

# NATCHITOCHE'S POPULIST.

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War, from a business standpoint, means better times.

Why? It will call into the field probably 300,000 to 400,000 men. Ninety per cent of these men will leave positions. Their vacancies will be filled up from the present unemployed.

It will take at least 300,000 to 400,000 extra men to feed, clothe, equip and take care of the army. This gives employment to nearly a million men.

This means the use of more money.

In addition to the amount put out this way, will be the other expenditures of the government.

Which means still more money. More money always means better times.

Therefore, we predict better times at once, and becoming times next year.

Now is a good time to make investments.

Now is a good time to get in line for the good times coming.

Paste this in your hat and see whether the old Greenbacker is right or not.—Farmers Sentinel.

Populists have always contended that putting more money into circulation would make times better.

Now we shall have an opportunity to prove it, and that too with a gold bug President at the wheel.

The war could have been averted by the recognition of Cuba 2 years ago, and all this money paid out for public roads, levees, government railroads and other internal improvements, and the same good times brought about, without the loss of life and waste of treasure.

But the American people love to be humbugged, and are willing to pay for it. They will in all probability re-elect McKinley for thus robbing them and having a lot of them killed.

## Facts About Cuba.

There is a great deal of talk about the complexion of the population of Cuba since the inauguration of the present war. No recent census has been taken owing to the disturbed condition of the island. Slavery no longer exists in that island. The area of Cuba and coast islands is 45,883 miles, or less than Louisiana, which is 48,720 miles. The population is 1,521,684. In 1861 this division stood: Whites 730,894; Asiatic coolies 34,834; Mexicans, 1,047; free colored 232,492; slaves 370,553; resident foreigners, 5,298; passing foreigners, 3,987; Spaniards, 17,424.

Since that period of nearly 40 years ago the white population has largely increased. Then the inhabitants numbered 1,396,530, and now estimated at 1,521,684, or over 150,000 increase, a very conservative estimate. Yet in 1861 the whites including Mexicans and Spaniards, out numbered the free colored and slaves over 160,000. The census of 1890 places the population of Louisiana at whites 558,395; colored 560,192; total 1,118,587. These statistics, taken from reliable compilation are simply given to show the mistaken ideas held as to the character of the people of the country that is now the bone of contention that may precipitate a gigantic war.

Comparison is made with Louisiana as being near the theatre of the war. Yet this state is the twenty-fifth of the United States in population and the thirty-first in area. There is much the same ignorance as to the climate of Cuba as there is relative to the population. At Havana in the warmest months July and August, says the Baitiannic encyclopedia, the average temperature is 82 Fahr. fluctuating between a maximum of 88 and a minimum of 76. In the cooler months from 78 to 58. "There are no disease specially indigenous to the island; the yellow fever, which breaks out with renewed virulence with the wet season in the coast-lands and seaports of Cuba, annually causing great loss of life, is quite unknown in the interior.—Shreveport Times.

It is expected that the first naval battle of the war will be fought among the Philippine Islands, as Spain and the United States each have small fleets there.

## Would-be-Saints.

The members of the Constitutional convention have already, and will doubtless continue to claim great credit for passing the Railroad Commission bill. The few papers in the State which will dare to indorse said convention in face of the disgust and scorn which it excites in nearly the whole people, have already quoted the ring-tailed, pap-fed organs of the present fraudocracy, in laudation of the supporters of said commission bill.

Let us see how much credit a man, especially a North Louisiana man, is entitled to for supporting it.

First, it has a clause allowing the commissioners to grant discriminations in certain cases, thus defeating the very purpose of all railroad control, and making the bill a farce and a humbug, save to furnish more places for hungry politicians, and give them a lever to prize out bribes from the railroads and business men who want discriminations.

Second, the commissioners are to be paid \$3000 per year and all traveling expenses and their clerk \$1500, with the privilege of having it increased by the Legislature, besides the fat pickings from the railroads and business men who must have discriminations.

Third, a majority of the commissioners are to be taken from New Orleans, and the adjoining parishes, and will regulate rates in the interest of that city and to the detriment of Alexandria, Shreveport, Natchitoches, Monroe—in fact, all of North Louisiana.

Fourth, New Orleans drummers are already boasting that they will soon be able through the commission to knock out their North Louisiana competitors, that it cost New Orleans merchants nearly half a million dollars to do it, but they were willing to spend it.

Fifth, it will raise low rates instead of lowering high rates whenever it happens to try to equalize, as has been the case in Texas, and every other State where there is a Railroad Commission.

Yet these frauds, in company with Fitzpatrick, Flynn, and the balance of that New Orleans boodle gang, will pose as patriots and try to have the people look upon them as reformers—almost Populists—who have withstood the temptation of railroad boodle and free passes, which they did because the pile was bigger on the other side, and the fool voter will continue to vote for them as long as he can stand up under his burdens.

## Progress of War.

While the U. S. and Spain were not actually fighting by Sunday as predicted in our last issue, a state of war did exist, and our navy had already captured three big Spanish merchant ships, towed them into Key West as prizes, and had the ports of Havana and Matanzas completely blockaded.

Spain did not wait to receive the note from this country ordering them out of Cuba, but politely ordered our Minister Woodford out of Spain on Thursday, before he could deliver it.

The United States took this as a practical declaration of war, and the North Atlantic squadron under rear Admiral Sampson, was ordered from Key West at 4 a. m. Friday morning to blockade the ports of Cuba.

This magnificent fleet of battle-ships put to sea with all the vigor and enthusiasm of a young and powerful nation conscious of a righteous cause. On the way a Spanish merchantman was captured and sent into Key West. Toward night fall of the same day after the monsters of the deep had been lined up off Havana, another prize was sighted by the New York, one of our finest cruisers, which was soon on the chase and after getting within 1 mile of her and throwing a solid shot from an 8-inch gun across her bow, "brought her to." It was the Pedro another large Spanish merchant ship, which was soon on its way over to Key

West. Four other captures of varying importance have been made, and one of our revenue cutters is now guarding a Spanish merchant vessel in quarantine. list.

A formal declaration of war passed congress Monday, and a resolution Saturday authorizing the President to call on the several States for 125,000 volunteers. The response shows that 1,000,000 men could be gotten just as easily.

The Spanish fleet, though formidable enough, has remained inactive at Cape Verde Islands until Wednesday, when it left by request of Portugal, to whom the Islands belong and who, under the law of nations cannot harbor the fighting ships of other nations.

The big transatlantic liner, Panama, an auxiliary cruiser of the Spanish navy, was captured by a much smaller member of our fleet near Cuba, on Tuesday, also Lieut. Fernandez of the Spanish army was captured off a sloop, and is now a prisoner of war on Sampson's flagship.

A messenger has been sent to open up co-operation between Gen. Garcia and the Cuban army and our army, a base of supplies will be established at two ports under cover of the guns of our battle-ships, from which bases the Cubans will be armed and fully equipped, and our troops sent into the interior to assist in capturing Havana.

In the meantime our Asiatic squadron, consisting of some fine cruisers, are probably doing Spain some dirt in the Philippines where she has never yet quieted her rebellious subjects.

You can "kiss" the Constitutional convention as much as you please, but it won't stop. That's the beauty of bossism in politics. They lay on the party lash and make you "vote'er straight," then they do as they please.

Just stick to the Democratic party and see if it don't stick it to you.

## Reconsider It.

The Constitutional Convention has been orating on the suffrage clause for three-fourths of its limited life and after all said and done has disgusted the people and in their opinion, disgraced themselves as delegates.

It is the common belief that they would act wisely if they would reconsider their awkward work, glibish it and give us a clause which may be understood by an honest man of plain common sense.

The people want, need, and should have such a clause as they can understand, and not one that tricking and unscrupulous politicians can use to confound understanding and then, like a silk worm, wrap their dirty work up in a cocoon of rascality and practically defy discovery by any means available to an outraged constituency.

Honesty requires no mask, and no subterfuge, for like Truth, it shows to best advantage stark naked.

We say to the Convention, give us a constitution such as the people want, and if this cannot be done, knock off and go home.—Opelousas Courier.

The sneers of interest will never prove an argument against loyal devotion to native land.—Times.

See our specimens of JOB WORK before placing your order. We will save you money.

## The Most Favorable Season

To cure catarrh is in the spring. During the winter the patient is likely to take a fresh cold and have a set-back. But if treatment is begun in the spring and continued into the summer, nothing need be feared for the succeeding winter. Of course, it all depends on the medicine. There are a great many catarrh medicines which relieve the most disagreeable symptoms temporarily. Pe-ru-na cures more slowly but also more permanently than this class of medicines. A course of Pe-ru-na during the spring will cure catarrh more quickly than at any other season. Mr. Walter H. Tucker, Concord, N. H., writes Dr. Hartman as follows: "When I began taking your medicines four years ago I was suffering with chronic catarrh. I had taken nearly two dozen bottles of a so-called catarrh cure without much relief. Pe-ru-na cured the night sweats and dizziness; it cured the cough I have had from my cradle; I can say it saved my life."

Dr. Hartman has published in book form a series of lectures on various phases of chronic catarrh, which he calls "Winter Catarrh." This book will be sent free to any address by the Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company, Columbus, Ohio.

## A Judicial System.

The committee on Judiciary of the Constitutional Convention has reported, through its chairman, Hon. T. J. Semmes, a judiciary system for the State. It covers in type seven closely printed newspaper columns, and is embraced in seventy-five articles, enough to fill a constitution.

It provides for Supreme, Circuit and District Judges and for local magistrates with little to do. So far as the superior courts are concerned, the item has no comment to make, at this time. But the Convention will make a mistake, and a costly mistake to the taxpayer, in sending before the District Judges all minor cases where a mere police magistrate could have determined them, and determined them wisely and well.

The item, however, understands the situation. This State is so completely lawyer-ridden that it cannot escape the duty of providing for the hungry of that class, and the court-houses of the several parishes of the State are surrounded with the anxious and the waiting.

A negro uses obscene language on a public highway or runs a horse race thereon; he shoots craps for keeps nearby one; he commits numerous and divers other minor offenses against law, and straightway he is marched to jail at the court-house. The magistrate at home examines the case or cases; a grand inquest finds a bill, a jury of twelve duly and truly try, a lawyer defends for a fee of \$15, and a district attorney prosecutes for a fee of \$5, a sheriff charges forty cents per day, for two meals of beef-neck and corn-bread, for as many days before trial as the trivial offender cannot furnish bail, and for as many after conviction as the court sentences him, and the Convention calls this a judicial system!

Perhaps it is one, but it is one which has eaten up the taxpayer, and will eat him up so long as it is in force. Why not permit local magistrates to fine these minor offenders and put them to work, in default of payment, on the public roads? This might not be beneficial for lawyers and sheriffs, but it would most assuredly save the taxpayers huge sums of money.—Item.

Delegate Breazeale prefers a drunken Democrat to a sober Republican in office. There is no accounting for taste.—Daily Item.

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