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SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1878.

Political Parties.

In every government where the people rule by delegating power to representatives, two political parties, and only two, are necessary for the proper conduct of public affairs—parties formed by the combination of a certain portion of the population to establish certain general principles for an end, and by the remaining portion to establish other principles for another end. The development of constitutional law, the ends of justice, and the free and equal action of the citizens, demand that such parties be organized upon general principles and not particular cases, and for the sole object of keeping the balance of power in equal poise.

In all forms of government there is a principle of action which predominates, so in a Republican form we have a social power which is ever active to rule. This element looks upon the limitations established by law as burdensome, and is slow to regard any right of person or property which comes in conflict with its prejudices or imagined prerogative, and if permitted to remain long unchecked, would in time become unlimited power. The natural constitution of such a free government provides an opposing principle which combats and retards the social and forces it to moderate its own vehemence.

This political element in our country has been represented for the last twenty years by the Republican party at the North and its Radical wing at the South. The circumstances of patriotic enthusiasm during our civil troubles and the unlooked for results of the war added greatly to its ranks, and imparted a power which carried it on from conquest to conquest until almost absolute supremacy had been acquired. During this long period of success, power was maintained by securing the control of the party to leaders who desired wealth and ease, and were unwilling to employ the honest means by which others obtained the same ends; and to perpetuate this control they lured the laboring classes by promises of a final relief, through the party, from the cares incident to their modes of life. At the North higher rates of wages and the control of labor over capital, were held out as the ruling influence, while at the same time the moneyed men were pacified by favorable tariff and bond enactments; at the South the prejudices of the colored people were excited against the white race, and promises of confiscation of property were made, by which forty acres of land and a mule were to be allotted to each family. Single individuals were caused to look forward to positions in a higher sphere of life than their most sanguine expectations led them to believe; while the white race was weakened by discriminating laws which excluded them from all participation in the affairs of the government. Assurance was made doubly sure to the ignorant masses in both sections, by the presence of a large standing army which pointed to the verification of the tyrants' dogma: "To the victors belong the spoils."

The legitimate fruits of so base a policy were manifest in every portion of the Union, and more glaringly noticeable at the South and in Washington and the larger cities of New England and the West. At the North failures in business circles, depression in all industries among the moneyed classes, and poverty and want among the laborers followed the working of the Higher Law; at the South, war of races, political blight and corruption, official extravagance and misrule, and government oppression of the white citizens by exorbitant taxation were the inevitable results of Radicalism. In 1876 the historic case of Housty

versus Dishonesty was brought to trial before the Supreme Tribunal of a free government, the people, a verdict of "guilty" was rendered against the dominant party, and its execution at the North was ordered for the 4th of March when the inauguration of Mr. Hayes should deprecate the miserable culprit by taking Grant from the throne, and at the South for the January when that of Hampton should complete the ceremony by driving the contemptible haubergain with his Constables from the Capitol of South Carolina.

Thus a complete and, it is to be hoped, a final check has been given to this social power, the most dangerous element in a Republican Government, by disorganizing the Republican party at the North and not only disorganizing the Radical wing at the South but dispersing its leaders from Dan to Bersheba. Or the combinations which appear to be forming out of the remains of the old party we may have occasion to speak hereafter. In the meantime let the Democrats be upon the watch.

He that Hath Ears to Hear, Let Him Hear.

There never has been, and perhaps never will be again, a more momentous occasion to the citizens of Orangeburg than the approaching election; and it will decide the question whether the Democrats, understanding their position, will be united and conquer, or divided, be defeated. To secure so desirable an end as success, let there be laid in every section a general canvass of the fitness of our representative men in order that the most capable may be put in nomination by whatever method the Executive Committee, in their wisdom may see fit to order.

Upon that election pend the future salvation of the county and prosperity of her citizens of every color. The interest is too great to be trifled with by allowing personal prejudices to come in between the citizen and his manly duty, and the dangers are too thick to hazard that interest upon any untried political scheme. It is better, infinitely better to correct, by well directed efforts, the evils complained of in the old Convention plan than to incur, in the Primary Election system, the dangers of which we know nothing. The colored votes in this county outnumber those of the whites by 1200 or 1500 majority which we must overcome by fair and honest means. Yet we cannot believe that our colored citizens, especially the intelligent portion, with the revelations of the last few years before them, will refuse to unite with us in working out at the ballot box a common prosperity for both races. Better counsel than that of the last decade will prevail and the result of the next election will prove that South Carolina, and not Liberia, is to be the scenes of the colored man's moral elevation and material prosperity notwithstanding Judge Mackey's speech at Maroney's hotel.

[COMMUNICATED.] Primary Elections

Editor Orangeburg Times:

Your last paper being filled with arguments against the primary system of nominations, recommended by the State Executive Committee, it may be in order in this issue to take a view of the opposite side of the picture.

Your correspondent has read with care both your editorial and the communication signed "A Hampton Democrat," and he has failed to find a single argument against the primary system, which does not apply with equal, if not greater force, against the convention system.

Before reviewing these arguments let us briefly compare the two systems, in order that the subject may be clearly understood, as doubtless much of the opposition to the primary system arises from ignorance on the part of the people as to its aim and workings.

Doubtless the chief object of the State Executive Committee in recommending the primary system was to abate, if not entirely remove, the very thing, strangely used as an argument against it, viz: "Corruption in the shape of cliques, wirepulling and axe-grinding." Such are rather the attendants of conventions than of primaries, from the fact that it is much easier for wire-pullers to manipulate a few men than to manipulate the whole people.

Before the war men were nominated for office by the people through the papers or otherwise, as is proposed by the primary system, and were elected upon their merit, and not on account of their political combinations or supposed availability.

Since the war upon the advent of Radicalism, conventions became fashionable. In the Radical party they immediately became the vehicles upon which the shrewdest and most corrupt politicians invariably succeeded to power. In the Democratic party of course it was different, but still the increasing tendency to undue influences through stock delegates and political combinations suggested a change. This change is recommended by the State Executive Committee in the primary system, which refers the matter directly to the people.

Every county arranges its own plan of conducting primaries, but the general idea is simply this:

On a certain day before the general election the polls are opened at every precinct from sunrise to sunset, during which time every Democrat goes to the ballot box and puts in his own vote for his choice for the nominees of the party, instead of twenty-five men clubbing together and sending a man to the convention to do their voting for them. The votes are then counted in such a way as may be agreed upon, and the candidates receiving the majority of the votes are declared the nominees of the party.

Now for a consideration of some of the objections raised against the system:

1st. It is argued by "A Hampton Democrat," that it will be "the vehicle upon which the office-seekers are to ride into power."

Now I would like to know if it makes any difference with office-seekers from whence the office comes. Will the fact that the office they seek is offered by the convention, instead of the people, make the number of office-seekers any smaller, or their aspirations and intrigues less ardent? In fact it is not probable that the smaller vote to manipulate, as before said, and the greater secrecy and opportunities for wire pulling in conventions, offer a more enticing field for office seekers than the people through primaries.

And again, if men will seek office it would seem that the people, which is the meaning of the primary system, is the proper "vehicle upon which" they "are to ride into power."

The primary plan will tend more to harmony also on this score, that defeated candidates before conventions will croak about stock delegates' manipulations &c., and become fit subjects for bolting, but when the people vote them down in primaries they will be compelled to see and admit that they are not the people's choice.

2nd. It is argued that in the primary system the populous sections will have an advantage over the sparsely settled communities.

Now who can fail to see the fallacy of this argument? Are not all sections represented in the convention according to population? Therefore have not the populous sections at least the same relative vote and therefore the same advantage in the convention as they have out of it, or at the primaries? Is not the ratio the same?

But I assert that the populous sections have even a greater chance of monopolizing the offices in the convention than in the primaries, from the simple fact that in the convention the entire delegation of a populous section is likely to vote one way, as the minority is left at home, while at the primaries this minority can not so easily be whipped into line. The danger therefore is not, as expressed, that the town of Orangeburg will monopolize the offices in the primary system, but in the convention system. The country, being able always to out-vote the town, can very well take care of itself in the primaries, and even get some of the town vote, but at the convention the Court House holds ten votes in fact and generally enjoys the advantage of political shrewdness in its delegation.

3d. It is argued that the people won't turn out at Primaries. But is it not worse on this score in the convention system?

Do not Clubs frequently meet with only ten or fifteen men and send delegates to the Convention when the club list numbers over a

hundred. Even at Orangeburg Court House, where the club meets at night, when the merchants and clerks are at leisure, and almost all are within near walking distance of the hall, when the last delegation was sent to the convention the highest delegate only received 34 votes out of a club numbering over 200.

In the primary system however, the importance of the matter, the natural interest excited, and the length of time the polls are open, will be likely to bring out a better proportional representation, and more satisfactorily reflect the voice of the people.

4th. A frivolous objection is made to some oath suggested by the State Convention. Now all such details of arrangements are left to the several counties to adjust according to their wishes. Therefore this objection is anticipated. Besides, whatever obligations rest upon a Democrat in the primaries, are equally binding upon him in conventions.

5th. It is said that the machinery of the primaries is too cumbersome and expensive. I am utterly unable to see where either the cumbersome-ness or expense comes in. Even if the managers of elections require compensation, what is this trifling amount in comparison to the object aimed at. As to the intricacy of machinery; because Fairfield, Newberry, Williamsburg and other counties that have adopted the primary system have drawn up their plans with pains and legal precision, why should this be made a bug bear? It would be as reasonable to refuse to accept a tract of land because the title-deed was too long and monotonous.

6th. It is argued that the primary system is dangerous before a political enemy superior in numbers. But is not this danger greater in the convention system? The danger here alluded to is from the bolting of defeated candidates. And is not the convention bolter a much more formidable adversary than the primary bolter, because while the former goes out with the common and plausible argument that he was defeated in the convention by ring delegates, and that the people would reverse the decision, the latter carries the dead weight of being already defeated by the people.

For the same reasons there is less danger of bolting at all from the primaries, and therefore more hope of harmony.

7th. It is said that it may entail numerous elections. This is unnecessary. It can be so arranged that one primary election will suffice.

I have thus endeavored, Mr. Editor, to meet some of the objections to the primary system, all of which I think are shown to be applicable in a stronger degree to the convention system. Having already trespassed too much upon your space, I will draw this article to a close by making a brief summary of the advantages of the primary over the convention system.

1st. It is more Democratic, coming closer to the people, and giving a better chance for the expression of the popular will.

2nd. It is more apt to give satisfaction, and keep the party together.

3rd. It presents greater obstacles to wire-pullers, and gives them less hope of success.

4th. It will be the death knell of fusion.

None but straightout Democrats stand any chance at primaries. Fusionists may as well turl their tents. The only hope of fusion and fusionists is in the convention, where prominent Democrats and Republicans may form a combination and carry out their plans by political maneuverings.

I have thus been full and probably tedious on this subject Mr. Editor. From the fact that very soon a convention must be called for the sole purpose of deciding this very question. On this account the clubs should discuss the matter calmly and fairly as very soon every Democrat will have to make up his mind which he will prefer, the primary or the convention system. If he prefers the primary system, let him vote for primary delegates to the coming convention; but, if he prefers the continuance of the old convention system, then let him vote for convention delegates. Or, what is probably a better plan, let each club first pass a resolution defining its position on the subject, and then elect its delegates to the convention, who, whatever may

be their preferences or opinions, will then be bound by the action of their club.

DEMOCRAT.

[COMMUNICATED.]

PINE GROVE, S. C., April 29th 1878.

Editor Orangeburg Times:

As we seldom see in your popular columns, any intelligence from this section, we trust you will allow space for a few "dottings."

It was the privilege of the writer to visit, recently, what may be justly considered one of the finest and most interesting portions of this county. It is that, known as the "Fort Motte section," which lies on the waters of the Santee and Congaree rivers. It contains some of the largest and most fertile tracts of land in the county; abounds in beautiful natural scenery, and, as you are doubtless aware, is especially rich in associations connected with the past—even as far back as the Revolution. The writer while there, remembered that he was treading on "historic ground," and could but reflect upon the many changes, which have been wrought, within the past century, by "Old Time" in his flight. Even Lord Rawdon, who, it is said, slept badly one hundred years ago, on account of events, transpiring in this and adjacent sections, might now repose in quiet and security. Especially, Mr. Editor, could he be as fortunate as the writer, and find shelter under the hospitable roof, and be the guest of Mr. Joseph Guess, who knows how to entertain his guests as well as any other Guess that could be guessed. It was here that the valorous deeds of the gallant Mrs. Rebecca Motte were performed. After the British had taken possession of her new mansion, converted her premises into a fort, and compelled her to retire and take refuge in the house of her overseer, she produced, and, it is said, discharged with her own hands, the famous combustible arrows, which carried terror to the hearts of the enemy, and fire to her own dwelling, in which they were concealed. Noble woman! Can history produce an example of purer patriotic devotion than this fair daughter of our own county? It was at this place that Marion, Lee and Howard dined together. On one occasion, Tarleton came "very near blushing" on account of having horses in his possession, which had been stolen, from this section. The Geologist may find here a productive field in which to operate; and devotees at the shrine of the beautiful and sublime, may have all their fancies gratified. It is to be regretted that a region so fair and attractive, should ever have been visited by his satanic majesty, yet such is unquestionably true, for "The Devil's Track" is to be seen plainly imprinted on one of the largest rocks. But to return to our own section.

Our Democratic club has been reorganized, under favorable circumstances, and we are now ready to do the bidding of our leaders. Measures looking to the organization of a colored Democratic club have been inaugurated. Perfect harmony seems to exist among all classes. The seeds of discord which have been scattered broadcast, are gradually being rooted out, and when the proper time shall have come, there will go up no uncertain sound from this quarter.

The farming interests of this community, are in a prosperous condition, only we sadly feel the need of rain. This matter, however, is in the hands of One, wiser than we, and the gentle and refreshing showers, will doubtless descend in due season.

Intelligence has just reached us of the death of Dr. A. T. Darby, one of our oldest and most useful citizens. These dotings are closed with best wishes for your success.

IRA

NOTICE.

The Managers of Election, for the General Election of 1876, are requested to make out and forward AT ONCE to the undersigned their accounts for services. They are allowed \$2.00 per day for actual services, and ten cents per mile one way. There has been a small appropriation for the expenses of said Election.

E. A. WEBSTER.

may 14 It

Notice—Is hereby given that I have this day appointed E. F. Aiken Deputy Coroner for Orange Township, and that said appointment is duly approved of by his Honor T. J. Mackey, Presiding Judge 1st Circuit.

J. J. MITCHELL,
Coroner Orangeburg County.

may 6th A. D. 1878. It

Dried Figs, Raisins, Nuts, &c., sold Cheap by A. FISCHER.

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., April 27th 1878.
In accordance with the Act of Assembly No. 499 approved March 22d 1878, my Books will be open for the collections of Taxes for the fiscal year commencing November 1st 1877, from the first day of May 1878 to the first day of June 1878.

The rates of Taxation are as follows:
For State purposes, 4 1/2 mills on all Taxable property.

For past Indebtedness of Schools, 1 mill on all Taxable property.

For past Indebtedness of County, 1 mill on all Taxable property.

For ordinary County purposes, 3 mills on all Taxable property.

For support of Public Schools, 2 mills on all Taxable property.

For Poll Tax, One Dollar on each Taxable Poll.

Office hours from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.

ROBERT COPEL,
Treasurer Orangeburg County.

may 4

NOTICE.

OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., April 27th 1878.

In accordance with instructions from the Board of Equalization, I will be at the following named places for the collection of Taxes for the fiscal year commencing November 1st 1877, on the dates set opposite the name of each place.

At Orangeburg Court House May 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 13th, 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th, 30th and 31st.

Roxesville, Wednesday May 8th.

Branchville, Thursday May 9th.

Lewisville, Friday May 10th.

Fort Motte, Saturday May 11th.

Cedar Grove, Tuesday May 14th.

Easterlin's, Wednesday May 15th.

Felder's, Monday May 20th.

J. H. Felder's, Tuesday May 21st.

Avinger's, Wednesday May 22nd.

Club House, Thursday May 23rd.

Zeigler's, Monday May 27th.

Knotts Mill, Tuesday May 28th.

R. S. Glenon's Store, Wednesday May 29th.

Office hours from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.

ROBERT COPEL,
Treasurer Orangeburg County.

may 4

HEAD QUARTERS OF SECOND BRIGADE.

SO. CA., VOLUNTEER STATE TROOPS.

BAMBERG, S. C., 29 April, 1878.

Special Order No. 4, Series of 1878.

1. It is desirable that the Companies in Orangeburg County belonging to this Brigade be formed into a Battalion or Regiment, and that an election be held for field officers of same at the earliest period practicable.

The Commanding officer of each of said Companies will, therefore, report to these Head Quarters, on or before the fifteenth day of May, 1878, the name of his Company, the date of his Commission, his post office address, and a full and complete roster of the officers and men in his command.

By order Brig. Gen. BAMBERG.

AND C. DIBBLE,
A. A. G., 20th Brig V. S. O.

may 4

Manhood! How Lost, How Restored!

Just published, a new edition of Dr. Bulwer's Celebrated Essay, on the medical cure (without medicine) of Spematorrhoea or Seminal weakness, involuntary Seminal losses, Impotency, Mental and physical incapacity, Impediments to marriage, etc., also, Consumption, Epilepsy and Fits, induced by self-indulgence or sexual extravagance, &c. Price, in a sealed envelope, only six cents.

The celebrated author, in this admirable Essay, clearly demonstrates, from a thirty years' successful practice, that the alarming consequences of self-abuse may be radically cured without the dangerous use of internal medicine or the application of the knife; pointing out a mode of cure at once simple, certain, and effectual, by means of which every sufferer, no matter what his condition may be, may cure himself cheaply, and radically.

This Lecture should be in the hands of every youth and every man in the land.

Sent under seal, in a plain envelope, to any address, post paid, on receipt of six cents or two postage stamps.

Address the Publishers,
THE BULWER MEDICAL CO.,
41 Ann St., New York; Post Office-Box, 4534.

may 4

Administrator's Notice.

All persons indebted to the Estate of Daniel Riley, deceased, will make immediate payment; and all persons holding claims against said Estate will present the same for payment to the undersigned on or before the first day of January next or they will be barred by payment.

O. B. RILEY,
J. RHEET RILEY,
apl 27—31 Qualified Administrators.

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apl 27

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