

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT.

WHICH IS WHICH?

The charge that the money planks in the democratic and republican platforms are so much alike as to be indistinguishable is literally true. Sixteen years ago, Samuel J. Tilden advised the platform makers of his party to make their money plank as nearly as possible like that of the republicans so that the bond-holders would contribute as liberally to the campaign fund of one party as to that of the other. The democrats have tried to follow that advice ever since, but they never attained such perfect success as they have this year. The following are the money planks adopted at Minneapolis and Chicago, the democratic reference to the Sherman law being omitted, and we defy the voters in either party to identify the plank of their party without referring to their platform:

"We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of our country, and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discrimination against either metal or charge for mintage, but the dollar unit of coinage of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and unchangeable value or be adjusted by international agreement or by such safeguards of legislation as shall insure the maintenance of the parity of the two metals, and the equal power of any dollar at all times in the market and in the payment of debts, and we demand that all paper currency shall be kept at par with and redeemable in such coin. We insist upon this policy as especially necessary for the protection of the farmers and laboring classes, the first and most defenseless victims of unstable money and a fluctuating currency."

We suggest that our independent friends test this matter by presenting these planks as printed above to voters in both parties and see how many can "tell which from 'tother."

The labor troubles at Homestead received official recognition in the house of representatives yesterday by the introduction of a resolution calling for the appointment of a select committee to make investigations. The preamble to the resolution draws some very striking contrasts between the promises and the realization of the beneficent effects of tariff. Instead of the protection to American labor and the increase of wages, there has been in many instances, a material reduction. The Carnegie mills which have received the fostering care of tariff legislation, have reduced the wages from twenty to sixty per cent. Upon the refusal of the men to work at these reduced rates it is discovered that barges loaded down with Pinkerton detectives are drawing near and that a stockade has been built around the factory, having pipes attached thereto enabling hot water and steam to be turned on at a moment's notice by means of electric wires.

This resolution by no means shows that congress will investigate, but the difficulty has at least had a sort of official advertising through the press dispatches of the country, and it is not unreasonable to hope that the thinking public will be impressed with the gravity of the present conditions.

THE Buffalo county independent convention endorsed Congressman Kem for re-nomination by a vote of one hundred to two,

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

To-day the eyes of the civilized world are fixed on the village of Homestead, near Pittsburgh, where Andrew Carnegie's great iron works are located. In the most highly civilized country in the world, in a time of profound peace, a bloody battle has been fought, a large number of American citizens have been killed or wounded, and property has been destroyed.

Many will look no farther into this matter than to blame the individuals concerned on the one side or the other. Some will denounce the laboring men as anarchists. Others will denounce the Pinkerton thugs. Still others, and let us hope more, will denounce as the real murderer and destroyer, Andrew Carnegie, the millionaire iron king, to whom the nation has granted the power to tax the people for his enrichment.

But all who look beneath the surface will see that the bloody battle fought at Homestead was a mere incident in the great conflict between labor and capital; and they will place the real blame with the men who have misgoverned this country. They will blame the parties and the policy which have permitted existing conditions to arise. They will blame the so-called statesmen of this country who have betrayed the people in the interests of organized wealth. What does it signify that the employees were victorious over the Pinkerton's? Does that mean that they have won the fight for human rights and industrial liberty? On the contrary, it means that organized capital will triumph in the end, and the employees will only suffer the more for their successful armed resistance.

How long will men remain blind to the signs of the times? How long will patriotic citizens be lulled to sleep by the cry of "all's well"? How long will they brand as cranks and calamity howlers the brave men and women who point out the rocks in the pathway of our ship of state? How long will they laud and trust the parties and the policies which are responsible for existing conditions?

Every American citizen who is true to himself and his country should study this sanguinary episode, find out its true meaning, find out its causes, realize its indications, and heed the significant warning of what is to come if the people do not speedily resume control of this government and right existing wrongs.

AMONG the cute things in politics what could be more cute than the action of the state board of transportation yesterday in reducing the freight rate on apples. Every man who has an orchard in Southeastern Nebraska is painfully aware that the apple crop this year will be the most absolute failure in the history of the state. The writer a few days ago went through his own orchard, and other great orchards in Nemaha county, and saw trees by the thousand that will not have a single apple. There will be no apples to ship. The action of the board of transportation just now when we are on the eve of a political campaign is simply in harmony with the trickery by which the ringsters have endeavored to hoodwink the people in times gone by.

One of the best songs we have for campaign purposes is "The Alarm Beat." It is the trumpet call to action, and will arouse intense enthusiasm. See price in our advertisement of campaign music in this issue.

OUR BOOK LIST.

Our list of choice literature is made up of the best and most reliable reform books, by the most noted writers. If you want to keep posted on the great questions before the American people you should consult the authorities. We name below a number of the best books published.

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