

ABRAHAM LINCOLN REPUBLICANS

During the week several of the bishops and many of the leading men of the great Methodist Episcopal church have been in Lincoln to attend the meeting of the Freedman's Aid and Southern Educational society.

The first thing noticeable was that one of the bishops made a political speech and advised the people to vote the republican ticket.

Among the leaders present were several highly educated colored men. These colored leaders of the church were also men of good scholarship, fine manners, and some of them eminent orators.

Then another of the bishops in a speech denounced the action of the hotel-keepers, announced his belief in the doctrine that all men were created equal and declared that God had created all men of one blood.

Another speaker declared that there were colored physicians in the south who had large numbers of patients among the white people.

To a man who fought along with John Brown, who canvassed for Abraham Lincoln, who greeted the Emancipation Proclamation with thanks to God, the advice of the bishop to vote the republican ticket sounded strangely out of harmony with the acts of that party and the persecution it visits upon the very highest and best of the colored race.

Any man who knows anything about politics knows that it has been the votes of colored men cast solidly

for the republican ticket that has elected every one of the later republican presidents. In the closely contested states of Indiana, Illinois and several others the colored vote has been the determining factor, and yet that cowardly party has never had the courage to enforce the laws that were put upon the statute book and in the constitution.

The bishop advised his hearers to vote the republican ticket, and here in Lincoln where every officer, state and federal, is a republican, they refuse to enforce even the statutes of this state in regard to colored people.

The following is a copy of them: CHAPTER 14a.—Civil Rights. 1673 Section 1. (Equal Privileges.) All persons within this state shall be entitled to a full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of inns, restaurants, public conveyances, barber shops, theatres, and other places of amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law, and applicable alike to every person. 1885, chap. 104, Re-enacted 1893, chap. 10.)

1674 Section 2. (Same—Penalty.) Any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person, except for reasons by law applicable to all persons, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges enumerated in the foregoing section, or by aiding or inciting such denials, shall for each offense be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100) and to pay the costs of the prosecution.

This act has been adjudicated and pronounced constitutional by the supreme court of the state as will be seen by the following note which is appended to the above chapter in the compiled statutes of the state:

Chap. 14a. "An act to provide that all persons shall be entitled to the same civil rights, to punish all persons for violations of its provisions, to repeal," etc., chap. 14a, C. S., Took effect Mar. 17, 1893. Laws 1893, chap. 10. Act valid so far as it relates to citizens. 25 Neb., 275.

If party insanity ever had a better demonstration than in the occurrences above narrated, The Independent never heard of it. The Methodists and the colored people themselves will continue here in Lincoln to "vote 'er straight" and the party followers will continue to call themselves "Abraham Lincoln republicans."

The Associated press, continuing its old practice, which it began in 1890, refused everywhere to report the populist vote. Out in Colorado where

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Judge Owers ran on a straight populist ticket and received over 10,000 votes, the fact was not mentioned in the Associated press dispatches at all. The Independent had to wait until the local Colorado papers arrived before any information concerning the populist vote could be obtained.

inhabited by hundreds of thousands of innocent and peaceful people, have been made "a howling wilderness" and the followers of Mark Hanna gloated over misery and death. They have given special privileges to the few who have accumulated many millions and scattered a few of these millions among the purchasable voters, and that policy has won.

Every department of the government is full of grafters and thieves, but none more so than the Indian department. Things on the reservations are about as bad as they were in the days of the old Indian ring during the time of Grant and which he attempted to reform by his celebrated "peace policy" and giving the churches the power to select Indian agents.

Tom Johnson offered the olive branch to the gold democrats in the nomination of Clarke and they trampled the offer under their feet. They even went so far as to cause their followers to vote the republican Mark Hanna ticket by the thousands.

The poor brokers down in Wall street are having about as hard a time as the farmers had out here in Nebraska in the years of hot winds, drouth and Cleveland soup houses. The price of seats on the stock exchange have declined one-half in the last few weeks.

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