

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

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RENSSELAER, FRIDAY, DEC. 16, 1892.

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The regular meetings of the County Alliance are on the first Saturday of each month. A full attendance is very much desired at each meeting.

Boss O. P. Tabor has no love for the PILOT and spends all his spare time during the session of the commissioners court in heapings imprecations upon this paper and the People's party. Keep cool, old man, your turn is coming next.

The Republican party of this county is in tough luck. Unpaid bills of various amounts are awaiting payment. Creditors are getting vigorous in their denunciation of the leaders of the party. The money intended to defray the expenses of the campaign has found its way into unauthorized pockets. A sensation that will stir up the muddy political waters will shortly come out. It behoves the guilty ones to get under cover.

Was there ever a slaveholder—did you ever know of one who belonged to the Republican party?—Three Stars in Republican.

Oh, yes, lots of 'em, General Longstreet, Col. Hill, Billie Mahone, the guerilla Mosby, Chalmers, the red handed murderer of Union soldiers at Fort Pillow and a host of others, all of whom were slaveholders and served in the Rebel army, but have since held office as the gift of the Republican party.

A prominent Republican was hard to remark recently that after 1894 there wouldn't be a Republican left in the court house unless the system of bossism fostered by the county commissioners was done away with. We have one big boss, well known to all, and several who aspire to be little bosses, in conjunction with the big boss. The most prominent aspirant now is O. P. Tabor. Mr. Tabor secured the nomination two years ago by virtue of the skin of his teeth, and although he run behind his ticket was elected. He has distinguished himself since then by playing Polonius to the big boss Hamlet.

Was there ever a time in the history of this country when a dollar would purchase as much as it will now?—Three Stars in Republican.

No, one dollar will buy two bushels of wheat, four bushels of oats and three bushels of rye, and from forty to one hundred pounds of good beef on foot, and

other farm products in proportion. There was a time that two bushels of wheat would bring four dollars, oats fifty to seventy cents per bushel; rye one dollar per bushel; and cattle that will now sell for from one to three dollars per hundred pounds would sell from three to six dollars per hundred, but that was when there was sufficient money in circulation to do the business of the country. Give us plenty of money and farm products will again bring good prices and the farmer will be prosperous as in the past, previous to the destruction of the greenback and the demonetizing of silver.

The PILOT had a small bill before the commissioners this week for printing programs for the teachers' institute—work given it through the county superintendents office. When the bill was brought up before the commissioners Boss Tabor sent a messenger after Superintendent Warren, and upon his arrival this cock-of-the-roost asked Mr. Warren if the bill was all right and why the work was given the PILOT. Mr. Warren replied the bill was correct and if the commissioners refused to pay it, the bill would be paid out of his own pocket. The commissioners then allowed the bill, with the intimation that in the future the superintendent's work should be taken to the "ring organ" down the way. When Geo. E. Marshall presented a bill of over \$300 for printing the election tickets in the Republican, work which he would have gladly done for \$40 or \$50, and which heretofore he has published as news without compensation, Boss Tabor saw that the bill was allowed immediately. Thus is the tax-payers' money squandered.

Which party predominated in the struggle for the maintenance of our government.—Republican.

Abraham Lincoln, the best and purest president since Washington, aided by the strongest and wisest cabinet ever selected by any president, directed the affairs of state during that great struggle—the most critical period in our national history. Abraham Lincoln was elected by the Republican party and to the Republican party of 1860—65 belongs the credit of suppressing the greatest rebellion of modern times. But the Republican party of 1860—65 is very different from the Republican party to-day. The party of Lincoln was untainted in its purity, the party of Harrison steeped in corruption, a stench in the public nostril. The Republican party of Lincoln advocated a government of the people, by the people and for the people—the Republican of the present, a government of the corporations, by the corporations and for the corporations. The Republican party of to-day can not steal the laurels from the Republican party of Lincoln. Lincoln's cabinet, with one exception, left the Republican party and joined the opposition. Should all their great achievements be left behind or should it go with them? The Republican party of Lincoln was murdered shortly after his assassination and by the hands of the professed friends, the plutocracy, which controls the Republican party of to-day.

Three stars in the Republican has prepared a list of questions which he wishes every good, honest thinking Democrat and Populist to study carefully and answer "as answering his own soul." As the greater number of these interrogatories are aimed directly at the Democrats, and as we do not feel called upon to defend their position, or fight their battles, we leave them for the Democrats to answer. In the following, however,

he touches the key-note of the position of every Populist in the land. "Was there ever a time in the history of this country, when a dollar would purchase as

much as it will now?" It is evident he would answer this question in the negative, and thus far we perfectly agree with him. So far as our knowledge goes, there never was. And in making this admission, he offers what should be, even to him, conclusive evidence that the dollar of to-day, as compared with former times, enjoys an undue advantage over labor, and all commodities, the products of labor. It seems to be one of the cardinal principles of both Democrats and Republicans that the millennium in politics will never be reached until all articles of commerce have been brought to the lowest possible price. Let us look at this question from the standpoint of a farmer. If we are to assume that the farmer shall exchange all the products of his farm for food, clothing, machinery and other appliances which his business demands, then it would make little difference to him about the price, so long as the prices of what he had to sell, and that which he was compelled to buy, were correspondingly reduced. But the farmer does not, cannot do that. In addition to supplying the wants of himself and family, the farmer must each year dispose of a portion of his products for cash. Semi-annually he makes his pilgrimage to the court house to liquidate the claims against him held by the state, the county, the township or municipality, and pays it in what? Cash. Many thousand dollars are thus annually taken from the pockets of Jasper county farmers, which they have obtained in exchange for cheap wheat, cheap corn, and cheap horses. Have the burdens of taxation been correspondingly reduced? On the contrary they are vastly increased. Does your family physician regulate the price of his professional visit by the market value of oats? Does your lawyer (if you are unfortunate enough to employ one) take his pay in the commodities of the farm? Does he charge you less than he did twenty years ago? Have the salaries of our officials, from president of the U. S. down to the lowest menial in the government kept pace with declining prices of commodities? Under these conditions, who is the beneficiary? Evidently not the possessor of the commodity, but rather the owner of the dollar. Might there not be such a thing as buying too much for a dollar? Let three stars think over this thing soberly and honestly and answer as one "answering his own soul." Again he asks:

"Was there ever a time when everything the farmer has to sell brought better prices (unless in times of inflation or war) and everything he has to buy is cheaper?" We do not know to whom we should credit this remarkable quotation, but surely he is not a farmer. We give below a table showing the average prices of cotton, corn and wheat, in the home markets from 1872 to 1891 inclusive. If he doubts the truthfulness of our figures, let him consult the official statistics of our foreign commerce for that period. We have selected this period because in that time our markets have not been affected by any war and surely not by any inflation of the currency, seeming that silver was demonetized in 1873, and stricken from the list of our legal tenders.

Fiscal Yr.	In Home Markets		
	Cotton per lb.	Corn per bu.	Wheat per bu.
June 30, 1872	\$0.19.3	70c	\$1.47
1873	18.8	62c	1.31
1874	15.4	72c	1.43
1875	15.0	85c	1.12
1876	12.9	67c	1.24
1877	11.8	54c	1.17
1878	11.1	56c	1.34
1879	9.9	47c	1.07
1880	11.5	54c	1.25
1881	11.4	55c	1.11
1882	11.4	67c	1.19
1883	10.8	68c	1.13
1884	10.5	61c	1.07
1885	10.6	54c	.86
1886	9.9	50c	.87
1887	9.5	48c	.89
1888	9.8	56c	.85

From these figures it will be seen that the price of cotton, as compared with twenty years ago, is less than one third, and of corn and wheat but little more than half, and the price of wheat this year, as every farmer well knows is much less than it was in '91. Return to the price of '72 and we will gladly pay you 12½ cents for calico, 10 cts. for sugar, and other commodities in the same ratio. Truly a dollar will buy more than it ever did before, and no one realizes it more painfully than the farmer.

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Deserving Praise.

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