PROSPECTS BRIGHTEN.

The Probability of a Silver Candidate Helps—Negro Brown Disgusting—The Better Class of Populists Nauseated.

Mr. James H. Pou, chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, has given out the following interview as to the political situation:

Chairman Pou says the condition of the party is better than in many months. Some Democrats and some Populists have believed honorable co-operation desirable this year. The mere discussion of such a possibility weakened our party discipline and dampened the spirits and hopes of our people. This idea of co-operation is now abandoned and this is a distinct evidence of Democratic improvement.

The cause which has had the greatest effect in improving the Democratic outlook is the vision of the old Republican party rising again and confronting the white people of North Carolina; Russell, Dockery and others appealing to the worst passions of 100,000 negroes and asking them to give them office. The issue is whether these people shall rule the State or whether white government shall continue.

Another factor in the improvement is the strong probability that silver advocates will control the National Convention and that the candidates and the platform will be thoroughly acceptable to the great majority of the white people of the State. Another factor is the action of the State Committee in pursuing the even tenor of its way and calling a convention at the usual time and in the usual manner, which served as a notice that the Democratic party had chosen to live rather than to die and that it would risk defeat rather than sacrifice one principle or compromise with any adversary. The party has faith in the Democracy of its committee.

If the skies brighten and our vision becomes clearer by June 25th, there is every reason to believe our convention will nominate a full State ticket. Long campaigns have heretofore always been successful for us and there is no reason why this year should prove an exception. The more thorough our canvass the more votes we can get.

How can the great mass of the Populists agree to fusion with the Republicans and thus assist is electing McKinley, whose nomination is almost certain, a gold bug, president and turning over the State to Russell or Dockery and the crowds which are backing them The North Carolina Democrats will preserve their party organization and remain a part of the National organization.

There is no sort of doubt about the adoption of free silver platform June 25th. Our nominees will be silver men whose Democracy is untarnished. We will call upon all men who believe in the free coinage of silver, a revenue tariff, an income tax and an honest State government, administered by white men, to rally to the Democratic standard. To this call it seems many Populists will respond and they will be welcomed into full fellowship in the Democratic party. The number and the character of those who will return if this course be followed will greatly surprise those who are not informed as to present conditions

The imminence of misrule in the Eastern counties is exercising a conservative influence over all classes of white people. The counties are, in the Democratic party, a law unto themselves and in the matter of fusion the Democrats of the counties will act wisely in all things, and nothing they do will be criticised by the State organization. There is not much principle involved in the election of a treasurer and register of deeds and in a county where otherwise these offices might be filled by corrupt Republicans, it might be better to have them filled by Democrats and Populists.

No true Democrat should any more think of bolting the conventions than a husband should think of drawing the wife of his bosom and the mere hint of it increases the danger of doing it. The State organization cannot maintain itself save as part of some great National organization. Should the State organization cease to support the National Democratic ticket it would either disband or become part of the other National parties.

The first duty of the Democrats now is to secure peace within the party. Let all Democrats practice self-denial and let nothing be done to promote personal ambition to the slightest detriment of party welfare. Let there be no more impugning of motives, but let there be concessions from all sides for the party's good.

Hale's Summer Residence Burned.

ELLSWORTH, Me., May 2.—The Prince, the summer residence of United States Senator Hale, with its contents was burned this morning. The loss is fifty thousand dollars; insured. It was probably incindiary.

A Democrat's Plain Talk.

For THE MECKLENBURG TIMES.

Mr. Editor: From what I learn from the papers there is great discord in the Democratic ranks. This I think is all uncalled for. The principals of Democracy are the same they have been for years. Yes "principals are immortal." Government of the people, for the people and by the people. Let each township and county send up their delegates fresh from the people; and let them lay down the platform—recognising each individuals rights, and let the great masses or majority decide the entire matter.

Finance seems to be the great trouble—that should not be any trouble Since 1873 the Republican have been the champions of gold standard; alias "Sound Money" this is Republican doctrine; if a man believes in that policy; let him go to that party. A man cant be a Baptist unless he goes under the water, thus a man cant be a Democrat unless he believes in Democratic doctrine. Let each man go to his own crowd. The question is often asked: Who is it that wants this doctrine engrafted into Democracy?

The answer promptly comes from all sides: "Those who have been long in office" It is strange with few exceptions from the President down to the constable this is true.

It seems that human nature is the same through all ages.

Long continued in office makes us dictatorial, autocratic—and is against the fundamental principals of our Republic n or Democratic form of government. I see but one way to check this tendency, and that is to nominate new men for every office from constable to President. "Frequent changes in office tend to give good and pure goverment"

We can all see this in county government as well as State and National. Money has of late years had too much to do with our conventions, men hired to stand at the primaries and influence the vote; free transportation furnished to State and Congressional conventions. This has been a shame. Such delegates should not be seated.

A township or ward has a right to send her delegates and to pay their expenses, but a corporation or candidate have not. So Mr. Editor for a party to succeed, you must always trust and honor the men who have done the most hard work. Promotion for "bravery on the field" is a great stimulus in war, and has always been practiced by the great Generals of the different ages. But the Democratic party has never thought of this in this State but once. Z. B. Vance was the only man elected Governor for "bravery on the field." And I dont think Mecklenburg county has ever nominated a candidate for an office of profit or trust who ever lost three hours sleep in the interest of the party, before he held the office. This may strike you a blow Mr. Editor, but we have free speech. If I am mistaken I will stand corrected, but I call for the proof; and am guilty with the rest of the party.

I have often helped to nominate a man because he was a fine speaker a good clever fellow, or a "poor devil and could not live without the office" This was all wrong

Give us men who have been willing to give us their time and effort; for pure love of good government—love of country; and Democracy will be on such a boom as she has not been on for years Let the watchword be: "Good government is given by good men in office Men who love their country, have always taken an active part in making good goverument, "promote for bravery on the field."

More again. DEMOCRAT.

A Wealthy Tribe.

A delegation of Osage Indians, consisting of James Bigheart, governor of the nation; Peter Bigheart, ex-chief; Black Dog, ex-chief; Thomas Mosiery, national secretary of the nation, together with United States Commissioner W. J. Houston, called on Secretary Smith at the Interior Department yesterday and were given a hearing in regard to the condition of their tribal funds and accounts. This tribe is one of the richest in the United States, having $10,000,000 on deposit in the treasury at 5 per cent per annum, and possessing 1,900,000 acres of good land in Oklahoma. They desire a careful review of their annuity roster to purge it of names illegally registered, and also want to know precisely how much interest has accrued on their funds in the treasury. The Secretary assured them their requests should be attended to promptly.

A Campaign of Education.

Of all the "campaigns of education" that we have had in the last eight years, none of them will equal the one upon which we are now entering. There never was such a disposition on the part of the people, Democrats, Populists and Republicans, to hear all sides. They have all learned at least enough to know that that person is only half educated who only reads one side.—Lumberton Robesonian.

BLAND'S BOOM STARTED.

Missouri's Delegation Will Try to Capture Kentucky.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 26.—The free coinage Democrats of Missouri have set in motion a plan to capture the Kentucky delegation to the Chicago convention for Bland. A conference to this end was held here yesterday by leading free coinage Democrats, including nearly all the Missouri delegation to Chicago.

Governor Stone was made chairman. Letters were read from prominent Kentuckians and others. All the speakers thought Kentucky could be secured for Bland and that the effect of downing the administration goldbugs in Carlisle's own State would secure Bland's nomination.

It was resolved to draw upon township clubs for a lobby delegation of 10,000 shouting Missourians.

State Treasurer Stevens opened the question of revising the two-thirds rule in the national convention.

It was decided that if a free coinage majority was elected the rule should be changed to get a nomination by a majority and thus make easy going for Bland.

A committee consisting of Governor Stone and five associates was appointed to push the Bland boom never quarter.

Governor Stone has accepted several invitations to speak in Kentucky, his native State.

Southern Democrats Discuss the Vice President's Chances at Chicago.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Among Southern Democrats at the Capitol, the impression seems to be growing that Vice President Stevenson stands a better chance of being struck by the Presidential nomination lightning than any of the gentlemen who have yet been named. Some of the shrewdest men in the Democratic party in the South say they would not be surprised to see the Chicago Nominating Convention bestow the honor upon "General" Stevenson.

It is said that at the Convention to be held in Chicago there will be a great demonstration made over him if his name is presented by the Illinois delegation. State pride is expected to assert itself, and it is contended that he could carry that State for the ticket on his personal popularity.

As to his financial policy, that is of the great mysteries of the present day Since he has been in the Vice-President's chair he has refrained from expressing any public opinion on the money question, so that neither the gold bugs nor the free silver men are certain of his position. In the South it is thought that he is favorable to free silver, and some of his friends in the North are equally confident that he would not undertake to act contrary to the wishes of a great majority of the practical business men of the country.

During the past week influential members of the Democratic party have been to see him for the purpose of sounding him on the money question, with a view to starting a Presidential boom in his behalf. He has received all such callers with his usual courtesy and good humor, but he has positively declined to make any public statement concerning the finances of the country, stating that as the presiding officer of the Senate he is obliged to exercise the greatest impartiality in his rulings and in stating opinions upon questions that may come before the Senate.

He Was Disgusted.

One of the old fire tried Republicans—one who has been in the party for 25 years—the other night attended a gathering of his party, but came away badly disgusted.

He said, in explanation of his kicking, that when he dropped in he found Ben Sharpe, who has not yet gotten rid of the old Democratic scales on his back, presiding as secretary, while a carpet bag radical from Virginia, Mr. Snoddy by name, was manipulating things, thereupon he got out and away.

He said, also, that it was no wonder the Populists refused to fuse with the Republicans when they allowed such men to run things.—Greensboro Record.

Person Republicans Instruct.

The Person county Republican Covention, at Roxboro, Saturday, instructed for McKinley for President, Settle for Congress, Boyd for Governor, W. P. Bynum for Judge, and J. S. Merritt for Solicitor. The Reed forces failed. Merritt, who has heretofore been affiliating with the Democrats, is a son of Dr. William Merritt, who represented Person and Granville in the State Legislature on the Populist ticket. J. S. Merritt at one time was a candidate on the Democratic ticket for the lower branch of the Legislature from Person, and was also for a while Chairman of the County Democratic executive committee. How the mighty have fallen!

Carlisle's Propositions Discussed.

To the Editor of the NEWS.

Certain papers endeavor to better their gold-standard position by the five, alleged, "irrefutable propositions," culled from the recent speech of Secretary Carlisle's, at Memphis. Admitting, for the sake of argument, that these propositions are true; it must then be shown that the effect of the free coinage of silver is, in fact, injurious and opposed to material progress. This cannot be shown by arguments of this kind, because they depend for an existence upon an assumed analogy between this and other countries; and as the process of reasoning by analogy is open to serious objections, its conclusions are therefore questionable This analogy in the sense used by Mr. Carlisle does not exist, because there is no other country in the world today, in which the political and social conditions are exactly identical with ours, and in order to show how valuable the five "irrefutable propositions" are, the analogy referred to, must be proven, but not assumed. Till then, they are worthless, and even if true, are immaterial to the issue. The arrant sophistry of the advocates of the yellow metal can be read between the lines of the quintette of propositions: for they plainly imply that because the countries which allow the free coinage of silver do not happen to rank high in the scale of nations—then the free coinage of silver is the cause which prevents them; and were we to treat silver as they do we would descend to their level of civilization.

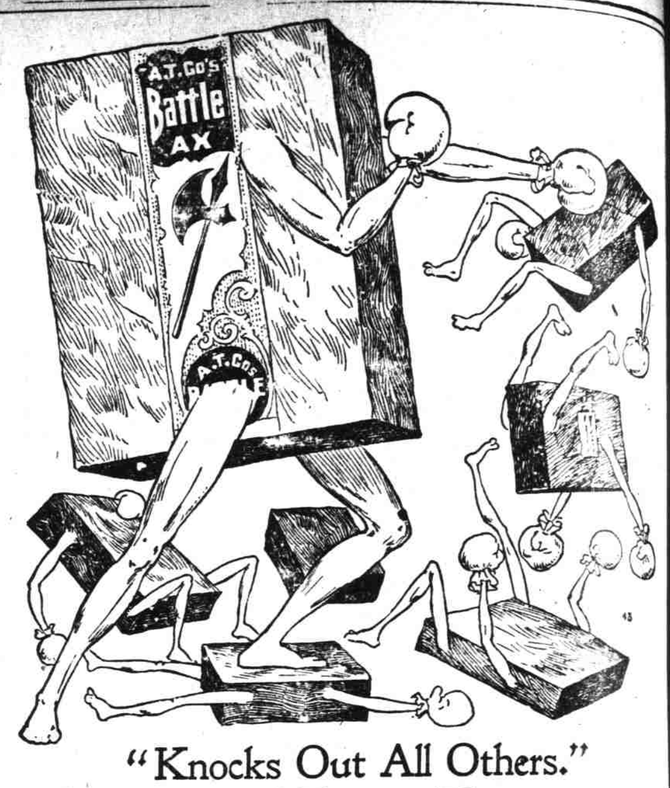
Among the many elements, which combined, make a great nation, no one is of so much importance as the institution of a stable and equitable currency, but while this is a vital element, it is not the only one. The money question is not everything in national development and must not be so magnified as to comparatively exclude all other questions.

It is, of course, the first problem, at present in this country, but our estimate of other nations should not be formed after we have examined their system of currency; for their prosperity or misfortune is not always due to this cause

There are certain defects in the "magic five" propositions which neutralize to a great extent any influence they might have. To the first can be said: This may be, but is this a good thing for them or not? All of the silver standard countries coin gold coins nevertheless, excepting one or two South American powers. The second proposition is admitted in part, but in one sense silver is not money, as gold is. It is not an unlimited legal tender, being only token money as nickles or pennies are. Proposition the third, which is a little brother of proposition, one, is answered by the question: Are these countries at a material loss because their gold has been exported? If it left these countries it was exchanged for its value in some other commodities and "fair exchange is no robbery." The fourth proposition is weakened by the fact that the Strait settlements in the East Indies have a per capita circulation of $28.94, being $2.92 more than the United States, and all of which is silver. If a large circulation per capita is a good thing, what is the objection to the free coinage of silver, which will make it larger? The principal countries using silver are tropical countries and the demand for money of any kind in these countries is less, owing to several reasons. (1). The necessity for personal exertion to obtain a comfortable livelihood is done away with, as Nature has been so kind as to produce almost everything to eat, drink and wear, which the natives require. (2). Land is cheap and very often free and the conditions are such that every man is independent of his neighbor for the necessities of life. (3). Labor is not divided as in more civilized countries. All these causes with many others are responsible for a small per capita circulation. On the other hand France, although a gold standard country, with but a population of a little over 38 million has $36.81 per capita and $13.05 of this is silver, while the United States has only $9.25 per capita of silver in circulation.

The fifth and last of the series is true of both gold and silver standard countries. Spain is a gold country and Mexico is on a silver basis, but in many instances wages are higher in Mexico than in Spain (allowing for the appreciation of gold). This holds good as to Italy and Russia. Venezuela is a silver standard country but wages there are better than in France, which has the largest per capita of any country in the world. "There are others" but this is enough to make a "Roland for Mr. Carlisle's Oliver." (My figures are taken from the United States Consular Reports, September 1895.)

H. W. PALMER.



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