

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, OCTOBER 5, 1896.

THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

NATIONAL. President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Vice-President—GARRET A. HOBART.

STATE. Congressmen—A. L. LARSON—GAIL SHAH, A. GROW, SAMUEL A. DAVENPORT.

COUNTY. Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL, Commissioners—S. W. ROBERTS, GILES ROBERTS, Auditors—A. E. KIEFER, FRED L. WARD.

LEGISLATIVE. Senate, 21st District—COL. W. J. SCOTT. Representative, 1st District—JOHN R. FAIR; 2d District—A. T. CONNELL; 3d District—DR. S. C. MACKENZIE; 4th District—JOHN F. REYNOLDS.

The best reason why Messrs. Roberts and Roberts should be re-elected county commissioners is because the records of the commissioners' office shows that they deserve to be.

That Pilgrimage to Canton.

The attention of Republicans is called to the excursion to be run next Friday from this region to Canton. It was arranged for by the sound money press of Lackawanna and Luzerne counties in deference to the wishes of many persons who had indicated a desire to see and hear the next President at his modest Ohio home.

We are not much given to hero worship and have outlived some of the exuberance which inspires great demonstrations in honor of public men not much better than the average of us. Yet when we reflect upon the full meaning of these continuous processions of admiring thousands to Canton and recall also the personal cleanliness, fortitude and wholesome patience of the man who is the magnet of this great movement of human travel, the spectacle fires our interest and irresistibly compels admiration.

If there is any portion of these United States which ought to feel an especially earnest interest in Major McKinley's candidacy and a particularly cordial desire to give to that interest a practical expression before as well as on Nov. 2, it is the industrial community which has experienced from the policies which McKinley champions so large a measure of its past prosperity and which has had such vivid reasons to regret the temporary substitution at Washington of different policies.

Messrs. Kiefer and Ward, the Republican nominees for county auditor, have both exhibited in private business relations, honesty and keeness. These are the qualities needed in the office to which they aspire.

The Real Australian Ballot.

Much ado has been made from time to time over the fact that a large majority of our states have adopted the Australian secret ballot, and the general public has been led to the conclusion that the consummation of this reform would eventually result in a decided improvement in the quality of our politics and politicians.

An election in Australia, Mr. Lusk tells us, is a simple and expeditious process. There are two reasons why this is true. In the first place no two issues are ever mixed at a single election. If the election be for members of the legislature it is never mixed up with an election for any other office whatever; if for any other office, as for

instance a mayor, it is never held at the same time as that for members of the legislature. Secondly the operation of preparing and casting the ballot is in Australia much more simple than in America. The voter, having been registered and identified, enters the booth and receives from the returning officer a ballot paper marked with the initials of the official. He passes at once into one of the separate compartments provided, and unfolds his ballot. That ballot contains the names of all candidates for the particular office to be filled, arranged alphabetically. The voter with a pencil draws lines through the names of men he does not wish to vote for, leaving no more names than the number of persons to be elected. The ballot is then refolded, returned to the returning officer, numbered and deposited in the box.

A word should be said at this point concerning how voters are registered and tickets nominated in Australia. In every district a permanent official is appointed whose duty it is, with the assistance of the police, to enter upon the district roll the name of every person entitled to vote, and on another roll the name of every person no longer entitled. These rolls, though no longer publicly advertised, besides being exposed for public inspection at certain places within each district for a month before they are submitted for confirmation to the court, which sits, under the presidency of one of the regular permanent judges, to hear all objections either to the inclusion or exclusion of names. Of these objections due notice in writing must be lodged by the person aggrieved with the district registrar, and that officer may either admit the error or contest the claimed right before the court. In case of contest, no one but the claimant himself is heard, and party considerations are kept wholly to one side. When contests are decided, the electoral roll is declared approved for that particular election and no further question can be raised as to the right to vote of the persons enrolled. Instead of selecting candidates as we do in America by party primaries and conventions, notice in writing, signed by a certain number of registered electors, is filed within a specified time before election with the registrar of the district that these voters want such and such names put on the official ballot; and as many names of candidates are entered as there are duly signed petitions. Candidates for each office being arranged on the ticket alphabetically, without circles, quadrangles or groups, the ballot may contain a dozen entries for each position without requiring to be of unwieldy size.

"In this way it is," remarks Mr. Lusk, "that an Australian election is no elaborate function involving a cessation of business, with all the objectionable surroundings of idle voters and busy paid agents of parties and candidates whose very existence is a menace to freedom of choice and purity of election. Under its operation a single polling booth can be made easily to accommodate a vote to 10,000 voters between 8 o'clock in the forenoon and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the result of the voting—thanks largely to the simple expedient of obliterating instead of marking names can be ascertained speedily and with certainty. One thing indeed the Australian system does not do—it in no way lessens itself as a party or machine matter, and it is absolutely opposed to everything that can lend an excuse to the use of money in connection with elections. So stringent indeed are its provisions in this respect that the courts might almost be depended upon to invalidate any election where it was shown that any subscription for election expenses had been made on behalf of a candidate, or where a candidate himself could be shown to have paid for anything except advertising in the newspapers, a committee room on the day of election, and a day's wages for one representative at each polling place. These expenses are recognized by law in Australia, and all others are sternly prohibited.

The problem of adapting the good principles of this system to the necessarily different conditions of elections in America so as to retain its advantages without incurring its disadvantages is manifestly still unsolved. We have every reason to believe with Mr. Lusk that no serious attempt has yet been made by the men who control American legislation to solve it. They prefer a hybrid system bearing the magic of the Australian name with little of its freedom from ring control.

"From Scranton to Canton and return" would make a first-class campaign cry for local Republicans this week. Scranton can't afford to fall behind the Cantonward procession.

The Common Sense Cure.

At Rochester Saturday evening Frank S. Black made another speech, similar in style though not in matter to the one with which he opened the Empire state gubernatorial canvass in New York a few days ago. It was a speech that abounded in crisp and candid common sense, uttered without passion and entirely free from personalities, and what adds to its merit is the fact that in print it is less than a column long. Mr. Black evidently knows how desirable it is in a public speaker to say his say and then stop. The gist of his remarks is comprised in the following excerpt, which says quite as much as if it had been inflated to ten columns:

I have often heard two reasons advanced for trying this dangerous experiment of free and unlimited coinage of silver. The first reason is that we cannot be worse off than we are now, and the second that it is easily tried, and if not successful can be abandoned. No greater mistake could be made than to suppose that we cannot injure our present condition. We are not half as poorly off as we might be. It is true, our present situation is not in all respects as we desire, but our prospects were never better. Our people have seen the folly of the course pursued in previous years, and have fully determined to correct it. We have not only halted in our march in the wrong direction, but we have turned about and shall certainly march back and rebuild the fences we have torn down and reopen the doors we have unwisely closed. Idleness as a national policy has been tested to everybody's satisfaction, and nobody any longer believes in it. We have chased the phantom of low prices so far that we have lost sight of the places where we earned our wages. But we shall go back. The opportunities of the last few years are gone, but let no one believe that the American people are used up, or that we can correct the mistake made four years ago by making another that is worse now.

Going to work again is not the only thing to be considered. We must have our pay also, and the pay must not only be the most, but the best that any country in the world affords. This country is not the place for things that are cheap, and cheap money is the worst of all. That we cannot be worse off is a delusion in which no intelligent person should be

shared. But whatever our condition may be, it is our duty to make it better instead of trying experiments which may make it worse. A man not very sick, getting worse, has more cause for alarm than a sicker man getting better, and I do not consider him wise who takes a new medicine at the critical point of the disease, especially when he knows the medicine has been tried on others before and left them crippled, perhaps forever.

The second reason, that free coinage can be easily tried and if not successful abandoned, is as fallacious as the first. It is much easier to make a mistake than to abandon it afterward. Getting sick is easier than getting well. Breaking your word is easier than convincing other people that you will not break it again, and there is the same difference between paying 25 cents on the dollar and regaining the confidence of the lender when you desire to borrow again. The purpose of free coinage is not only dishonest, but impossible. You cannot create a value by statute, nor compel the other nations of the world to abide by what you declare to be. Instead of taking away the control of legislatures, and you can no more force the people of other countries to accept 25 cents for a dollar that you owe them than you can force them to pay 17 cents for a dollar that they owe you. The result of such an attempt would not be to establish an advantage for you in the transaction. It would be simply to cut off dealings between you and utterly to destroy all confidence, without which no relations of friendship or respect can be maintained.

This kind of talking is a common sense cure for false doctrine. The spectacle of Sam Hudson running for congress on the Democratic ticket in the district once represented by Samuel J. Randall and afterward by Richard Vaux is interesting, to say the least.

Worrying About Cameron.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Wilkes-Barre Record, has been informed "by the very highest Democratic sources"—which doubtless means Johnny Garman—that the Democratic leaders are inclined to offer to throw the Democratic vote in the next legislature to Senator Cameron provided he will stand as a candidate for re-election. "That such a scheme is not nearly so impracticable as may appear at first glance will be seen," says the Record, "by the following figures: The legislature is composed of 255 members, on joint ballot. Let us assume that each house will be composed of two-thirds Republicans and one-third Democrats—say 171 Republicans and 84 Democrats. Suppose that Cameron should be able to command the support of only 45 of 171 Republican senators and representatives, those added to the 84 Democrats would give him 129 votes, or a majority of 2."

There are several obstacles to this project. In the first place 84 votes is a large allowance to the minority of the next legislature on joint ballot. We doubt if the Democrats will get 64. Next, it would be impossible under present conditions to get enough Republican deserters to patch out a Cameron majority. Thirdly, Senator Cameron, unless he is an unconscionable liar, cannot be a candidate for re-election. And fourth, we have good reason to believe that the next United States senator elected from Pennsylvania will be that admirable Republican and brilliant expounder of Republican principles, Daniel Hartman Hastings.

The habit of worrying about Cameron is one that grows on a man, and therefore ought not to be unnecessarily encouraged.

In recommending that sound money Democrats in the Eighth congress district vote directly for Judge Kirkpatrick, the Republican nominee, the Philadelphia Record makes the pertinent point that "throughout the state the newly converted Popocrats have mercilessly proscribed every Democrat who supports the financial policy of a Democratic administration. Their candidate for the presidency has proclaimed that he would never support any man who stands on a gold platform; and his followers fully partake of his spirit. Why, then, should they expect sound money Democrats to forswear the principles of the Democratic party and join them in a wild crusade of repudiation?" Why, indeed?

"Give us the restoration of the tariff schedule which will meet the legitimate necessities of the government and will discriminate in the protecting of American industries and we will hear no more of the money question. Open our mills to our workmen and we will not hear so much agitation about opening our minds." With our American workmen given an opportunity to earn a fair day's wages in currency of unquestionable stability, we will hear no more talk of the cheap dollar. With a tariff law equal to the necessities of the government, we will have no more deficit in the revenues and no threatened destruction of the gold reserve."—Senator Penrose at Pittsburg.

This excellent bit of timely advice is borrowed from the Sun: "Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa must be made sure of. Let us beat Repudiation enormously, if we can, but at any rate let us be sure that we beat it. Everything looks well for the sound-money men, but the amount of large prediction now in circulation seems to indicate that some Republicans are inclined to whistle too soon." There is more danger to McKinley from over-confidence than from Bryan.

Moreton Frowe, the English bimetalist, who is in this country urging Bryan's election, admits that free coinage would be likely to cause a panic, but he waves that prospect aside as of little consequence. He can afford to be indifferent, being an Englishman, but here in America the notion prevails that we've had of panics quite enough. In the year 1885 the savings banks of the country held \$1,810,567,622 in trust for 4,875,519 depositors—an average of \$371.26 to the credit of each depositor. Who would be most severely hurt by the adoption of a 50-cent dollar, the depositors or the banks? A net increase in the public debt for September amounting to nearly \$2,000,000 is another good reason why the federal government should be restored as soon as possible to competent Republican control. And now the Popocrats have it that Senator Quay has had a tiff with Mark Hanna, but their effort to excite discord is too thin. Mr. Bryan says he intends to keep right on talking until election day. We hope he will.

The Importance of The Next Congress

From the Scranton Truth. While all the political orators and newspapers are directing their arguments to the presidential election it may be worth while to remember that congress will be the pivot of power, and that the ability to enact tariff and currency laws will rest, after all, with the national legislature. With sufficient majority to make it independent of the will of the executive, congress can pass any law it may set its mind to, while it is not in the power of the president to annul a single statute, however anxious he may be to coin campaign promises into legislation.

It is evident, therefore, that it is to congress the people must look for the realization of their hopes, and that the election of congressmen who are known to be in harmony with the popular will on these issues is of the most vital importance. It is particularly essential and important that the industrial sections of the country stand firm for the election of representatives who will steadfastly support the doctrines of Protection and sound money. No false sentiment should tempt wage-earners or business men to squander votes on candidates who are committed to the untenable status of free silver, or the ruinous policy of free trade.

If the free coinage crusade carried with it a guarantee that all wages would be paid on a silver basis there might be some plausible excuse for asking the tolling masses to vote for the 53-cent dollar; but in the absence of such a guarantee we fail to see how any silver orator or organ can consistently ask the breadwinner to vote for a money standard which will increase the cost of living without carrying with it a corresponding increase in wages or opportunity for investment. This congressional election is of its progress and prosperity to the industrial protection and sound money, and the realization of their hopes, and that the election of congressmen who are known to be in harmony with the popular will on these issues is of the most vital importance. It is particularly essential and important that the industrial sections of the country stand firm for the election of representatives who will steadfastly support the doctrines of Protection and sound money. No false sentiment should tempt wage-earners or business men to squander votes on candidates who are committed to the untenable status of free silver, or the ruinous policy of free trade.

THE MAN FOR CONGRESS.

From the Providence Register. When the Republicans of Lackawanna county named William Connell as their candidate for congress they named one whom all the people care to rally to, and in whose election every citizen would feel just pride. As the party candidate he deserves every vote in the party, and it goes without saying that many hundreds from the ranks of the opposing party will help in making his majority an overwhelming one. It is unnecessary here to reiterate all that has heretofore been said concerning the personality and the fitness of Mr. Connell for this important office. These are so well known and appreciated that it would be but a mere repetition of words. On the principles of the party, Mr. Connell stands solid as a rock, and is uncompromisingly for every declaration of Republicanism that means a grander country and people and by which the happiness and comfort of all are to be attained. He does not deviate one iota from the sound money standard, and on the protection of American industries he is as firm as the rock of Gibraltar. He is uncompromisingly for every declaration of Republicanism that means a grander country and people and by which the happiness and comfort of all are to be attained. He does not deviate one iota from the sound money standard, and on the protection of American industries he is as firm as the rock of Gibraltar. He is uncompromisingly for every declaration of Republicanism that means a grander country and people and by which the happiness and comfort of all are to be attained. He does not deviate one iota from the sound money standard, and on the protection of American industries he is as firm as the rock of Gibraltar. He is uncompromisingly for every declaration of Republicanism that means a grander country and people and by which the happiness and comfort of all are to be attained. 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