

Senator Heitfeld's Letter.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 22, 1901.—Hon. D. H. Andrews, Chairman People's Party State Committee, Boise, Idaho.—Dear Sir: Having concluded, after most thorough consideration, that it is both wise and patriotic to announce a change in my political affiliations I deem it my duty to apprise you of this intention and to give you my reasons for so doing.

When the people's party movement was started in the early '90's I realized that the chief difference between the aims and purposes of the two old parties was in name more than in principle, and that there was an actual necessity, appealing powerfully to patriotism and good citizenship, for a third party as a means of checking the growth of plutocracy and preserving that spirit of free government with which the founders of the republic imbued our institutions. It is useless for me to go back and describe the growth and enumerate the successes of the people's party. It is sufficient to recall the fact that in 1896 we elected some twenty-five members of the lower house of congress, and that at the extra session of 1897 the people's party caucus in the senate had a membership of eight. That this success, encouraging as it was upon its face, was brought about only by alliances with other parties is made manifest and significant by a bare analysis of the vote. It is pertinent in this connection to point out that this result was attained by an alliance in the north and west between populists and democrats and in the south between populists and republicans. Beginning with that alliance the factors, sincerely devoted to the country's highest interests in the elements which then cooperated, have twice fought a national battle under common leadership and have been welded in fact, if not in name, into one grand organization.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I will state my reasons for this, to me, very important step. When, in 1896, the democratic party met in national convention a great battle was fought. The question was: Shall the party adhere to its late policy of compromise and makeshift declarations or shall it once more become the party of Jefferson and Jackson, bold in its declarations and fearless in its advocacy of "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none"—whether it was to be the party for the classes or for the masses?

We all know the outcome. Under the leadership of W. J. Bryan the masses won a decided moral victory. The platform adopted was one satisfactory to both the people's and silver republican parties.

However, in November of that year the battle was lost at the polls by a very narrow margin and the general opinion was that, as a result, the democratic party would, in future, repudiate its leader and its declaration. This fear, and it alone, kept the organization of the people's party alive.

Next came the campaign of 1900. Contrary to the general belief Bryan was again named as the standard-bearer of his party and the principles so dear to him and his followers were once more made the battle cry. The result was another defeat at the polls, but not because the American people lacked faith in Bryan or did not believe the democratic platform was the better, but because, times being comparatively good, they concluded that for the present it was best to "let well enough alone."

Every observant man who followed the last two campaigns closely will concede that the enthusiasm for the democratic nominee was something

marvelous and that his defeat cannot be attributed to either lack of faith in him or his views.

Consequently, since both the democratic and people's parties are now striving to accomplish the same purpose, I am unable to see why we should keep up separate organizations since by combining forces in name as well as in fact we can better subserve the interests of the great principles we advocate.

One other motive has actuated me to make this move, namely, the desire to be better able to serve my state and constituency.

The coming session of congress is universally expected to be of unusual importance. Questions not only affecting our own state, but the entire west will confront us. The isthmian canal, the opening of Columbia and Snake rivers, the irrigation question, the efforts of giant syndicates to control the public lands by leasing, and last, but not least, the fixed purpose of the trusts and combines, acting through the republican organization, not to re-enact the Chinese exclusion law, which expires by limitation in 1902, are but a few of the great questions of particular importance to the people of Idaho and the west that are to be considered and that constrain me to take this step. I know that I can be more useful to my people as a member of a great party, admitted to its counsels and placed by its agency upon important committees than I can be if alone and with no affiliations.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I trust you will give this your earnest consideration and I believe you will see the wisdom of my resolve. Furthermore, I request that you call a meeting of the state committee and I sincerely hope when they are assembled these representatives will approve my action and with me join hands with the aggressive and dominant element of the democratic party, preserving it from all menace of reaction within and aiding it to win a glorious victory for liberty and free government. Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) HENRY HEITFELD.

Books Received.

The Devil, His Origin and Overthrow, by Laurence W. Scott; a pamphlet published by the Acme Publishing Co., Morgantown, W. Va.

Good Gravy, the wit and humor of Ezra Kendall; published by Helman, Taylor & Co., Cleveland, O.

New Zealand in a Nutshell, a Country Without Strikes, Where Labor is Supreme; a pamphlet published by J. A. Wayland, Girard, Kas.

A Financial Catechism and History of the Financial Legislation in the United States from 1862 to 1896; published by Vincent Publishing Co., 612 South 13th st., Omaha, Neb.

The Court of Inquiry.

The court of inquiry made its report to the secretary of the navy December 13. The court's report on the whole is unfavorable to Admiral Schley. The majority report to which in its entirety Admirals Benham and Ramsey agreed, is as follows:

Commodore Schley, in command of the flying squadron, should have proceeded with utmost dispatch off Cienfuegos, and should have maintained a close blockade of that port.

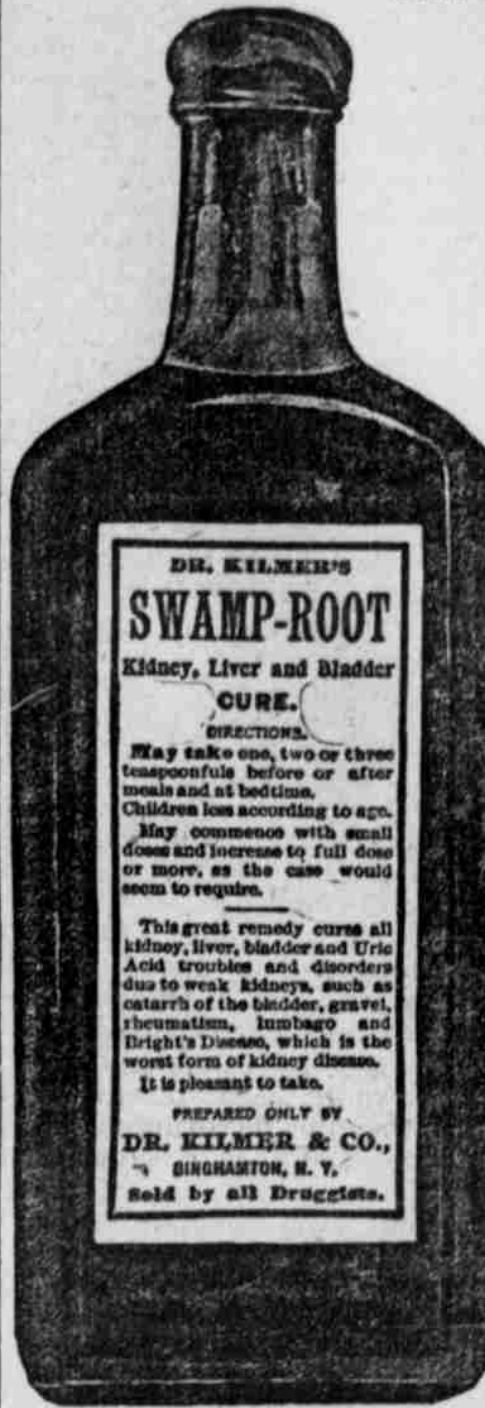
He should have endeavored, on May 23, at Cienfuegos, to obtain information regarding the Spanish squadron by communicating with the insurgents at the place designated in the memorandum delivered to him at 8:15 a. m. of that date.

He should have proceeded from Cienfuegos to Santiago de Cuba with all dispatch, and should have disposed his vessels with a view of intercepting the enemy in any attempt to pass the flying squadron.

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Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for many kinds of diseases, and if permitted to continue, much suffering with fatal results are sure to follow. Kidney trouble irritates the nerves, makes you dizzy, restless, sleepless and irritable. Makes you pass water often during the day and obliges you to get up many times during the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism, gravel, catarrh of the bladder, pain or dull ache in the back, joints and muscles; makes your head ache and back ache, causes indigestion, stomach and liver trouble, you get a sallow, yellow complexion, you may have plenty of ambition, but no strength; get weak and waste away.

The cure for these troubles is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the world-famous kidney remedy. In taking Swamp-Root you afford natural help to nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that is known to medical science.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to your condition, take from your urine on rising about four ounces, place it in a glass or bottle and let it stand twenty-four hours. If on examination it is milky or cloudy, if there is a brick dust settling, or if small particles float about in it, your kidneys are in need of immediate attention.

Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is used in the leading hospitals, recommended by physicians in their private practice, and is taken by doctors themselves who have kidney ailments, because they recognize in it the greatest and most successful remedy for kidney, liver, and bladder troubles.

(Swamp-Root is pleasant to take.)

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He should not have delayed the squadron for the Eagle.

He should not have made the retrograde turn westward with his squadron. He should have promptly obeyed the navy department's order of May 25.

He should have endeavored to capture or destroy the Spanish vessels at anchor near the entrance of Santiago harbor on May 29 and 30.

He did not do his utmost with the force under his command to capture or destroy the Colon and other vessels of the enemy which he attacked on May 31.

By commencing the engagement on July 3 with the port battery and turning the Brooklyn around with port helm, Commodore Schley caused her to lose distance and position with the Spanish vessels—especially with the Viscaya and Colon. The turn of the Brooklyn to starboard was made to avoid getting her into dangerous proximity to the Spanish vessels. The turn was made toward the Texas, and caused that vessel to stop and back her

engines to avoid possible collision.

Admiral Schley did injustice to Lieutenant Commander A. C. Hodgson in publishing only a portion of the correspondence which passed between them. Commodore Schley's conduct in connection with the events of the Santiago campaign prior to June 8, 1898, was characterized by vacillation, dilatoriness and lack of enterprise.

His official reports regarding the coal supply and the coaling facilities of the flying squadron were inaccurate and misleading. His conduct during the battle of July 3 was self-possessed, and he encouraged, in his own person, his subordinate officers and men to fight courageously.

Admiral Dewey submitted a minor

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