

THE HERALD.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7, 1891.

A canvass planned to ascertain the opinions of farmers upon the vital public questions of the day, conducted by the Agricultural Press of Springfield, with help of other farming journals, West and East, resulted in 110,000 answers by postal cards. The questions were upon practical economic and political issues, including the tariff, the government ownership of rail roads, telegraph, and last, who they favored as nominees for the Presidency in 1892. The answers to the last have been fully tabulated. In relation to other questions enough has been done to prove that federal aid to agricultural education and the teaching of agricultural science in the rural schools are overwhelmingly endorsed.

Ownership of the rail roads, or at least controlled by the government is also endorsed. A preference for Presidential candidates resulted in democrats, Cleveland getting a large majority, and republicans, Blaine a large majority.

The scattering republican vote includes Reed, McKinley, Depey and Plumb.

The scattering democratic vote includes Pattison, Carlisle, Russell. A goodly number of the scattering votes of both parties is for "a farmer."

The opinions above expressed can be relied upon as being the true feelings of the people. We want reform in more ways than one, if this is a government of the people. The people should be listened to, and their wants regarded and it is of vital importance to us as a free and independent nation, who consider ourselves capable of self government, to compel our leaders to listen to the voice of the people and act in accordance with their wishes, or we should immediately without regard to party or past favors lay upon the "shield" all persons who disregard our wishes and who uphold class legislation and favor the rich monopolist instead of fulfilling their official duties as required of them under oath.

Does Congress in passing any act first consider what effect such a law will have on the citizens of the commonwealth? "We say no emphatically no!" The first thing in framing a bill to bring before the house is, what will my party say to this? what will the money bag say to it? how will the national banker receive it? and the rail road millionaire and magnate regard such a law? after these questions are satisfactorily adjusted, and the framer or framers as the case may be, that such a law does not injure their "pets" or "party" but is of advantage to both, the bill then, will be brought before the house and its merits freely discussed not losing sight of the importance and the very great "importance," in the discussion, of gulling the people—if possible—into the belief that the act if passed, and made a law, will be to the interest of the whole nation, when at the same time the bill is gotten up for no other purpose than that of serving some corporation or monopoly or a party measure. That is our Congress of to-day, and no man, in the government of the United States, can successfully deny it.

"It was submitted to the legal voters but not determined." "In view of and respect for the decision of the State Court." The above two clauses found in the order of the county court to remove the records to Harney, we take exception to, and believe we can convince our readers that we are acting in accordance with the spirit and intention of the decision and opinion of the State court. Judge Lord says "Not a majority of all the votes cast at the election, but a majority of all votes cast on that question." Further he says, "Keeping this distinction in mind etc." The idea is clearly demonstrated—in the fact shown that Burns did receive a majority of all votes cast on that question—that Burns is lawfully and legally the permanent county seat of Harney county.

Taking the opinion of Judge Lord as a basis, it seems to us if the county court were so anxious effecting in accordance with the meaning clearly set forth in that opinion, the judgment or order should have been just the reverse.

The facts are clearly stated in the opinion, if Burns did receive a majority of 8 votes, Burns is the county seat, and court cannot be held legally at any other place. And in proof of such being the facts we have a legally certified copy of the returns of the election from our county clerk over his own signature. In that opinion any man of common sense can see that blank votes cut no figure in the case.

Free silver coinage is the bugaboo of the present administration.

Mr. Benjamin Harrison was greatly disappointed not to find the Force bill in his stocking Christmas morning.

Europe is slowly catching on to American ideas. Vienna has just extended its limits a la Chicago, in order to take in all of the populous suburbs, and now he has a population of 1,315,626.

The public sentiment of the country is overwhelmingly with the democratic Senators in their efforts to defeat the Force bill, and will continue so, no matter what tactics they may adopt to accomplish the desired end.

If the bill reducing the pension attorney's fee, for obtaining an increase of pension, to \$2, be defeated in Congress the old soldier will know how much honesty there is in the love for him expressed by republican stump speakers.

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Between the gold men, the silver men and the hood men the United States Senate chamber is almost as lively a place as Killkenny, Ireland, and the republican leaders, if that demoralized party can be said to have any leader at this time, are in a state bordering on distraction. In the meantime the country suffers for legislation to relieve the financial distress.

The future of the democratic party never looked brighter than it does today, and the rank and file of the party look as they have a right to look, to the leaders of the party to exercise the greatest care to see that no step is rashly taken that will have a tendency to mar the brightness of that future. If such care be taken we have a reasonable right to expect not only to control the House of Representatives of the Fifty-third Congress and elect the next President, but also to have a majority in the United States Senate after March 4, 1893.

Senator Stewart is so far the only republican who has dared to stand up like a man and tell his colleagues that he would not be bulldozed into supporting the Force bill, which he believes can only make trouble, and very serious trouble, if enacted into a law. His speech, which was mainly addressed to the republican Senators, was a strong arraignment of the bill from a republican standpoint. There are several other republican Senators who think with Mr. Stewart, but it is not probable that any of them will follow his good example by openly attacking the bill, although Senator Paddock is said to have told Mr. Harrison that he intended to vote against the bill.

Senator Gray, of Delaware, has some sensible ideas about reciprocity, and he has introduced a resolution in the Senate authorizing the administration to open negotiations for the purpose of framing reciprocity treaties between the United States and Mexico, and the United States and Canada. Notwithstanding the fact that reciprocity treaties with those two countries would be of more real benefit to the people than all of those proposed by Mr. Blaine with the South and Central American republics, there isn't the slightest probability that the republican Senators will support Mr. Gray's resolution. It isn't real reciprocity that the republican favor, but only an imitation that will serve for the time being to blind the voters of this country.

HERALD'S WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Senator Hoar did not, it is a safe thing to say, enjoy his Christmas dinner. He was to be badly disgusted at his failure to get a vote upon the Force bill this week. He thought it was all right the other day when he offered a resolution proposing a recess until 8 o'clock in the evening and a continuous session of the Senate from that time until the bill was disposed of. But lo and behold when noses were counted there was no quorum present, and the point was quickly made by a democratic Senator who had remained in the chamber for that very purpose, and most aggravating of all to Mr. Hoar was the fact that, in spite of all his coaxing and threatening, seventeen republican Senators were among the absentees.

The republican mountain, after weeks of painful labor, has brought forth a mouse in the shape of a rule to cut off debate at the pleasure of the majority which has been reported to the Senate by Mr. Aldrich. But the democrats are not at all alarmed; on the contrary they are confident of their ability to defeat this proposed revolutionary overturning of the precedents of a century, and in any event fully determined that it shall not be done until every parliamentary expedient has been exhausted in the effort to prevent it.

Senator Vorhees made the speech of the week against the Force bill and his picture of Messrs. Harrison, Quay, Dudley and Huston posing as the friends of honest elections while the rank corruption of the Presidential election of 1888 was, with its "blocks of five" fresh in the minds of the American people, was as vigorous a hit of rhetoric as the "Tall Sycamore of the Wahash" ever uttered. His denunciation of the attempt to colonize southern negroes in West Virginia and Indiana, which was fortunately exposed before it was consummated" was very bitter, but not more so than it deserved. Senator Gray also did some vigorous talking in defense of the people of Delaware, whom Mr. Higgins, the accidental republican Senator from that state, had grossly slandered in an effort to justify the passing of the Force bill.

If Mr. Harrison wished to select a gentleman entirely without a national reputation to succeed the late Justice Miller on the bench of the United States Supreme Court he certainly succeeded when he nominated Henry B. Brown, of Michigan, to the vacancy. Said a republican Senator: "It was really amusing when the nomination was announced to see prominent Senators going from one to the other in order to find out who this Mr. Brown is. The Michigan Senators speak well of him, but I doubt if there are a dozen other Senators who ever heard of him before."

Representative Blanchard of Louisiana, has offered a resolution in the House providing for a general Indian investigation. The same gentleman has offered a resolution instructing the House committee on Banking and Currency to report a bill to increase the amount of money in circulation to \$50 per capita. He sets fourth in a preamble the fact of its being impossible in many parts of the South to get an advance of even \$10 a bale on cotton, owing to the scarcity of money.

The republicans of the Senate are getting their party in a nice snarl on the financial question. The recent republican caucus approved a bill, in the hope of conciliating the free coinage republican Senators, that provided for the issuing of treasury notes, based on purchases of silver bullion to make up the deficiency whenever the amount of national bank circulation fell below \$180,000,000, but the Finance Committee to which the bill was referred when introduced, has cut out that section of the bill entirely and put in place of it one authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue \$200,000,000 of 2 per cent bonds, and the amended bill has been reported back to the Senate by that strong and vigilant foe of silver, Senator Sherman. The silver men are mad as hornets and Senator Stewart has already offered a free coinage amendment to the bill, and overtures are being made to democrats to support it. What the democrats will do depends largely upon what action the republicans who favor free coinage take upon the Force bill. Senator Stewart will do all he can to get them to oppose it.

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