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THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1900.

THE COLUMBIAN is for the Democratic ticket—national, state and county. The names of all candidates will be hoisted in due time.

Bob Fitzsimmons and Tom Sharkey will fight before the Seaside Club at Coney Island tomorrow.

In contrast to their being less prisoners than usual in nearly all the jails in Pennsylvania, the Allegheny county prison now contains 300 inmates, more than there has been for years.

The Republican Congressional conferees of this district, comprising the counties of Montour, Northumberland, Sullivan and Columbia counties, will meet at Danville Saturday, September 1st, to nominate a candidate for Congress.

As might be expected, some of the old soldiers in this State who have been unfortunate in their habits, are kicking against a recent ruling of the Pension Department at Washington, by which certain pensioners are dropped from the rolls when their pension money is found to do them more harm than good.

According to the statutes of Pennsylvania it is a misdemeanor to point a loaded or unloaded gun at anyone, punishable by fine or imprisonment. In connection an exchange says: When a man playfully points a pistol or gun at you, knock him down.

Probably few people who live in rented houses, says the Harrisburg Telegraph, know that their chattels can be seized and sold for school taxes due upon the property they occupy.

Bryan Urges Formation of Democratic Clubs. Democrats Asked to Hold Simultaneous Meeting on Sept. 1 for That Purpose.

To the Democrats of the United States:

In order that the fight for the rescue of the country from the Republican policies may be carried on everywhere with vigor and earnestness, we urge all citizens throughout the United States who are willing to support the Kansas City platform to meet in their respective communities on Saturday afternoon or evening, September 1, 1900, for the purpose of organizing city or precinct Democratic clubs, where such clubs have not already been organized.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, ADLAI E. STEVENSON, James K. Jones, Chairman Democratic National Committee; W. R. Hearst, president of National Association Democratic Clubs.

Address of the Executive Committee of the Democratic Society of Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, July 27, 1900. We are entering upon a campaign involving the Presidency of the United States and the control of the House of Representatives. The recovery of these branches of government by the people at this critical time will prevent the early consummation and, as we hope, defeat forever the gigantic conspiracy of vast moneyed interests, foreign as well as domestic, to subvert the American Republic and to substitute the despotic rule of the trusts and their corrupt allies for the rule of the plain people.

The people have but one expedient. They must organize in self-defense. It is only by pledging themselves one to another and as a whole to stand together for mutual encouragement and support that they can offer effectual resistance to the brutal assaults of intimidation and corruption which will be made upon them.

Every Democrat should enroll himself in a straight-out Democratic club, to do continuous battle for the cause of popular government until the poles close. With such an organization, covering every part of our state, the imperial trust party's majority, hitherto counted in Pennsylvania, may, by the blessing of Divine Providence, be wiped out.

All Democratic clubs should unite with the Democratic Society of Pennsylvania and with the National Association of Democratic Clubs, and be represented in the General Assembly of the one and the National Convention of the other.

Our illustrious candidates for President and Vice President—Bryan and Stevenson—present the noblest types of American citizenship and American statesmanship. They are of the people and for the people. Their election will insure the perpetuity of republican institutions. The election of the trust party's candidates would mean imperialism beyond seas and imperialism at home, a great standing army, oppressive taxation, multiplied monopolies and the industrial slavery of the masses.

In our own State the one important issue is equally plain and grave. Elections here are utterly corrupt and fraudulent. The ballot boxes do not render the will of the people. The election laws are framed to encourage and protect bribery and coercion, and bribery and coercion are practised upon a scale so colossal that it is uncertain whether some of our public authorities owe their commissions to the people or to criminal assessors, ballot box stuffers, repeaters and perjured election officers.

Eighty thousand fraudulent votes counted in a single city means that the Executive, the Legislature, a large part of the State's representation in Congress, as well as the entire municipal government, may easily enough be the products of mere crime. The Democrats of Pennsylvania, having suffered under the corrupt and fraudulent majorities rolled up by their opponents under the infamous Baker Law, demand a change, a change which will include an honest personal registration of citizens entitled to vote, and put into the hands of every elector so entitled a secret, free and secure ballot, which will record his independent will.

And since this radical change can be effected only by a complete revision of the eighth article of the Constitution on suffrage and elections, the Democrats will earnestly join with any group or class of their fellow citizens, or with any party or faction of any party, which proposes open and honest co-operation for an immediate constitutional convention for immediate ballot reform. This is the reform comprehending all reforms, and it should be the special care of Democrats in every district to see that true men are returned to the Legislature who will aid in the early passage of a fair, non-partisan convention bill like that of 1872, framed by that great and good Pennsylvanian, the late Charles R. Buckalew.

CHAUNCEY F. BLACK, President. JOHN D. WORMAN, Secretary. All Democratic Clubs will report the names of its officers and addresses to the Secretary, No. 3839 Sydenham street (Tioga), Philadelphia, Pa.

The approaching autumn will witness an increase of human energy and a revival of all the activities that have languished in the heat of an extraordinary summer. Everybody will discover new wants in preparing for the coming months. The first advertisers will have the advantage, not only in supplying the immediate needs of the community, but also in leading people to form the habit of dealing with them before the competition of trade shall become sharpest. Advertise your business early.

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent. Washington, Aug. 20, 1900.

The Administration's keep-it-dark policy has been turned on the Chinese news this week. Everybody in Washington knows that important news was received from Minister Conger—so important that Mr. McKinley returned a day ahead of the time he had appointed, but what it was is merely guesswork, and Assistant Secretary Adee actually had the nerve to say that he thought the newspaper men should refrain from guessing at the nature of the news, lest it might be guessed right and harm done. According to latest advices from the allied army, it should be at Pekin by this time and able to prove whether the Chinese government means war or peace—whether the foreigners in Pekin are to be allowed to go to their friends or to be kept as hostages by the Chinese government. When the facts have been given by the press dispatches the administration will probably give out the official news, unless it is calculated to reflect on Mr. McKinley of his wobbling policy.

Mr. H. R. Shade, who is in charge of the German bureau at democratic headquarters, said the bureau was receiving many letters from Germans, commending Col. Bryan's Indianapolis speech and announcing their intention to vote for him because of his sturdy stand against imperialism. Speaking of a recent publication, Mr. Shade said: "I notice that the republicans think they have a trump card in a number of German band uniforms, brought to Chicago from the Fatherland by special permission of the German government. I think they will be mistaken in the value of those uniforms as vote-getters. Instead of commanding the admiration and enthusiasm of the German voter the uniform will remind him of the imperialism of the fatherland, which he came to this country to avoid."

"In the six National elections since Grant was President", said Col. J. B. Cleaver, of Tenn., "the democrats have had a plurality of the popular vote four times and the republicans but twice. Garfield had a plurality in 1880, although it amounted to but 7,000 votes, and McKinley in 1896. In 1876 Tilden had a plurality over Hayes; in 1884 Cleveland over Blaine; in 1888 Cleveland over Harrison, and again in 1892 Cleveland over Harrison. Because McKinley had a plurality of 600,000 four years ago is no reason why Bryan should not have a plurality this year. Greater changes than that have taken place, even years ago when the total vote was much smaller. In 1892 Grant had a plurality of 760,000, and in 1896 Tilden's plurality was 250,000, a change of more than a million votes. When you stop to think that the vote in 1896 was something like 13,600,000, as against 6,400,000 in 1872, more than as much again, it isn't hard to believe that Bryan has a show of wiping out that plurality of 500,000 and himself receiving a plurality of the votes."

By rejecting the three bids submitted for armor plate for the new battleships by the Carnegie, Bethlehem and Midvale companies and calling for new bids the Navy Department has put off for a time the decision which Secretary Long was authorized to make as to whether the extortionate prices should be paid or a government armor-making plant be established with the \$4,000,000 Congress placed at his disposal for that purpose. Although the date set for opening the new bids is October 2, there is reason for the belief that it is the intention of the Administration to find some way to keep the matter open until after election and then to accept the bids of the Carnegie Armor Trust.

The democratic National Campaign Committee is meeting the efforts of the republicans to befog the Porto Rican question by circulating the proclamation issued by Gen. Miles when he took possession of the Island, in which he told the Porto Ricans that the United States forces had "come bearing the banner of freedom" and to "bestow upon you the immunities and blessings of the liberal institutions of our government". How well the republican administration and Congress kept the promises of Gen. Miles was shown by the telegraphic news of the present week, stating that a delegation of several hundred starving natives from the interior had visited the Governor begging for bread or work. The Porto Rican chapter is one of the most disgraceful in the record of the republican administration in Congress and the people of this country should not be allowed to forget it, and will not be.

In a letter to a local democratic paper, denying the editorial statement that the negro vote was solid for McKinley, a negro office holder said: "I am in a position to know whereof I speak when I say that Mr. Bryan will poll a larger negro vote than ever was polled by a democratic candidate for President. Mr. Bryan will poll a splendid negro vote in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and West Virginia. These are States where the negro vote is a factor, and where also you need every vote you can get. In New York he will poll 25 per cent of the colored vote."

Edward Welsh of Centralia, son of David Welsh of that town, was badly injured at the Midvalley colliery on Friday. His right leg was crushed and broken at the same place as it was broken several years ago. He was taken to the State Hospital.

Is Baby Thin this summer? Then add a little SCOTT'S EMULSION. It is astonishing how fast he will improve. If he nurses, let the mother take the Emulsion.

SWEET, ORR'S CELEBRATED Harvest Trousers, OVERALLS, SHIRTS, ETC. FOR SALE AT Townsend's Star Clothing House, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

Our LINEN SALE Will Continue Until SEPT. 1st. F. P. PURSEL.

HAIR Wealth of hair is wealth indeed, especially to a woman. Every other physical attraction is secondary to it. We have a book we will gladly send you that tells just how to care for the hair. If your hair is too thin or losing its luster, get AYER'S HAIR VIGOR. Growth becomes vigorous and all dandruff is removed. It always restores color to gray or faded hair. Retain your youth; don't look old before your time.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF. —Ira Westcott was drowned in the Tunkhannock creek, in Tunkhannock, Friday. —James Sherlock was struck by a train and instantly killed in Stroudsburg Friday. —By a fall from a freight train on Friday Winfield H. Reynolds, of Tunkhannock, was killed. —Falling from a crane, at the Pennsylvania Steel Works, Friday, Henry Brown, of Steelton, was instantly killed. —Editor Richard Little, of the Scrantonian, was released from the Lackawanna County jail, where he served the sentence of six months. This was imposed in connection with the criminal libel action instituted by Postmaster Rippe against Mr. Little and Associate Editor O'Toole, the latter being acquitted. —Two-year-old Lizzie Roush, of Freeburg, fell into a cistern Friday and would have drowned had not her mother saved the child by risk-

ing her own life. Mrs. Roush bravely jumped into the well, half filled with water, and grasping the child by the hair, held her up until timely assistance saved both.

—The members of the Grand Army posts in Central Pennsylvania are arranging to hold a big reunion at Lakemont Park, near Altoona, on Saturday, September 22. A number of prominent veterans intend to be present to address the meeting. Among them will be Col. M. S. Quay, General Frank Reeder and Governor W. A. Stone.

—The peach crop will not be what was hoped for, by any means. All the fruit which has come from the great orchards in York, Cumberland and Dauphin counties, has been of small size and nearly all of it of the poorest quality. This is said by the growers to be due to the drought and a bug which has been working among the growing fruit and stinging the peaches on the stem.