

THE KOSCIUSKO STAR.

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AN ADDRESS

From the Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee

MR. EDITOR:
I notice in the last issue of the Vindicator Mr. Ratliff in trying to defend his record, which Mr. J. C. Clark is turning a search light upon, takes occasion to say that Mr. J. H. Hollingsworth is ineligible to hold office if elected. I do not think his article deserves any notice if it were not for the fact, that left uncontradicted, it might deter some honest man from voting for Mr. Hollingsworth for fear of his vote being lost. I had anticipated the Populites would resort to this extremity before the canvass was over, and we are fully prepared to meet it.

Before Mr. Hollingsworth was permitted by his friends to become a candidate for the nomination, this question was thoroughly investigated and settled in his favor.

Mr. Ratliff's article on the subject is unfair and untrue. Unfair because it does not state all the facts, and untrue because the law is against what he stated.

The facts are these: When the firm of L. H. Hollingsworth & Son failed on Aug. 19th 1893, Mr. J. H. Hollingsworth was a member of that firm. What is known as the "Cotton Tax" had been assessed against all the merchants in Kosciusko, Miss., including Hollingsworth & Son. The law at that time exempted the cotton while in the hands of the producer, but made it liable to taxation in the hands of the purchaser from the producer. When this firm failed all taxes of every kind were paid for the firm and the individual members thereof, except this cotton tax, which had been resisted by a great many merchants. Such opposition arose to the tax, that the Legislature of 1894 repealed this tax, as will be shown by reference to the Acts of 1894, page 26 Article "I," where they exempted "all farm products raised in this State" from taxation.

There was no saving clause attached to this Act whereby taxes before levied could be collected, and nothing was saved from its operation. This Act thereby relieved the firm of Hollingsworth & Son from any liability for said tax, and all other taxes both individual and firm, having been paid, and this "Cotton Tax" having been repealed, Mr. J. H. Hollingsworth thereby became a qualified elector, registered, and voted in the last election and was never challenged by any one. Mr. Hollingsworth served as a Grand Juror at the September term of Circuit Court, 1894. Drew his warrant, and the Sheriff endorsed on the back of same "no taxes due," and 'twas collected.

A tax under our law is a liability due the State or county, for which a person can be sued and judgment recovered, and the State could not sue for a tax that had been repealed. The repeal relieved the liability, and made him a qualified elector under the Constitution, and as such can hold office.

A very grave question exists as to whether or not the assessment in this case would be a liability against Mr. J. H. Hollingsworth, even if the tax had not been repealed. And again Mr. Hollingsworth will have become relieved from any liability for any such taxes, by two years having run before his term will have begun. If indeed he possessed any such disqualification as Mr. Ratliff would have the people believe (which is not true) it would not result in any advantage to Mr. Ratliff if Mr. Hollingsworth received the highest number of votes, for Ratliff being the minority candidate, would not be entitled to the election certificate from the Election Commissioners nor could he take the of-

ice. This has been so held twice in this State.

See Code 1092, Section 2671: Sublett vs. Bedwell, 47th Miss; Hoskins vs. Brantley, 57th Miss. Now why did Mr. Ratliff write that article, and who impelled him? Did he write it in order that every voter in Attala county should know all the facts, and that none should be deceived? I leave the question for the thinking people to decide.

But put this in your pipe and smoke it—Hollingsworth will be elected and hold the office for the next 4 years.

Yours truly,
A. A. ARMISTEAD,
Chairman Dem. Ex. Committee.

An Address to the Voters of Attala County

I take this method of addressing the voters of Attala county in justice to you and to myself. I have been unfortunately situated during the entire year as to a canvass. My school closed on May 22nd, after which it was my intention to visit the people in the interest of my candidacy, notwithstanding I had no opposition for the nomination. But my baby, stricken with fever, lay for forty-five days and died.

When the canvass had closed, I consulted some of my friends, and leaders of the party, and they thought it unwise for me to undertake any work at that time for the coming contest; so I remained inactive, as did the other nominees. It was my intention not to engage in school work during the fall that I might be able to give my time to the general canvass, but the loss of both time and money, brought about by the cause above mentioned, rendered me unable to lose further time from work. Hence my absence from some of the appointments. However, I will try to attend most of the remaining ones.

I wish now to refute some baseless false charges that have been circulating to my detriment. It has been my desire to conduct the canvass on a high plane, entirely free from unfounded criticisms or personal references. It has been claimed that the Democrats would not, or could not, make a canvass without personal misrepresentation and abuses, and hence I have been very careful to say nothing that would sustain such charges. I told Mr. Fowler, my opponent, that I would make an honorable race, leaving unsaid anything that did not pertain to the expressed duties of the office, or his record during the time of his incumbency. He expressed not only a willingness, but a desire to conduct it likewise. He, however, having violated his part of the agreement, I feel called upon to defend myself.

At Liberty Chapel he made the statement that he had charged me with having promised the colored teachers of this county that if they would support me that I would increase their wages to an equality with the white teachers, and that I had in no way denied it. This was the first time that I had ever heard of his making the charge. I had heard the charge, but not as coming from him, and even when it was suggested that he was giving publicity to it, I refused to acquiesce in the suggestion, because I thought he had too much respect for himself and for his office, if not for me, to promulgate any such false charges.

The office of Superintendent is one in which the colored man is more directly interested than in any other in the county, and hence it is that he is active in the selection of one to fill it. Knowing this, I have been very careful not to say or do anything that might be misinterpreted, either by white or colored, and anything to the contrary is the product, either of a diseased imagination, or a mind

full of malice and falsehood. I have at no time especially sought the colored support, neither have I refused to consider it with courtesy, but I have been very careful to leave it untrammelled so far as any word or act of mine was concerned.

Again, in some unaccountable way, a rumor to the effect that I am not loyal to the Democratic ticket has been put afloat. This is only a twin falsehood to the one above referred to, and an insult to my character. I have always tried to so conduct myself that my acts would not belie my professions, and if I have not, these busy enemies of mine will please do me the justice to publish me. I have never voted anything but a straight Democratic ticket, and were I entertaining anything else in the coming November election, I can assure the party that I would resign my candidacy at once, and never ask for anything again at its hands. I hope this is satisfactory to my friends, and will act as a quietus to my enemies. It is very humiliating to me to be forced thus to enter the public prints to refute little false charges which are entirely without foundation, and I appeal to the justice of the people, and ask them not to entertain such.

I ask the office of Superintendent, because I believe that I can fill it to the best interest of the schools of the county, and will assure the people that, if elected, I will give my time to the discharge of its duties. There are counties in the State that have a school system that any people should feel proud of, and if elected, I will do everything in my power to put Attala abreast with those in the fore front. Some reforms are badly needed, and I will exert every power to bring them about. I will not be a reformer in wind only, but indeed.

M. G. CAMPBELL,
SALLIS CLUB.

It was the pleasure of the writer to be present at the meeting of the Sallis Democratic club last Saturday night and listen to the able propounding of Democratic principles by the chosen defenders of Democracy. Beat 4 is the garden spot of the Democracy of Attala and Sallis is the fertile bed set apart (as it seems to be) to nourish in manhood enthusiastic supporters of the immortal principles laid down by Jefferson nearly a hundred years ago. It does a Democrat good to get in such a community, where there is so much love and enthusiasm that even the mention of Democracy brings forth ringing applause that swells the heart with gladness.

The first speaker after we arrived was Prof. M. G. Campbell, who made a very excellent talk on education and then made a very forcible comparison of how schools should be run and how they were run in Attala. He wound up his speech by denouncing the reports that he was trading with the Populites and that he had promised the negro teachers as much as the whites as wholly false and without foundation.

The next speaker introduced by the chairman was the invincible Jno. F. Allen. He started off by saying that he had been promised a joint discussion by Mr. Alex. Gunter, a representative of Populism; but it looked as if he was to be disappointed. He then took up the history of Democracy from its origin and showed conclusively that it had been true to the masses and the defender of silver, the people's money, from its foundation. The light was then thrown on the disgruntled Populites, and it was shown that there was nothing in it good but what was advocated by the Democrats and that there was no hope to obtain it through the 3rd party.

Hon. A. A. Armistead was then called upon and in a few minutes

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report



delivered a rousing Democratic speech, and scored the Pops for their misrepresentations of facts and impracticable doctrines. He said they reminded him a good deal of two fellows who went out coon hunting. They didn't find any coons, but the dogs jumped a pole cat and run it out in the woods. One of the fellows said, "let's go and catch it," when the other one remarked, "Oh, no, just let it go and it will stink its darn fool self to death." And that's the way with the Populite party; just let them alone.

H. M. J.
Democratic Club.

Pisgah, Oct. 7th, 1895.

EDITOR STAR:

The Democrats met and organized a club here last Saturday night. Hon. J. E. Roby was elected chairman, and D. B. Sproles, secretary.

Our nominee for Supervisor made a short, but able talk in defense of the Democratic party, and was followed by the old veteran and strong

will be made by way of Chicago.

The object of the trip is twofold. The party desires to get acquainted with the methods of farming in the northwest and wants to promote immigration to their State, which, of course, they say is the best in the country. The Illinois Central own much land in Mississippi and is anxious to have it peopled with farmers from the North. The other object of the tour is to get Governor Stone acquainted with the people and the officers of the Northwestern States. The Governor's friends are anxious to see him occupying the chair of the Vice-President and they are booming him for the Democratic nomination for that office. The Governor is a gold-bug Democrat of the most determined variety and has held the office of Governor for twelve years. The people of the State are wild over free silver, but the Governor and all of the State officers are sound money men.

The gentlemen comprising the party are of the finest Southern type and they are all pleased with

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ADDRESS THE KOSCIUSKO STAR, Kosciusko, Miss.

democrat, Jno. B. Stingley. Another meeting will be held at the Cross Roads school on Saturday night, Oct. 19th, when the Hon. J. C. Clark, Democratic nominee for Senator by invitation, will address us. About twenty-five have enlisted their names, and more to follow. The democrats are all right in this section.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Gov. Stone of Mississippi and Party Visit Nebraska's Capital.

Lincoln (Neb.) News, Sept. 28.

Governor J. M. Stone, of Mississippi, Auditor of State W. W. Stone, State Senator M. F. Smith and Edward P. Skene, Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad, comprised a party that arrived in Lincoln this morning in a special car. The party left Mississippi last Tuesday and have visited points in Iowa, yesterday being in Omaha. The return trip

what they have seen of Nebraska and her people. Governor Stone and Auditor Stone were especially enthusiastic over what they had seen, although they did not quite enjoy the cold north wind today. The party leaves the city in the morning. This afternoon the State officers are paying their respects to the Governor and his companions.

The text-book committee of this county on the 7th inst. adopted the following books:

- Speller..... Harrington
- Readers..... Holmes
- Geography..... Swinton
- Arithmetic..... Robinson
- Mental Arithmetic.....
- Grammar..... Harvey
- Composition..... Swinton
- U. S. History..... Chambers
- Physiology..... Smith
- Natural Philosophy..... Steele
- Civil Government..... Peterman
- State History..... Lowry & McCordle

The only change made was the speller, which we get on even exchange terms.