

The democratic party has ever since our civil war fought for the rights of the people. The course taken by President Cleveland and his followers is not democratic, neither is it recognized as such by the majority of the party. And democrats here and other places who hold to the true principles of democracy are spoken of by some as cranks, populists, etc. This is done through some kind of make-shift policy or ignorance of democratic teachings or these men were never democrats.

The party started in after the war to repair its shattered condition. There were no doubts expressed by its members as to its principles. There were no fears entertained concerning the ultimate success of the party, because the followers of democratic principles were trying to do right, act honestly, had the interest of the whole people at heart, and the welfare of the government.

The democratic party has been bitter in its opposition to nearly all the foremost planks in the national platform of the republican party. The republican party favored issuing government bonds, the democratic party bitterly opposed it declaring it to be very unwise, injudicious and a stab at the tax payers, therefore hurtful to the government and its progress.

The republican party favored a high protective tariff, the democratic party declared this to be class legislation of the most corrupt kind, because it enabled the rich to grow richer at the expense of the laborer and producer. The republican party demonetized silver, then a howl of righteous indignation simultaneously burst from the democratic ranks condemning the act as the most vicious, the most corrupt, the cap sheaf of republican misrule, the crowning point of Wall Street influence, suicide to our independence and the death blow to labor. The Sherman act was passed as a peace maker to quiet the disturbed element in the republican party.

Now taking into consideration the fact, that the democratic party condemned and bitterly fought the issuing of bonds, the national banking system, the high tariff, the demonetization of silver, in fact all class legislation successfully carried through by the republican party, ending in the final triumph of the democratic party and a victory of which, the members of the party were justly proud believing the principles of democracy would be carried out to the letter. Mr. Cleveland walked into the White House, and his party had a majority in both houses. Then all good democrats felt relieved, and were jubilant thinking the day of retribution at hand and all the political pills, of which the people complained would be speedily cured. Was it or is it the case? Has the present administration carried out the will of the people?

Has Mr. Cleveland quietly acquiesced in the will of a majority of his party in congress? If he has not then it is not democracy and men of true democratic principles, cannot and should not agree with

him, but openly and publicly condemn such a course as being hurtful to the vitality of the party.

If this is populist doctrine, we must say it is good. If this is what some call being a crank, then crankism, at least, has one redeeming feature.

If opposing usurpation of the peoples rights and privileges is crankism, then it is a good thing to be a crank. If it be necessary to uphold class legislation and Wall Street sharks in order to be a democrat, we do not understand what democracy is and therefore make no pretensions in that direction.

But we profess to know what democracy has been for years and it suits us admirably and we do not propose to forsake it to please the President or his followers, or to satisfy his secretary, who before entering upon the duties of that office took every occasion to promulgate the principles we advocate.

Although some of our party differ with us, and some newspapers uphold what they have heretofore condemned, we expect to remain in the old beaten track of democracy as expounded by Bland, Vest and others, who are standing by the Chicago platform.

If men profess to be democrats when they are truly genuine republicans it is no temptation to us to do so. When men or newspapers throw down the gauntlet and take it up themselves at the instance of gold bugs, we are not with them and only feel the more sorrow for the result and the suffering of our people following such a course.

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