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Hon. S. B. Elkins, Radical Candidate For Delegate to Congress.

We have in previous numbers of the BORDERER, clearly defined our position, and we believe the position of the democracy of the territory, in regard to Mr. Gallegos. We owed a duty to ourselves and to our democratic friends to say that Mr. Gallegos, nor any other gentleman whom we support can trifle with that support without receiving censure. A man, to be a successful politician, or honored in any walk of life must settle down to an unequivocal fidelity to his friends. This lesson Mr. Gallegos is not yet too old to learn. We know full well that Mr. Gallegos has been surrounded with many who professed a warm personal friendship for him, but who would not hesitate to adopt any measures to ruin him politically. Two years ago, when it was known that Mr. Gallegos was the favorite of the democracy for the nomination, Mr. Elkins set to work with every influence that could be brought to bear to induce Mr. Gallegos to refuse the nomination. The night before the nomination was made, Mr. Elkins was seen crawling over the corral wall of Mr. Gallegos' backyard, and as he walked up the streets of Santa Fe, he clapped his hands upon his pocket in high glee, exclaiming, "I have got the democratic party here!" When asked the cause of his jubilant feeling, he replied, "you can't get Gallegos to take your nomination." A deputation was immediately sent to interview Mr. Gallegos, of which we were a member, and we found him doubtful of his friends. We found in his parlor as if on guard, Hon. Diego Archuleta, who with all his flippancy, eloquence was striving to make the impression upon his mind that the democrats would only nominate him and then betray him when the day of election came round. Hon. Diego Archuleta was working at that time as it was generally believed and so he was told during the interview as the paid agent of Elkins, and a member of the radical party, told us afterward that he knew the fact and the amount paid. Mr. Elkins failed most signally in his scheme of political trickery, and Mr. Gallegos was elected by a triumphant majority over his two competitors. Mr. Elkins nursed his vengeance. In the convention which nominated Mr. Gallegos, a most complimentary resolution was unanimously adopted, thanking the democrats of Doña Ana county, for their energetic and decisive action. And Mr. S. B. Elkins determined that Doña Ana should suffer for her temerity. Doña Ana county had one Senator and two Representatives in the legislature. Grant and Lincoln each a representative, all three went strongly democratic. They should all three learn that S. B. Elkins yet lived, and that his influence was most powerful. S. B. Elkins had and possessed a pliant tool in Santa Fe, called Governor Giddings, who of himself was impotent for much of either good or evil—just the tool for S. B. Elkins, and with this miserable weapon, we determined to stab Southern New Mexico, and not only our own counties, but every other county that voted democratic. We felt the thrust, and it was in the back. It came in the form of a proclamation from Gov. Giddings, that hereafter Doña Ana could claim nothing of her own right in the legislature of New Mexico—Grant and Lincoln, having but little before was deprived of that little. Southern New Mexico was granted by proclamation of this august old muttonhead under the dictation of Hon. S. B. Elkins, one senator and two representatives, and trusting with an abiding faith in radical trickery, these were to be seized where grasping power held sway. They knew that Doña Ana held that power in her numbers, and that her population was mostly Mexican. One of these he had pur-

chased soul and body in the last legislature, and who is now busily engaged doing dirty work for Elkins in this county, and only last week in his precinct meeting offered a resolution that their delegates be instructed to endorse Mr. Elkins in the people's convention of last Sunday. Mr. Elkins has an extensive acquaintance in this county. It was here that he pulled up when running from the federal army in which he held a Captain's commission after deserting from the Confederate bushwhackers. It was here that he landed seedy and torn from his hurried travel. It was here that he was presented with the first decent suit of clothes he ever possessed in New Mexico. It was from this county that he was elected to the legislature, when he knew he was excluded from that body by the laws of this territory on account of his age. This county that nursed him and gave him a start in life had offended S. B. Elkins, and she must be made to feel his power. One representative he had purchased in Santa Fe, and scarcely had the others turned their backs upon the capital, on their homeward journey, before the blow came cutting down our representation, to make us powerless hereafter to demand our rights. Possessing an unbounded faith in the power of money among a population poor as ours, and whose sweat is daily coined into money to pay him interest upon his territorial bonds, purchased at from fifteen to twenty-five cents on the dollar, he believes he holds the key to every ballot box in the county. Last week came, the mandate from S. B. Elkins, that the tail end of the Santa Fe Ring, which reaches even to Southern New Mexico, must be sent from this county to the senate in order that no fight shall be made in the next legislature to recover our rights. This order must be obeyed—A small clique of office holders have attached themselves to this scandalous extremity of the Santa Fe Ring—They think they smell pap and having large families, or interests at stake in the supreme court, they cling to said caudal appendage, with a grasp that threatens to make a bobtailed animal of the Santa Fe clique. The convention is held—one of the most severe burlesques upon American freedom and civilization, that any county of the United States ever witnessed. Relying upon the power of money over the poor and ignorant voters of this county, to carry through any shameless trickery, they nominate this minor portion of the Santa Fe Ring for the senate and then close up the gap by the nomination of two representatives, leaving Grant and Lincoln to put their fingers in their mouths and see if they can extract any comfort from the operation. Here is Mr. S. B. Elkins' track in Doña Ana. He has us down and now attempts to put his foot upon our neck. Hoping that Mr. S. B. Elkins might be disposed to be just when his interests would prompt him to conciliate, we addressed him a note some two weeks since, asking him in plain and respectful terms if he was disposed to grant us that justice which we were well satisfied laid within the power of his influence. His answer is a most silly political subterfuge. This correspondence we shall publish next week to show our citizens what we may expect of Hon. S. B. Elkins; or any of his supporters.

THE PEOPLE'S CONVENTION OF DONA ANA COUNTY N. M. MODUS OPERANDI:

Instructive Lesson to Grant's Myrmidons in Louisiana, or any other of the unconquered States of his Domains.

Just prior to the late, the Ex-Justice of Peace in the Precinct Meeting of the Santa Fe Ring, the delegates, the Grand Jurors, and the People's Mass Convention.

Two week since, the Probate Judge of Doña Ana county, put on his judicial ermine and issued a proclamation over his judicial signature for a political Mass Convention of the citizens of this county, to assemble at La Mesilla, on Sunday last, then and there to nominate a legislative and county ticket, to be elected on the first Monday of September next.

Following up this action, un-

heard of before in any judicial officer, of this, or any other territory, he issued an order over his judicial signature, to the Justices of the different precincts of the county, to call and hold political meetings in their several precincts, to elect delegates to attend this Mass Convention. This order was looked upon by the Justices of the Peace, as imperative, and the meetings were held as ordered. No number of delegates were specified in the order of the Probate Judge, and consequently, the Justice of the Peace acted upon his own judgment, or instructions given *sub rosa*.

Of course, when a political convention was thus judicially called by the county officials, it could be readily inferred that they had got hold of something good, and wanted to keep it.

Sunday morning came. The delegates appeared at Mesilla, where printed slips were placed in their hands, containing this announcement:

Ticket for the People, which was nominated this afternoon at Mesilla in Mass Convention.

HERE FOLLOWED THE ENTIRE TICKET.

Dated La Mesilla.

This Sunday morning Aug. 10.

The delegates, supposing that the enterprising and generous candidates, had gone to the expense of getting these slips printed for the guidance of the delegates, so as to prevent mistakes in voting, tendered their many thanks, for the kind consideration, and went into convention. Each with his printed slip upon his knee or otherwise handy for reference.

A small flag was also improvised, and one of the slips pasted upon the center; and two or three men, and seven boys, sent to parade the streets, to show the citizens what they were going to do. In this manner, kind and considerate as it was, the people of Mesilla, Cruces, and the surrounding country, knew several hours in advance of the meeting of the convention the ticket, which a Mass convention, simmered down to three delegates to the precinct, was to put before the county, as the result of a general expression of the sentiment of the people.

Upon the organization of the convention, with Hon. Pablo Melendres, Probate Judge in the chair, it was judicially declared that the body was ready to proceed to the business marked out. Whereupon Mr. John Davis, of Mesilla, an old resident of the county, who came into New Mexico as a volunteer under General Carlton, rose to inquire if the convention was a mass convention of the citizens of the county, as the handbills posted about in different places proclaimed. Mr. Davis was very promptly voted down, when he propounded certain other pertinent questions to the Honorable President, and somewhat pertinaciously clung to his supposed rights as an American citizen in mass convention.

Claiming that Mr. Davis, did not possess the magic talisman that admitted to their charmed circle, or in other words, was not a delegate to a Mass convention the Sheriff, with pistol in hand, marched Mr. Davis out of the Court House, and locked him in a cell in the jail. No other citizen had the temerity to place himself in the same danger, and the Mass convention that sat up in one corner of the court room, proceeded harmoniously and judicially to re-nominate the present county officials with the exception of the Treasurer, and in accordance with the programme laid down in the printed slips in the hands of the delegates.

After the selection of a candidate for Senator, whose nomination had been dictated from Santa Fe the week before, this August convention of twenty-three delegates in mass convention assembled proceeded to forget that the Senatorial and Representative rights of Doña Ana county, had by the action of Hon. S. B. Elkins' pliant puppet Marsh Giddings, been seriously impaired, and what little was left, was merged with those of Grant and Lincoln counties. Either this, or in their generous enthusiasm, supposing Grant and Lincoln too young and unsophisticated to travel so far from home as the capital, alone, they concluded to

relieve those counties of all care, responsibility, expense and honor in the case, and nominated a full legislative ticket for the district from this county. Not a single change was made in the printed programme, until it came to this effort to supply the place of representatives, when the gentleman who was billeted for the treasury, and who had ascertained the fact, that the county funds were seldom paid into that department until they were converted into warrants against the county, modestly submitted to have his name placed upon the legislative ticket, as representative. Whereupon the Judicial mass convention of the people of Doña Ana, judicially adjourned *sine die*. We have no doubt that Hon. S. B. Elkins, has directed that the proceedings should be forwarded for publication in the *New Mexican*, and heralded forth as a radical triumph in his favor, but it would be a very safe bet that two thirds of the delegates who were with so much ceremony, made to compose a mass convention, will go quietly to the polls and vote against him on the day of election.

LAND OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO.

Every citizen at all conversant with the necessities of Southern New Mexico, know that one of the first needs of this portion of the country, requires the establishment of a Land Office in our midst.

Emigration is turning this way. Railroads are approaching us—the facilities of travel, and the knowledge of the resources of this country, will bring among us a tide of emigrants, who are seeking homes. Our citizens who now occupy lands they have selected and improved, are anxious to secure their homes by pre-emption, or under the Homestead Law. Under the present regime, each and every citizen after making his application to the Land Office at Santa Fe, will be compelled to take his witnesses, and make the long and expensive journey to that place, in order to prove up his claim, and secure his pre-emption. The expenses of the trip is about double what the land will cost him. It has been the custom of the government in other states, and territories to establish branch Land Offices for the convenience of settlers in different localities.

We last winter wrote letters to Hon. José M. Gallegos, Delegate from this territory, and to Hon. R. C. McCormick, Delegate of Arizona, to secure us this much needed want.

Hon. R. C. McCormick, wrote us, that Mr. Gallegos would introduce a bill in Congress, in favor of the measure which Mr. Gallegos did do. Mr. McCormick further wrote, that as the session of Congress was a short one, it would be impossible to reach the bill at that session, but it could easily be passed at the next.

Now we wish to inquire what are our prospects in this regard, with Mr. Elkins, the head and front of the Santa Fe Ring, as our Delegate in Washington.

Every movement that has ever been made by that Ring, in this Territory, has been for the purpose of centralizing every office in that city, and every position of profit among its members—as soon as it was known in Santa Fe, that an effort was on foot to secure the location of a Land Office in Southern New Mexico, we received a letter from Santa Fe announcing to us that they had a gentleman in that place, who would make us a most excellent and efficient officer for our Land Office, as either Register or Receiver, and urging us to use what influence we possessed for his appointment, and they would give us their assistance. It is only proper to state the gentleman thus recommended by the Santa Fe Ring, has since been arrested, and removed from the office he then held for being a defaulter to the government.

And this is just what we may expect. If the Santa Fe Ring, cannot dictate to us of Southern New Mexico, and secure the influence of our citizens to place some of their number in the Land Office in this section,

they will oppose the measure, and attempt to defeat it.

We do not need the support of the Santa Fe Ring in this matter, and can get along without their influence. The claim is a just one, demanded by our interests, and the interests of the government alike. Prominent men in Congress, outside of the Santa Fe Ring, will assist us. We expect officials to be appointed from the republican party, but may Grant and the Lord, deliver and preserve us from the miserable clique of political tricksters who congregated and hold their headquarters in Santa Fe, and from thence dictate to every precinct in the Territory.

Mr. John Davis, who was so badly beaten by Sheriff Barela last Sunday, that he has been confined to his bed, is said to be recovering, but a collar bone being broken, it will be long before he is entirely well. If Mr. Davis had no rights at a convention called as a mass convention by our Probate Judge, or if his motions and inquiries were calculated to disturb the harmony of said mass convention—why, Mr. Barela perhaps had no other recourse but to shut down on free speech and teach people a lesson, they would heed hereafter, when an office-holders convention was in session. But every thinking citizen asks if it was necessary or right, for the Sheriff of this county, when he had a citizen locked in a cell of the jail to open that cell for the purpose of knocking down the prisoner, with the butt of his pistol, and then when down, stamping him until his body was most severely bruised and his bones broken.

Mr. Barela is running for Sheriff again, and laughs at the idea that he can be defeated by the people of this county, but we shall see whether the voters will walk up to the polls and cast their votes as he expects.

Senatorial Candidate of the Santa Fe Ring.

John D. Bail, Esq., the present District Attorney, fills this ticket. A gentleman of high social standing, and moral worth, yet who unfortunately for himself and this section, has a ways been known as the representative and agent of the Santa Fe Clique of political tricksters, who endeavor to supply every county and precinct of the territory, with one or more of their known and unknown wire pullers.

To this Santa Fe Ring Mr. Bail belongs soul and body—his every interest hinges upon the success or defeat of that notorious clique. Whenever it makes a move in this county, Mr. Bail is the tool with which the movement is directed. While upon his recent visit to Santa Fe it was there thought advisable to prevent any attempt upon the part of our citizens to recover their rights of a proper representation in the next legislature, and a Senator must be elected, who would make no fight in our behalf. An order was forwarded to Mesilla that Mr. Bail must be put forth as such candidate, and immediately runners were dispatched to every portion of the county to secure delegations for this object.

It is now nearly two years since this outrage was inflicted upon this and other counties of the territory. Who during all this time has ever heard Mr. Bail denounce the outrage in terms of censure? Who has ever heard him say that when the proper time arrived, he would battle for the rights of this people? When and where did he ever demand of Gov. Giddings, and the Santa Fe clique the restoration of the representation to which we were entitled? When and in what regard has he evinced the slightest interest in the welfare and progress of Doña Ana county?

These are pertinent inquiries, which the tax payers and voters of Doña Ana would do well to heed.

COUNTY FINANCES.

For two years the present Judge of Probate, Probate clerk and Sheriff, have held the honorable and responsible positions to which they were elected by the people. We labored as faithfully for their election as any other citizen of this county. Being a new comer into this county, with a limited acquaintance we did not feel authorized, nor did we attempt in any manner to influence the nominations upon our ticket. All we desired was that good and faithful men should be intrusted with the guardianship of county affairs.

As a citizen of the county, and a member of the party which had received the victory, and interested in the welfare of both the county and party to which we belonged, we early advised a strict compliance with the provisions of the law in regard to the finances of the county.

In obedience to the law and the wishes of the tax-payers of the county the

Probate clerk published a full statement of the financial condition showing the county then in debt about nine hundred dollars. The Probate clerk stated that with this showing the county ought to be out of debt by the month of May following.

In the face of this showing, and against the urgent protest of the principal taxpayers of the county, the county officials proceeded to double the taxation for county purposes. It was shown them that there was no necessity for such action—that the county would in a very short time be free from debt—that there was no Court House to build—no Jail to erect—and no expensive county improvement needed.

But the protest was not heeded, the taxation was increased to suit the purposes of the county officials, and the taxes promptly paid by the hard working, and industrious citizens.

Two years have passed and the county officials have had everything their own way. And now we ask every citizen of this county—Do you know if Doña Ana county is out of debt? If you cannot answer, ask your neighbor and he will tell you that he knows nothing about it. Ask your county Treasurer and he tells you in his letter this week published, that he knows no more than you do about it—and that no settlement has ever been made with him by the Sheriff and Probate clerk, that would enable him to comply with the law and publish a semi-annual statement as the law requires.

We ask you then, are men who thus conduct the affairs of the county, in defiance of the law, and in defiance of the just expectations of the people, proper men to come before you and demand a continuance in office? Have they forgotten that offices are the gift of the people, or have they imbibed the too prevalent idea of once in office, always in office.

When public servants are ignorant of their duties, or wilfully neglectful of their obligations, the people should know the remedy. It is a right yet left us to select our public servants, and when they are found wanting in the faithful discharge of their obligations, to set them aside at the expiration of their term of office and select others in their place.

LAND GRANTS! Titles to our Homes.

Here in the Mesilla valley, are several thousand inhabitants, whose rights, whose interests, whose all, is centered in the homes they love and cherish. Here their grandfathers settled, and here their fathers contested every day for life and its enjoyments, with the wild and blood-thirsty Apache.

With paternal care the government of Mexico guarded their rights, by a sacred charter to their lands. But the fortune of war threw these people under the rule of a foreign government, which promised by sacred treaty stipulations, to observe the titles to land granted by the mother government. Half a lifetime has passed since the conquest, and the government of the United States holds that the Mesilla valley is a part and parcel of the public domain, until by an act of Congress, she relinquishes her claim.

Not a house, not a lot in town, not an acre of land can the occupant claim as his own, and show a title that the United States will respect. In many other similar cases, by an immense outlay of money, grants have been confirmed to the occupants and their title made secure. It will be remembered by our readers in Doña Ana county, that as soon as the first number of the BORDERER was issued we began to agitate this question, and urge upon our citizens the necessity for action. We had been upon the frontiers all our lifetime, and we knew something of the struggles and litigation arising from an unsettled condition of titles, and we were satisfied that the day was not far distant, when the tide of emigration turning this way, would bring with it a struggle for the occupancy of this valley. Before we published the first number of our paper, we stated to a very prominent member in the Santa Fe Ring, that we should urge our people here to an early settlement of this matter, and we received this reply: "Don't you do anything of the kind let the matter rest, and the time will come when we shall be able to get all we want down there, and you shall have a share."

This was the sentiment of prominent men of New Mexico, who to a very great extent control her financial and political affairs. More than a year ago, a general interest was awakened and an effort was made to secure a confirmation of our titles. An attorney was selected to procure this confirmation. This attorney was in hearty accord with the administration. This attorney was a republican.

This attorney was a part and parcel of the Santa Fe Ring. This attorney was John D. Bail. Hundreds of dollars were raised and paid down from the hard earnings of poor people. Notes were given for more hundreds of dollars. Citizens of Doña Ana county how are your titles to-day? What has been done for your benefit. What have you received for the money you have paid. Will these homes be yours? Let the Santa Fe Ring and John D. Bail answer!