

By 1531

Farmers'



Alliance.

VOL. III.

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NO. 37.

What's That.

A-falling in the waters of my stream;

There had to meet men very simple seen;

Get off," said I. "This land is mine, my

friend!"

Get out!" said I. "This brook belongs to

me—me—

Now this place, the land and water too!

You have no right to be here, that is that:

That is all I ask of you."

"Own it?" said he—"what's that?"

"What's that?" said I. "Why, that is common

sense!"

Down the water and the fishing right—

Over the land from here to yonder fence—

Get off, my friend, or fight!"

He looked at the clear stream so neatly kept—

He looked at the teeming vine and laden tree,

And healthy fields of grain that stirred and slept—

"I see!" he cried "I see!"

You mean you cut the wood and plowed the field,

From your hard labor all this beauty grow—

Is it due the richness of the yield—

I have some claim, 'tis true!"

Not so?" said I, with manner very cool,

And tossed my purse into the air and caught it;

I look like a laborer, you fool?

It's mine because I bought it!"

It was looked as if I talked in Greek,

Again he scratched his head and swirled his hat.

Here he mustered wit enough to speak—

"Bought it?" said he. "What's that?"

And then he said again, "I see! I see!"

I mean that some men toiled with plow

And hoed,

And while those worked for you you toiled

With glee.

At other work for those!"

Not so?" said I, getting a little hot,

Thinking the man a fool; as well as funny,

I'm not a working man, you idiot—

Thought it with my money!"

Still that creature stood and dropped his pen.

Still could have destroyed him where he sat.

Money?" said I. "Money, and moneyed?"

"Money?" said he. "What's that?"

CHARLOTTE PERKINS STETSON

In the New Nation.

To the Influenza Germ.

By the shivering fits which still us,

By the sev'ral hours which grill us,

By the aches which dash and kill us,

By the quacks which draught and pill us,

By the hydroponics who call us,

By the alopoxies that kill us,

By the nervous fears which kill us,

Tell us, tell us, wee Bacillus,

What and why, and whence you are?

We are a germ atomic?

Are you truly microscopic?

Are you solid or lymphatic?

Sweat, your cause syphotic?

Are you native or exotic?

Are your business transacted?

A story start to be protostated?

And do you intend, Bacillus,

Return again and kill us?

Do make answer, if you please!

Tell us briefly, tiny mystery,

What's your source and what's your history;

Tell us the clouds of obfuscation;

Tell us round your incubation!

Furrow, without more obstruction,

Our belated introduction!

Or do you know why and wherefore,

What is yours in the air for,

And meanwhile, O wee Bacillus,

Come with morbid dread you fill us;

Pray take your leave at once!

From the London Word.

Slashed Her Husband.

DELMUTH, Minn., Feb. 23.—Edmund Welch, manager of the Parlor Variety Theatre, lies in St. Mary's hospital with a hole two inches long in his back.

His wife, Kitty Welch, stayed him.

The particulars are withheld. He will recover. Kitty and Edmund Welch are well known variety actors.

Murder at Hastings.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 23.—Myron Van Yocom, a well known real estate man, was shot at 5:15 p. m. by Captain Aaron D. Polk in a public library.

The attack occurred in a public street, and was the result of scandalous stories said to have been circulated by the deceased in regard to the daughter of Yocom.

THE FIRE RECORD.

Maurier's Library Block Burned, with Loss of \$100,000.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 23.—The library block occupied by the public library, a business college, a Knights of Pythias lodge, several manufacturing houses and private office, was burned, causing a total loss of \$100,000. The building was \$50,000; insurance, \$15,000. Among the heaviest losses are: Smith, Hubbard & Co., manufacturing chemists, loss \$16,000; insurance \$12,000; public library \$10,000, insurance \$7,000. Half of the books were saved. The remaining losses were all smaller amounts and were partially covered by insurance.

England's Big Storm Over.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The weather throughout the United Kingdom has moderated. Telegraphic communications, which had been more or less interrupted since the storm over a week ago, are now being restored. During the storm a large number of vessels of all descriptions were wrecked and stranded, their crews in almost every instance saved.

Run Down by a Train.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Feb. 23.—A party of young people who had been attending a New Year's Eve party were run down by a train on the Pennsylvania road as they were returning home early in the morning. Alice Miller was instantly killed. William Wiley died a few hours later and Miller's right leg was fatally injured.

Two Killed and Four Injured.

FORTRESS, Miss., Feb. 23.—A construction train on the Vicksburg and Meridian road was wrecked near this station, two negroes, action hands, were instantly killed and Conductor Ramsey, Foreman Rodgers and two others were fatally injured.

TO US A CHILD IS BORN.

And the Government Shall be Upon Its Shoulders.

THE DESIRE OF THE NATION.

LET THE PEOPLE PRAISE THEE, O GOD, LET ALL THE PEOPLE PRAISE THEE.

A Report of the Action of the National Conference of Industrial Associations of America.

The Workers One. North and South United Against Wall Street and The Money Power.

What the Wealth Producers Demand, and Their Methods for the Protection of All.

Soul-Stirring Songs, Matchless Eloquence Immense Enthusiasm. Hope for the Masses.

Speeches, Debates and Interesting Details in our Next Issue.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed and the signal note of the bell rang out over Philadelphia proclaiming the determined purpose of patriots to be free it thrilled and fired with energy every liberty-loving high-born American. That meeting of intelligent heroic men was the greatest and most potent ever, up to that date.

Noted Nebrascans present were: Congressman O. M. Kem, Hon. J. H. Powers, J. W. Wolfe, A. d'Allemard, W. H. Dech, S. C. Fairchild, O. Hull, S. E. Thornton, C. H. Pirtle, A. Faulkner, V. O. Stricker, J. W. Edgerton, J. M. Thompson, W. H. Jones, J. H. Edmiston, Wm. Dysart.

Polk was made permanent president of the convention with Ben Terrell of Texas and Miss Willard vice-presidents.

John W. Hayes was chosen permanent secretary and Warwick, a colored delegate, assistant.

President Polk on taking the chair said for all the just to stand, it struck a blow at the mightiest of monsters, the last and cruellest despot, that the world had known. King Capital hearing trembled, and his throne fell this week rocked to its foundations.

Washington's birthday, 1892, is made the first day of a new era, thenatal day of an industrial democracy, based upon justice and equal rights of inalienable inheritance and opportunity, a first real government of all the people, by all the people, and for all the people.

The assembled thousands were called to order by Hon. Ben Terrell of Texas who introducing Mr. C. P. Walbridge, President of the City Council of St. Louis, who made a thoroughly sympathetic and most happily worded address welcoming the convention on behalf of the city.

Upon the stage or in the front ranks of the delegates were Pres. L. L. Polk, and ex-President John H. Powers of the southern and northern Farmers' Alliance; Terence V. Powderly, Grand Master Workman of the Knights of Labor of America; Hon. A. J. Streeter, the union labor leader of Illinois; Gen. Weaver, the great greenbacker of Iowa; Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, author and statesman; Hamlin Garland, industrial emancipator novelist and single tax advocate; Schilling and Taubeneck, president and secretary of the National Committee of the people's party; W. A. Carson of the Anti-Monopoly League of New York; national secretary Hayes of the Knights of Labor; Congressman Davis and Judge Snyder of Kansas; the author, C. C. Post, and congressman Livingston of Georgia, and with the rest Miss Frances E. Willard, intellectually the greatest and morally the grandest of women,—with many more which might be mentioned. Never before were so many intelligent lovers of justice and bent on securing it gathered together. Every delegate realized the crisis, and believed in his soul that he sat there as a history maker.

The address of welcome contained the following opening paragraph:

If my memory serves me correctly I saw some weeks ago a notice in the daily papers of the obsequies of the Farmers' Alliance and peoples' party. Judging from the display before me it must have been a mistake. Newspapers generally tell the truth but sometimes typographical errors slip in. At any rate if I were a candidate for office I think I should give the elements represented here to-day credit for having a little vitality left.

The first to respond was Pres. Polk of the Alliance who, after thanking the city of St. Louis for its friendly greeting, said—

POLK'S PEOPLE'S PARTY IDEAS TREMENDOUSLY CHERISHED.

Farmers had assembled here for the purpose of performing a solemn and responsible duty. On Wall street and on the Boards of Trade money was 1/2 per cent. In any small town, on the other hand, money was at 10 from 12 to 15 per cent. That had to be righted. The farmers, he declared, paid over 20 per cent of taxes, and if money can be borrowed in New York on cotton and sugar at 1/2 per cent, why cannot the same thing be done in the west? "God forbid! God forbid!" said he, that he should arouse any sectional feeling in this convention. He compared the gain in wealth of New England states with the producing states of the south and west. He entered a solemn protest against these unequal indications. The time has come when the great northwest, great south, and the great west shall lock hearts and hands together, take possession of the government in the interest of the people. [Tremendous applause.] In closing Mr. Polk said: "We want relief. We demand that we have relief. We will have relief, and I repeat now what I have repeated from Maine to California, we must have relief if we have to wipe the two old parties from the face of the earth." [Rounds of cheering lasting the full two minutes.]

Polk was followed by Powderly, who called attention to the taxing power of monopoly and to the stream of camping laborers steadily flowing through Castle Garden. His incidental mention of Gen. Weaver's name in the closing part of his speech caused an interruption of vigorous applause.

DONNELLY RAPTURously GREETED.

The thunder of welcome which broke forth when Donnelly stepped out to speak shook the building. Even the Associated Press dispatches stated that he was greeted with stunning applause. He declared that coming

gatherings of the democrats and repub-

licans at Chicago and Minneapolis, compare with this convention, would be simply coagulations of unprincipled politicians to divide the plunders of the republic. He predicted a wedding soon to occur—that of democracy and the republican party. The ceremony will be performed at the altar of plutocracy; Grover Cleveland and Ben Harrison would act as bridesmaids, the devil himself give away the bride and Jay Gould pronounce the benediction.

"We propose," the speaker continued, "to wipe the Mason and Dixon line out of our geography, wipe the color line out of politics; to give Americans prosperity; that the man who creates shall from the throat of industry; to take possession of the government of the United States and to put our nominees in the white house. [Great cheering.]

Marion Cannon of California was nominated by Gen. Weaver and elected temporary chairman. For committee on credentials three men from each of the following named organizations were appointed: From the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, Knights of Labor, National Citizens Industrial Alliance, Patrons of Husbandry, National Citizens Alliance and National Farmers' Alliance; Ex-State Lecturer Hall represented Nebraska and the N. F. A. upon this committee.

The report of the committee on credentials opened up a bitter fight between two Georgia delegations, one third party and anti-third party men, but both were given representation.

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The following platform, by majority presented, was adopted:

"We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, as full legal tender for debts, public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations; a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people and not to exceed 20 per cent to be provided us set forth in the sub-treasurer plan of the farmers alliance or some better system; also by payment in discharge of its obligation for public improvements.

We demand a free and unlimited coinage of silver.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$500 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax.

We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and we demand that all state and national revenue shall be limited to the necessary expense of the government, economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit for the savings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people and should not be monopolized for special purposes, while alien ownership of land should be prohibited.

All lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their natural needs, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people. The telegraph and telephone systems being another necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

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We demand that the question of the provision of a national ticket and certainly agree with you in one particular—that Cleveland would arouse the enthusiasm of the masses of the people. The contingency of my nomination for president is so remote that it is hardly worth considering at all. I would not, under any circumstances, accept the vice presidency. I could only be induced to accept the first place by the conviction that