

**EVENING STAR**

**C. L. BITTINGER & CO.**

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**C. L. BITTINGER,**  
Editor and General Manager.

**R. R. CARROLL,**  
City Editor and Business Manager.

**W. J. BRYAN HITS BACK**

Mr. W. J. Bryan, Florida's junior United States senator, hits back at the unkind and unjust things said about him by the editor of the Ocala Banner, namely: that he, Bryan, on his appointment by Governor Broward to the senate, made the remark, "I am going to make the people of my state the best senator any state ever had"; also, "Some day I shall be the oldest senator."

The Banner prints Senator Bryan's reply, which we reproduce that all of our readers may see and read the same. The Star, when it saw the alleged interview in the New York World and the Jacksonville Times-Union, felt confident that Mr. Bryan had never spoken the words attributed to him, as we thought he was too wise a man to say such things. When we read the account we were prepared to say that any man, old or young, who could give expression to so egotistical a statement was a born fool and had no place in the United States senate, and at the time the Star said it could not believe Mr. Bryan made such a statement. We were satisfied that Governor Broward was too level headed a man to be guilty of so grave an offense against the people of this commonwealth to make any such an unjust appointment.

But we present the letter and Editor Harris' comment and, just like him in matters of this kind, he is "It" and the other fellow is "Nit."

**Senator W. J. Bryan's Open Letter**

Washington, D. C., Jan. 14, 1908.

Hon. Frank Harris, Editor Ocala Banner, Ocala, Fla.:

Dear Sir—I write you the following open letter because I do not know you well enough personally to know whether you would have the fairness to publish the same in your paper or not, but have concluded from your unfair and widely copied comment on my incorrectly quoted statements, that you may not do so.

On this date I have seen for the first time, a copy of a recent editorial in the Ocala Banner upon my appointment to the United States senate by Governor Broward, and especially commenting upon two supposed statements of mine. Your editorial credits me with saying as follows:

"I am going to make the people of my state the best senator any state ever had"; also, "Some day I shall be the oldest senator."

I did not make either of these two statements. I could not have said, without an unimaginable change of my nature, any such silly or senseless things. What I did say was I was going to do my best devote every power and faculty of body and mind, to making the state of Florida as good a senator as it was in my power; that the question of age was a mere incident and it was just a question of time before I would be as old as anybody. I had nothing to say about being the best senator ever seen, or becoming the oldest senator.

These statements were corrected by me in interviews in Pensacola on or about the 1st of January, and in all the Tampa daily papers on or about the 14 of January, and in at least six northern papers since then.

You state that you have seen no contradiction or denial. I do not know when your editorial was published, but if published since those dates the reason that you did not see them must have been that you did not want to see them.

In the course of your editorial you use the words "young," "fresh," "youthful," seven times. Apparently, therefore, your objection to me is because of my youthfulness, or "freshness," as you, in that wise way of yours, so characteristic, define it.

You state "so far as we know," and "so far as we are aware," I have never made any great speech or made any profound contribution to any newspapers or periodicals on any of the vexing questions of absorbing problems of the day. It is well that you make frequent use of such expressions as "so far as we know" and "so far as we are aware," because in this same editorial, this "profound contribution" of yours, in which you make such frequent and unpleasant reference to me, my youthfulness and braggadocio, you display the crudest, commonest, coarsest ignorance imaginable in anyone who purport to edit a newspaper. You say that "some of the states have had senators whose greatness has been reflected in nearly every page of the nation's history."

You mention Rockwell Hoar as a senator from the state of Massachusetts.

sets. For your information I desire to inform you that Rockwell Hoar never represented the state of Massachusetts in the senate of the United States.

Further on in your maliciously critical diatribe, miscalled an editorial, you commit so many errors that it is inconceivable how you could have and been as ignorant as you are. You say "all states have made valuable contributions to the senate of the United States" and thereunder you proceed to say that there were "Yancey from Alabama, McDuffie from Georgia, Cass, Hendricks and Voorhees from Missouri, Fillmore from New York," etc.

As a matter of fact Yancey of Alabama never became a United States senator, although he achieved distinction otherwise; McDuffie, to whom you learnedly refer as from Georgia, was a United States senator from the state of South Carolina; Cass, whom you incorrectly state achieved distinction from Missouri, was a United States senator from Michigan; Hendricks, and Voorhees, whom, with inexcusable inaccuracy, you likewise state were senators from Missouri, were never any such thing, but, as any school boy knows, were senators from Indiana. To cap the climax of your absurdly ignorant article, you mention Fillmore as being a senator from the state of New York, which, of course, he never was.

You refer to me as "fresh," "young" and "youthful." I will warrant that there is not a "fresh" "young" or "youthful" school boy a dozen years of age in any public school in Marion county, who in the course of one essay on any historical subject will display the same lack of historical information, the inaccuracy and general all-round ignorance of your "profound contribution," maliciously critical of me.

The United States government does not allow me as a senator from Florida to send U. S. histories to my constituents. If I were so allowed I would send you one, but I respectfully recommend you, the next time you undertake to learnedly and lovingly discuss me, or anyone else, from a historical standpoint, that you call in some barefoot school boy, not exceeding twelve years of age, and he will give you more correct information than you have evidenced you possessed when you mounted the tripod to attack me.

Fortunately, the people of Florida are sincere lovers of fair play and are not as ignorant nor, although you pride yourself on being the nestor of the Florida press, are your brethren, in my judgment, so inadequately equipped, so illy informed, nor so apparently ready to do a "young" man an injustice as you evidently are.

Yours very truly, W. J. Bryan.

Before writing the editorial to which Mr. Bryan refers, his statement was printed in a great many newspapers of the country, notably the New York World and New York Herald, and almost substantially the same thing was printed in the Times-Union. Mr. Bryan's denial was not forthcoming until after the Banner's editorial had been printed and extensively commented upon by the state press of Florida. Accepting his utterances as genuine, the article was just such an article as should have been written, and we are in receipt of many letters commending up for writing it. As soon as Mr. Bryan disclaimed using the language attributed to him this paper promptly printed his denial. The lapses to which he refers were done in the hurry of the moment. One was our error and the other was the error of the types. They were corrected for the weekly. But these slips of memory did not destroy the force of the argument nor the point which this paper wanted to emphasize. The tone and temper of the young man's letter is not creditable to one occupying a seat in the United States senate, and is scarcely worthy of the dignity of a reply.—Editor Banner.

**PHIL ISAACS IN TROUBLE**

We see by the papers that Phil Isaacs, so long the successful editor of the Fort Myers Press, which he sold and with the proceeds went to New York to embark in business, deposited his money in the Knickerbocker Trust Co., which during the late panic closed its doors and what the depositors will get remains to be seen. We sympathize with Mr. Isaacs and trust he will come out all right.

The Anti-Saloon League executive committee said this morning that they had received the invitation of the wet side to debate with them, but had not acted on it and did not propose to do so, though they will have another meeting this afternoon to take final action. In the meanwhile the wets are issuing circulars saying there will be a debate.

Rev. C. C. Carroll and Mrs. Carroll and little Mary Edna went down to Weirsdale this afternoon to convert the voters of that place to temperance.

Large assortment of CUT GLASS and CHINA at Post-Office Drugstore.

**THE CULPEPPER MEETING**

The meeting last night was a very large one, fully 1,500 people being present and heard the Rev. J. B. Culpepper preach a sermon from the text, "The Black Horse of Sin." He opened with some stirring remarks about temperance. He spoke of a town some little way from Ocala, saying if the Rev. J. B. Culpepper didn't meet the saloon men in open debate and divide time with the wet orator, they would vote wet instead of dry. He said he guessed they would anyway. If he had seen or a whisky man had taken with him about this matter he could not remember it. He said it was about time to stop this one gallus talk of a joint debate. There was talk about doing up Rev. J. B. Culpepper, but he was not afraid of the bums. True, he only weighed about 111 pounds, but it was all muscle. His opponents were mostly beer. He said these wet spouters are bucking up against every good woman in the land, and his \$545 tent was not for any such wind contests and for whisky men to make drunkards of our boys. He said he didn't believe the devil had effrontery to get on this stage. He then preached a most fervid sermon on the "Black Horse of Sin," drawing a splendid picture of a spirited animal of that color, whom a youth drew in a raffle, riding the horse in that exuberance of spirit and pride that flooded his heart with joy. But his friends told him the horse was vicious and would kill him, but he heeded not and scoffed their kindly advice. For a time the horse was gentle and responded to his commands, then he took the bit in his mouth and dashed over a precipice, killing his rider. So with sin, it fastens itself upon us and finally taking the bit in its mouth hurls us to perdition. He spoke of the sin of cursing, dancing and whisky drinking and ended by making a fervid appeal for all to come and give themselves to Christ. This morning he made a splendid talk on home life and character. It was one of the best ever heard and left a deep impression.

**PORTER-MOLE**

Yesterday evening Judge Bell united in the holy bonds of matrimony Mr. Samuel Porter to Miss Willie Mole. The ceremony took place at the hospital where Miss Mole has served several years as a trained nurse. Mr. Porter is one of the faithful and esteemed employees of the Ocala Iron Works. The fair, sweet bride is a sister of Mrs. John H. Spencer. Congratulations are in order and the Star extends them to the newly wedded pair for a long life of usefulness and happiness. The matrimonial fever is evidently on at the hospital for only a few weeks ago, Mrs. Porter's sister, Miss Belle Mole, supplied the missing rib and she too, was one of the accomplished nurses at the hospital, thinning its ranks among the nurses until now there is only one left and if we don't miss our guess it won't be many months until some gallant will carry her off, for she is not only a very pretty woman, but is possessed of all the graces and graciousness and the true virtues of a splendid womanhood. And this makes us remark that nurses are needed at the hospital. As a training school for matrimony it has no equal in Marion county.

No reception is complete without the Neapolitan brick cream from the Corner Drugstore.

Rev. W. H. Dodge, the Presbyterian minister of Ocala, went out to Fessenden Academy last afternoon and spoke last evening to the students on temperance, and when he asked those who would vote dry to rise, every colored voter in the audience stood up.

W. W. Jackson, the successful farmer of Electra, was in town this morning with a load of oranges for which he found a ready market. He said he had one more load, then he could give attention to his large banks of sweet potatoes, which called for a market. In the meanwhile he has two incubators at work and the chicken business would again occupy his attention.

Mr. W. A. Petty and family, from the eastern portion of Alabama, have arrived in Ocala and occupied the farm house on the Palmetto farm and if they like Florida they will in all probability become the owners of this valuable property.

Mr. L. Griggs, farmer and trucker out on the Silver Springs road, is just back from a visit to his father at Oxford and speaking of preparations being made among the farmers and truckers of that section said that more fertilizer had been contracted for so far this season than ever before in the history of that portion of Sumter county. It looks like it was make or break.

J. W. Compton, Lexington, Ky.; Miss Viola Smoak, Flemington; W. H. Jones, York and John P. Mills, Leesburg, were among those who dined at the Montezuma yesterday.

January 17th, 1897

January 17th, 1908

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Special No. 3. High grade bed spread, extra weight, snow white bleach, wide border, selvedge sides and overlock stitched ends. Size 78x86 ins. Worth \$2.00. This sale only **\$1.39**

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