

## A FREE COINAGE PLATFORM

### AN ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY AT CHICAGO.

The Bolting of the St. Louis Convention Attracted Attention from the Republican Convention at St. Louis.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 19.—The bolting of the St. Louis convention by some of the silver republicans attracted more attention from the politicians than anything else done by the republican convention, as everything else, except who would be named for Vice-President, was practically known long in advance. The financial plank adopted and that bolt have caused great rejoicing among the populists and silver democrats, who think that it indicates the presence of only two Presidential tickets in the field—the Prohibits don't count—the St. Louis gold ticket, and the Chicago silver ticket, and that the people will have a chance to decide which they prefer. This view is based upon the supposition that the Chicago convention will adopt a free silver platform and nominate a ticket that will be satisfactory to the populist and silver conventions which are to meet at St. Louis next month. The bona fide Senator Teller as the head of the Chicago ticket is again being actively pushed by silver men.

The developments of the present week have made it certain that one of the fiercest contests ever fought in a national convention is going to take place at Chicago when the National Democratic convention meets. That a majority of the delegates will be silver men when they start for Chicago is already certain, but what they will be when they vote for the platform and candidate remains to be seen.

Senator Brice and Ex-Secretary Whitney, who had both said that they would not attend the convention, have both decided to go, solely for the purpose of joining Senator Hill and other democratic leaders who are working to prevent the convention declaring for silver. What these men do not know about the tricky manipulation of conventions isn't hardly worth knowing, and all of their knowledge will be used to win votes from the silver men.

The silver men of all parties are inclined to poke fun at President Cleveland's somewhat belated letter in which he may or may not have declined to allow the use of his name as a candidate for the democratic nomination, just as you may construe the meaning of his assertion that he "desires hereafter no greater political privilege than to occupy the place of private." But that part of his letter really matters little, as it has been plain for some time that he would not have a ghost of a show in the Chicago convention. It is his appeal to the democrats not to adopt a platform demanding the free, unlimited and independent coinage of silver that is important. What effect will that appeal have? Silver democrats in Washington say that it will have none whatever, and that a free coinage platform is the one absolute certainty connected with the Chicago convention. But others, some of them ardent silver men, are not so certain about that. They regard Mr. Cleveland's letter as a part of a plan which is being pushed by some of the shrewdest politicians in the democratic party to prevent a flat-footed declaration for silver by the convention. It would seem that some of the silver democrats also have that idea, as Senator Jones, of Arkansas, who will head the solid silver delegation from his state to the convention, has issued invitations for each silver state delegation to send one representative to a conference which is to meet at Chicago June 30, just one week in advance of the convention, and which is to form itself into a silver "steering committee," for the purpose of watching their opponents and to avoid the pitfalls which may be dug for the silver delegates.

The Senate bond investigating committee, after taking the testimony of Secretary Carlisle and that of one of his assistants, have gone to New York to hear what Banker Morgan and some of his associates have to say about their part in the bond issues. Some surprise was caused by the mildness of the cross-examination of Secretary Carlisle by the committee. It may be that the committee intends to recall Secretary Carlisle after it returns from New York. If not, it is pretty safe to predict that the investigation will be like many others which have been conducted by Congressional committees—barren of results.

Notwithstanding the knock out of Controller Bowler by the Supreme Court he has an imitator in a small way. The would-be Bowler is Sixth Auditor Howard. He doesn't have

any opportunities for five million hold-ups, but he makes the most of the opportunities he does have in passing upon postal accounts, and is reported to have made himself so obnoxious to Postmaster General Wilson that he has suggested to President Cleveland that it would be a good idea to request Mr. Howard's resignation. Howard is one of those big-headed officials who imagines that the weight of the whole government is resting upon his shoulders, and who thinks it a part of his duties to bully his subordinates. If he is made to resign, the government will probably still continue to do business.

### SKULL SHOALS SENTIMENT.

As Usual, Union County has a Full Set of Candidates.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

SKULL SHOALS, June 22.—Crops are unusually good for the season of the year, cotton especially, and people have had a big fight with General Green for the past two weeks and on account of the big rain Saturday we expect to have to fight two weeks longer.

Most of the people around here are coming to Gaffney on the 4th of July.

We have a full crop of candidates in Union county this time, which is nothing unusual, for all offices except legislature. Now, gentlemen we can select the very best men we can get for these honorable positions. We don't want to air our views through THE LEDGER but let us make a suggestion of some names who we believe to be fully competent in every particular. James L. Walker, one of Sunny Side's very best men, is able to represent us fully, also M. R. McComson, one of Wilkinsville's best young men who came so near being elected before, is fully competent to represent our people. J. C. Otts, one of Kelton's best men who has served the people both in the legislature and the constitutional convention, is also fully competent.

A protracted meeting will begin at Skull Shoals on the 18th of July. Rev. Davidson will be assisted by Rev. J. D. Bailey if it be possible for him to attend, and if not the church desires to get either Brother Brock or Brother C. C. Vaughn or if possible get them all.

It is reported through the county that Tillman and Evans will be at Gaffney next Saturday week. Is it true? Big Ike.

Messrs. Tillman and Evans have both been invited to be present, but the Senator could not accept on account of the Chicago convention, which meets July 8th. Gov. Evans accepted and if possible will be present.—Ed.]

### The Fourth.

All the committees appointed to make arrangements for the 4th are now, and have been, up to their eyes in work. The bicycle track is about finished, the ball ground is in shape and the arrangements for the big barbecue and picnic are being pushed with a vigor that assures success. Every family in town will see who can furnish the largest and fullest baskets, and from the way we hear some of our country friends talk, the town folks will have to hustle or get left in the matter of basket and picnic provisions. One old man and his good wife from the country will put all of one mutton and a full accompaniment of picnic things on the table that day. So Gaffney hustle and keep up with our country friends and neighbors.

### An Anxious Man.

A young man in this city who was about to get married learned that the minister whom he wanted to perform the ceremony was contemplating leaving the city about that time, so being very much concerned over the affair he addressed the clergyman the following epistle, which is unique for its insinuating phrases:

My deary sir:—Hearing that you would be likely to leave the city about—and having placed myself in a position to give you a "job" about that date, (the nature of which you can readily guess) I would like to detain you for that purpose until after that date anyway. Kindly let me know if you can be here and oblige.

Very sincerely,

### Marvelous Results.

From a letter written by Rev. J. Gunderman, of Diamondale, Mich., we are permitted to make this extract: "I have no hesitation in recommending Dr. King's New Discovery as the results were almost marvelous in the case of my wife. While I was pastor of the Baptist Church at Rives Junction she was brought down with pneumonia succumbing to a gripple. Terrible paroxysms of coughing would last hours with little interruption and it seemed as if she could not survive them. A friend recommended Dr. King's New Discovery; it was quick in its work and highly satisfactory in results." Trial bottles free at W. B. DuPre's drug store. Regular size 50c and \$1.

## EN ROUTE TO RICHMOND.

### "THE COLONEL" TAKES A TRIP ON THE TRAIN.

He Gives a Very Interesting Account of What He Sees—Some Few Changes in Places Now and in 1861-64.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

RICHMOND, Va., June 20.—Before leaving Gaffney for Boston, Capt. R. W. Hunt, the efficient and accommodating agent of the Southern Railway, handed me a copy of "Snap Shots at Richmond," a beautifully illustrated pamphlet, issued by his company ostensibly for the convenience of the Veterans who expect to visit that historic city on the occasion of the Confederate Reunion. This little booklet of 128 pages was my chief companion enroute to Richmond.

We left Gaffney Friday morning, June 19, at 7:10 o'clock. I found no delegates to the Sunday School Convention on the train that I knew, and consequently resolved to take Boston per se.

The run was made to Charlotte, N. C., in one hour and forty minutes without any noteworthy incident so far as I was concerned.

At Charlotte we met an excursion train going to Cleveland Springs, N. C., with most all of the colored people in North Carolina on board. It seemed to me that all of the monkeys south of the equator would have had a job to keep up such a bubble of noise as that crowd did. To the

now occupies much more ground than it did then.

At some point on the line my pencil pusher friend quit us without my finding him out. He belongs to a respectable and ubiquitous class known as dudes in our county, if outside appearances count for anything in North Carolina.

Between Lexington and Jamestown, N. C., immense fields of wheat, corn and oats speak of the prosperity of that section. The first tobacco farm I saw was between Thomasville and High Point. This latter place we reached at 12 m.

On the ground where Crosby camped at Jamestown, dwelling houses now stand with every indication of a thrifty people occupying them.

At 12:25 we reached Greensboro. This place is natural, too, except that it is a much larger city than it was in 1861 to 1865.

From Greensboro to Danville, the whole face of the earth is covered with spruce pines.

Reidville, which in 1862, was only a cross roads country post office is now about the size of Gaffney, and the two places have a striking similarity—filled with up-to-date, wide-awake people and factories.

At Greensboro a beautiful young lady came into the coach and took her seat opposite me—just across the aisle from where I was sitting. You see, Mr. Editor, the first girl I ever fell really in love with was in Greensboro in 1862, while Bob Davis and I called at her home and heard her play on the piano. I gave her a Palmetto rosette which a South Carolina lady had given me and told me to give any one I found that I could die by. I have never seen her since.

All along this line the tobacco looks like old times to me growing.

In crossing the river at Danville I noticed that the rock off which we cut Somerset's while in bathing is

## To One and All

YOU are respectfully invited to come to Gaffney on Saturday, July 4th, to take part in the festivities of the occasion. A splendid program of amusements is being arranged and everything will be done to make the day one of mirth and merriment.

tumultuous uproar was added a brass band. While I sat in the window watching some of their pranks I glanced my eyes over to my right hand and spied a pencil pusher at work. I thought to myself "old fellow, I'll attend to you when I get the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments off my hands."

We stopped 25 minutes at Charlotte during which time a lunch was served those who wished it, but I had taken breakfast before leaving Gaffney.

Most of our crowd disembarked at Charlotte, but a good many more took their places. Notably among them were two young ladies who took their seat just in front of me; and such a chattering and laughing as they did after the gallant dude who escorted them to their seats had taken his departure, would have almost provoked Flaw Picker to use some of his most genteel "cuss" words. I know that fellow's ears must have burned after he left. Poor fellow, I don't know who he was but he has my sympathy for the present.

Just after we moved out the conductor came around and told me that I changed cars at Danville on the left hand side to go to Richmond.

The crops along the line were mostly corn, and apparently well worked.

After passing Concord I found that the rain had just finished up a good season.

We arrived at Salisbury at 10:50 a. m., where a considerable number joined us. Nothing looked natural there but the shape of the ground. On the spot where our command camped while enroute to Richmond in 1862, a palatial residence now stands. Yadkin river reminds me much of 1864; only the old wooden bridge has given way to a new iron bridge supported by circular stone piers. The newsboys there had the morning papers giving the proceedings of the St. Louis convention, etc.

After crossing Yadkin river one is struck with the fine farms along the road and the immense amount of wheat, oats and rye standing in the shocks. Large fields of corn greet the eye and most of it shows that farming has not run down in the Old North state. I would be glad for some of our whining people to see it and quit their grumbling.

Everything about Lexington looks natural only several fine houses have been built there since 1862 and it

still in the river yet. Its just like it was then. We left Danville at 2 o'clock p. m. When we got several miles down the river it was overflowing its banks.

The finest farming land I saw on the trip was on Dan river. At South Boston there is 175 acres in one body and as level as a floor mostly in corn. As one passes through the Virginia country nothing but fine tobacco crops and luscious fruits greet the eye. Farmers all seem to be in easy circumstances. About 40 miles below Danville crops seem to be drowned out.

Keysville is the most natural place I have seen so far.

As we neared Burkesville we began to enter the clover region. Along the railroad there are thousands upon thousands of acres of old field and spruce pines with the very best of timbers for building pole cabins. The situation has not changed at Burkesville at all, except that more houses are there now than during the war. The railroad crossings are just the same. In about one mile of Burkesville there is the largest garden I have ever seen south of Richmond.

I recognized the house in which that old citizen lived who accused some of our men of taking his roasting ears. The result of which was next morning when Col. McKissick asked his command to give "three cheers" for his hospitable host. It was met with a hiss and groan from the men.

All along the road the woods is full of grass which would make most excellent pasture, and the cows and other stock is fat as butter.

We arrived in Richmond about 6 o'clock. I went to Capt. Thomas Elliott's office and reported my arrival and readiness for any orders from the United Confederate Veterans. I then repaired to my boarding house where I ate a hearty supper and, after chatting with the crowd there until usual bed time, I retired and had a good night's rest.

Saturday morning spread bright and lovely, and I resolved to look around the city before starting for Boston. First I visited the headquarters of the U. C. V. and got the assurance of the officers that all the visiting Veterans would be entertained free of cost. That is they would not be required to pay for their meals; and Capt. Brown says that none of them shall have occasion to spend a cent in the city unless they

want to. But if they fail to send in their names, as I have been trying so long to get them to do, they will get left some, so far as free entertainment is concerned.

The city presents a beautiful aspect. Main street is tastily decorated with Confederate flags, and the reunion button is being sold with ease and by the thousands.

My quarters are with my good friend Whittatt, of the firm of Whittatt & Shepperson. I have many kind invitations from old veterans to stay with them. All these I regret that I cannot accept.

There will be at least 50,000 visitors in the city during convention week. All the hotels and boarding houses have about made arrangements for all they can accommodate. But the city will entertain all who will let them know in time. It is best for those who expect the city to care for them to come in a body and at the depot they will be met and given a badge. This will entitle them to all the privileges of the occasion.

I have visited Seven Pines in company with an old comrade, one of Gen'l Mart Gary's cronies, J. E. Lynn, who was born and raised in less than a mile of the battle ground and has been there ever since. The shape of the ground is readily recognized. The Federal government has greatly beautified the place by laying off the ground and building an expensive wall around their dead, which have been taken up and buried there. My guide and I took a stroll out through the woods to the right where the heaviest fighting took place and which practically won the day for the Confederacy. Some of the shade trees in the yard of the old Tignor house are still standing. The scars are to be seen on both sides, and the limbs in many places give evidence of the fearful combat. In this house Mrs. Tignor, with five little children, remained during the battle. With them she crept under the floor and while the building was riddled with bullets from both armies, there they remained unharmed. I am told that this old lady is now living in Richmond. I hope to see her and have a talk with her before I return to South Carolina. I took a stroll over the entire battlefield and found many other evidences of the battle. At that time most of the timber between the lines was cut down, but the old fortifications are still there and in many places are covered with pines that would measure ten inches through. There is one pine tree in particular which I noticed, with an excessive protuberance on one side and a deep notch is cut in it. This, my guide says was done by an old Confederate who got a piece of a shell out of it. My guide has, for quite a number of years, been collecting relics of the field.

These embrace every variety of army equipments. He has quite a number of cooking stoves off the battlefield. He said that he found it impossible to keep a Palmetto button. The northern people come down there and would buy them at any price. I expect to revisit Seven Pines and also extend my trip to other places of interest when I return from Boston. Richmond is making a great display and will be ready for the Confederate Veterans when the time comes.

All the hotels and boarding houses in the city are being engaged by the visitors who are expecting to be here next week. I have, however, made arrangements for Camps Giles and Carpenter for as many as forty (if we have that many from both camps). Those who can't stand the hotel rates will be taken care of by the committee of entertainment.

I expect to start for Boston tomorrow morning, from which place I will write again. J. L. S.

### He Remembers Us With Pleasure.

In a purely personal letter to the manager of THE LEDGER the Rev. M. M. Moulton, former pastor of the A. M. E. Church of this city, has these pleasant things to say of Gaffney and her people:

"I am pleased to note through THE LEDGER the steady growth of the city of Gaffney. The two years I spent there were indeed pleasant ones to me. The people are kind and very congenial. I don't think a better class of white people live anywhere than in Gaffney. They are broad minded energetic and enterprising and I found them always ready to lend a helping hand to their colored friends. I verily believe they delight in seeing all the people do well."

"I truly hope your 4th of July festivities will be a grand occasion for Gaffney. I don't know what I would do without THE LEDGER and hope you abundant success."

"I hope some day to come back to Gaffney to live."

Not many business houses in the United States can boast of fifty years standing. The business of Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., whose incomparable Sarsaparilla is known and used everywhere, has passed its half-centennial and was never so vigorous as at present.

## SOMETHING GONE WRONG

### 13 FLAW PICKER'S VERSION OF THE MATTER.

He Meets the Parson in a Raging Fit of Anger and Consoles Him--

No More Predictions About Him.

(Correspondence of The Ledger.)

DRAYTONVILLE, June 22.—God only knows, I don't, but hit strikes me very forcible that thar's somethin' dead or gone wrong in this settlement. I passed by the parson's t'other day an' he was red in the face, foam'in' at the mouth, an' round in spots you could see signs of blood. Jist as I got ferment the parson's house, even with the gate, he came down the steps an' out toward the gate. Seein' him all tore up, as it were, I said, "why parson, what in the world—what's the mat—what's gone wrong with you?"

"Why them thar G—durn bees is swarmin' an' stugin' an' tryin' theiveselves to the uttermost extremes—thar's no doin' nothin' with 'em, that's all, an' I'm goin' to let the durn things go to h—halifax."

"My dear parson, I see that the devil has whipped you with a swarm of bees; you have bin knocked off your guard when you wasn't watchin', and now you have sinned before God an' man."

"Yes, Flaw, you're right. I've done wrong. I knowd somethin' was goin' to happen like this an' I ought to have been on my guard. For the last two weeks I have been feelin' stupid, an' I've got it down that the people aint prayin' fer me. They are gittin' dilatory, an' the sperit aint with me like it ort to be; somethin's gone wrong; thar's somethin' dead in the naberhood, sure, an' Flaw I want you to help me find the cause."

"Parson you're real cruel, come out here cursin' the bees an' layin' the blame on the good people of the Coalin' Groun. While that has a good deal to do with it, the fault lies in you, an' I'll give you my grounds fer it. Every tub stands on its own bottom—the soul that sinneth, it shall surely die."

I bade him good-bye an' left him in a cooler state than when I first sued him. A man will get crossways an' say things sometimes, an' think things sometimes, an' do things sometimes that's wrong in spite of thunder, I don't care how good he is or what position in life he holds; you know it by self-experience.

The mumps are gone, the sunlight of activity is agin shinin' in ole Flaw's soul, an' I'll be dog gone if I don't dare another gal to make any predictions on me. They're perfect nuicences anyhow, especially to men who's married an' got their hands full. I can prove that by Monroe Mize. FLAW PICKER.

### Is it Right to Loan a Paper?

The more subscribers a newspaper has the higher prices it receives for advertising; the better prices it receives for advertising the better the paper can be made.

Now, have you give it the right thought? If you loan a neighbor your paper each week, assuredly he won't subscribe for it. We not only lose his patronage which would be \$1 a year, but we lose the higher price which we could demand from the advertiser, which is the greater support of the paper. If you are an admirer of THE LEDGER and wish it more successful and bright, don't loan it to a neighbor. Just think of it, some one reads yours every week and others read other peoples in accordance. We believe there are one thousand people who read THE LEDGER every week and do not pay a cent towards its support. Now, if we had this thousand extra names on our subscription list we could show this list to our advertisers and command a better price by 75 per cent. and we could afford to give you a better paper by 75 per cent. Will you kindly give us your aid by refusing to loan your paper?

### Unclaimed Letters.

List of letters remaining in office unclaimed for to date:

Mrs. G. L. Barell.  
Henry Babor.  
Lewis Black.  
D. W. Batchelor.  
Jim Elson.  
Mrs. Amanda Homes.  
C. H. Lienberger.  
N. B.—Persons calling for these papers will please say advertised in THE LEDGER.  
T. H. LITTLEJOHN, P. M.  
June 22, 1896.

Ayer's Pills promote the natural motion of the bowels, without which there can be no regular, healthy operations. For the cure of biliousness, indigestion, sick headache, constipation, jaundice, and liver complaint, these pills have no equal. Every dose effective.