Farmers' Convention.

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE AT OCALA, FLA.

OCALA, Fla., Dec. 2.—At 2:30 this afternoon a public meeting of the National Farmers' Alliance was held in the opera house, and an audience of about 1200 was present. President Rogers, of the Florida alliance, presided. Gov. Fleming welcomed the delegates and was followed by Hon. John F. Dunn, State Senator, and a prominent aspirant for the United States Senatorship to succeed Senator Call. President Foulks, of the South Dakota Alliance, also made an address, in which he predicted victory for the alliance at the ballot box in 1892, a sentiment which the delegates cheered to the echo. All the speakers of the afternoon dwelt upon the breaking down of sectional lines, and predicted the general prevalence within a short time of the ideas embodied in the alliance platform adopted at St. Louis. President Polk was introduced by Mr. Rogers, and delivered his annual address. After a few congratulatory sentences, he said:

Profoundly impressed with the magnitude of this great revolution for reform, involving issues momentous and stupendous in their character as affecting the present and future welfare of the people, the public mind is directed to this meeting with anxious interest, if not solicitude, and you cannot be unmindful of the importance and responsibility that attach to your action as representatives, coming from States and localities remote from each other and differing widely from each other in their material and physiological characteristics and marked by those social and political differences which must necessarily exist under our form of government. It is your gracious privilege, as it should be your crowning honor, to prove to the world by your harmonious actions and thoroughly fraternal operations that your desire is to meet the demands of patriots in a spirit of equality and justice.

In his remarks upon the proposed national legislative council, President Polk said:

I would respectfully suggest that a legislative council to be composed of your national president, who shall be ex-officio chairman, and the presidents of all the State Alliances represented in the supreme council, be appointed and that this body shall hold its annual meeting within sixty days after the adjournment of the supreme council, at such time and place as may be indicated by the national president; that it be empowered and authorized to appoint special legislative committees as in its judgment may be wise, and that it be required to transmit to each of the States in printed form through the national secretary to the press officers and members, all proposed measures and bills, that they may decide should be enacted into laws.

President Polk said an organization of this kind would wield a moral power which would command the respect of any legislative body to which it might appeal. Touching upon the political action of the alliance, President Polk said:

While our organization is political it cannot be partisan or sectional in its action. In support of this declaration we proudly point to our whole past record and to the recent popular elections, and particularly to the noble and patriotic bearing of the brotherhood in Kansas and South Carolina.

In reviewing the record of the Alliance during the past year, and especially with reference to the legislation demanded by it, the speaker declared that Congress had persistently ignored all alliance propositions and even suppressed discussion of them, notably in the case of the measure known as the sub-treasury bill. "Congress," he said, "must come nearer to the people or the people will get nearer to Congress."

The remainder of the address was devoted to a discussion of the financial reform of the policy of the Alliance in uprooting sectionalism. As outlining the future financial policy of the Alliance, President Polk said that it would demand the restoration of silver to all the rights and equalities of legal tender which gold possesses, the issue of government currency directly to the people; equalization of taxes; prohibition of alien ownership of land; ownership and control of transportation lines by the government; limit of public revenues to the economic administration of the government; graduated taxation of incomes and the election of United State Senators by a direct vote of the people.

At the conclusion of President Polk's address the Alliance resolved itself into a sort of "love feast," during which C. A. Power, an old Union soldier from Indiana, moved that all ex-soldiers in the hall who indorsed the sentiments expressed in the speech of President Foulks, of South Dakota, with reference to the burial of sectionalism rise up to be counted. The motion prevailed, and between forty and fifty stood up amid the wildest enthusiasm, and under the inspiration of this good feeling an ex-Union soldier from Wisconcin stood upon his seat and called upon all Union soldiers present to give three cheers for the old Confederates in the Alliance. They were given with a will. Then it was the Confederates' turn, and they cheered the soldiers of the Union with a volume and heartiness that left no doubt as to the genuiness of their feeling. The cheers ended with a wild, old-fashioned rebel yell, and as its echoes died away one aged veteran of the Confederacy shouted, in a voice that rang out clearly through the hall: "That's the genuine article. I've heard it before."

The convention then adjourned until 8 o'clock.

Expressions of dissatisfaction are heard with reference to the conduct of Dr. Macune in going to Atlanta during the senatorial contest and taking part in the fight. Some of the members severely criticized his espousal of Calhoun's cause, because Calhoun is a railroad attorney and a representative of what are termed the monopoly and money powers. This matter will come up for investigation either to-morrow or Thursday, and it is likely to prove a bombshell. There is also some dissatisfaction with the policy pursued by Dr. Macune in his official capacity as chairman of the National Executive Board, and as editor of the National Economist. It is charged that Dr. Macune has violated the policy of the Alliance in his advocacy through the columns of the Economist of the Conger lard bill, a measure opposed by the Alliance generally as oppressive to the agricultural classes in the cotton States; in his opposition to the Paddock pure food bill, a strictly alliance measure; in his indorsement of Speaker Reed's rulings; in his espousal both personally and through the columns of the Economist of the contests of Langley and Featherstone for seats in the National House of Representatives, and finally in his characterizing tariff reform as the galvanized ghost of sectionalism and disloyalty.

When approached by the Associated Press representative to night with relation to these matters, Dr. Macune admitted that he had heard that charges were to be brought against him for his action in these particulars, but was of the opinion that no charges would be preferred. "No one," he said, "would dare bring charges of this kind against me. Such a course would result only in

THE DEFEAT AND HUMILIATION

of those bringing them and in the exposure of their purpose. I am perfectly willing to have a calcium light turned on all my official acts and upon my policy as well. I court the closest scrutiny of my record, and my enemies, if I have any, will not, I think, dare to bring charges of this kind, as they are likely to get hurt if they do."

The Economist is the official organ of the National Alliance, owned by a stock company, but Dr. Macune was elected editor by the Alliance at its last annual meeting.

President Livingston, of the Georgia Alliance, when questioned about these charges, professed ignorance of any movement of this kind, and added: "Macune is a candidate for re-election. If the National Alliance does not like his policy, why it can elect somebody in his place. I see no reason for bringing charges against him. Furthermore, as far as his advocacy of Calhoun goes I can testify that he did not take an extreme position in the contest. He did not lobby for any candidate. I wish to deny also a report sent out from Atlanta or Washington to a St. Louis newspaper, in which it was charged that Jay Gould and other so-called monopolists had got control of the National Economist, the Alliance newspaper, and that it was to be conducted in the interest of railroad and money magnates. It is all fake, and I can prove it if I choose."

It is needless to say that the source of these charges, if there are any to be preferred, is among the Southern and Southwestern members.

The defeated wing of the Georgia Alliance is said to be active in the movement against Dr. Macune. Mr. Tillman, of Tennessee, the statistician of the National Alliance, said to-night that the question of forming a new political party which would put a presidential ticket in the field in 1892 would probably come up for discussion at this meeting, but he predicts that it will be disposed of by referring it to the different State alliances for individual action. The advocates of this step are chiefly in the West and Northwest, and the plan proposed comprehends the denunciation of both the Republican and Democratic party by the alliance men.

Opposition to the movement will come from the South, Southwest and East. Statistician Tillman says that he has not prepared an official report, no money being available for that purpose, but he has in his possession a large amount of data indicating that the numerical strength of the alliance in the different States, the actual votes cast for strictly alliance candidates, and the actual number of such candidates elected by alliance votes. These will be presented during this meeting.

The National Alliance opened its first business session to-night, and from now on all the sessions will be secret, only members of the order being allowed in the hall. The report of the committee shows eighty-eight actual delegates present.

In addition to the delegates there are ten or twelve persons entitled to vote, which brings the actual numerical strength of the body up to 100.

Besides these 100, the local committee on entertainments report 365 visiting alliance men from outside of the State, and all of these can attend the deliberations of the convention. Among the delegates are five women, Mrs. Vickery, vice-president of the Kansas Alliance, being one of the number.

The annual meeting of the National Colored Farmers' Alliance will be held to-morrow. Delegates are already arriving. This organization embraces twenty-two States, and has a membership of over 1,000,000. The convention will be composed of about fifty delegates. The president is R. L. Humphreys, of Texas. The chief object of this organization of the colored men of the South is to divide the negroes politically, which, of course, means the taking of large numbers of them into the voting ranks of the Democratic party.

Aside from the report of the committee on credentials very little business of public interest was transacted at the night session. The secretary's report will not be presented until to-morrow, nor will those of the treasurer or of the executive committee or the committee on legislation.

A resolution was adopted enforcing the strictest secrecy on the members with reference to the transactions of the convention, and providing for the appointment of a committee on press reports, which alone is authorized to give out information. This committee was subsequently appointed as follows: L. F. Livingston, of Georgia, chairman; Frank Burkitt, of Mississipi; J. H. McDowell, of Tennessee; J. Blackley, of Kansas, and Robert Beverly, of Virginia.

Other committees appointed were on President Polk's message, on order of business, on mileage and per diem and on fraternal relations. The last named committee is a very important one, as its duty is to receive representatives of other national organizations similiar in character, with a view of securing concerted action in legislation, etc., and aiming at the ultimate consolidation of them all.

This committee is made up of L. F. Livingston, chairman; Hall of Georgia, Blakely of Kansas, Beverly of Virginia and Burkitt of Mississippi. As T. V. Powderly is expected on the 10:30 a. m. train Wednesday this committee will doubtless have an early conference with him.

The night session adjourned at 10:45.—*Times-Democrat.*

A New Book.

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA.—BIOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The following prospectus was handed us by Mr. Perrin, of the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Southwest Louisiana is the least understood and the most grossly misrepresented of any section of country in the Union. As it is situated on the Gulf of Mexico, and in close proximity to the greatest river on the continent, most people conclude that it is a low, wet, swampy region—a succession of deep jungles, tangled swamps, marshes, lakes, sloughs, cane and cypress brakes throughout its entire extent; whereas, healthier by far than the Northwest—fanned by the sea breeze, it is the land of enchanting scenery, of beautiful bayous and glassy lakes, and bays, splendid prairies, noble forests and pleasant skies—the land of flowers, of beauty and of health.

In point of climate and soil, Southwest Louisiana yields precedence to no country in America; as to the character of her people, their hospitality is proverbial. Religious, educational and social institutions found an early and permanent footing here. Everywhere are evidences of success.

Yet despite this inviting state of things there are many splendid acres unoccupied—many rich, exhaustless fields uncultivated. It is seen with regret that thousands of emigrants whose best interests lie in this direction are turning their faces toward the arid and unproductive regions of Western Kansas, Texas and Nebraska. It is one of the principal objects of this work to exhibit the attractiveness of Southwest Louisiana as a place of permanent residence. That the widest advantage in the way of immigration may be secured, copies of this work will be sent to the leading libraries and other public resorts of the South, East and North.

It is another principal object of this work to preserve local history, and to place in enduring form upon the pages of history a record of the lives of those citizens who have reflected the greatest renown upon their descendants and have shaped with such skill and grandeur the destiny of the State. Believing that this plan will meet the hearty co-operation and assistance of the people of Southwest Louisiana, the publishers herewith outline their system of work.

A chapter on the resources and a brief history will be given of each of the following parishes: St. Landry, St. Martin, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Mary, Calcasieu, Acadia, Cameron and Vermilion. The general topics covered on each parish will be as follows: geology, topography; resources: streams, soil, timber, tillable land and products; pioneer settlement, organization of parishes, subsequent history, military history; towns, their origin and growth; courts, the bench and bar; medical societies, schools, churches and social organizations. In order to preserve family history and give a practical conception of social and business conditions, there will be added to the above a select number of biographical and business sketches and family genealogies of citizens of such parishes.

The book will be printed in attractive style, on good book paper, with gilt edges, will be bound in full buffing, and will contain over eight hundred pages.

Negro "Solidity" Don't Pay.

A COLORED BROTHER CREATES DISSENSIONS IN THE DARKTOWN REPUBLICAN CLUB

There is the deuce to pay in the Darktown Republican Club. That's putting it mild. Some politicians who are popularly credited with the possession of much more than the average capacity for accurately sizing up things use far stronger language when referring to the dissensions that threaten to split the club asunder.

It is all due to a speech made by Nicodemus Jefferson Spratt at the last meeting called for the purpose of ratifying the Republican ticket. In consequence the ticket hasn't been ratified yet, and it isn't likely that it will be. "Nick," as he is familiarly called, is a barber. He had always been a silent member of the club. Nobody had ever suspected him of having indulged in any thinking on his own account concerning political matters.

Everything had gone along swimmingly, and the usual things had been said in the usual way and been received with the usual vociferous applause. Then "Nick" asked and obtained permission from the chairman, Deacon Bung, to make a few "consolidated observations."

"Fellow citizens," he began in the regulation style, "I ain't never done said nuffin' befo' at dese meetins. I ain't never done nuffin' 'cept vote But I'se bein' doin' some thinkin' all alone by mysef. An' dat's how I got dese consolidated observations dat I'se 'bout to communicate to you.

"We'se way back straight out Republicans, ain't we?"

"You bet we are," was the response from all parts of the hall.

"An' we'se solid, ain't we? as solid as bedrock?" continued "Nick," with growing confidence in his own powers of oratory.

"We is, we is," the crowd yelled back.

"An' how long's we'se bin solid?"

"Since de wah!" answered some of the most patriarchal looking of the colored brethren.

"Now I want you to think mighty hard befo' answerin' my nex' question, an' answer it wid de dead straight, hope-to-die-if-you-dont, solid truf."

"Nick" paused a moment for the purpose of oratorical effect, and then, shouting at the top of his lungs, sent this query reverberating through the hall:

"What's we got fo' bein' solid ever since de wah?"

The response was an ominous silence. Deacon Bung, who didn't like this sudden subsidence of enthusiasm, since he was in receipt of a small stipend for keeping it red hot at stated intervals, mildly suggested that "Brother Spratt ain't addressin' his observations to the question, which am de indorsement ob de ticket."

But Brother Spratt declared that, question or no question, he intended to finish his "consolidated observations," even if he had to retain his position on the platform by main strength and skill in the use of the razor. And finish them he did in this fashion:

"Yer don't answer my question 'case yer can't. Yer knows yer ain't never got nuffin' fer bein' solid 'cept a few jobs to clean out Republican spittoons. An' we ain't never goin' to get nuffin' what's wurf havin' as long as we is solid. No man goes around payin' fer what he knows he's goin' to get anyhow. I'se about sized dis yer thing up, an' I'se sized it up like dis: We'se bin played fer suckers by dem Republicans ever since de wah. Who's got de offices, I'd like ter know? De Irishman gets 'em, an' de Dutchman gets 'em, an' everybody gets 'em 'cept de colored man. An' what's he get? Why, my friens, he gets left ebery time.

"Politics is business, ain't it? Den whar's our share ob de business come in if we keeps on gettin' left? An' now I've got to de point ob dese consolidated observations. It am dis: De way to stop gettin' left is to stop bein' solid. De Dutchmen ain't solid an' the Irishmen ain't solid, an' you don't never hear ob dem gettin' left when de offices is given out.

"Now, what I has de honor ob proposin' is dat dis yer association, instead ob indorsin' dis yer ticket, declare itself solid no longer, but on de fence an' gwine to stay on de fence until it find out what party am gwine to gib it de mos' recognition."

Reports differ as to whether the resolution was carried or not, but certain it is that a very large section of the club is roosting on the fence, and both sides are making overtures for their votes.—*New York Herald.*

A Thomas Cat's Trip to America.

AN ENGLISH FELINE FOUND IN A PASSENGER'S BOX.

The carpenter of the steamer Nevada opened a box belonging to Ida Fisher, a passenger, to facilitate the custom house men in their work of inspection. He lifted out bedding, pillows, blankets, etc., and was in the act of raising a tick when his ears were greeted with a "m-e-o-o-w," which caused him to drop the bed tick and stare into the box. The cry was repeated. He pulled the tick out and there rose up from the stuffy depths a great, gaunt, wild-eyed, gray Thomas cat. Its hair was dreadfully mussed and its caudal attachment was as big as a muff. The feline slowly stepped out of the box and walked over to the astonished carpenter. It seemed very weak in the legs and staggered perceptibly. Thomas' English was very bad, but by a series of incoherent utterances and gesticulations he managed to convey the idea that he would like to break his fast if agreeable to others. By this time quite a crowd had gathered about Thomas and much sympathy was expressed for him. A bowl of warm milk was produced and Thomas got away with it with avidity. This gave his slab-like form a slight rotundity of shape and under its reviving effects Thomas' strength rapidly returned. He almost immediately began to perform a long neglected toilet and was soon quite a presentable cat.

When Ida Fisher was told that a stowaway was found in her baggage she almost fainted from surprise. On regaining composure she said the box was last opened in Birmingham, England, seventeen days before. It remained open in the hotel where she was stopping for about five hours. Then it was nailed up, sent to Liverpool, put aboard the ship and remained undisturbed until opened on the State line docks.

Thomas must have gotten into the box at the Birmingham hotel and gone to sleep. While in that condition he was covered up by the bedding and pillows, nailed in and sent Americaward. That he didn't die from hunger and thirst is remarkable; that he wasn't smothered is almost miraculous.

Tom is evidently a blue blooded cat. Even in the excitement of landing he didn't drop his h's and 'owl; he howled with an h, in the purest Anglo-feline. The carpenter took Tom home, and said he would see to it that he did not become a public charge.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

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Indigestion, and Stomach disorders, use
BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.
All dealers keep it, $1 per bottle. Genuine has trade-mark and crossed red lines on wrapper.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

BY W. H. CLINE.

JAMES MONROE.

The subject of this sketch was born in Virginia, April 28, 1758, and was educated in William and Mary College. He studied law and was admitted to the bar, but when the revolutionary war opened he entered the army, and greatly distinguished himself on several occasions. At the battle of Trenton, while leading the attack on the Hessions, he was severely wounded.

At the close of the war he engaged in the practice of his profession and in politics. He ardently advocated the principles of the Republican, or Democratic, party, ranging himself with Jefferson, the leader of that party. He was frequently employed in the diplomatic service of the country, and was a member of Congress as a Senator from Virginia.

When Mr. Madison was elected president he appointed Mr. Monroe secretary of State which position he filled with credit until 1813. Owing to the resignation of Gen. Armstrong from the war department, and the importance of that position during the war with Great Britian, he was transferred to the war department.

As secretary of war, Mr. Monroe directed the operations of the war during the last year of its continuance. He was a wise and, on the whole, successful war secretary. Notwithstanding the fact that the British forces were greatly augmented, both in number and efficiency, about the time Mr. Monroe assumed control of the war, the Americans were more successful during the period he directed their movements than at any other. This was largely owing to the fact that Monroe brought forward as commanders more efficient generals Brown, Scott, Smith, Izard and Jackson led the armies, instead of Dearborn, Hampton, Winder, Hull and Winchester.

At the close of Mr. Madison's administration, Mr. Monroe was elected his successor, and assumed the duties of president of the United States March 4, 1817. At the close of his first term, Mr. Monroe's administration had given such general satisfaction that he was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote. Of the electoral votes, he received all but one, and that was given to John Quincy Adams simply as a matter of form.

This was called the era of good feeling, in which party politics seemed to die out and everybody looked only to the best interests of the nation.

During Monroe's administration, Mississippi, Illinois, Alabama, Maine and Missouri were admitted into the Union as States. Florida was acquired by purchase from Spain; the first line of sailing ships between New York and Liverpool; the first steam power printing press was put into operation, and Lafayette revisited America. Mr. Monroe was the originator of the now famous Monroe doctrine, which is, in brief, that no European power shall interfere in American affairs.

Mr. Monroe was married in 1786, to Miss Eliza Kortwright. The fruit of this union was two daughters. At the close of his second term, March 4, 1825, refusing a third term, he retired to his estate at Oak Hill, Va., where he resided until his death, which occurred July 4, 1831.

James Monroe was not a brilliant statesman, but he was a safe one. Thoroughly patriotic, and of strict integrity, the purity of his principles and the unselfish character of his measures commended themselves to all classes and won for him the esteem, confidence and support of the American people, in a measure that has been enjoyed by no other president, with the single exception of Washington.

The Alliance.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Farmers' Alliance in their national convention at Ocala, Fla., December 8:

1. We demand the abolition of national banks; we demand that the government shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several States, which shall loan money direct to the people at a low rate of interest not to exceed two per cent per annum on imperishable farm products, and also upon real estate with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money. We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than $50 per capita.

2. We demand that Congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures on all agricultural and mechanical products, preserving a stringent system of procedure in trials, such as shall secure the prompt conviction of offenders, and the imposition of such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.

3. We condemn the silver bill recently passed by Congress, and demand in lieu thereof the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

4. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take prompt action to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates, and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as is actually used and needed by them, be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

5. Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, we demand that our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another. We further demand the removal of the existing heavy tariff tax from the necessaries of life, that the poor of our land must have.

We further demand a just and equitable system of graduated tax on incomes. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all national and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of government economically and honestly administered.

6. We demand the most rigid, just and honest State and national governmental control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision do not remove the abuses now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the Conger bill and that we favor the passage of the Paddock pure food bill.

Not Legalized Without Sin.

"As no rum-seller ought to be accepted as a church member, all denominations of Christians ought to declare that the liquor traffic cannot be legalized without sin. The church cannot consistently exclude rum-sellers from membership and at the same time favor licence for rum-sellers. It cannot in reason or honor with one hand (voting) make rum-sellers, and with the other hand excommunicate rum-sellers.

"If rum-sellers ought not to be church members, and if the liquor traffic can never be legalized without sin, then it follows that church members ought never to vote for a political candidate who is in favor of legalizing the liquor traffic. While the churches as such need not declare for any one political party, they ought to declare that church members as individuals should support no political party that is nominated by the whisky rings. Christians on their knees before God will never vote for any party on its knees before the liquor traffic."—*Joseph Cook.*

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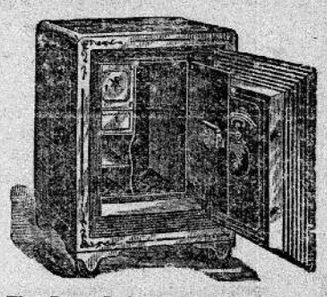
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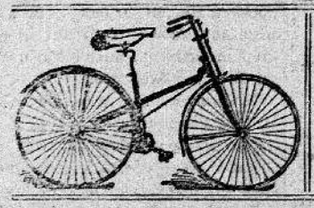
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