

Public Opinion

LIBERTY BANNER.

Our Motto: Equal Rights for All and Special Privileges to None.

Vol. II.

PRICE-ONE DOLLAR Per Annum.

LINCOLN, LINCOLN CO. N. M., THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1891.

PRICE-ONE DOLLAR Per Annum.

No. 15.

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BONITO MISSION.—Preaching at Bonito the first Sunday in each month at 11 a. m. At the Union house, the second Sunday at 11 a. m. At the English creek school house, the third Sunday at 11 a. m. At the Coe school house, the fourth Sunday at 11 a. m. W. T. Byrnes, Pastor.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

H. B. FERGUSSON,
ATTY AT LAW
 Albuquerque, N. M.
 Will attend the District Court at Lincoln.

FALL & YOUNG
Lawyers.
 Las Cruces, N. M.
 Will regularly attend court in Lincoln County.

D. J. M. A. JEWETT,
Attory-at-Law
 White Oaks, N. M.

JOHN Y. HEWITT,
Attory-at-Law
 White Oaks, N. M.
 Will practice in all the courts in the territory and in the U. S. Land Office.

GEO. B. BARBER,
Attory-at-Law,
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 Will practice in Lincoln and adjoining counties.

T. W. HENLEY,
Notary Public,
 Nogal, New Mexico.
 Office south end of town, at store house.

LINCOLN HOTEL.
 OPPOSITE THE COURT HOUSE.
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 Strictly first-class in all its appointments. Tables always supplied with the best of clean, hot and comfortable rooms. A health resort.
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THE PLACER HOTEL,
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B. F. BROWN, Proprietor.
 Good accommodations; nice clean beds; tables supplied with the best of the market; affords patronage of the traveling public as especially solicited. Prices reasonable.

In one breath the editor of the Santa Fe New Mexican predicts a grand Republican victory in 1892, and in the next tells the Republicans to get together and forget their differences. It takes a whole lot of whistling to keep the g. o. p. on its legs.

NOTWITHSTANDING the attempt is being made in the census bureau to beg the statements relative to farm mortgages, and place these beyond the comprehension of the people, the census commissioner says, "attention has been attracted to the alarming extent to which usury is practiced." Little by little the truth is being squeezed from the enemies of the people, and the plutocratic liars are being rebuked.

Over 15,000 persons have joined the Alliance in New York, and the movement is spreading like a prairie fire in other New England states, since the rotten associated press announced that the New England farmers would have nothing to do with the Farmers' Alliance. These infernally mean old party lies seem to act as a stimulus in building up the Alliance, rather than a hindrance to the progress of this great people's movement.

WE FEEL sorry for the old party editors. Their lot is a hard one just now. The Alliance and other industrial organizations are spreading over the whole country like a prairie fire, in spite of their mouthings and prattings, lies and slanders, dirty digs and contemptible slurs, and yet the poor heel-licking devils have to keep up their blather, their lying, villifying and Polk parrot mouthings, in a way that to those who have any conscience left—that is, if there are any of that kind, it must be woefully wearisome.

The Albuquerque Citizen, a Republican paper said recently: "A Republican convention would be false to the history and principles of the party if it espoused the objects proposed by the Alliance." That is true, too true. The Citizen is honest and frank in this matter. All the wrongs inflicted upon the people to-day are the outgrowths of vicious legislation by the Republican and Democratic parties, and it is unreasonable to expect them to undo what they have deliberately brought about. Now, if the Democratic organs will be equally as honest and frank, and make the same announcement—which would be absolutely true, the people would cease to be humbugged any longer by the hypocritical pretensions of the two old twins of iniquity.

Do not want to perpetuate the old parties existence that have inaugurated a system that prompts even Mr. Chauncey M. Depew, the President of the Vanderbilt railway system on a salary of \$75,000 a year, to sound a note of warning when he said recently:

"Fifty men in the United States have it in their power by reason of the wealth which they control, to come together within twenty-four hours and arrive at an understanding by which every wheel of trade and commerce may be stopped from revolving, every avenue of trade blocked and every electric key struck dumb. These fifty men can paralyze the whole country, for they can control the circulation of the currency, and create a panic whenever they will."

Friends, it matters not what party you may belong to, or how strong a partisan you are, down deep in your heart, if you know anything, that Mr. Depew is correct in this statement, and yet what is being done by the powers that be to remove this danger to not only the commerce and welfare of the nation, but the liberty of the people? Will we heed the voice of warning, or will we slumber on in a false security until all of liberty is lost?

The farmers of this country have it in their power to elect the next president if they choose. Without the vote of a man not engaged in farming or the owner of a farm, according to late census reports, the farmers can carry in twenty-four states 226 out of 420 electoral votes. With three per cent of the other votes they can also carry the electoral votes of Illinois, Ohio and Maine, adding fifty one more votes to 226, making 277 out of the total 420. Under the new apportionment which gives, the electoral college 444 members, the farmers can elect 238, or sixteen more than one-half. In those twenty-four states which the farmers control and in which they can elect 238 electoral votes in 1892, they can also elect 175 members of the next house of representatives. In Illinois and Ohio they can easily elect twenty-five more, making 200 members of congress out of a total of 350. In four years more they can have control of the Senate. All that is necessary is organization, and acting together. In this work all other producers will gladly cooperate, and the result will be the restoration of the government in the hands of the people.

WE RUN on to a stray copy of the Stockman, of Springer, the other day, and the first article we found in it was one revamping the rotten lie about the reform editorial association of Kansas denouncing the Grand Army of the Republic, in their recent meeting at Hutchinson, Kansas. The editor of the Stockman works himself into a terrible frenzy and tear his shirt tail from hem to yoke over this lie, made out of whole cloth by the editor of the Interior Herald, of Hutchinson. We are personally acquainted with a number of the reform editors of Kansas who were Union soldiers, who would be the last men on earth to endorse the resolution accredited to them. Notwithstanding the repeated assertions of every reform editor that attended that meeting that no resolution, as charged, was proposed, introduced or considered by the association, that infamous lie is still going the rounds of the Republican papers, and not a stinking sheet in the whole lot has the manhood to even give these men they are grossly maligning the benefit of their denial.

The "greenback doctrine" is an "included" theory, Mr. Wharton, why is it the \$346,000,000 of greenbacks in our volume of currency are not retired? Every administration from Grant's to Harrison's—including Cleveland's, has recommended the retirement of the greenbacks, but they are here yet—thanks—not to your rotten old parties, but the old-time Greenbackers who have stood guard over them, and preserved them for the people. Notwithstanding your Presidents and Secretaries of the treasury, as tools of the Wall street thieves, have used every effort to eliminate the greenbacks from the money of the country, Congress—while perfectly willing to have done so, did not dare retire the greenback. And that is not all—they never will. Cut this out and paste it in your hat, Mr. Wharton.

The census reports are opening the eyes of the people to many things of which they have been ignorant heretofore, a knowledge of which will be a decided advantage in many respects. The late bulletins showing the number of males of voting age in each state, the per cent engaged in agriculture, and electoral votes where the majority are farmers, show conclusively the power of the farmers to control the government if they choose to do so. The men engaged in agriculture have a majority in the two Dakotas, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Vermont and Wisconsin in the North, and in all the Southern states, except Delaware and Maryland.

WE HAVE no interest to subvert other than the Alliance—the cause of the people, to which we have given twenty of the best years of our life in a humble way. We are working for no party and no party has any claims upon us. For twenty-five years we have been a close observer of events. In that time we have seen this government drifting away from the people into the hands and control of a monied oligarchy—into the hands of the few. We have seen the unprecedented record in the world's history of the inauguration of a system that has produced thousands upon thousands of millionaires—all in a quarter of a century. No country on the face of the globe since it was inhabited can present a parallel in its history. For every millionaire that has been made the same system has produced thousands of tramps—men in whose souls all feelings of independent manhood, all noble aspirations and patriotisms have vanished—vagabonds upon the face of the earth. We have seen this country's industrial and commercial interests reduced from a condition of unparalleled prosperity of a quarter of a century ago, to the very verge of bankruptcy and ruin to-day. These things have not been brought about by chance, nor are they the results of mere accident, but the ends sought by a conspiracy deliberately planned and carried into effect by the money power that has changed our democratic-republican form of government to a plutocracy—a government of money. In all these years we are on record as having warned the people of these dangers confronting them, along with many others who have sounded notes of alarm. Our only ambition has been and is yet to see the people repossess this government take the reins in their own hands and make it "a government of the people, by the people and for the people," giving to every man and woman who labor a just recompense of reward and an equitable distribution of the fruits of the same. We want to see prosperity and happiness, where poverty and misery now stalk the land. We want to see commodious and beautiful homes take the place of the hovels and squalid poverty now seen on every hand. We want to see the haggard and earworn countenances of those who are harassed with care and anxiety in the unrelenting struggle to keep the wolf from the door, give place to happy smiles and contentment in the consciousness of a "plenty and to spare" as the fruits of honest toil. Give us these and our measure will be full. For these we have labored and will continue to labor until success is attained.

WE WILL fall out with no Alliance because he affiliates with an old party, but when he objects to having the truth told about the old parties, and says we must not hold them responsible for the present condition of affairs in this country—against which the Alliance is an organized protest, we object and draw the line right there. Again, a member of the Alliance who is afraid the order will hurt his old party, will, with every true Alliance member, leave a doubt as to his fealty to the Alliance principles. Read President Polk's message to the Alliance convention at Ocala, if you think there is any half way ground in this matter.

The outlook for a grand Republican success and the re-election of a Republican president in 1892 is becoming better and better daily. And with good crops this and the coming year the outlook will become a certainty.—Santa Fe New Mexican.

What in thunder has good crops to do with Republican victories? Kansas had an immense corn crop in 1880, but ten cents a bushel for it caused the farmers to knock the stuffing out of that 82,000 majority of 1888, in 1890.

The principles of the Alliance could attain and be carried into effect there is not a merchant in Lincoln county but what would sell three times the amount of goods now being sold and a better profit than now made. Nine out of ten persons would pay cash or have the best of credit, thus wiping out bad debts, slow collections and a large amount that is now charged to loss by many merchants. The amount of goods consumed by the people is gradually growing less every year, until to-day the producing classes are not consuming one half what they ought to have for their comfort. If that is true—and who will deny it? what we want is more consumption to reduce the so-called "overproduction," do we not? Then, if we go to consuming up to the maximum limit of what we need, there would soon be a demand for more products, would there not? This demand would stimulate industries, give idle labor employment, increase wages and the power to consume, enhance prices, and in a short time bring about an era of prosperity. Money is the only stimulus that will bring this about, and the sooner we realize this fact the sooner will relief come. We had in 1865, '66 and '67, \$50 per capita, or a total volume of currency among the people of nearly two billion dollars. Our population was then about 37,000,000. Our volume of currency to-day is only \$1,500,000,000, and more than one half of that amount, according to the last report of the Treasurer of the United States, is locked up in the treasury and sub-treasuries. We have a population of 65,000,000 people. If our whole volume of money was out among the people, we would have only about \$22 per capita, or less than half the amount per capita the few years succeeding the war. Taking the amount stored in the treasury, the amount held by the banks as reserves, and the amount shrinking from investment on account of a lack of confidence, lying idle in the banks, and a simple calculation will prove that the money in actual circulation among the people is a very small amount per capita. Experts who have examined the matter estimate the per capita circulation at less than \$5, or one tenth of what we had in 1866. We ask you in all seriousness do you think that is enough money to do the business of this country? If you do not have to have some one to kindly lead you in when it rains, you know it is not enough. Then what are you going to do about it? Will you vote to remedy the wrongs inflicted upon you, or will you let partisan blindness keep your nose to the grindstone?

A MEMBER of the Smart Alexander family, a school teacher in Texas, one McArthur, took it upon himself to issue a pamphlet, making vile charges against, and lampooning the officials and committees of the Alliance in that state. He substituted fictitious names, but the making was purposely so thin that every reader knowing the parties, knew who was meant. President Fields, of the Texas State Alliance, brought suit for libel at Austin. McArthur had strong political backing, and found plenty of lawyers to defend him, but the court held, when the case came up finally for hearing after several postponements, that McArthur was guilty of libel and a fine of \$100 and costs entered. The defense interposed obstacles and ran up the costs as high as possible, which scheme in this instance served as a boomerang, as it added \$3,500 to the \$100 fine, which McArthur and his friends will have to pay a case of bitter badly bitten.

The Belgian government has given Gen. Boulanger to understand that he must keep silent on political matters, or get out that country.

IS THE BANNER RIGHT OR WRONG?

The BANNER is supposed to be the organ of the Lincoln County Farmers' Alliance, and, as such, to represent the sentiments of the Alliance membership. Yet, it does not do so. In fact, it seems to represent nothing save its editor's peculiar ideas. So far as the Alliance members are concerned, they no more endorse the sentiments of the BANNER editor as regards "flat money" and the old exploded greenback doctrine, than they endorse the infidel doctrines of Bob Ingersoll.—J. B. Wharton in last week's Banner.

What the people want is truth. Bare assertions prove nothing. Mr. Wharton is content to condemn the BANNER's advocacy of fiat money and the greenback principles without any attempt on his part to prove the fallacy of those theories. In this he simply adopts the argumentative methods of those who are content to assign the old woman's reason—"because it is," and rest his case as conclusive.

"Out of the mouths of two or more witnesses a truth may be established." We will not content ourselves with the assertion on our part, that Mr. Wharton is mistaken in regard to the fallacy of fiat money, the fallacy of his assertion as to the greenback doctrine being exploded, and the misrepresentation of the BANNER of Alliance principles, but we will call a few witnesses and prove that he is "off," and not this paper.

In the first place we will offer the first demand of the St. Louis platform, formulated by the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union and Knights of Labor, adopted at St. Louis, Dec. 8, 1880, as an agreement between these bodies for mutual cooperation, which is as follows:

1. That we demand the abolition of national banks and the substitution of legal tender treasury notes in lieu of national bank notes, issued in sufficient volume to do the business of the country on a cash system; regulating the amount needed on a per capita basis as the business interests of the country expands; and that all money issued by the government shall be legal tender in payment of all debts, both public and private.

President Polk, in his annual message delivered at the Ocala convention Dec. 2, 1890, said:

"Let us stand unitedly and unflinchingly by the great principles enunciated at our St. Louis meeting. In the light of our recent experience the important work of discussing and elucidating these principles must devolve upon us."

The Ocala convention enunciated the following on its first demand:

"We demand the abolition of national banks. We demand that the government shall establish sub-treasuries or depositories in the several states which shall loan money direct to the people at a low rate of interest, not to exceed two per cent. per annum, on non-perishable farm products, and also upon real estate, with proper limitations upon the quantity of land and amount of money. We demand that the amount of the circulating medium be speedily increased to \$50 per capita."

We submit as further proof that there is not an Alliance paper in all this country that is recognized as such but what is unequivocally committed to the greenback principle and earnestly contending for it.

As to the "flat" principle of money that is no longer an issue. The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States has irrevocably settled that question. Because men in ignorance and partisan prejudice oppose the principle, that does not in any way affect it. We quoted Jefferson, Calhoun and Clay last week to prove that the "flat" principle of money is no new theory, but has been approved for ages past by the best statesmen and publicists the world has ever produced.

The debts of the foreign nations in 1890, according to a late census bulletin, was \$2,030,070,000, an increase over 1881 of \$2,154,505,055.

