

THE PUBLIC LEDGER.

By JOHN T. BRITT.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

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OXFORD, N. C., - - MAY 11, 1894.

General Coxe's petitions with boots on seem to be largely on their uppers.

This Congress may die some time, but no Coxey's are going to scare it to death.

It is no trouble to see that wealth is a curse—as long as the other fellow has it.

The Wilson bill not being so very high is the reason the monopolists want to jump on it.

The road to reform is a rocky, one, but the reformers of the right kind generally get to the end of the route.

If Mr. Cleveland were conscientiously opposed to the income tax he would say so, whether Senator Hill had anticipated him or not.

Many a demagogue of the very toughest variety has gone riding down into history as a great statesman.

If time is money how is it member of Congress can be absent half the time and yet don't want any of their salary to absent itself?

The Attorney General of Illinois is after the tobacco trust. It remains to be seen whether he is biting off more than he can chew.

"The attempt to dignify the absurd Coxe movement is an insult to every self-respecting workingman in the country," says the Indianapolis News, (Ind.)

The late Congressional result in Ohio was in the nature of an uppercut for McKinley. It also knocked Harrison's hat over his eyes, while Reed never counted on such a thing.

General Kelly, of the Industrial Army, says he'll get a train if he has to take all summer. Taking all summer is a new phase and throws some light on the proverbial thief of time.

W. C. P. Breckinridge announces that he will begin his fight for reelection to congress at Lexington Saturday. He ought to be ashamed to open his mouth, much less a campaign.

When an honest workingman rides he must pay full fare. When a drove of tramps travel they can steal a freight train and deadbeat themselves across a continent, which is highway robbery.

It is a significant fact that no army of unemployed has been, or threatened to go, to Washington to demand the continuance of McKinleyism. The only party that has made a demand of that sort was a party of employed mill hands, who went on a free excursion, and who had to work extra hours for several days to make up the loss of time.

When ex-President Harrison told the students of Stanford University not to hurry into politics, he forgot to say anything about the speed with which he hurried out himself.

Commending Senator Hawley's speech on the Coxe movement, the Boston Transcript (Rep.) says: "In this country we want no mob intrusion in halls of legislation, and Legislatures that are really American, will not have it."

The widow of Frank Norment, one of the victims of the Darlington, S. C., riot, has been retained as an insurance agent by the company which employed her husband, and has opened an office where she will conduct the only insurance business in the State managed by a woman.

We have never seen any good argument against the justice of any income tax. The imposition of such a tax is resisted naturally by many of those on whom it would fall, but, as we look at it, it would only require them to bear their just share of the burdens of government.

The Samoset Club, the leading democratic organization of Nebraska has adopted resolutions heartily commending Mr. Cleveland and the efforts making to revise the tariff, and denouncing Senator Hill as "a traitor, who, having hitherto skulked behind the watchword 'I am a democrat,' has dealt a treacherous blow at the vitals of his party at the time of its greatest peril."

Cheap iron and steel are on the market in earnest. Pittsburg and Eastern Ohio furnaces disposed of Bessemer pig bars recently at \$10 a ton, and this is a falling away of \$13.75 from the prices of four years ago. The statement is made that this heavy decline has enabled American manufacturers to compete in Canada and take the trade from England and scotch makers, as the American figure cannot be met.

Commenting on a recent lynching in Alabama, the Montgomery Advertiser (Dem.) says: "The machinery for the dispensing of justice exists everywhere in this state, and it is the duty of every citizen to see that machinery alone is used. The people make the laws, the people elect the judges the people sit on the juries, and there is no excuse for their stalling themselves by ignoring their own selected methods of administering justice."

The crusade of the Coxe tramps and cranks upon Washington has logically resulted in a camp of several hundred idlers and vagrants who have settled down to forage upon the capital city. As a political effort to influence national legislation it has entirely perished, and the whole purpose of the movement is clearly exhibited by the fact that it is now run as a circus in the hope of taking in sufficient gate money from day to day to feed its idlers indefinitely.

The wretched condition of the Coxe men at their unhealthy encampment in exciting universal commiseration. Coxe and family put up at the National, one of the best hotels in Washington, but the Commonwealthers will likely have a hard time in their boiling camp. Most of the Populist Senators and Representatives are indignant over Coxe's arrest. Mr. Peffer, Senator Allen and Congressman Pence all think the police used unlawfully harsh measures.

It is funny to hear the republican explanations of the election in third Ohio congressional district, which gave P. J. Sorg a big majority. Dayton, which gave McKinley for governor 565 majority last fall, went democratic. Other republican strongholds gave similar returns. Thus it will be seen that even in Ohio all the people do not believe the democratic party is responsible for all the evils under the sun. This will be a severe check to a great many republican papers and orators, who had demonstrated very conclusively to themselves at least, that the democrats were to blame for everything—even Coxe and his army.

The International Bimetallic Conference, in session in London, gives reason for the hope that the silver question may be settled by a just and reasonable agreement between the leading nations of the world. The conference is composed of men from several great countries who have given much consideration to the question of bimetalism and their deliberations will undoubtedly have effect. Several prominent citizens of the United States are in attendance.

"If the tariff discussion has had no other effect," says the San Francisco Examiner (Dem.), "it has at least rid the Democratic party of the malign influence of David B. Hill. The Hill-Murphy-Tammany machine may tumble New York politics for a year or two to come, but it will never again be a factor in a national campaign. The Democracy of the Union has been very tired of the sordid intrigues of the New York politicians for some years."

There is strong evidence that the "armies" of Coxe and others throughout the country that are on the march are mainly composed of tramps—that is, of men who never work at all or seek work, but live by begging and stealing. In marching through the country, levying contributions on the frightened inhabitants, they are simply following their usual manner of life under more favorable circumstances. They are doing en masse what they ordinarily do individually. In "armies," they do not fear arrest or dogs, and instead of stealing a ride on the trains, they are able to seize the trains. If the movement succeeds this summer, it will be tried again probably on a greater scale next summer. We are sorry that no one in the Senate had the courage to utter these notorious truths. "Oh, for a knight like Bayard without reproach or fear!"

A POPULIST DOCUMENT.

The following is a verbatim copy of a notice that was posted in a neighboring county recently, says the Greensboro Patriot. It will not take the average reader long to determine the source of this wonderful production. "All ye that are weary of Bens and Grovers administration, come! Let him that is weary of 2 cent tobacco, 50 cent wheat and 8 per cent mortgages Come!! Let him that is unwilling to bow down and worship the golden dollar, as the Israelites did the golden calf come!!! Let him that loveth his wife and children better than party bossism Come!!!! By no means do we wish to be hindered from inviting all who are today in the bonds of iniquity and gall of bitterness, wearing Republican and Democratic badges on the seat of their pants; but make them special objects of this invitation to Come!!!! Why stand ye idle? 'The fields are white unto the harvest,' go forth and gather in the sheaves. * * * *"

A MONUMENT TO VANCE.

The Baltimore Sun says: The project for the erection in Capitol Square, Raleigh, N. C., of a monument to the memory of the late Senator Z. B. Vance has taken such form as to leave no room for doubt that a fitting memorial to the great North Carolinian will be the outcome of the effort. A central organization has been effected at Raleigh, with Governor Carr as chairman, and auxiliary organizations are to be formed in every county in the state, thus assuring a systematic and thorough canvass for subscriptions. Already a considerable sum has been voluntarily tendered. Mrs. Vance states that a cast was taken of Senator Vance's head, and that she has a small picture of him at full length. With these a sculptor could make a statue of Senator Vance nearly as perfect as from life. Mrs. Vance expresses as being greatly touched by the feeling manifested by the people of North Carolina, and as appreciating to the fullest the movement to erect a memorial of the esteem in which the late Senator is held.

One Ladies Phaeton at a sacrifice Very soft easy spring, at Feb 16-tf. S. H. SMITH'S.

STAND BY THE DEMOCRACY.

One of the arguments of those who betray a tendency to desert the democrats at this crisis, is that the party has failed to redeem its pledges. It is true that a combination of eastern democrats, with a few patronage heelers from the south, and the republicans have withheld favorable action on the most important of the party pledges, and it is true that by the employment of fraud and misrepresentation, silver has been wiped out of our currency as a money standard, but we deny that the democratic party, as a party, is responsible for that crime. The democrat who is not familiar with the scheme, engineered by John Sherman, by which the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act was brought about, is hardly in a position to discuss democratic policy says the Atlanta Constitution.

We not only deny that the democratic party is responsible for this criminal defiance of the letter and spirit of the platform, but we affirm that the event is of such portentous import and significance that the democrat who will not cling closer and more strenuously to his faith on account of it is blind to his own dearest interests and the interests of the people. We affirm, moreover, that the man who, with a full knowledge of all the circumstances, will at this supreme moment of peril to the people, desert the democratic party and thereby weaken its strength, is blind indeed to the importance of recent events—blind, indeed, to the real issue that dwarfs all others. There is no reason why any democrat should deceive himself or be deceived as to the real nature of the contest that is to come. It is to be a contest between democratic principles and the schemes of the money monopolists, and whatever tends to divide or weaken the party in the south is a contribution to the success of the enemies of the people. The real issue is the money question.

Under all the circumstances, and in the face of the pressure of hard times caused by the demonetization of silver, that man is not a patriot who seeks to weaken the democratic party (which in the south at least, is the real people's party) by forsaking the organization because a handful of bolting democrats and republicans have succeeded in defeating the financial policy of the democratic party. The people of the south must continue to stand together. The attack that has been made on their prosperity and the program that is still to be developed, are more dangerous, because more insidious, than the schemes of the radical republicans during the reconstruction period. Division now would be more fatal than it would have been after the war, because our interests are more substantial and more promising.

The Democratic Senators have at last got the tariff bill into such shape that they can all agree to support it. This does not include Senator Hill, but he can hardly be called a Democratic Senator, and probably would not support any measure of revenue reform likely to be proposed. It probably does not include one or two Southern Whigs. But there were thirty-seven Democratic Senators present at the caucus who agreed to vote for the amended bill, and it is true that six who were absent have given the same pledge. There are votes enough to pass the bill, and no further delay should be tolerated.

"The friends of tariff reform," says the San Francisco Examiner (Dem.), "want to see its friends in the Senate do a little square stand-up fighting for it. They are tired of having traitors bribed to put up their knives. They want to have the forces lined up that they can see who are their friends and who are their enemies. The plain duty of the finance committee of the Senate is to push the tariff bill to a vote at the earliest possible date and let the Democratic traitors take the responsibility of voting against it if they dare."



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