

The Scranton Tribune

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E. P. KINGBURY, Pres. and Gen'l. Man. E. M. RIPLEY, Sec'y and Treas.

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SCRANTON, SEPTEMBER 16, 1895.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

For Judges of the Superior Court: CHARLES E. RICE, of Luzerne, E. N. WILLARD, of Lackawanna.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

Scranton, Sept. 2, 1895. In compliance with a resolution adopted by the Republican county committee at a meeting held at Central Republican club rooms on Tuesday, Aug. 29, 1895, the Republicans of Lackawanna county assembled in convention at the court house, Scranton, Pa., Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1895.

The citizen who willfully and repeatedly neglects the party primary deserves to forfeit his franchise.

As to Primary Election Reform.

We have yet to encounter a real objection to the Stewart plan of primary election reform. The press of the state, in discussing the Tribune's recent interview with its author, has advanced no obstacle to the proposition that voting at the primary should be made a requisite qualification for voting at the next ensuing general election.

The Philadelphia Inquirer suspects there is "some reason to fear that even the loss of the right to vote would not induce many persons to attend the primary election." Yet it admits that Judge Stewart's suggestion would be a much more satisfactory one than "a property qualification or a requirement that the voter must be able to read or write."

A great many remedies have been suggested at various times during the past five years for improving the mode of conducting primary elections, but Judge Stewart's plan, in our opinion, is the best one yet advanced. The primary is either the root of evil or good, as the case may be, and as long as it is permitted to be loosely conducted just so long may we witness more or less corruption and irregularities in nominating men for public office.

The claim that any considerable number of American citizens would rather be disfranchised than attend a primary election appears to us almost preposterous. But if such a disregard of obvious duty should become manifest after popular attendance had lifted much of the odium now attaching to this elemental political function, then we should declare unhesitatingly in favor of making three-repeated abstention from the primaries without adequate excuse a reason for permanent disfranchisement.

The Republican party next year will stand for an American foreign policy as well as an American domestic policy. It will uphold the American flag and lend a hand for liberty wherever liberty is crushed by foreign usurpation. It will have backbone.

Tobacco and the Church.

An issue of considerable interest has been raised in Illinois. Bishop Jovan of the Methodist Episcopal church has declined to sanction the admission to the ministry of any applicant who will not agree wholly to abstain from the use of tobacco. This decision, as was to have been expected, has not pleased users of the soothing weed, and there is a mutter of protest.

"The bishop exceeded his authority in exacting the pledge in the form he is said to have done," says Mr. Kimball, of the First Methodist church, Chicago. "He was authorized to ask the applicants to abstain from the use of tobacco—in fact, it was obligatory upon him to do so, as it was in 'the discipline' of the church. But if the applicant refused to so pledge himself, it does not necessarily bar him, although it might, as he is accepted by a vote of the conference. There was a case before the Massachusetts conference in which the

applicant, who had never used tobacco, refused to take the pledge. His application was deferred for a year, but he was finally accepted by the conference. The church discommences the use of tobacco by its ministers and laymen, and for sixteen years has sought a pledge from applicants for the ministry to abstain from the use of tobacco in any form, but it does not place a ban on those who use that weed."

Fortunately the bishop has suggested what ought to prove an acceptable compromise. He proposes that laymen who smoke should at least give to the church as much as they spend for tobacco, and leave the preachers to adjust among themselves the question of their own use or disuse of the weed. Upon such a basis, smokers and anti-smokers ought to agree with entire harmony. Indeed, the only objection in sight is lost in the desire to secure nickels for the church, zealous managers of church funds might take to canvassing the brethren in order to sell indifferent cigars.

And now it appears that the Defender's manager, Mr. Ingham, offered to declare all the races off and begin over again, but Dunraven would not accept. He evidently knew when he was beaten.

The United States and Cuba.

The people of the United States are in full sympathy with the Cubans who are making such a brave struggle for liberty. The pity is that our people are not permitted to extend to these gallant patriots anything more substantial than sympathy. The government of the United States occupies a most peculiar position whenever the people of some other nation, even on this continent, strike for the same liberty that we prize so highly. Only once has our government permitted its representatives to manifest something more than barren sympathy for a people striking for political freedom.

The exception referred to was when the Hawaiian patriots overthrew the monarchy. General Benjamin Harrison, a patriot of patriots, was then president, and he did not hesitate to permit the United States minister at Hawaii to give substantial encouragement to the cause of the patriots. There is not now any doubt that to Mr. Stevens, the then minister to Hawaii, the success of the patriots in overthrowing the monarchy, was largely due. Unfortunately, the policy of President Harrison's administration was at once reversed when Mr. Cleveland became president, and the liberty-loving people, not only in the United States, but all over the world, were shocked by the attempt made by Cleveland and his secretary of state, to restore the fallen monarchy in Hawaii. Happily the wave of indignation that swept over this land was not wholly lost upon an unpatriotic administration at Washington, and the scheme for restoring the monarchy in Hawaii was abandoned.

The Cuban patriots are making a gallant struggle to throw off the Spanish yoke that has rested so long and so heavily upon that island. Less assistance from this country than France extended to the struggling American colonies would assure liberty and independence in Cuba. Are the hands of the United States government so completely tied by international obligations and comity that it cannot or dare not so much as notify Spain that the war in Cuba must cease? Cuba has been inhumanly oppressed by Spain. The yoke placed upon the people of that island has been made heavier and more galling year by year. Unable longer to bear the oppression and injustice, the people have revolted. Large bodies of Spanish troops have been sent there from time to time, and bloody battles have been fought, but the cause of liberty has not been crushed. At the very doors of this great and powerful republic, our patriotic neighbors are in a death struggle for political independence, and our government not only gives them no encouragement, but interposes an active surveillance to prevent assistance reaching them from our shores. This is, we repeat, a remarkable position for the great American republic to occupy. If ours were a monarchical government, interested in preventing the extension and spread of liberty and independence, it could not do less than it is doing for struggling Cuba.

The position occupied by our government with reference to Cuba is not in the slightest degree representative of the sentiment of the people of the United States. This, too, is an anomaly scarcely less remarkable than was the attempt of the present administration to restore the fallen monarchy in Hawaii against the all but unanimous protest of the American people. Is it not time to cease talking about our "obligations to Spain" and "our peaceful relations with that country"? Has this great, powerful and God-blessed republic no mission whatever in the cause of human liberty? Do we owe nothing to the patriotic and freedom-aspiring people of a neighboring country? Have we not even so much as an official protest to make against a continuation of the ruthless war waged by a distant government against a people on this continent? The Cubans have been patient and long-suffering under a system of tyranny, and wrong, and oppression, compared with which the grievances against which the American colonists revolted were almost insignificant.

The so-called and much-vaunted Monroe doctrine is not sufficiently far-reaching. If Cuba were a republic and Spain made the attempt to secure dominion over her our government would trot out the Monroe doctrine and notify the government at Madrid to keep hands off. But when Cuba revolts against the ever increasing tyranny and oppression, injustice and misgovernment of Spain, the policy of our government is to practically assist that foreign country in perpetuating its cruel power upon a brave and liberty-loving people. The United States is today literally doing police duty for Spain in preventing aid from going to the Cuban patriots from our shores. Such a policy is contrary to the spirit of this country; it is inconsistent with government by the people.

The Cubans have struggled long enough to entitle them to some recognition by this country. Spain is about to send another army of 20,000 men to

Cuba. This is sufficient evidence that all previous efforts to put down the revolution for freedom have been unsuccessful. If there were a liberty-loving administration at Washington, if a Grant, a Garfield, a Harrison, or a Blaine were in the presidential chair, it is altogether probable that a different policy would prevail, and the independence of Cuba be recognized, now that Spain has after long efforts failed to put down the revolution. Cuba has thrown off the Spanish yoke; why should not the United States interpose a stern protest against its restoration? Such a policy would be as consistent with the duty of our government to the cause of liberty as would be the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine if Cuba had been free and Spain attempted to secure dominion over her. Our national policy is too narrow; at some time in the near future it will be made broader.

Japan's foreign commerce last year approximated \$117,000,000; but while England sold her one-third of her imports, which were \$59,680,833 altogether, and bought only one-nineteenth of her exports, which were \$7,529,011, the United States bought a third of the exports and sold only one-fifth of her imports. Yet it was the United States which opened Japan's ports to the trading vessels of civilization, and which therefore had a fair start. England's gain is our loss. In fact, it is our gift; because had American diplomacy retained a clear idea of the potential value of our oriental trade relations, England would not have outstripped us in the race for largess. It is time that the foreign affairs of this government received proper thought and attention.

The South Carolina situation grows in interest. The constitutional convention sitting at Columbia is now said to favor the adoption of the Aldrich draft of a new constitution, the most striking clause in which limits eligibility to public office to white citizens only. The effect of such a constitution with the United States Supreme court would be at once edifying and instructive.

A ball from the new Krag-Jorgensen army rifle, after splintering a fugitive soldier's skull at 100 yards, recently went through a piece of oak timber nine inches thick and sank three feet in the ground. This weapon is apparently almost powerful enough to puncture the misinformation of the man who believes that protection is dead.

Those Empire state Republicans who fear that Roosevelt has "embarrassed the party" don't know Roosevelt or else don't understand their party. The Republican party is never injured by standing up straight for law and order.

For a physician who doesn't advertise, Dr. Forbes Winslow, late of London, is displaying a good deal of shrewd familiarity with the newspaper interview.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS.

A Question of National Honor. Syracuse Post: "The Waller case has reached that point where the national honor is impugned by the inaction and apparent apathy of the present federal administration. The issue really involves more than the personality of Mr. Waller. The French government has shown by its course in the whole proceeding a contempt for American men and administration that is an insult to every American citizen. France has treated with scant courtesy the protests of the United States and its requests for a fair trial and fair treatment for Mr. Waller. It has shown in this matter that it does not think that the United States has enough backbone to protect its own interests abroad. It has imposed upon American patience as it would not dare impose upon the presumed friendship of any other nation."

No Room for Compromises. Cleveland World: "The Republican party has won its greatest and most substantial victory by boldly re-announcing the right and courageously sticking to it. The regulation of the liquor traffic on Sunday and the preservation of Sunday from riot, drunkenness and debauchery as far as law and order can do that, is right; right all through; up, up, up; and stands on solid ground. There should be no compromise on that question. The party should stand straight and firm."

All the Bitterness Now Gone.

Pittsburg Times: "Since the last hostile shot was fired between the north and south, a new generation has had time to be born and grow to manhood and womanhood, and it has joined with the veterans on both sides to lay away all that was bitter and unkindly in that gigantic struggle and to cherish its heroic memories as an inspiration to a new birth of patriotism."

Can Do Without Him.

Washington Post: "We believe that Mr. Cleveland has no thought of seeking or accepting a fourth nomination for president. We do not think so poorly of the American people as to imagine that they cannot govern themselves successfully without Mr. Cleveland's help."

Millions of Horses.

Washington Star: "When Niagara falls is successfully harnessed it may pay our inventors to interest themselves in utilizing the tremendous waste of energy at a political convention."

He Rec'd His Name.

Boston Globe: "The full name of Lord Dunraven is Sir Windham Thomas Wyndham-Kin, K. P. But, then, he does not carry all the sail upon ordinary occasions."

A Plain Fact (Emphatically Stated).

Rochester Post-Express: "A short presidential campaign next year would be worth millions to the business interests of the country."

POLITICAL POINTS.

This sentence from President Warren's address to the York convention is a good rallying cry for all loyal Republicans: "This fall is the initial work for 1896. We have sound reason to think that the day for Republican banners stand toward the white house. There may be no falling in our ranks, no turning back, until they float again over the stronghold of power; there to be the property of the American people, and here in Pennsylvania, whatever individual enemies there may have been this summer of leaders and their plans, whoever we may have sought out for preferment within the party lines in the coming campaign, let us carry all our hopes, our work, our votes with the distinguished state and national leader, Hon. M. S. Quay, who holds the standard of the party and under his inspiring leadership move on to a certain and lasting victory in November."

Ex-Representative M. A. Poitz, of Franklin county, this morning has introduced bills for Senator Cameron's seat as ex-Lieutenant Governor Warren, of Lackawanna; J. Hay Brown and Congressman Brodus, of Lancaster; Congressman Robinson, of Delaware; Quay's choice for temporary chair of the late York convention, and Senator Penrose, of Philadelphia.

Wilkes-Barre Record: "Colonel J. D. Lacer writes to the Scranton Tribune that in his course for extracting teeth without pain. No other. No gas."

OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

suggests that if the voters of the two counties turn in for these three gentlemen, Luserpe and Lackawanna may have the honor of possessing three of the seven judges. That would be nice, and as Rice and Willard will be elected anyway, it would do no harm to give Smith's friends a lift if it can be done consistently. We would rather have him as the minority judge than any of the other Democratic candidates."

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxchus, the Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 2:18 a. m., for Monday, Sept. 16, 1895.

To a child born on this day it will be apparent that it is about time to give the Defender and Valkyrie a rest.

The vivid manner in which the Wilkes-Barre forest fire correspondent follows up lurid tales of conflagration with professions of water famine, gives one that dry feeling in the throat.

The small boy residing in the lower part of the state, who recently experienced the sensation of having 1,500 volts of electricity pass through his body, doubtless thought that green apple time had come again.

If nothing stronger than tea cream soda was sold in the city yesterday, the appearance of several citizens toward evening would indicate that Saturday night's picking fluid must have been lasting in its effects.

The individual who jumped through a plate glass window last evening to get at a twenty-five-cent dinner, may be considered a living re-statement of the sure that have hitherto been cast upon the cuisine of the modern restaurant.

Ajaxchus' Advice.

Beware of "new" cider that arrives in last year's kegs.

Pack your straw hat away in camphor.

Place electric fans on half-time.

Harvest pumpkins.

But see.



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