief? History us that when the scheme of the bankers failed, by reason of President Tyler's veto, then Congress did the wise and patriotic thing in passing the above cited act in relation to making legal tenders of foreign gold and silver coins, and allowing them to circulate in the United States as debt paying money. And as before stated, President Tyler approved this act of Congress on March 3rd, 1843, and it was the law, and the people were happy and prosperous under it for years and years thereafter. To-day, Congress refuses to pass a free coinage law, and will not only, not allow foreign silver coin to become legal tender in the payment of debts; but Congress will not even allow silver "Trade Dollars" which were coined and issued by our own government to become legal tender in the payment of debts. And yet, we hear ignorant goldbugs, who ought to know better, prate about "government credit" back of every coin; that every dollar should be as good as every other dollar" "honest money," and such like expressions. Is it not time for the States to wake up and begin to exercise their Constitutional reserved rights of making all gold and silver coins of the United States (including "Trade Dollars") and foreign gold and silver coins too, legal tender in the payment of all debts within the State, both public and private? Would that we had one term, or one month, or even one week or a day of a manlike Andrew Jackson or John Tyler in the White House at Washington. When John Tyler stood up for the people against the money power in his day, he incurred the everlasting hatred of the money power, just as patriots who stand by the people are now doing in our times.

The Historian tells us that: "So gross and bitter were the assaults made upon Tyler that he felt called upon to defend himself from their violence; and after declaring his determination to do his duty, regardless of party ties, he said: "I appeal from the vituperation of the present day to the pen of impartial History, in confidence that neither my motives nor my acts will bear the interpretation which, from sinister motives, has been placed upon them." The distressed condition of the country in which we live to-day, under the system of national banks established by the Republican party, and now being fostered and perpetuated by the Republican-Democratic party, guided by the joint leadership of Grover Sherman and John Cleveland, is a most splendid historical vindication of the patriotism, the wisdom, and the foresight of John Tyler and Andrew Jackson.

Section 25 of chapter 349 of the Statutes at large of the 53rd Congress, 2nd session, page 552 reads as follows: "That the value of foreign coins as expressed in the Money of Account of the United States shall be that of the pure metal of such coin of standard value; and the values of the standard coin in circulation of the various nations of the world shall be estimated quarterly by the Director of the Mint, &c. &c.

The Mexican silver dollar as estimated by the Director of the United States Mint contains (377.17) three hundred and seventy-seven and seventeen hundredths grains of pure silver and (419.08) four hundred and nineteen and eight hundredths grains of standard silver, which is more of both pure silver, and more of standard silver than our legal tender "Standard Dollar" contains. Then why should not the Mexican silver dollar circulate among our people as legal tender, debt paying money, as it did in my boyhood days? The Japanese Silver "Yen" contains (374.40) three hundred and seventy-four and forty hundredths of pure silver and (416) four hundred and sixteen grains of standard silver, and therefore, the Japanese "Yen" contains more silver than our own "Standard Dollar," which has in it only (412½) four hundred and twelve and one-half grains of standard silver. Is there any good reason why the Japanese "Yen" should not circulate among our people as money? We have driven out of the United States the Mexican silver dollars, and sent them back home to Mexico and thereby given Mexico an immense "boom" and to ourselves corresponding depression in business. And Congress refuses to admit the Japanese "Yen" to our money circulation. We give to foreign silver using countries the advantages of the difference in exchanges in our trade relations, and then go to work to impoverish the masses of our own people to enrich the favored classes by building up by protective tariff legislation a "Tariff Wall" against foreign importation of manufactured goods. Is this wise legislation? Or is it OTHERWISE? It makes us as a Nation suffer at both ends of the line—both going and coming, in our dealings with foreign nations.

People's party men, and patriots of all parties, let us come together in this campaign and so far as we are able, both by State and national legislation, let us right these grievous wrongs.

WM. A. GUTHRIE

TWO PRETTY PICTURES.

Confusion and Collision in the Two Old Parties---The Wondrous Spectacles They Present To The People in Their Conventions And Committee Meetings.

LOOK ON THIS THEN LOOK ON THAT.

At the Republican district convention, held last week at Maxton for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress, there were most disgraceful scenes and any number of fights.

The Charlotte Observer gives the following in its account of the proceedings.

Amidst the yells a tall, lean, lank, hungry looking fellow with scanty beard and dishevelled hair, wearing a cut-a-way coat, shirt and no collar, large feet and small pants, stepped forth. His voice was like a trumpet. His long arm waved to and fro, up and down, and the house began to roar with laughter. Then came upon the stand a character well known to Charlotte. His name is Rich Lily—a long-legged, long-armed, thin, spare-built, coal black negro, about 25 years old. Rich Lilly had had his share of mountain dew, and was nimble and quick.

The hall roared, but a cry came: "I will give any man $5 that will take that d—d country scoundrel (Covington) off the stage." It is alleged that young D. B. Sutton, of Wilmington, was the gentleman who made the offer. No sooner was the sentence out than did a big black, heavy-set colored fellow with a Van Dyke beard step forward to leg Covington, but lo! Was Rich Lily asleep? Just as the big, burly fellow stepped to the stage Rich Lily planted a fist in his face, and spread him upon the seat. At this point Rich Lily came back and asked the reporter: Didn't I act like a delegate?" and the reporter told him "yes." The crowd howled and Covington continued to shout. He said: "You may yell, but I'm going to speak, d—n you!" and so he did—Rich Lily was still with him.

* * *

Dan Morrison then rushed, hands-on-hips, to big Bill Sutton, of Bladen, and jerked Sutton's collar off. Then the fight was general. Dr. Norment had started upon the stage and some friend or enemy had given him a shove, and landed him across a bench. His friends carried him out of the mob.

Rich Lily was not at ease during this time. He had already reported three knock downs and a bloody nose. After each bout he made a trip around to the reporter with his interrogatory: "Didn't I do him right?" and the reporter invariably expressed his highest approbation of Rich and his delegate-like actions. But about this time things began to look pretty bloody. The writer looked first in the ante-room which was open at his right and then at the fight. Only two ways to escape were left. Either out the two-story window to the ground or leap over the crowd around the rim of the stage. The latter was the hardest but the safest way. He was weighing the two ways when he looked around and saw a great big delegate reach down to his shoe mouth and draw out a razor and throw it open. No longer was the question of escape debatable. At one jump the crowd was over-ridden and the reporter gone. As he swung in the air his eyes fell back and saw several pistols slowly moving around in the crowd. Sheriff Smith had planted a man a blow by this time, and yells of "Take 'em out" were heard.

We are indebted also to the Charlotte Observer for an account of the proceedings of the meeting of the State Democratic executive committee. There does not appear to be any "knocking" and "dragging" in the programme, but there was as much confusion, which resulted in nothing. The account is as follows:

"The Democratic State executive committee met in Raleigh on the night of Thursday, the 9th of April. On the afternoon of that day there was held in the office of Mr. Smith a preliminary caucus of the free silver members of the committee. This caucus was originated by the extremists and nearly all of the conservative silver men were drawn into it. A proxy was secured for ex-Judge MacRae and it is reported that he presided over the caucus. It adopted resolutions which were substantially those of the State silver convention of September 25th, 1895, and which by suggestion rather than definite expression favored the formation of a silver party. It was agreed to have two State conventions—one on the 20th of May to elect delegates to Chicago and to reorganize and take charge of the State committee with a view to possible fusion with the Populists later. A third proposition was to put through the committee, that night, A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SUB COMMITTEE OF THREE TO MAKE TERMS WITH BUTLER. At this juncture the conservatives present came to the rescue. Great confusion arose and the meeting finally adjourned without having come to a vote on this resolution.

In the committee meeting that night the proposition for two conventions was defeated. The proposition for a special committee to confer with Butler was not introduced. Mr. Smith's silver resolutions were introduced by R. R. Cotton and Mr. Sol. C. Weill proposed as an amendment a pledge to support the nominees of the Democracy, national, State and local. This was very embarrassing. Mr. Smith offered a substitute reaffirming the resolutions of the committee on the 20th of May last. Mr. Weill offered an amendment to this calling upon silver men to support the Democratic ticket, national, State and local. This did not help the situation of the extremists. The vote must be taken on the amendment first. Mr. Frank D. Winston called for the yeas and nays and Col. Paul B. Means announced that he would publish over his own signature the names of those who voted against the amendment. To vote against it was to put one's self out the Democratic party; to vote for it was to violate the caucus agreement of the afternoon and interfere with fusion with Butler. Capt. R. B. Davis and E. J. Hale, realizing the situation, said: "We are whipped; let us get out of this trouble now the best way." Chairman Pou was appealed to for advice and said that everything before the meeting could be withdrawn by unanimous consent. This was given and the resolutions, substitute and amendments were all withdrawn. Thus the conservative silver men again saved the day. There is no pretense that the sound money men could have done so alone, as they were outnumbered about two to one."

Now, can any intelligent man believe that either of these organizations know what they are trying to do? Are they worthy of the support of any man who has home, country and principle at heart? Read about them, and then answer the questions for yourself.

CRAVEN COUNTY POPS.

They Stand Squarely For Principle and Endorse The Action of The Committee.

THURMAN, N. C., May 5.—A meeting of the Executive Committee of the People's Party was held at New Berne Saturday, May 2nd, for the purpose of consulting and agreeing on some plan of action for the coming campaign. A full representation of the committee being present, the sentiment of the county, was well established.

On motion the President appointed a committee to draft resolutions &c. The committee presented the following to the committee—which was unanimously adopted:

The executive committee of the People's Party of Craven county in conference assembled in the city of New Berne adopted the following resolutions and ordered the same to be sent to THE CAUCASIAN at Raleigh for publication:

RESOLVED 1ST, THAT WE FULLY ENDORSE the action of the State executive committee of the People's Party in reference to co-operation with the Republican party on spoils of office at a sacrifice of principle—that principle (or one of them) being FINANCIAL REFORM as adopted and signed by Hon. Henry M. Teller and fifteen other Republican Senators, including Senator Pritchard of North Carolina, relating to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

2ND, That we endorse the action of our Senator, Hon. Marion Butler, in every act of his as a member of our party whether in or out of office.

3RD, That we commit ourselves to the decision of the voters of the county and State for the advocacy of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at 16 to 1 regardless of international interference.

Signed H. H. PERRY, Chm'n
CHAS. SUTTON } Com
J. B. PARSONS }
W. H. SMITH, Chairman.

G. L. HARDISON, Sec'y.

BUNCOMBE POPULISTS.

No Voting For Republican Candidates—Butler's Course Approved.

In pursuance to a call made by J. N. Morgan, chairman of the Populist Party committee, and T. B. Long, secretary, the Populists met and on motion of T. J. Candler the following resolutions were introduced and passed unanimously:

WHEREAS, There has been an honest effort made on the part of the Populist Party executive committee of this State to co-operate with the Republican party, on terms alike honorable to both, and

WHEREAS, The Republican party, through their executive committee refused to co-operate on said terms, and

WHEREAS, The Republican party demanded of the Populists, co-operation solely upon the spoils idea alone, and

WHEREAS, The Republican party demanded the Governor, United States Senator, and that they be allowed to support their goldbug electors for President, therefore

RESOLVED 1ST, That the Populists of Buncombe county hereby approve of Senator Butler's plan of co-operation and also of his refusal to co-operate upon Republican terms, and that the Populists of Buncombe county pledge Senator Butler and the Populists of the State their hearty support in their efforts to secure the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

RESOLVED 2ND, That we decline to send any delegate to the Republican convention to be held at Raleigh May 14; and denounce as untrue those persons who are willing to sell out to the Republican party.

After several speeches were made, chairman J. N. Morgan being defeated in his plan to send delegates to Raleigh May 14, and to declare the meeting adjourned, on motion of T. J. Candler Col. W. L. Henry was called to the chair, and then, the meeting finished up its work. The Populists were a unit in favor of standing by the Populist Party and pledged themselves not to vote for any candidate for office who supported the "goldbug parties" and in favor of co-operation with all silver Republicans and silver Democrats on a free silver platform in favor of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. Then on motion of Mr. Durham the temporary chairman, W. L. Henry, and secretary T. J. Candler were authorized to call a meeting of the Populists at as early a day as practicable.

A unity of work—a knowing of facts will win the people's fight. Let us all know together and work together. Send us a club under our special offer.

B. F. KEITH'S PLAIN WORDS

Democrats May Now Endorse Silver In Order to Help the Goldbugs Win.

WERE GIVEN A "CHANCE"

To Right a Wrong And Refused To Do It—It Devolves Upon the Good People of North Carolina To Meet the People's Party on Common Ground—That Party Has Shown It Stands For Principle.

Can we expect free coinage of silver from and through either of the old parties? I answer no, notwithstanding the silver organs of those parties say that we can; but past political experience, as well as the application of a little common sense, says No!

First, no party has ever won a great victory when it was divided. A divided house shall not stand, so says the higher law. Both parties have been in power, controlling nearly every office from constable to President. I know the Democratic party has promised for twenty years, if given control, they would restore silver, and had they chosen to have given us free coinage, with the South and West clamoring for it, we would have it.

But the fact that they had a chance to give it to us after the party was pledged to it, and failing to do so, is good evidence that they do not intend to do it. And should the free coinage element control the national Democratic convention, it will be the most unfortunate thing for the cause of silver that could happen. If they control it, it will mean defeat for the silver Democrats unless they should nominate men who would be agreeable to the silver organizations of the country and the Populist Party that are to meet in convention after the Democratic convention meets.

This will hardly be done, as the goldbugs will be too strong to allow anything that will point to the coming together of the silver men, as that element will defeat it as it did in Kentucky.

With Cleveland saying that it would be best for the Democratic party to be defeated if they declared for free coinage of silver, and should they declare for it with his (Cleveland's) patronage in active opposition, it means defeat.

Let him and his crowd adopt the gold standard, so when they are defeated by the policy he has pursued, they will see their folly. Should they adopt a free coinage platform, then, when they are defeated the very element in the party that defeated it will say I told you that the people did not want free coinage.

They will probably let the silver men control the convention in order to keep them from uniting with the silver organizations and the Populists at St. Louis, July 22d, (which would mean a victory for silver) thereby breaking the forces of the silver men.

But the people who have had their eyes opened by sad experience and see the true state of affairs, will no longer tie to either of the old parties. For twenty-two years they have been in and out, fighting each other for party ascendency dictated to by the office-seeker, while the interests of the people have been forgotten until half of our property has been confiscated and ruin and want stare us in the face.

The Republicans first demonetized silver and while the majority of those in the South and West in the Democratic party are honest, and are for the restoration of the money of the people, yet the national party is divided and we can expect no hope or relief from any party that is warring against itself; and our only hope is in adopting an honest platform for the interests of the American people which will bring together true silver men from all parties at St. Louis.

It is true that two great political parties in a republic is all that can exist any length of time, and while the principles of Democracy can never die in a true republican form of government, yet owing to the usurpation of Cleveland and his cohorts to divert the will of the people in the interest of a plutocracy, the people will leave the party he has wrecked and the one they so much loved, and look to another source, carrying with them the principles of a Jeffersonian Democracy and Lincoln Republicanism embodied in a new name as their anchor.

The national party, or the national People's Party, will be for the interest of the people, while arrayed on the other side will be the party upholding a plutocracy of trust companies, under the name of the Republican party (Cleveland and Sherman as its supporters), and the decisive battle will be fought in 1896 and the destiny of our government be settled.

The issue is, shall the people control this government, or, shall the moneyed aristocracy rule and ruin? Since the Populists of this State, on the 17th of April, have shown to the people that they mean what they say, and rejected the temptation of spoils, and stand upon the high plane of principle, the good people of North Carolina are rejoiced. And now it devolves upon us to meet them upon the same plane of principle and save our State from the rule and ruin of the reconstructionists. Let our past party affiliations be what they may, yet it behooves us as wise men to take the situation as we find it and make the best of it.

The goldbugs will tell you that they had rather be defeated than to co-operate with the Populists. That is true. They are opposed to anything that will bring together the silver men of the State and nation, for they well know that will mean a victory for relief. Yet, when we see the Democratic party wrecked and defeated in order to keep the goldbugs, partybugs and turnbugs from finally ruining us, we who think alike, must get together and save our State from goldbug rule and ruin. This will mean the best element of North Carolina ruling her, and certainly no man who has the proper love for his people and State can object.

B. F. KEITH,
in New Era.

SURPRISED AT THE REPUBLICANS.

The People's Party Not Ready To Go Into Either One of The Old Parties, and Will Not Support a Goldbug or Anyone Who Will.

For The Caucasian.]

FAISONS, N. C., May 9.—We are surprised to see that the Republicans have refused to co-operate except upon the spoils system. The People's Party State committee certainly offered them a very fair, and more than fair proposition. The committee went further in its efforts to get co-operation than the People's Party in this section would have gone if it had been consulted. When our State committee offered to accept the position already adopted by Senator Pritchard and the western Republican Senators in Congress on the money question and the tariff, it certainly was going a long way to secure co-operation. How could the Republicans refuse this? On the other hand, the Republican proposition, as we understand it, was to throw aside all principle and to go in simply for a division of offices. If our State committee had agreed to do this the People's Party down here would not have supported it.

I notice that the Republicans are now saying that Senator Butler cannot deliver the People's Party voters to the Democratic party. We don't believe that he wants to do any such thing. We admire him very much, but we could not follow him in that if he was to advise it. Neither could he or the State committee deliver us to the Republican party if they were to advise it. We left the Democratic party because it tried to force us to do the very same thing that the Republicans are now inviting us to do, and offering us offices as a consideration. We would not support Grover Cleveland because he was a goldbug. Neither would we support Governor Carr or the State ticket in 1892 because they insisted on voting for goldbug Cleveland. We were consistent then and we will be consistent now. We will not support a goldbug, nor will we support or vote for any man who will vote for a goldbug.

We are sorry that we cannot co-operate again with the Republicans as we did last year, but we certainly cannot and will not do for the Republicans what we left the Democratic party to keep from doing. It seems to us that the Republicans took their choice between co-operation and a goldbug pie counter, and that their love for the pie-counter was the strongest. If we cannot co-operate on principle, let us go it alone, and fight both of the old party machines.

Yours truly,
A PEOPLE'S PARTY MAN.

"THE PEOPLE'S PARTY WILL CARRY TEXAS."

This is What Ex-Attorney-General Walton of Texas Says in Washington.

Washington Post.]

"My belief is that the Populists will carry Texas this year, whether the Democrats split, as appears possible, or stick together," said Maj. W. M. Walton, of Austin, at the Metropolitan.

Maj. Walton is one of the notable men of the Lone Star State. For years he has been regarded as the peer of any lawyer in its limits. He has been Attorney-General, and until three or four years ago, was one of the shining lights of the Democratic Party. In his latter days, however, he has gone over to the Populists, who welcomed him to their ranks with enthusiasm.

"If we can only get a fair count in Texas, said he, "we will carry the State. The people are tired of Cleveland and Carlisle, and can't be persuaded into voting the Democratic ticket any longer. They see not a particle of difference between the financial and economic policy of this administration and Harrison's. The present tariff is as indefensible as the one that bore McKinley's name. John Sherman is no mory imbued with the single gold standard idea than John G. Carlisle. Whd shouldn't they belong to the same party? "I do not covet office myself. There isn't a place on the ticket that my Populists friends have not besought me to take, but while I shall speak for the cause and do all in my power to help it in the coming campaign, which promised to be the hottest ever waged in the State, I shall not allow my name to be voted for. I shall also resolutely oppose fusion with the Republicans, unless, perhaps, for minor offices. There are enough straight Populist votes to win, and we are gaining every day. * * * With an honest count (which we mean to have) we cannot only elect our State ticket, but a majority of Congressmen. Col. Jerome Kearby, of Dallas, will be the Populist nominee for Governor."

A Lie Out of The Whole Cloth.

Southern Mercury, Tex.]

Populist papers, east and south, should beware of fake Associate Press dispatches from the south. One was recently sent out from Austin, Texas, to the effect that the Populists of Texas and Republicans had arranged to fuse. Whenever a dispatch asserts that the People's Party of Texas is to fuse with any party on earth it can be set down as a lie out of the whole cloth.

Judge Dillard Dead.

GREENSBORO, May 6.—Judge Jno. H. Dillard, died here this afternoon at 4 o'clock after an illness of only a few days. He was on the streets Saturday morning, but went home to bed at 11 o'clock. His death was caused by blood poisoning, which began many years ago, and it was this trouble that caused him to resign as associate justice of the Supreme Court.

Please don't wait. We tell you the goldbugs have begun to scatter money for sinister purposes. THE CAUCASIAN will talk about these things. Say, YOU, YOU—friend, can't you send a club of five under our special offer?

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

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

LIVING ISSUES FORWARD.

More Endorsements of the Action of the Committee—Good Feeling Everywhere—People Are Coming to Us—"Stay In The Middle of the Road" is The Slogan.

Straight From the Shoulder.

For The Caucasian.]

MARION, N. C., May 9, '96.—A Republican politician has sent me a copy of "A Card to the Public" signed by Messrs. James Amos and D. H. Gill, of Vance county. I have read it and am sorry indeed, to see such a document emanating from what purports to be a Populist source.

We Populists up here in the west are Populists from principle. We left the old parties (where some of us stood very well) because we saw they were wrong and corrupt. They have done little to right themselves in our opinion. We do not agree with the card of Messrs Amos and Gill, neither do any of our friends with whom we have conversed, or any one else except an office-hunter. We never favored fusion very much, yet there was some excuse or cause for it during our last election. That time is past. We look upon our national financial question as far more important than a few State offices. We hold to the Omaha platform, yet it is hard to educate the people on so many reforms at once, therefore we are willing to put the financial reform first. The currency is the life blood of the nation and if this be diseased all is rotten and unhealthy.

Allow me to add in conclusion that we are not afraid of being led into the Democratic party by Senator Butler, neither are we afraid of being led into the Republican party by cards to the public or the advocates of fusion.

Our party is not a party of boodlers. We gave that up when we left the Dem-Rep party. The boodlers are still clinging to the old leaky ship, and though they may calk a few leaks and steam her ahead for a short time, her water lines rise higher; the lurch is not far distant and if she is judged for all the piracies she has committed, Neptune's salty bottom will not stop her. Hell will not stop her. She will be provisioned at the devil's coaling station, and with Grover for devil, be requested to start a hell of her own.

LINVILLE ECHO.

Single Handed—Hit or Miss.

For The Caucasian.]

GUM NECK, N. C., May 7, '96.—We approve of the plan taken by the committee on fusion. I have not heard of a man who belongs to the People's Party say that he would fuse with a party on the gold issue. We are in favor of taking it single-handed—hit or miss.

J. L. COOPER.

A Good Motto.

For The Caucasian.]

COVE, N. C., May 7, '96.—Good work is going on here. We will double our vote this year. I hope every place is going like Cove; if so we will carry the State by a large majority. Keep "in the middle of the road" is our motto here.

J. H. GRIFFIN.

The Course Appreciated.

For The Caucasian.]

WINFALL, N. C., May 7.—We appreciate the course of THE CAUCASIAN and highly prize the paper. But for the stringency in money matters I could forward you any amount of subscribers.

W. H. OVERTON.

It Was a Great Honor to the State When Ransom Presided Over the Senate.

For the Caucasian]

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., May 8, '96.—Sometime in 1893 Senator Ransom was called upon by the Vice-President one day to preside over the Senate. Every Democratic paper in the State not only printed the fact, but commented on it editorially as a great honor to the State. Last week the Vice-President called upon Senator Butler to preside over the Senate, but the Democratic papers barely mentioned the fact. Senator Butler is the first People's Party Senator to be thus honored, and, besides, he is the youngest Senator in the body. If it was a matter of such marked honor for Ransom, who was over seventy years old, and who had been in the Senate for over twenty years, to be called upon to preside over the Senate, was it not still more marked in the case of Senator Butler? But this is simply a sample of the unfair methods of the machine party papers. When they cannot find something to abuse Senator Butler about, they try to ignore him, but in spite of this he grows in strength and popularity with the people each day.

POPULIST.

The Committee Heartily Endorsed.

For The Caucasian.]

I heartily approve of the course of our State executive committee regarding co-operation with the Republicans. It would have been the sacrificing of our principles to have joined heart and hand with a political party who are so antagonistic to principles that the Populists advocate. Co-operation with either of the old parties would be the height of folly. Why not co-operate with the Democrats? They favor bimetallism, provided they can get it through the Democratic party, and that is what the Republicans wanted. The Republican party is the party that demonetized silver, and the Democratic party has kept it demonetized. The Democrats are equally guilty, because, if the demonetizing of silver was a crime, the Democratic party has refused to right the wrong.

(Continued on fourth page.)