

HON. CHAS. J. BOATNER.

The brilliant career and highly marked success of Mr. Boatner in the halls of Congress from this immediate district precluded even the possibility of any one else aspiring for the position he so ably fills as representative from the Fifth district.

In telling of Mr. Boatner's merits and fitness for the position we do not wish, nor intend for a moment to say a word in disparagement of any of his predecessors, but in common with the many, regard him by nature, habits, acquirements, forensic talent and mental capacity as eminently fitted to represent and conserve the best interest of the people of the whole district.

In consequence of the prominent part Mr. Boatner took in the recent factional troubles of the party in this State, he has evinced a decided disinclination to give his consent to his eager friends to become a candidate for renomination, not wishing in any way to do anything that would mar the harmony that was progressing so pleasantly between the heretofore divided factions.

Party fealty is thrown to the four winds. A Gun-by goes off at the head of the column, spouting and mixing up Democracy, Alliance, Third party and Farmers' Union teachings in one and the same incongruous mass of political pot-pouri, explicable only to the inmates of Bedlam or the cranky followers after false gods for personal aggrandizement.

But we believe and know that there are enough of the old guard left to save the district from the inroads of these whimsical political innovators, who are more than willing to trade and traffic with the bitter enemies of Democracy in order to accomplish their nefarious purpose, and it is to that same old guard and their honest and sincere following that we appeal in this emergency.

Many changes have taken place since the last District Convention was held two years ago. New organizations have come into existence; Alliances of various kinds have been formed; Third party and a (mis-named) People's party have been announced. Some of those forming those many new isms used to claim affinity with Democracy, but "they went out from among us because they were not of us."

With C. J. Boatner as our leader in the coming Congressional contest in this district all the homodie politicians who are now figuring so largely upon paper will be swept away with the Democratic whirlwind that will arise, for no new faugled combines will be able to withstand the eloquence of a Boatner with a fearless united Democracy at his back.

The Republicans call the money raised by the Democracy for the Western campaign fund "a corruption fund." They do not understand how to turn an honest penny politically.

Featherston, the only Third party Congressman from Arkansas, voted against the silver coinage bill and in favor of the force bill. He is in accord with the Republicans all along the line. So much for the Third party's politics.

The Republicans and Third party-fites are birds of a feather. This is evident from the way in which they flock together in Congressional matters and when jobs are pending; and when his name comes, Thirdites talk the whole of the...

PARTY FEALTY.

Looking over the political field in North Louisiana at this season the close of August, with November close by, we feel impelled to speak out in school, however stale and hackneyed our party talk may happen to pan out in the estimation of the milk and water members of the Democracy.

The country editor has his duty to perform towards his party, no matter how unpleasant and distasteful it may happen to be to him. He often finds himself in the traces tugging away to land passengers at their desired haven, in whom he takes but little or no stock, outside of their party claims, often finding some of them dead-heading along the whole route, yet he has to tug and pull away with might and main fulfilling his destiny in the faithful and impartial discharge of his duty.

We approach the appeal to party fealty in the Fifth Congressional district at this juncture in pretty much the frame of mind we have indicated. The outlook from a strictly Democratic standpoint is not by any means encouraging, while we have an abiding confidence in the complete success of the party at the coming November election. We cannot but mourn when we witness

"HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN." How several that we know who were prominent in the Democratic councils in past days have gone following after Third party gods, abandoning tried and true Democracy in search of some new venture to gratify their overweening cravings for prominence, place and power. Possessed by a morbid political mania many of them have assumed to become leaders, when they should have been fully content as humble followers in the ranks; so it is immediately in the Fifth Congressional district of Louisiana, and we cannot but exclaim,

Party fealty is thrown to the fourwinds. A Gun-by goes off at the head of the column, spouting and mixing up Democracy, Alliance, Third party and Farmers' Union teachings in one and the same incongruous mass of political pot-pouri, explicable only to the inmates of Bedlam or the cranky followers after false gods for personal aggrandizement. That they are politically mad

Democracy has survived the century. Many political parties of various complex and complicated hues have sprung suddenly into existence and passed away—but Democracy still remains. Its great rival, the Republican party, is now tottering upon the ragged edge of its final dissolution, the negro having passed beyond its grasp, and it has now nothing else to sustain its political existence before the people. Democracy remains, and will continue to remain as long as freedom and equal rights are the watch-words of the people, because it is founded upon truth—the truth that recognizes the universal brotherhood of mankind. It has often of late been trampled under foot by the monied powers concentrated in the crowded cities, but we can confidently boast of it that,

"Truth crushed to earth shall rise again: The eternal years of God are hers; But error, wounded, writhes with pain, And dies among his worshippers."

And in the name of this truth, we earnestly appeal to the party fealty of the Democracy of the Fifth District to prepare for the coming election.

Hon. C. J. Boatner is the absolute and only choice of the prominent, intelligent and tax-paying people of the Fifth Congressional district.

Chairman Carter of the Republican National Committee, has turned prophet and predicted that Harrison will have a majority of 30,000 in New York. It is now Boss Platt's turn to talk, and indications say he will completely capsize Carter's calculations and put it over 30,000 the other way.

MORE OF THE MISSISSIPPI PROBLEM.

It is evident that the writers of two recent articles in Engineering magazine touching upon the improvement of the Mississippi river—Mr. William Nelson Black and "A Southern Engineer"—have jumped at conclusions in a very reckless way. A careful study of the phenomena of the Mississippi plainly shows certain facts, among them these:

Unless the levees below Natchez are maintained the greater part of Louisiana must be abandoned and revert to trackless swamps. Every division of the current of the Mississippi has been an evil unmitigated with good. Every outlet has worked injury, caused deterioration of the main channel and increased the height of the flood wave and its dangers.

No good and permanent improvement of the lower reaches of the Mississippi is possible without the use of artificial banks—levees and jetties—which shall safely confine all the water of the river to one channel and discharge it into the gulf by one narrow deep mouth upon the line of least resistance. The guiding principle announced by the Mississippi River Commission, that the river must be confined to one narrow channel, is most undoubtedly correct.

Anciently the edge of this continent was above where the five-fathom curve now lies in the Gulf of Mexico, and the Mississippi flowed in a bed now buried many feet under the alluvium. A cataclysm depressed the continent so that the coast retreated to what are now the high lands, and the Mississippi found its mouth at or near Cairo, Illinois, the present alluvial valley being the bottom of a great estuary extending some 600 miles into the continent. During this period the alluvium (loess) of the valley was deposited on the floor of the estuary. A succeeding cataclysm raised the continent so that its ancient edge is but five fathoms or thereabouts below the gulf level, and the floor of the great estuary is a wide alluvial plain, having a fall from Cairo to the Gulf of about six inches to the mile. This fall being so slight, the whole structure of the alluvial ground so featureless and so unstable, and the discharge of the river so vast and so irregular—varying from 160,000 to 1,800,000 cubic feet per second and reaching a total of 202 cubic miles per year—the required conditions of regimen and stability of channel must be made by art.

Examination of the country shows that the river has curved its channel from one side to the other of the alluvial plain and has nowhere found conditions of stability except where man has aided by building levees, and that where the levees have been built longest and strongest and best maintained, there the channel is deepest, most regular and least liable to change. On the other hand, wherever crevasses and outlets have occurred, the channel has been shoaled up, the banks have been destroyed and the dangers from erosion and from flood increased. The most startling of these changes is that due to the Atchafalaya outlet, the progressive results of which upon the lower river now threaten the existence of New Orleans. The Mississippi Commission is more open to criticism for permitting the demands of a few steamboat captains to prevent them from closing the Atchafalaya than on any other point.

The maintenance of a single channel made the Mississippi more than 100 feet deep at and above New Orleans, sinking the river bottom far below gulf level; the Atchafalaya outlet has shoaled it very materially, and raised the flood height several feet. What then might be expected from an outlet through Lake Pontchartrain as suggested by "A Southern Engineer"? There can be no doubt that it would practically destroy the present lower river by silting it up, and raise the flood height ten feet or more, and in course of time extended the delta much farther than even "A Southern Engineer" would consider desirable.

An outlet to the East into Mississippi Sound would debouch the river into very shallow water upon the slightly submerged bench of the old continent. It would be trying to make water run without fall and to follow a circuitous route where now, after rounding English Turn, it flows in a nearly straight line; and the ultimate greater length and crookedness of channel would multiply several times the head necessary to carry the water into the Gulf, making Louisiana one vast swamp and closing the Mississippi to commerce.

The writers quoted desire a delta. Can they name a single river discharging through a delta which is not a breeder of swamps and fevers, a menace to the inhabitants of its alluvial district, and a puzzle to engineers? The delta should be abolished altogether, and all the waters of the valley should be discharged through one deep, narrow mouth. A stated quantity of water will be discharged through one large pipe with very much less head than through a number of small ones of equal length and equal total area.

That the laws of nature apply to the Mississippi the same as to other streams is provided by the fact that the slope through the delta is rather more than seven times the slope of the river between Head of Passes and Bayou Sara. The inference is plain that the improvement of the Mississippi should begin at the Gulf; and the first step should be the construction of parallel jetties confining the river to a width of not over 3,000 feet. From deep water at say, the five-fathom curve, the artificial banks should be made continuous, without the possibility of breaking up, up to Natchez, and along the Red, Black and other rivers discharging into the section of low slope. The Atchafalaya and every other outlet should be closed and kept closed. It is capable of demonstration that this measure would in time render levees unnecessary above Natchez, if supplemented by bank-protection and grading and straightening the river.

The proper location of the mouth of the Mississippi is at or adjacent to South Pass. The line of greatest fall of the submerged bench of the old continent is the line of least resistance to the discharge, and on this line the river has built itself from English Turn to Head of Passes. A line continuing this stretch across and at right-angles to the contour lines of the gulf-floor

passes to the Northeast of the mouth of South Pass, crossing Garden Island Bay. The fall from Cairo to the five-fathom curve is about six inches to the mile; from the five-fathom curve upward the fall is 90 to 100 feet and upward per mile. The river built to the edge of the old continent; man must step in and finish the work upon the lines laid down by nature.

The distance from Head of Passes to the proper deep-water mouth is about ten miles. The present slope through the delta is about seven times the slope from Head of Passes to Bayou Sara. To confine the river to one deep narrow mouth on the line of least resistance will abolish the delta, make the slope uniform from the mouth to a point in the vicinity of Natchez, and reduce the river heights throughout the alluvial region, the corrected height at Natchez being about the present height at Bayou Sara; and the right beginning being made, the good work will go on up the river until the entire river from Natchez to Cairo will be so far sunk below the surface of the country that levees will be unnecessary in that section. It is a simple proposition that since the country slopes six inches per mile, and the river, in its lower reach, can discharge its maximum volume with a slope of 1-2 inches per mile, therefore reckoning up-stream, the elevation of the land will gain relatively to high-water mark at the rate of 4 1-2 inches per mile; and in 100 miles the banks will have gained 37 1-2 feet in elevation, and in a given number of miles reckoned from the intersection of the plane of original slope of the country with gulf-level, the banks will have become high enough to safely retain the flood-wave.

The section of low slope of the Mississippi now begins in the vicinity of Bayou Sara, 269 miles by the river from the five-fathom curve at the proposed new mouth; and the head gained by the reduction of slope which will follow the abolishment of the delta by discharging the river through a single narrow mouth on the line of least resistance, will extend the section of low slope to the vicinity of Natchez, 100 miles further up-stream, and that without straightening the channel at all between Natchez and Carrollton. The flood height at Natchez under the improved conditions will not much exceed 46 feet; and since the country thereabouts averages 60 to 65 feet in elevation, the natural banks will be 15 to 20 feet above high-water, and levees will be unnecessary.

Above Natchez the slope of the river is necessarily greater, the average between Natchez and Cairo being 4,428 inches per mile at high-water, and actual difference between high-water marks being 258.3 feet. The air-line distance between the two places being 400 miles and the distance by the river 700 miles and the crooked and irregular channel necessitating slopes in some places of over seven inches, exceeding the slope of the land, it is obvious that the river must be straightened in order to keep it in its channel without the aid of levees. The worst bends occur between Natchez and Memphis, and all the straightening can be done between those two points, although I should advocate cutting off New Madrid bend. Fifty miles can be advantageously taken from the river's length, making the total length from Cairo 1020 miles.

The net result at Cairo would be to lower high-water mark from 321 1-2 to about 285 feet above tide. To lower the river to this extent will free from inundation nearly 30,000 square miles of land and drain and bring under cultivation over 22,000,000 acres of land now swamp, an area greater than the entire farm acreage of New England. The money value to be gained is about the value of the entire State of Ohio. The sanitary result will be beyond computation in money units.

Correlated with the work of channel-improvement in the lower Mississippi and coordinate in importance is the development of reservoir-capacity upon the tributaries, both by making permanent reservoirs at convenient sites, and developing the channel-reservoir system and navigation at the same time by building movable dams.

There were 1244 distinct flashes of lightning observed in two hours in the British Isles, on June 6th last.

The Pennsylvania State Treasurer last week paid out \$152,000 on account for the State troops at Homestead.

Compressed wood fire and insect proof is now used in the city of Hamburg as a substitute for stone and bricks.

Jim Hall of Australia, whipped Ted Pritchard the English champion in four rounds last week. The purse was \$5,000.

Throughout the infected districts of Nijni Novgord, Russia, the last report showed 7870 new cases of cholera with 3749 deaths.

The Alabama State Alliance at its recent convention passed resolutions opposed to Cleveland in favor of the People's party, with very small p.p.s. The pension agency at Topeka, Kansas, pays out \$15,000,000 yearly, and there are no deaths of veterans taking place in that healthy region.

The town of Los Angeles in Southern California, has a public library containing 25,000 volumes, entirely free for the use of citizens without any charge.

The Democratic Western campaign fund will go over \$100,000. The Western headquarters of the Democratic campaign committee will be located at Chicago.

Nancy Hanks with Bud Doble behind her, done the mile over the Chicago track in 2.07 1-4, which lowered Maud S' record, which was 2.08 3-4, and had stood for a long time as a trotter.

STATE NEWS.

They give the paupers \$2 per month in Caldo parish.

There are entirely too many half breed politicians figuring in the affairs of Louisiana.

The factions in Rapides harmonized on Saturday last in the city of Alexandria.

The Daily Truth says that there are more than fifty cases of genuine fully developed leprosy in the city of New Orleans.

Henry Careguay, one of Bunch's pals, was lodged in the Baton Rouge penitentiary last week to stay there for five years.

Gulliver Gunby should start on his travels to acquire a little more practical experience before he attempts to run for Congress.

The Jackson Mirror has ceased to reflect passing events. We sincerely regret to part with confrere Miller, and hope it is only for a brief period.

The New Orleans, Fort Jackson and Grand Isle depot on the Algiers branch, caved into the big river last week in company with much more valuable property.

The Tensas assessment roll shows taxable property in that parish to the amount of \$1,618,760. The negroes in the list have property to the amount of \$141,281.

Klinepeter of Baton Rouge, according to the Advocate, should be promptly made to peter out of the Democratic party. Ephraim is given to his idols," let him went.

The new post office building at Baton Rouge is looming up in the distant future. Uncle Sam has just forwarded a cheque to pay for the ground on which the building is to be erected.

There is a striking condition of affairs existing at present all over the continent. We sincerely hope it will culminate and come to an end before the Olympic Club in New Orleans next month.

Hon. Edward Bernudez, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, died at his residence in the city of New Orleans on Monday morning last. He was 60 years and 7 months old when he passed away.

The Claiborne Guardian stands firmly by the apportionment made by the Monroe Convention on the 5th. The bolters have called a Convention for Sept. 15th at Monroe. A fine chance for brother Gunby to perorate before a corporal's guard.

Thanks to Messrs. Cheney and Nixon of Alexandria for a copy of the proceedings of the Press Convention held in that city. In common with many other fabricates we think the press gang made a gross mistake in not awarding the contract for publishing the proceedings officially to Messrs. C. & N.

Governor Foster and family have removed from St. Mary parish and have taken possession of the gubernatorial mansion at Baton Rouge. They have moved there to stay according to law, which is the strictly right and proper course in comparison with that of the Governor's predecessor.

Eugene Bunch, train robber and all round desperado, was killed on Sunday morning last near Franklin, Washington parish, in this State. Winchester rifle bullets settled his hash. His chum, the now famous Col. Hopgood was captured and is now in custody, to be dealt with according to law.

The American Bank Note Company of New York have been awarded the contract to prepare and print the new bonds for the State of Louisiana for the sum of \$8,500.

One horse slaughtering firm in the city of London kills annually 26,000 old horses, and utilizes every particle of the carcass, hide and hoofs. It is rarely that an old superannated horse dies a natural death in the big city.

In the break for liberty by a gang of convicts that were being conveyed to Nashville last week by order of the miners, two were shot and eight or more escaped. The mining region of Tennessee has been in a terrorized condition for sometime past.

Mrs. Berry of Newburg, N. Y., was stung by a bee in the temple a few days ago and in fifteen minutes she was dead. It is supposed the bee struck an artery and the poison went directly to the old lady's heart. She was 65 years old.

Mr. Robt. H. Moses, a wealthy citizen of New York, went a fishing on a Sunday, for which he was fined \$5 and costs. He carried the case to the Supreme Court, and there he found the lower court was correct; so he had the five and lots of costs to pay.

The first tin plate factory established after the passage of the McKinley law, has been closed by the sheriff.—Vicksburg C.H.

Will the New Orleans Republican please make a note of this.

The Sugar Planter truthfully says:

Retiring judges and other disappointed applicants for public service are largely increasing the list of law firms and active practitioners in the city and State.

It is said that fully one-half of the Farmers' Alliance have joined the Third party.—Baton Rouge Truth.

And a large majority of the one-half are sneaking around and exercising authority whenever they get a chance within the Democratic ranks.

No one should be allowed to participate in Democratic primaries unless he be willing and pledge himself to support the Democratic nominee; and we hope the Executive Committee of this Congressional district will lay down such rules and regulations as to preclude the possibility of a Third party advocate having any say whatever, in who shall be the Democratic nominee.—La. Advance.

The foregoing embraces our views precisely. Let the lines be strictly drawn. We want no traitors or half-breeds taking part in the party councils.

The State Board of Education closed its labors at Baton Rouge on the 19th inst. Among sundry resolutions passed by the board we find the following, which is of significant importance:

Resolved, That the State Board of Education calls attention of the parish boards to the necessity of establishing high schools wherever the grade of students justifies it, as the State Board believes that the establishment of a number of high schools in the State will contribute powerfully to build up both the public school system and colleges and universities.

Confreere Harrison of the Lake Charles Patriot is one of the get up and get there bohoyes. He don't care a continental, hear him:

"People who live in glass houses should never cast stones." One action of the Patriot editor has been of late considerably criticised, and we work upon the hypothesis that every tub stands on its own bottom, and the people who don't like our style, we don't care a continental for. No man who lives can dictate a policy for us. We are independent, fearless and free, and all the talk about that you can do will never hurt us any. So wind up your bazoo and let her run.

The City Item in a recent issue reviewed the Democratic prospects in the several Congressional districts of the State in a decidedly despondent frame of mind, having drawn a forlorn picture of the condition of things in the Third district, it turns to the Fifth as follows:

In the Fifth district the situation is perhaps even more grave. There will be two conventions, each claiming to be "regular" Democratic, the one based upon the white vote as cast at the March primaries; the other upon the total population as given in the census. The former will have the backing of the organized farmers, who control all the parishes west of the Ouachita, with perhaps West Carroll and Catahoula. The election machinery is largely under their control, and the negroes of the hill parishes can be made to work in harmony with the Alliance element. This creates delicate diplomacy for the State Executive, whose friends and supporters are divided in this fight.

We have an abiding faith in the stability of the Democracy of the old Fifth, and cannot for a moment entertain the fears expressed by the Item.

People's party! What people? The kickers, growlers and disgruntled office seekers are not the people by a long shot.

The Democracy is reported all serene in St. Mary parish.

G. W. MOORE, House Builder

—and—

General Contractor.

Estimates made for building and repairing dwellings, stores, gin houses and public buildings. Prices reasonable, and all work guaranteed.

July 23.

Robt. C. Just, 108 South Washington St. Vicksburg, Miss. DIAMONDS, WATCHES, FINE JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, BRONZES ETC.

The Tennessee miners have been turned down by General Carnes and the militia.

The project of lighting coal and other mines with incandescent electric lights is now being earnestly discussed. Scientists believe that the adoption of such lights will do away with all the destructive explosions that periodically take place.

The feeling against bringing convict labor in competition with the free labor of the country is growing stronger every day, and unless the signs of the times are carefully and speedily observed, trouble on an extended scale will arise all over the country.

Vidette in the Picayune, after telling of the marriage of Admiral Dot, 4 feet high, with Lotie Swartwood of New York, 4 feet 1 inch, a few days ago, says "for my part, I would be quite willing to accept their wedding presents as the basis of a pension upon which I could retire comfortably, and to say luxuriantly, for life." About that certainly was nothing small about that part of the program.

Captain C. E. Wright of the Vicksburg Commercial-Herald, has taken out a patent for a "safety wall" for the centre of levees. Marcus T. Murphy claims priority of invention; he has a long letter in the Picayune setting up his claim. This writer can well remember talking over such a method of protection in levees with Professor Forshea when he was in the employ of the State as Engineer many years ago. Such an invention as is now patented was common talk in those days, but Mr. Wright being the first to secure letters patent has certainly the call over all those who done the talking.

Judge Gulliver Gunby's effort to stand for congress on the platform of the Democratic and Alliance-Third parties both has got him in a bad fix. He had no hope for Democratic support at the start and now the Alliance-Third parties are repudiating him.—Telegraph-Bulletin.

It seems by the suggestive article copied in the Item from the venerable and conservative, but the very independent New York Evening Post, that even Moses John Wainmaker does not oppose all lotteries. To paraphrase an old saying, he condemns the one he has no mind to, yet helps along that he is inclined to. But while the "evil" goes unchecked—in fact it is increasing—Louisiana's much needed million and a quarter per annum for schools, city drainage, charities, levees and other public needs is lost beyond any possible reclaim.—City Item.

We must again call the attention of the Alliance to the fallacy of the Third party ideas, and especially ask them to investigate and consider the reason of those agitators. If they will do this they will probably find that many of those who are traveling through the South lecturing and speech-making, appealing to the farmers to stand up for their rights, harping upon the injustice done them, and appealing to them in inflammatory speeches to right their wrongs by joining a Third party movement, are really and actually nothing more nor less than paid emissaries working in the influence and for the benefit of the Republican party.—Shreveport Times.

A feature of the presidential situation is the fact that Mr. Cleveland can be elected this year without the six votes of West Virginia, provided he carries the other States that gave him their votes in 1884. The states carried by Cleveland in 1884 have gained by the new apportionment even electoral votes, as follows: Texas two, and Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Missouri and New Jersey, each one. These, added to the 216 votes of 1884 will make 226, which along with say four votes from Michigan will give 230, or seven more than required. West Virginia, however, will vote for Cleveland. With its vote and the three from Montana and the twelve from Wisconsin Cleveland can spare Indiana.—States.

Somebody has made a big haul snatching the Iron Hall funds.—Pic.

They seem to have gone the wrong hog in wrecking the pig metal organization.

The coming congress of pugilists in New Orleans is more absorbing than the presidential election.—Pic. Yes, and taken altogether, it will be a much more striking event.

Snappers and anti-snappers in New York will work unitedly for Cleveland, Stevenson and Democracy.—Boston Globe.

You can bet the harmonizers have been out fishing for the snappers.—Pic.

Can you tell us what kind of bait they had on their hooks?