

The State Democrat.

VOL. IX.—NO. 4.

ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1898.

\$1 PER YEAR

THE STATE TICKET.

Ticket Nominated by Populists, Democrats and Free Silver Republicans.

Representatives in Congress: J. E. KELLEY, of Moody. FREEMANKNOWLES, of Lawrence.

Governor: ANDREW E. LEE, of Clay.

Lieutenant Governor: F. C. ROBINSON, of Brown.

Secretary of State: GEORGE SPARLING, of Edmunds.

Treasurer: MARIS TAYLOR, of Beadle.

Auditor: HUGH SMITH, of Miner.

Attorney General: C. S. PALMER, of Minnehaha.

Superintendent of Public Instruction: L. G. KINTZ, of Hutchinson.

Commissioner of School and Public Lands: JOHN SCOLLARD, of Meade.

Railroad Commissioner—Third District: W. H. TOMPKINS, of Pennington.

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 BORNING, Warner.

Sheriff—WILLIAM T. ELLIOTT, Gem.

Treasurer—JOHN A. FYLPAA, Frederick.

Register of Deeds—P. M. RINGROSE, Aberdeen.

Auditor—JAMES H. MILLER, Warner.

Clerk of Courts—CHARLES C. FLETCHER, Aberdeen.

County Judge—N. S. BASOM, Groton.

States Attorney—C. W. ATKINS, Columbia.

Superintendent of Schools—JAMES E. TITUS, Detroit.

Coroner—Dr. D. E. ARNOLD, Hecla.

Surveyor—AMSEY A. QUIGLEY, Aberdeen.

THE NEW PROSPERITY.

Workmen Are Told That Wage Reductions Are One of Its Features.

The Democratic newspapers in the state of Ohio have had two happy incidents lately to amuse them, says the New York News. One was the defeat of Boss Hanna's local candidate for congress by a very decisive majority, which is assumed to be an indication of the waning popularity of the boss, and which somewhat compensates those Ohioans who believe in honest politics for their disappointment at the refusal of the United States senate to consider the purchase by Hanna of his own seat. But a still more cheering sign of the times and lesson of retribution they find in the Cleveland nail factory strike.

Among the demonstrations of love for the gold standard with which we were treated in the famous campaign of 1896 that of the Cleveland nail factory was distinguished for its enthusiasm. Of course the employees had seldom if ever possessed or seen a gold dollar, but they figured as the most devoted friends of that coin. Their parade was told about in the columns of every newspaper that wanted a subsidy from Hanna's committee or was anxious for a bank discount. It was an outburst of music, fireworks and banners that was glorified by every supporter of the "advance agent of prosperity."

And now these nail workers have experienced a cut in wages and say they cannot live on the reduced compensation for their labor. In spite of the consoling suggestions of The Iron Trade Review they do not find that the reduction is an improvement of their condition. To be sure, The Review tells them that "wage reductions are a feature of the new prosperity," but the workers do not see it in that light. Their feelings are hurt since by two successive reductions they lose nearly 50 per cent. So they strike.

But for the war, which has involved an expenditure of \$600,000,000 and has taken 200,000 men, mostly idle, from the competition of the labor market, what a terrible reaction would we have had by this time in consequence of the attempt to bring the country to a gold standard!

Effect of the Bond Bill.

The bond bill signed by McKinley might very properly be called a bill to authorize the secretary of the treasury to take \$400,000,000 cash out of circulation and to replace it with that many notes of private banking corporations based on \$400,000,000 interest bearing debt, for that will be the inevitable effect of the new bond bill.—Dallas Mercury.

Nothing For Something.

Steve Elkins favors retaining the Philippines because we can now get for nothing what other nations would pay big money for. Steve's ability to get something for nothing is only equalled by West Virginia's luck in getting nothing for something when she elected Steve to the senate.

McKinley Prices.

Two years ago the press and orators of the Republican party were explaining the low price of wheat which at that time was in the neighborhood of fifty-five or sixty cents. They claimed that the price was not due to the gold standard but was abnormal and the result of unusual conditions. Foremost among these conditions they placed the stringency of the money market which they said was caused by the ratings of the silverites and the uncertainty of the money standard of the future. Another condition which was made much of in argument was overproduction. The granaries of the world were full to overflowing and consequently the demand was slight.

At the present time the Republicans have considerable to say about McKinley prices of wool but are remarkably silent regarding McKinley prices of wheat. Conditions now are just as our opponents claimed two years ago that they wanted them. At the last presidential election they won and succeeding to their satisfaction in firmly fixing the gold standard on the nation so that it cannot be changed for at least several years yet. Just now the stock of wheat in the world is the lowest it has been for very many years. The granaries of the world have been swept bare and consumption is rapidly eating into the new crop. In addition there have been wars and now there are rumors of future conflicts. All of these conditions are ordinarily accompanied by abnormally high prices but instead at the present time the price of wheat is ten cents lower than two years ago when our opponents claimed that the only reason it was not higher was because of the agitation of the silver question.

The conclusion reached is irresistible. The present low prices are the direct and unavoidable result of the gold standard. The Leiter corner last winter does not enter into the question at all. What Leiter accomplished was in direct defiance of natural laws and since his artificial support is taken away natural laws cause prices to resume their normal level. The conclusion is axiomatic. High priced money makes low priced products. The gold standard means valuable money and low wheat. Persons who want gold for money must content themselves with forty cent wheat. McKinley money and McKinley prices for wheat go together.

A Question of Judgment.

There is a plank in the Republican state platform which should be the means of making thousands of votes for the opposition ticket. Their platform at Mitchell commends the railroad law passed by the Populists at the last session of the legislature and pledges their railroad commissioners if elected to carry on the fight in the courts against the railroads.

If the voters will only stop and think they will recollect that the Republican party was in power in South Dakota for about twenty years previous to the election of Andrew E. Lee. During all that time no railroad law was ever passed which the companies objected to. No railroad law was ever passed which was ever enforced. During all those years of Republican rule no legislature ever passed a railroad law which was commended by the succeeding Republican state convention.

The platforms of Republican state conventions in those days invariably apologized for existing railroad laws and promised better things in the future. The promises were never fulfilled.

Previous to the accession of the present state administration the railroad commissioners did little except ride around the state on free passes and draw their salaries. The office was the laughing stock of the public as it was commonly known that the traveling around was merely a pretense of earning a salary.

The Republican convention at Mitchell commended a law urged

and passed by free silverites when it never dared to commend the similar laws passed by Republicans.

Will the continuation of this fight be better carried on better by leaving it in the hands of the people who originated and passed the law or will it be better to accept the pledges of the Mitchell convention and turn over the continuation of the contest to a party which is notoriously known to be run by railroad attorneys? This is the question which must be decided by the voters next November and common sense will no doubt suggest the decision.

What Altgeld Says.

Ex-Governor Altgeld, of Illinois, is not in the habit of mincing matters when he talks but goes right to the point, no matter what result may follow. Speaking of the army scandal which is agitating the nation he has no hesitation in saying that the mismanagement of the army by the present Republican administration will be one of the leading issues of the campaign. "Issues are not made by men," he said. "They grow out of the sufferings and wrongs of a great people. The Republican party will ask the people to indorse the administration of President McKinley. In so doing it will throw the gate wide open and the issues will develop as the campaign progresses."

"The fetid camps, fever pest holes, starvation, lack of medical care and all the other unnecessary evils which have attended the war are directly chargeable to President McKinley, who, in order to trundle to rich and influential men, has appointed a host of 'dudes' to positions of the utmost importance. President McKinley's criminal act in creating an army of dudes at headquarters when thousands of competent men had offered their services is directly responsible for the death of most of our soldier heroes."

"It will not do for the president or the Republican party to repudiate the acts of Secretary Alger. Secretary Alger is a subordinate of the executive and the people have a right to assume that he has been acting under his superior's instructions."

How Phillips Saved the State.

We have been wondering what had made Phillips such a wonderful man; we read in the Republican how he had saved the state ever so many dollars—how the state had reduced its indebtedness all on account of him—so we looked up his duties as state treasurer in the code and found that "he shall have charge of and safely keep all public moneys which shall be paid into the state treasury, and pay out the same as directed by law, and all such other duties as are now or may hereafter be required of him by law." We have read this sentence over several times, and for the life of us we can't see how he could get a chance to save the state money; we see no opportunity for him to reduce the public indebtedness unless he had the money to pay with; there seems to be no opening for him to save money any other way than provided by the legislature. So we have concluded that all Phillips has done was to "safely keep" the money the Populist legislature gave him an opportunity to get. As the governor recommended and secured the greatest revenue producer that enabled Treasurer Phillips to accomplish these feats in finance, it is to be presumed that the governor and legislature are the people to get the honor for the excellent condition of the state's finances.—Vermillion Plain Talk.

Raising a Muss.

"No Scandinavian need apply." Thus saith the Republican party of South Dakota when Scandinavian Republicans ask for a place on the state ticket for one of their number. The name of Mr. Berg, of Spink county, a prominent Scandinavian Republican, was presented to the state convention by his friends, who asked that he be given the nomination for Commissioner of School and Public Lands. His nomination was

urged on the ground that he had a very large following among his own people throughout the state, who had a right to demand recognition by being accorded a place on the state ticket. Of course Mr. Berg and his friends were turned down, and now there is a row in the Republican camp. The thousands of Scandinavian Republican voters of South Dakota do not propose to be ignored. They will keep the bosses busy from now until election day, explaining why it was done, and then they will vote for Andrew E. Lee for governor.—Sisseton Emancipator.

Then and Now.

Two years ago the Republican papers were filled with scare editorials predicting dire disaster in case the Populists carried the state. They claimed that the election of Governor Lee would scare all the capital out of the state, that mortgages would at once foreclose and that interest rates would raise to prohibitory figures.

The Populists did carry the state and no such results have followed. Interest rates are lower than ever before, money is plenty, land is higher and the people are more prosperous than ever. Eastern capitalists are making high bids for the bonds of Pop-riden communities. Confidence in South Dakota investments was never more noticeable. All of which goes to show what fantastic lies the Republican politicians can be when occasion demands.

Supposing that a law had been passed by congress in 1873 which would have required the farmers to give two pounds more of wheat every year for a bushel, with no advance in price. In that case, they would now be giving nearly two bushels for one. Such a law would have created a revolution, yet the demonetization of silver produced the same effect, and many farmers not only do not see through the scheme, but actually vote to keep it in operation. Every man knows that gold is steadily growing in value, and the more valuable it becomes, the more wheat it will buy, of course. True prosperity cannot come under such conditions. This evil must be corrected!—Webster World.

The Republicans who anticipate that the return of Grigsby's regiment to the state will add anything to their vote will be mightily disappointed. Regardless of former political affiliations the privates of the regiment will almost to a man vote for Governor Lee and the entire fusion ticket. At the request of many privates the governor and Senator Pettigrew worked hard to get the boys mustered out while at the same time most of the officers of the regiment were pulling wires to keep in the service on garrison duty so that they could retain high-salaried jobs. The boys know who their real friends are and will remember it when they come to vote.

Stephen A. Douglas, of Chicago, a son of the great ante-bellum Democratic statesman of Illinois, who has since attaining his majority affiliated with the Republican party, has recently come out in a stirring letter in which he renounces Republicanism and casts his lot with Democracy.

Literary Notes.

The October Number of The Delinquent contains an abundance of the best information on how to meet the requirements of Fashion, a diversity of choice literary features and timely Household discussions. The first of two papers on Women in English Society, by Mrs. Fenwick Miller, interestingly discusses the basis and the distinctions of the English social structure and the broad humanitarian impulses of many of its members. The College Stories, by Edith Child, in this issue are of Bryn Mawr, and will awaken a sympathetic recollection in the affections of all college students, while Halloween Frolics at Wellesley, by Katharine Reed, will appeal strongly to their sense of fun and jollity.

"What Is to Be Done with Cuba?" is the question dealt with by Mayo W. Hazeltine in the September number of the "North American Review."

Treating of Cuban political independence, Mr. Hazeltine says: "The island must be thoroughly pacified, and the conflicting elements of its population must be brought into at least transient harmony before they are invited to discharge the high and difficult function of framing a constitution for an independent republic."

Readers of THE STATE DEMOCRAT will do well to send 18 cents in stamps to the W. W. Potter Co., 91 Bedford street, Boston, for three months' subscription to "The National Magazine." This will include the coming October, November and December numbers, and the offer expires October 30. This is an unusual opportunity to secure a high class illustrated American magazine for a very little money. Buy the September number at the nearest news stand and look it over.

PERIL OF BOND SALES.

Contract Currency and Load the Nation With Debt.

AN INDUCEMENT TO HOARD MONEY

Consequent Contraction Forces Down Prices—Tax Burden Increasing—Use of Silver and Issue of Greenbacks Would Have Furnished Money For the War.

We did not suppose that any one would justify, much less boast of, the war revenue bill, which imposes enormous taxation on the business of the country and contracts the currency, making the payment of taxes more difficult and increasing the general distress of the country. The issuance of bonds from time to time is not only loading the nation with an enormous bonded debt, but it is producing distressing contraction. The fact that the first offer of \$200,000,000 of bonds was subscribed for nine times over proves conclusively that this bond business wins every time. It would be had enough to draw \$200,000,000 from business and invest it in bonds, and thus keep it out of circulation for months before it will return to the channels of trade through the treasury department, but this is not the worst feature of the bond business. The money that was withdrawn from business to put into bonds and was not accepted by the government will be hoarded for another opportunity when more bonds are issued.

The fact that the bonds already issued are selling at a premium is an additional inducement to hoard money for investment in such securities. The contraction which this hoarding creates continues to force down prices and drive men out of business and induce others who have money to put it into bonds, which under present conditions is the only possible business that will pay. For the Republican party or any one else to rejoice over or boast of a scheme which necessarily puts down prices and embarrasses enterprise, while it loads the country with taxes and continually increases the national debt, is to glory in the distress of the country which the wretched bill is producing. If the Republican party finds it necessary to kill business and bankrupt the country in order to keep the silver question filed, their case is worse than that of the doctor who threw his patient into fits and gloried in the writhings of his victim because he could cure fits.

The only redeeming incident of the passage of the war revenue bill was the report of the finance committee of the senate, a majority of whom did not belong to the national banks. They reported for the issuance of \$150,000,000 in greenbacks to revive business and to give the people money with which to pay taxes. They also reported in favor of utilizing the \$42,000,000 in silver bullion in the treasury and the issuance of silver certificates.

If this had been done, there would have been abundance of money to prosecute the war, and the revenues with the greenbacks and silver would have been ample to prosecute the war without the issuance of a bond. In fact, the scheme of a majority of the committee would have furnished more money for the war than the bonded scheme of the banks which became a law. We again call attention to the fact that 25,000,000 of people in the last years of the civil war were able to pay \$800,000,000 from internal revenue taxation, while 75,000,000 today cannot do the same thing without sore distress, if they can do it at all. We protest that because we had cause for war with Spain the government of the United States did not necessarily have a cause against the people, and the war waged against the people of this country by the war revenue bill will produce more distress than the war with Spain will do to both countries. If any person doubts this, let him look about and see the situation of his neighbors. If he has money to invest in bonds, they have not. See how they are getting along in his neighborhood, and he will see the workings of the war revenue bill, the so called glorious and patriotic scheme of the banks against the people.

WORDS OF CERNUSCHI.

Neither Gold Nor Silver Is Standard.

PERFORM FUNCTION OF MONEY.

Popular Errors as to the Use of the Words "Standard" and "Double"—Bimetallists Do Not Wish to Fix by Force the Value of Either of the Metals.

Cernuschi is the father of bimetalism. He was for many years director of the Bank of Paris and a great writer on and student of financial matters. He first used the word bimetalism. Below are some quotations from his book, "Gold and Silver."

Bimetallic is a term that I use to designate the monetary regime admitting of the use of two metals, gold and silver.

I must confess that it is a little repugnant to me to use the word "standard," so unfortunately introduced into monetary discussions by those who only a few years ago were trying to prescribe gold as money and are today crying anathema against silver money. The word "standard" signifies a model of measures preserved by the magistrate and to which the measures of all merchants must conform. For instance, France is proud to possess the meter, the one-fourty-millionth part of the circumference of the earth. It is evident that there can be but one model or "standard" of the meter, that one deposited in the archives. It is absurd to think that for any purpose it is possible to have two different standards. For this reason the monometallists take pleasure in making us bimetalists bear the accusation that we are for two standards. It is a beautiful fashion they have of trying to make us appear ridiculous. The introduction of the word "standard" into the language of finance, far from aiding the intelligence of the pupil by way of analogy, attests that there is a confusion of ideas in the head of the master.

Neither gold nor silver is standard nor model conserved by the magistrate. They are goods, having value principally because they properly fulfill the important function of money. They are goods that we give and receive for other goods. For a sack of wheat we give a certain weight of gold or a greater weight of silver, but we can give some other thing. Neither gold nor silver is standard. The next question comes, "Is man better served by two metals or one?" And that is the whole bimetallic question. The partisans of the one metal policy allow themselves to be guided by the horror inspired in them by the two words "standard" and "double." These words they have themselves joined together. In metrology, "standard" means "model." In things pertaining to money "standard" expresses neither the true nor the false; it expresses nothing. It is very true that gold and silver vary respectively in value, but it is very false that the bimetallic school wishes to fix by force the value of the one or the other metal.

Let us imagine France and the United States bound by a treaty that obliged both nations to stamp both gold and silver on a basis of 15 1/2 to 1. What would be the results? The relative value of both silver and gold would become nearly fixed throughout the whole world; the adhesion of other nations, of England and perhaps of Germany herself, becomes probable. All nations would be in sufficient accord to utilize the totality of the precious metals that the hand of man will not cease to drag from the bowels of the earth. Let us show to the United States that it is for the interest of that nation and for France and for the entire world that these two nations stamp coins of both gold and silver at the ratio of 15 1/2 to 1. This would not entail any sacrifice on the United States, while any other ratio would be very costly and impossible for France.—Translated from the French by H. F. Thurston.

One of the Floppers.

The Fresno Republican objects to The Mail's statement that the Republican papers of this state preach doctrines which they do not believe. The editor of The Republican is new as well as somewhat heavy. Otherwise he would know that all Republican papers in California were rabid advocates of silver in May, 1896, and all goldbugs in less than two weeks after getting orders from headquarters. They were either hypocrites before or after the flop. That is certain. The Fresno Republican is one of those that flopped too.—Stockton Mail.

Records Don't Embarrass.

Mr. Hanna still assumes to run Republican politics in Ohio, and it is reported that he will attempt this year to make a prime specialty of the war. He is one of those public men who do not allow a record to embarrass them. Consistency is a jewel that is not to be found on his fingers or his watch chain. Mr. Hanna was notoriously a Tory at the beginning of the war with Spain. He was opposed to the liberation of Cuba. He is now attempting to reap the benefits of conditions that exist in spite of him.—Cincinnati Enquirer.