

THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE, LINCOLN, NEB., SATURDAY APR. 4, 1891.

The Farmers' Alliance,

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"In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom
That transfigures you and me.
As he strove to make men holy
Let us strive to make them free,
Since God is marching on."
—Julia Ward Howe.

"Laurel crowns cleave to deserts,
And power to him who power exerts."
A ruddy drop of manly blood
The surging sea outweighs."

—Emerson.

"He who cannot reason is a fool,
He who will not reason is a coward,
He who dares not reason is a slave."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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as a rule cannot be used.

MEN OF THE PEOPLE FOR '92.

Hon. James B. Weaver for President.

It is none too soon to be casting about for our standard bearers for the great conflict of 1892. The new party—the great independent party—is to be not only an important but possibly a controlling factor in that contest. The character of the men it is to put forward as its representatives, as the exponents of its principles and as the exemplars and samples of what the actual administration will be when it comes into power, is of the first importance.

They must not be unknown men. They must be men who have made a record before the people; men of probity and honor; men of great ability; men who will command the respect of all men, even their opponents.

A fatal step would be to take up a dark horse on the ground of expediency. This was shown in one of the nominees of the Cincinnati convention of 1888. We need not name him. We must not put forward men whom we will blush for when they appear on the stump; nor men whose mouths must be watched by a committee; nor men who need to go into hiding through a campaign.

In looking about for the head of the ticket we find no man so pre-eminently qualified in every respect as Hon. JAMES B. WEAVER, of Iowa.

Mr. Weaver is a man of broad culture and great ability. His achievements in the political field are of the highest order. He is a lawyer of great ability. He is a parliamentarian of the very highest class. He is brave and unflinching in his duty, and has proved in a hundred ways and in many stations his entire devotion to the interests of the great plain people, of which he is one. He is hated as well as dreaded by the plutocrats as no other man is hated and dreaded.

If he is placed at the head of the ticket we all know that war to the knife and the knife to the hilt will be the watchword in every state.

We now present his name as that of the one man whom we know who stands pre-eminently above all others in fitness for the position. We have no shadow of personal interest in the matter—we have had no communication with him in regard to it. We are no hero-worshipper, and can support any other good man. But we name him as the man whom we now think the best.

For the second place there is more difficulty in making a choice. It seems that it must be a southern man. Powderly would be a good one. But he is not a southern man, and he is also foreign-born. Loucks of South Dakota, would suit us; but the same objections apply to him. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, is a man of the people. He is an orator of the first class. Weaver and Polk would be a strong ticket. But we fear there are some insuperable objections to Polk. The Washington junta, headed by Macune, have opposed the new party, and favored affiliation with the democratic party, which is strong in the south. If Mr. Polk is of the same mind, of course he is absolutely disqualified. No man must be put forward who has not absolutely abjured all affiliation with either of the old parties, and who will not fight them to the bitter end. If we were assured that Mr. Polk would do this we should毫不犹豫 pronounce in his favor for the second place on the ticket. Not knowing, we hold our judgment in abeyance.

But let us have no new men, no untried men, no unknown men. The best timber the country can afford is demanded for the battle of 1892.

MORE THAN ONE TAYLOR.

There are many Taylors, but only one traitor of that name. This should be borne in mind, and such sterling and honorable men as Taylor of Butler county and Taylor of Johnson county, both members of the house of representatives, should not in any way be intermingled with the vile traitor from Loup county, whose reward should be a halter.

CALHOUN ON THE SITUATION.

The following is from the *Lincoln Herald* of the 28th. It is refreshing in its frankness. We greatly admire the sturdy independence and frankness of Bro. Calhoun. He says what he thinks in ringing words, the meaning of which is unmistakable.

Of course, we do not always agree with what he thinks. But in these days of hypocritical journalism, when three-fourths of the papers are muzzled by corporation patronage, the editor who frankly speaks out his own real views is to be cherished. We wish there were more Calhouns:

Between the railroad politicians and the republican and democratic senators—peculiar and pitiful bunch of mixed knaves and chumps that they are, the dominance of the Alliance in the politics of Nebraska is assured. They undertake to deny the people of this state the right to legislate on railroad rates. The railroads reached out the strong hand and laid it upon the legislature, ordered one branch of it to do no more business, and the republicans and democrats in the senate backed the demand, as subservient to the railroad bosses as if they had been track hands. The result will be a wave of indignation that will sweep the two old parties out of existence and crush the railroads. The party that does not emphatically repudiate the action of its senators will be dead and damned, and the pity of it is that the senators themselves cannot be more personally and stringently damned than the customs of our milk and water civilization allow.

A GEM FROM VAN WYCK AND REPLY TO IT.

NEBRASKA CITY, March 21, 1891.

JAY BURROWS, Esq.: In your issue of

March 21, 1891, you republish many falsehoods.

I have a long time borne them in silence, but now desire to brand them as they deserve, and ask the courtesy of an answer in the paper in which they appeared.

An early reply will much oblige,

Yours, etc.,

C. H. VAN WYCK.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 4, 1891.

C. H. VAN WYCK: Your line of March 21, by the hands of Chaplain Diffenbacher, was duly received.

Permit me to say that as to the falsity of the statements you allude to as having been published in my paper, you are under a gross misapprehension. I am prepared to prove by affidavits, and by incontrovertible documentary evidence, the absolute truth of every statement I have made in regard to you.

In regard to giving you space to reply through my paper, I will say that when you desired to attack the ticket you promised the convention you would support, you had no difficulty in getting access to the public through the press. You pledged yourself to the state convention to support Mr. Powers for governor. You not only assailed him through the columns of the public press, but you had the articles published in circular form and sent them by mail broadcast over the state, and to every Alliance member whose address you could obtain. We have copies of those printed circulars with which to confront you at any time. I have no doubt the press is as open to you now as then. It is certain that if you wish to say anything against Jay Burrows, the *World-Herald* and *Omaha Bee* will welcome your effusions with delight.

In view of these facts I do not feel under any obligations to give you any space in my paper, and decline to do so under any circumstances.

Permit me to add that if you persist in your attempt to keep yourself before the people of this country as an anti-monopolist and friend of the people, I shall continue to meet you with the truth as to your vile treachery in the late campaign. That treachery—deliberate and premeditated, and inspired solely by blind revenge—lost this state to the Independents. It is part of my mission to smite bribery and treachery wherever I find them. This duty I shall not shrink from. Hope of favors nor fear of revenge cannot deter me. Whenever you go with your demagogic mouthings will I follow you with the flaming two-edged sword of the truth.

Yours, etc., J. BURROWS.

THD JOWA TRIBUNE QUARTERLY.

We have just received from the publishers, No. 1 of "The Iowa Tribune Quarterly" issued by the Iowa Tribune Publishing Co. This is a neatly printed pamphlet of 128 pages, and is full of valuable matter upon "the Supreme Issue." It is edited by J. B. Weaver and E. H. Gillette. We are glad indeed to see this publication. No man in the country is better able to edit it than Hon. J. B. Weaver. The money question is the supreme issue, and the demand for an issue of special publications to educate the people upon it is an augury of great good.

RECRUITS FOR THE INDEPENDENT PARTY.

Paul Vandervoort has written a long letter to the public in which he formally severs his connection with the republican party, and joins his political fortunes to the independents. Among other things he says: "I am going to leave a party which simply in this state represents a streak of rust exuding from 5,000 miles of railway, and has for its foundation the rotten, ravenous, robbing, blackmailing band of corruptives, and vultures of the penitentiary." His letter is very eloquent, though quite an apotheosis of Paul Vandervoort.

THE NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS AT THE PENITENTIARY.

The appropriation for the new cell-house at the penitentiary ought to have restrictions thrown around it, and the cells built according to the civilization of to-day, rather than build them in the style of seventy-five years ago. The successful contractor for building the new cells must have as large an amount of the \$40,000 left to line his pockets as possible. If you want to see cell life as it was generations ago go down to the Nebraska penitentiary—cells narrow, ill-ventilated, no convenience for attending to the calls of nature save an old bucket that is used year by year, and from the nature of things, sends up a stench unbearable to the uninformed. Yet, from the time the men come in from their work in the evening until the hours of work next morning, two men in many cells, must eat, sleep and inhale the fumes from the cell bucket. And yet we say penitentiaries are reformatory. Not much reformation under such conditions. This we term penal—not reformatory.

If the \$40,000 will not put in the cells with a modern water-closet in each one, then add \$4,000 more, for that is the estimate for 100 closets, and have them built properly. If the \$40,000 is enough all right, if not add some more.

It would be only another disgrace to Nebraska to build the new cells in the old, antiquated style of the present ones. Let all our legislators, when they go to dinner day-to-day, place their food on a plate, and with a cup of coffee and some bread in the other hand, retire to the outhouse to enjoy it, and we believe they would then decide this article worthy their attention. And let them continue to eat their meals under the conditions mentioned, three times a day, for 365 days a year, and we are sure common decency would be looked after in building the new cell house.

This legislature ought to build a dining hall, with place for chapel and school and library room up-stairs. Also a small sum should be allowed for primary school books; extra books for the library, as no books have been furnished them by the state for many years, although there have been some additions by gifts. The present contractor gave them some the last year. If the new dining hall and chapel building cannot go through this year, then a small sum ought to be allowed extra.

For repair of rooms now used as a place of public gathering, \$200.

For school and singing books, \$100.

For library books, \$200.

For musical instrument to be used in public services in the chapel, \$200.

GETTING TOGETHER.

If anything is to be accomplished in 1892 the imperative necessity exists for the different reform organizations of the country to get together. That these organizations are in substantial accord upon the leading questions of the day—upon the money question, the transportation question, and the land question—there is no doubt whatever. These questions embrace the labor question in all its phases, and embrace as well the complex relations of labor and capital. But the number of these organizations is so great, the ambition of their leaders so pervasive, and the number of issues their members desire to embrace in a political platform so numerous, that great practical difficulties exist in the way of their getting together. These difficulties must be surmounted. A platform must be adopted embracing only a few leading principles upon which all can unite, and some men of the people must be found to put upon that platform as candidates for 1892. If this is done we believe victory will crown our banners.

The plan put forth by the National Alliance at Omaha embraces only six propositions, and these probably the ones upon which the very largest number of reformers in the United States can unite and agree. It also provides a simple and complete machinery for determining public opinion on these issues, and for practically carrying out the wishes of the signers of the declaration, without creating any tyrannical committee or any centralized power, and without putting any society or any set of men in advance of others. Nothing prevented the general adoption of this plan and immediate and efficient work upon the lines laid down by it, but the untimely call for the Cincinnati conference of May 19th. But that call is issued and the conference will be held. We shall attend it, and strive to have the Omaha plan adopted by it. Failing in that, we shall join heart and soul in any plan upon which the majority agree which promises success. We are for unity. We must get together.

We subjoin an extract from a private letter from a leading independent of the state of New York, which voices the doubts which many now feel. But while our friend is somewhat disengaged he will join the majority, and work heart and soul for success:

March 21, 1891.

FRIEND BURROWS:

I feel today like writing you a rambling, confidential letter, on the political outlook.

Immediately after the publication of the Omaha DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES there was a brisk demand in our state for copies to circulate for signatures, but as soon as the people learned

that there was to be another conference on May 19th, 1891, there was no further use of trying to get endorsers to said Declaration.

So everything is again at a stand still. All are discouraged. Chaos has come again.

The people now confront their monopolistic enemies, and have within their reach their last opportunity for a peaceful ballot solution of the problem of the plundered.

Unless "the Gods" do not want to destroy the Independent movement, the Cincinnati conference will be troubled, like the builders of the tower of Babel, with a "confusion of tongues." As "when the sons of God came together, with them Satan came also," so it will be at said conference. When honest reformers meet, with them "the restless devils of discord" will come also.

If none but honest reformers go to the National conference there will then be danger of an overloaded platform. Hubbard will insist on "a broad platform" with his latest hobby "Hill's New National banking system" that recognizes only metallic money, and guarantees three (3) per cent on money deposited by hoarders of capital.

Norton will want greenback, with a big G inscribed on the party banner, and in the platform.

The single tax men will be on hand with their narrow plank.

The prohibitionists will bolt if their unseasonable issue is rejected. And so on to the end of the chapter.

The fact that those who ride these hobbies are honest, increases the danger of it.

The Stanford boomers will be on hand touching elbows with the brazen apostles of Delay.

But I shall not worry about it.

If the conference lets well enough alone, by endorsing the National Farmers' Alliance plan of organization and Declaration of Principles, no harm beside the loss of three months will result from that meeting.

Let us wait and see. Yours Truly.

THE CITIZENS' TICKET.

As we have advised, a combination of citizens without regard to party, has been made and a ticket put in the field. This ticket should receive the support of every man who is in favor of honest government and opposed to boodle rule.

Voters of Lincoln, and all of you to whom packed primaries are not equivalent to an election; to whom the contents of your purse is more dear than the gratification of foolish prejudice and the adherence to the shells of party lines in city affairs; all of you who hate the domination of bosses and those who brand you because you dare to think for yourselves and protect your interests; all of you who are opposed to veteran political cormorants who claim to manage our city affairs as of right; all of you who are in favor of an improvement in our municipal affairs, and the election of men who will protect and advance concurrently the interests of all; all of you who are opposed to the sovereign medicine of corporate money, electric robbery, city bond jugglery, paving robbery, fire limit favoritism, and Councilman Rice's prairie irrigation schemes with city money; all of you who are opposed to the disposition of office holders and seekers to take advantage of the natural public patience and apathy; all of you who are not blind and deaf to the notorious and manifest facts concerning the venal and mercenary condition of our city government during the last two years; and all of you who are not blind to the fact that the nominations of the late so-called republican convention mean nothing of improvement—mean no reformation for two years to come; yes, all of you who are mindful of this and these matters should be active and prepared in due time to foil at the polls the consummation of the sanguine hopes of the leaders, Benton, Alexander and Thomson; and the objectionable part of the spawn of Saturday's so-called republican convention. Do you not see that already they stand with open, sordid hands behind them; that they are sworn friends; the friendship of mutual cupidity? Do you not see by their bland smile and expectant gaze, that already in hope and belief they have devoured the booty? Is there one of them in whose power you would place yourself individually? Then why will you trust your financial interests to them collectively?

To oppose such men as these is the duty and common cause of each and every citizen because such men are a common danger, and their hopes and expectations of boodle, like a conflagration, must be put out. For they are men to whom an oath is a joke, evidence of their guilt a plaything, your opinion of them a shadow—men who place all their credit and reputation in politics and their triumph and profit in spoils. The contagion of their corruption spreads more widely than you think;—more are implicated than you believe.

Voters of Lincoln, beware lest you pull the Trojan horse filled with such men into the city.

Voters, array yourselves against Alexander, and first of all oppose to that worn out, defeated, perfidious and disappointed tool and politician your best and strongest efforts; and then against that band of hovering buzzards which follow him, bring your remaining available force.

If you wish to avail yourselves of the strength at hand you will learn that you are strong, and Alexander and his gang weak; for the conscience of the people of this city is a potent force. Compare the cause of Alexander and Weir. On the one side fighting protection to tax payers, on the other side robbery of them; on the one modesty, on the other wantonness; on the one honesty, on the other fraud; on the one piety and religion, on the other wickedness; on the one honor, on the other baseness and perfidy; on the one those who defeated Courtney for county attorney, on the other Courtney himself and his gang. In short, equity, law and order and all the civic virtues are contending in the coming election against iniquity, against indolence, against boodle and all the civic vices; and last of all the well founded hopes of success are contending against the ring's and Alexander's despair. Indeed in the contest now being waged in the interest of a pure city government it must be apparent to every voter that the manifest, notorious and numerous vices of the present city administration will find a fertile soil in Alexander and his confederates, unless he and they are defeated by the disgust, indignation, activity, zeal and combination of all the citizens of Lincoln at the polls who love the reign of law, honesty, order and sobriety, and the good fame and prosperity of this city.

The Dodge County LEADER is the name of a bright independent paper just started at Fremont Neb. Its editor is Mr. J. W. Sherwood, formerly of Lincoln. Mr. Sherwood is an able and trenchant writer and will give our Dodge county friends a good paper. Its devotion to the cause of the independents will be of the first order. The LEADER is printed at this office and has an patent sides edited by a monopoly newspaper union. By thus saving the investment of a costly plant, Mr. Sherwood can give his readers a better paper at a lower cost and can devote all his time to editorial work and business instead of bothering to print one or two pages of a paper at great expense.

Before our next issue the legislature will have adjourned. We will give next week a complete review of the work of the session.

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