

The Scranton Tribune

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G. F. HERRING, Prop. and Gen. Mgr. E. H. HERRING, Secy. and Treas. L. V. RICHARD, Editor. W. W. DAVIS, Business Manager. W. W. YOUNG, Asst. Manager.

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SCRANTON, AUGUST 1, 1895.

It's "nobody's business" but the Tribune's according to the Scranton Republican, and yet the Tribune's stand for fair play in state politics appears to be given our decaying contemporary a good deal of anxiety these days. Remembering how in the days when even its purchased favor was accounted of some value in politics, it used to "pull the legs" of candidates for office, the Republican affects to ascribe to the Tribune a mercenary purpose in the present campaign. But that falsehood simply reflects its own low conception of journalistic ethics.

The African in the Wood-Pile.

Only a few months ago it seemed as if, by combining in the next Republican national convention the votes of the delegates from the western silver states with the purchasable delegations from the Democratic south and adding the solid vote of Pennsylvania, J. Donald Cameron could have been nominated for president. Once nominated, the momentum of the popular reaction from the incompetent Cleveland administration would, it was thought, carry him into the white house, despite his personal unpopularity.

In our judgment this was the scheme which Matthew Stanley Quay less than a year ago intended, if possible, to execute. At that time his sway over the Republican organization in this state seemed potent if not impregnable. He controlled the legislature. He had his finger on the pulse of all the state departments, each of which was a veritable asylum for his henchmen. Through David Martin he ruled Philadelphia. Through C. L. Magee, who was then acquiescent if not openly friendly, he manipulated Allegheny. The governor, fresh from his unprecedented indictment by the people, was to be kept in good humor by insincere suggestions of a possible complimentary candidacy in the national convention; and under cover of these various pulls the work of selecting Cameron national delegates was to be pushed with vigor in every congressional district, while if any district revolted, the unit rule was to override its protest.

Swift and sudden came this clever scheme's disruption. Senator Quay's old habit of trying to force upon the party objectionable candidates cost him the rupture with Martin and his control over the Philadelphia delegation. Mistake of the governor's natural deference caused him to try to exact from General Hastings the most humiliating subservience of official conduct and culminated finally in the open break, inevitable from the very nature of the senator's plan. The fight on appointment, the unholy alliance with the Democratic legislative minority, the effort to depose Gilkeson in behalf of Andrews and finally the senator's own entry into the field as the avowed champion of his traditional policy of rule or ruin are familiar events that followed each other in rapid and even dramatic sequence.

Cameron, to be sure, has been pushed into a corner; but it was for Cameron that the fight was started; and it would be Cameron who would pluck the fruits of victory should the conscientious governor be publicly humiliated and Senator Quay win.

The Philadelphia Record, with characteristic discernment, has perceived that Democratic endorsement of Quay only weakens him among Republicans, and it now is leaning to Brother-in-law McClure the task of blowing the Quay bugle among the Bourbon faithful. The Record has some sense.

Bethrone the Little Bosses. They have a perfect little Quay machine in running order in Susquehanna county, with third-term Register and Recorder Wright as chief engineer, and Tommy Kilrow as first assistant. They are under contract to turn out two Quay delegates at the convention next Tuesday, and there is not much doubt that they will do their level best to meet the expectations of the junior senator, although if they succeeded their labor would be in vain, for the two Susquehanna delegates could not now save Quay from utter defeat in the state convention. If little boss Sam Wright possessed a particle of the political sagacity that characterized his relative, the late Congressman Myron B. Wright, he would respect popular Republican sentiment in his county, as Myron B. Wright did five years ago, and thereby maintain harmony and unity in the party and show himself worthy of leadership.

The self-respecting Republicans of Susquehanna are in revolt against the bartering, trading politicians who went to Scranton at the summons of Senator Quay and there sold the two delegates to him, without the least consultation with their party associates. The battle will come off on Saturday in the election of delegates to the county convention. The Quay scheme has con-

cluded the party machinery and hope to win by cunning in Democratic votes at various points in the county in large numbers. This the honest Republicans can prevent in large measure by alertness, and we understand they will in many districts circumvent the traders and tricksters who have become experts in Quay methods.

The Republican masses of Susquehanna county have a splendid opportunity presented to them to throw off the machine yoke, as their brethren in Lackawanna have done and as they are doing in other counties throughout the state, including Philadelphia, Allegheny, Bradford, Blair, Luzerne, Northampton, Lehigh and Bucks. Quay's leadership has simply become an unbearable tyranny from which the Republican masses are rapidly freeing themselves. In almost every county Quay has had such subservient tools as Joseph A. Scranton in Lackawanna and Samuel S. Wright in Susquehanna, who would obey his orders whatever they might be and at whatever detriment to the welfare of the Republican party. Scranton has been dethroned in Lackawanna as the result of a resolute effort by self-respecting Republicans. The Republicans have it in their power to dethrone Wright in Susquehanna, on Saturday, and if they are true to themselves they will do the work effectually.

It is pretty plain that Congressman Scranton, when gubernatorially tempted by Quay, would have acted wisely had he said: "Get thee behind me, Satan!" But he didn't; he went to Europe.

The Principles Involved.

The Pittsburg Times has compiled a handy digest of the principles involved in the success of the administration's side of the present state fight. We ask every reader to peruse it with care. The issues to be settled, it says, are as follows:

I. The observance of the mandates of the constitution of the state by the law-making power and the fulfillment of the pledges of the party that shall be done. II. The maintenance of the freedom of the popular executive of the state, chosen by the unparaleled majority of nearly a quarter of a million votes of his fellow citizens, from vicious and uncalled-for attacks for doing his simple duty and the prevention of his conscientious efforts to faithfully discharge the obligations of his high office being neutralized by an irresponsible boss.

III. The placing of the Republicans of the great cities of the commonwealth and also those of every county, and smaller communities in it, the right to select for themselves the persons whom they desire shall fill their local offices, without outside interference from a non-resident political manipulator in behalf of candidates known to be unacceptable to the majority of the voters and whose nomination will insure their defeat.

IV. The establishment of the true Republican principle that the local organizations of the party shall be consulted in the appointment of federal officers outside of the classified service within their several districts and that their wishes shall not be ignored at the mere behest of a United States senator, desirous only to take care of some unpopular henchman of his own, regardless of the effect upon the party.

V. The making it clear that no loyal Republican shall be ostracized, punished, or defamed, simply because he rightfully protests against foolish and unpopular conduct on the part of any leader, and honestly endeavors to do what he believes best for the party, though displeasing to a would-be party dictator and autocrat.

VI. The making it evident that there can be no juggling hereafter with the great principles of the party by any Pennsylvania leader and that the heresy of an unscrupulous financial policy shall be specifically condemned by the coming state convention.

VII. The establishment beyond all possibility of overthrow of the great and vital principle that there is no room for a czar or an autocrat in the Republican party of Pennsylvania and that the voice of a majority of its voters must ever be more potent than that of any boss.

All who favor irresponsible bossism, dictatorial one-man power and the repudiation of will by the dominant party czar, of popular sentiment and party desire should vote for Quay delegates. All who believe in decent politics and fair play should vote for Gilkeson delegates. This is the issue, in a nutshell.

If Senator Quay's shrewdness has not entirely deserted him, he will save his friends from defeat four weeks hence, even though he does not save himself.

A Quay Claim Riddled.

Says the Pittston Gazette: "Hastings and Gilkeson have carried their respective home counties, Center and Bucks, during the past week. Both are Democratic counties. The Republican strongholds are found almost solidly for Quay."

Let us examine this statement. Last fall Bucks gave Hastings 1,598 and Center, 821 plurality. Does that look as if, under representative Republican leadership, these counties would remain Democratic? It is not true that the Republican strongholds are found almost solidly for Quay. Since the present fight began Quay has carried only three counties—Columbia, Greene and Potter—while the state administration has, in the same time, carried Bucks, Center, Clearfield, Lackawanna, Westmoreland and Northampton; three delegates last fall gave a net Democratic plurality of 1,188 as against a net Republican plurality of 9,459 returned in the same count by the six Hastings counties. Two of the three Quay counties—Columbia and Greene—are rock-ribbed in the Democracy; only one of the six Hastings counties—Northampton—is Democratic.

But suppose we make the comparison in another way. We have before us an estimated table of the comparative strength of the two factions in the current unpleasurings. This table is a conservative one, and gives Colonel Quay all or a majority of the delegates from 24 counties; while to Hastings and Gilkeson it gives all or a majority of the delegates from 31 counties, while two counties—Carbon and Washington—are divided equally. Upon the basis of the Harrison-Cleveland vote of 1892 we find that the Quay counties have a net Republican plurality of 28,154; while the Hastings counties, in the same campaign, returned a net Republican plurality of 87,836. On the basis of last fall's election, the Quay counties returned a net Republican plurality of only 74,476, while the net plurality of the Hastings counties was 162,467.

conclusively the Gazette's absurd claim that Quay's strength is in the Republican strongholds. Everybody knows full well that the Democrats are Quay's loudest champions; and that if they could decide this battle they would quickly pull down the governor who rolls up 240,000 Republican pluralities, in order to enthrone the senator who, by his dictatorial habits, has twice, within thirteen years, turned the state government over to them.

S. S. Wright, the Quay boss in Susquehanna county, has concluded to withdraw "Tommy" Kilrow as a candidate for delegate to the state convention, and has placed a new man in the field. Boss Wright will himself be "withdrawn" before he is much older. The self-respecting Republicans of Susquehanna county are becoming very tired of the Wright, Kilrow & Co. and their machine methods of bossing the party.

"It has been made pretty plain," says the Philadelphia Press, "that Congressman Scranton is only one of several congressmen from this state who have been taken up on a high mountain and promised a nomination for governor—if Mr. Quay pulls through." But what will become of Joseph's boom when Hastings and his friends win out?

The fact that July's building permits, while including no exceptionally expensive buildings, yet aggregated \$268,000 is an eloquent testimonial to the revived prosperity of Scranton. Happy homes are a city's finest jewels.

So far as the Third Lackawanna district is concerned, it is safe to guess that it will align with the rest for decent politics and fair play.

It's dollars to doughnuts that Wright, Kilrow & Co. will not be able to deliver the goods.

We will give a penny for Joe's thoughts.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Following is a list of the counties that have yet to hold primary elections, the dates of the primaries and the number of delegates to which each county is entitled:

Table with 3 columns: County, Delegates, Date. Includes counties like Dauphin, Elk, Luzerne, Clinton, Huntington, Susquehanna, Crawford, Montgomery, Juniata, York, Adams, Cameron, Fulton, Chester, Mifflin, Lycoming, Lehigh, and others.

There will be no compromise of the contest Senator Quay is waging against the state administration, and all talk of such is idle nonsense, was the statement of C. L. Magee when an interviewer in regard to the compromise rumors was requested on Tuesday by a Pittsburg reporter. "Chairman Gilkeson already has defeated Senator Quay for the state chairmanship, and talk of a compromise now is little short of nonsensical," continued the Pittsburg politician. "It all comes from the adherents of the junior senator from Pennsylvania, who do not know any more of C. L. Magee's friends advising that the political battle be compromised. It certainly has gone too far for that."

"There is no Allison boom and there will be no Allison boom." The statement was made in a decisive and incisive manner by Congressman Hepburn, of Iowa, who arrived in Washington Tuesday from the Hawkeye state. He added: "You may give it out that Senator Allison will not spend any time nor thought nor any effort in seeking the presidency. He will surely not spend any time, because he has none. He is a poor man today, after nearly thirty-five years in public life. He wants to be re-elected to the senate and that is his only present ambition. But he is not a candidate for the presidency and will not be."

At the outside, it is believed by Luzerne Republicans who are in a position to know that Quay will not get more than one delegate out of nine in that county; and the chances are better than even that he won't get any.

The New York state convention which is to decide whether T. C. Platt is to remain boss of Empire state Republicanism will assemble in Saratoga Sept. 17. This is a bad day for Quay.

Since Senator Quay declared himself a candidate for chairman of the state committee he has elected two delegates and twenty-two, the other twenty being for Gilkeson.

Third term Sam Wright's activity in behalf of Quay in Susquehanna county is really activity in Wright's own behalf. Wright wants to succeed Senator Hardenbergh.

The number of delegates already elected to the Republican state convention is 152. The number yet to be elected is 124.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS.

The Issue is Mr. Cameron. Philadelphia Press: "The senior Quay is not in the habit of disguising his opinions. One of his merits is the frankness and freedom of his utterances upon public questions. He has been direct and explicit on this subject. It is well known that he has written letters in which he has said that, in consequence of the silver movement, there is a possibility that a Pennsylvania may be nominated for the presidency, and that his name is Cameron. How? Plainly only with the support of Pennsylvania. Through whom? Plainly only through himself and his effort for the maintenance of his undisputed control. These letters, whose existence is absolutely known, leave no doubt of Senator Quay's thought, sympathy and position. He is in the movement, and he is for Cameron. It is his sovereign right to stand where he pleases and favor whom he prefers. We do not challenge or question his prerogative. We seek only to make the truth plain. He has reasons for his devotion to Mr. Cameron which are doubtless satisfactory to his own mind. That is a question for him and not for us. But whether the people shall go with him in that movement, whether they shall make him chairman of the state committee and put the whole political organization into his hands in order to enable him to carry out this is a question for the people themselves. It is a matter of personal friendship, but a supreme issue of public policy and duty. Are the Republicans of Pennsylvania willing to make the party organization an instrument to serve Mr. Cameron and his purposes?"

ply refuse to sacrifice his manhood. He does not propose to share the fate of the late ex-Governor Hoyt who before he died declared that the bitterest reflection of his life was that as chief executive of this commonwealth he had for a time weakly surrendered his manhood into the keeping of a political boss. The same system which fettered Hoyt sought to direct Hastings. He declined to surrender, however. And this is his only offense. The people of this commonwealth have finally come to the conclusion to govern themselves. They have struck of the long distance telephone method."

Hastings is a Manly Fox. Wilkes-Barre Record: "The Pittston Gazette deplores the open manner in which Hastings seeks to secure delegates in Luzerne. How does United States Senator Quay try to secure them? Certainly not in an open manner. That is foreign to him. But by secret and stealth, and private promises of federal patronage in the dim and distant future he is endeavoring to win the hearts of a few machine politicians. Hastings fights out in the clear light. Quay strikes in the underbrush. That's the difference."

Quay's Star is Setting. Lebanon Report: "The anxiety of the Quay faction to effect a compromise with their political foe is a conspicuously significant token of faint-heartedness. For Quay has never been noted for any particular magnanimity toward his political foes, and any desire to shift the issue, such as he has evinced, and to effect a compromise, savors decidedly of the magnanimous or—the premonition of defeat. Fact, the signs of the times are that Quay's star is at last setting."

Acts More Like a Democrat. Hazleton Sentinel: "Is Quay a Republican? He elected two Democratic governors in twelve years. He helped defeat Harrison for president because Harrison would not be owned by the old tyrant. He defeated appointment by the aid of Democrats, and any desire to shift the issue, such as he has evinced, and to effect a compromise, savors decidedly of the magnanimous or—the premonition of defeat. Fact, the signs of the times are that Quay's star is at last setting."

The Outcome is Certain. Altoona Tribune: "There is no reason why there should be any mystery about the result of the friendly little contest now in progress in the Republican ranks. Governor Hastings will preside over the convention and Chairman Gilkeson will be re-elected. Most of the judges of the superior court appointed by Governor Hastings—perhaps all of them—will be nominated."

THIRD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

In pursuance of a resolution of the standing committee of the Third legislative district of Lackawanna county, notice is hereby given of a convention to be held on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1895, in the 2nd story room of the court house, Scranton, at 2 p. m., for the purpose of electing a delegate to represent said district in the state convention to be held at Harrisburg Oct. 28, 1895, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before it.

The primaries for the election of delegates will be held at the several regular polling places on Saturday, Aug. 3, 1895, between the hours of 4 and 7 p. m. Districts are entitled to representation in the convention as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Township, Delegates. Includes townships like Benton, Clinton, Covington, Dalton borough, Glenburn, Gouldsboro, Greenwood, Lackawanna township, West dis., Lackawanna township, East dis., Lackawanna township, Northeast dis., La Plume, Lehigh, Madison, Newton, North Abington, Old Forge, First dis., Old Forge, Second dis., Old Forge, Fourth dis., Ransom, Scott, Scranton, Sixth ward, Third dis., Spring Brook, South Abington, Taylor, Second ward, Taylor, Third ward, Taylor, Fourth ward, Taylor, Fifth ward, Waverly, West Abington.

Totals 59. Vigilance committees will please take notice and act in accordance herewith. JOHN MCGRINDLE, Chairman. J. W. HOUSER, Secretary. Scranton, Pa., July 27, 1895.

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