

WHERE WILL THE RESPONSIBILITY REST?

The outlook of Democracy in Louisiana has for nearly a year been bad enough to vex and harass the hearts of all the earnest and devoted members of the Democratic party; but the developments of the past month have added materially to the danger and distress. We refer to the defection of prominent members, the organization of the People's party as a political venture and the serious division in the Fifth Congressional district, which district since the recent approval of the bolters by Chairman Wilkinson promises to have two candidates in the field claiming to be Democrats. In other words, a house divided against itself. We may also mention the fact in this connection that every effort possible is being (and will certainly be) made to unite the Breunx and Leonard factions of the Republican party in the State, and some of our most astute party friends honestly believe that these efforts will be a complete success, because orders to those in the lead in the State have come from the National Republican Committee at Washington, saying "all divisions must be healed in the State of Louisiana."

This calmly considered, makes the Democratic outlook serious enough to claim the thoughtful attention of the party and cast about with the inquiry, Where will the responsibility rest? What makes us so anxious at this juncture, we find some of the recent most prominent leaders on the Foster side differing diametrically in the Fifth district matter with regard to the apportionment, as well as with regard to the real status of the negro in the matter.

This is what baffles and badly bothers us. If the old factional lines were observed and no material differences had arisen between the victorious Fosterites, there would be no great difficulty in defining the several positions of those at variance, and laying down the necessary steps to insure unity of action in the near future; but when those who are in possession of the reins of the State government as the recognized leaders of the Democracy differ so materially on important questions so as to threaten the disruption of the party, how is the problem to be solved? How is the gordian knot to be untied?

We are writing this after over four decades of service in the party traces. The hotly contested battles with the grand old Whigs, and more bitter contests with the Knownothings in 1854 and thereabouts are quite fresh in our memory, while the dark days of reconstruction in Louisiana called forth the courage, fidelity and endurance of every true Democrat until military rule had ceased to exist as a political factor in our Pelican State, and Democracy once more was duly represented in the person of Francis T. Nichols as Governor over fifteen years ago. With true pride and often with throbbing pleasure, not unmixed with fear, we performed our part in those days; but never since Governor Nichols' removal from Old Fellows Hall to take formal possession of the State House on St. Louis street, have we known the Democracy of Louisiana in such a tangled up condition.

There was a reckless pleasure in leading a Democratic forlorn hope amid the thickest of the carpet-bag adventurers for the protection of our own rights. But alas! Having gained them, to find the noble old party divided up into factions, sub-factions and little coteries, all bent upon some personal pursuit regardless of party or party obligations. The question of responsibility in this distressing matter cannot possibly be in any doubt. Those who have assumed authority in the name of Democracy, and those only are responsible, and will certainly be held responsible for any calamity that may befall the party because of their bungling and mismanagement. We mention this in advance of the proposed meeting of the State Central Executive Committee, with the hope that they will wipe out all the evils and dangers we refer to and prepare the party all in line for a grand and glorious victory in November next, for with them rests the responsibility.

WORSE AND MORE OF IT.

When the four parishes bolted from the convention of Executive Committees of the Fifth Congressional district at Monroe on the 5th of August, we earnestly expressed our regret at the occurrence, and in a few words foreshadowed the evils that would necessarily grow out of setting such a pronounced majority at defiance in contradiction with party usages at regular business gatherings. We regarded the bolt then as a remnant of the factional leaven that had fermented the Democracy of the State for several months, and had strong hopes that the bolters would soon calmly reconsider the unfortunate step they had taken and give in their adhesion to what was done by the convention; but we have been badly mistaken, for now comes Mr. T. S. Wilkinson, Chair, of the Democratic State Central Committee, in a letter to Hon. A. Currie of Caddo, and in a manner puts the four bolting parishes on the back and virtually giving them the endorsement of whatever authority he may possess as chairman of the State Central Executive Committee. Mr. Wilkinson says: "I have seen with great regret the split in the Fifth District, and it will be one difficult, if not impossible to heal. I consider that the agreement between the two factions of the party last spring had settled this apportionment business for four years to come in all conventions. In a few days I shall call a meeting of the State Central Committee for New Orleans, either on September 8 or 12, and I hope you will be sure to attend. We can then consult on what may be best to be done. You remember, I suppose, that you were appointed chairman of the harmonizing committee of the State Central Committee. If you come to New Orleans soon let me see you. Very truly, your friend, THEO. S. WILKINSON."

We sincerely trust that the State Central Committee when they meet in New Orleans will speedily find a possible way to heal the difficulty that Mr. Wilkinson seems so despondent about, by recognizing the right of district conventions to make their own apportionments according to previous usage, and without any regard to the temporary emergency argument, the necessity for which having passed away.

The free, unbiased and plainly expressed will of the majority in parish, District and State Conventions must be respected and submitted to by the minority in order that harmony may prevail.

We have headed this brief article "worse and more of it," because we find among the majority in favor of the population apportionment many men that were prominent in the Foster ranks. We need mention but one, Hon. F. P. Stubbs of Ouachita, who stood fearlessly in the front ranks, facing the brunt of every battle offered until the faction fight was over and the Foster wing was victorious. Citing this one instance out of the many, the far-reaching tangling up of the party interests by the bolt and the publicly expressed views of Chairman Wilkinson thereon, becomes plainly evident, and the end is not yet.

When the faction fight was on the lines were clearly drawn and well defined, with the promise of peace and quietude when the contest was over; but this new departure from the line of harmony and unity extends its ruinous ramifications into the very vitals of the party—into the Fosterites and McEneryites—that were equally alike. Starting out with a small ground work of disgruntled sectional jealousy against the river parishes because of the many darkies within their boundaries, they have recruited from the Alliances, Farmers' Union, Third party and other new fangled combines until four parishes or rather the majorities in said parishes, think they are strong enough to rule the district over the other eleven, and failing at that, their insubordination points directly to inevitable ruin.

It is very unfortunate that Mr. Wilkinson did not keep his own views to himself until the State Central Committee had deliberated and arrived at a just conclusion in the matter.

The Lake Charles American says "the South is fast becoming the market for the North." The rapid and substantial progress of South-west Louisiana in producing early vegetables for the Northern market is wonderful; and from all we can learn the several profitable industries are in their infancy. Success to South-west Louisiana say we, and especially to the enterprising citizens of Calcasieu.

To those who are disposed to scout the danger of a Force bill we commend the following extracts—reproduced by the Arkansas Gazette—from Speaker Crisp's letter accepting his re-nomination for Congress by his Georgia constituents:

The Republican party is pledged to the enactment of a Federal election law. I have before me, as I write the bill passed by the Republican House on that subject. This bill may be fairly considered as an authoritative expression of the kind and character of law which Republican success at the next election will inflict upon us.

I can not, within the proper scope of such a letter at this juncture all its remarkable provisions.

It gives to the Judges of the United States Circuit Courts the power of appointing election officers of the States. It gives the election officers so appointed the power to designate an unlimited number of deputy marshals, who may be employed for a number of days prior to each election, at \$5 per day. A thousand or more might be appointed in each congressional district in Georgia.

It authorizes the use of the armies of the United States to preserve the peace at the polls.

It gives to judges of the United States Courts the power of appointing a canvassing or returning board for each State, who shall certify whom the people have elected to Congress.

It requires the clerk of the House of Representatives to place on the roll of members-elect the names of the persons holding such certificates, so that they may participate as members in the organization of the House.

It authorizes officers of the United States to supervise and control the registration of voters.

It authorizes such officers to make a house-to-house canvass to ascertain the legality of any registered voter.

It provides for the payment of all these officers out of the Federal treasury, and authorizes the employment of many of them for as much as eight days before an election.

And, finally, it makes permanent appropriation of your money for the execution of the law.

This enumeration of the provisions of the bill meager though it is, must make it plain to all men that if it were enacted into law, the people would lose all voice in the selection or control of the officers who manage and certify the result of their elections.

A judge of the Circuit Court of the United States, who is himself appointed by the president and holds his office for life, appoints the election officers. All these judges save two are Republicans in politics. If election officers abuse or betray their trust they are not responsible to the people. The source of their power and authority is the judge who appointed them. If a Republican judge, in advance the interest of his party, abuse his trust, he would not—should this bill become a law—be responsible to the people. Our constitution intended that he should be, and that that end lodged in the people's representatives in Congress the power of impeachment, but this law removes that responsibility by permitting the appointee of the judge to determine who is your duly representative. If a partisan judge appoints partisan election officers who falsely certify that he whom you have defeated at the polls is your duly elected representative, what remedy have you? The partisan election officers are alone responsible to the partisan judge, and the partisan judge can only be impeached by representatives in Congress who hold their offices by virtue of a certificate from the partisan election officers. This is a mockery of responsibility.

It is estimated that there are in the United States 13,230,168 able bodied men, capable of military duty between the ages of 18 and 41 years of age. There are 15,000 Southern Democrats living in the city of New York who have formed themselves into a club to help along the Cleveland campaign.

An effort is being made to have the President declare all the ports of the United States closed because of the rapid strides the dread cholera is making in nearly every portion of the old world.

Frank Burkitt, (once a Democrat) the Populite candidate for the 4th district in Mississippi, eulogized Mr. Harrison, praised Weaver to the skies and d-d Cleveland on the day of his nomination at Esoporia. "A ten-pest in a teapot."

A vigorous effort is being made in Britain to remove the ban of the Catholics, whereby the Lord Chancellorship and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland may be filled by Catholics, which places as the law now exists, only Protestants can fill.

News from the old world indicates plainly that Victoria, Queen of England and Empress of India, is falling a prey to the ravages of time. Her mind and body both are becoming much enfeebled, and she will soon be compelled to retire to the quietude of private life.

The Mayersville (Miss.) Spectator says Issaquena county will yield about one fourth of a crop of cotton, a half crop of corn, and is now getting a lively crop of worms to feed upon the rainy, rank growth. We can certainly sympathize with our neighbors across the big river in their miserably moist condition. Less the worms.

Two to one on Sullivan is about the way the betting has been going the past few days.

STATE NEWS.

Muscadines are selling in Abbeville at 20c a gallon, and the Meridian people are marvelously happy.

The assessment rolls of Union parish show a total valuation of \$1,195,577. A falling off this year of \$46,515.

They had a "butter fly social" recently at Lake Charles. Our chaps at home have their butter fly social at breakfast.

The health authorities of New Orleans are earnestly engaged in preventing the introduction of cholera into the State.

Col. T. J. Guice was nominated for Congress last week at Natchitoches by the People's party to represent the 4th district.

The Republican factions in Louisiana are making vigorous efforts to harmonize under instructions from their National committee.

We are under obligations to Senator E. D. White for a copy of his elaborate speech in the United States Senate against the anti option bill.

The New Orleans Truth asserts positively that Eugene Bunch was shot in the back by Hoppood, who had turned traitor to his friend after the fashion of Ford towards Jesse James.

We have had of late entirely too much politics in this State. It is full time that all factional lines should be obliterated within the Democratic party and a happy reign of peace and harmony once more prevail.

Judge Gunby's declaration that he would support Cleveland for the Presidency brought the whole Weaver crowd buzzing about his Third party ears like a parcel of wasps, and they are stinging him politically with much gratified gusto.

The Louisiana Advance says 'Hon. C. J. Boatner is now one of the ablest Congressmen who occupies a seat from the South, that he will be unanimously nominated by the coming Monroe Convention and have a walk over when the race is made.

The Louisiana Democrat published at the rapidly growing town of Alexandria, is crowding to the front with marked industry and intellectual vigor. There is a vim and élan about its bright paragraphs that makes their perusal a pleasant task and the paper itself a decided favorite on our exchange list.

Governor Foster as the head of the Democracy in the Pelican State should bend his energies to establish harmony in the party before it is too late. Much depends upon his wise and judicious influence. Let him exert it to the very utmost. The seeds of discord have been sown far and wide, and it will require a master hand to manage affairs and bring them to a successful issue this fall.

There were 35,000 deaths from cholera reported in Persia a few days ago.

John Bidwell of California is the Presidential candidate of the Prohibitionists.

Over forty per cent of the people in Hamburg—that are stricken with the cholera die.

The Minnesota Democracy have nominated Daniel W. Lawler as their candidate for Governor.

Governor Eagle of Arkansas, has been removed to Frankfort, Ky. He is reported sick unto death.

Boll worms, cotton worms and sharpshooters are using up the crops in Eastern Texas; doing great damage.

Hon. James G. Blaine is said to be writing "a hand book to politics." He has been engaged on it for about three years.

It costs sixteen hundred dollars to peddle spirits in the city of Natchez. The licenses are away up yonder in the bluff city.

They had a \$400,000 fire at Augusta, Ga., last Saturday morning. The Morning Chronicle office was entirely destroyed.

Col. Hooker, the old man eloquent, has secured votes enough for re-nomination for Congress from the 7th district of Mississippi.

The cholera in St. Petersburg, Russia, is steadily increasing in virulence. 3977 deaths were recently reported in one day in that city.

Dr. Edson, sanitary superintendent of the New York Board of Health, said nine days ago that the cholera would reach New York in ten days.

Secretary Foster is talking big about breaking up the solid South during this campaign, all of which will end in talk and nothing more.

Through the negligence of the officials at Gravesend cholera has been allowed to pass in from Hamburg, and a big scare is now in full possession of the Britishers. There were two deaths a few days ago.

The bolters from the Monroe Convention of August the 5th assert in their protest that the majority is to 4 and "violated the principles of white supremacy and the expressed will of the people." This is a somewhat bold assertion to come from representatives of the parishes who two years before had agreed to the population apportionment in the several parishes regardless of race, color or previous condition. The very same thing the majority of 15 had properly done, and the minority of 4 bolted from their doing, because it did not agree with their sectional views.

The "nigger in the wood pile" according to the old saying, has become a great hobby with our friends in the back parishes. They have but few negroes in the piney woods, and no doubt those negroes vote almost unanimously with their white friends, and their votes are counted. Where then is the difference in the status of the negroes, provided they vote with their white friends, whether in the piney woods where they are few, or in the river parishes where they are quite numerous? How can white supremacy and its principles be injuriously affected by the colored vote, if the white supremacy and that vote are in strict accord? If the condition of things were reversed, we would find vastly different views presented by our piney woods friends.

It is not entirely the quality of the article that is complained of, but principally the quantity. There are too many negroes in the river parishes voting the Democratic ticket to please our hill country friends. These votes take away from them the control of affairs, not by the negro in person, for they never appear in district conventions that we know of to interfere with white supremacy.

The public records of the election returns show explicitly the number of votes cast for the Democracy in the river and hill parishes of our district. Now, these protesting disgruntled bolters must, in their sectional jealousy, want to prevent the negroes in the river parishes voting the Democratic ticket, or not want them to vote at all, in order that they may exercise the controlling power; but if they have their way in the former they run up against a sanguine Republican candidate; if the latter, they hurl themselves against the constitution of the United States. It is not pleasant by any means to follow up the vagaries of our hill neighbors and watch the almost sacred regard they now show for the mazy March primaries, and their utter disregard for their own doing in the District Convention of 1890. But we of the valley or river parishes have a more than political interest in the black man's welfare. He is our cotton maker, our agricultural, commercial and our financial dependence. We are in duty bound to conserve his welfare, because in so doing we promote our own. There may be many of him, but more are welcome, and if our friends of the piney woods would interview a few of them, they would find them far from being the benighted creatures they so freely abuse.

Hon. C. J. Boatner, member of Congress from this district, was in our town on Monday conversing with his many friends. Mr. Boatner is alive to the levee interest; is thoroughly posted, and from a conversation we gathered, he thinks there is a future for this section. It is no longer improvement of the Mississippi as the sole object of levees, but the protection of property as well.—Beacon News.

Chicago is being troubled with a good deal of counterfeit money that has lately been put in circulation. They are \$1 silver certificates of the issue of 1895, \$2 silver certificates, with Hancock's portrait, of 1886 and 1882, and \$10 gold pieces of date 1852. These are light weight, and are marked with the O indicative of the New Orleans mint.—Pineyune.

If the Third Party people—in the vain pursuit of their Utopian projects and visionary schemes—are determined to wreck the Democracy of the Southern States, let them profit by clearly purchased past experience and call a halt in their mad career, before they render possible by their defections the defeat of Cleveland and assure the return to power of the Republicans indefinitely, ay, perhaps, finally and for all time to come.—Louisiana Democrat.

So long as the great bulk of the negro population is in the South, the sectional issue in American politics can never be got rid of. The evils of negro slavery so wrought upon the national politics as to divide the country into hostile sections and precipitate a tremendous and destructive civil war. The imaginary oppression and miseries suffered by the free negroes have been utilized by the politicians ever since the close of the war to maintain sectional issues. The negroes in the South is the sole stock in trade of the sectional politicians.—Pineyune.

It seems to us a fundamental principle of political honor that no person should participate in a party primary unless he intends to support the platform and candidates of that party. Public opinion universally condemns—and with perfect justice—any man who uses his vote to influence the result of a primary election and then refuses to abide by and sustain the result because his own personal wishes were not consummated by that result. By all rules of political ethics such a person is regarded as a political traitor and bolter.—East Feliciana Watchman.

"I cannot help believing that it will be found safest and best for the Democratic party, and the white people—or rather the entire people of the State—to stand squarely by the basis of representation adopted last March. It is only in the Fifth District that a desperate effort is being made to set it aside, and (strange to say) all the New Orleans papers sustain the usurpation. Surely, there is something personal in such a fight."

The foregoing is what Judge Gunby said to a representative of the Item in Monroe a few days ago. The Judge is evidently looking at the situation through his people's party specs.

According to the Alexandria Town Talk the motley crowd called the People's party, have already agreed to disagree. They should have waited until the bantling was regularly christened.

A number of gentlemen who expected to vote the People's party ticket this fall, want to see Judge Hall of DeSoto, nominated for Congress in this district by the People's party Congressional Convention. They will not vote for T. J. Guice under any circumstances; but Town Talk learns that a large number, if not a majority of the People's party men, are for Guice first, last and forever. So mote it be.

The fight in the Fifth district waxes hot and hotter; the quasi-dorsement of the "bolters" by Chairman T. S. Wilkinson of the State Central Committee, having given much encouragement to that side. Judge Gunby has called a mass meeting for next Saturday at Monroe.—City Item

The Judge must be trying to flop back into the Democratic ranks. A nice mass he will make of the Monroe meeting.

Bro. Alpha of the Attakapas Vindicator, closes an account of the Foster and McEnery committees of St. Mary in the town of Franklin, after the following curious fashion:

We have always boasted of having a warm political parish, and the anxiety for public honors grows in the hearts of our people like ocean coral upon an orphan's bones.

He gets down too deep into the coral depths for our understanding to dive after him.

The Mer Rouge Vidette announces the following political faith: "And to all the good and true men of the State, we do say, it is your duty to stand by the negroes and protect them in their right to vote the Democratic ticket." The Vidette neglected to add the single word "only."—N. O. Republican.

The negroes generally have learned to say "Democratic only" themselves.

The question for Democrats whose love of country is above their love of party is, What has Cleveland promised Tammany in exchange for its support?—Evening Wisconsin, Rep.

Pray what has Hays promised Platt and Quay?

Alexandria people have been for two weeks past listening to scientific lectures on phrenology. There is not anything new and fresh that Alexandria will not catch on to now. Everything seems to be grist that comes to the mill of the future city.

Ouachita parish will elect delegates on the 18th of September to attend the Nominating Convention to be held in Monroe on Tuesday, October the 11th.

The colored militia foot up 1,426,208.

New Orleans is now styled a pugilist's paradise.

Westward the march of cholera wends its way.

Sharkey county, Miss., went very dry a few days ago 99 to 14.

NOTICE—A meeting of the United Confederate Veterans will be held at the Court House on Wednesday, Sept. 21st, 1892. NAT MURFEE, Chairman. Aug. 22, 1892.

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 28.

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

A Strange Fact. One of the effects of the flood of last May and June, says the Shoreport Times of Aug. 24, was to greatly deepen the channel of Red river along the river front opposite the city. Along this whole stretch, from the point above to the point below the bridge, the channel has been deepened from fifteen to twenty-five feet. This fact was ascertained by actual measurements by Captain Lydon of the government's steamer Howell. It proves again conclusively the correctness of Eads' theory that water confined to a narrow channel is bound to deepen it. The flood waters of Red river had to pass in under the railroad bridge, and were confined to a narrow channel in front of the city, and, per consequence, the very bottom of the river was washed away to a depth of 15 to 25 feet. The question arises: Will sediment fill this deep hole along our river front, or will the washing continue deeper and deeper with each recurring flood? If the latter, where will the washing finally stop? What a treacherous old stream is this Red river of the South, anyway.—Piney.

End of the World. Charles A. L. Tolten, U. S. A., late professor of military science of Yale, is out in another warning, couched, if possible, in more ominous terms than ever. He maintains that his calculations are being minutely fulfilled, and that his published system of chronology contains nothing but the truth, and that since March 28, 1892, everything conspires to fasten his conviction as to the critical nature of the crisis now at the door. He says that the time has arrived for fearless statements. The professor says that he is firmly convinced that, during the jubilee year 1895-6, A. D., reckoning from the September equinox, clouds now gathering on all sides will culminate. "This year," he says, "is the central one of the seven, which the Gentile times closes." The professor says that he looks upon the period in an odd and strangely significant way. With respect to the pestilence now raging abroad, Lieutenant Totten conjures the powers that be to spare no vigilance. His warning is: "Enter into thy ports and close thy gates about this time, until the indignation is past."—Pineyune.

Scientific American: "Why don't they use onions? For goodness sake, why don't they use onions? Where do they live? I will go up there today and tell them to use onions!" Such were the exclamations of our mother, says the editor of the Danvers Mirror, when we reported one day at dinner that a child of G. W. Dudley was dead, and the whole family, including himself, alarmingly sick with diphtheria. Mother was moved to these earnest and interested expressions by a firm belief that she knows of several lives saved by the use of onions in diphtheria, one being our sister. In these cases raw onions were placed in a burlap and beaten into a pulp, the cloth, containing onions, juice and all, being then bound about the throat and well up over the ears. Renewals may be made as often as the mass becomes dry. In the cases noticed the result was almost magical; deadly pain yielding in a short time to sleepy comfort. The editor adds the wish that this remedy might have a wide enough trial to fully test its usefulness.

The Chief is twenty-one years of age to-day, the present issue completing its twenty first volume. Although old enough to vote, we feel as youthful and frisky as a yearling colt or a radiant maiden of sweet sixteen with a tailor-made costume and a new style hat. Birthday presents in the shape of paid up subscriptions, advertisements and orders for job printing will be gratefully received at the old stand. Delinquent subscribers are cordially and particularly invited to make a note of the circumstance and govern themselves accordingly. Gold watches, diamond jewelry, gold-headed canes, new hats, fall suits, and other souvenirs of friendly remembrance and regard should be delivered at the residence of the editors, carriage prepaid.

Confere Bentler gets there every time. The Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter notes the sale of 10,000 ounces of quinine at the abnormally low figure of 16 cents an ounce. Yet the business of making quinine in this and other countries has not lost its attraction for capitalists. Labor still reaps its usual reward in extracting the precious tonic and lubricant from the imported bark. And the sick are no longer fazed when they are obliged to buy it. Putting quinine on the free list has proved an admirable object lesson for those who are desirous of examining theory in the place of fact.—Philadelphia Record.

From a sense of duty to the good people of Piney, the Editor of the Banner-Democrat thanks and profound appreciation of the great generosity and many kindness extended to my wife (our mother) during her last illness and death. We can assure our kind friends they will ever be held in fond remembrance by our grateful and stricken hearts. J. P. SLAVES AND DAUGHTERS. Sept. 23, 1892.

ROBT. WHEATSTONE, Counsellor and Attorney at Law, Rayville, La. Will practice in the parishes of Terrebonne, Ouachita, Richland, Franklin, Madison, West Carroll and attend every term of court in East Carroll; also the Circuit and Supreme courts of the State. Will give special and prompt attention to all business entrusted to me. sept. 5

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