

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, AUGUST 12, 1896.

THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

NATIONAL. President—WILLIAM M'KINLEY. Vice President—GARRETT A. HOBART.

STATE. Congressmen—AL. LAKE—GALUSHA A. GROW, SAMUEL A. DAVENPORT.

COUNTY. Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL. Commissioners—S. W. ROBERTS, GILES ROBERTS.

LEGISLATIVE. Senate, 21st District—COL. W. J. SCOTT. Representative, 21st District—DR. N. C. MACKAY.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

1. Tariff, not only to furnish adequate revenue for the necessary expenses of the government, but to protect American labor from degradation to the wage level of other lands.

Protection means plenty of work at good wages. The gold standard means that all dollars shall have equal purchasing power.

Coming to Their Senses.

We consider the address of the Utah Republican executive committee, which appears on our second page, one of the most significant public deliverances of the present campaign.

In brief, this address, while yielding nothing of its fondness for free coinage, calls attention to the fact that even if free coinage were to be established in company with free trade, as the Democrats propose, it would bring no relief to the honest workman.

Furthermore, the address points out that nothing in the past record of the Democratic party gives silver Republicans the right to expect that that party would have either the good faith or the requisite legislative ability to redeem its present free coinage pledge.

The Rochester Post-Express is evidently prospering in spite of these Democratic times. It has just moved into a handsome seven-story, fire-proof home, equipped with the best conveniences.

Because Senator Cameron's friends helped Representative Kunkel, of Dauphin to a re-nomination it has been inferred in certain quarters that Senator Cameron is himself a candidate for re-election.

With its issue of Monday the Towanda Daily Review began its eighteenth year of continuous publication. The Review is the pioneer penny local daily in Pennsylvania.

The day after Mr. Singler declared in his newspaper that he would stick as a Democratic candidate for presidential elector, he resigned. He did well. No man ought to be a candidate for office on a platform which he does not approve.

At Pittsburg Mr. Bryan truly said: "Every political question must, if it remains before the public long, be based upon economic truths, and every economic question is at last a moral question, a question of right or wrong,

of pettifoggery, mob rule and all the other odious "isms" of Populism and class prejudice. It is a good sign that the Republicans of the west are beginning to awaken to the folly of riding their free coinage hobby into the ditch of the promiscuous chaos typified by the candidacy of William Jennings Bryan.

Considering the weather, Bryan certainly has kept up the motion of talking with a zeal worthy of a better cause. But it would be a good thing for his future if he would talk less and say more.

"The Republican party stands for honest money and the chance to earn it by honest toil." WILLIAM M'KINLEY.

Sibley says he is sorry he didn't run for second place with Bryan. Well, the chances are both Sewall and Watson would part with their empty honor for a modest consideration.

The Issue in Brief.

After all, the real point in this free silver discussion is very simple. Do the men and women of Scranton who have worked hard to put savings in the banks or in the building and loan associations want those savings returned to them in 50-cent dollars having only half the buying power of the dollar put in?

Do the men and women who have paid 100-cent dollar premiums on life insurance policies for the protection of their loved ones in case of death want the face value of those policies to be paid over in 50-cent dollars worth in buying power only half the amount of the insurance?

Do the men and women who work for wages want those wages paid, when earned, in inferior dollars, the coinage of which, they tell us, will at once make dear the prices of the things we have to buy?

If they do, the men should vote and the women use their influence for Bryan. Otherwise, they should be for McKinley, Protection and Sound Money.

Although the Philadelphia regiments are not wholly satisfied with the latest ratings of National Guard, they have the good sense to admit that the Thirtieth thoroughly earned its honors. This is a fact worthy of grateful acknowledgment.

Bryan a Rabid Free Trader.

In a speech delivered in General Weaver's congressional district in Iowa in 1891 William Jennings Bryan, the present apostle of free silver, made this remarkable declaration:

PROTECTION IS A SYSTEM OF TAXATION WHICH IS LEGALIZED ROBBERY, CONCEIVED IN INIQUITY AND BORN IN FRAUD AND CORRUPTION. I DO NOT BELIEVE IN STOPPING UNTIL THE LAST VESTIGE OF PROTECTION IS ERADICATED FROM LEGISLATION.

The wage-earners of Scranton, during the past three years, have had practical experience with a partial "radicalization of Protection." Were the results such as to cause them to vote for the completion of the job?

The Times' Washington correspondent speaks, on the sixth page of yesterday's issue, of the improbability of the election of Bryan, and says that even if Bryan should win, there would be enough sound money members of the senate to stand like a stone wall against the onslaught of the dozen representatives of the silver producing inter-mountain states who are determined that this country shall adopt a financial policy which will cut us off from equal commercial relations with Europe and place us instead upon a plane with Mexico and the Central American republics.

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At Pittsburg Mr. Bryan truly said: "Every political question must, if it remains before the public long, be based upon economic truths, and every economic question is at last a moral question, a question of right or wrong,

and no question has ever been settled until it has been settled upon the basis of what is right. Thomas Jefferson never said a truer thing than when he said that the art of government is the art of being honest." The people of the United States will strive to remember Jefferson's remark when they come to vote on the proposition to coin 53-cent dollars.

Bryan argues that free silver would double money and prices, yet not increase taxation. But if it doubles prices, wouldn't he and the other politicians want double pay?

The reputable physicians of Michigan have banded together for a legislative war upon the omnipresent quack. Quackery is a good thing to suppress in all walks of life.

Denial is made that Bryan is in the pay of the silver ring. He certainly isn't hired by gold men, and his income must have some source.

Free Silver and the Workingman

Ex-Congressman John DeWitt Warner, in the Chicago Record.

In practice free coinage at 16 to 1 means partial repudiation of our national debt; spoliation of every creditor, savings bank depositor, life or industrial insurance policyholder and pensioner; the hampering of our trade by conditions such as in Mexico and China tax merchants to support exchange brokers, and the lowering of the credit of our country by the purchasing power of salaries and wages.

To the extent that free coinage would raise prices it would effectively reduce wages. If the wage-earner in this country wants this, they have the votes and can have it. If they do not want it, they have the votes and can defeat it.

If we went to a silver basis, as we would do if we had free coinage, the men who would profit are bankers, who own the gold, and who would be permitted to pay their depositors in inferior silver. It would be their depositors, who, having deposited money as good as gold, would be forced to accept depreciated silver instead.

The free coinage advocates say gold has risen in value. Suppose that this is true, what is its effect upon our wage earners, the majority of our voters? Take your newspapers and look at what more than one of them say. You will find that they change daily and sometimes repeatedly within the day.

As a retail price, you know—or if you don't your wife does—that they change pretty often in some things every week or two and in some things every month or two. Now take wages. You know that changes are comparatively rare—generally not more than once or twice a year, and often only once or twice in two or three years.

Take the opposite side. I have no doubt that free silver legislation would in a measure accomplish what is friends claim—that is, soon raise the price of everything that is bought or sold, if not quite, double its present rate. Do you imagine that wages would be doubled at once? Don't see how you remember how it was in war time? Don't you know that you would wait months and years for the slow process of readjustment by strikes and lockouts before your wages would finally be raised in proportion?

With the wage earner, therefore, the free silver case stands thus: The appreciation of gold, of which the free silver people complain, is the very process that will give him more and more for the wages he gets. The inflation of the money market, which the silver men are fighting for is the very thing that will reduce the purchasing power of the wages he gets and will thus decrease his wages.

Our silver friends say: "Would it not be a good thing to have appreciation of silver?" Why? If the laboring men of this country wanted to sell silver or were being paid in silver, they might be some sense in it. But the laboring men of this country are being paid in gold, not silver.

But there is another way to look at it. About a year ago I heard Mr. Cannon, now a senator from Utah, expound the silver side of the free coinage question, and he went on to explain, first, that prices of goods were low here because they were measured in gold, and then that on account of our want of gold we were paid in gold—which was costly—and wages in India, China and Japan being paid in silver—which wasn't worth only one-half what it had been—there had a 50-cent advantage; and that therefore there was great danger of our manufacturers being driven from the world's market.

One more illustration: Sir Henry Mayne Thompson is one of the ablest silver advocates. He offered a prize for a man who would write the best essay to show that China and India and other silver-using countries were better off on a silver basis than on a gold basis.

peted. Mr. Jamieson, the British consul at Shanghai, wrote so good a paper that he was awarded the prize; and that essay is now the chief stock in trade of the British agitation for the free coinage of silver. Let me read you something from it. Here it is: "Wages in the gold-using countries, have, through the appreciation of gold, become 100 per cent, dearer than they were relatively to silver wages; and the manufacturer in the silver standard countries can obtain his labor at half the cost which he formerly paid."

Personally, I do not believe that free coinage at 16 to 1 or at any other ratio will help the American farmer. But suppose it would do so. What would be the effect even then upon American wage earners? The farmer's interest is to have everything he sells bring the highest price possible—and since he is the greatest employer of labor in America, he is most interested in cutting down the wages of labor so as to get his hired help cheap.

The farmer wants free silver in order to make bread and meat dear and wages low. The wage earner's interest is to have bread and meat cheap and wages high. If free silver coinage did all that the farmer claims for it, it would help the farmer classes at the expense of the wage earners. It is easy to see why the farmer wants to try the experiment. But why should the wage earner help him? The farmer sells bread and meat and wants them dear; the wage earner buys them and wants them low; the farmer pays wages and wants them high; the farmer has started a free coinage crusade for dear food and low wages; wage earners will know better than to help him against themselves.

In the light of our experience with fiat money legislation, from the greenback to the Sherman pig-silver certificates, this long suffering country will finally learn that even if it is created by fiat, it is made by labor; that the law set out no dollar into any man's pocket unless it first takes it from the pocket of some other man; and that wage earners are first and foremost interested in opposing interference by law. There has never yet been made a law to put into any laboring man's pocket a single dollar that he did not earn. He, of all men, therefore, has the best right to insist that there shall be no law passed that will raise the price of what he has to buy, and thus take from him some portion of what he has earned.

A GOOD, CLEAN TICKET.

From the Green Ridge Item. The Republican ticket is a good clean ticket and will receive the hearty support of all the Republicans in the country. It is only a question of the size of the majority. This is no time for kicking as the country needs the votes of every citizen who believes in upholding the national honor, the property of the workingman; free trade, free trade the masses four years ago, but free trade and free silver coupled with Alford, Tillman and anarchy will not do in this year. Protection, Prosperity and Progress will be the Republican campaign slogan and with that able statesman, William McKinley, at the head of our ticket, victory will be assured.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxchus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 3:18 a. m., for Wednesday, Aug. 12, 1896.

A child that's born upon this day May handsome be, and nice; But through this week 'tis safe to say That he will cut no ice.

The Bailey, Boland and Burke Junta should be granted belligerent rights in their warfare upon Singler and Harrity. William Whitney will do well to retire to his abode before the historical cyclone from Nebraska strikes New York. Local Democratic enthusiasm this year reminds one of the excitement in a graveyard at midnight.

Lockjaw seems to be the complaint most to be feared by Bryanites. Don't wear wool sweaters and rattle-snake stockings. Don't hold your best girl's hand. Don't talk about the weather. Don't relate state jokes. Don't drink warm tea. Don't smoke stogs. Don't talk politics. Don't think.

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