

**EDITORIAL**

and through the House by Mr. Farris is but carrying out the expression OF THE PEOPLE'S WILL.

In it no material change is made in the government of the city.

The Bond Trustees are still paramount in authority and have under their control all the departments of the city.

In fact, authority has been added to them, by placing that of another board in their hands.

The power of PERPETUATING THEMSELVES IN OFFICE is taken away from them, and the power to CHOOSE THEIR OWN RULERS IS RESTORED TO THE PEOPLE.

The Bond Trustees are to be ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE.

Mr. Buckman distinguished himself in the last Legislature by passing the Buckman bill.

He has done a great work in this session, when, in conjunction with Mr. Farris, he has passed this bill, which sets these people free.

And Mr. Farris has signalized his first entry into the Legislative body of the State WITH A TRIUMPH that will last him all through his career.

It is NOW UP TO THE GOVERNOR, and the majority of the citizens of Jacksonville expect HIM TO DO HIS DUTY.

This man Broward has grown greatly since he belonged to the faction that now controls the Bond Trustees and by it the government of Jacksonville.

He has been relieved from the narrowing influences of partisan politics.

He has developed a broad statesmanship which I believe will enable him to see that THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO GOVERN THEMSELVES is superior to the wishes of a few people, even though they have been his political friends.

He vetoed a bill changing the city charter of Jacksonville that passed at the last session.

He was suspected of yielding to the influence of Murdoch Barrs.

I do not believe this is true.

He knows Barrs as well as other people know him, and knowing him well, he knows that Barrs is a Barrs man first, a politician second and a patriot third.

I believe he vetoed the bill because he was afraid that the police department of the city of Jacksonville would be turned over to the politicians, and he has for many years made sacrifices to prevent this, on account of his fear that whisky and gambling would rule the city when politicians got it. That was a different proposition, and if Mr. Barrs ever had any influence with the Governor, he must have lost it since his conspicuous opposition to the principle of the franchise tax, which was displayed in a committee meeting a short time ago.

Then again, more than any other man in this State Governor Broward has preached the doctrine that THE PEOPLE CAN BE TRUSTED.

He did the unusual thing when he stumped the State for drainage, laying down the principle that when you want instruction, GO TO THE PEOPLE FOR IT.

He can not refuse to recognize this principle now that it is put up to him, and the law making the Board of Bond Trustees elected by the people is an exemplification of this principle.

Let not any one tell me that the politicians will run the city because its ruling board is elected by the people.

The only hope of the survival of the democratic form of government is that THE PEOPLE CAN BE TRUSTED.

The only way to keep alive the principle of human liberty is to trust the people, and although it sometimes appears NOT TO BE SO, I believe that the people CAN BE TRUSTED.

Whenever I arrive at a different conclusion, I will don the red shirt and join the bomb-throwers.

Governor Broward has a chance to restore the right of self-government to the people of Jacksonville.

I believe he will sign the bill.

**I HAVE MET A MAN.**

The confession of guilt made by Messrs. Abrams and Taylor, who were accused of criminally libeling former Governor Jennings, is more than a vindication of a man who has been maligned.

Owing to his position as former Governor of the State, the charges made against him reflected on the name of the State, and his acquittal of them was Florida's triumph.

Although displaying a patience under calumny hard for the average tempered man to understand, Mr. Jennings faced his accusers boldly and uncompromisingly when he was at last aroused.

With equal boldness did Mr. Abrams answer the call for a show-down.

But the similarity ended where it began.

Mr. Jennings was bold and defiant at all stages of this judicial procedure, and remained so to the finish.

Mr. Abrams commenced to "wetch" soon after the preliminary hearing, and was a "quitter," taking his punishment with hands down at the end.

I have never allowed myself to be numbered among Mr. Jennings' friends, admirers or well-wishers, and this gives me the chance to say without the deadening effect that partisanship gives to words like these—

That by his course and by his triumph Mr. Jennings has earned the right to enjoy the respect, confidence and esteem of all men capable of weighing and digesting truth and justice, and the friendship of those with whom he may have personal relations.

I regard this vindication of Jennings and this conviction of his traducers as a matter of State interest, and will treat the subject at greater length and with more completeness in the weekly edition of this paper, so that it may have a general State circulation.

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