

The Scranton Tribune

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E. P. RINGBURY, Pres. and Genl. Mgr. S. H. RIPLEY, Secy. and Treas.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 6, 1896.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For Mayor—E. H. RIPLEY. For Treasurer—DANIEL WILLIAMS.

For Controller—E. J. WIDMAYER. For Assessors—CHARLES FOWLER.

CHRIST FICKUS. WILLIAM DAWSON.

For Mayor—E. H. RIPLEY. For Treasurer—DANIEL WILLIAMS.

For Controller—E. J. WIDMAYER. For Assessors—CHARLES FOWLER.

CHRIST FICKUS. WILLIAM DAWSON.

Election Day, Feb. 18.

Applying a Fair Test.

Upon the eve of the fall election in 1894—to be specific, in its issue of Nov. 1 of that year—the Scranton Republican, in a conspicuous editorial, used these words: "The man who calls himself a Republican and cannot vote this excellent local ticket is a Republican in name only. He lacks the attributes of genuine Republicanism. His devotion to his party is only skin deep."

The ticket above referred to comprised Joseph A. Scranton for congress; Robert W. Archbald, for law judge; Frank H. Clemons, for sheriff; Thos. D. Davies, for county treasurer; John H. Thomas, for clerk of the courts; Clarence E. Pryor, for prothonotary; John R. Jones, for district attorney; Charles Huester, for recorder; William S. Hopkins, for register of wills, and T. J. Mathews, for jury commissioner. It is not derogatory to these gentlemen to say that they were in no sense more worthy of Republican support than are the candidates on the present city ticket.

At the head of that ticket stands, in Colonel E. H. Ripley, a man who has for years been one of the very foremost citizens of Scranton—a man who, in peace, has been constantly active for the welfare of others, with a breadth of view and a readiness of helpful impulse which have never distinguished between Democrat or Republican, Protestant, Catholic, Jew or Gentile, native born or foreign, rich or poor. No worthy public enterprise in the past twenty years has failed to benefit from his active and aggressive interest; no charity has had to ask him twice for aid; no friend was ever denied a favor within his ability to grant. To every test of manliness he has responded without exception. In his personality this active and liberal city would find, as mayor, an ideal representative.

Look next at Daniel Williams—the upright, unassuming, punctual business man, in whose record, whether as private citizen or as a servant of his ward and of his district in public position there is not a suspicion of dereliction or of taint. Does he not also appeal to Republican support? Can any true Republican who appreciates sterling integrity and dignity of manner and of methods hesitate to cast his vote for Daniel Williams, his party's fair choice for city treasurer?

Then scrutinize the character of Fred J. Widmayer, tried and found true during three years of exacting work in the important office of city controller. Is there in his honest service for the city or in his clean and upright personality room for criticism or objection on the part of any Republican whose devotion to party is more than "skin deep"? Has he not done his official work punctually and well? Has there been a breath of doubt or a scintilla of question as to his scrupulous honesty and fairness? Has the city ever had a better controller than Mr. Widmayer? Could it do better than to give this tried and trusted official the customary compliment of a second term?

Take these candidates, together with the nominees for assessors, Messrs. Fowler, Fickus and Dawson; study their public and private characters, as men, as citizens, as Republicans; and tell us where the Republican party could have found, within this entire city, a better set of candidates, a list more clearly deserving of the party's united and cordial support? Is it any discredit to these men that they were the fair choice of a clear and manifest majority of their fellow Republicans at the recent party primaries? Are they to be fought because, after a fair fight, they and their opponents, were successful? Can honest Republicanism be made to believe that honestly won victory at a party caucus should be repaid by treachery at the polls?

emergencies—such, for example, as the restoration of a protective revenue tariff and the settlement of the currency problem on a basis of permanency—will also in all probability rest under a greater load of responsibility in its foreign affairs than any preceding administration since the troublous days of Lincoln.

If the dictum of Secretary Olney be accepted as true that in this hemisphere "the fiat of the United States shall be law," there will need to be employed in the guidance of our diplomatic negotiations a hand more skilled than that of some mere politician picked up in the discharge of a national convention debt. The questions which loom up in the near future in this direction—such as the restoration of reciprocal trade relations with our fellow-American republics, the problem of the construction and control of the Nicaragua canal, the destiny of Hawaii, the fate of Cuba, and, above all, the definition of a policy toward the other governments of this hemisphere which shall fully conserve our own government's primacy but which, at the same time, shall not give the other republics grounds for jealousy, distrust or unfriendly feeling—are questions which may not safely be entrusted to the handling of mere tyroes or bunglers. They will require the keenest and broadest statesmanship; and in the successful consideration of them the next secretary of state will have an opportunity to win for himself a prestige not secondary to that of any American of our time.

It is with a view of these probable responsibilities that we have felt that the retirement of General Harrison from the presidential field would be likely to elicit from the next chief executive the proffer to him of the honorable and important portfolio of state. This, as yet, is mere conjecture; and it might be that even if such a proffer should be made, the ex-president would feel called upon to decline it in preference to subjecting the man who should have made it to the possibility of annoying comparisons. But there is no room for doubt upon this point, that were Benjamin Harrison to become the next secretary of state, the term "Americanism" would quickly take on a new meaning and a new identity, and nowhere in all the world would a legitimate American interest fail to receive in emergency that steady and earnest protection which is its moral due.

The Scranton Times of yesterday contained its twenty-seventh annual story about contemplated Republican election frauds. This romance is as regular a feature in our contemporary's yearly calendar as is either Christmas day or the Fourth of July.

The Coal Problem, Again.

The one point of criticism made against the recent restrictive agreement of the producers and shippers of anthracite coal is that it means a raising of the price of fuel among the poor. If this were true to any large degree, there would yet remain to be determined the point whether such a raising was made in the behalf of equity and fairness to the owners of coal mines and to the communities which are dependent on those mines. Even poor people ought not to expect to get a commodity, except through individual or organized benevolence, at a cheaper price than it costs to produce and to transport that commodity to the place where it is offered for sale.

It should be remembered, in this connection, that the total available quantity of anthracite coal is limited. Like the timber in our forests, it is rapidly disappearing, but unlike that timber, it cannot be replaced. Once gone, it is gone forever. Therefore the man who sells a ton of coal at a price below the cost of its production robs not only himself but also the community about him. He robs the laborer, whose market rests upon the duration of prosperous times in the mines; he likewise robs the merchant, the salesman, the contractor, the toiler in the so-called learned professions, all of whom lose when the mines lose and are prosperous when this great arterial industry is in a state of financial healthfulness.

But the fact is, broadly speaking, that the raising of the wholesale price of hard coal to a point which will make the mining of coal a self-sustaining industry does not affect the poor. The very poor either do not burn hard coal at all, using the cheaper bituminous article instead, or else they buy it in such small quantities at a time that the additional 25 or 50 cents per ton does not filter through as a perceptible increment upon their expenses.

The fact that General Harrison personally favors Allison shows that he properly recognizes the political potentiality of the great west.

Some European Moonshine.

The report in foreign papers of a possible alliance between England and the United States in behalf of the Argentine, is, of course, without foundation. While the Monroe doctrine would not be contravened by a proper appeal by this country to the signatory powers to conserve the interests of humanity in Asia Minor, it would not permit either an offensive or a defensive alliance with an European power, least of all Great Britain, with whose government our own has several pending controversies, one of which questions the very validity of the Monroe doctrine. It is not to be lightly overlooked, in this direction, that the latest reference of Lord Salisbury to the Venezuelan issue—that embodied in his speech one week ago before the Nonconformist association—was distinctly hostile. As the Chicago Times-Herald points out, it "constituted of the assertion by implication, that Great Britain admits the Monroe doctrine as a rule of policy for the United States but that the right to interpret the Monroe doctrine when it affects Great Britain lies in Great Britain." Our Chicago contemporary adds, with equal force, that this allusion "displays the venom of a surly and dogged temper. Lord Salisbury's position is as illogical as his description of it is ill-mannered."

cordiality, the man who imagines that there can ever be entire cordiality between the governments at Washington and Westminster loses sight of irreconcilable differences and tendencies. Let us look at facts fairly; let us say what we all know to be true, namely, that the American nation and the English nation are rivals—rivals in trade, rivals in diplomacy and rivals for that prestige among the nations which, until the United States entered the lists, was England's by unchallenged consent. To blind one's vision to the fact that every new proof of America's increasing success is an arraignment of British political ideals, under whose sway America was forced to assert and afterward to defend its independence, is to obscure a circumstance which nevertheless exists. Not until the mother country admits by limitation that the political example of the North American offering is preferable to her own aristocratic and hereditary traditions can there be a real Anglo-American alliance.

The Tribune acknowledges with thanks several poems on the local campaign; but even in politics there are limits.

The question at issue one week from next Tuesday is not the fate of a faction but the supremacy of a party. Do the Republicans of Scranton want to see the Democrats in the lead?

General Harrison has made enough friends by getting out of the way to fill a city. In the main, however, they are men who think they have pulls on the other candidates.

Personally, politically and every other way the present Republican city ticket stands forth as a model ticket, which deserves its party's utmost support. It is a ticket to win.

Not the least comical feature of the Morton presidential boom is its earnest attempt to take itself seriously.

The organ of the bolters is having an amusing time trying to act as if its gibberish carried some weight.

JOHN B. FELLOWS, STAND UP.

Scranton Republican, Nov. 23, 1894. The Democratic politicians with whom you recently conspired to defeat certain Republican candidates are wondering where the money went with which you were intrusted to betray your party.

Five hundred dollars, it is said, they paid you down at first, which amount they claim was increased to something over \$2,000 by subsequent payments to you, Honorable John, your Democratic allies do not think you were worth the money and they fail to discover where you spent it.

The political enemy who used you now despise and betray you and to your base treachery is added mean suspicion. How do you like the retrospect and what must your late Republican partisans think of you? God save the commonwealth!

A QUESTION OF GRAMMAR.

From the Chicago Times-Herald. It was necessary for the United States to revolt against Great Britain in order to secure their independence. It occasionally appears that in the judgment of some Americans, in order to perpetuate their independence, it is necessary to revolt against the English language. "The Boston Journal wishes an authoritative decision concerning the use of 'the' before 'United States.'" It is a principle of law that, for the correct interpretation of a statute, recourse shall be had, if practicable, to those who framed it, or, for more than others, necessarily knew their own intention. We can do the same work of the makers of the United States to ascertain not only what their intention was concerning the existence of the institutions they purposed founding, but also the grammatical construction they employed, and intended should be employed for "the United States."

The first witness is, by right, Thomas Jefferson. The document first, also by right, is the declaration of independence. The last paragraph of that immortal instrument does not run as follows: "We, therefore, re-assert our inalienable rights of Americans, in general congress assembled, appealing to the supreme judge of the world, that the colonies of these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states; that it is absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between it and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved, and that, as free and independent states it has full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do." The second witness is John Hancock, John Adams, Oliver Wendell Holmes, John Jay, Benjamin Franklin, Charles Carroll, Thomas Jefferson. What they say is that "these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states; that they are, solemnly and mutually, do, swear, support and guarantee to each other, that the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved, and that, as free and independent states they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce and to do all other acts and things which independent states may, of right, do."

The only possible excuse—for there can be no defense—for employment of 'very' or 'pronoun' in the singular with or for 'United States' is that the words may thus be treated grammatically when the unity of the states is assumed, and when the thing done or attributed is collective. The declaration of independence, as quoted, is the complete and conclusive reply. It is in the collective capacity that the United States "have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce."

The next testimony that may with propriety be cited is taken from the articles of confederation. The United States, in congress assembled, shall also have the sole and exclusive power of regulation of the alloy and value of coin struck by that or either of the United States; that the constitution of the United States is essentially authoritative. The question is, whether the United States shall consist only in levying war against (not in both their own and each other's) but their own, or, in neither in fact in any deviation from this correct construction at later periods covering amendments to the constitution. The thirteenth amendment, for instance, reads: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to (not its) their jurisdiction." It is not this enough testimony to show that the independence of the United States can and ought to be maintained without violation of English grammar?

THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED. In an editorial in its issue of Nov. 23, 1894, the Scranton Republican said: "With exceptionally large pluralities for their state ticket as well as a portion of the county candidates, Lackawanna Republicans have no difficulty in fixing the responsibility for reducing the pluralities of other successful nominees, of practically turning into defeat Mr. Clemons' forty-six votes in a total poll of 23,000, and of compensating in fact the loss of the rich prize of the treasurer's office to Mr. Thomas D. Davies. The majority of practically ten, disappointed office-seekers, traitors to their party, conspirators and plotters

against it, are welcome to the fiendish satisfaction their treachery has brought more earnestly to win victory by the ballot for the great principle of protection and they will have long memories for such base, ungracious defection and revolt as confronted them and made the contest hot and furious." The editorial then proceeds to name these "so-called" Republicans whom it accuses of "party treason," holding the names up to "the contempt and distrust of Republicans and the execration of citizens generally." And the first name mentioned is that of JOHN H. FELLOWS, who now is Joseph A. Scranton's chief lieutenant!

THE CULLION BOOM. W. E. Curtis, in Chicago Record. The suggestion of Senator Cullion as a presidential candidate is received with considerable favor in Washington except by the friends of other aspirants who look at it as a political insult. It is not the man who is the object of the attack, who was mentioned in the world to get distinguished, but the man who is the object of the attack, who has a motive or a purpose for what he says. Mr. Cullion has many strong friends, and has popularity among the plain people of the country is recognized. The last time I talked with Mr. Cullion on politics, I asked him if he thought the Republicans would ever elect another president. "Not until they nominate a man who is worthy of the name," he said, "some one like Husk or Sumner. Secretary Rusk, indeed, but Mr. Cullion is certainly a strong man as far as this—perhaps more so. The friends of other candidates recognize in Cullion a safe and prudent man and all admit that he would make a good president."

IS FIGHTING HIS PARTY. From the Philadelphia Press. In the Lackawanna district Congressman Scranton has got things in such a bad way that his re-election is practically out of the question. He is openly opposing the Republican city ticket in Scranton. A Republican that would aid the Democratic party this year is a traitor to his party.

A CALL TO DUTY. Editor of The Tribune. Sir—The letter which appeared in your issue of the 3rd instant from the pen of Daniel Gregory is referred to Colonel E. H. Ripley has kindled a fire of feeling in the hearts of every true Republican, to a sense of duty, it has admonished them to lay aside all personal prejudices and to march on to victory on the 18th. A Citizen.

CORRECTLY STATED. From the Montrose Sentinel. The Democrats of Scranton are making Herculean efforts to carry that city at the February election. The task is hopeless without Republican aid. A Republican that would aid the Democratic party this year is a traitor to his party.

In the bright lexicon of youth There's no such word as falling; Those things are added later on, With weeping and with wailing.

"The pen is mightier than the sword." Quoth England with a smile, "For checks are all the fashion now, And swords are out of style."

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxachus, the Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 2:18 a. m., for Thursday, Jan. 6, 1896.

A child born on this day will be apt to revel much if he marries, as his life will be unpleasant especially upon evenings when he returns from lodge at an unreasonable hour. Skill in embroidery, on fine linen is admirable, but it is the woman who can artistically affix a patch to a pair of year's trousers that commands universal respect from humble man after all. Acting from the supposition that wounded pride is better, it is safe to wager that some one must have fired a double charge of blarney at the Times yesterday.

There is often a "quacking" ring in the yell of bribery at election time. Aaron Augustus Chase and Rev. Mr. Hogan have responded to Uncle's Joe roll call. As soon as Lord Byron Green has been heard from, the band can play.

Ajaxachus' Advice. Do not be persuaded from duty by arguments that are talked through a hat.

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