



THE WORLD IS GOVERNED TOO MUCH.

VOL. 39.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., JULY 29, 1884.

NO. 91.

THE DEMOCRAT.

TERMS:

The Democrat is published Tri-Weekly—Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—at Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum; One Dollar and Fifty Cents for six months. Payable in advance.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

1884.

Louisiana Democrat

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PLATFORM

—OF—

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

The following is the synopsis of the Platform adopted at Chicago, on July 8th:

The Democratic party of the Union, through its representatives in National Convention assembled, recognizes that as the nation grows older new issues are born of time and progress, and old issues perish, but the fundamental principles of the Democracy, approved by the united voice of the people, remain and ever will remain as the best and only security for the continuance of free government, the preservation of the personal rights of the States, and the supremacy of the Federal government within the limits of the Constitution will ever form the true basis of our liberties, and can never be surrendered without destroying that balance of rights and powers which enable the continent to develop in peace and social order to be maintained by local self-government. It is indispensable for the practical application and enforcement of these fundamental principles that the government should not be controlled by the same political party. A frequent change of the administration is as necessary as the constant recurrence to the popular will; otherwise, abuses grow and the government, instead of being carried on for the general welfare, becomes an instrument for imposing heavy burdens on the many who are governed for the benefit of the few who govern—public servants thus become arbitrary rulers. This is now the condition of the country, and hence a change is demanded. The Republican party, so far as principle is concerned, is a reminiscence in practice. It is an organization for enriching those who control its machinery. The frauds and jobbery which have been brought to light in every department of the government are sufficient to have called for reform within the Republican party, yet those in authority, made reckless by the long possession of power, have succumbed to its corrupting influence and have placed in nomination a ticket, against which the independent portion of the party are in open revolt. Therefore, a change is demanded. Such a change was alike necessary in 1876, but the will of the people was then defeated by a fraud which can never be forgotten nor condoned. Again, in 1880, the change demanded by the people was defeated by the lavishness of money contributed by unscrupulous contractors and shameless jobbers, who had bargained for unlawful profits, or for high office.

The Republican party, during its legal, its stolen and its bought tenures of power has steadily decayed in moral character and political capacity. Its platform promises are now a list of its past failures. It demands the restoration of our navy; it has squandered hundreds of millions to create a navy

that does not exist. It calls upon Congress to remove the burdens under which American shipping has been depressed; it imposed and has continued those burdens. It professes the policy of reserving the public lands for small holdings by actual settlers—it has given away the people's heritage till now a few railroads and non-resident aliens, individual and corporate, possess a larger area than that of all our farms between the two seas; it professes a preference for free institutions; it organized and has tried to legalize a control of the State elections by Federal troops; it professes a desire to elevate labor—it has subjected American workingmen to the competition of convict and imported convict labor; it professes gratitude to all who were disabled or died in the war, leaving widow and orphans: it has left to a Democratic House of Representatives the first effort to equalize both bounties and pensions. It proffers a pledge to correct the irregularities of our tariff; it created and has continued them. Its own Tariff Commission confessed the need of more than 20 per cent. reduction; its Congress gave a reduction of less than 2 per cent. It professes the protection of American manufactures; it has subjected them to an increasing flood of manufactured goods and a hopeless competition with manufacturing nations, not one of which taxes raw materials.

It professes to protect all American industries. It has impoverished many to subsidize a few. It has impoverished many to subsidize a few. It professes the protection of American labor—it has depleted the returns of American agriculture, an industry followed by half our people. It professes the equality of all men before the law—attempting to fix the status of colored citizens. The acts of its Congress were overset by the decisions of its courts. It accepts a new the duty of leading in the work of progress and reform. Its caught criminals are permitted to escape through the contrived delays or actual connivance of the prosecution. Honey-combed with corruption, outbreathing exposures no longer shook its moral sense. Its honest members and its independent journals no longer maintain a successful contest for authority in its counsels or a veto upon a bad nomination. That a change is necessary is proven by an existing surplus of more than \$100,000,000, which has yearly been collected from a suffering people. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation.

We denounce the Republican party for having failed to relieve the people from the crushing war taxes which have paralyzed business, crippled industry and deprived labor of employment and of its just reward. The Democracy pledges itself to purify the administration from corruption, to restore economy, to revive respect for law, and to reduce taxation to the lowest limit consistent with the due regard to the preservation of the faith of the nation to its creditors and pen-

sioners; knowing full well, however, that legislation affecting the occupation of the people should be cautious and conservative in method, not in advance of public opinion, but responsive to its demands. The Democratic party is pledged to revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests.

The Civil Service.—The various offices of the government belong to the people thereof, who rightfully demand to be allowed to exercise and fill the same whenever they are fitted by capacity, integrity and energy; the last two qualifications never to be tested by any scholastic examination. We hold that frequent changes of Federal officers are shown to be necessary, first, to counteract the growing aristocratic tendencies to a caste of life offices; second, experience having shown that all investigation is useless while the incumbent and his associates hold their places. Frequent changes of officers is necessary to the discovery and punishment of frauds, peculations, defalcations and embezzlements of the public money.

Resolved, That we adhere to and affirm the doctrine enunciated and established by Jackson—that the government alone has the power to establish and issue money for the people. That the issue of the legal tender note made by the government as a method of borrowing money to carry on the war, in the exercise of a constitutional power, has become the fixed policy of the United States equally as coined gold or silver. That neither policy nor duty calls for any meddling with it.

—JOB Printing neatly executed at this office.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it.—It cures dysentery and diarrhea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female nurses and physicians in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle.

NOTICE—A Mass Meeting of the Democratic voters of the Parish of Rapides, is hereby called to meet in the City of Alexandria, on Wednesday, the 13th of August, 1884, for the purpose of selecting delegates to represent the Parish of Rapides in the Congressional Convention to be held in the City of Shreveport, on August 28th. Under the apportionment adopted by the Congressional Committee, Rapides will send nine delegates.

F. SEIP, Vice Chairman Parish Executive Committee.