

GERMAN-AMERICAN VIEWS

The Republicans Can Expect Nothing From the German-Americans.

His career in the Senate was not very prominent. He showed moral courage by his opposition to Chinese laws. His position in this respect will probably cost him the fourteen electoral votes of the Pacific States. In Indiana he has a certain strength, which is, however, based more on his ability as a political "boss" than on his personal popularity. He has no personal magnetism at all. The Germans of Indiana, Republicans as well as Democrats, do not care for him, because under his influence the Republican party of Indiana declared itself in favor of submitting a constitutional amendment in favor of prohibition to the vote of the people. The Republican candidate for Vice President, Levi P. Morton, is the man of his money bag. As a statesman, compared with Thurman, Morton is nothing. But the convention hoped by him to make good impression on the State of New York, and that Morton would reach deep into his purse to fill the campaign fund. The National convention before it adjourned adopted a resolution offered by Maine, in which the party was pledged to support all wise measures for the furtherance of temperance. The Republican party now stands as a temperance party, even if it has not the courage to pronounce itself openly for prohibition. It may by this nefarious trick bring back a few of the Prohibitionists who have fallen off, but how many German Republicans will after this stay true to the party?

NOT A MAN OF THE PEOPLE

Cleveland and Harrison are now before the American people. Cleveland during his administration proved to be a competent, conscientious official. By his statesmanlike, conservative administration he has gained the unbounded confidence of the American people, and will undoubtedly down Harrison next November. Harrison has many bitter enemies among Indiana Republicans, and the friends of Gresham are not likely to forget the underhand manipulation at Chicago. Harrison is a man of the aristocracy. Not a man of the people in the better sense, and his capacities as a statesman are of inferior rank.

HENRY WATERSON'S CONTEMPTUOUS OPINION OF HARRISON.

The Republicans will, of course, try to raise an 1840 furor and to make a log cabin and hard cider Tippecanoe and Tyler, too, campaign of it. But the old chicken won't fight. The present Harrison is not that sort of a man. He lives in a palace and drinks only champagne out of cut glass. He never wore homespun in his life and would not know a coon skin if he saw it. He is cold, selfish, exclusive, arrogant and vain patrician. He hates a poor man worse than the devil hates holy water. There is nothing popular nor magnetic about him. If he lived in the East he would be a drawing anglo-maniac. Living West he is merely the grandson of his grandfather. With Morton for a yoke-mate it is simply a rich man's ticket on a poor man's platform and will poll only the party vote.

BOTH TICKETS GOOD; THE TARIFF THE ISSUE.

The two Republican candidates Messrs. Harrison and Morton, are like the Democratic candidates, upright and honorable men. The fact is a great gain to the country. There can be no excuse on either side for a mere personal canvass, and fortunately the positions of the two parties on the question of taxation are so radically opposed that the canvass can be made, and will be made, we believe, mainly on this question.

HE REPRESENTS THE FEW AGAINST THE MANY.

Mr. Harrison's nomination has excited no enthusiasm. It was received with remarkable indifference, if not with absolute disappointment, among the Republican politicians of this city. Yet it is one which all the warring Republican factions in New York can support without heartburning. There are two reasons why his candidacy is fortunate. It leaves the issue of extreme protection against tariff revision clear-cut and distinct and it removes all danger of personalities in the campaign.

While Mr. Harrison would make an honorable and acceptable President he will be beaten and he ought to be beaten because he represents the interests of the favored few against the interests of the many; because he stands pledged to a policy of retrogression instead of progression; because he is the candidate of a party which would make the war taxes higher and the cost of living greater instead of reducing taxation by a tariff revision which would lessen the price of articles of necessity.

BLAINE'S RESIDUARY LEGATEE.

Harrison was known to be Blaine's residuary legatee in the convention and his chosen successor as candidate in the event of a failure of the original Blaine programme. The influences by which it was sought to impose on the American people the necessity of defeating Blaine for a second time were exercised powerfully and with success in behalf of Harrison, and it should be elected President the

event would be almost as distinctly as a Blaine triumph as a victory at the polls for the Maine statesman himself.

FAIR WEAKER THAN JAMES G. BLAINE.

The Observer is more than satisfied with the nomination of Benjamin Harrison. Compared with Blaine he is weak—hopelessly weak. In New York the nomination will spur the Democracy on to an effort which will result in the burial of modern Republicanism under a tremendous adverse majority.

NO DOUBT OF THE ATTITUDE OF THE INDEPENDENTS IN NEW YORK.

The people of this country will pass judgment upon the Republican party not upon the Republican candidates. Were that party any longer worthy of confidence; had it not departed widely and hopelessly from the guidance and the principles with which it won its early triumphs; were it actuated by an honest purpose to make the people of the United States more prosperous and happy than its political opponents can make them, were its professions more sincere its policies wiser, and its leaders purer, the New York Times might not find it a distasteful task to support the candidates commonplace as they are, who were put in nomination. But we have no faith in the party or in its leadership or tendencies, and we have only abhorrence for the monstrous policy of confiscating the grains of labor and the profits of trade by exorbitant protective taxes which has become its bulwark principle. The maintenance of needless taxes for protection's sake is not and never was a principle of true Republicanism. It is the principle that has created and sustained a greedy horde of manufacturers who have bought the Republican party and shaped it to their uses.

For the working out of the reforms which the Times believes to be the chief issues of our politics the Democratic party with its present candidates, is the "better instrument," to use Mr. Tilden's expression. Its candidates are incomparably superior to those of the Republicans, and the announcement of purposes with which it enters the contest is more satisfactory, and in respect to the dominant issue is firmly right when the other is hopelessly wrong. As regards civil service reform, though we have had occasion to criticize the present administration for some of its errors and failures, we have greater confidence in Mr. Cleveland's sincerity and fidelity than in the written professions of a party whose leaders are unable to speak of the reform without a sneer. The Times will give Cleveland and Thurman its hearty support; and will do what lies in its power and it is not commonly an inactive newspaper in a Presidential contest, to make their majority such that there will be no doubt about it the morning after election.

ENFORCE THE AMERICAN IDEA.

What are we—the people of the United States—going to do about it? We will tell you plainly gentlemen, monopolists who desire to tax us for your enrichment, and to make of yourselves our aristocratic rulers. We are going to enforce the American idea which all great parties in this country have hitherto respected, and to which only cranks, Anarchists and Communists have ventured to oppose themselves. We are going to stand by the American doctrines of individual liberty, personal equality of right, the economical administration of a government that confines itself to the legitimate purposes of government, and the right of the people to be relieved of taxation when the government has no legitimate need of the proceeds of taxation. We are going to oppose your schemes to tax us for your benefit. We are going to contest your right to make use of our government for our oppression and your advantage.

NOT A QUESTION OF FREE TRADE.

It is not a question of the theory of free trade versus that of protection, although it may take that shape in the public mind, but the practical one of whether manufactures shall be benefited by the admission of free raw materials, whether our commerce shall be revived by permission to purchase ships cheaply and the markets of the world opened by an interchange of commodities without destroying the protection sufficient to guard against ruinous rates, while at the same time giving them the stimulus of enlarged opportunity and wholesome competition. The Journal believes that upon this question the Democratic policy and platform are right and that the Republican policy and platform are wrong.

NOTHING TO OBSCURE THE ISSUE.

The ticket nominated at Chicago after such prolonged agony is not of a kind to excite much enthusiasm, but is, nevertheless, a very respectable one and for this we return thanks without reserve or stint to the Republican Convention and the Republican party. Mr. Harrison is not stronger than his party, but he is not weaker than his party. His nomination leaves the field open for the freest discussion of the principles which divide the American people. Mr. Cleveland is stronger than his party, but not so much stronger that the issues are likely to

be obscured. It will be the merit of the coming campaign that it will be fought more distinctly on principles than any other since the first election of General Grant, which determined the reconstruction of the Southern States.

A SECONDARY FIGURE IN THE SENATE.

We cannot say that his nomination is an especially fortunate one for the party, because we see in it nothing to attract the floating vote of the land or even to awaken much enthusiasm among Republicans themselves. But it is unquestionably respectable; it invites no personal contest; it is the nomination of a vigorous, if not magnetic, partisan fighter. Mr. Harrison's lack of estimation as a leading man in the Senate was not from an unwillingness to contend for his party. He often did this most effectively, for he is an industrious student who carefully prepares himself and he is both an aggressive and a persistent opponent in argument. But the Senate did not assent to his capacity for leadership—a fact that tells against his efficiency in his present position.

THE COUNTRY LIKES CLEVELAND.

In a party sense the nomination is perhaps the shrewdest that could have been made. There would have been a certain fitness in the choice of Blaine had not his own preveious words forbidden him to accept with decency—for Blaine is the dominating personal influence in the party and the author of its avowed policy. But after his two letters his nomination would have so intensified the personal objection which defeated him before that the party would have added a very heavy risk to the burdens under which it was already staggering.

THE ISSUES ARE NOW MADE UP, AND HOW DO THEY STAND?

The choice is to be made, apparently, on two questions—the tariff and the general conduct of administration. On the one side, Cleveland's administrative record, with the prospect it offers in case of a second term; on the other side, the degree of ability, honesty and efficiency to be expected from Harrison with the Republicans behind him. On the one side, a reduction of the tariff about as proposed in the Mills bill say an average of 10 per cent; on the other side the maintenance or advance of the tariff. These two points, we think, are what is really involved. The sectional issue may be appealed to, but we trust it will be left mainly in the background.

The Republican party has turned its back on its own record disregarding the palpable and crying needs of the situation, and allied itself with a compact moneyed interest as against the interest of the people at large. It has done this, we believe, under the partisan impulse to oppose whatever a Democratic President did or proposed. So against the President's bravest and wisest act—the call for a reduction that should clear off the surplus—the party, at Mr. Blaine's summons, threw itself in bitter opposition. The cry of "protection to the American laborer" was caught up as a taking campaign catch-word. We believe the Republican stump-speakers talk worse than they mean, and that, were the responsibilities of power thrown on them, we should at least hear no more of raising the tariff. But they have committed themselves hopelessly against lowering it.

Oh this question the Democratic party, for the first time since the war, has made a definite, resolute, sagacious advance on a great governmental question. It owes this advantage chiefly to the fact which is the party's one great merit in the eyes of the country—the strong personality and commanding leadership of President Cleveland. He has shown himself an honest, able, courageous ruler. He is not an idealist, not an uncompromising apostle of reform; he has conceded much for the sake of controlling his party; he has tolerated at least a few very weak spots in the administrative service. But he has proved a most skillful party manager, and the power which he thus holds he has in every crisis—whether confronted by an extravagant pension bill or the nomination of an Inter State Commission or a Chief Justice—used straight for the good of the country. And the country likes President Cleveland very much—likes him and trusts him the Republicans must reckon with that fact.

RATS!

John W. Touey, a prominent member of Typographical Union. No. 6, when approached to express himself in regard to the nomination shouted "Rats!"

The reporter looked amazed and Mr. Touey continued: "Harrison's boom in Chicago was conducted by John C. New, the proprietor of a notorious 'rat' paper in Indianapolis. New secured the nomination for Harrison and New's relation to Harrison are about the same as those of Whitelaw Read to James G. Blaine in 1884. New will expect

aggrandizement in case Harrison is elected, but organized labor in Indiana will take good care that he does not get it. The Republican party is in a bad way when it has to secure the aid of notorious 'rats' to brace up its ticket. The union printers were heard in the last campaign and they will be heard in this."

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