

the list when the carpet bag button appeared.

All the stuff that the *Tribune* threw at the time, to besmirch the People's Party managers, and cloud the eyes of decent "Liberals" who knew nothing of the jugglery by which the election was carried, will not cover up the facts and proofs, though the *Tribune* picks it up again and again and clumsily tries to use it for the purpose. We know that the chiefs of the People's Party used their best endeavors to prevent any but legal voters from registering and voting in February 1890. We know that hundreds of "Liberal" names were put upon the registration lists illegally; we know it was done by "Liberal" registrars who also excluded the names of many legal People's Party voters. And the proofs are at hand, the registration lists now existing furnishing corroborative evidence. They have been left unpurged of many of the names placed improperly upon them, so that other jugglery might be employed for similar purposes. And the whole dirty business was "Liberal" work, backed by the "Liberal" organ.

THE "RULE OF LIBERAL CORRUPTION."

THE "Liberal" organ took exception to our remarks in relation to the expressed intention of Mayor Baskin to make the balance of his administration clean. We commended the resolution of his honor, and expressed the hope that he would be successful, the people of this city having mourned during two and a half years of "Liberal" corruption already elapsed. We promised that, in the event of Mr. Baskin's efforts succeeding, this journal would record the fact and give credit where it would be due. We are informed, by the organ of that party, in effect, that the "Liberal" administration has not been corrupt. We will furnish some evidence from "Liberal" sources which ought to close up our cotemporary on the subject.

On the 29th of December, 1890, a mass meeting called by "Liberals," to protest against the misrule of their own city officials, was held in the Methodist church in this city. The large building was packed on the occasion, almost the entire audience being "Liberals," many of them prominent members of that party. We will let them answer the denials of the organ of the *Tuscarora Democrat*.

Here is an extract from the report of a speech made by Mr. Frank B. Stephens:

"Mr. Stephens used some very plain language condemnatory of the persecution of fallen women by dragging them before police courts and imposing heavy fines, merely to enrich the treasury of the city, and which only sunk them to lower depths of degradation to earn the money. One reason why they were dragged before the courts and punished for infractions of the laws while gamblers and whisky sellers were allowed to pursue a lawless course with impunity was because they had no votes. Gamblers and rum-sellers had votes; hence their immunity from prosecution."

Here is another of the same:

"George F. Wanless stated that the city authorities had failed to fulfil the promises of the 'Liberal' party—that it would

give a better and purer government than the one which had preceded it. A few months ago, when he came from Denver, Sundays were so quiet and orderly that a stranger would not have supposed that there were any saloons in the city. Since then a great change has come. Saloons were multiplied all over the city. They were running on Sundays as on other days in defiance of law, and ladies and children could not walk the streets without their ears being shocked with obscene and profane language. The result of non-enforcement of the laws was the flocking here of criminals from other quarters, seeking a field where they could commit crimes with impunity. Hence this city is flooded with loose and dangerous characters. We demand an enforcement of the laws. It is a slander upon the respectable citizens that brothels and saloons are so numerous. Their existence is opposed to the moral sense of the people. It is folly to say that the city government is helpless to cure these evils or at least hold them in check. Apply the laws that have been passed by the legislature and the city ordinances. If this shall be done the reformation demanded will be accomplished. Let the Mayor and Marshal go ahead with the work of reformation. If not, a few petty officers will not stand in the way of the enforcement of the laws made for the preservation and protection of society."

An extract from the speech of Mr. F. E. Gregg:

"Has any one a compliment to pay the City Council? You perhaps have heard the story of the man who died, and whose character was such that it was thought that no one could possibly say a good word for him. Finally a charitable man, while gazing at the face of the corpse, remarked: 'Well, he had a good set of teeth.' This gathering is in the nature of a terrible rebuke to them, and is a strong weapon in the hands of the political opponents of the 'Liberal' party. It is time the city authorities mended their ways. Crimes are being condoned, highway robberies are being committed daily or nightly, licenses to sell whisky are granted without limit. The non-enforcement of the laws has brought many vicious men to our city. The councilmen must be given to understand that they are not in office as individuals, or as representing individuals or classes. The whole trouble lies in the fact that every member of that body has been approached by friends and interested persons who have said: 'Now you must understand that we must have so and so.' This has brought the city to the situation against which we most emphatically protest."

Dr. Iliff speaks, and pays a compliment to the People's party municipal government:

"Dr. Iliff said that never before had there existed in this city the necessity for a meeting of this character. He had a genuine respect for the mayor of the city and for certain other members of the city council. He had voted, and enthusiastically too, for every member of the present city council, because he thought that in doing so he was working for the best interests of the whole people. But when he found that ordinances, which every good man believed were just and right, were ignored, he was before the audience to most earnestly and vigorously protest against such a state of affairs. Every lover of morals and good order should use all the influence which he had, and put himself squarely on the question under consideration. The situation not only involved the reputation of the Liberals in this city, but in the nation abroad."

This budget of proof that the people

have mourned under a rule of "Liberal corruption" is perhaps sufficient for one dose. We have plenty more salted away, ready to be brought out when needed. The evidence comes from the "Liberal" side, and ought not to be disputed by the organ of that party.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

THE People's party is at present a subject of much speculation among politicians. Its convention at Omaha on the 4th inst., though a little disorderly in some particulars, was on the whole a well conducted affair. Its nominees, Weaver and Field, are well known public men. The former was a leading spirit of the Greenback movement, a dozen years ago. He was the candidate of that party for President in 1880, and polled over 300,000 votes. The latter is an ex-Confederate officer and has been identified with reform agitations for some time.

It is true the elements composing this new party are heterogeneous, but no more so than those which initiated the Republican party in 1856. One feature of the Omaha convention that cannot escape notice was its earnestness, and another equally significant was the disposition to ignore old parties and sectional issues. It was also observable from the speeches of the delegates that a disposition towards harmony and practical work prevailed, though the platform contains one or two planks wholly impracticable.

The history of this party, brief as it is, contains an instructive lesson. It represents discontent or dissatisfaction with existing conditions. Its strength rests on agricultural industry, and that is why the political philosopher should take cognizance of it. During the past fifteen or twenty years movements of various kinds have arisen among the farming classes. Some were political, some social benevolent and industrial, while some others had for their object education, co-operation and enlightenment. The names of many of these will be remembered by the average reader. There were the National Grange of Patrons of Industry, the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association, the Patrons of Industry, the National Colored Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union, the National Farmers' Alliance, and several others.

The birth of the People's party, though representing all these, cannot be traced directly to any of them, but to a little organization instituted in 1876, in Lampasas County, Texas. This at first was simply an organized effort to protect property and prevent cattle-stealing. It extended gradually until in 1886 it developed into a State alliance. Then it promulgated a sort of platform providing for education in economics from a non-partisan view. Similar movements were going on in adjoining States.

The Texas State Alliance held in Waco in 1887 had delegates from Arkansas and Louisiana. A new name was adopted entitled the Farmers' Alliance and Co-operative Union. The next convention was held at Meridian, Miss., in 1888. Other States were represented and some labor unions; then it became the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of America. The next meeting