

"OUR GOVERNMENT IS BASED ON THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED."
—THOMAS JEFFERSON.

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE.

"THE QUALITY OF LIBERTY WE POSSESS IS EQUAL TO THE QUANTITY OF RESTRAINT WE PUT UPON THE GOVERNMENT."
—DANIEL WEBSTER.

VOL. I.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, JUNE 13, 1896.

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THE CONVENTION.

The first Democratic convention held since Utah became a State, convened in this city last Saturday. In every sense it was a magnificent success, both as to its numbers and its work. Every portion of the State was well represented by as intelligent and enthusiastic class of men and women as ever graced a political gathering in Utah. Harmony and confidence pervaded the entire body and each member went away with a feeling that his Democratic strength had been renewed.

The speeches were patriotic, eloquent and directed to the great issues that are uppermost in the minds of the people of the West. As to the work of the convention, it was well done. The delegates selected to represent the "gem of the mountains" in the Chicago convention, are all men who are well known, not only in Utah, but in the nation at large, and who will render a good account of themselves at the great national convention.

One of the neatest and most appropriate acts of this distinguished body, was the naming of the Hon. Moses Thatcher, by acclamation, to be chairman of the delegation, and with the power to name his own alternate should his health prevent him from attending the Chicago convention. No better Democrat, or better friend of Utah, breathes in all our valleys, than Moses Thatcher; and there will be no better American or purer man in the typical body of Democrats in the national meeting than he.

The selection of the gallant and honest Joseph L. Rawlins was not only appropriate, but it was a necessity. There are but few better fighters ever on the floor of a deliberative assembly than "our Joe." He is the man above all others who has fought down a bitter prejudice against the people of Utah, and did more than any other man alive to accomplish the admission of Utah into the family of States. As a speaker, he is logical, eloquent and forcible; and at Chicago he will naturally become a leader, and the entire West will look to him to stand up for our common interests, and we can assure them that no one will be disappointed in the leadership and aggressiveness of Hon. J. L. Rawlins.

The remainder of the Utah delegation are all men of ability and sound silver men, and will render a good account of themselves at Chicago. The resolutions are short and to the point, and express the unanimous sentiment of the party. Taken altogether the convention was a grand success, and will give strength and encouragement to the party all over the State.

With the bright prospects of the party adopting a free silver platform at Chicago, and nominating a pronounced silver man for President, the State of Utah can safely be counted as being Democratic by two thousand majority.

The latest fad is the McKinley telephone, an instrument through which one can talk and ask questions, but receives no audible responses when the subject of conversation is on the silver question. The only noise to be heard is a buzz of discordant sounds, ending with, "I stand on my record," or "I have nothing to say."

AN IDLE CONGRESS.

It is stated in the dispatches that "Congress is about to complete its work and adjourn." This raises the question in the mind of the public as to what "work" Congress will complete? If the present meeting of the Fifty-fourth Congress results in accomplishing any work it will require a powerful microscope to discover it. It has been the avowed policy of the Republican majority, as expressed by Speaker Reed, to take no decisive action on any material issue until after the Presidential election, and thereby avoid any distressing complications during the campaign. Thus the present session has been one of inactivity and inertia for political reasons. The present hard times, depression in business, and scarcity of money, have all been charged up to the Democratic Administration, and yet this party of such magnificent pretensions, with a large majority in both Houses of the Legislative branch, have failed to even introduce a single measure tending to relieve the country from the distress now resting upon it. They have not even attempted any tariff legislation, notwithstanding they claim the Wilson bill is carrying the country to ruin every day. The fact is, this party of false pretenses is afraid of itself; it dares not put itself on record on any important issue preceding a popular election, for fear of the judgment of an indignant people. It has therefore pursued a do-nothing policy, and will have the gall to go before the country and ask a vindication for its cowardice.

The only matters of note which have emanated from the present Republican Congress, are excessive appropriation bills, rapid war speeches to be used for giving the British lion's tail a twist, and doing their level best to "issue more bonds in time of peace." Thus far it has been a Congress that has reduced demagoguery to a science by its supineness. The dominant party in Congress has taken no decisive stand on any great question, except a desire to hold the offices and draw the salaries. It is neither hot nor cold, and therefore should be spewed out of the mouth. Their record is as transparent as the watery soup of which Oliver Twist craved more. The country needs no more of such statesmanship, and we predict will condemn by their votes this body of useless Congressmen.

A SILVER TIDAL WAVE.

At each recurring day, the sentiment in favor of restoring silver to its former position as a money metal, grows stronger and stronger all over the land. The more the question is discussed and thought of by the people, the more favorable the cause of free and unlimited coinage of silver becomes. The gold men of New York and in the East, generally, are becoming alarmed at the strength shown by the free coiners in their very midst. The *N. Y. World*, an ardent gold standard paper, has received replies from a large number of Presidents of Chambers of Commerce, or of Boards of Trade, from many of the leading cities of the East and middle States, and almost without exception they show that the sentiment favoring silver is assuming the form of a tidal wave which will sweep everything before it. A large number of these replies come from men who are for the gold

standard, and hence they cannot be said to be given out for effect. The *Pittsburgh Leader*, another gold paper, concedes that the silver sentiment is growing most wonderfully in the State of Pennsylvania, particularly among the working men. The Republican politicians all over the East and middle States, are clamoring for sound money, and will, without doubt, dictate the platform at the St. Louis convention. On the other hand, the feeling in the Democratic party is increasing in favor of the white metal; and it now seems certain that a free silver candidate will be nominated on a free silver platform at Chicago, thus presenting a clean, clear cut issue to the people at the coming election.

The opportunities of the Democrats are grand, indeed, to sweep the entire country, if this course is pursued. Look out for a tidal wave which will sweep the last remains of the g. o. p. into oblivion.

THE COLORED MAN AND THE G. O. P.

It has been said that, "the birds of the air have nests, and the foxes have holes"—but the colored Republican delegates to the St. Louis convention have not where to lay their heads. It looks now like the colored men who have been fighting for the g. o. p. for so these many years, and who will attend the great Republican convention, where the spirit of Lincoln is supposed to preside, will be compelled to sleep in box cars and board at a cheap lunch counter, or else stay away from St. Louis altogether during the convention. St. Louis is a Republican city, with a Republican mayor; and the refusal of that city to provide decent accommodations for the negro delegates who will attend the convention, is only another evidence of the great love (?) the g. o. p. has for the colored man.

If such a condition should arise in a Democratic city, the Republican speakers and their press would never get through howling about race prejudice and hatred of the colored people by the rebels and their sympathizers. As it is now your ox which has been gored, we hear but little comment from these loud-mouthed advocates of equal rights.

The truth is, it is a disgrace to the city of St. Louis and the whole Republican party, that such a condition should exist. It would seem that the professions of these political saints for our race, for the past thirty years, was mere hypocrisy and chaff. We have always maintained that the friendship of the g. o. p. for the colored race was merely a veneering of the thinnest character.

COL. H. L. PICKETT, a leading attorney of the Territory of New Mexico, has recently located in Salt Lake, and is to be found in his elegant suite of rooms on the fifth floor of the Commercial block. The newspapers, from the place where he was formerly located, speak of him in the highest terms as to his legal ability, and as a first-class gentleman. The colonel is a native of Tennessee, and a thorough Jacksonian Democrat. He is an earnest friend of free silver, and the Broad Ax welcomes him to our beautiful city, and trusts that our party may avail itself of the colonel's assistance during the coming campaign. We would add, that Colonel Pickett is

a subscriber of the Broad Ax, and believes that every true Democrat in the State should be a reader of our paper. He is from one of the oldest families in his native State, and has the honor of having the youngest county in Tennessee named for him.

HON. R. C. LUND, of St. George, arrived in the city on Monday last. Mr. Lund is the chairman of the State board of equalization, and he will remain here until after the adjournment of the board. Mr. Lund is a prominent member of the Democratic party, and he is a warm friend and reader of the Broad Ax.

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