

# The Advocate

## AND TOPEKA TRIBUNE.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY  
OF KANSAS.

**N. R. P. A.**

Published every Wednesday by  
**THE ADVOCATE PUBLISHING CO.**  
Rooms 43 and 45 Knox Building,  
TOPEKA, KANSAS.

**\$1.00 PER YEAR.**

**ADVERTISING RATES.**

Display matter, 20 cents per line, agate measurement, (14 lines to the inch.)  
Reading notices, 40 cents per line.  
Address all communications to

**THE ADVOCATE PUBLISHING CO.,**  
Topeka, Kansas.

Entered at the post office at Topeka, Kansas, as  
second class matter.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1892.



GOVERNOR FLOWER, of New York, has appointed Susan B. Anthony manager of the state industrial school at Rochester. This is a very proper thing to do. It is about time for politicians and officials to discover that the people of the United States consist of two sexes.

If Senator Peffer can do anything to abate the Standard Oil Company, the Express will hereafter be a Peffer organ.—Buffalo Express, December 13.

Let the Express consecrate its energies to the election of enough men like Senator Peffer to control our national congress for just one session, and we will guarantee not only the abatement of the Standard oil trust, but of many more greedy corporations of equally vicious character.

The flimsy pretense that the state house lottery was conducted fairly in the case of the Coffey county tie, and that the People's party should therefore gracefully accept the result, is altogether too ganzy. The names of the men connected with the affair and the star chamber method of conducting it, are a sufficient guarantee that it was not fairly done, and to accept the result, and permit the republicans to organize the house in consequence of it, would be cowardice, and not only cowardice but a crime.

A GOLDSMITH of to-day could find abundant material for any number of poems on deserted villages by taking a trip to Nevada. That state, which had a population of 62,000 in 1880, had one of only 45,000 in 1890. The falling off has been so rapid in the past two years, on account of the drop in the price of silver, that the total is believed to be down to 40,000 now.—Globe Democrat.

If it were only Nevada. But that same Goldsmith of to-day could go into other states and territories and find more deserted villages where the people never depended on mining for an occupation. And he would find that the same legislation that caused the desertion and depopulation in Nevada has ruined many a business man, and driven many a farmer from his home.

### THE DEPRAVITY OF THE PRESS.

The Washington correspondent of the Kansas City Journal is entitled to rank among the foremost liars of the age. Why people continue to support papers that employ such men and publish such rot it is difficult to understand. It might, with some degree of reason, be supposed that subscribers to newspapers desire the news—that they desire facts which will enable them to keep pace with current events. This is unquestionably what they pay their money for. Do they get it? Not very often. The leading daily newspapers of the country strive to be sensational rather than reliable. They employ a set of unscrupulous correspondents to furnish this trash, and pay them, not for furnishing the news, but for filling a certain amount of space with something that is sensational, no matter whether it has any foundation in fact or not. Such foundation is not at all essential. In fact, the wider the departure from truth, the better it suits such papers as the Kansas City Journal, and a correspondent possessing the qualifications of the Washington Ananias who contributes so liberally to its columns is considered of more than ordinary value.

As an illustration of his valuable services, we reproduce from the Journal of December 8 his version of a little proceeding in the house of representatives, together with the official report of the same proceeding as published in the Congressional Record. The following is from the Journal:

WASHINGTON, December 7.—[Special.] Baker, of Kansas, went down under a flood of ridicule to-day, and, as estimated, will not be heard from for a week. It was the first chance the members have had this session to make a football out of a nonentity, and they improved it vigorously.

The first bill the speaker called up in the morning hour was the famous Fort Hays military reservation bill. This is Baker's only pride and pet. He was insanely nervous over it during the last two months of last session. He was afraid if he failed to get it through, he would be defeated. It is the only bill he has that concerns his district as a local measure. While this is true, it did not originate with the Sixth district statesman. It was introduced in the senate by the late Senator Plumb, on the 14th of last December. Senator Perkins put it through the senate soon after he was appointed, and gave Baker many months during last session to put it through the house.

The bill provides that the government cede 2,400 acres of land out of the Fort Hays military reservation, to be used by the state of Kansas for a state soldiers' home, and for that purpose only. When the speaker announced the parliamentary status of the bill this morning Baker had not arrived. No one knew where he was at, although nearly a half hour after the house had been called to order he was absent. The pit seemed to contain all the members but Baker. McRea, of Arkansas, a member of the committee on military affairs, responded to the speaker's call for Baker. McRea observed that the Kansas statesman was evidently not on hand. He regretted the incident very much, as that gentleman was deeply concerned in the bill. Personally he could not recall just what it was about.

The speaker was on the verge of passing on when Baker rushed in. He evidently jostled the crowd in the corridors, for he came in a hurry. Some one had met him possibly taking his air bath around the capitol, and told him of the imminent peril of his bill. He proceeded to catch the speaker's eye, and just here the football game commenced. Some member yelled to Baker to explain

the bill. This was a big job. He stumbled along, destroyed tobacco and got red in the face. His explanation was about as clear as mud. He was so feeble and ridiculous that the members, who are always disposed to have fun with a weak sister, in a few seconds were pestering him. They put all manner of questions, as though they were really anxious to know the price of corn in Kansas. They wanted to know if they were buying corn in Kansas now, also how many counties in Kansas, where this reservation was at; if in his district; where was his district at; would this make Mrs. Lease senator if it passed, and what effect would it have on him and Mrs. Lease if it did not pass. Diverse and many gay questions were tossed at the fellow, and at first he tried to be funny, but he fell so flat that he about faced and took his punishment just like a chunk of clay.

In the midst of the din and confusion, Baker was heard to announce the great philanthropy campaign principle: "Right wrongs no man." To this some peppy fellows observed: "Where does that come in at?" Again he rallied, after taking a chew of tobacco, and started out on what would have been a dandy sentence, doubtless, if he had been able to finish it. It started off: "It is an unfortunate circumstance—" Just here one observed, over on the democratic side: "That you are here." The world will never know any more of Baker's unfortunate circumstance. It got so extremely funny that possibly thirty members, who delight in punishing a man who gets into the house without any qualifications for the position, jammed in close to the victim and reached him at short range. Speaker Crisp repeatedly tried to restore order. Baker was supposed to be making a speech, but he was not.

Finally Judge Broderick got the attention for a moment and directed Baker to state that the bill called for no money to be paid by the government. This, of course, ought to have come early in Baker's defense of the bill, but was omitted, as was everything else germane to the subject. It finally was apparent that Baker would never be able to do anything, and the speaker broke up the mob. De Armond was given the floor, and offered a few reasons why, in his judgment, the bill should not pass. He was followed by McRea, who explained the bill to some extent. It was not his bill, and he had not expected to take this part, but Baker's ridiculous failure forced him to show that the committee was not foolish in recommending that it pass.

Baker thought to try it again, and when McRea had finished, made the effort, but was choked off. Haiman objected. Bailey, of Texas, had returned and got in his first feeble efforts. Oates had a few discouraging observations, while Outhwaite was sure Baker was asking too much to have the bill passed. There were repeated cries of "vote." To place the bill on the third reading, it went down at the rate of 25 to 85. Baker again did not know where he was at, and rushed back to see McRea, when the latter, through a feeling of kindness for a helpless being, called for tellers. There were only twenty-one votes for tellers, and hence the call was not sustained, and so went the bill into the bottom of a basket.

Baker was fatigued after the rough treatment. For a few moments he had earned his salary by being kicked around. No one doubts but the bill would have passed with out the appearance of any serious objection had any one of medium legislative ability been in charge, or had any one not spotted by all the members as belonging to a gang of monstrosities been in charge. As expressed by some of the members, the affair simply shows plainly how utterly and inexorably absurd it is for a district to send a man to congress who is neither a democrat nor a republican, and especially when the man himself is an object of pity to those who are kind, and a sure victim among men who insist a man ought to know his place in life. Through the weakness of Baker, Fort Hays reservation loses a soldiers' home, and Kansas a location for an institution that is needed.

The Congressional Record is supposed to report the proceedings as they occur *verbatim et literatim*, and

a comparison of the Record's report of this proceeding with that of the Journal will show just how much reliance is to be placed upon anything which comes through the latter source. It will also show another thing. It will show that the Journal, which pretends to have such a deep and abiding affection for the old soldier, instead of sustaining and supporting a man who is endeavoring to do something in behalf of the soldiers of our state, endeavors to cast reproach upon him, and prejudice people against him, not because of anything he has done, but simply because he is not a republican. This is the Journal's idea of fairness and honesty, and a manifestation of its highest conception of journalism, and the people continue to pay for such rot. The following is from the Congressional Record of December 8:

Mr. Baker: Mr. Speaker, this bill proposes that the congress of the United States shall grant to the state of Kansas a body of land which was formerly used for military purposes, but the military use of which was abandoned in 1887. The land is at Fort Hays, Kas. The object in asking for this grant is to provide a cottage home for old soldiers and their families. At the close of the war, as is well known, many of the old soldiers sought homes on the new and unoccupied lands of the west. Unfortunately, hundreds of those old soldiers have been dispossessed of their homes, and are to-day without homes or shelter for themselves or their family. This tract of land contains 7,600 acres. We have asked congress to set aside a certain portion of it for a cottage home for the old soldiers and their families; the balance of it to be leased in forty and eighty acre tracts for the benefit of the cottage home. The object of the bill is twofold, first to provide for old soldiers who are to-day without homes, and secondly to reduce, as far as may be possible, the expenses incident to the support of such of them as have become a public charge.

Mr. Cox of Tennessee: What is the value of this land at this time?

Mr. Baker: There has been no estimate placed upon it so far as I know. I presume it would be valued at from \$5 to \$15 an acre. That which is close to the city probably would be worth \$15 per acre.

Mr. Cox of Tennessee: What are the buildings worth?

Mr. Baker: The buildings were appraised at \$10,000.

Mr. Cox of Tennessee: And there are 7,600 acres in the tract.

Mr. Baker: Seven thousand six hundred acres. The senate passed a bill conveying 2,400 acres for this purpose, but my bill includes the whole military reservation, to be used for the purposes I have stated.

Mr. Outhwaite: There is a national home in the state of Kansas for disabled volunteers, is there not?

Mr. Baker: There is; but it does not provide for the families of the soldiers.

Mr. Livingston: These soldiers are on the pension roll, are they not?

Mr. Baker: Some are and some are not. Unfortunately a great many of them have not come under the pension law; most of them, indeed, are of that class to-day.

Mr. Baitner: Is this land wanted for purposes of cultivation?

Mr. Baker: I can hardly answer that question, for there are many million acres in our state that are not under cultivation at this time.

Mr. Andrew: Does this bill contemplate that the wives and children of veterans shall occupy this home?

Mr. Baker: That is the purpose—that the wives and children, so far as necessary, may receive relief in this way. We think that the burden of taxation, not only of the people of Kansas but the national government, will in this way be relieved.

Mr. Outhwaite: I would like to ask the gentleman whether he knows of any other state of the union that has received as large