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TWELVE PAGES

THE CONVENTION BALLOTS

The decision of Secretary of State Harney that under the law for the election on the subject of the Constitutional Convention the State is not authorized to furnish tickets for or against it will have the effect of making the election a free one.

It is interesting to note that no one is troubled enough in the matter to furnish tickets except those nominated delegates to the convention held by, according to the story, furnish tickets bearing only the inscription "For the Convention," and no other tickets being furnished, all the votes will be cast that way.

This exhibits a wonderful faith in the intelligence of voters and their willingness to vote without any aid from the State. It is not to be wondered at that there is little left of it when we consider the fact that the law prescribes the form of the tickets, and specifies that they are to bear the inscriptions "For the Convention" and "Against the Convention."

That Governor Campbell should be reduced to such arguments against the tariff is the best proof that the opposition are firing their last wad. With the victory for McKinley in November the Democratic party will be compelled to abandon its anti-protection stand in the next Presidential campaign. When this happens it will be a good thing for the party.

THE CRITICISM OF THE HUMANITARIAN SYSTEM OF PRISON DISCIPLINE IN THE RECENT ISSUE OF THE FORUM BY MR. W. P. ANDREWS, Clerk of the Criminal Court at Salem, Mass., is interesting, not because it is savage, but because it has a foundation of truth on which a rather original and suggestive criticism is erected. Mr. Andrews' attack on the present system is on the line that "we seek to discourage brutality and vagabondage by keeping the lazy brute and vagabond in luxurious idleness."

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to two facts. First, that neither has the New York decision broken up the Sugar Trust nor the Illinois decision the Gas Trust. The means for evading both decisions have been discovered, and it is not to be supposed that the legal talent of the Standard will be less fertile in such devices.

The other is that the Standard has for many years, since the Ohio Supreme Court gave its radical anti-combination decision in the Guthrie case, exercised a powerful influence in Ohio politics. Whether this had any effect on the composition and views of the present Supreme Court of that State remains to be tested by the decision.

Not much need be said as to the fallacy of the first argument. Major McKinley effectually disposed of that by calling attention to the simple fact that the Government is obliged to have revenues to meet its expenses. Between levying those revenues upon foreign products and raising them directly on our people, common sense would dictate the former course.

As for the second contention, that certain industries are unduly protected, there is a good deal of sheer nonsense in it. It is true that in some of the protected industries men have made large fortunes, as for instance the often-cited Mr. Carnegie has done in steel-manufacture.

But as men have made as large fortunes in industries not directly connected with the tariff. The railroad magnates, the agricultural implement makers, the Chicago purveyors of meat and breadstuffs, and an inexhaustible list of importers and jobbers of foreign goods will be found upon the roll of millionaires.

It is undoubtedly true that the great prosperity of the country since the tariff has been made all these millionaires, just as it has produced a greater average of resources among all classes of our people than exists in any other land. But the most fatal consideration against the claim that the tariff builds up a favored and exclusive class of wealthy beneficiaries is that it is not a monopoly.

It is only by "trusts" and "combinations" that monopolies can temporarily be made out of them. These are not in any sense intrinsically incident to the tariff. The reader can as readily conceive of "trusts" and "combinations" among foreign manufacturers to squeeze American consumers out of their money as he can among American manufacturers.

The trick is known on both sides of the water. It is not by abolishing the protective tariff that the serious issue of the "trusts" and "combinations" can be met. The remedy for "trusts" which makes millionaires at the expense of the public must be in legislation against trusts and such monopoly-making devices, or else in the slower operation of natural laws of enterprise, under which capital is constantly invited into the "trust" preserves when the profits become notoriously great.

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ALABAMA REALLY AHEAD.

The Iron Ore Figures Recently Given in The Dispatch Monthly Aves. Correctly Pennsylvania Leads in the Number of Mines, and Its Product Is More Valuable Than That of the South.

—Some two months ago it was announced exclusively in THE DISPATCH that the forthcoming census report would show that Alabama had produced more iron ore during the census year than Pennsylvania. This statement was immediately contradicted, and even laughed at in many quarters.

Mr. Peffer's report now out, representing a careful and exhaustive investigation of the iron ore industry in both States, has shown that the figures given in THE DISPATCH are correct. Pennsylvania leads in the number of mines, and its product is more valuable than that of the South.

—The increase of 25 per cent in the failures and liabilities for the first nine months of the present year does not look very pleasant, but it is clearing away the dead wood of commerce. With the prosperity sure to follow the heavy crops, business will be in better shape next year for the liquidation.

Among the various campaigns it is pleasant to note that the war against the lottery octopus is met energetically. The election will not come off until next spring, but the citizens are keeping up their courage and fighting the lottery octopus in all the ways possible.

Edison has announced that he has perfected a new system of applying electricity to street car locomotion which entirely does away with the electric trolley. This is a great improvement, and it will be more so when Pittsburgh enjoys a new and successful transit route which keeps in step with the electric trolley.

Peffer is determined to make himself popular in Ohio, at any cost. He has just announced that he will make no more speeches in that State this fall.

It is pleasant to learn that a verdict of \$7,000 has been ordered against the New York and New Haven Railroad for its violation of the New York law against the use of street cars. This intimation that even a corporation cannot defy the law without its costs at least \$7,000, is a decided improvement on the general intimation that in most cases it does not cost the nullifying corporation a red cent.

Financial issues are cutting a large figure in the Ohio campaign, but the financial finance issue carries with it the danger of a boom-crash.

It is reported that Secretary Noble is going to try and see if he cannot take off the heads of certain clerks in his office who are reported to have indulged in the little eccentricity of copying his letters and committing their contents to the Commission on Reform.

ONLY about three weeks more of the political hotwax. After that it will be decided whether cold weather for one party or the other.

PAVEMENT PALAVER.

Courtesy in Ohio Politics—A Catch Out of Place—Rapid Transit Between the Cities—Mr. Carleton's Good Nature—Dinner and Then Deserts.

"I notice that THE DISPATCH felicitates Ohio upon having a political campaign that deals with the real issues, and permits rival candidates to address the same meeting without fear of bloodshed," said Mr. George McCullough, of Washington, yesterday, "and I think the congratulation is timely. For three weeks past there have been in Ohio, and I have listened to both McKinley and Campbell with a good deal of pleasure. The political meetings in Ohio are of a striking Pennsylvania character, perhaps more than a native of the former State, as in many respects unlike nine-tenths of such affairs in other States. I know that in many cases they are better than elsewhere."

DEAN HOFFMAN is the richest clergyman in the world. THEODORE THOMAS says that his mission is to educate Chicago musically. Rather a huge undertaking.

LORD LYTON is so seriously ill that he has resigned his post of minister to the United States. MARTHA J. LAMB, the writer and editor, is a member of 62 learned societies, some of which have never been admitted to a woman.

Mrs. Annie Meyer, the author of an extremely interesting book on the work of the young woman, has a finely marked young woman 24, with a finely marked face, from which her dark brown hair is rolled back in graceful coils.

BISHOP SPAULDING, a Roman Catholic rector in New York, said that the World's Fair should be opened Sundays for the benefit of the toilers. The Bishop thinks that Sunday is a day for repose and enjoyment, as well as one for worship.

THE ex-Emperor Eugenie has always worshipped the memory of her son. She has preserved copies of all her son's letters, his essays on historical subjects, and his views on the future. She does not think any of her letters will be published in the future.

PARLIAMENTARY PAY. The Proposed Change Necessary if the Colorado People are to Be Represented. Some of the members of the great Liberal Congress now in session at Newcastle, England, fear the plan of paying the members of the British Parliament has been a thing entirely of honor or political expediency or ambition.

Helped by the Bounty. Being raised for sugar-making purposes is bound to be a great industry in the West. The bounty on sugar is a great inducement.

Dr. William Carroll Emerson. Dr. William Carroll Emerson, assistant instructor in chemistry at the Harvard Medical School, died in Boston Thursday morning.

General Frederick E. Camp. General Frederick E. Camp died Thursday at Middletown, Conn., aged 60 years.

THE SOCIAL WORLD.

Entertainments and Other Events of Interest, Past and to Come. Post 236, G. A. R., held a special open meeting in the South Street M. E. Church, last evening.

The Bazaar of Days, given last evening under the auspices of the Ewing Mission Band, Sixty-third Street, was a complete success. Luncheon was served to a large number of guests, and there is every prospect of a successful financial result.

Social Chatter. Mrs. M. S. Harper, of the Westinghouse Electric Company, and Miss Ignatia Marshall, daughter of Hon. Alfred Marshall, in Grace Episcopal Church, Mt. Washington.

A Legal Question of Weight. "A certain young attorney at this bar," said George E. H. Johnston, Esq., for the sake of his otherwise stainless character I will not name, has been guilty of robbing a fairly good stock of his point.

The Sixth Street Bridge's Strength. "In the good old days when the horses and mules of the city and the Manchester street car lines competed to see how slowly they could move," said a Fourth Avenue man yesterday, "the notice on the Sixth Street bridge that it was to be closed for a week was a great relief."

The Joint Debate. The little village of Ada, which was selected as the scene of the McKinley-Campbell joint debate, doesn't seem to have been very well adapted for the purpose.

Dramatist Carleton's Good Nature. "Henry Guy Carleton has a considerable impediment in his speech, but he does not allow it to hinder him in any way," said Mr. Frederic Ward yesterday.

Dined—But Didn't Care to Half. "Country customers are just as well come as city ones," said the proprietor of a Fifth Avenue restaurant last night.

Ice-Cream Cost Him a Coat. "Some country cousins of mine called at my office the other afternoon, and there was nothing for it but that I must accompany them to the Exposition."

THE PACIFIC CABLE. A Route to Be Surveyed to See Whether It Is Practicable. The steamer Albatross is now about to undertake the task of surveying a route for a submarine cable between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Alvin R. Dutton, Pennan. Alvin R. Dutton, professor of penmanship, died at his residence in Cambridge, Mass., Thursday morning, aged 79 years.

CURIOS CONDENSATIONS.

—Esquimaux have women tailors. —Watches in use number 156,973,873. —Votes sell, for 18 cents each in Guatemala. —Americans are great for coaching, but as a rule they use the bicycle.

—Anthraxlike coal has been discovered in the District of Alberta, Canada. —California has 246 banks of all kinds, with a capital surplus of \$48,745,394. —Baltimore has a donkey only 30 inches high, but it seems to have the strength of an ox.

—The schoolboys of Malden, Mass., will hereafter be taught to sew during school hours. —A New York clergyman has married 12,000 persons and received over \$60,000 worth of money.

—One hundred million bushels of grain were received in Buffalo this year up to September. —There are 627 members of the British House of Lords, and 670 members of the House of Commons. —At Paderborn, in Westphalia, every police song has to be sung by the Chief of Police before it can be sung.

—The infants have been exceedingly frequent in the most recent Southern California since the formation of Salton Lake. —A nugget of gold weighing 202 ounces, and valued at about \$5,200, was found in the Ruby mine, in the State of Colorado.

—Forty refractory convicts in Connecticut's State prison are in solitary confinement for refusing to eat baked beans, the delicacy of the menu. —There is a railroad in Kansas so dilapidated that but one train a day can run over it at the rate of 11 miles an hour. This is the Kansas Central, a branch of the Union Pacific.

—South Jackson, Mich., is having a lively time dodging yellow jackets, with which the town is swarming. Many of the townspeople are fleeing from them, and some are fleeing to the oldest inhabitant. —In the towns and cities of Chile all the shopping of any consequence is done in the afternoon. In Santiago the stores are open still until late in the afternoon, and when everybody takes a siesta, they are locked up.

—Some gentlemen in South Dakota, in readiness for the coming winter, have succeeded in getting photographs of painted windows in their original colors. They were sent to Düsseldorf, and the photographs were taken in a favorably of them. They were taken by the middle of the month.

—The Russian police are in comparatively worse circumstances as the peasantry. In October there will be nearly 900,000 acres of wheat in the State Bank that has loaned them money on mortgages. —One Londoner has succeeded in procuring an Indian relic, preserved at Indochina recently, and found that the names and the number of the visitors, and that they numbered 15,416.

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