

THE COLORED CITIZEN.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS.

Vol. 1. No. 1.

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CONTEST FOR THE CAPITAL

Town of Anaconda vs. City of Helena AND THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA.

Plain Facts and Figures For the People on the Installment Plan—Why You Should Vote for Helena.

Now comes the city of Helena and for answer to the petition of the town of Anaconda to be made the permanent capital of the state of Montana sets forth the following reason why it (Helena) should be selected as the permanent capital and why Anaconda should not, viz.

1st. Helena is located geographically nearly in the center of the state, while Anaconda is situated in the extreme southwestern corner of the state. Helena can therefore be conveniently reached from all parts of the state whereas Anaconda cannot.

2d. Helena is the railroad center of the state with lines diverging in every direction. Anaconda is isolated on a spur. One can, therefore, easily reach or leave Helena by a choice of several trans-continental routes, while Anaconda is dependent wholly on her "spurs."

3d. Helena is situated near the center of the state's population and will remain so. Therefore it is and will continue the most accessible point to a very large majority of the people of the state. Anaconda is as remote to center of population as it is geographically and will grow still more so as the population of the state increases.

RESUME FIRST INSTALLMENT.

Helena is the geographical center, the railroad center and the center of population of the state of Montana. As to these three essentials for a capital city Anaconda "isn't in it."

COLORED CITIZENS! VOTE FOR HELENA!

The colored people of Helena have a lively interest in the welfare of their city. As a class they are prosperous happy and well situated. The people of the city are well disposed towards them and offer them every opportunity to go upward and onward. As a result they are occupying many positions of trust and profit. Those of us who are in business on our own account are patronized as much by the whites as by our own people. In fact this is a cosmopolitan city and every one regardless of color succeeds or fails according to his efforts. Our people when visiting the city always receive a hearty welcome by our white fellow citizens who at all times and under all circumstances take a laudable pride in extending a royal welcome to all strangers. We are all proud of our lovely city with its homes, churches, educational and social institutions. We hope that our people throughout the state without exception will speak a good word for Helena as the permanent capital and on the 6th of November next vote for the city where five hundred of us live. We will consider it a race compliment.

BUTTE SECONDS THE MOTION.

Editor of COLORED CITIZEN.
BUTTE, Mont., Aug. 31.—I learn with much pleasure that there is to be a weekly paper devoted to our interest started in Helena. I am truly glad to hear this and trust the report is not all talk, for we are in need of a paper wherein we may express our feelings and desires. I learn that the COLORED CITIZEN will endeavor to reach the household of every colored family in Montana. And the aim of your paper will be to influence every colored man in our state to vote for Helena for the capital. This is a move in the right direction, Mr. Editor, for our people will be led by their own color. In this move you shall have my hearty co-operation. I say Helena for the capital.

Very respectfully,
REV. CHAS. CUSHINGBERRY.

We offer a large crayon portrait of yourself free provided you send us twenty-five cash subscribers for our campaign edition. See particulars in another column.

DEMOCRATIC FINANCIERING.

How the Gold Reserve Fund Has Been Reduced Under the Present Administration.

The inability of the Democracy to manage the affairs of the country is shown in a striking way by the condition of the "gold reserve" in the treasury today. The gold reserve, as everybody knows, was a sum of \$100,000,000 set aside by Republican legislation to be held as security for the \$240,000,000 of United States notes, or "greenbacks," in circulation. When the Republicans, on March 4, 1893, turned the treasury department over to the Democratic administration, this gold reserve was intact, as it always had been under Republican administration. The \$100,000,000 was there and always had been there since it was set aside years ago as a fund sacred for the protection of the war issue of money known as greenbacks. The alarm which the country felt at the incoming of a Democratic administration which had promised to overturn the financial system of the government, coupled with the desire of importers to await the reduction of the tariff before they imported more goods, combined to make the receipts of the treasury very small. People, seeing the coming storm, stopped buying any more goods than were absolutely necessary, and importers brought little into the country, and therefore paid little into the treasury in the form of tariff. The result was that the receipts began to fall off immediately after the Democracy took charge and have for the past year fallen below the necessary running expenses.

The Democracy, which promised to so enormously reduce the expenses of the government, has found it impossible to keep this pledge, but that, on the other hand, the Republicans had administered it as economically as they are themselves able to do. In consequence of the falling off in the receipts it has been necessary to constantly "dip into" the gold reserve in the treasury in order to meet the running expenses of the government. The result has been a sad decline in the amount of the gold reserve. It was over \$100,000,000 when the Democracy took charge of the treasury. Within a few months it fell below the limit fixed by law and has been sadly but surely tending downward ever since.

A few months ago Secretary Carlisle, finding it impossible to induce congress to authorize him to issue bonds to get more money with which to run the government, took the bit in his teeth and issued \$50,000,000 worth of bonds under an old law passed years ago. This helped out the treasury for the moment and brought up the balance to over \$100,000,000 again. By the 1st of May of the present year, however, it had fallen below that limit, and today stands at \$60,000,000. This, it must be remembered, includes \$40,000,000 in gold realized from the sale of the bonds issued by Secretary Carlisle a few months ago. Had it not been for this \$40,000,000 which he thus added to the gold reserve by plunging the country \$50,000,000 deeper into debt the gold reserve today would be but \$20,000,000. As it is, with a record of \$50,000,000 added to the debt of the country, it is but \$60,000,000, or a little over one-half what the law requires and what the Republicans always maintained it at during their control of the treasury.

BALANCE OF TRADE.

Business During the Harrison and Cleveland Administrations Compared.

From 1877 until the close of the year of 1888 the balance of trade remained with the United States. Mr. Cleveland had served three years, with the balance of trade favorable to us of \$232,000,000, but in closing the fiscal year of 1888 the national account showed a balance of \$28,000,000 against us, being the first to occur in 11 years.

President Harrison's administration commenced in 1889, while the balance of trade was against us. The close of the fiscal year, June 30, 1890, showed a balance against us of \$2,700,000, but the tide turned in our favor early in 1890 and remained with us to the close of Harrison's administration. The last three years gave us a total of \$310,958,000.

A comparison shows that Cleveland's four years, with an excess in the first in our favor of \$164,000,000, terminated with a deficit of \$28,000,000, while Harrison's administration began with a deficit of over \$2,000,000 and closed with a surplus or balance in our favor of more than \$262,000,000. A further comparison shows that Harrison's administration, although commencing with unfavorable trade, had a surplus above that of Cleveland's in favor of our side of the ledger of \$98,000,000 when it closed, there being a steady flow of nearly \$17,000,000 monthly of trade in our favor.

The inauguration of President Cleveland in March, 1893, changed the whole course of trade, so that three months afterward, June 30, the balance of trade turned against us to the amount of nearly \$19,000,000. The 11 months of the current year, to May 30, show a loss of \$210,000,000 in trade. As a further comparison, the first two years of Cleveland's former administration gave us a balance of \$208,000,000 in our favor, while the first two years of his present administration will show a loss of \$248,000,000, or a total loss of \$456,000,000 to the United States.

FREE RAW MATERIAL

MISTAKEN IDEAS AS TO THE MEANING OF THE TERM.

What is Called "Raw Material" is Really a Finished Product of Labor in Some Form—How We May Compete in the Markets of the World.

The greatest public discussion held in the senate of the United States occurred July 20 over the president's letter, in which he condemned the Democratic party for attempting the passage of a tariff bill in which there was ignored in the items of coal, iron and other articles the Democratic doctrine of free raw material. Senator Hill, in discussing the situation, said:

"Upon the question of free raw materials the president is right, and you know it. You cannot answer his arguments. You cannot successfully dispute his propositions. You cannot doubt his sincerity and patriotism. You must yield in the end to his views. You cannot stand up against the sentiment of the Democratic masses of the country, which will rally round the president in this contest with you upon this particular branch of the subject. The time to yield is now, before there is further humiliation, embarrassment and discord."

Whether Democrats may be found who are able to answer the president's arguments, whether people within the knowledge of Senator Hill are wholly unable to successfully dispute his proposition, there are some well known facts that the common people might read with profit concerning the propositions which underlie the doctrine of free raw material. Let us take the principal elements of cost in manufactured goods, labor and material. These can be resolved into a single one, for material is but the product of labor. Therefore labor alone is the principal cost of manufactured goods. What is called "raw material" is none the less a finished product of labor in some form. It all represents capital in a small degree and labor in a larger sense. But the question at issue is the putting of free raw materials on the free list so as to reduce the cost of the domestic product by foreign competition in order to lower the cost of goods. The foreign manufacturer has the same access to free raw materials that we have. He is as energetic and anxious to succeed in holding the markets of the world as we are to take these markets from him. We can only succeed in this sharp competition by the producing of these materials at a lower cost, which means wages, for the labor cost of all materials must be lessened if we are to compete with the cheapest of the countries of the world in open market. The whole question resolves itself at once into a single proposition—that the country which pays the least for its raw material is the strongest competitor in the open markets of the world. If the United States desires to be that country, there is only one way to accomplish it—namely, to reduce the wage until this material can be prepared at a less price than at which it is now prepared in Europe, South America or Asia.

Our people are beginning to learn that coal is raw material, and yet we have been confronted within the last six months with some of the greatest strikes ever known in our coalfields for the purpose of maintaining a mining rate which is nearly double that paid in some of the foreign countries. Again, the cost of transportation of coal from Maryland and Virginia to the seaboard is four times that of the transportation from the British provinces on the Atlantic coast. The question is, How can we compete in the open markets of our own country with raw material in the form of coal against the cheaper coal produced by cheaper wages and cheaper transportation on the seaboard? What is true of coal may be said to be true of iron and all other forms of raw material. Had we not better kept the McKinley law in force, which has already demonstrated its ability to give us larger markets than we could ever hope for under free trade conditions?

Party Principles Repudiated.

The record has been made. The Democratic house has repudiated party principles and pledges, broken faith with the American people, legislated directly and deliberately for the benefit of trusts and monopolists and betrayed a constitutional trust. That record of "perfidy and dishonor" cannot be unmade by belated and farcical attempts on the part of the house to cover its retreat by a menace of free sugar, free coal and free iron bills, which will never be acted upon by the senate. The house is overwhelmed with disgrace, demoralization and dishonor. Its attitude is that of Sterne's unhappy, belabored donkey—"Do not beat me, my masters, I beseech you, but you may beat me if you will."
—New York Tribune.

A Strike as Will Be a Strike.

The right sort of a sympathy strike is that which the voters of all the states will engage in against the Democratic party on Nov. 6.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Hint to Secretary Carlisle.

Those able Alabama counters ought to be set at work on the gold reserve. Perhaps they could figure out a surplus.
—Boston Journal.

IN DEFENSE OF NEW ENGLAND.

She is a Far Larger Purchaser of American Products Than Old England.

If our country is to remain a prosperous and united people, sectional interests are not to be legislated against. The south and west, controlling the votes in the congress of the United States to enact tariff laws at the present time, must hold to the conservative view that New England is their best customer, and that the enactment of laws detrimental to her great industrial interests cripples her as a purchaser of the great products of the south and west.

With three-fourths of all the spindles of the country, New England produces not a pound of cotton, but she consumes one-fifth of the whole cotton crop of the United States, her purchase in 1890 amounting to more than \$77,000,000. Can the south treat with indignity such a customer as this?

New England grows less than 4 per cent of the wool of this country, but she uses one-half of the total clip. Can the west and the great Pacific states slight New England by crippling her industries?

New England, again, mines not a pound of coal, but uses not less than 10,000,000 tons annually in her homes and factories. Can Maryland and the Virginias, whence a large portion of this output comes, cast a vote in the congress of the United States that would paralyze her great factory system and cause her to put out her fires?

Of all the articles of food for man and beast New England produces a sufficiency only of two things—hay for her cattle, potatoes for her people. Therefore she becomes an annual customer of the west for not less than 3,000,000 barrels of flour, to which is to be added two-thirds of all the meat consumed throughout her domain. Certainly the west must be careful for such a customer.

Manufacturing, as she does, fully three-fourths of all the boots and shoes worn in the country, she is a purchaser of hides and leather to the extent of a majority of the output of the country. Her lumber has long since disappeared from off her mountain slopes. Now she looks to the northwest and the south for her supplies to build homes and factories. If these people who crowd the markets with their lumber are not careful of New England's thrift and prosperity, they must lose one of their best customers for the purchase of lumber.

This is but a glance at the many sided question of trade between the states, and while a solid south stood with a menace toward all industrial interests, trying to secure the very last and least possible reduction of that protection which has made New England the peer of old England, these self-same people expect New England to come with her gold and her silver and buy the products of southern fields and southern farms. Let the solid south stand still for a moment's reflection and count the cost if they would be wise, for the New England manufacturer openly declares that if you will give him foreign wages he fears no foreign competition. The outcome of the whole question is that such legislation is but to pauperize the artisans of the east and to bring sorrow and sadness into the homes where joy and plenty have had their abode for many years. The laboring people of New England as well as the laboring people of all the country ought to understand this. One of their popular mottoes is, "The injury of one is the injury of all," and let this be emblazoned forever on all New England's interests and held up before the whole country to warn them that if we would continue our national prosperity we must care for New England's factory system.

Democratic Theories Rebuked.

Mr. Fred Hirsch, a Belgian representing an establishment employing 12,000 men, was in Chicago recently and witnessed many of the diabolical acts growing out of the labor disturbance. He viewed with astonishment the tolerance with which rioters are treated in this country as compared with the repressive agencies employed against them in Europe. He has found his countrymen in the United States, who were never able to earn more than 65 cents a day at home, receiving \$1.25 and \$1.50 and more per day and yet dissatisfied.

This was just the state of affairs two years ago. Labor was never so generally employed and at wages so remunerative, and yet they were dissatisfied and voted for a change. They got it, with a vengeance. Never have there been so many unemployed in this country, and the financial losses are simply fabulous.

Do you want these conditions to continue? If you do, vote with the Democracy; if not, vote for the return of the Republican party to power.

Democracy Beaten.

Betrayed! That can be the only verdict of the genuine Democrats of the country on the acts of their representatives in congress. By fear and faint heart, by the idiotic embrace of Populism, by degrading corruption, Democracy is beaten, confused, humiliated.—New Haven Register.

Pensions.

"What's the difference between the veterans of 1864 and now?" "In 1864 the comrades were marching through Georgia. Today Georgia's Hoke Smith is going through the boys."