

NATCHITOCHEES POPULIST.

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FRIDAY, June 10, 1898.

A bill has recently passed congress, been signed by the President and become a law, removing all political disabilities from ex-Confederates. The old "rebel" is now on an equal footing with anybody in the army or navy of Uncle Sam.

Wonder why the Enterprise has so little to say about Co. "I" these days? And where are all the "Military Notes" and details of dress parades and balls, that used to fill columns of said Enterprise? Co. "I" is at the front, but the brave and brilliant young scions of the best families that used to fill its ranks, where, oh where are they!

It is reported that Attorney General Cunningham is to succeed Justice Watkins on the Supreme Bench of Louisiana. Is Mr. Cunningham a better jurist than Justice Watkins, or a finer politician? Mr. Cunningham's appointment would indicate that Governor Foster has an eye to business, but—Caucasian.

There are twelve better lawyers in Natchitoches than the Atty. General, but—

There are "forty seven" better politicians, but—

There are "sixteen or thirty" more popular men, but—

He failed to carry his parish for Foster, or himself at the last State election, but—

His brutal and undemocratic method of employing the State militia in trying to carry it, was extremely unpopular, but—

His recent attempt to make a record by jumping onto several trusts after twelve years do nothing and flat failure as Atty. General, is disgusting, even to his friends, but—

These and many other potent arguments caused us at the very outset to predict his appointment over his more able and deserving competitors.

We are not a prophet nor the son of one, but we have read something of the rule of tyrants in the semi-barbarous ages of man, and we find that such autoerats as Murphy J. Foster, the Czar of Russia and Butcher Weyer, always appoint to place and power the creatures of their will who are most objectionable to their fool subjects, and least qualified for the place.

Nothing which the people can prevent and won't, is too bad for them.

Ex-Senator John J. Ingalls, of Kansas, whose fame as a brilliant writer, a man of remarkable scholarship and literary attainments, is even greater than that of the distinguished senator, announces a new book on the subject of the American-Spanish-Cuban War. It is entitled "America's War For Humanity in Picture and Story." It is published by the N. D. Thompson Publishing Co., of St. Louis, Mo., and is an exhaustive discussion of the causes of the war, and an equally exhaustive history of its incidents and a brilliant analysis of the famous characters conducting it. It promises to be the one great and popular work called forth by this wonderfully interesting national episode. Whatever Senator Ingalls touches he adorns; and this book shines and sparkles in the light of his genius. The present work is worthy of his genius, and will be a monument to his fame. The subject now so engrosses the popular mind as to forecast for this book a sale that will be universal. It will be sold by subscription only, and the canvassing samples are now ready for agents. We advertise it in another column.

Read the POPULIST.

Doubtful.

Populist members of the Senate and House held something of a caucus yesterday morning. Almost every legislator belonging to the party attended, but strange to say, legislative affairs were not discussed. The meeting was for the purpose of deliberating upon certain matters connected with the State organization of the Pops. As a consequence it is likely that within a short time some changes will be made in the personnel of the head of the State organization.—Daily Item.

The methods which reporters have to resort to, to get proceedings of Populist caucuses make it extremely doubtful if the above is correct.

It is doubtful if there is one member of the Legislature who is a member of the State Central committee of the Peoples party, and hence the caucus referred to could have but little voice in removing the chairman of said State committee even if they desire it.

The Populist legislators are doubtless very busy devising ways and means to "slow up" the Democratic spoilsmen and tax-eaters, rather than devising schemes for disabling and dividing their own forces.

The cool feeling entertained by the Item for those who favored the fusion on Bryan in 1896, is doubtless shared by some of the Populist legislators, but it is misplaced when manifested toward the "personnel of the head" of the State Populist organization, as it is well known that this "personnel" opposed the fusion to the last ditch and only yielded to the majority when stubbornness ceased to be a virtue.

However, we have yet to see any cause to regret our course in that or any other campaign, and if there is an opposition and as strong as to prevent our re-election as State chairman, we shall accept the will of the majority with graceful loyalty, but there will be lots of fun for this supposed opposition in making changes in the State Central committee prior to the State convention of 1900.

stand by Democracy.

The people of Louisiana are standing by Democracy as it has stood by them—as long as they had a dollar in their pockets.

The Dem. party made us a constitution in 1879, which everybody said was filled with soft places for the lawyers who framed it, and was the most expensive and burdensome thing of its kind in the United States.

The people put up with it until the politicians wanted to expand it a little—make the soft places more numerous and easier to get, when upon promises of reform they (the politicians) went into make another.

The Dem. party had a ridiculously overwhelming majority in this convention, yet to make it if possible more certainly Democratic, they caused on every detail of importance, and for the lone Populist to introduce a resolution inviting the Democratic candidate for President to address said body was to get it killed, so "strong" (rancid) was their Democracy.

The result, as every body must admit, is pure and unadulterated modern Democracy, and has been held up to the contempt and scorn of every honest man, in such chaste language by the Democratic organs including the organ of the convention itself, which organ declared that said convention had "gone to hell," that the people are fully aware in a general way of the sins of Democracy in its latest expression.

But it remains for our able contemporary the Capital Item of Baton Rouge, to specify in detail some of the glaring inconsistencies of Democracy and some of the repudiations of that convention's pledges. The Item says of the suffrage amendment:

The most that can be said of the suffrage ordinance is that it is a net-work of complications for the interpretation of appointed registrars and election commissioners, to be used in the interest of politicians and against the people. It is not the open, manly instrument the Governor claims it is. It is not in the interest of honest politics, and will not be so used. Those

who still expect the "Dictator" to cut away the ground fortification of fraud from beneath his feet will be disappointed. His advent into Louisiana politics was as a democratic state senator between two negro representatives, from a parish having about 1900 republicans to 300 democrats. He has been twice made Governor by fraud. He will not destroy the system of which he is the beneficiary. He will strengthen it. If that system is destroyed it will be done by the people who will rise up and destroy it as they did the corruption of our reconstruction era.

After showing that the Legislative expenses have been increased on 145 members, instead of 134, as before, at \$5 per day, instead of \$4, and \$5,400 on clerical salaries therein, making a total of \$17,000 in that department alone; and that the judiciary is increased over \$11,000, the Item continues:

In the executive department there is an increase of expenses of three thousand and twenty dollars.—Railroad Commission created at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars may be charged to profit and loss.

Then, to sum up, we have reformed to the extent of a clear increased cost of—

On account legislative department	\$17,000
" " " " " " " " " " " "	11,100
" " " " " " " " " " " "	3,020
" " " " " " " " " " " "	15,000
Total	\$46,120

This vast sum represents mainly increase in salaries that had already doubled in purchasing to the benefit of the official at the expense of the people, who must again respond out of their poverty to the salaried officer's gain. The people had expected retrenchment and relief at the hands of a purely democratic convention. They were entitled to both. We submit the foregoing figures, facts and comments in order that they may determine whether they have gotten either.

We hope the Item will continue to expose in detail the workings of the late convention and the balance of Fosterism, so that if the people want to continue to stand by the Democracy, they can do it knowingly.

War News.

This week's maneuvers have been marked with brilliant pages of war history.

The Spanish fleet having been definitely located in Santiago, and the long narrow straits leading into it being too dangerous with the mines below and heavy guns of the forts above to risk our fine battle ships with their crews of hundreds of men, it became necessary to blockade these straits to effectually hold the Spaniards in.

For while we had dozens of war ships all around the mouth of said channel, and were only too anxious to get the Spaniards out to a fight, yet there was always danger of their slipping out and escaping during a fog or a storm, when our ships would be blown far out to sea, then there was also danger of the Spanish torpedo boats slipping out and blowing up some of our ships.

But the question of sinking a big old worn out ship in the channel was a knotty one, and its solution promised the almost certain loss of life of all who attempted the difficult task.

For it was probably 8 or 10 miles from where our fleet lay to that part of the long, narrow, crooked channel which was narrow enough to be spanned with the hulk of a large steamer, and the 3 or 4 miles of channel through which they must pass, was lined on either side with forts and big guns and small, while the bottom was well laid with torpedoes.

But Lieut. Hobson of the Alabama, a brilliant young graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and member of the naval construction corps, conceived the plan and begged of the Admiral permission to execute it. When he asked for volunteers for his perilous mission, strange to say, 4000 men, or practically all on our fleet offered their services and their lives to their country in that trying experiment.

Only six men however, were chosen to assist the brave young Lieutenant, and a seventh hid himself on the ship and accompanied them.

The big collier Merrimac was prepared, at 3 o'clock a. m. she steamed slowly into the channel followed by a steam launch which waited outside to pick up any of the daring sailors that might escape death on the Merrimac.

No sooner had she got in reach than the forts from all sides began to pour a desperate fire upon her, but amid a rain of shot and shell, she went on her way to her destination, anchored, swung around immediately across the channel, exploded a torpedo in her bottom and sank, and settled for the pres-

ent war the fate of Spain's flying squadron of crack cruisers.

The life boat which had been trailed behind the Merrimac for the daring crew to escape in, was shot into a thousand splinters, but a small boat had been put on deck at the last moment as an extra precaution, and in this they pulled from the opposite side, they pulled straight for the Spanish fleet and surrendered as prisoners of war. Before they reached the fleet in their frail little craft, the Spaniards stopped firing and actually cheered them for their unparalleled bravery.

When the steam launch returned to our fleet without them, it was felt that their lives had been sacrificed to their country, but ere long an emissary from Admiral Cervera himself, brought under a flag of truce a message from the Admiral, saying that the brave men were safe as prisoners of war, would be well treated and exchanged as soon as practical, and that the Americans might send them anything they desired.

History fails to record anything more daring or cooler bravery than the planning and execution of this brilliant Alabamian, and while we are all proud of him as a Southerner, we glory in his Americanism.

Since this brilliant feat the American ships have bombarded Moro and Socapo forts, along this channel, and seriously crippled them, destroyed the Spanish battle ship Reina Mercedes, and damaging the fine cruiser Maria Teresa. They also landed troops and marines near Santiago, and in junction with the insurgents took some of the outlying forts, and will soon take the entire city whose inhabitants are already panic stricken.

Troops are well on their way to Manila to assist Dewey in subjugating the Philippines. The insurgents there have been armed and in a measure directed by Dewey and have captured 1800 Spanish soldiers and a number of forts and garrisons.

WINE OF CARDUI

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NEW YORK.

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HYMAN JAFFA.
May 27-3t.

List of Jurors

Drawn to serve at the June term of 10th District Court, Parish of Natchitoches:

SECOND WEEK.

WARD.	WARD.
S M Nowlin,	7 McD Crow,
A G Ogden,	5 Thos Buvens,
F L Metoyer,	1 Wm Jackson,
Mat Wilkinson,	1 M Nowlin,
J M Kile,	8 J B Delouche,
Jeff D Aaron,	1 F C Blacksher,
L W Stephens,	7 J F Dowden,
W W Allen,	5 S G Bruteau,
E W Neyland,	9 J N Hendricks,
P E Tausin,	1 Robt Gentry,
M F Atkins,	1 T J Byrd,
F Derbanne,	1 J W Meek,
Corrie Lunt,	6 S A Mangham,
J W Jones,	1 J B Barnhill,
Geo Jackson,	3 E J Gibbs,

THIRD WEEK.

WARD.	WARD.
H D Beal,	9 D F Adams,
J A Vercher,	4 W Robertson,
Thos Lambert,	6 W G Kile,
Jeff Lowe,	2 O Hardee,
P C Rogers,	1 H B Plaisance,
Pat Coffee Jr.,	2 Ad Godard,
W R Sewell,	6 W R Marshall,
W O Carter,	6 I Raphael,
W B Safford,	1 C A Ballard,
9 L P Landrum,	3
Fred Lestage,	9 W H Lowe,
Jno Evans,	6 Gus Forshee,
Tom Boswell,	8 B F Dranguet,

Wm Rachel, 10 C Chaplin Jr., 1
I H Mayet, 6 Henry Russell, 7
A true copy of the original venire on file of record in my office. In testimony whereof witness my hand and official seal this 25th day of April A. D. 1898.
H. M. HYAMS, Clerk.