

POLITICAL SITUATION.

Col. John R. Fellows was very bitter in his remarks on the democratic platform. "There is not one iota of democracy in such a platform," he declared. "It is a tissue of populist and anarchistic notions compiled by men who have no claim to recognition as statesmen or even politicians, but who are frenzied fanatics. I cannot see how I can support such a platform or any person placed upon it."

The foregoing from a New York delegate, convinces every one of the fact that it is a bitter pill to eastern ring leaders of the democratic party, who have heretofore carried everything with a high hand in national conventions, to submit to measures other than those propagated by the ring. Western democrats have recognized, finally, and established their rights, in national convention assembled in Chicago to nominate a national ticket. We say have recognized their own rights, for no recognition comes from Eastern democracy, as a whole, but bitter resentment instead. While we rejoice, because of the few delegates from that section, who sustain and will stand by the result of the convention, still the fact that so many of them, like Colonel Fellows, voice the same sentiment and their invectives so utterly unfounded, leaves room for but one conclusion and that is chagrin over their defeat. Western and Southern democracy has been led by that ring for years at every national convention, when in many instances the result has been crushing to its best interests. We have in the past bridged the chasm fraternized sectional interests and feelings, and manly come forward in support of the ticket.

Now since the shoe is on the other foot, and the "cow" is turned with her udder towards the West and South, comes a howl such as was never heard in democratic ranks before. Many of them will likely bolt the ticket. But did this outfit of Eastern plutocracy for a moment concede the right of the South and West in like cases heretofore to bolt? Has not the South and West been led by the iron hand of Eastern bondholders, millionaires, and Wall Street to its ruination long enough? Have we not submitted? Not without protest to be sure, but nevertheless we have submitted and taken our medicine? Our rights of belief and opinion heretofore have been wholly ignored by these millionaire "Rubber-necks" and now because the game does not result to suit their masters, they claim the right to bolt.

Thank God! for the present platform. Thank God! W. J. Bryan is our standard bearer. Thank God! that honesty prevailed. Thank God! that in this convention the laborer, the agriculturist, and the rights of the poor were recognized.

Gov. Flower of New York, said at the convention that the platform was the outcome of incompetent and brainless fools. What a compliment to our silver leaders. Coming from the source it did silver

cannot help but feel it a compliment. If the brain of the worthy Mr. Flower was properly analyzed you would find the composition largely made of egotism, self conceit and arrogance; when he makes a statement it is perfectly certain he thinks just the contrary.

HERE'S THE PLATFORM.

CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

We hold that the tariff duties should be levied for the purpose of revenue, such duties to be so readjusted as to operate equally throughout the country, and not discriminate between class or section, and that taxation should be limited by the needs of government, honestly and economically administered.

We denounce as disturbing to business the republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has been twice condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industries, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriched the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets. Until the money question is settled, we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws, except such as are necessary to make up the deficit in revenues caused by the adverse decision of the supreme court on the income tax. But for this decision of the supreme court, there would be no deficit in the revenue under the law passed by the democrat congress, in strict pursuance of the uniform decision of that court for nearly 100 years, that court having under that decision sustained constitutional objections to its enactments which had been overruled by the ablest judges who have ever sat on that bench.

We declare that it is the duty of congress to use all the constitutional power which remains after that decision, or which may come from its reversal by that court, as it may hereafter be constituted, so that the burdens of taxation may be equally and impartially divided, to the end that may all bear the due proportion of the expense of the government.

We hold that the most efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with it in the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system, which depresses the prices of their products below the cost of production, and thus deprives them of the means of purchasing the products of our home manufactures. The absorption of wealth by the few the consolidation of our leading railway system, and the formation of trusts and pools require a strict control by the federal government of those arteries of commerce.

We demand the enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission, and such restrictions and guarantees in the control of the railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

We denounce the profligate waste of money wrung from the people by

oppressive taxation, and the lavish appropriation of recent republican congress, which have kept the taxes high while the labor that pays them is unemployed, and the products of the people's toil are depressed in price until they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which befits a democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people.

We denounce arbitrary interference by federal authority in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions, and we especially object to government interference by injunctions, as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression, by which federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the states and rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges and executors, and we approve the bill passed at the last session of the United States senate, and now pending in the house of representatives, relative to contempt in federal courts, and providing for trials by jury in certain cases of contempt.

No discrimination should be indulged in by the government of the United States in favor of any of its debtors.

We approve of the refusal of the 53d congress to pass the Pacific railroad funding bill, and denounce the effort of the present congress to enact a similar measure.

Recognizing the just claim of deserving Union soldiers, we heartily endorse the rule of Commissioner Murphy that no names shall be arbitrarily dropped from the pension rolls, and that fact of enlistment and service should be deemed conclusive evidence against disease and disability before enlistment.

We favor the admission of the territories of New Mexico and Arizona into the Union as states, and we favor the early admission of all the territories, having the necessary population and resources to entitle them to sisterhood, and, while they remain territories, we hold that the officials appointed to administer the government of any territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona fide residents of the territory or district in which their duties are to be performed. The democratic party believes in home rule, and that all public lands of the United States should be appropriated to the establishment of free home for American citizens.

We recommend that the territory of Alaska be granted a delegate in congress, and that the general land and timber laws of the United States be extended to said territory.

We extend our sympathy to the people of Cuba, in their heroic struggle for liberty and independence.

The federal government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the republic, so as to secure for the interior states easy and cheap transportation to tidewater. When any waterway of the republic is of sufficient importance to demand aid of the government, such aid should be extended upon a definite plan of continuous work, until permanent improvement is secured.

We are opposed to life tenure in the public service. We favor ap-

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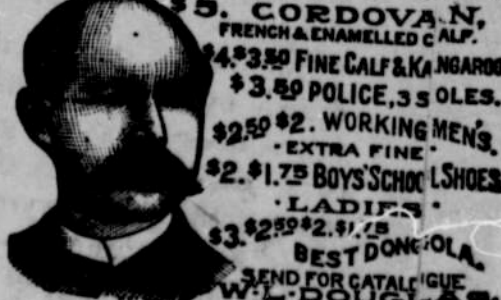
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pointments based upon merit, fixed terms of office, and such an administration of the civil service laws as will afford equal opportunity of all citizens of a certain fitness.

We declare it to be the unwritten law of this republic, established by custom and usage of 100 years and sanctioned by the examples of the greatest and wisest of those who founded and have maintained our government, that no man shall be eligible for a third term of the presidential office.

Confiding in the justice of our cause and necessity of its success at the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principles to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all citizens who approve them, and desire to have them made effective through legislation, for the relief of the people and the restoration of our country's prosperity.

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