

The State Democrat.

VOL. IX.

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\$1 PER YEAR

THE STATE TICKET.

Populists, Democrats and Silver Republicans.

Representatives in Congress—
J. E. KELLEY, of Minn.
FREEMAN KNOWLTON, of Iowa.
Governor—
ANDREW E. LEE, of Minn.
Lieutenant Governor—
F. C. ROBINSON, of Minn.
Secretary of State—
GEORGE SPARLING, of Minn.
Treasurer—
MARIS TAYLOR, of Minn.
Auditor—
HUGH SMITH, of Minn.
Attorney General—
C. S. PALMER, of Minn.
Superintendent of Public Instruction—
L. G. KINTZ, of Minn.
Commissioner of Schools and P. Lands—
JOHN SCOLLARD, of Minn.
Railroad Commissioner—
W. H. TOMPKINS, of Minn.

The County Ticket.

State Senators—
J. S. MASON, Aberdeen.
F. C. SMITH, Riverside.
Representatives—
T. F. COOLEY, Garden Prairie.
J. S. BRADNER, Hecla.
T. A. FOORD, Brainerd.
EUGENE HORNING, Warr.
Sheriff—
WILLIAM T. ELLIOTT, Minn.
Treasurer—
JOHN A. FYLPAA, Frederick.
Register of Deeds—
P. M. RINGROSE, Aberdeen.
Auditor—
JAMES H. MILLER, Warr.
Clerk of Courts—
CHARLES FLETCHER, Aberdeen.
County Judge—
N. S. BANOM, Groton.
State Attorney—
D. W. ATKINS, Columbia.
Superintendent of Schools—
JAMES R. TITUS, Detroit.
Dr. D. E. ARNOLD, Hecla.

DEFENDED OLD PETER.

General Barnum Vouched For a Colored Man Who Had Served Him.

General Barnum of Abbeville had a body servant before the war who loved him in everything. Peter so loved his master that he grew to talk like him. He lives today, the heart of hospitality, the soul of honor. One Sunday two white men drove up to the door of his cabin and asked if he had any liquor in the house. He said he had about a quart. They offered to buy. He refused to sell, but, just as his old master would have done, invited them to have a drink. Having drunk, they handed him a half dollar. Of course, like his master, he declined the coin. The scoundrels went to town and swore out a complaint that he was violating the dispensary law.

I happened to be in Greenville the day the trial took place and saw a revelation. Peter's counsel was General Barnum's son, adjutant general of the state under Governor John Gary Evans, and the chief witness for the defense was the general himself, who had come from Abbeville, distant about 100 miles to say a word for his former slave. The general took the stand, and his son said:

"What is your name?"
"I am General Barnum, sir."
"Where do you reside?"
"In Abbeville, sir."
"How long have you known the defendant?"
"Sixty-five years, sir."
"What is his reputation?"
"As good as any man's in this courtroom, sir."
"Would you trust him?"
"Trust Peter? Why, I'd trust him with my life, my honor!"

The jury didn't leave their seats. The scene "sorter touched me up." I met young Barnum and asked if he received anything for his services. "Accept a fee from Peter?" he said in amazement. "Why, sir, I'd as soon think of charging my father."

"You and your father came 100 miles to clear this old negro?"
"Yes, and we would have come 1,000 or 10,000. Old Peter was a second father to me. He raised me. When I was well, he played with me. When I was ill, he nursed me. When I was a boy, I'd rather sleep in Peter's cabin than in my own bed at home. I'd rather take a snack with Peter in those days than dine with the president."

"I'm afraid you Yankees don't understand the 'nigger' question yet."—New York Press.

A Competent Official.

One of the nominees of the union ticket put up in this county for the suffrages of the people will have very little opposition in his re-election. It does not make any difference who the Republicans may put up against him, the people are so well satisfied with his conduct of the important position which he fills that his re-election is now practically conceded.

We refer to James R. Titus, our efficient school superintendent, whose tactful management of his office has made a friend of every citizen who takes an interest in educational affairs.

The office of county superintendent of schools is no sinecure and to accomplish the best results with as little friction as possible requires good judgment and constant watchfulness. Many perplexing questions are continually being brought up for his decision and much depends on their proper disposition.

The excellent and economical management by Mr. Titus of the annual teacher's institutes has called forth universal eulogiums from the teachers of the county. Our present superintendent is not in the habit of blowing his own horn to a very noticeable extent and that is the reason we take this occasion to blow it for him. He does not encourage the newspapers to print columns of gush about the magnificent work that is being done at the teachers institute but the fact remains that he goes right along and saws wood and any teacher will testify to the fact that never before have the institutes accomplished as practical and efficient work as during the past two years.

The excellent conduct of the office of county superintendent of schools by Mr. Titus deserves recognition by the people in the shape of his re-election by an overwhelming majority and there is not the slightest doubt that it will be so recognized.

Japan's Gold Experiment.

While Republicans are trying to make the people of the United States believe that the gold standard is a good thing, Japan is learning a lesson of distress through adopting the creed of gold. Industrial conditions in the Flowery Kingdom have passed from bad to worse, and the year 1897 was marked by the greatest depression in manufacturing circles.

In his report on Japan's industrial condition A. H. Lay of the British legation at Tokio says: "The cotton spinning industry, on which such great hopes were based, has already suffered severely. At the end of the year many mills were financially in a precarious condition and several small concerns in a state of bankruptcy."

In commenting on this report the London Financial News remarks: "These are the very mills whose prosperity not many months ago we were able to cite as indicating how comfortably a silver using country could compete with Lancashire. In the early part of last year the Japanese spinners were doing uncommonly well, and the belief that all the surplus yarn would find a ready market in China was being realized. The year exports of yarn to China reached 40,366,329 pounds, against only 15,256,116 pounds in 1896. The future seemed rosy, but, in Mr. Lay's words, the adoption of a gold standard in October, together with the fall in silver and the enhanced cost of labor and fuel, doomed these expectations to disappointment."

There we have cause and effect set alongside in a way that should impress the Indian government, if it can for a moment emerge from its own narrow preoccupations so far as to look on currency and exchange as factors influencing the whole life and prosperity of a country, and not merely the settlement of a foreign debt charge. Japan is paying dearly for its desire to imitate the "most civilized nations" and placing itself on a gold standard. Foreign trade has fallen off, manufacturing has declined, and just at present a panic is threatening the country. Truly the gold standard is a good thing—to let alone.—Chicago Dispatch.

The War is Over.

The war is over and the people of the country will once more settle down to the humdrum existence of daily life. As the glamour of war fades away the citizens will find that the living political issues have not changed a bit since anti-bellum days. The political fight continues between the corporations and the masses, between aristocracy and democracy. The tendency of the Republican party is to run the government in the interest of organized wealth and this tendency is being combatted inch by inch by the opposition.

The war with Spain has changed conditions but little. While our vast army was being outfitted a temporary boom in manufacturing industries was noticeable and also to a certain extent in the price of provisions raised on the farm. But any perturbation in prices was only temporary and as the unusual demand falls away prices will once more adjust themselves to the great laws of commerce.

Dear money will in the end bring cheap goods no matter if wars and Leiter speculations do for a time change the current of events. The efforts of the opposition will be no doubt directed to trying to divert public attention from the real questions at issue. They will try to throw dust in the eyes of the voter and try to obtain his support by the introduction of minor issues but such efforts will be in vain. The people are becoming educated and are learning to think for themselves and this is what is confounding the vassals of plutocracy.

The Mortgage.

The mortgage is a self-supporting institution.

The mortgage holds its own. It calls for just as many dollars when grain is cheap as when it is dear.

It is not affected by the drouth.

It is not drowned out by the heavy rains.

It never winter kills.

Late springs and early frosts never trouble it.

Potato bugs never disturb it.

Moth and rust do not destroy it.

It grows nights, Sundays, rainy days and even holidays.

It brings a sure crop every year, and sometimes twice a year.

It produces cash every time.

It does not have to wait for the market to advance.

It is not subject to speculations of the board of trade.

It is a load that galls and frets and chafes.

It is with him morning, noon and night.

It sits with him at the table.

It gets under his pillow when he sleeps.

It rides upon his shoulders during the day.

It consumes his grain crop.

It devours his cattle.

It selects the finest horses and the fattest steers.

It lives on the first fruit of the season.

It stalks into the dairy where the busy housewife toils day after day and month after month and takes the nicest cheese and the choicest butter.

It shares the children's bread and robs them of half their clothes.

It is the inexorable and exacting taskmaster.

Its whip is as merciless and cruel as the lash of the slave driver.

It is a menace to liberty, a hindrance to progress, a curse to the nation.—Ex.

Really Scared.

The Capitalistic press is becoming much alarmed over the infusion of Populistic principles into the Democratic party. And well they may, for with only one plutocratic party, the people cannot be fooled as easily as they were when both the old parties were under capitalistic control. Then when the people became dissatisfied with one they could be led into the other, and it was all the same to the money power which one of the old parties was in power. It controlled both of them. But the

advent of the new reform democracy has changed this altogether. It is coming straight out for the people, opposed to plutocracy. When the people become disgusted with Republican monopoly rule there is no other capitalistic party to lead them into and hence our money lords and their tools are alarmed. May their fears be more fulfilled. May the people never more be humbugged but learn to know their power and take care of their own interests.—Brookings Individual.

Merchants in criticising a newspaper regarding its value as an advertising medium, ought not to consider whether it advocates his political or religious views, but rather whether the editorial work is done from its standpoint and the mechanical work is neat and clean. Advertisers do not buy the opinions of the editor upon questions of the day, but space to inform the public what they have to sell. The political or religious views expressed will please someone and the advertiser will sell him some of his merchandise.—Beacon Light.

The Republican state convention is called at a season of the year when it is almost impossible for a farmer to get away from his harvest work. That's all right, farmers are not needed at Republican conventions. A good many Republicans are anti-machine and anti-monopoly, and do not take kindly to boss rule by agents of corporations and monopolies. There will be a good many Republicans who will go back on the railroad ticket to be nominated at Mitchell.—Farmers Leader.

Governor Lee has earned the vote of every citizen of South Dakota who believes that an honest man is the noblest work of God. Governor Lee's record is conducive to honesty and good government. Regardless of politics, his administration of the affairs of South Dakota are worthy the emulation of the governor of any state in this union.—Yankton Press & Dakotian.

Talk about being a radical partisan, but we know of a prominent Populist who would not let his wife put a Republican newspaper under her dining room carpet.—Edgeley Mail.

We presume he is afraid that the lye (?) would eat holes in the carpet.

If a Populist comes out after office it's because he is an office seeker; if a Republican wants office it's because it is a Republican year. There's logic for you.—Alexandria Journal.

When a man is rich enough to be called "eccentric" instead of a crank, he may also die of the jim jans and have the certificate call it cirrhosis of the liver.—Edgeley Mail.

Watch the Treasury Department.

Another peculiarity of the war revenue is that it makes no mention for what purpose the bonds are to be issued. It is not provided that they shall be used to obtain money to prosecute the war. It authorizes the issuance of the \$60,000,000 of bonds, or so much thereof as may be necessary, and the secretary of the treasury is made the sole judge of the necessity. Mr. Gage has often declared that it is necessary to retire the greenbacks and treasury notes, and it would not be unreasonable to suppose that with such views Mr. Gage would issue the bonds to provide a basis for bank circulation in order that greenbacks might be retired. Mr. Gage is a banker and has repeatedly declared that national bank circulation is necessary to a sound financial system, and the bonds provided for in the bills would go a long way to meet that necessity.—East Oregonian.

Direct Legislation Not a Panacea.

No; direct legislation is not a panacea for all national ills. In fact, it is not a panacea at all. It is merely a spoon with which the panacea could be administered. Specific legislation is the panacea for political ills, and direct legislation is the method by which it can be secured. A sick man may need a different number of medicines, but they can't be administered with one spoon. If the nurse went to get a spoon with which to administer the medicine, you would not say that she considered the spoon the panacea for all the sick man's ills.—New Era.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, August 15, 1898.

Mr. McKinley is still in doubt as to the policy we should pursue towards the Philippines. It was that doubt that caused the temporary peace agreement, signed by representatives of the two governments, to provide that the Commissioners to negotiate the treaty of peace, which shall determine the final disposition of the Philippines should meet at Paris, not later than October 1, when it would have been easier to have saved a month by having the Commission meet September 1. The Spanish government has been quick to recognize this doubt on the part of Mr. McKinley, and to act upon it; it has issued a statement to the Spanish people saying that they had reason to believe the peace commission would allow Spain to retain the Philippines. What the policy of the administration is to be towards the Philippines will be plainer after Mr. McKinley names the five American peace commissioners. The only one yet known is Secretary Day, who may be considered as Mr. McKinley's mouthpiece and personal representative. It is daily becoming plainer that a great mistake was made in allowing Spain to have any say as to the disposition of the Philippines. While there are differences of opinion among our people, as to our keeping the islands, the opinion is practically unanimous that Spain should not be allowed to retain them. It will be farcical for us to talk about driving Spain out of Cuba and Porto Rico for the sake of humanity, and then allow Spain to keep the Philippines after they were practically in our possession. We should not confine our humanity to the Cubans, else foreigners will refuse to believe that it is humanity.

The government is preparing to send food to Cuba, not only for the insurgents, but for all that need it, including the Spanish soldiers, but the Red Cross society is ahead of the government as it is already distributing food and other relief in Cuba.

If the democrats do not elect a majority of the House, this year, it will not be the fault of the Democratic Congressional Committee, which is preparing for a vigorous campaign with confident expectations of success. While the committee will, as usual, furnish the candidates with the kind of literature they think will be the most effective in their districts, it will also distribute literature criticising the war revenue law, because of its being harder upon the poor than upon the rich; showing up some of the many evils resulting from Secretary Alger's using the war department as a republican partisan machine, and the financial question will not be neglected, but will be discussed in accordance with the Chicago platform. Democrats who have visited the Committee headquarters, without exception, regard the close of the war as this time as decidedly advantageous for the Democratic party, because it will enable them to bring other questions to the attention of the voters and because it will prevent the other side going into the campaign with a false plea that a vote against a republican candidate would be a vote against the conduct of the war. It has not yet been determined whether the administration should be attacked for its action in giving Spain too much to say through the three joint commissions provided for in the terms of peace, when it could have just as easily have settled everything in the terms themselves, which Spain would have been bound to accept anyway, although such action is being strongly advocated.

There is some very strong talk among the senators and representatives, who have been in Washington since Sampson was advanced eight numbers and promoted to be Rear Admiral, while Schley, who was also promoted to be Rear Admiral, was only advanced six numbers, which makes Sampson one number ahead of him, instead of one number behind him as he was before these promotions were made. While it is not regarded as likely that any attempt will be made to hang up Sampson's promotion in the

senate, it is almost certain that occasion will be taken in both House and Senate, to show that he owes it more to favoritism than to anything he did. It will not be surprising, either, should the resolution offered by Representative Berry, extending the thanks of Congress to Schley for destroying Cervera's fleet, be adopted.

It is stated at the War Department that no troops will be discharged until it is known how many will be needed to garrison Porto Rico and Cuba, and it will be some time before that is known, as military commissions are first to meet at San Juan and Havana, and arrange the terms and time of evacuation of Porto Rico and Cuba. The Spaniards will be hurried out of Porto Rico as fast as possible, but as there are six or eight weeks more of the unhealthy season in Cuba, our representatives on the Commission are not likely to object to the Spaniards taking all the time they want to leave there.

THE RAZOR TRADER.

Better Business For the Barber Than Working a "First Chair."

A barber who for many years was connected with one of the big up town establishments has lately quit the place where he worked so long at the "first chair" and has gone into a little business venture of his own that is paying him better than his trade ever did. The scheme he is now operating is an original one, and if business continues to increase doubtless others will follow his example. The ex-barber not only carries on his trade in this city, but on certain days in the week invades Brooklyn and Jersey City. He carries his stock, which consists of a dozen or so razors and several hones. Some of the razors are new, but many of them are old ones which he has "touched up," and these are always preferred by a knowing barber. He enters a shop and starts a conversation on razors. This results in each barber producing his "pet" as well as those that he is getting tired of and which he is always willing to sell or trade. This is the ex-barber's opportunity, and he produces his stock. Then he makes a dicker, and generally before he leaves he trades one of his razors for the one the barber is dissatisfied with, but the barber always has to pay something. The usual price in the transaction is from 25 to 50 cents. It often happens, too, that the barber will take a fancy to one of the new razors, and in such cases he exchanges, but of course pays more than if it were just a swap. Thus this man travels from place to place, and sometimes a razor given in exchange down town and pronounced by its former owner as no good will be exchanged for another up town, some barber becoming impressed while handling it with its ring and good looks.

All barbers have an idea that a razor when used too often becomes what they call "tired," and they believe that hones, straps or anything else cannot bring it around all right. These "tired" razors are the ones on which the ex-barber clears his biggest profits, and he gets them for almost a song. He fixes them up at home nights, and these form the bulk of his stock the next day. "Tired" razors are peculiar things, he says, but if you know how to handle them they only need a night's rest.

This man does not confine himself alone to razors, but carries other barber's tools about with him. He will sell or swap anything, but there must always be a small money consideration. Frequently a razor swapped by him finds its way into his hands again, and in many cases he has swapped it back to its original owner. Of course the old owner recognizes it and hesitates to make an exchange, but he is sure of his own skill in fixing the razor up and leaves it on trial. He says they seldom fail to prove all right, and on his next trip to that shop the barber gives another razor and pays the difference.—New York Sun.

Trust Rule In New Jersey.

New Jersey is riled by the corporations. True to their history, the courts have held that the American Tobacco company may sell its goods to whom it pleases the same as an individual, without violating the antitrust law. It is well known that the tobacco company preserves its monopoly by refusing to sell goods to retailers who buy of other manufacturers.—Buffalo Courier.