

WASHINGTON NEWS.

WHAT IS GOING ON AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Comments of What is Transpiring in Congress and the Various Departments of the Government--Personal and Otherwise.

THIRD PARTY PLATFORM.

The third party men in Congress are already preparing for the party in the next campaign.

Indeed, Jerry Simpson and his party men are preparing the platform already. It is said President Polk, of the Alliance, is with them, but General Polk himself is saying nothing to the public right now, though he might be in conference with these third party people.

The platform, as Jerry and the other sockless ones are preparing it, will declare that the government should issue its money direct to the people at a low rate of interest upon good security. The platform, however, will not state the nature of this security, leaving it to land, cotton, grain or any thing that the borrower might want to put up as collateral. They believe should they name the collateral, it would injure their party, and for that reason they will go no further than to declare in favor of the government loaning direct to the people.

The tariff plank of the party will be a radical departure. It will declare for duties only upon imported luxuries all the necessities of life to be admitted free. To recompense the treasury for the loss of revenue the platform will declare for an income tax.

They expect to put this through and launch the third party upon the sea of politics with its banner of the breezes and guns loaded for actual war at the St. Louis convention in February.

Of course they are likewise considering the question of candidates. President L. L. Polk, of the Alliance, is the man they want and have agreed upon for the vice presidential nomination.

They want Senator Stanford, the millionaire Californian, to take the presidential nomination, and if he will agree beforehand to accept, it will in all probability be tendered him. Otherwise General Weaver, of Iowa, will perhaps be the man selected.

Should Stanford accept and make the race with the third party he would almost certainly capture several western states from the Republicans and make Democratic success a certainty.

FREE COINAGE.

There is undoubtedly a growing sentiment in the House in favor of some mutual understanding by which a fight over the silver question may be avoided, but it has not taken any tangible form as yet. Whatever is done will not be done in antagonism to the silver men, but will be with their consent and chiefly be their action.

If free coinage agitation is avoided in this Congress it will not be upon the argument that silver coinage is an evil to be shunned, but upon the grounds that there is another work to be done just now which will require about all the attention of the Democratic party until it is disposed of, and that the silver question should wait to come up in the order of its importance. In other words, they want to finish sawing their wood before they begin splitting it. At this time this is merely a sentiment, the extent of which has not been measured, and no definite policy has been formed.

It can be stated on the highest authority that the President has determined that persons appointed by the administration upon the recommendation of Senators or Representatives who when used their offices for their own purposes in hostility to the administration, shall not be permitted to remain in the service of the government.

In alluding to this matter the President remarked to a member of his Cabinet that he had complained in almost every instance with the wishes of Senator Quay and others and that in return for this consideration he has found that these persons have been and are using their positions to bring the administration into disfavor with the people for their own political ends.

Veni, Vidi, Vici! This is true of Hall's Hair Renewer, for it is the greatest conqueror of gray or faded hair, making it look the same even color of youth.

Election of President and Vice-President by the People.

Mr. Williams, of North Carolina, introduced the following joint resolution on January 18th in Congress, providing for election of President and Vice-President by a direct vote of the people:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States be proposed to the legislatures of the several States, which when ratified by three fourths of said legislatures, shall become a part of the Constitution, to-wit: Article XVI.

The second and third divisions of article second shall be struck out.

All that part of the twelfth amendment of the Constitution from the beginning down to and including the words "if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed" to be struck out, and the following substituted: "Hereafter the President and Vice-President of the United States shall be chosen by the people of the respective States in the following manner: The citizens of each State who shall be qualified to vote for members of Congress shall, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, in the year eighteen hundred and eighty-four, and on the same day in every four years thereafter, cast their votes by ballot for candidates for President and Vice-President, one of whom at least shall not be an inhabitant of the State with himself; and proper returns of the votes so cast shall be made under seal, within ten days, to the chief justice or to the presiding judge of the highest judicial tribunal in the State.

The right of fixing the places in the State where the election shall be held, and the manner of holding the same and of canvassing the votes and certifying the returns to the said chief justice or presiding judge, is reserved exclusively to the legislatures of the States.

The highest judicial tribunal of each State shall meet and be in session on the second Tuesday next following said election, and the presiding judge of said tribunal shall publicly open said returns in the presence of the members of the said tribunal, and the votes shall then be counted by the said tribunal. It shall be the duty of the members of said tribunal to cause three certificates of the numbers of votes so cast in said State for President and Vice-President to be made and certified by a majority of the members of said tribunal and attested by the seal of said tribunal.

The certificates of the members of said tribunal shall be disposed of by them in the following manner:

"First. They shall, by writing, under the hands of a majority of them, appoint a person to take charge of and deliver to the President of the Senate, at the seat of Government, before the first Monday in December next after their meeting, one of the certificates.

"Second. They shall forward, by the postoffice, to the President of the Senate, at the seat of Government, one other of the certificates.

"Third. They shall forthwith cause the other of the certificates to be delivered to the judge of that district in which the tribunal shall assemble.

Whenever a certificate of votes from any State shall not be received by the President of the Senate on or before the day indicated in the preceding section, he shall forthwith notify the said presiding judge, who shall send a special messenger to the district judge in whose custody one certificate of the votes from that State has been lodged, and such judge shall forthwith transmit that certificate to the seat of Government.

Congress shall be in session on the second Monday in December succeeding every election of President. The Senate and House of Representatives shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives at one o'clock post meridian on that day; the President of the Senate shall be their presiding officer. Two tellers shall be previously appointed on the part of the Senate and two on the part of the House of Representa-

tives. The President of the Senate shall then open all the certificates, and papers purporting to be certificates, of the electoral votes; the votes shall then be counted by the two Houses of Congress in the alphabetical order of the States.

The person having the greatest number of votes cast in all the States for President shall be President, if such number be equal to a majority of the whole vote given; but if no person have such a majority, then a second election shall be held on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of January then next ensuing, between the persons having the two highest numbers for the office of President, which second election shall be conducted, the result certified, and the votes counted in the same manner as in the first; and the person having the greatest number of votes for President shall be President. But if two or more persons shall have received the greatest and equal number of votes at the second election, the House of Representatives shall choose one of them for President, as is now prescribed by the Constitution.

The person having the greatest number of votes for Vice-President at the first election shall be the Vice-President, if such number be equal to a majority of the whole number of votes given; and if no person have such majority, then a second election shall take place between the persons having the two highest numbers on the same day that the second election is held for President; and the person having the highest number of votes for Vice-President shall be the Vice-President. But if two or more persons shall have received the greatest number of votes in the second election, then the Senate shall choose one of them for Vice-President, as is now provided in the Constitution. But when a second election shall be necessary in the case of Vice-President, and not necessary in the case of President, then the Senate shall choose a Vice-President from the persons having the two highest numbers in the first election, as is prescribed in the Constitution.

Strike out from the twelfth amendment the words "from the person having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as President."

Strike out the words "electors appointed" where they occur in the twelfth amendment, and insert the words "votes cast at the election."

In discussing the importance of the bill the Wilmington Star says: "Hon. A. H. Williams, Representative in Congress from the Fifth district of this State introduced a bill Monday providing for the election of President and Vice-President by the direct vote of the people. This, of course, will require an amendment to the constitution. It is a matter of even more importance than the election of Senators by a direct vote of the people, and will bring the President closer to the people, as the election of Senators would also bring them closer to people. It would also deal with the pivotal point of the political campaign, the electoral college. The total vote is now such an important factor in deciding results. Under the present electoral system it is not the majority of voters who elect the President and Vice-President, but the majority of electors, and this makes scheming and trickery possible which would not be possible if the electoral college were abolished and the people voted directly. If this has been the method in 1888 Mr. Harrison with nearly 100,000 votes less than Mr. Cleveland could not have been President and a few votes in the State of New York could not make a President."

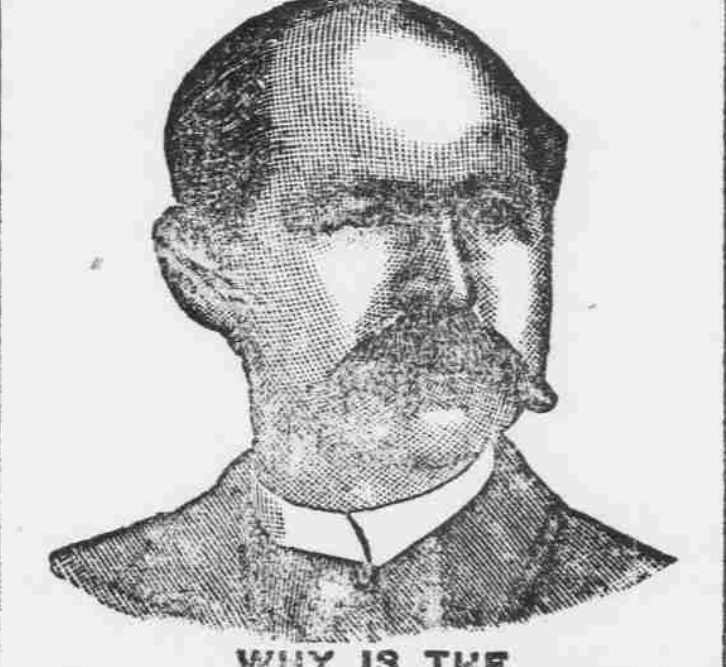
Representative Bankhead, of Alabama, chairman of the committee on public buildings and grounds, says that bills, for new buildings and improvements to the amount of \$27,000,000 were already before the committee.

The Senate committee on privileges and elections in reporting that Senator Wilkinson Call, of Florida, has been legally elected to the Senate of the United States by the Legislature of Florida and that he was entitled to a seat in that body, has declared that the Constitution of the United States is constitutional.

WAREHOUSE, &c. OUR DRUMMER! My little drummer comes to see on this time with better news than ever. Prices are still coming on all grades. Brecks have been heavy this season and yet prices have advanced gradually instead of going down as has been the case on other markets. Our buyers do not try to beat down prices but they stand to the good farmers who patronize the Oxford market so liberally. My business is increasing every week, for which I thank the farmers who have treated me so kindly, and I ask all who have not tried me to come and let me show them what I can do for them. I respect all fair competitors but fear none as I have had an experience of five years in the warehouse business and have made farmers interested in my study. The streets have been newly paved from the new depot to my warehouse door, so coming in from that way you are no longer forced to split the mud.

All I ask is a trial from those who have not been to see me. Come on to the Oxford market and to the Johnson Warehouse where prices are good every day. If I have first sale or last sale or last sale prices shall be satisfactory. You will also find in Oxford a clever set of merchants who carry large stocks of all kinds of goods which you can buy at the lowest prices. Remember I do not have a drummer of my own, I state my own prices. Respectfully, WM. J. WILKINSON, Proprietor Johnson Warehouse, Oxford, N. C.

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