

GRAND AND GLORIOUS.

The Old-time Enthusiasm at People's Campaign Meetings—The Liveliest "Funerals" on Record.

Special Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, KAN., August 5.—The third annual People's party rally of Washington county was held here yesterday and to-day, and it looked sometimes as if this county had emptied all of its population into Darby's grove, near this pretty town of Washington. A careful calculation, however, will not bear out this view, for it must be remembered that large delegations came from Marshall and Republic counties, while the highest calculation put the aggregate number on the grounds at 12,000; others estimated it at less.

It was a magnificent gathering. As one of the speakers remarked, there was no use counting, but it was safe to say that there were ten acres of people.

But the most remarkable feature about this meeting was the earnestness and determination of the people. Most of them came for miles through the heat and dust, not simply to have a picnic, for there had been no special arrangements made for that; not for the drive, for that must have been harder work than threshing wheat; but they were there to confer with and enlighten each other on that subject which concerns everybody, politics.

On the first day a long procession marched from town to the grove, each Alliance and People's party club carrying an appropriate banner, something that reminded the old people of another time when a new party was formed for the purpose of righting great wrongs. Among these banners were some comical ones. One was a picture representing Carnegie in a pulpit and was labeled "Desecration of the Pulpit and Politics." Another was Seyd riding a lion and carrying a sack labeled "\$500,000," and the inscription explained that the rider was on his way to buy the American congress. On the reverse side of this was Carnegie and Harrison at opposite ends of a barrel supposed to contain Scotch whiskey, helping themselves. But all interest in these comicalities was lost when the procession ended. Nearly everybody, men, women and children, wore the same kind of a badge bearing the portraits of Weaver and Field, and "One Country and one Flag," also the motto, "Equal rights to all, special privileges to none." That was the popular badge, and there were thousands of them worn.

The meeting was opened with music by a good band and prayer by Rev. Hageman. Then speeches were made by Mrs. Annie L. Diggs, S. H. Allen and John F. Little. After the evening recess, V. H. Biddison and Fred J. Close held the audience until bed time, and they seemed willing to stay all night. Friday morning General Paul Vandervoort and Mrs. Diggs again. Afternoon, L. D. Lewelling, W. A. Harris, R. S. Osborn and Morris L. Wheat, of Iowa. Still the people stayed and called for more. They did not seem to tire of a single speaker. The more gospel they heard the more they were willing to hear. During all the exercises cheer after cheer rang through the woods. Up until 4 o'clock the weather grew hotter, the clouds of dust came thicker and the enthusiasm grew apace. And still the people stayed. Some of the speakers had left at noon to fill other appointments. Finally Mrs. Diggs was called out, for the third time, and her address closed the speaking.

A glee club rendered some lively songs. The old soldiers filed in line and each of them shook the hand of W. A. Harris to convince him and their neighbors that they were not fighting the war over again.

Col. Harris' address was received with

great applause. So was that of General Vandervoort, Nebraska's brilliant orator, and ex-commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. Indeed there was no lack of enthusiasm during any of the speeches. And as people began preparing to leave the grounds they smiled at each other. Many a one asked, "Does this look like a funeral of the People's party or the Alliance?"

RILEY.

RILEY, KAN., August 6.—The People's party rally made to-day at Riley, situated in central Riley county, was in every way a decided success, and reminded one of the enthusiastic campaign of 1890. By noon time about 1,000 persons were on hand to participate in the ratification of the Omaha and Wichita platforms. Bands, glee clubs, numerous American flags and many banners with very appropriate mottoes decorated the speaker's stand. Promptly at 1 o'clock Joe Harner called the throng from the noon spread and formally opened the speech making by introducing H. A. Hart, of Dickinson county, who was followed by Messrs. W. A. Harris, Leavenworth, C. W. Stewart, Cloud, A. E. True, Wabaunsee and Mrs. Annie L. Diggs, of Washington, D. C. The People's party press was out in strong force and a fair sprinkling of old Republicans were there learning how best to "Stand up for Kansas."

ABILENE.

ABILENE, KAN., August 6.—The People's party had a grand rally in the park near this city this afternoon, attended by about 3,000 people, many of whom drove in a procession to the grounds carrying myriads of banners. Speeches were made by L. D. Lewelling and Morris L. Wheat. This evening Chas. L. Moody addressed a meeting in the opera house, but the weather was so extremely hot that the house was not filled. For the same reason hundreds stayed away from the park meeting. The mercury reached the 100 mark late in the afternoon. People's party workers are well pleased with the meetings.

FALSE INTERVIEWS.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

In a recent issue of the Kansas City Journal there appeared an article giving an account of an alleged discussion or controversy between a Rock Island conductor and myself, which is true in every particular except that I had not been on the Rock Island road or over it for a month; never talked with a Rock Island conductor on the subject named, and further, that the entire story is a fabrication of a diseased brain.

A recent issue of the Topeka Capital contains another article, every word of which is equally false.

These articles are going the rounds of the Republican press, and I call your attention to them for the purpose of showing our friends the class of misrepresentation they will have to contend with, and for the further purpose of saying once for all that I am not engaged in making capital for the enemy in this manner. Neither am I submitting to interviews or giving expression to my views for the benefit of the enemy. I am devoting my time to the work of the campaign, and have no time to devote to a denial of these reports which will be made from time to time, but will at this time brand the articles referred to and all similar articles that may appear from time to time in any paper as absolutely false.

And in this connection I may add that I am authorized to make a similar statement in regard to recent published statements purporting to come from Senator Peffer and Congressman Simpson,

wherein they are charged with expressing opinions calculated to bring the People's party into disrepute.

I shall continue to "saw wood." Let all good People's party men do likewise. Truly yours,

JOHN W. BREIDENTHAL.

Enterprise, Kans., August 7.

THAT McPHERSON MEETING.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE:

A harvest home picnic was held at Windsor, in this county, on last Saturday, the 30th. The 2,000 people present listened to addresses by L. D. Lewelling, A. W. Smith, Chester I. Long and S. H. Snider. It was the original intention of the managers to make the picnic non-political, and the speakers invited were so notified, but at the last moment the program was changed, and each man was requested to speak for his political party.

Lewelling's address was roundly applauded, and was highly spoken of by all present, regardless of their politics. Smith followed with a forty-minute speech. Long's talk consisted chiefly of an attempt to be funny. Snider warmed up to his work and poured hot shot into the enemy in rapid succession. Nearly every sentence was greeted with deafening applause.

It was a Lewelling crowd by two to one, and the day witnessed a big triumph for the People's party.

The entire People's state ticket will carry this county by at least 500 majority.

CHAS. W. WEBSTER.

McPherson, Kan., August 2, 1892.

FROM TENNESSEE.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

Talk of revolution in public sentiment; speak of the people revolting against their party's behest; to find this you have only to come to the great state of Tennessee.

It has been two weeks since I came to this state, and from all indications the movement has never had its counterpart, except in Kansas in 1890.

I attended six mass meetings last week, three of which were barbecues. I was informed that they slaughtered twenty-eight head of stock at one of these meetings. The bill of fare was beef, pork and mutton, together with other eatables too numerous to mention—enough to feed the gathering thousands. Some came as far as sixty miles to these meetings.

It was not uncommon to have men step up to the speaker at the close of the meeting and assert their intention of joining the People's party.

At one of our largest meetings the request was made for those who were in sympathy with our demands and the People's party to raise their hands. It seemed as though nine-tenths of the hands were raised. After which, the same request was made of those opposed. In all that vast audience there was only one who had the courage of his convictions, even in Tennessee. There were several who held neutral ground, and one old gentleman said: "Oh, yes, they will be all right; they are simply on the fence."

Men who have voted the Democratic ticket for from twenty-five to sixty years are in the front ranks. The politicians seem to be on one side and the people on the other. They (the politicians) cry "Force bill," and the farmer turns his head and complacently remarks: "Yes, sir; we will force you out, and put men in who will make laws for the people. Talk about force bill; we understand you fellows. That force bill was defeated by our brethren of the northwest. The Ocala meeting denounced the measure, and the Kansas delegates wired the resolutions to their representatives at Washington, and John J. Ingalls cast his vote

against it. Both houses of congress were Republican, and failed to pass the bill. Do you think we are ignorant enough to think this bill could pass with 149 Democratic majority in the lower house? Oh, no! The object is to scare us back into the old party again. No, sir; never! We will take principle, and you can take the empty shell—the name. You told the people in twenty-eight states in 1890 that you were in favor of the dollar of our fathers—the dollar of Jefferson, Jackson and Calhoun. There was only one of two alternates for us; repudiate Jeffersonian Democracy that favored free coinage, or repudiate that modern statesman, Grover Cleveland. We have always been Jefferson Democrats; therefore we have decided to remain the same, and repudiate modern Democracy, that is guided in its councils by Lombard street, London, and Wall street, New York."

I have heard the above argument in every meeting. They sometimes close their remarks by saying: "Think I will vote for a party that joins hands with Tom Reed and John Sherman to defeat the people's will? No, sir; never!" By this time the politician appears to be in distress. He moves off slowly, as if to say: "There is no use talking to these 'hayseeds,' anyway."

One word in reference to free speech in Tennessee. I will confess that I had heard so much about the danger of campaigning in the south that I felt a sense of timidity in my first meeting, especially at the commencement of my remarks. But I soon found that those who were the most opposed to the People's party were honest, conscientious gentlemen in most cases, and were not only willing to have these questions discussed, but were eager to have more light upon the subject, and are glad to welcome any man to their fair state who is himself laboring for the cause of reform. Yes, they will make you feel at home.

I have found several men who were chased by the Kansas Jayhawkers during the war. One gentleman came several miles to get to shake hands with one of them. He said the Jayhawkers used him rather roughly. He intimated that he marched through Tennessee with them. I suggested that he was in front. "Yes," he said, laughing, "on a gallop." And he had now decided to march side by side for industrial freedom. The spirit of independence has complete control of the honest yeomanry of this state.

In closing, allow me to venture a prediction, that while he believes Kansas will look well to her laurels, yet when November comes Tennessee will be a close second, swinging into line with the People's party with as many congressmen as Kansas, a United States senator, and the electoral vote for Weaver and Field. The above predictions may fall, but the indications are that they will not.

S. M. SCOTT,

State Lecturer of Kansas.

Trenton, Tenn., August 1, 1892.

PEFFER WILL BE READY.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE:

I will be in Topeka September 1st, ready for campaign work.

I would thank you to say to the people, for me, that I am anxious to see as many of the Kansas people, of all parties, as possible during the fall months, so as to learn their condition and wants. The more I see of them, and the more I hear from them, the better I can represent their interests, and I have no ambition beyond that. Respectfully,

W. A. PEFFER.

SPECIAL CLUB LIST.

THE ADVOCATE & Nonconformist..... is a  
" " Kansas Farmer..... and it now  
" " Nationalist..... an, and seems to  
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