

THE WEEKLY POPULIST

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY THE NATCHITOCHEES PUBLISHING CO. (LIMITED.)

ENTERED AT THE NATCHITOCHEES POST OFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

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SUBSCRIPTION—One Year.....\$1.00 Six Months......60 Four Months......40

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1 column	40.00	50.00	55.00	65.00	100.00

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A failure to do so will consign them to the waste basket.

FRIDAY, October 19, 1894.

People's Party Candidate FOR CONGRESS

OF THE FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA,

HON. B. W. BAILEY, OF WINN.

LET US USE OUR COMMON SENSE.

The Democrats of the Fourth Congressional District have prepared and published an address, in which they say: "Mr. Ogden is presented to you as an avowed advocate of free silver at a ratio of 16 to 1."

How does this tally with Mr. Ogden's endorsement of the Cleveland administration at Alexandria? Every man who has any knowledge of public affairs at all knows that the Cleveland administration is diametrically opposed to the free coinage of silver at any ratio. This question was voted upon by the last congress, and every proposition to coin silver at any ratio, was voted down at the behest of Grover Cleveland, who is an avowed advocate of the single gold standard, and Mr. Ogden has endorsed his course. Now voters, ask your own good common sense if the two positions are consistent. It is just as easy to believe that Mr. Ogden is a white man and at the same time a black one, as to believe he is a free silver Democrat and a Cleveland Democrat; this is a preposterous absurdity. Now, as Mr. Ogden has made this straddle, which leg is he likely to stand on when he gets to congress? Is he likely to remember his representations to the people, (few of them do) or is he likely to be swayed by the man whom he has openly endorsed as being right? Can you take chances on such a man? There is no party platform that pledges Mr. Ogden to anything.

Again, the address says: "The foundation stone of the Democracy is its opposition to class legislation in all its forms." This is certainly a remarkable assertion for a party that has been in absolute control of every branch of the government, and held an eleven months session of congress, and yet we say without the fear of successful contradiction, that the trusts, corporations and combinations, (except labor organizations) are in greater prosperity to-day than they have been since this country has been a government. There never has been an attempt by the so-called Democratic party to destroy, or even disparage a single trust or moneyed corporation, but to the contrary, they have directly aided all of them, and then they have the gall to attempt to deceive the people by pretending to denounce this class legislation which is directly opposed to the interests of the masses.

We make these charges against the present so-called Democratic party, and let them deny it and we will take the record and show where they voted millions into the

pockets of the whiskey trust, the sugar trust and the money trust, and at the same time voted millions out of the pockets of the farmer and laborer.

The address further charges that "The Populist party, feeling vaguely that the masses of the people have been oppressed, &c., would essay to correct the evils by class legislation." This assertion, first makes light of the claim of the Populist that the people are suffering, intimating that such a claim is a vague one, this we will leave to the people to answer. But when it comes to the charge against the Populist that they are seeking class legislation, it is too absurd to even aspire to the plane of common sense. The Populists advocate laws that will put each and every individual upon the same footing in his efforts to feed, clothe and educate his family, and when men make such assertions as contained in the address, we can not attribute it to anything but ignorance of the principles of the People's party. The Populists hold that the government is the people, and that it does not belong to Cleveland and his coterie of national bankers and railroad and other corporation lawyers, as is supposed by our Democratic friends. Why do they not come boldly to the front and discuss issues, instead of dealing in these misleading assertions. There is not a man who thinks, who will not say that the masses of people have lost more by the shrinkage of value in produce since the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, than at any time in the history of this country, and that the Democrats are solely responsible for that fact. Every laborer in the land can testify to this. There is no use trying to hide it. Like Banquo's ghost, "it will not down." Then why not meet these issues squarely in the face. The People's party is the only party that offers any relief—the Democratic and Republican parties have never gotten further than the tariff issue, where they have been for thirty years.

The Present Conditions To Be Maintained.

The administration and the Democratic party evidently are looking for breakers ahead. They know what is mapped out for this coming Congress to do when it meets in December, and that there is to be another squeeze of the laborer in the interest of capital is manifest from the movement of the National army. Three regiments will be stationed in the South; one at New Orleans, one at Little Rock, Ark., and one at Atlanta, Ga.

Secretary Herbert of the navy, also states that he will recommend to Congress that a naval station be established at New Orleans. This undoubtedly means that there is to be another squeeze by the capitalists, which in fact has already begun. Carnegie has already reduced the wages of 5000 of his workmen and given notice of further reduction. In addition to this, the tin factories are shutting down, and the army of unemployed will in all probability be greater than ever known, and of course starvation is not going to maintain very serene and placid dispositions among this mass of suffering humanity, therefore the only conclusion to be drawn is, that the United States government is fixing to establish military power at short notice.

This may be taken as a notice, that the present conditions are to be maintained if it takes the United States army to do it. Don't you think you had better lay down your sentiment and look the facts in the face.

There was a fire in Biloxi, Miss., on Friday morning last, that carried great destruction with it. Among the heavy losers was Mr. Joseph W. Sweatman, who lost his entire household effects and drug store amounting to \$9,000, insured for \$4,300. Mr. Sweatman is the son-in-law of Col. C. C. Dunn, of Montgomery, La.

On Tuesday, Oct. 30th, the great Hows & Cushing show will give two grand exhibitions.

Take Courage.

But a few years ago the Populists were derided, ridiculed and abused by the subsidized press and speakers of the country, and had it not been born of the spirit that is to rule this American people in the future, it must long since have succumbed to the effect of the villainous falsehoods that have been hurled at it. But not so; like all other revolutions it is never to go backward, but onward and finally accomplish the good work intended for it in the beginning. And like all other revolutions that have been successful in the redemption of nations, it started among the class of people that are not seeking office, therefore it is not susceptible of the charge of office seeking. It started where all opposition to oppression starts, among the oppressed masses. Where else could it have started? Who arises in their manhood to defend the country against a foreign enemy? The common masses, who as a rule know nothing but honesty and purity of purpose. The masses. And to the masses must all countries look for a healthy government. The most prominent men of both old parties are recognizing this fact, and are fast throwing off the bond of allegiance to the old parties whose days of usefulness they feel is over, and honestly casting their powerful intelligence with the masses of the people in this great reform movement. As a matter of course, these men are doing so after investigation and conviction that such a move is right, and there is no better evidence than the fact that they always give invincible and unanswerable argument in support of their action.

This class of men was, of course, slow to move without investigation—this was right, and adds greatly to their standing as men of thought and intelligence, and the fact that they have come speaks volumes in their favor, as men who have the courage of their convictions. When they decided that such a course was right they dared to face all the opprobrious epithets that could be hurled at them by the two old parties, and they to-day, are bright, shining lights in the estimation of all men who love truth, justice and honor. Judge Lyman Trumbull in a speech at Chicago, on the 6th of October, told the people in very plain words why he had left the Democratic party, and he also told them that it behooved every man in this country to put his shoulder to the wheel and save this country from the certain doom that now overshadows it. He told them that the prevailing conditions were brought about by legislation which both old parties had aided in bringing about, and that neither old party would ever attempt to overthrow the money power that is now driving the people into slavery as fast as possible.

And in Denver, Col., on October 12, Alfred Steels, secretary, and A. H. Flood, Treasurer, of the Republican league, resigned their positions and severed their connections with the Republican party, because the national Republican party did not favor the free coinage of silver. Let us say to our friends that the leaven is working, and it will not do to falter by the wayside, but come out to the polls and vote for the Hon. B. W. Bailey, who is on the platform of the party that is pledged to all the reforms demanded by the people.

Hon. H. W. Ogden the Man.

The Democratic executive committee of the Fourth Congressional District met in Shreveport on Saturday, the 13th inst., the committee was called to order by the chairman, Hon. D. C. Scarborough, and after a few preliminaries Mr. L. K. Watkins of Webster, filed a protest on behalf of Judge J. T. Watkins, charging numerous acts of fraud in the primary election, charging illegal voting at the following places: Bienville, Prothro box, Union church and Sparta, in Bienville parish, Coushatta, Red River, Spring Ridge, Jewella, Summer Grove and James Bayou in

Caddo parish, and at Antonia box in Grant parish—as well as wholesale fraud in Rapides.

A compromise was finally reached by which Mr. Ogden was declared the nominee of the party by a majority of 166. Now, as to whether there was or was not fraud does not concern us any further than we deplore such a principle, if the Democrats can not have a fair election in their own household when they have it all their own way, it certainly should be a warning to the people to denounce and put down such a practice by overwhelming majorities at the polls, voting such a party into oblivion. The ballot of the American citizen is his only safeguard against tyranny and oppression, it is the only distinction between a republican form of government and a despotism. Therefore, we say that he should go to the polls on election day, and put his seal of condemnation upon it, and have the manhood to see that his ballot is not stolen from him. Recollect that Mr. Watkins and Mr. Ogden are both Democrats, and this charge has been made in the Democratic party, and is therefore self accusation and confession. In conclusion, let us urge every man to go to the polls and vote for the People's party candidate, and thereby show to the world that the wholesale fraud at the ballot box must stop.

Then Meet Us.

We learn that some of the so-called Democrats have been intimating that Mr. Bailey was only a pipe woods school boy. Now to all such we make this proposition. Get any of the most prominent speakers of the Democratic party in the Fourth Congressional District, it matters not who he may be, and Mr. Bailey will meet him on the stump and discuss the issues of the day. This is a fair proposition, do you accept it?

Shows Their Weakness.

The Democrats of the Third District made a proposition to the Republicans to have a joint white primary in which the names of their respective candidates were to be submitted to the white vote of the district, this as claimed, would eliminate the negro from politics as the disturbing element. The proposition is identically the same as that submitted to the Democrats in the Fourth District by the Populists, and which was rejected by the Democrats. In regard to the Republicans rejecting the proposition in the Third District, the Picayune has this to say: "That the rejection of the proposition by the Republicans is a confession of their weakness." If it is thus construed in the Third District it can also be thus construed in the Fourth District, and the only conclusion left is that the Democrats of the Fourth District were afraid to risk their chances in the hands of the intelligent white people.

Another significant fact prominently looms up as a further reason why the Democrats of the Fourth District rejected the proposition of the Populists, and that is that it has become very convenient in the Southern States to have a black belt to rely upon, that never fails to roll up a big majority in favor of white supremacy. Yet the Democrats are uncaring in their attempts to frighten the people with the old worn out hobby of "negro domination," but the better thinking people have quit taking stock in such nonsense. First and foremost, the negro does not want to "dominate" anybody; and secondly, he could not if he wanted to. It is an insult to any white man to tell him that the time will ever come when the negro will dominate the caucasian race.

This old cry of negro domination is kept up by scheming politicians as a pretext to stuff ballot boxes. It might have worked once, but it won't work since the people have begun to educate themselves. The Democrats are put to such straightened circumstances that in one district they refuse to do what they offer to do in an adjoining district. This shows us conclusively that they are not sincere in what they

pretend. If as they claimed it was to the interest of the country to accept this proposition in the Third district, from the same course of reasoning, it would have been to the interest of the country to accept it in the Fourth district. The terrible doom of impending dissolution of the Democratic party is carrying them in a wild career into positions that are wholly inconsistent and irreconcilable.

Democracy vs. Greenbacks.

In the report of the Secretary of the Treasury for 1888, on page 433, the following statement may be found:

"The \$346,000,000 of greenbacks are the weak point in our currency system. The gold coins and certificates stand first, the national bank notes next, the silver coins and certificates third, and the greenbacks last in order of assured value, and it would be a great benefit to the whole mass of the currency if this, its frailest element, could be eliminated from it.

The present state of things seem favorable to the substitution of national bank notes for greenbacks, and to that end I venture to submit for the consideration of Congress the following measures:

1. Funding in bonds the greenback debt of \$346,681,016, or so much of it as may be presented at the Treasury within a limited period of time, say three years.
2. The bonds to be issued only to national banks presenting greenbacks for that purpose, to bear a low rate of interest, not exceeding 2 1/2 per cent. and to mature only upon the failure of the bank or upon its dissolution, whether voluntary or upon expiration of its corporate existence.
3. The bonds so issued to be available only as a deposit to secure national bank circulation and to entitle the banks depositing them to receive circulation notes to the amount of their face."

The report was made under Mr. Cleveland's first administration and doubtless reflects the real sentiment of the administration at the present time. We ask a careful reading of the above in order to understand more fully the meaning of the following extract taken from a recent letter of Mr. Henry Clews, a correspondent of Wall street. He says:

"Wall street is already beginning to occupy itself with the prospects of the coming Congressional elections. The main matter around which interest centres is the currency question. It is taken for granted that, that issue must come up for settlement, even though the session of Congress be the short one; and much interest turns on the question—how far the disposition of the next Congress may be changed on the currency question. The possibility that both parties, owing to party competition, may bid for the votes of the Populists is the main cause of any uneasiness on this account. There has been no Congressional action to show very clearly how Congressional opinion stands upon the currency issue; but among members of the house who have been best situated to form a judgment, there is strong hope that it may be found possible to carry through, before next March, a measure that will set at rest the silver and flat money crazes through putting our bank currency system upon a broader and more liberal and yet absolutely secure basis, and by substituting it for the 500 millions of government notes which now constitute the weak feature of the monetary system."

We wish to warn the people here and now that the Democratic party is expected to destroy the greenback currency during the present administration. That party has destroyed silver and no doubt will undertake and quite likely accomplish the destruction of the people's paper money.—National Watchman.

ALABAMA.

Those seven blackbelt counties go on official record as follows:

	Oates.	Kolb.
Barbour.....	3,407	657
Ballock.....	2,809	290
Dallas.....	6,517	167
Hale.....	2,725	382
Lowndes.....	4,995	361
Montgomery.....	4,930	280
Wilcox.....	6,370	181
Total.....	31,153	2,468
Oates.....	27,685	

In this shameful manner the record of Democratic infamy is placed before the world. Think of it a Democratic majority only in the black counties of a Southern State. What would Phillipp and Garrison say if they were alive.

Subscribe for the POPULIST.

Georgia Election.

Great sensational developments are following the election in the State of Georgia; wholesale fraud, bribery and buying of votes charged, and many prominent Democrats will be prosecuted. The frauds committed are shocking in the extreme and the returns from several counties have been held back for the purpose of bringing out such vote as will be necessary to give a Democratic majority when the vote is finally tabulated on the 24th inst., by the general assembly. The Populist by a fair count have elected ninety members of the House and twenty Senators. The Democrats have conceded the election of sixty Representatives and eleven Senators.

The frauds are so glaring and outrageous as to disgust the better element of the people, and it assures a triumphant success for the Populists in 1896. There has been a gain of about 67,000 Populists in two years, even taking the Democratic returns. Look out for the land slide in 1896.

The Populists had a speaking at Coushatta on the 10th inst., Maj. A. L. Cox and Hon. B. W. Bailey addressed an audience of about 500. A proposition from the Democrats for a joint discussion was accepted. Mr. Bailey opened the discussion with a half hours talk, in which he forcibly and fluently expounded the demands of his party. He was followed by J. C. Pugh, with half an hour, in which he flaunted the bloody shirt and derided the Populists for being allies of the Republicans. Mr. Pugh was followed by Mr. J. F. Pierson with half an hour. He foamed and stewed over the "wah," something that has been settled so far as the people are concerned, for twenty-five years. He also tore his shirt over the old twaddle of "negro domination," but he very ingeniously omitted to tell the people that the People's party had offered to eliminate this question from the campaign, but the Democrats refused the proposition.

It seems that if there is any chance under the sun to revive the old reconstruction antipathy between the negro and the white man, the Democrats are determined to do so by constantly agitating this question, and the fact that they have refused to settle it in the only manner possible, is evidence that they have no other object in view.

The negro of the South is now settled down to a normal business condition where they will remain peaceably and quietly if the Democrats will let them. To say the least of it, such nonsense comes with bad grace from a party whose chief executive has appointed negroes to high positions. We think it is time to stop such "balderdash" unless they at least "show their faith by their works."

Mr. U. Vincent then closed the discussion with a one and a half hour talk, in which he literally tore the false structure from under the old Democratic bulk, and to the discomfiture of the Democrats present left the old ship to sink from the weight of its own corruption. Mr. Vincent showed conclusively where the Democrats were equally responsible with the Republicans for the contraction of the currency. We would like to give more of his speech, but space will not admit it.

Exceeded Their Expectations.

Some of the more liberal minded Democrats after conversing with Hon. B. W. Bailey, say that he is not the crank or illiterate person of whom the People's party is generally supposed to be composed, but that he is well posted, intelligent and fluent, and from an intellectual standpoint far superior to the Democratic candidate. Why not vote for him then?

A few years ago when the reform papers said that the contraction of the currency would put cotton down to 5 cents, and wheat to 35 cents, they were called fools, cranks and anarchists. We want to know what you think about it now.