

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

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OF
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Rensselaer, Friday, Jan. 4, 1895.

Adieu.

FOR four months, we in our feeble way have tried to edit this paper; with no experience, with no taste for the work we went into it under protest and with the understanding that our stay should only be transient. The day of deliverance has at last come and doubly glad are we, glad to quit the work and gladder still to know that the PEOPLE'S PILOT now is in a fair way to become something more than a common county newspaper.

We feel perfectly safe in recommending Mr. Craig and his assistance to our subscribers, for no man ever came to this office with better references.

Now hoping that the PILOT may still continue to prosper and that neither we nor the world are any the worse for this four months of editorial life we kindly bid adieu to our one thousand readers.

THE next number of the PEOPLE'S PILOT will be issued under the management of Francis D. Craig, who has leased the paper and publishing appurtenances, and will conduct the business as an individual enterprise. Subscribers who are in arrears, are requested to pay up their indebtedness to the retiring publishing company and add a dollar for the encouragement of the succeeding editor and publisher.

Mr. Craig is a native of Waukesha, Wis., and has been in the reform work for 18 years, having organized Greenback clubs in Wisconsin in 1877.

His wife will assist him in much of his work, she being a practical printer. Mr. Craig and his wife come to us well recommended, he being an active political reformer and she being an enthusiastic member of the Christian church.

We think we can safely promise our readers that the PILOT will be one of the best papers in the state, when it passes under its new management.

THE gentlemen who insist that it is safer to let the national banks issue the people's money than to leave that duty to the government have probably forgotten the record of the national banks in the summer of 1893.—Chicago Times.

As the PILOT has been leased for one year to Francis D. Craig, this is the last issue under its present management. It now goes into the hands of practical printers and experienced writers. The change can not possibly fail of being for the best.

CONGRESSMAN BRYAN, of Nebraska, said the other day in the house: "Mr. Cleveland thinks that the issue of currency is a function of the banks. Jefferson declared such an issue is a function of the government and thought the banks should go out of the issuing business. I am not ashamed to say that I stand by Thomas Jefferson and not Grover Cleveland."

OUR financial policy has long been made for us and continues to be made for us by a coterie of capitalists, the aggregate of whose wealth is colossal, who are engaged in using the government of the United States to enrich themselves at the expense of the people. The gold getters and gold hoarders, the men who with one hand are putting \$50,000,000 of gold into the treasury in a single transaction on which they make an enormous profit, and taking gold out of the treasury with the other hand, and continuing to cry that the gold reserve is being depleted and the finances are going to smash, give to this country its financial management. They are more exciting and remorseless than ever were the tariff-fed barons. They exalt gold and depreciate silver and cry out against any fiat of government concerning currency, whereas the currency they themselves emit is nothing but a fiat of government to sustain which the government has issued bonds and people pay interest on the same. Until the currency question is settled it will be idle practically to talk further of the tariffs.—Chicago Times.

What Use is the Ballot to the Average Man.

The average voter is like a child with a pair of scales who, not knowing their use, first lifts the weight out of one scale and puts it into the other; it succeeds in amusing itself in its own fashion but has not the remotest idea of the purpose the scales were intended for. The voter follows the same tactics. He has not the brains to realize it is principle, not party or men, he votes for. The consequence is we see the democratic scale go down and the republican scale go up and vice versa. To-day he is angry with the democrat, to-morrow with the Republican. It is ever the case of heads I win tails you lose. No amount of persuasion is of any avail that he should look at the issue. Present any far-reaching reform to him and explain it, he will say yes, but it has never been tried, it seems very good though. He will go on voting the old party ticket with his string of reasons. One real reason is he likes to be on the winning side. Another, he don't like to go back on the old party. Another, the candidate is a No. 1 man. Another, if he changes, he thinks the ins will not do as well as the outs. Another, he don't think it any good to throw his vote away on the new party; he is anxious to feel he was instrumental in electing one or the other of the rotten old parties. That to vote for and sustain a principle, to him is quite foreign to his object in voting. Somebody has said that men are but children of a larger growth. I think we can omit the growth when it comes to voting and say that the average man entrusted with a vote is a veritable child. The misfortune is, if there is any growth in him, upon the subject of political economy, it is too slow to be perceived, hence we see the saddening spectacle of a perfect harvest of good things presented, from which the average voter turns childishly away and continues the game of the scales. Sad, isn't it?—William Saul in Coming Nation.

The Pooling Bill.

The bill permitting railroads to pool their business, which has already passed the house, seems to hang up in the senate. And thereby hangs a tale. Several senators are candidates for re-election before the legislatures of their states this winter. They both fear and court the railroad influence, which has frequently proven itself sufficiently powerful to make and unmake senators. Should the pooling bill pass before these senatorial elections, the railroad

influence, being satisfied, would be quiescent at least. Should a senator dare to oppose it, he would be very sure to be defeated by the railroads. Hence the bill is temporarily hung up. But it will eventually pass; we are quite convinced of that.

What is this pooling bill? It is a measure to permit the railroads to combine, and divide among themselves the business of the various localities tributary to them, and thus prevent the various lines from competing with one another.

As a mere business proposition they would have a right to do this without any law; but the right to so combine to destroy competition was abridged by a section of the interstate commerce law. Then why not merely repeal that section? Because the railroads want something better. The repeal of that provision would simply leave the matter of pooling an open question, to be contested by those who are made to suffer by it. But repeal that provision with a law which actually authorizes pooling, and the railroads may then destroy every vestige of competition, and fix rates as arbitrarily as though one man owned them all, and they can snap their fingers in the face of complaints, and point to the law of the United States which authorizes them to do that very thing.

Women and Men.

Written for the PILOT.

It is said of widow, maid and wife, That honor is a woman's life.

Yes, honor is a woman's life, for without it she does not live the life of a woman, nor does the world treat her as a woman. The esteem that woman commands is secured by deportment polite, honorable and chaste; but the partner of her joys, the recipient of the blessings her holy life brings, he who loves and adores woman for her honor and faithfulness, does not always worship at the shrine of purity and virtue. Although men appreciate respectability and demand of the gentler sex characters and conduct bordering onto the angelic, yet they themselves indulge in many practices that are wicked, dirty and vulgar. A man can revel and carouse, blaspheme and defraud and yet stand well in society. A man can get gentlemanly tight, politely swear, maliciously deceive, willfully lie and still be honored and respected. Owing to the present conditions and practices of society honor is not an essential quality in men. Virtuous and respectable conduct really adds but little to a man's reputation and success in life. When one of Adam's sons does, however, step a little too far from the path of rectitude, a thousand excuses are made, everyone is ready to pity and forgive; we hear the cry, "he was tempted, the force of circumstances compelled him to do so; the poor fellow was deceived; he was misled; at heart he is honest," and to sum it all up in a few words we hear them say: "He is a jolly good fellow and I think we ought to be willing to forget and forgive."

Does woman find so many friends? Does anyone paliate her crimes? Who brings in the plea that the surroundings and the force of circumstances led her from the path of honor? Who is ready to pity and forgive? Oh, woman! once you stray the unfriendly world turns against you. Reformation does not win you back. No one thinks of reclaiming you, but man can be taken from the lowest depths of sin, placed at the sacred desk, a teacher and a leader of the people. Not so with woman. She has to but make one step in vice and the world will assist her to make the next. Why all this? Is not honor, honor wherever found? Is not sin, sin by whomsoever

committed? With what show of justice can we excuse the son, and for the same sin condemn the daughter? Why not demand as much respectability from the man as from the woman, and why not reclaim the woman as readily as the man? Oh, such injustice! The scheme of redemption was surely as much intended for one sex as the other, but human efforts are made to palliate the crimes of the one and increase the misery and shame of the other. Society is surely responsible for the conduct of many an erring one, for we are all so bitter in our denunciations, so destitute of charity and forgiveness that we prevent many a wanderer's return. If the words of advice would fill the place of words of censure and reproach, if the look of compassion would take the place of the finger of scorn, good surely could be done. Then let us be not so partial in our advice nor so unjust in our criticism, but let our words of cheer, our deeds of love and our smiles of approbation like the gentle dews and soft winds of heaven go to all alike.

To the People of Rensselaer and Vicinity.

GREETING.

The election is now as the World's Fair numbered with things that are past. But say? What of the long weary evenings which are approaching as fast as the car of time can carry them. The question of most importance that comes up in connection with this thought is, "What shall I do that I may gain the most benefit; and have them pass the least burdensome." The desecration of past ages, is that reading, or the exercise of our musical talents are the most beneficial because by so doing we gain the golden fruit of intelligence which only the superhuman power can deprive us of.

We are prepared to furnish you with any books, magazines or newspapers published in this and foreign countries, in any language, at prices that will entirely please you.

We also make some very special offers on tea and coffee. Ours is also the exalted privilege of supplying the public with W. W. Thomas' pure oil complexion soap.

And unto those who are weary and would rest, we have that which will give you rest unto the uttermost, in the form of Laudem's Bros. new adjustable bed springs, for which we are the sole agents for this county.

Stepping over as it were the 10,000 grand bargains we are enabled to make you; we will close for this time, close with making an earnest appeal unto the kings and queens of the farm, entreating with them to get our prices on poultry, eggs and butter before contracting elsewhere.

We extend a most sincere and hearty invitation to the public to investigate our lines and modes of business. Trusting that we may in the future sail happily together in the grand old ship of friendship, upon the deep waters of the sea of business, we would subscribe as yours most truly.

For Specialties,
FREDERIC R. FIELDER & Co.
Rensselaer, Ind.
Office first door south of school house.

Sheep.

The undersigned has a nice lot of shropshire ewes that he will put out on the shares, or sell and contract the lambs and wool, or sell on time till the money can be made out of them. He also has feeding sheep lambs and wethers which he will sell and contract back when fatted. Parties wishing any of above call on A. McCoy.

Examine C. E. Hershman's new stoves, and learn prices before purchasing elsewhere.

OUR CAPITAL LETTER.

INTERESTING GOSSIP ABOUT THE INCOMING INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

Speaker's Contest—Something About the "Third House"—Vigorous Kick on the Marion County Hog—Editors Will Ask For New Libel Law.

[Special Correspondence.]

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 1.—Although it is over a week yet before the assembling of the legislature, the "push" has already begun to form and it begins to look as though the attendant crowd would almost equal that of a state convention. There is scarcely a county in the state that has not at least one candidate for some one or more of the various positions at the disposal of the lawmakers, and each candidate will marshal as many of his friends as possible at the capital. Naturally, the candidates for speaker are the first on the ground, and they will all be here before the week is over. All the rooms on the parlor floor of the Denison have been rented by speaker aspirants as headquarters and the hotel will bear very much the appearance of convention time.

Since you printed a list of candidates a month ago but two have dropped out of the race, but there are still 12 who are "mentioned." As the friends of two of them claim over 25 votes each and others expect to start with followings ranging from five to 15, while there are but 82 votes in the caucus, it is evident that somebody is likely to be more or less disappointed when the "show down" comes on the first ballot.

And do you know that it is the easiest thing in the world for a candidate for office to deceive himself? One of his friends hears B make a remark favorable to him, and immediately the friend sets B down as his warm supporter and so reports him to the candidate, who henceforth counts upon B's vote and influence. Now, the fact is, that B is pledged to another candidate, but he nevertheless has a kindly feeling for the man in question. He means to speak well of him, and nothing more. But the candidate and his friends are perennially hopeful and they interpret every indication in its rosier light.

The plain, harsh truth is that the only man you can depend on through thick and thin when in pursuit of office, is the man who is bound to you by personal interest—who has some object to accomplish through your success. You will find many others who will help you most unexpectedly and disinterestedly, but that is one of the unknown qualities not to be counted upon beforehand.

The representatives have been slow to pledge themselves on the speakership and the great majority of them will come here unpledged, preferring to wait until they can view the field thoroughly and then get on the wagon that seems most likely to lead the procession. As yet it is distinctly anybody's race.

The personnel of the "third house" of the coming legislature has not yet been printed, a fact which probably arises from the innate modesty of the members of this august body. They are not elected by the people and do not court publicity in any shape, yet they are usually more numerous and sometimes fully as powerful as the membership of either of the regular constituted branches. At the last session the political complexion of the "third house" was distinctly different from what it will be this year.

It is not unlikely, however, that the corporation interests having "pork in the pot" will have workers on the scene and will be able to bring together an equally prominent lot of Republicans this year, for by the time a man grows to wealth and prominence he is usually found to have acquired stock in some corporation or other which he desires to protect. The railroads, the natural gas syndicate, the county officers, the insurance companies, the state institutions, all have interests that are likely to be more or less affected by legislation, and all will send strong lobbies here to influence legislation.

John E. Lamb, who has been by common consent "speaker of the third house" ever since "Jim" Rice passed away, will probably be missed. It will likely be necessary to select some Republican to this position this time, and it is likely that the County Officers' association will furnish the man. There is a general impression that this association will send a strong lobby here to prevent legislation on the question of fees and salaries, and thus leave the old fee system in vogue. It is not likely that they will succeed in this. There is a disposition to deal with them fairly and equalize official salaries on a fairly liberal scale, but the sentiment of the legislature is claimed to be in favor of a salary system throughout, based partly upon population and partly upon the amount of business transacted.

I ran across a congressman-elect the other evening in the Denison house lobby and in a chat with him he said:

"Much has been said in the Indianapolis newspapers about congressmen-elect endeavoring to work the apportionment committee to 'fix' their districts for them. This is unfair as well as untrue. From personal knowledge I know that the great majority of the new congressmen have not asked anything of the new committee, and the only requests that have come have been intimations from two or three who were elected in strongly Democratic districts that they would like to be given no harder fight than they had in the last campaign."

"Is there no end to the applicants for place from Marion county?"

This question was put to me rather testily this morning by a representative from the southern part of the state.

"It is a howling disgrace," he continued. "Here you have two candidates for speaker, one for clerk, two or

three for doorkeeper, at least two for state librarian, three that I know of for custodian of the capitol building, two for engineer of the same building and an innumerable swarm after the minor positions about the house and senate, not to speak of those who are asking for clerkships under the state officers."

Then he took breath and started in again. "Now, the friends of both your candidates for speaker are declaring that if the speakership goes to Marion county that will end the demand from Indianapolis right there. That may do to tell new people, but it don't go down with me. I've been here before and I know that Marion county is never satisfied until there is nothing more left to give out and then there is a 'kick' because there is nothing left."

The legislative committee of the Republican Editorial association, at its session here last week, decided to ask for little from the legislature, but to make a strenuous effort to obtain that little. Although much possible legislation of benefit to the schools was discussed, the editors decided to pin their faith to a new libel law. Indiana has the worst libel law of any state in the Union, say the newspaper men. It puts the newspaper entirely at the mercy of any irresponsible attorney who is hunting for damage suits on "contingent fees." There is scarcely an editor in the state who has not suffered a species of blackmail rather than go to the expense and trouble of defending a suit under a law which makes the slightest error in statement prima facie evidence of malice. They favor the Minnesota law, which gives fair opportunity for the correction of an error and gives both sides an even chance before the law. The committee will meet again on Jan. 8 in joint session with committees from the other editorial associations of the state.

The legislature of 1893 seemed to suffer from a sort of "pressophobia." There were a number of men in it who seemed to "have it in for" the newspapers, and whenever they found an opportunity to hit an editorial head or cut off a source of newspaper revenue they hastened to do it. It is gratifying to the newspaper fraternity to note that without exception these men failed of re-nomination by their parties in their home districts.

The arrangements are progressing handsomely for the big Democratic banquet on Jackson day, Jan. 9. No invitations were extended except to the speakers and everybody is free to attend who can raise the price of a ticket, which will cost but 50 cents. The prime object of the gathering is to form a state league of clubs, modeled somewhat on the plan of the Lincoln league, which has proven so valuable to the Republicans of late years.

There has been a vast amount of gossip about it being for the purpose of launching the Matthews presidential boom, but I notice that Gray and Voorhees are both down for speeches and that plenty of their friends will be on hand to see that the gathering is not made a one-man affair. Friction on the presidential question is not feared by the party leaders. As it is purely a voluntary assemblage, the party could not be bound by any action by resolution.

Much interest was aroused last week by the little dinner given to the congressmen-elect by the dean of the delegation, Hon. Geo. W. Steele, at Marion. Eleven members attended and about all they accomplished was to get acquainted with each other and exchange social amenities. The subject nearest their hearts, that of the congressional reapportionment, was not mentioned, so they allege, for the obvious reason that on this question their individual interests conflict not a little.

While a heap has been said on the subject of the proposition to move the State University from Bloomington to Indianapolis by our local newspapers, I have not yet discovered any members of the legislature who feel interested in the subject except Senator Duncan of Bloomington, who is very much against it. It is more or less doubtful whether even the Marion county delegation will unite in asking for it. They are just now so deeply interested in gathering in all the offices in sight for applicants from this county that they have not had time to give the subject much consideration.

One of the most utterly dumbfounded men in Indiana at the result of the last election was George W. Self, the new senator from the Harrison, Crawford and Orange district. He demurred when the convention nominated him, and was thus forced into a fight in an agricultural district where the hope of making great changes was very slight. After he was in for it, it became a matter of pride with him and the tireless energy with which he climbed through the hills of his mountainous district was something remarkable. He was elected by 1,100.

Some Republican has been mean enough to suggest that Tom Taggart conceived the idea of the big Democratic Jackson Day feast for the benefit of his hotel, the Grand. This is, of course, nothing but a libel upon the urbane chairman of the Democratic state ticket.

Al Wishard (everybody who knows him calls him Al) is accused of having very peculiar looking eyes, and there have been occasions when he was suspected of passing the wink. But that is an unfair accusation. He possesses mis-matched eyes, which give him an expression hard to describe and seldom solved. It is a fact, however, that one of his orbs is gray and the other a decided brown.

Anderson promises to send a big lobby down to the legislature in behalf of the creation of a superior court for that county. The claim is that the legal business of the county has outgrown the circuit court's capacity.

Jerome Huff, of Peru, announces himself flatly in favor of Matthews as the next Democratic presidential nominee. Governor Matthews himself believes it a little early to discuss the subject.

Uno.