

Daily Concord Standard.

VOL. XL.—No. 2709

CONCORD, N. C. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 1893

WHOLE No 11795

HONESTLY CONVINCED.

What a Franklin Populist Says of the
Drift of His Party—Appeals to His
Fellows.

To the Voters of Franklin County:

Six years ago I left the Democratic party and became a member of the newly organized Populist party. My purpose in doing this was pure and patriotic. I believed that it represented the best set of principles and had the best platform which any political party had ever promulgated. I believed that in it was the hope of deliverance from the domination of Wall street and organized capital. I believed that the Democratic party under Cleveland's administration, was unsafe, and that it was fostering the brood of trusts and combines that had grown up under Republican regime. I saw that slowly and surely the single gold standard was being fastened upon the country, and that Democracy, under Cleveland, was permitting this work of ruin and robbery to proceed. To my mind Populism was a protest against the iniquity and ring rule of both the dominant old parties.

I have no apologies to make for having been a Populist. When I joined the party it was, in my judgment, full time to call a halt in our national affairs, and to change in our ever increasing tendency towards the despotism of a heartless plutocracy.

I was born and bred a Democrat, and inherited a hostility for and a repugnance to Republicanism. For the teaching and tenets of that party I have neither sympathy nor toleration. Its trend toward centralization, and its record of corruption in State and nation, have deepened my enmity toward it, till there is not one doctrine that it holds in harmony with my views. I left the Democratic party, as did thousands of others in the State, because it was growing under Cleveland, more and more like the Republican party. Its financial policy was exactly similar to the financial policy of John Sherman, and when, under the whip and spur of President Cleveland, it finally struck silver its death blow, I joined with the political party that was born of this incident. I did not unite with Populists to fight the Democrats only, but the slogan of our party was to do battle to all political organizations which did not stand on our platform and espouse our views. The Republican party, the author of all our ills, was our arch enemy in the conflict.

I made the campaign in Franklin county, in 1892, you will remember, as the nominee of the Populist party for the office of Sheriff. I entered the fight, and carried the burden of the whole ticket, with the profound conviction that I was right, and I believe now, that in its origin and first existence, the Populist party was right.

The central and main plank in our platform was the reformation of our finances, especially the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. I believed in that doctrine then. I implicitly believe in it now.

For two years the Populist party met my views and fulfilled my highest ideas. I saw the whole country

shaken, as by a storm with the growing strength of this young giant. Both the old parties looked in alarm at the increasing host of those who arrayed themselves beneath our banner. In the declared purpose of our growing army was the promise of sweeping reform.

Suddenly in North Carolina, seemingly without cause, certainly without excuse, I saw this party, which boasted a purity unknown to both the old parties, begin a system of trading and trafficking in political honor and principle, more degraded and more disgusting than has ever before disgraced any political organization in the world.

I saw men professing the same principles which I held, and more vehement in their utterance than I had ever been, vote for gold bugs, and barter their party's honor away with no thought of anything save the pie-counter at which they were being fed.

I saw them deliberately abandon their platform, disavow their principles, unite on equal terms with their life long enemies—the Republicans—and leave the few of us who value our political integrity, without platform or party.

I saw the deliberately abandoned whose every political thought, idea and purpose, was at utter variance with our avowed principles, put into office by Populist votes and honored with Populist ballots.

I saw in my own county negroes elevated to positions of trust and profit, appointed to administer the educational and financial matters and affairs of white institutions, and the votes of Populists required by their leaders to bring about this result.

I saw the Populist party taken by its leaders and delivered, like a flock of sheep in the open market, to the Republican organization; its votes relied on to elect to office the same crowd of vandals and carpet-baggers that had looted the State in 1869, and an infamous and corrupt trade dignified by the name of "cooperation."

I saw the beginning of a reign of debauchery that did not spare even the poor insane in the State Asylum.

I saw the Populist party that had begged for a lease of power in North Carolina, so they might demonstrate the excellence of economy, lavish the State's money in wild extravagance, and create new offices by the score in order to feed them at the public table.

I saw the sincerity of the Populist party tested time and time again, and whenever the fight came between principle and pie, the latter triumphed.

I saw the Democratic party purge itself of Cleveland, and, plank by plank, adopt as their own almost every demand of the Populist party in its first great charter, until the Populist leaders boldly charged that the Democrats had stolen their platform, and then I saw the Populist party deliberately walk off that platform and coolly put on the Republican uniform.

The rank and file of the Populist

party are not in the organization for for the sake of office, and they can hardly realize that they have been so bitterly deceived and betrayed by their leaders.

This fall another election will be held, making four in which the Populist party has participated since birth. Again we are called upon to violate and belie every solemn declaration of our platform, and to fuse with and vote for gold bug Republicans and incompetent negroes. This will make three elections out of four in which we have been sold out traded away and trafficked for like chattels, in which we have been asked to vote for men whose lives and political principles are a flat contradiction to every line of our platform.

I know not how it may be with the others voters in Franklin county, but as for me I have made up my mind that no man with an atom of self respect, no man who is honest with himself and who votes from principle and patriotism, can follow these treacherous leaders any longer.

I have left the Populist party, exactly as I joined it, for the sake of principle. I solemnly appeal to all good, honest white men; to all the men who love their home in their country, and to whom their wives and sisters are dear; to all who desire to rebuke traitors and political adventurers, to abandon it as I did. For a Southern white man the Democratic party is the great, the only party now. It holds within it the only possibility of relief from the disgraceful conditions that now make the name of our State a reproach and byword. To those who followed me out of the party in 1892, and voted for me, I have only a sense of deep gratitude, and for their sakes I now appeal to them to follow me back into the party that we left. It promises most for our country, it promises all for our manhood!

J B ALLEN.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

—Mr. C T Troy is spending this afternoon in Charlotte.

—Capt. A H Propst returned home from Gaffney, S. C., last night.

—Mr. Arthur Anthony, son of Col. Anthony, of Charlotte, is visiting in our city today.

—Miss Connie Cline, together with Miss Abbott, returned to Elizabeth college last night, where they teach this year.

—Mr. Theodore Parker, of Greensboro, and Mrs. Lawson Parker, of Salisbury, are spending the night at the home of Mr. Lacy Dick.

—Mr. H M Barrow returned home last night from Raleigh, where he went to attend the funeral of Col. W F Green.

A FRESH LOT OF

Fancy Cakes

—AT—

Ervin & Morrison GROCERS.

Opened Today!

OVER 600 PAIRS MEN'S
PANTS, PRICES 75 CTS.
TO \$4.00!

OPENED YESTERDAY
ANOTHER NEW LOT OF
NECKWEAR, THE VERY
LATEST NOVELTIES.

IMMENSE QUANTITIES NEW GOODS ARRIVING DAILY ON DRY GOODS SIDE. REMEMBER WE GIVE YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU WANT IT.

Cannon & Fetzer Company,

"SWEET

SLEEP"

Is what comes to those that use a "Fine Fiber" Mattress. Cures coughs, colds and is very beneficial to all lung and throat trouble. Highly recommended by medical fraternity. Cheaper than Patent Medicine—soft as hair and will not pack. Our "Perfection Mattress," made from reginned cotton down, "sold with a guarantee," for solid comfort, stands at the head of the list. Hair, cotton, cotton and husk, straw and cotton from a good common to the best mattress for the money always on hand.

You know that one third of your life is spent in bed? In order to have a first class bed you must have a No. 1 Spring. We have at your command the Silver King, The Dutchess, the President, the National, "Raleigh," "Sweet Rest," "Morpheus" and "Solid Comfort." Pay your money and take your choice.

FURNITURE.

House Furnishing Goods of every description, world without end. Come and see.

Bell, Harris & Company.



YOU FURNISH THE FEET
WE DO THE REST.

That's all we ask you to do—furnish the feet. We will not only do the rest, but we will do it well for \$2 50.

We have everything in Oxfords except your feet.



An ounce of satisfaction is worth a ton of talk. Satisfaction goes with every pair of shoes we sell.

Respectfully,

Dry & Miller, Shoe Furnishers.