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THE COLUMBIAN. ESTABLISHED 1866.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1902 ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY, C. A. SMALL, of Catawissa. Subject to the decision of the Democratic party.

FOR STATE SENATOR, J. HENRY COCHRAN, of Lycoming Co. Subject to the decision of the Senatorial Conference of the 24th District.

Senator J. Henry Cochran, of Williamsport, will be returned to the State Senate from the Democratic district composed of Lycoming, Columbia, Montour and Sullivan. He is already assured enough support in the several counties to make his nomination certain, and as it is one of the sure Democratic districts in the State the nomination will practically end the matter.—Phila. Press.

J. G. McHENRY NOT A CANDIDATE.

Editor of Columbian:—Replying to the many inquiries of my friends in this and adjoining counties urging my candidacy for Congress, I regret to be obliged to say that my business interests will not permit me to be a candidate at this time.

No man should ask to have this honor conferred upon him unless he can see his way clear to devote the time and labor necessary to the faithful performance of the duties involved in this high office.

During the past four years the people of our District, regardless of party, have been well served in this capacity and have had a faithful, honest and energetic Representative who in all his official acts has endeavored to serve the best interests of his district and it is with deep regret that I note his decision, for business reasons similar to my own, declining to accept a re-nomination which would doubtless have been tendered him unanimously. So the only personal interest I have in Mr. Polk's successor, is that in common with every loyal democrat and citizen whose sole desire is to have our party and District ably and honorably represented.

Therefore I beg to ask my friends, to kindly accept my decision in regard to my candidacy as final, and to express to them my sincere and deep appreciation for the kindly interest shown me, and whether or not the future shall ever offer the same brilliant opportunity with changed conditions that will enable me to grasp it, I thank them none the less, and will always be found in the rank and file of Democrats supporting our regular party nominees, ever ready to advocate the best interests of all taxpayers, rather than personal or political preferment. Very respectfully, JOHN G. McHENRY.

MR. POLK DECLINES.

Mr. Polk's home paper, the Danville Morning News, of Tuesday, contains the following, which is evidently authoritative, and may be taken as conclusive in the matter: "Hon. R. K. Polk yesterday afternoon announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election. Mr. Polk, whose two terms embrace the Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congress, has represented the Seventeenth district to the full satisfaction of his constituents. He has

been strongly urged by leading Democrats in various parts of the district to stand for re-nomination. His decision, therefore, not to be a candidate will be received with a good deal of surprise and regret. The Structural Tubing Works and other interests with which Mr. Polk is identified make heavy demands upon his time and energy and he feels that he cannot fully discharge his duties as Congressman without in some measure neglecting business, and it is for this reason he feels constrained to decline a re-nomination.

Mr. Polk was elected Congressman in 1898 by a majority of 2300 over W. H. Woodin, Republican candidate. He was re-elected in 1900 by an increased majority majority of some 1500, although a presidential year, and this, too, notwithstanding the fact that Hon. M. H. Kulp, Mr. Polk's predecessor in office, was elected by a Republican majority of 1400.

Mr. Polk's declination leaves the district wholly to the other candidates in the field."

Letter From Ex-Lieut. Gov. Chauncey F. Black.

The following correspondence speaks for itself. It is important to and should be read by every Democrat in the State of Penna.

TREDFYFRIN, PA., Dec. 12, '01. Hon. Chauncey F. Black, York, Pa. Looking to you as one of the great leaders of the Democratic Party, of Pennsylvania, we respectfully request you to advise us how to organize our party, that we may in the future, as in the past, become the ruling power of our beloved, but now sadly misrepresented country. Please answer through the Chester Democrat, that the Democrats of Chester and Delaware Counties may get the benefit of your advice. Truly Yours, Samuel Fetters, Chester Valley. H. B. Schofield, Paoli. Henry Crory. Joseph C. Kishner. N. D. Stager. B. McCormick. John M. Manson. J. Edwin McCanna, Paoli. Henry W. Davis.

YORK, PA., January 17, 1902. GENTLEMEN:—Your communication suggests questions which are vital to the life of the Democratic party in our State. Each of you, I presume, like myself, has been a steady, conscientious Democrat since the maturity of our years. We are Democrats and continue to be Democrats, notwithstanding all the temptations of these times to go over to the side of wealth and power, because we believe that the perpetuity of republican government depends upon the success of our political principles. We have, therefore, stood by the good cause, in the tempest and in the calm, alike in 1854, in 1888, in 1892, in 1896 and in 1900. We have not accepted or rejected national candidates because they were, in a personal or factional way, agreeable or disagreeable to us. We have not scrutinized national platforms to discover a word or a line which might be sophistically used to justify a desertion of the great cause of constitutional liberty. We have supported Cleveland and we have supported Bryan because each of them stood at the time for the principles which we know lie at the foundation of the republic and must be maintained if the republic is to live.

You ask me how the Democratic party may be best organized to accomplish those great public and patriotic objects for which it exists. I answer that if we would succeed, in the immediate future, the party must be so organized as to include within its ranks all those who adhere to Democratic principles of government in general. Nothing could be more unwise, perhaps fatal, than the reckless and useless perpetuation of recent differences. I, and I suppose you, being straight

Democrats, supported Mr. Bryan and those great declarations of human rights—the Chicago and Kansas City platforms—with all the fervor of which we were capable. But there were some Democrats, most of them as honest as we, who magnified the silver question into a vital issue, and who, therefore, disagreeing with us, our platforms and our candidates, assisted directly or indirectly to put the imperialist party into power. They have realized their error. They see the republic transformed into an empire. They see the Constitution disregarded; the government administered in the interest of a class; the money power omnipotent; the Congress taxing for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many; gigantic industrial combinations flourishing unopposed; and an European colonial system established instead of our familiar and constitutional American territorial system, with the mighty military and naval armaments required to support it! Those Democrats who were misled by false and corrupt clamor into helping to bring on this condition of things are heartily sick and sorry. They are quite able to see now that even if bimetalism had been really the menace to commercial prosperity which it was represented to be, it was a mere trifle in comparison with the transformation of our republican government, which has taken place and is taking place. The limited or unlimited coinage of silver was a question of mere economy or expediency. It was not a constitutional question. It did not touch the rights or liberties of our people. Democrats might differ about it with perfect freedom. A mistake about it could easily be corrected. Those, therefore, who left the Democratic party because of it, left without reasonable provocation, and we, the nearly seven millions of Democrats, who remain faithful, must be careful that we do not incur a like guilt, by continuing to exclude them for difference of opinion upon an altogether minor matter. We want them all back. We want the many honored Democrats who stood nobly with us through the battles of the last forty years in Pennsylvania—the Hancocks, the Baers, the Farquhars, the Myers, the Hensels, the Harritys, the Pattisons, the Cadwaladers—with us, where they truly belong. Upon every other question but that of silver we are at one. Unhappily, because adversely settled, there is no more a silver question. None of us who supported the Chicago and Kansas City platforms and followed with joy and pride that glorious tribune of the common people of America, William J. Bryan, feel the smallest sense of regret for our action in those days which tried men's souls. We would gladly do the same again. But for the present the issue is overpast. The gold standard has won. The crime is complete. The confiscation of the earnings of labor the world over has taken place. The people have been duly fleeced. The money power has pouched the spoil. Until that power shall have determined that it is time to make another confiscation by another change of standard, or until the peoples of the earth have been plunged into profound calamity and universal distress, there can be no silver question. Why then should we make it a test of political orthodoxy in our comparatively little district of Pennsylvania?

I think it altogether right and wise that we should in our nominations for Congress require that our candidates should be such as have supported the party in the past, and can be relied upon to enter the Democratic caucus and abide by its decisions. No disturbers should be sent there. But in our municipal, county and State affairs we should not draw rigid distinctions between so-called gold Democrats and regular Democrats. The Governor and the Legislature of Penn-

sylvania are in no wise concerned with national affairs. In these domestic fields I conceive we can nominate our candidates for their ability, fitness and general acceptability, without any reference whatever to their views or conduct on the silver question. Answering other questions in your letter, I beg to say that the Democratic party relieved, as above suggested, from all differences as to silver, is a unit in Pennsylvania, and needs only an aggressive spirit and a practical organization to win, if not in the State at large, at least in many contested districts. The harmonization which seems to be taking place in Philadelphia and Allegheny is very encouraging. But the Democrats of the country should not wait upon events in the cities.—Let them make their own organizations. Let them send delegates to the State Convention in their own interests. Let them look to their own candidates upon Legislative, county and municipal tickets.

To that end I believe now, as I always have believed, that there is no organization so perfectly adapted to the work as that of popular Clubs or Democratic Societies. There has not been a single instance in the history of the country where the institution of the honest, earnest Democratic Club has not increased the Democratic vote in the community where it existed. I am still President of the Democratic Society of Pennsylvania and I am a member of the Executive Committee of the National Association of Democratic Clubs. I do not believe anything important can be accomplished, either in the State or nation, without a thorough club organization. The club is the arena of discussion, the challenge to the enemy, the engine of agitation, as it has ever been and ever will be. Against the combined monopolies of the country the club affords the only support to the individual voter. When every true man stands shoulder to shoulder with his fellow in the club he is invincible. Outside it he is open to intimidation, corruption and seduction. Let us make the club system universal and perfect. I have reason to believe that my successor in the executive office of the National Association of Democratic Clubs, Mr. W. R. Hearst, intends to carry into the national club organization of our party the intense energy and effective methods which have characterized all his other enterprises, and that by the time the next Congress is to be elected we will be organized for a hopeful battle.

I beg to take advantage of this opportunity to make still another suggestion to the true and steadfast country Democrats of our State. Let us be as careful in framing the issues of the approaching State campaign as in the selection of our candidates. To go into State Convention, resolve that our opponents are bad men and call upon all good citizens to help us in putting them down, without proposing any specific measure or policy for the removal of the evils denounced, is not worthy of the great, historic party which governed this commonwealth from the time of Thomas McKean to that of William F. Packer. The people have the right to know what we intend to do, if given power, and they will know before they consent to trust us. The mere denunciation of others is no recommendation for ourselves.—The abuses of the Harrisburg government are well known. Let us tell the people where and how we propose to correct them, and having done so nominate able and honorable men, who if elected will not, as has happened heretofore, betray us and dishonor their own pledges.

It need hardly be said that the first of these issues should be ballot reform. It is the reform comprehending all reforms. We cannot hope for pure government anywhere without a pure ballot. Let us then make this the supreme test in every legislative district. Let no man be trusted who has ever, for a single instant, upheld or tolerated the infamous Baker ballot fraud, which was passed solely to protect coercion and corruption in elections, and palmed off upon the people as the Australian system.

Until recently there seemed to be no hope for ballot reform except in a constitutional convention called for the express purpose. But the adoption of the constitutional amendments opens a broad road. The legislature can, if it will, provide for compulsory personal registration in cities and for a secret, free and inviolable ballot. But unless this most essential of all reforms is made paramount in all nominations and in the canvass it will be smuggled aside and smothered. Unlike the members of a constitutional convention, members of the Legislature are chosen to represent such a variety of personal or local interests that they can

hardly be together to perform a purely public service. It is to be feared that Mr. Quay was not wrong when he recently declared that the amendments were well enough in themselves, but that no Legislature could ever be got to execute them by appropriate legislation, and that we would never get a true and symmetrical ballot reform, without a constitutional convention.

But surely it is worth the trial, Let us, as Democrats, raise the standard of ballot reform. We have a right to expect that all good citizens will rally to it. Every decent man in Pennsylvania desires it. Let us make it the first, the clearest and the strongest plank in our State platform. If we cannot elect a majority of the Legislature upon that issue, then the situation is hopeless. I am, very truly, yours, CHAUNCEY F. BLACK.

TOWNSEND'S Clearing Out Sale.

BIG BARGAINS In All Winter CLOTHING. MUST BE SOLD

To Make Room For SPRING GOODS

Come early and see the Bargains at Townsend's CLOTHING STORE.

THE YEARLY SALE!

This is another popular selling event, which has been carefully planned for another chance to buy wanted merchandise at shaved profits. Another demonstration of the wisdom of halving our rightful profit and doubling our output. It's as broad as it is long, as far as our gain is concerned, except the gain of increased business and adding more friends to the store. It's a good deal broader than it is long for you, for there is an actual, honest, money saving flavor about this sale that you will readily understand and appreciate.

WE'VE EXPLAINED WHY.

First is the Table Linen News

This is profitable news for you if you'll profit by it. The Table Linen lines are never so complete as at this time. The prices are never so tempting as now. Read.

Unbleached Table Linens.

- 52 ins. wide, good weight 22c. 56 ins. wide, worth 45c., at 39c. 64 ins. wide, worth 60c., at 49c. 60 ins. wide, heavy, all linen, the best value we have ever offered, at 50c. 68 ins. wide, extra good value, 45c. 60 in. heavy German, all linen, 47c. 66 ins. wide, extra heavy, all linen, 69c. 72 ins. wide, worth \$1.00, 75c. 72 ins. wide, worth 1.25, 98c.

Bleached Table Linens.

- We start them at 22c. 64 ins. wide, all linen, 47c. 72 ins. wide, all linen, 58c. 68 and 72 ins. wide, worth 85 and 90c., at 69c. 66 ins. wide, extra value, 72c. 72 ins. wide, worth \$1.25, at 98c. 72 ins. wide, worth \$1.40, at \$1.10. 72 ins. wide, worth \$2.00, at \$1.69.

These are a few prices, come and see the rest. We can match Table Linens with Napkins, from 50c. up.

What You Save On Napkins.

- Napkins are a necessity now-a-days. There is a napkin buying chance awaiting you in this sale, such as you've seldom been invited to take advantage of. Napkins, worth \$1.25, at 98c. " " 1.50, at \$1.25. " " 1.75, at 1.49. " " 2.00, at 1.65. " " 2.25, at 1.79. " " 2.50, at 2.19. " " 2.75, at 2.25. " " 3.50, at 2.98. " " 5.00, at 4.25. " " 6.00, at 5.00.

A Feast of Toweling and Towel Bargains.

Many of our customers wait for these sales to replenish their linen presser. You've always needed toweling and towels. Buy them now and save money. 5c cotton toweling at 4 1/2c. 8c linen " " 6 1/2c. 10c " " 8 1/2c. 12 1/2c " " 9 1/2c. 15c " " 12 1/2c. 14c " " 11 1/2c. Extra good value in towels at 25c. a pair. Extra good value Huck towels at 25c. a pair.

Some Special Things in the Grocery Department.

We will sell one barrel of good Blended Flour at 50c. a sack for one week, beginning Saturday, January 25. We will begin January 25 and sell one week, one of Chase & Sanborn's brands of Coffee at 12 1/2c. a pound. If you enjoy a good cup of Coffee, try a pound of this Coffee. Good big Prunes at 5c. a pound.

F. P. PURSEL.

Let us, as Democrats, raise the standard of ballot reform. We have a right to expect that all good citizens will rally to it. Every decent man in Pennsylvania desires it. Let us make it the first, the clearest and the strongest plank in our State platform. If we cannot elect a majority of the Legislature upon that issue, then the situation is hopeless. I am, very truly, yours, CHAUNCEY F. BLACK.

My Lungs. "An attack of la grippe left me with a bad cough. My friends said I had consumption. I then tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral and it cured me promptly." A. K. Randles, Nokomis, Ill. You forgot to buy a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral when your cold first came on, so you let it run along. Even now, with all your hard coughing, it will not disappoint you. There's a record of sixty years to fall back on. Three sizes: 25c., 50c., \$1. All druggists. Consult your doctor. If he says take it, then do as he says. If he tells you not to take it, then don't take it. He knows. Leave it with him. We are willing. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.