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THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1896.

Our Platform.

Following is the platform adopted by the Democrats of Cherry County, in mass convention assembled, Saturday, April 25, 1896:

We, the Democrats of Cherry county, in mass convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to the principles of the Democratic party as formulated by Jefferson and exemplified by the illustrious line of its successors in Democratic leadership, from Madison to Cleveland.

We still denounce the Republican doctrine of protection as a fraud a robbery of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of a few. We will adhere to and maintain the Democratic doctrine of free trade for revenue only. We believe the interests of the masses of our population will be best conserved by the collection of such taxes as shall be levied to the benefit of the government, honestly and economically administered.

We express our faith in the time-honored doctrine of the Democratic party as to international trade relations, in accordance with which the countries participating shall enjoy reciprocal advantages. We denounce the discriminatory schedule of the Democrats, which juggles with the people's desire for free exchanges by pretending to establish closer relations, while actually prohibiting such free exchanges between countries of the world that stand ready to take one another's surplus products in exchange for commodities which are necessities and comforts of life among our own people.

Appreciating the condition of the public mind with reference to the financial policy of this country, and recognizing the importance of a proper solution of this question, we unhesitatingly express our unqualified opposition to the free and unlimited exchange of silver, except by international agreement; and, until such agreement can be procured, we favor the present standard of value. We denounce the selection of the Republican county convention in intentionally omitting to state its views on this important question as a reflection of the cowardly and dishonest practices of that party.

We favor the reorganization of the executive and judicial departments, and the reorganization of the public debt, and the vigorous foreign policy and its unqualified maintenance in maintaining the public credit against foreign extortion and loss from within.

We Wait for the Fourth of July!

McKinley's triumph is democratic opportunity.—New York World.

The North Chicago rolling mills, employing nearly a thousand men, have reopened, after having been closed since 1893.

With the national organizations of the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches all in session at once, congress ought to adjourn and let them run the government.

The Cleveland World says McKinley will stand on the platform. Better run; it isn't likely to be a movable one except, possibly, the financial plank, and that he can straddle.—Delphos (O.) Contrast. (Republican.)

The A. P. A's and McKinley are getting together. Why not? They are both for republicanism and protection to American industries.—Springview Herald.

This is a candid admission and one which few republican papers care to make.

A republican organ deprecates the fact that Australian wool sells for 5 to 10 cents higher than the domestic product, and concludes therefrom that free wool decreases the price of the American fleece and increases the price of the foreign article. Wonder if that man ever saw two articles of the same nature which differed in quality as well as price?

Iowa democrats declared for free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and endorsed Horace Boies for president. Gov. Boies has never declared himself for 16 to 1—he is in fact opposed to it, although he favors bimetalism, and the enactment of such laws as will maintain the parity of gold and silver. He sought to have a plank embodying his financial views substituted for that declaring for 16 to 1, in the Iowa platform, but was turned down.

Let silence like a poultice come and heal the blows of sound." A noiseless locomotive has been invented and is now at work in the yards of the New York Central railroad in New York City. This is a boon to humanity whose value cannot be overestimated, and the inventor deserves much credit for his invention. Eminent authorities claim that the locomotive is fully as noiseless as a republican candidate for president being interviewed on the finance question.

DEMOCRATIC OPPORTUNITY.

William F. Harity, chairman of the democratic national committee, recently said in an interview in New York, that "the democrats are by no means so hopeless as the republican newspapers picture them." Speaking of the national convention he said:

There is no doubt now that the democratic national convention will name a sound money candidate and adopt a sound money platform. Going before the country with such a candidate and such a platform, we can, I believe, carry New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana—which means that the country will be carried by the democracy.

Chairman Harity is in a position to know what he is talking about, and his words should have great weight with democrats, regardless of their financial views. When asked if it is certain that the sound money man will control the convention he answered:

I believe it is. There will be a spirited contest, no doubt, but sound money will prevail. One element of the convention will be in favor of free coinage of silver; another will favor a compromise to catch both the gold and silver men, but the honest money men I am sure will be in the majority and the platform will contain a square declaration in favor of the gold standard. And I wish to predict, too, that the platform will, in the end, be adopted by the whole convention. I consider the talk about bolting as nonsense. The democrats will express their views and fight till a vote is taken. Then all will fall in line with the majority.

These opinions are and should be endorsed by all true democrats. The growing habit of "bolting" is a reprehensible one, and we sincerely hope that it will not spread to the national convention. Any man who will attend that convention with the intention of bolting if the majority is against him, is a fraud and undeserving of the support of honest men. The national convention should bear the same relation to politics that the Supreme Court does to law, and while its decisions may be questioned, they should be regarded as final and respected accordingly. Otherwise the object in holding national conventions, namely, the desire to obtain an expression of the will of the majority, is defeated and politics becomes a farce.

AN EFFECTIVE STRIKE.

Probably the most unique and at the same time effective strike and boycott ever known is that of the street car men at Milwaukee. The strike has been on for about four weeks, and no acts of violence have been reported. Plenty of men were found to take the place of the strikers, and the cars are run regularly, but the only passengers they carry are the motomeers and conductors. Everybody walks or patronizes the buses, carryalls and express wagons furnished by the strikers and run parallel with the car tracks. No boycott has been ordered, but if a business man is seen riding on a street car it means for him social ostracism and the loss of most of his trade, sympathy for the strikers is so strong. The women annoy the non-union men by every means the fertile brain of a sympathetic daughter of Eve can devise. Such being the case the street railway company will have to soon capitulate. The laboring men of other cities should profit by the example set in Milwaukee, and when forced to strike do so in a quiet, orderly manner. Public sympathy will then be with instead of against them.

Minister to Turkey Terrell has answered his critics and it seems that he has been guilty of being polite to the sultan. After the noise has hushed it turns out that not one American life has been lost and that the sultan never refused a favor asked by the American representative. An English consul was killed, several French and Italian priests lost their lives, and a Russian vice consul was wounded. If an American life had been lost, Terrell's critics would have demanded that he produce the sultan's head at Washington.—St. Louis City Tribune.

California republicans declare vigorously for free silver, 16 to 1, and McKinley. Are they fools or knaves? The idea of McKinley being fit for a silver advocate to vote for! Only last year he said "If the republican platform declares for free coinage, I will not be a candidate. I will not run on a free silver platform."—Norfolk Independent.

The Wilson tariff will this year produce \$30,000,000 more revenue than did the McKinley tariff in the last year of its existence. This is an incontrovertible fact. Paradoxical as it may seem, the republicans want to raise the tariff to reduce the revenue, as McKinley did in 1880, and raise it again to produce more revenue, as they now claim it will do.

In view of the talk about silver having been demonetized and not being a legal tender the following from the National Bimetallist of May 29 will be of interest to those who wish to know the truth about the matter:

In response to numerous inquiries the National Bimetallist will state that silver dollars are full legal tender for all debts public and private except where expressly stipulated in the contract. This is the provision of the Bland-Allison act of 1878, and it is still in force.

Business men throughout the country have a profound distrust of McKinley on account of his record on the currency question and his present silence, and I do not believe that distrust can be removed by the adoption of a sound money platform by the St. Louis convention. Even if McKinley should speak out later, the distrust would remain in a greater or less degree, for business men cannot understand why any man should hesitate to give his views on such an important question as the currency.—William F. Harity.

One of the most unique publications ever turned out of a print shop is The Comet, the first number of which struck this office the other day, causing the office cat to have a fit but otherwise doing no damage. The Comet is a 3-column folio, published by our old friend Morris Church in the interest of "anti-monotony," and is issued from the office of the Bassett Eagle, which paper owes its neat appearance to his connection with the mechanical department, and will no doubt prove a strong factor in the fight against monotony and kindred evils.

A special from Chadron dated May 21st says: "A secret caucus of republicans was held in this city this evening which selected the republican candidates for senator in the Fourteenth senatorial and Fifty-third representative districts. Frank Currie of Whiteley was chosen for representative and S. Backey of Ainsworth for senator." Mr. Backey is well known to THE DEMOCRAT and his candidacy causes no surprise, but we hardly thought his boom would be launched from a secret caucus. Maybe the Chadron politicians were a little previous.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Thirty years have passed since the close of the civil war, and today the United States are united in fact as well as in name, and those thirty years of peace and quiet have served to unite the followers of Grant and Sherman with those of Lee and Jackson. Saturday, May 30, is the day set apart for exercises commemorative of the affection and veneration we bear for the dead heroes who participated in that eventful struggle of five years. The day is not especially devoted to oratorical display, but carries with it the beautiful custom, known only to our own land, of strewing flowers on the graves of the honored dead. This of itself is one of the most touching as well as beautiful ceremonies known to mankind, and should serve to instill in the hearts of all a feeling of patriotism and love for our native land that neither time nor absence from home can ever efface.

The orations of the day should not be of a partisan nature, political or sectional. Its observance is calculated to promote patriotism and brotherly love—not to breed distrust or discord. All over our broad land the day will be observed, usually under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic or the Union Veterans' Union, those two organizations composed of soldiers who wore the blue, and this year more than ever will those who wore the gray participate in the exercises. This is as it should be. Occupying prominent places on the program of our local exercises we find the names of a son and daughter of Confederate soldiers.

The day is without political significance. All men who wore the blue were not republicans; all men who wore the gray were not democrats. On history's page no names shine with greater luster than McClellan, Hancock, Shields and Porter, who fought for the Union and voted the democratic ticket; among those who battled for the lost cause, none showed more valor than Longstreet, Mahone, Mosby, Wyckham, and Walker, who advocated the republican cause and voted the ticket.

The day is not one of celebration—it is one of sorrow, rather. Time has healed the wounds of many, and grief is less poignant than in years gone by, yet tears and sorrow rather than laughter and gaiety, should predominate on Memorial Day. Forgiveness and love must be extended to those erring ones who fought so nobly for what they considered right, not curses and abuse

LABOR'S EARNEST CALL.

EDITH M. STARR.

"Nature, a mother, kind alike to all,
Grants her bliss to Labor's Earnest Call."

Unroll before you the glowing panorama of nations and behold an hundred realms with their lakes, rivers, forests, cities and wide extended plains. See the powerful British Empire stretching wide her arms over all the landed portions of earth, grazing on her hills and meadows, horses and cattle that shall stand first in the market of the world, sending forth proud vessels that shall ride as monarchs of the seas. View her capital, metropolis of the world, with its palaces, cathedrals, courts, fountains, parks and gardens. Wander through Westminster Abbey; where lie side by side the dust and ashes of the conqueror and conquered; where lie the remains of poets, warriors, kings.

Shift the fancy to a summer clime, where the gayety of France and the wave kissed zephyrs of the Loire greet the weary traveler, and see on every hand the abundant reward awaiting the agriculturalist, the numerous manufactories of silken fabrics, the school of culture and refinement, whose teachings have placed the French first in the society of the world, and made Paris the center of fashion.

Far to the southeast Italy extends, decked in florid beauty. Whatever fruits are found in other climes, whatever blooms in torrid tracts, here seem kindred to the soil. Here history, oratory, poetry, philosophy, education, arts and statesmanship have flourished each in its time.

Visit Rome and feast the eyes on the architecture that displays almost divine skill. Enter her library and read Æneid, Iliad, Odyssey, The History of Rome, the Philippics, the Triumphant Ode, productions from Greek and Roman pens that lift the soul and cause the nerves to vibrate through the human frame.

Behold the United States! But here language has lost her puny power and even tears seem weak to express the mingled feelings of pride and awe as we gaze on our own loved land, with the proud Father of Waters flowing in its majesty from Minnesota to the Gulf, with her lakes, the greatest fresh water bodies of the world, and her mountains, mines of wealth and treasure. We see Niagara, Yellowstone Park; the Garden of the Gods, the Queen of Lakes, the Prairie City, the Literary Emporium and each helps to impart deeper the patriot passion on our hearts.

Scattered throughout the whole nation are manufactories of almost every known article of traffic, schools and instituted colleges where the youthful citizens of the republic can be educated and prepared to fill offices of trust and responsible positions in public and private life. We are furnished with an abundance of the best possible literature in newspapers, magazines and numerous volumes on a variety of subjects. We are governed by codes of laws which it would be hard to surpass and "Walk on freedom's soil with freedom's banner streaming o'er." Our oceans are spanned with cables and our states are connected by wires, by means of which we communicate thoughts with the rapidity of the lightning's flash; commerce is carried on speedily and conveniently with the steam ship and the locomotive and cotton is made the staple product of the southern states by the cotton gin.

But pause for a moment; have God and Nature given all this and adapted it to the use of man while he has quietly reclined on the couch of sloth? History answers no. 'Tis said "God helps those who help themselves" and history verifies the statement. It has been established by experience that idleness is a monster which hardens, benumbs, debases not only the body but the mind as well and diminishes the power of both mind and body to enjoy the good things of this life. And on the other hand employment is the great secret of success and happiness and if all men had a better share of worthy employment there would be fewer cries of hard times and grim visaged starvation would be expelled from our land.

'Tis labor, not in the sense of mere drudgery, but efforts to accomplish some end, which has a high aim and a noble purpose for its foundation and stimulus, that has, since the creation, been the universal motive power which moves the soldier's sword, the politician's brain, the orator's tongue, the writer's pen, and the painter's brush.

There are those who seem to be gifted by nature with talents and capabilities which will make them leaders among men; but even these do not rise to heights of fame without an

effort; neither is their eminence the result of accident. Cicero and Demosthenes, the two greatest orators that ever lived, have not swayed multitudes and immortalized their names by standing still with folded hands waiting until some power should be miraculously granted them to hold their nations spellbound, but they have made laborious and frightful endeavors to rise. Demosthenes, as a boy sickly, awkward, stammering, shut himself up in an underground room and copied the history of Thucydides eight times that he might be infused with its thought and energy; filled his mouth with pebbles and exercised his voice on the seashore until it rang out full and clear above the tumult of the tide. Shakespeare, the greatest literary genius the modern world has known, and who arose in his time as a lily above the dark waters of the pond, has not left his numerous volumes to inspire future generations without a life of activity and labor.

In America we see the greatest arisen from the ranks by labor. What more noble character is to be found in history than Abraham Lincoln, who sustained and preserved the Union during the trying days of the civil war? Who has contributed more to science and the art of invention than Benjamin Franklin, who with a steel key and silk kite and string drew lightning from the clouds, chained it, and placed it within the grasp of man? He was not born to wealth and luxury; but mounted round by round the ladder of success by effort; ever following the adage, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business and he shall stand before kings." And he in truth did stand before kings and in that capacity did much to mould the destiny of our great Republic. The greatest laurels won by American authors have been placed on the brow of Whittier in whose boyhood through a torn straw hat crept the sunbeam to give his face that ruddy glow and rich brown which bespeaks a store of boyish health. His bare brown feet left their prints on hills and meadows as with turned up trousers he marched to his own whistled tunes to paint his lips with strawberries from the hill and learn a lore of nature not to be found in books.

We would not have you think that we consider him who keeps the shop and mart, who carries on commerce and trade, who tills the soil and makes it yield an abundance to supply the wants of man and enriches the world, who digs deep into the bowels of the earth and makes it yield up its yellow treasure, who guides the vessel safely across the stormy ocean is degrading himself; far from it. He is the one who makes the happy home and the law abiding citizen; who sees the world with a smile and dares to look it in the face.

Gleaning verses from history's scattered pages, it is at once apparent that all great events in the world's history and all the domestic joys of nations are the outcome of incessant toil. We see our western plains, once known as the Great American Desert, dotted with happy home and populous cities which have been planted by the hand of labor. Shops, manufactories, warehouses, school buildings and church spires dawn upon the vision on every hand. East and west are made one by the iron rail.

What has been the foundation of our present condition of liberty? Was it not a desire for freedom and a labor to attain it? Was it not labor, prompted by the noble purpose of freeing themselves from the yoke of English tyrants, when our forefathers stood up and bore their noble bosoms to the whistling shot and shell on the battle fields of Germantown, Brandywine and Bunker Hill?

Let us for a moment consider a question which is the subject of much comment in newspapers and magazines of the present time: The place that woman holds and should hold in the affairs of a civilized nation. Those who are awake to all the latest discoveries in science and the current events of history; who are educating themselves up to the highest standard of the male sex; are they not performing labor in preparation equal to any of their brothers? If it is by ambition men have gained wealth, fame, influence and position, so if woman is willing to make equal efforts, should not society grant to her the same right to fame, power, and influence? We think it should and as a natural outcome of effort it will. Each day sees her rise higher in the educational, social and business circles of the world. Even though her right to such position is debated and disputed yet Nature is impartial to her children and grants her bliss at labor's call whether the part be acted by man or woman.

Again viewing life from a spiritual

standpoint, we find that wealth and fame are not the only worthy aims of existence which are attained by labor, but character, the one thing which comes back with the mourner from the portals of the tomb, is often gained only by the severest struggles and the most heartrending trials. Character with the influence it sheds around it lasts throughout eternity. Is it not well worthy our most ambitious efforts, then, to make for ourselves a character whose light shall shine and warn other souls from the rocks and shoals of life and whose radiance shall gleam in splendor on the judgement day?

What the nation most needs, what the world most needs today, is more men and women with kind hearts and willing hands. Activity is the beauty of life. On a beautiful summer morning when the thronged streets of the city or the varied beauties of the landscape are spread out before us; when but to be seems pleasant; then is it unalloyed joy to know that we are carrying out a part of the Creator's divine plan, to go forth among our fellow men performing with a willing hand such duties as all can find to do if possessed of kind hearts. Every hand must be busy and every mind must be occupied; then and not until then, will America see her greatest glory and her citizens their greatest prosperity.

LUXURY OF SHABBINESS.

Being Occasionally in Old Clothes Brings a Delightful Sense of Freedom.

There is a luxury in shabbiness which exceeds any feeling which has its root in pride. It is the luxury of a kind which loves above all things to avoid trouble, and to feel the advantage of a sort of disguise which increases real freedom of action. When Haroun-al-Rashid went about in Bagdad in the disguise of a merchant he probably felt twice as powerful as he did when he sat on the throne of the Caliphs, for he felt twice as free. He was free to act like an ordinary citizen, and yet free also to assume his sovereign power at pleasure. To ordinary men the comfort of shabbiness, where shabbiness is not imposed upon them by their narrow income, is that they feel really at liberty to spend exactly as they please, without conforming to anybody else's judgment of what it would become them to do. Besides, even the richest man or woman is unwilling to expose good clothes to injury or ruin, whereas it is sometimes quite a relief to find a suitable occasion for finally repudiating clothes of which one is weary, partly because they are so shabby, more because like old servants, they are so presuming, and seem to claim a right over you, and take for granted that you can never turn off such old and tried friends.

Now, if the conventions of society restrict your liberty in one way, the habits of which you have got weary restrict it in another, and you never feel so free as when you are dressed in shabby clothes, for the protection of which you feel no kind of anxiety, and which you would not be sorry for an opportunity of finally discarding. The last uses of a shabby suit are the pleasantest ones. You feel no responsibility for them, and yet you are not willing to find an opportunity for a rupture with a disguise which you begin to think a little unworthy of you. In shabby clothes you persuade yourself that your dignity is all interior, and that you have no need of dress to sustain it. But none the less you anticipate without unmixed regret the prospect of assuming a costume more in proportion to your intrinsic merits. And when you can combine the freedom of a nearly worn-out dress with the anticipations of casting off the chrysalis and coming forth like a butterfly, you are probably at the high-water mark of self-satisfaction. To unite the keen sense of being above dress with an equally keen sense of being fully entitled to dress well, and of the intention to justify that title is perhaps the very acme of any luxury that clothes can confer. You enjoy your proud superiority doubly, first in parading your indifference to the "accidents" of dress, and next to the immediate prospect of properly asserting that superiority on a fitting and near occasion.—N. Y. Ledger.

A Disappointing Hunt.

Some folks say, said a fisherman, that if a fish once gets into a pound net it never gets out until it is taken out; but as a matter of fact fish often get out of pound nets. It is common for sheepshead, bluefish, Spanish mackerel and shad to get out of them. I've been to a pound net on a Sunday and counted 235 bluefish and when the net was hauled on Monday found only four or five. The fish get in and if they find the opening and get started right they can get out. They follow one another like a flock of sheep.—Chicago News.

—He (before marriage)—"Some of your angel cake, darling? It is 'angel cake,' I suppose, because an angel made it, sweetheart?" He (after marriage)—"Umph! angel cake! You call it that, I suppose, because it's soggy enough to make a lot of people into angels if they were fools enough to eat it!"—Somerville Journal.

—Two Views of Twins.—"I never was so mortified in all my life!" she exclaimed. "What was the matter?" asked her dearest friend. "My maid told me that my fiance was in the reception-room." "Yes." "And I threw my arms around him and kissed him twice before I discovered that it was his twin brother. I saw my advice and never become engaged to a twin." "On the contrary, I think I shall look for one. It just doubles the fun."—Chicago Evening Post.