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PRESIDENT'S PRICE

For Whitney's Help Against Free Silver. Demured Without Result.

New York, June 25.—President Cleveland's letter of last week, in which he expressed a desire "to be a private in the ranks," was written, it is said, in deference to the wishes of Wm. C. Whitney. As the story is told here, the President appealed to Mr. Whitney a fortnight since to enter the lists for sound money, and Mr. Whitney replying, said this would be useless as long as Mr. Cleveland remained noncommittal with respect to the third term proposition.

The Ex-secretary pointed out that the President, by his silence, had permitted the idea to go abroad that he would accept a fourth nomination and that this policy had weakened the sound money cause. He urged Mr. Cleveland to come out with a declaration that would remove this impression and intimated strongly that until such an utterance should be forthcoming he would take no part in the campaign.

The President, it is said demurred, saying that as his name had not figured in the Presidential talk it would be an indelicate act for him to decline a renomination in advance. Thereupon Mr. Whitney packed his grip and arranged to embark for Europe. Last Tuesday night, within a few hours of the time set for sailing of the steamer, the Ex-Secretary received word from Washington that the President had relented and would concede Whitney's demand. On the following morning, when the Cleveland letter appeared in the newspapers, Mr. Whitney abandoned his European trip and buckled down to the work of the campaign. In one short week he has solidified the so called "sound money" forces of the East and he is now preparing for a vigorous siege at Chicago. This evening Mr. Whitney announced that he would go to Chicago a week in advance of the convention and open headquarters.

That the masses of the people in the East are no longer hostile to silver is shown in various ways. The Republic correspondent made a street canvass to-day, and of 23 men picked at random, 16 were outspoken in favoring free coinage. They did not pretend to know much about the currency question, but they said that if the Western people wanted silver they did not see that it would do any harm to introduce the white metal in the currency.

Of 14 Tammany leaders, nine said, in effect: "Oh, what's the use of wasting breath on this subject. A majority of the people want free coinage and in the end they will get it. This is a Democratic year. Any old platform will do."

The others were divided between the Whitney idea and the gold standard pure and simple. The newspapers reflect popular sentiment in a way. They no longer refer to the "silver heresy," and to the "fanaticism" of the Western and Southern Democrats. The talk now is all for conciliation and compromise.

At the Republican ratification

meeting to-night, the attendance was almost pitiful. Carnegie Hall was scarcely half filled. On the other hand, Senator "Ben" Tillman spoke to an immense audience at Cooper Union. This comparison is of course, not conclusive, but it shows which way the wind is blowing.

RATCLIFF.

ED. COURIER:—Our barbecue on 24th has come and gone and was what we would call a success. The officers of Coltharp Lodge A. F. & A. M. were duly and constitutionally installed by Bro. D. J. Cater of Lovelady. We had a large attendance and some short but able addresses. All enjoyed themselves, and there was an abundance of everything to eat. We can not go into details at this time. We had a pretty good rain for which we are grateful. At the close of the day's proceedings, W. B. Page, the man who has so ably and successfully led the party to victory in the past organized a democratic club of nearly fifty members. We regret very much to think that our county was so ungrateful as not to unanimously endorse him for congress or anything he should want after his zealous and efficient labors for the democratic party.

Success to the COURIER and the democratic party.

SUBSCRIBER.

BURNETT.

Having returned from a trip to Lampasas I thought I would give you a sketch of my trip. Leaving Burnett you pass over a rocky road for about seven miles with a dense growth on each side of the road. Emerging from this you come to a prairie with a farm now and then. The small grain is all harvested and one sees nothing doing but cutting and shocking of corn. Little cotton is in sight and it from two to five inches high with a bloom now and then. In short from Burnett to Lampasas there is nothing in the crop outlook. The estimate of cotton acreage for 1895 will have to be made over. It is distressing to contemplate the prospect. Corn has advanced from 20 to 50 cents a bushel and can't be had at that. We come to Lampasas first touching the business part of the town, that is, was once the business part but now I fancy suggesting Goldsmith's "Deserted Village." Houses closed, street cars abandoned and everything in a dilapidated condition and but little life in it. The only thing worthy of attention is the Springs, the Hancock and Hanna and but few visitors to there. Nothing happened on our home trip to note except the appearance of a threatening cloud which passed off without rain again.

Free silver is sweeping everything before it here. I would like for some one to tell me the difference between free-silver and gold at 16 to 1 and bimetalism at 16 to 1. It seems to me that free silver and gold at 16 to 1 is our old standard. Some are leaning on the government for a support next year and say Culberson can't and won't grant it. There is nothing made within a radius of 100 miles of here.

ROYER.

THE BARBECUE.

The editor of the COURIER spent the day very pleasantly Tuesday of last week on a jaunt to and at the barbecue at Ratcliff's. It was a public day in two fold sense. The candidates touched lances on that day and there was a public installation of the officers of Coltharp Lodge. A large crowd gathered, not a few of whom were from Cherokee and Angelina. Fully seven to eight hundred people were on the grounds. It was a strictly sober, orderly, happy gathering, bent on innocent pleasure a full measure of which all seemed to have.

Before dinner the usual ceremony of installing the officials of the lodge was performed. A few of the candidates announced and then came the dinner. And such a dinner! Everything good to eat was there and in profusion and if there was a man, woman or child who failed to get all they wanted it was the fault, not of the hospitable people, but of the party who failed to get it. For it was there in bountiful abundance from the best of barbecued mutton to the delicacies and dainties which usually garnish the nuptial board. After dinner the speaking and announcement program was resumed. All the candidates were present except two or three. The speeches were all short, usually nothing more than formal announcements and the customary solicitation of support. Circumstances were such that we failed to hear any of the talks except those of the candidates for county judge. We should like to have heard all and to have made some report of all but we were so situated that it was impossible.

The candidates for county judge made neat, well-considered addresses.

Jess Duren led off in a short, pointed talk devoted mainly to the qualifications of the incumbent of this office. Jess didn't parade in unseemly manner his claims to the position but spoke with becoming modesty of his own qualifications and assured the public that if elected he would give the county a clean, pure, faithful and efficient administration of the office. John Kenney followed next. He referred to the fact that he was not a licensed lawyer but that he had filled the position of justice of the peace in the Augusta Beat for years and that his experience in this office gave him exceptional advantage for qualifying himself for the position he sought. Mr. Kenney has a splendid record as Justice and is highly regarded by all who know him as a fine business man. He spoke of the duties of the office and without ostentation or display assured the public that the trust if given to him would be faithfully guarded and honestly and efficiently administered.

Mr. Winfree came next in an address of twenty minutes. Like Mr. Kenney he defended his right to run for and fill the office although he was not a licensed attorney, and referred to the career of Judge Smither of Huntsville who now occupies the district bench and yet never had a case at the bar. His speech was well worded and well delivered and the close of it was especially captivating be-

cause of its rhetorical finish and polish. He also spoke of his extensive experience in matters of the law and while he had never practiced law, felt that he was thoroughly posted in legal business and fully competent to fill the position.

A. D. Lipscomb was the last of the candidates for Co., Judge. He spoke for 40 minutes and went extensively into the policies which he would advocate if elected Co. Judge. He dwelt at length on the question of good roads, the importance of them to the farmers and merchants.

He promised, if elected, to advocate and urge a general betterment of the highways of the county. He gave considerable attention to the school question and promised to devote all the time possible to it. Mr. Lipscomb, acting under the resolutions adopted by the county convention, turned his attention to the interests of the democratic party and paid his respects to Judge Burnett and his policies and methods in a way that ought to please all good, true democrats. In his talk he laid bare the self-seeking, demoralizing schemes of Judge Burnett and told the people that he felt that it was his duty as it was the duty of all true democrats to fight Burnett and to expose his unclean and debauching methods. We would take pleasure in publishing extracts from all their speeches if we had room in this issue. We hope to be able to do so in our next. Judge Aldrich entertained the crowd immensely in a happy talk of ten minutes.

CREEK.

MR. EDITOR:—With a sad heart and blasted hopes we pen you a very short letter. When we see the gardens upon which so much depended all dead; the black berries all dried up on the vine; the water melons crooked by the sun; the corn drying up and dying in the fields; and the "king weed," with no fruit for a crop, withered from morning till night, how can one be otherwise than sad. All for the want of sufficient water. We see no chance for the farmer in this vicinity if we are a few more days without rain; we will not make enough corn to winter a church mouse, and it is not because we have gone so long without rain, but mainly on account of the oppressive heat. Think of the thermometer ranging over one hundred for a number of days; don't see how man or lower order of animals, could be exposed to such a degree of heat and live. But have heard of no sun strokes as yet. But some complain of short rations and sharp appetites. Uncle Nick Funny says he has as many slices of meat for breakfast as he ever did, but has them cut a little thinner, and the only trouble he has is he has no gague to cut by and every one wants the thickest piece. Most of the farmers are in high life. They say they are going to trust to their farms in the West. MR. EDITOR, would that I had the power to cause every farmer to see his condition as I think I see it, that I could enthrone every one to commence now and get to making arrangements to plant largely of every kind of small grain. Plant oats in the cotton on last plowing

they are better for grazing when planted early than rye. I do hope the people will plant and make such articles as will run their farms and leave off the ruinous plan of buying such things as they ought and should make at home. Mr. Editor, will you use your influence to this end.

You do not know how anxious our people are for a railroad. Mr. Gus Longmeasure says he would give the right of way through his yard, and would even move his dairy and take down his swing. In moving the swing he would make a wide gap in the pleasures of the juvenile portion of our town, but he says he would do it before he would lose the railroad and I expect he would as he has a head something like Collins' ram.

But, Mr. Editor, the power is in the hands of the farmers, and just as long as they continue the various plan of planting all cotton they can do nothing. I care not what they want to do by means of their farms, they can never succeed by planting all cotton. Have they not tried it long enough to convince themselves that they can never move the mountain of debt that hangs heavy over them by the exclusion of grain crops. They have tried the cultivation of all cotton long enough to know it will not do. They have been trying all cotton for several years. Are they any nearer out of debt than when they commenced. Don't they owe more now than they did when they commenced to plant all cotton to pay out. I leave them to answer. Now turn, farmer, and try some new plan. Plant small grain, select some good land, put it in a good state of cultivation and in October or not later than November, plant wheat and oats with a few bushels of cotton seed for manure. We see already the corn crop must be short for this year, and we know the pea crop is the same, as we have had no rain to plant them, which makes it much more necessary that we should plant largely of every kind of small grain to meet the short grain crop of this year.

We have had a rain but not enough to do crops much good. There have been some deaths in the bend.

We regret to learn of the death of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Morrow which sad and unlooked for event occurred Sunday evening. It was a child of fine promise, but the reaper death has cut her down. Grieve not, father and mother, for your little one is an angel now, and of such is the kingdom of Heaven.

ISHMAELITE.

Below we give the following showing how Mr. Sheridan has conducted the office of tax collector:

Austin, Tex., May 27, '96.
Jno. R. Sheridan Esq.,
Collector Houston Co.,
Crockett, Texas.

Dear Sir:
I herewith enclose statement showing settlement in full of your account for 1895 taxes. Allow me to express to you my appreciation for your promptness in making your annual settlement, also your monthly reports and remittances. You have conducted the affairs of your office with entire satisfaction to this department and I commend you as one of the best and most efficient collectors in the service of the State.
Very Respectfully,
J. R. CURR,
Act'g Comptroller.

