

SCRANTON TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED DAILY IN SCRANTON, PA., BY THE TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

NEW YORK OFFICE: TRIBUNE BUILDING, FRANK S. GRAY, MANAGER.

Entered as the Postoffice at Scranton, Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, MAY 15, 1894.

ONE THING may be taken for granted. The people who voted for two new bridges didn't mean that they should be built in the twentieth century. It is time to get down to the bed rock fact that the bridges are needed now.

A Blistering Disgrace.

The incl and convincing narration in the Philadelphia Press yesterday of the successive details of the colossal jobbery whereby the gigantic Sugar trust, controlled by the Havemeyers of New York, corralled the president and senate of the United States in furtherance of their scheme of monopolistic enrichment through favorable tariff schedules inserted in order in the hemstitched Wilson bill in exchange for cash equivalents forms a story of political spoliation without precedent in the literature of great scandals. The spectacles of a great party deliberately selling itself, in return for a \$500,000 campaign contribution not to speak of individual gratifications of a highly moral chief executive enmeshing himself step by step in the web of deceit and wrong-doing through selfish friendship forced on him by city agents of the trust; of the secretary of the treasury openly admitting the deal before a committee of Democratic politicians; and, finally, of a cabal of Democratic senators working in secret behind barred doors upon tariff schedules which were framed to the dictation of the trust's chief managers, forms in its shameful aggregate a record that can excite no other feeling than utter indignation.

There have been rumors that this exposure would come. Hints and fragments of this odious traffic in the confidence of the people have variously crept into publicity despite extraordinary efforts to hush the matter up. It is even current talk that resolutions looking to an impeachment of the president under whose misguided vision this shameful scandal had been plotted and fashioned were at one time quietly circulated in inner congressional circles, with a view to ascertaining the drift of party sentiment. Finally, in the open seats of the nation, reputable editors of the minority boldly charged that a gigantic deal had been consummated which demanded a thorough investigation. But not until this time has the real disclosure been made public, or the real evidence marshalled with a force that cannot now be laughed down. The narration of the Press is credible first because it supplies its own proof, and secondly because it is the only hypothesis that throws any scientific light on the otherwise incomprehensible inconsistency and chaos of the Democratic senate's efforts at tariff revision. The sober judgment of the people will not only readily credit this exposure, but it will henceforth demand, with an emphasis that cannot be stilled, the lifting of the whole veil and the merciless chastisement of those who have thus sold out the taxpayers of our country for pelf and personal profit. A public sentiment which can revolt at Tammanyism in Gotham will not fail to mete out scrupulous punishment to the larger Tammanyism that has called itself in the chief places of national legislation.

Not the least interesting portion of this exposure is the fact that much of the corruption fund contributed by Wall Street lobbyists to the campaign which elected Mr. Cleveland went toward the cementing of Populist fancies in the west. Thus we have the curious anomaly of Populist ranters acting as unscrupulous cat paws for the very monopolies that formed the incessant theme of their bitter denunciations. It is claimed by the Press' correspondent, who has exceptional facilities for getting accurate information, that at least Colorado and Illinois were directly carried for the Democracy by aid of money thus supplied; and what was true of these states may with reason and logic be assumed to be true of other states similarly manipulated. We trust that our Western fellow citizens will perceive the peculiar irony of their present situation. It may have a tendency, if properly understood, to abate in the future their habitually mad ardor to right exaggerated wrongs by blindly playing into the hands of their greatest enemies.

For the rest, this revelation can only emphasize the earnestness of the nation's coming reprobation of the rotten thing today called Democracy; and add zest to the summary retribution which was already fully decided upon.

It is no doubt purely an oversight which caused the esteemed Washington Star, usually so careful in matters of this kind, to copy from THE TRIBUNE without the accustomed credit a recent editorial in which this journal defined a ball umpire's qualifications. With this minor correction, we now acknowledge for the compliment.

Mr. Stranahan's Setback.

One cannot feign surprise at the very natural information that the few remaining Democrats of prominence in Pennsylvania are not specially eager to come forward with subscriptions to this year's campaign fund. Letting alone the fact that the Democratic party, financially as well as politically, is bankrupt and mortgaged for more than it is worth, partly due, in a state sense, to J. Marsh Wright, who left the central committee with a \$1,500 deficit staring it in the face, this is clearly not a Democratic year. Even Populist Joe Sibley, who is one of the men that hold a mortgage on the Honron machine, recognizes this and is careful, exceedingly careful, not to get caught in the expensive toils of a Democratic gubernatorial nomination. We repeat it is not precisely surprising, therefore, that the thrifty new field-marshal, James A. Stranahan, with

such a condition of impetuosity confronting him, should take him in hot haste to Washington, there to murmur into Grover's ear that unless there was a more vigorous shake-down of minor federal plum into the aprons of the impatient faithful, it would be literally impossible to make a pretense of sustaining the Democratic organization built up, with much travail, by his friend Harry. Indeed, the fact that the obdurate executive is currently rumored to have finally vouchsafed an affirmative response is proof that the high opinion we have always entertained of Brother Stranahan's eloquent properties were not in the least misplaced. The plum tree will be shaken, with a good and lusty shake, if James Adolbert Stranahan has any fair chance in the play. What is more, the plums will fall, not at hap hazard as heretofore; but with unerring precision where they will do the most good; that is to say, where they will soonest yield needed revenue for partisan lubrication.

Notwithstanding all this, however, and much more which could be said in a vol of the unctuous Janus, it is a cold and cheerless fact that Democratic investments, through the medium of state campaign assessments, are not held at present in very high favor. Even those congressmen of Democratic faith who misrepresent Pennsylvania at Washington are currently reported to have given Stranahan the snub. His artfully worked calls for \$5 checks fell on ears that might as well have been chiseled out of stone. His eloquent personal appeals for contributions "for the good of the cause" met with silence, frowns or derision. These discouraging incidents, we are particular to make clear, are not and must not be interpreted as reflections upon Stranahan's skill; but rather as usufructs of miscellaneous Democratic demoralization which has spread so far and so firmly that even Democratic officeholders are ashamed to squander more money in the interests of their chaotic party.

TAMMANYISM in politics will survive Croker's retirement; but it will not survive an intelligent and determined spirit of honesty among the people.

The Curious Political Tally.

Build the Bridges At Once.

One feature of the West Side bridge site discussion that has not received the attention it deserves is the probability that to change from the location agreed upon would postpone the actual work of bridge building at least one year. Would sufficient advantages be gained by the change to warrant such additional delay? It will be remembered that one of the most prominent arguments advanced in favor of the bridges, prior to their final ratification at the polls, was that if the structures were put in place during the present business stringency, it would give work to many men who are idle, and that it would also enable the city to buy materials much below their normal cost. The depression is now reaching its end, and the strain upon organized charity, incident to that depression, is increasing in proportion. If the actual work of bridge building could by any possibility be begun yet this summer, it would be in the nature of a redemption of earnest promises as well as a material benefit to our city's unemployed.

The suggestion elsewhere advanced by Mr. Jadwin that a compromise bridge could be advantageously located between Luzerne and Mulberry, with approaches making it equally accessible from both streets, is at least a novel contribution to this discussion; and one that will attract much attention. The argument of Mr. Jadwin that such a site would require no new appeal to the people and could be occupied almost, if not quite, as soon as either of the others, is plausible and original. It is singular that this ingenious solution to the problem was not previously advanced. The great points to get at the hard work of actual bridge building in time to benefit the citizens of today.

In presenting, from day to day, varied opinions as to sites THE TRIBUNE has obeyed simply the duty of a newspaper which recognizes popular interest in pending questions and seeks to appraise it. Either site would be fairly acceptable to the great mass of citizens, provided the coming of the bridge be not delayed beyond reason. But there is decided objection to having this necessary improvement shoved ahead unnecessarily. The bridges should be built at once—the sooner the better.

THAT WAS NO mean monument which the active workers in journalism, throughout the United States, erected in honor of Frank Hatton when, each in his special field, simultaneously and without prior suggestion other than that great editor's truly lamented death, penned tributes of affection which, as collected in last Sunday's Washington Post, filled sixteen columns of solid agate type. No unworthy career could win such a meed of kindly mention.

Cameron for President.

General Warner, the Missouri congressman, was at one time a useful and experienced legislator; but the free-coinage theme seems almost to have clouded his brain. As president of the bi-metallic league, ever ready to occupy space and time with extraneous opinions detrimental to the country's business interests, he is beginning to be just a trifling monotonous, not to say actually tiresome. General Warner the other day availed himself of a Pittsburgh journal's kindness to detail at length his wearisome views, and would have descended into absolute common place had he not accidentally delivered himself of this entertaining bit of prophecy:

There has been a mighty change in sentiment lately about silver. The Republican leaders realize that silver will be the issue, not the tariff. Cameron is among the first to see that, partly due, and the gold standard do not insure high prices. The western states, from the Mississippi to the coast, will stand by the party that is willing to give them a chance. I predict that neither McKinley nor ex-Speaker Reed will be the Republican candidate for president. It would not surprise me if Senator Cameron is the man. The people will insist once and for all on a settlement of the financial question.

If Pennsylvania took much stock in the cut your nose-off-to-please-your-face theory of politics, we should be inclined

to say that anything which should give to the citizens of this commonwealth another senator who would adequately represent their economic beliefs would be acceptable, even though it should translate Mr. Cameron from the senate to the white house. But that would be too cruel to the United States. The most that we can wish for, in this direction, is that in the state senatorial districts where the Cameron issue can be honestly raised, the people may indicate their desires so plainly that, when the time comes, the Pennsylvania legislature will do its duty.

STATE POLITICS BOILED DOWN.

After announcing that C. L. Magee would present Walter Lyon's name before next week's convention, the Philadelphia Times, in the same article, reported a rumor that Mr. Magee had made a deal whereby his strength would be thrown to Robinson. Colonel McClure's young men are evidently again afflicted with political multigrabs.

This is what Harry Hall telegraphed to the Chicago Times last Saturday: "President Cleveland is getting to have more respect for Democratic congressmen. He has informed Representative W. H. Hines, of Wilkes-Barre, that the nomination of R. M. McMoran, whom Mr. Hines appointed postmaster at Kingston, without even consulting Mr. Hines, will be withdrawn, and Henry Van Scoy, whom Mr. Hines has recommended, given the place."

The foregoing information, following Democratic State Chairman James Adolbert Stranahan's visit to the national capital and interview with Grover, is thus significantly supplemented, "since the administration seems to be disposed to look ahead to the congressional elections in Pennsylvania. The heads of the several Federal departments in the state have received an intimation from Washington that in making subordinate appointments they must, as far as possible, regard the wishes and recommendations of the Democratic congressmen." A sly dog is that Stranahan.

Since Captain W. N. Reynolds, of Tank House, withdrew from the race, the late Lucius Rogers of McKean stands between General Latta, of Philadelphia, and a unanimous nomination for the secretaryship of the State. It is believed, and is believed, that the nomination of a suitable appointee and another possible element of rivalry in this smoothed away.

The veteran legislator and economist, Jerome H. Niles, of Topeka, was last Saturday's primary, without opposition and will be re-elected to the senate. Alongside Walter T. Herrick, in the field of the congressional usefulness at Harrisburg, Ex-senator Horace H. Packer, of Wellburg, has, with strong factional opposition, but will probably represent the sixteenth district in the next congress.

According to a rumor, which emanates from Democratic sources at Harrisburg, the probability of a Democratic victory may be a factor in the selection of the next speaker of the state house of representatives. Ward H. Hines is quoted as saying that if a Democratic victory is believed, it will immediately enter the arena as a candidate for speaker against Harry Watson of Philadelphia. Other speakership candidates already mentioned are Kenneth J. Harp, of Luzerne, and John K. Armstrong. It is also possible that John H. Farr, if re-elected, will enter the battle ground, with a strong support.

The Wilkes-Barre Herald, while recognizing the merits of the other eminent Republicans whose names have been mentioned as possible candidates against Representative Hines, is staunchly loyal to ex-Senator Morgan H. Williams, who, by the way, is putting forth a spirited campaign. It says of him: "The candidate could be more popular with the westward-bound, for his whole life has been in the closest sympathy with them. If nominated he will be an experiment, no consequence to the city. He has been before the people in the past and has been endorsed by them in an overwhelming manner. He has beaten Mr. Hines when that individual was stronger than he is today, and if paid against him this fall will annihilate him beyond peradventure." That is what is wanted. If Mr. Williams is sure he can do this, it will be a strong point in his favor. Meanwhile it is gratifying to know that John Leisinger is proceeding on a similar basis. Thus Hines will be slated for a trouncing, whichever wins.

Friends of Judge Harry White, of Indiana—and they are many, all over the state—will be pleased to learn that at last Saturday's primaries he went in against four strong opponents and came out with flying colors. Lyon delegates were chosen.

Representative Harvor, of the Second Luzerne district, will, it is believed, have any opposition for a re-nomination.

The candidacy of George S. Ferris, of West Pittston, for the office of county of Luzerne is surprising to the old-timers. Mr. Ferris' friends are literally sweeping the field. He promises to be nominated with delegates to throw.

Dauphin's four delegates will not be instructed at today's county convention, but will probably divide evenly between Robinson and Lyon. District Attorney Deweller, whom all local folks know, will, if possible, pilot the Lyman D. Gilbert boom through the Indian rocks of opposing factions and ambitions.

According to the latest reports, belligerent Howard Mutchler is again on the warpath against the Barry-Hines combination, and this time he has hit one of the other's dead factors in the ring. Mr. Mutchler should restrain his gory designs until after the people have had their say next November. He will then not be necessary for him to hold an inquest on that particular element in the Pennsylvania Democracy.

This fall's state political battle, as well as the county one, will be an important one. Besides a governor, lieutenant-governor, auditor-general and secretary of Internal Affairs, thirty congressmen (two at large), twenty-five senators, two hundred and four members of the house of representatives, thirteen judges of common pleas and three supreme court judges are to be chosen. The term of office of the sixteen judges who are to be succeeded will expire in January, 1895. Of the common pleas judges whose commissions terminate at that time, Howard J. Bessler, of Northampton; Robert N. Wilson, of Philadelphia; Wilbur E. Sadler, of Cumberland; Aaron L. Hazen, of Lawrence; Thomas J. Clayton, of Delaware; John J. Wickham, of Berks; Harry White, of Luzerne; Robert W. Archibald, of Lackawanna; A. O. Furst, of Centre; and Hamilton, of Berks; are Republicans; and Samuel S. Melard, of Mercer; Theodore E. Jenkins, of Philadelphia; William McLean, of Adams; Fulton, and John A. Sitter, of Sullivan; Wyoming, Democrats. The judges of common pleas whose successors are to be chosen this year are William Brantley Hanna, of Philadelphia, and W. G. Havens, of Allegheny, Republicans; and Daniel L. Rhoads, of Luzerne, Democrat.

New Copy Book Rhymes.  
Up and at it every time,  
If you're down today,  
Gather up your loins and start  
It to win the fray,  
You may find your second wind  
Then the foe will fly,  
Get up smiling every time,  
Do, or don't do it,  
—Wilkes-Barre Times.

Applicable Also to the Scrantons.  
Some day, dear heart, the sun will shine again;  
Some day the bitter weariness of years  
Will vanish like the mist; the burdened  
train  
Of grief, despair, and misery, and tears  
Will fade like stubble in the sweeping  
flame—  
In other words, the Hoosiers yet may win  
a game. —Indianapolis Journal.

OLD GLORY'S ORIGIN.

Senator Donohue. Families, like nations, may have their devices, and it may be worthy of note that that of the Washington family furnished the pattern from which the Stars and Stripes of our national flag are taken. The insignia of a noble name handed down from generation to generation, and held up as the incentive of integrity and valor, may well be cherished. But all glories of ancestral exultations are so overshadowed by the deeds of Washington that they fade into insignificance. Proud and just democracy, scornful of honors not self-won, pays its tributes solely to the man, the woman, and the deed. George Washington was great because he stood for the freedom of his people. Mary Washington was great because she stood for the youthful breast righteous indignation against wrong which must ever be the inspiration of the hero.

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- A photograph, nearly new, high top, double reed... 35
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