

FRAUD IN VIRGINIA.

It Has Become So Palpable That Democratic Papers Are Protesting. The recent election in Virginia is called out the usual outcry against fraudulent methods. The chairman of the first state committee has made a declaration to the effect that any thousands of votes cast for the Populist candidates were not counted, and that in some election districts he can prove that the number of persons who voted for the Populist candidates was three and four times greater than the votes returned for these candidates. The Populist chairman thinks that it will hardly be worth while to make contests, because the Democrats have everything in their own hands, and all the election officers were Democrats. But some contests will be made nevertheless. This outcry is not confined to the Populists nor to the Republicans. The Republicans are not saying much this year, because they concluded from past experience that it was not worth while to attempt to elect their candidates as long as the Democrats had exclusive control of the election boxes and the counting of votes. But some of the prominent Democrats are also becoming alarmed over the fraudulent methods put into effect in Virginia. Last year the Birmingham Age-Herald, the leading Democratic newspaper in Alabama, came out in a scathing denunciation of the scandalous frauds perpetrated by the Democratic leaders in Alabama. The Richmond Times, the leading Democratic newspaper in Virginia, came out today with a similar statement with regard to the elections in the Old Dominion.

The Times today prints a leading editorial, in which it declares that the white people of Virginia are profoundly discontented with the management of the Democratic party in that state. The Times points to the immense falling off of the white vote in the last election as an indication of the truth of the assertion. "We are not prepared to say," continues the Times' editorial, "that our elections are dishonestly conducted. All that we can say is that there is a general belief all over the state that they are, and the records furnish only too much evidence in support of the belief. In the election of 1889 between Mahone and McKinney we saw results produced in the counties where there is a heavy negro vote that were altogether perplexing, and in the election just held are likewise results that are inexplicable." The Times continues: "Now, we want to say, and we want to say it with the most solemnity and impressiveness, at the foundation stone upon which our representative government must be built is honesty and purity in elections. It is vain to talk and hope for good government if cheating and fraud in our elections is winked at or tolerated. If we commence in fraud, we must end in rottenness. If our elections are unfair, they must be made fair, whether it means negro rule upon us or not. Negro rule is more endurable than a condition which must end in corrupting our people and turning them into a population of thieves, and this must result if fraud is openly practiced and winked at and condoned."

The Times' editorial concludes by insisting that the present election law be repealed and some impartial and fair one instituted. But there is no probability that the Democratic leaders will abandon any of their dishonest methods. On the contrary, they are preparing to force the passage through the senate of a federal election law, which is the only thing that now offers any check whatever to their corrupt methods.—Washington Special to Philadelphia Press.

Bright Outlook in Texas.

A correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution, writing from Brownwood, Tex., says of the division in the Democratic party: "Only one thing will cause them to come together—certainly not their love for each other—but the fear of the Populists, who have been metaphorically 'sawing wood and saying nothing.' While the Democrats have been wrangling among themselves, the Populists have been preaching Populistic doctrines and despoiling the ranks of the old Democracy with a degree of success that frightens the warring Democrats, and if there is a two-sided Democratic fight next year, as last year, they be close after big game in Texas. The prospects have been strengthened by the attitude of congress on the silver question since it has been in special session."

Referring to the Populist nomination of Governor of Texas in 1894, the correspondent says, "The prospect for next year is certainly such that this nomination is not regarded as a mere complication."

Cleveland and Alabama's Vote.

Senator Daniels' statement that had the people of Alabama known Cleveland's real position on the silver question they would not have received their votes involves the charge that he obtained his votes by false pretenses. The fact is as the senator stated it, the people who entertained grave doubts as to whether he did really get the vote of a majority of the people of Alabama anyway, and these people will think that the senator probably means that the Alabamians really understood his position the managers of Cleveland's campaign would have been unable to get the electoral vote of the state.—Journal of the Knights of Labor.

Do You See It?

At the time they talked repeal the men assured us that if we had repeal would go up. It went down. They assure us with even greater assurance that if repeal had carried earlier it would have gone up. What hypocrisy! They told us the banks would pay money and times would improve if repeal passed. Repeal has passed but the banks loosen up only at good times? A long gullible man would see the farce that has been played in North Dakota Independent.

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