

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

A. C. HOSMER, Publisher. RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA.

A CHAIN OF SONGS.

This is the song of the bee: Open wide the sweet incense Of your bosom red to me; I would enter in, O rose, I would enter in, O rose...

sheep in the county, the best cows for milk and butter, and some of the very finest blood in the way of horseflesh. In short, he was one of the most thrifty and most prosperous in every way, and the mechanic-farmers in the State; and the projectors of "The Grand Orient Petroleum, Mining and Manufacturing Company" had spotted him as one of the first of their victims; and so plausibly had they set forth the golden possibilities of their vast property, and so plainly had they given him to see the wealth that must flow in upon him, that his head was turned.

home, and took up once more the usual cares of life. It was on the second day after their arrival at home that Jennie gave to her husband a large legal-looking envelope, within which he found a beautifully illuminated certificate of The Grand Orient Petroleum, Mining and Manufacturing Company, certifying that Walter Witherell, in consideration of the sum of two thousand dollars, the receipt whereof was thereby acknowledged, was entitled to eight hundred and fifty shares of the capital stock of said company, etc., etc.

him about his business off-hand. I told him just what I thought of him and of his company; and I will only say that he was very soon glad to get away. Then I carried back the thousand dollars to the Savings Bank, and Mr. Holden took it back just as though we had never touched it. And Mr. Baldwin very cheerfully gave me up the mortgage for the return of the thousand dollars he had given you. The certificate I filled up myself, believing you would never notice its strange look.

The time is at hand in the politics of the country when first voters must choose between the two great parties, their candidates and principles. Since the last Presidential campaign, re-ulting in the election of Garfield, tens of thousands of young men have come to the legal age, and are voters for the first time. To each and all of these the history of the great events that preceded and transpired during the war of rebellion is but a tradition imperfectly understood. The legislation effected since is not as well understood by them as by men of riper age.

cropped out in the Danville riot will gradually give way to political necessity, and both parties will find it to their interest to do equal and exact justice to all. This is the consummation for which patriotic Republicans have been laboring these many years, and it seems about to be realized in Virginia.

WALTER'S SPECULATION.

A Life Sketch.

"Walter, I wouldn't do it. It's a business that we ain't fit for. We are doing very well now; at any rate, we are walking with our eyes open and managing our own affairs. Think how we have worked and contrived, and almost stunted our selves to get that thousand dollars into the bank. And what have we done for it? Don't you still desire to own the 'Crabston meadow, and don't you mean to put me into a new barn? O, Walter, if you will listen to me you will let Mr. Plausible Sparkler take care of his own business and allow you to take care of yours. Let us own the beautiful meadow, as we have so long talked of, and let us have barn-room enough for the cattle we can keep when that meadow is ours. O, think, my dear husband, we'll have one of the best and one of the handsomest farms in this whole region."

Walter went home feeling unhappy; but he dared not speak with his wife on the subject. "O, if I had only listened to Jennie!" That was the burden of his wail. It was during the first week in November that Walter had given the mortgage on his home, and drawn his thousand dollars from the Savings Bank. It was in July, next following, that Moulton and Simmons had been assessed ten per cent. on the stock they had taken. At that time, as Walter afterwards learned, Simmons had been inclined to let his stock, and his thousand dollars already paid in, go; rather than be bound any more; but the officers of the company had very clearly shown him that they had power, under the bond he had given, to come on and make distraint on any property of his they could find.

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Carpet. The tendency shown last year toward lighter colors for carpets, curtains, wall-coverings and upholstery has grown into a positive preference in the fitting up of all rooms, except in those that are rather severely furnished, such as libraries, dining rooms and halls. Unobtrusive designs and small figures are chosen for carpets of all grades, the floor covering being treated merely as a background for furniture, whose soft comfort, quiet and warmth are considered rather than its show and striking display. Intricate geometrical designs and flower patterns, both conventionalized and quite literal, are in favor alike for the simplest ingrain, the costliest Axminster, and the French tufted carpets that are woven in a single piece and sold for one hundred dollars the square yard. Rug designs, especially those of India and of Persian rugs, are in great favor, and all carpets are finished with a border, while many are made up in rug fashion; that is, they are cut square or oblong, without reference to the shape of the room, an economical plan for those who move often, and the bare places covered with "filling" of solid-colored ingrain or with dark-colored matting, or else the floor may be painted, or a border of hard wood may be added. Axminster carpets woven in a single piece, with a plain colored border, are chosen for grand drawing-rooms. The durable Wilton carpets are for parlor drawing-rooms, parlors and halls, and also for richly furnished libraries and dining-rooms; for small houses an appearance of size is given by having the whole lower floor carpeted alike, especially since doors opening into halls are now taken down to give place to portiers that may be drawn aside, and the entire floor made to seem one large apartment. The green and yellow grounds for carpets shown last year have disappeared, following the black grounds of a few years ago, while artistic designers choose India red, burnese rose, Sevens blue, golden brown, robin's-egg, and sage-green grounds, upon which are woven Oriental designs and patterns from old tapestries that look as if they were wrought by the needle in dull subdued shades of olive, peacock-blue, and Venetian brown like maroon, with narrow borders of a lighter color. The English blue Brussels carpets remain in favor both for well-to-do people who can use them on all their floors, and for those of smaller means who can only have them for their best rooms; the tapestry Brussels carpets that imitate these are, however, to be avoided, as the woolen colors are merely stamped on a gray surface and soon fade. For small rooms in flats, for cottage parlors and for country houses, the ingrain carpets woven in a single piece are commended, as they are used like rugs, to be thrown down on a painted floor, or else to give more warmth to a floor covered with straw matting. For matting, dull colors of dark shades, such as Chinese-red or olive, are preferred to those of the natural straw-colors or to checks. Straw mats are carpeted to match the hall, and may have round rods to fasten them, or else pins, or buttons made of brass, French gilt, nickel, or bronze; the carpet may cover all the stairs, or there may be a wood-panel border visible on each side. A rug among noise-furnishers that may be given here is that of having one color prevail throughout the room, beginning with as dark a shade as is permissible for the carpet or its wooden border, whether painted or inlaid, then choosing a lighter tone for the dais, with a still lighter hue for the middle wall, a very pale shade for the frieze, and the lightest tint of all for the playland, or ceiling.—Harper's Bazar.

Republican Virginia. By far the most important political event of the year was the merging of the Readjuster-Coalition party of Virginia into the regular Republican party at the State Convention. Ever since the reconstruction of the seceded States it has been the constantly expressed wish of patriotic men in the North that the color line in politics should cease in the South. It was inevitable that the great body of the newly-enfranchised voters should attach themselves to the Republican party, and as long as their civil and political rights are not fully recognized by the Democrats of the South they will not vote the Democratic ticket. Where they are not permitted to vote for Republican candidates they generally refrain from voting at all. An unexpected concurrence of local events in Virginia has broken the color line. A large body of white Democrats broke away from the regular party organization...

Democracy Campaign Material. The question as to what the Democratic party exists for, save for the mere purpose of putting a certain number of men in office, has been a standing problem so long that people occasionally forget that it remains unsolved, just as any mystery that is constantly before one's eyes ceases after awhile to command the attention. If the Democracy should take a position as the champion of something of a definite character, the novelty would cause a considerable sensation. It is wise to keep the fact in mind that the party which is seeking to supplant the Republicans in the administration of executive affairs at present has no governmental policy whatever, and, moreover, that it is composed of such elements that it is incapable of uniting on any. It has just come pretty near committing itself on the tariff question in so far as a legislative act could commit it, and possibly when its convention meets it will promulgate a platform expressing something like a clear and concise idea on the same issue. But that remains to be seen. If it does so it will be at the expense of certainly alienating more votes than the average Democratic mind can contemplate the loss of with firmness. And even if the party in convention should show itself capable of an act of such unusual decision, how much confidence will be placed in the utterance? The defeat of General Hancock did more perhaps than anything else to unnerve the Democracy in the matter of tariff professions. Previous to that the subject of the reduction of taxes was conspicuously dwelt on—in words. The phrase, "Tariff for revenue only," was plentifully used in Democratic platforms. That it meant nothing was sufficiently shown by the fact that, although the Republicans lost control of the House of Representatives in 1875 and did not regain it until 1881, the Democrats, during all those six years of undisputed sway, left the tariff severely alone, except in one or two unimportant particulars. It was reserved for the Republican Congress which convened in 1881 to enter upon a general scheme of modifying the customs duties, which certainly needed regulating. The Democrats came into power in 1883, and, though an attempt has been made by them to reduce duties, they have failed in passing the act, in the branch of Congress which was in their hands, because of lack of unity among themselves. It is true the Republicans, for good reasons, voted against the bill, but that does not alter the fact that a paralyzing discussion prevented the Democracy from doing anything. In its connection it is clear that the only chance of keeping the Democracy whole in its retreating from taking any decided stand. Should the free traders prevail in the National Convention, and force the party to embrace the issue, the constancies which support the Randall wing would refuse to acquiesce. And the tariff is the thing upon which the Democrats approach nearer to unity than they do on anything else that can be construed as a partisan issue. The supreme need of the country at present is financial legislation to correct errors in previous acts of Congress which are now manifesting their evil results, and for which, as it is said parenthetically the Democrats are mainly responsible. Yet what kind of unity is there in the party with respect to the currency? Intelligent men like Bayard, Payne, Tilden and Randall know very well what ought to be done, but they know equally well that any serious agitation of the question would disrupt the Democracy to a greater extent than the tariff does. At one time it looked a little as if the Democracy could make some capital out of Civil Service Reform, but since it killed Pendleton for his active services in that direction, probably no member of the party will have the hardihood to revive the uncomfortable topic. A party without principles would not altogether without resources if it had good record to fall back on. But the Democracy is particularly unfortunate. It can not profitably refer its glorious conduct in the North in the while fighting in the South to make up the Union; nor to its honorable efforts to induce the Government to fulfill its obligations by paying its debt in irredeemable paper; nor to its efforts to induce the Government to do its duty in the last quarter of a century, for, going still farther back, can it not say that it was the Democracy that kept up for campaign material as it is available for a party to be. All it is the cry for reform, and this has no so tiresome in its endless repetition and insincerity that it is worthless. —Louis Globe-Democrat.