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The Brenham Banner

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Advertisements:

Transient and Local advertisements inserted at \$1.00 per square for first insertion, and 75 cents per square for each subsequent insertion.

Marriage and Ordinary notices, exceeding eight lines, half price. Editorial notices of a party of business character, 10 cents a line each insertion.

Announcements will be inserted at the following rates: State and District offices, \$10.00; County, \$5.00; Precinct, \$3.00. The money to accompany the announcements, in every instance.

The island of Cyprus has been formally taken possession of by Great Britain.

Surgeon makes a summary disposal of Bob, Ingersoll's "He is a green watermelon."

The Texas Teachers' convention to be held at Mexia has been postponed to August 6th.

The La Grange Record is opposed to public executions and does not believe in capital punishment.

The negroes in South Carolina are abandoning the Republican party, and going over to the Democrats.

It is estimated by the Treasury department that there is now about \$2,000,000 of counterfeit coin in circulation.

Dr. LINDERMANN, the director of the mint, advocates the immediate payment of the interest in the public debt in silver.

The Montreal authorities prevented the parade of the Orangemen on the 12th inst, and thus prevented a riot and bloodshed.

KELLOGG has been before the Potter investigation committee at Washington giving his opinion about the Louisiana affair.

An English architect has "figured up" that it would cost at the present time nearly \$150,000,000 to build the great pyramid.

LIEUT. FREMONT was married on board a steamer bound for Liverpool, May 30th. The bride was Miss Mary Anderson, the actress.

The Galveston News thinks it is unkind in many of the Texas newspapers to make any inquiry concerning Lang's salary as Master of the Grange.

The first stage of the Transcontinental line which left Fort Worth for Fort Yuma, was attacked by robbers near Granbury, and the passengers relieved of their wealth.

A BERLIN dispatch of the 15th says it is expected that the official publication of the treaty of peace will follow its ratification, which will be effected within a month from date of signing. The document will be printed to-night and signed to-morrow.

SECRETARY SHERMAN has in hand in the treasury \$161,000,000 in actual gold coin. \$121,000,000 of which has been accumulated since he became secretary, for the special purpose of redeeming outstanding legal tender notes. He says the coin on hand is amply sufficient for the purpose of resumption and that he would make no further sale of bonds on this amount.

The Colorado Citizen feels satisfied that Jones can easily be beat. It seems that idea that Hancock is the only man who can beat him. It regards G. Washington Jones as a dead cock in the pit. His opposition to conventions and utopian Greenback ideas have killed him. It thinks either Shepard or Hancock can defeat the colonel.

On Wednesday last Seth Shepard addressed a large audience at Hill's Prairie, Bastrop county. He discussed the financial question in an able manner. There were Greenbackers present who seemed gratified with the new phase in which the question was presented. The Galveston News' report says Mr. Shepard made many warm friends.

SHEPARD, JONES AND HANCOCK.

The Statesman and Gazette have undertaken to force the nomination of Judge Hancock for Congress by attempting to create the impression that Jones has developed so much strength that no one but Hancock can defeat him.

Their arguments are based on the letters of "N. A. T." to the News and the statements of "leading Democrats," whose names are not given.

In our opinion Shepard is stronger than Hancock, and is the most available candidate to oppose Jones. In the first place, the unanimity with which he has been endorsed by the staunch Democracy of Williamson, Lee, Burleson, Milam and other counties, attests the hold that Shepard has upon the people generally. If Hancock be the most popular man and the most available candidate, why is it that the people have given so little evidence of the fact.

In the counties of Fayette and Colorado it is claimed that no one but Hancock can carry the German vote, the most of which, it is charged, was cast for Jones at the last election. While Hancock may be the first choice of the majority of the Germans of those counties, it does not follow that they will oppose Shepard because Hancock is not nominated. Even the correspondents of the News have ascertained that they will not support Jones because of his irredeemable paper money theories. We attended a barbecue in Fayette county on the 4th, at which there was an immense concourse of intelligent Germans. We there learned of their general dissatisfaction with Jones. The talk about Jones' unionism in 1861 giving him strength is mere bosh. Jones was a Union man, but instead of leaving the country with Judge Hancock, he voluntarily entered the Confederate army as a Lieutenant Colonel and served with distinction, and he takes frequent occasion to harp upon his military services whenever he has an audience he thinks it will take with.

Shepard was in the Confederate army too, for a while, but was only eighteen years of age when he was ended. His public career is well known to the Germans of Austin, Fayette and Washington counties; his fidelity to the Union to-day, and his devotion to the whole country is unquestioned. Sensible Germans are heartily sick of the "bloody shirt." They do not appreciate the patriotism of those who condemn its waving by the opponents of Hancock to excite the prejudices of a few old secessionists, and yet, at the same time, are eternally waiving it themselves to rekindle the prejudices of those who may have espoused and suffered for the Union during the war. It is no compliment to their sense or their patriotism, and they so consider it.

Again, if the sapient editors of the Austin papers be correct in believing that Judge Hancock possesses this wonderful influence over the Germans, could he not, by taking the stump, carry them for another if nominated? Could he not have carried them for Giddings in 1876 had he made an effort? If he could, and yet failed to do it, does he deserve the support of the Democracy?

It has been claimed by some, with what show of truth we do not pretend to know, that a great part of Jones' strength in the last race was due to the fact that he avowed revenge for the defeat of Hancock as the cause of his opposition to Giddings. It is feared that the lukewarmness of Hancock will be used by those Democrats who admired the course of Shepard, who, after a defeat by less than a majority of the convention, stumped the District for the nominee and labored specially among his own friends

REFORM IN THE POLITICAL CANVASS.

Thinking and sane men—men of intelligence and sound judgment are becoming heartily tired and disgusted with the manner in which political canvasses have heretofore been conducted, and are clamorous for a change or reform in this direction. More sober reasoning and less of partisan prejudice and littleness is what is wanted. The discussion of men, measures and principles should be conducted with gentlemanly courtesy and decorum; intolerant and slanderous discussions should be done away with; the time has passed when any good can be accomplished by such debates. Of what really good influence are the sheer assertions and exaggerated declamations of the political rostrum when figures of speech and the play of fancy is substituted for straight-forward argument and authentic historical data? Are they not worse than useless? Do they not occasion, instead of remedy, public evils? If so, are they worthy of rational beings? These are questions that should be answered, that a speedy remedy may be applied to the existing evil.

But, to approach the subject more nearly, is there any honest, sensible discussion during the majority of the political contests of the present day? Do we not more frequently find in its stead bold assertions, a garbling or suppression of facts, violent denunciation coupled with revolting personal abuse? The vast number of political speeches made last year and this, with a few honorable exceptions, were such as we have described. Men have stood up before crowds of people and, in an effort to amuse them, said things of which they would be utterly ashamed in their private intimacy. That such a procedure should not be only tolerated, but popular, is by no means creditable to our masses.

We are, therefore, of the opinion there is infinite danger as well as folly in the present system of political canvassing, for the reason that it has a tendency to demoralize public sentiment, and facilitates blind violence, and, we would suggest, as a remedy, the calm, dispassionate discussion, both through the press and on the rostrum, of the political issues of the day. A few journalists and speakers, to their honor be it said, endeavor to pursue the only safe and sensible course, but by far the greater number prefer the worse.

The method adopted in the southern States prior to the war was by far the best. Opposing candidates then spoke from the same rostrum in courteous and gentlemanly debate; nay, often traveled together, put up at the same hotel, and often occupied the same room. Thus the most gentlemanly tone was preserved; the masses were instructed in courtesy as well as in facts, and when a pretender or falsifier appeared, he was quickly exposed and held up to the ridicule of the audience.

Had we such a system now in operation, our public meetings would awaken a three-fold interest, and the crowds who attend them, instead of coming together chiefly on a sort of a boisterous frolic, would come to listen and be convinced. As it is, the speaker only reaches those who are already of the same opinion. In the other case, his superior argument and persuasive power would influence others, who had had entertained contrary views.

DENNIS KEARNEY, the working-man's champion of California, is going East in the interest of his party, and says he will make Ben Butler president of these United States in 1880. Kearney is a San Francisco drayman and is an illiterate man.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The composition of our commissioners' Court is well known. There are five commissioners—one Democrat, one Independent (elected by Republican votes) and two Republicans—both colored men. The chief business of this court seems to be the issuing of county scrip. In February last the commissioners' court published a financial report, showing the county's indebtedness to be about \$16,000 and claiming that there was more than enough back taxes due and collectable to pay it off. Notwithstanding this favorable showing, the county's credit is at an exceedingly low ebb. Scrip issued against the general fund is now slow sale at 70 to 75 cents on the dollar. Taxpayers should remember that the county pays dollar for dollar for this scrip. If it is received for taxes it is the same as money, that is, the county takes it at par value. Buying scrip for a long time been a regular business here. The business is perfectly legitimate and the purchasers of the scrip are not in the least to blame. The fault is with the management of the county commissioners. They should regulate the expenditures of the county in such a manner as to prevent an over-issue of county scrip and its consequent depreciation. From the financial condition of the county, as shown by the published report, it would appear to be only reasonable that scrip should be maintained at something like a reasonable price. As it is at present the county loses from twenty-five to thirty cents on every dollar of expenditure. This result is brought about by bad management; it is not charged that the commissioners' court has been guilty of any dishonest practices; the whole trouble is simply that the commissioners are incompetent to manage the financial affairs of the county.

In making nominations for commissioners the people should put forward no man who is not a good business man and a fair financier. It is not necessary that the commissioners should be merchants; there are farmers and professional men who are fully competent to promote the interest of the people.

It now costs the county between \$3600 and \$3800 per annum to support her paupers. Scrip to that amount is issued, but the paupers do not realize more than the average price of scrip for it, or, say from 70 to 80 cents on the dollar. A poor or pauper farm should be purchased and the paupers maintained on it. By this means the county would reduce this expense probably one-half. County convicts could also be utilized.

The Georgetown Sun says that many more counties have instructed for Shepard than for Hancock and that Shepard is the strongest man. It says Hancock is now seeking the Democratic nomination, while it was apparent, not many weeks ago, that he was preparing the way to run against the nominee.

The St. Louis Republican is of the opinion that Redemier, who pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced by the court to be hanged, was made to do so by his attorney, who will endeavor to have the sentence set aside on the ground of insanity, it being claimed that a sane man would not plead guilty.

The White Man's party in Grimes county is in earnest. They have drawn the color line and will adhere to it. White Radicals will be permitted to vote with the Democrats, but are respectfully invited to take back seats when it comes to holding office.

The Age and Telegram, of Houston, are having a fine time discussing the question of the tax sale advertisements.

CHICKEN COLLAR.

—Chicken "collar" is prevalent in Denton. The fowls are "collared" while on the roost. The "collar" has not been seen for some time. They passed for advertisements and appearance of the fowls are in circulation in Denton. They passed for advertisements and appearance of the fowls are in circulation in Denton.

—The Mason News-Item offers as a premium for two new subscribers, fourteen house cats. Some speculative San Antonians are wondering how Ireland would look in Schleicher's seat.

—A gentleman living within a few miles of Dallas sold his peach crop, on the trees, for one dollar a bushel. Williamson county will hold a Democratic convention on the 23d of August to nominate a county ticket. The congressional convention met at San Antonio on Friday, but adjourned until Saturday after organizing. The Victoria Advocate of the 6th inst. says cotton picking will begin in some parts of the county next week. The citizens of Hearne held a meeting in opposition to the "city" ordinance requiring them to work on the streets. The police court of the city of Denton had thirteen cases last week. \$2 with the trimmings is the minimum charge. Business in Belton is good for the dull season and improvements are being made all the time. Belton is not near finished. Delegates to the Austin convention have already begun to arrive. Log rolling is now and will be the order of the day.

—Hempstead Messenger: Cotton in the neighborhood of San Felipe is materially damaged by wet weather. No worms. The Belton Journal says: "Be patient. The telegraph line, of which so much has been said, will be completed at an early day." The sedate LaGrange Record says Jim Jones, a colored gentleman, got a fall that resulted in his death in 17 minutes. Jones was hanged. The Taylor Hotel at Goddard was burned last week. Four negro children aged from three to five years were cremated in the kitchen. A negro hackman was shot and killed while waiting on his hack outside of a house some six miles from Corpus Christi. It was a brutal murder.

—A motion to abolish the two-thirds rule in the San Antonio convention met with no favor. The strongest friends of Mr. Schleicher opposed it. A citizens meeting at Hempstead on Friday last adopted resolutions to the effect that the city government of that town is expensive and unnecessary. Texas newspapers are stirring up county officials who have been in the habit of sending to St. Louis and other towns out of the State for their printing.

—The Georgetown Sun thinks it wrong to put a sixteen-year old boy in jail for carrying a pistol. It thinks the confiscation of the pistol sufficient punishment. The Denton Monitor says time and trouble in answering questions as to the whereabouts of Sam Bass may be satisfactorily answered by a small card inscribed "Damnfo."

—The Grand Lodge of the Knights of Honor has just closed its session at Palestine. Everything passed off pleasantly. The next session will take place at Dallas on the third Tuesday in August 1879. Ada Paddleford, a young lady residing in Coleman City, deliberately drank a cup of concentrated ley. She said to her friends she wished to die. The doctor says her recovery is doubtful.

—The shipment of vegetables and fruit from Denton to Kansas city and other points is being vigorously prosecuted. The News learns that the shippers are well satisfied with their returns. Candidates in Austin county are coming to the front at a lively gallop. The Bracon now has over a column of announcements and announces that it yet has room for many more.

THE DENTON MONITOR.

—The Denton Monitor says Greenback or third party papers are springing up in different portions of the State like mushrooms, whose existence, we predict, will be about as ephemeral. A negro in Austin county stole a horse from another negro on Saturday night. By sunrise the next morning the thief was in jail; on Thursday he was convicted by a jury and given ten years in the penitentiary. The Bellville Beacon says one such example is worth more than a hundred lynchings.

—On Friday evening about fifty corporation tax payers in Hempstead held a meeting at the courthouse and adopted resolutions declaring the corporation a useless burden, and that the payment of \$400 a year to the mayor and \$600 to the city marshal is an outrage. There is a growing disposition to do away with "city governments" in many Texas towns.

—Richard Nelson, colored, is editor and proprietor of the Galveston Spectator. Richard went to the market in Galveston carrying with him the sum of ten cents and a market basket. He applied to a butcher and had a piece of the jowl of a beef whacked off. Mr. Nelson thought the allowance of meat was too small for the large sum of money. The butcher choked Mr. Nelson. Nelson escaped and after having had the butcher arrested went to the Galveston News office and reported his trouble; thus he got his name and his difficulty with the butcher before the public at one and the same time.

The Navasota Tablet has this to say about Col. Jones' Chappell Hill harangue: T. D. Cobbs, Esq., Jno. H. Athison, Robt. Foster and Wm. Blackshear attended the public speaking at Chappell Hill on Wednesday. Speeches were made by Congressman Giddings and Wash Jones, Greenback candidate for Congress. Our delegation thinks Giddings "got clean away with" Jones, knocked his Greenback doctrine "higher than a kite," he could only rant a little about conventions being manipulated by "little bob-tailed lawyers." Jones is one of these bob-tailed lawyers who has for a number of years tried to get a nomination from conventions and couldn't, so now comes out as a bob-tailed Independent-Greenback-Radical candidate. He wants office bad.

The platform adopted by the Arkansas Democratic convention on Saturday favors the substitution of United States treasury notes for national bank bills and their being made full legal tender save where a contract specifies otherwise; opposes further increase of the interest-bearing debt; favors the "equalization of the value of the greenback, silver and gold dollar for all purposes, so that a national dollar shall be a dollar among all our people and in every department of our government;" demands the unqualified repeal of the resumption act; favors a subsidy for a Southern Pacific railroad and appropriations for the constructions of levees on the Mississippi river; calls for a tariff for revenue only; invites immigration to the state; indorses the fraud investigation by congress and declares that the colored population of Arkansas are identified in interest with the Democratic party of the state, and the convention, recognizing the importance of a more harmonious feeling, embraces the opportunity of inviting the colored people to an active co-operation in furthering common interest. This makes a pretty good platform.—St. Louis Republican.

The Austin Statesman has this to say of Mr. Chesley candidate from this senatorial district: Judge Chesley was one of the ablest as well as one of the most effective members of the Fifteenth Legislature and he should be chosen. Here is a warning to business men. The Memphis Avalanche notices the interesting and sufficient fact that of all the bankrupts who have lately filed their application in the United States clerk's office in that city, none ever advertised their business. Direct cause and effect.

In fifty-six years that have elapsed since Mexico secured her independence, not a single President of that country has served out his term.—E.

—The report of cotton worms in Gonzales county is denied by the Gonzales Inquirer. Fourteen cotton fields were examined and no worms found, and in one only was eggs found. More cotton will be raised than can be picked out. A Mexican named DeVera suicided in Dallas by hanging. He was the town dog catcher and also the motive power of the Herald's press. He was married to an American woman and his suicide is attributed to jealousy. A primary election was held in Lavaca county: For governor, Hubbard, 740; Lang, 236; Throckmorton, 58. For Congress, Shepard, 602; Hancock, 508. A full county ticket was nominated. About 1300 votes were polled. A Greenback club has been organized in Houston. Col. Tracy was the chief gobbler. The Telegram says that Col. Westcott proposed joining the club, but the second gobbler or secretary would not allow him to do so. San Antonio is entitled to the palm as the beer drinking city of Texas. It is estimated that 8000 gallons of beer were drunk in that city on the 4th of July. This is a little over three pints of beer to each man, woman and child. From a statement published in the Galveston News it appears that the number of Granges in Texas has been reduced from 1304 in August 1875, to only 383, on December 31, 1877. At the latter date the membership was 14,925 including female members. The Navasota Tablet says the heavy rains of the past two weeks has damaged the cotton crop in the bottoms. The cotton is very large and forms a thick heavy shade over the lower branches, which with the wet weather causes the lower bolls to rot and fall off. The Houston Telegram relates that a black negro named Brennan, who is legally married to a white woman, found her riding in a wagon with another negro blacker than himself. He raised a rumpus; was arrested and fined \$5 and trimmings. A countryman took a load of corn to Dallas and because he could not sell it at fifty cents a bushel he got mad and driving on the bridge, over the Trinity, he commenced throwing the corn into the river. The city marshal persuaded him to desist by threatening to arrest him for insanity. The local reporter on the Dallas papers struck a big bonanza last week. A man appeared in town with his face blacked. The supposition is that he was Bass or if he was not Bass that he ought to have been Bass. At any rate he furnished the material for several sensation local.