The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, OCTOBER 21, 1897.

THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

State.

State Treasurer—J. S. BEACOM, of Westmoreland.
Auditor General—LEVI G. M'CAULEY, of Chester.

County.

Sheriff—CLARENCE E. PRYOR, of Scranton.
District Attorney—JOHN R. JONES, of Blakely.
Prothonotary—JOHN COPELAND, of Carbondale.
Treasurer—W. S. LANGSTAFF, of Scranton.
Clerk of the Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS, of Scranton.
Recorder—CHARLES HUESTER, of Scranton.
Register—WILLIAM K. BECK, of Moscow.
Jury Commissioner—CHARLES WIGGINS, of Scranton.
Election day, November 2.

The election of the Democratic ticket will be a victory for clean and honest methods in politics—Scranton Times.

In proof whereof, consult Schadt's check book.

Stand by the Party.

The continuance in the local field of three independent candidates asking for Republican support in order to strengthen the Democracy will not in our judgment affect the result of next month's polling; but it is at least deserving of casual notice.

When Mr. Okell's name was presented to the recent Republican convention the gentleman who made his nominating speech assured his hearers that Mr. Okell and his friends, whether successful before the convention or not, would loyally abide the convention's decision and give their best support to the regular party nominees. We believe he spoke then in good faith. Why has this promise not been kept?

The applause which greeted these remarks of Captain Moir at the time of their deliverance indicated that he spoke words which with earnest and sincere Republicans are always popular. It is a well-established fact that the great majority of voters in any party invariably admire the candidate who, at the primaries, in the convention or at the polls, accepts victory modestly or bears defeat philosophically.

On the other hand, when a candidate enters a convention agreeing to abide its result and afterward takes the field against its nominees it just as surely subjects his course to criticism if not contempt. We have seen no authorized explanation of the reasons which have prompted these three gentlemen to run stump against the regularly nominated ticket of their party, and therefore must conclude that they have yielded to unwise advice or else could not endure with manly equanimity the vicissitudes of politics.

But whatever the motives of Mr. Okell and his associate bolters may be, the impropriety of their course from a party standpoint is obvious. They went into convention as Republicans, was fairly and squarely defeated, and now refuse to abide by the party's action. This is not manly Republicanism, and no Republican voter who places party welfare above personal prejudice can indorse it. In such a situation it is clearly the duty of every Republican whose Republicanism rests solidly upon principle to stand by his party.

Those who appreciate the good government capabilities of the present city hall gang will of course vote next month to give it control of the court house also.

"Concerning Advertising."

Elsewhere appears an interesting communication from an enterprising local firm of clothiers, Messrs. Boyle and Mucklow, criticizing the daily papers of Scranton (mention is made in the letter of The Tribune only, but the criticism offered applies to all, for printing an advertisement, offered in the regular course of business and paid for, by a firm of clothiers characterized by the local firm as fakirs. We publish the letter, not at advertising rates but for nothing, as we would any criticism of legitimate public interest properly signed for publication; but at the same time we think our correspondents are not quite fair in all that they say.

We take it that our critics would sell a suit of clothes to any man who wanted it and had the price, without regard to whether he paid taxes in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre or Timbuctoo. Advertising space in a newspaper is a commodity on the same footing. We believe that it is the duty of Scranton buyers to sustain our regular home merchants and we are in favor of making transient dealers pay a round license tax in lieu of the regular mercantile tax imposed on stationary business men. If any transient dealer comes into town and misrepresents or cheats the people there is redress at law, or if not, proof of it supplied to The Tribune will be followed by prompt exposure. But is it fair to expect the papers of the city to refuse all cash offers of advertising matter calculated to increase local competition? Such a rule would not only close the door to newcomers but also cut out all foreign advertising, making it impossible for any newspaper of any pretensions to exist in this city.

We do not know the merits or demerits of the firm to which our correspondents allude; but we do know that the regular, fair-dealing local firms, among which we gladly accord our correspondents a prominent place, are quite likely to withstand successfully any new competition and in the long run thrive on it.

The true animus of the Low movement in New York is gradually becoming visible. Now, it appears, deliberately planned to force the Republican organization to name a candidate against him in self-defense, so that Tammany might win, and the odium of it be used later on in an effort to elect an anti-Platt successor to Senator Murphy and thus smash the so-called Platt machine. In other words, with Low it is anything to down Platt, even if in the effort the whole Republican party also tumbles down. The chances are Low will miss his aim.

Already the Bryanites are confessing defeat. The Times' howl about Republican boodle is a never-failing symptom of chagrin.

Patriotism and Party.

Replying to a recent editorial in this paper expressing surprise that it should wish to weaken the Republican party in New York city and state by opposing the regular Republican candidate for mayor of New York, the Chicago Times-Herald defends the Republicanism of Seth Low and some of his present supporters, affirms that Mr. Low voted for Blaine in 1884, and adds:

The Scranton Tribune has discovered a new kind of "mugwump." A Republican who refuses to indorse the Platt machine and its candidate for mayor is a "guerrilla mugwump." According to The Tribune Mr. Platt is the Republican party of New York, and the thousands of Republicans who are going to register a mighty protest against bossism and one-man domination constitute "a band of guerrilla mugwumps." The Tribune adds that the attitude of the Times-Herald is all the more surprising when it is known that the president favors the candidacy of General Tracy. The Times-Herald's position on the New York contest is not "surprising" to anyone who is familiar with the editorial policy of this paper. The Times-Herald advocated the election of McKinley because of his eminent fitness for the place, because of his high character as a model American citizen and because he stood for those issues that were vital to our national prosperity. The attitude of the president toward the candidacy of Mr. Low or the candidacy of Mr. Tracy, however, could not have the slightest influence, either direct or remote, upon the editorial policy of this paper. Even if he should take the stump in behalf of General Tracy from now until election day the Times-Herald could not be driven away from the sound and impregnable position that there is but one issue involved in the New York contest—the issue of honest, incorruptible and efficient municipal government—and that the voters of New York city should be allowed to settle this question for themselves without interference from United States senators or cabinet officials.

We admire our western contemporary's courage but deplore its bad judgment. If Mr. Platt is the Republican party in New York then Mr. Hanna is the Republican party in Ohio and the Times-Herald, to be consistent, ought to be supporting McLean or whoever the anti-Hanna candidate is. The relation of these two men to the Republican organization in their respective states is identical. The chief difference is that Mr. Hanna, being newer in the business, has not yet accumulated the factional enemies that yearn to elevate the Tioga chieftain's scalp lock. The Times-Herald might as well insult McKinley by calling him Hanna's puppet as to insinuate that General Tracy, if elected mayor of Greater New York, would be "dominated" by any one man. The testimony of ex-President Harrison as to General Tracy's fitness and independence from undue pressure outweighs in our judgment the reflections upon Tracy cast by Mr. Low, Mayor Strong, the New York Tribune and the Chicago Times-Herald.

Coming, though, to the merits of the question, here are the facts: Mr. Low was petitioned to become a candidate in New York as a unifying force. Instead of doing that he elected to become a dividing force. He spurned the Republican organization which enrols among its following a majority of the anti-Tammany voters; he refused to consider any interests of superior importance to his personal ambition as a candidate; he gave himself up to the purposes of those within and without the Republican party who wished to strike down Senator Platt and weaken the whole structure of the Republican organization; he contracted alliances with Henry George, the candidate of Bryanism and other vicious socialistic ideas, and when he saw clearly that he could not be elected, he refused either to throw his strength against Tammany to the administration candidate, General Tracy, or to confer with the latter with a view to a union of forces on a compromise candidate. This may be courage, but it is not discretion. It is the attitude of an egotist or a wrecker; and in either case it proves that Mr. Low would be an unsafe man to occupy the office he seeks.

As to our Chicago contemporary's attitude toward the national administration, we have only to say that if its spirited editor should ever undertake to run a government without the aid and support of a party organization and on the principle that sooner than make a single concession for the purpose of harmony he would see his party smashed, the ultimate consequences would doubtless disabuse his mind of some very lofty but unpractical ideas. It is due to McKinley that the Republican party be sustained. With the party weakened he is weakened and the country is weakened to the extent that the execution of promised policies is embarrassed or obstructed. The party cannot be built up one year and torn down the next without hurt to its vitality and harm to its representatives in high office. The duty of patriotism is to stand by the party in power so long as it proves itself worthy; and this involves standing by it wherever and whenever its standard is unjustifiably assailed.

We believe that such a duty lies before all friends of good government in Greater New York.

The proper verdict in the Luetgert case would have been: "Not proved, but worthy of hanging on general principles."

Schadt at Williamsport.

The continued silence of the Times justifies the conclusion that its present candidate for sheriff, Mr. Schadt, was the same man who two years ago went to the trouble to get substitute credentials in order that he might go to Williamsport in a capacity to do mischief to the candidacy of Hon. P. P. Smith for a seat on the Superior court bench.

Think of the meanness of such an act. Here was Mr. Smith, already with an indorsement from his party in Lackawanna county, seeking fairly and openly an honor from the Democratic state convention. His candidacy had the cordial support of the masses of his party, as was shown in the extraordinary vote which he subsequently received. Yet Schadt, holding office in gift from Judge Smith's friends, by virtue of that office representing himself as a spokesman of the Democracy of Lackawanna, goes out of his way to deliver a blow at his fellow-townsman and fellow-Democrat; a cowardly blow, such as even factional bitterness would not excuse.

What was Schadt's objection to Judge Smith? What was his objection to Burke? What was his objection to Duggan? Why did he decline to help McDonald? Why is his whole career in politics strewn with evidences of disloyalty to fellow Democrats of Irish descent? Can the Irish-Americans of Lackawanna support such a candidate or indorse by their votes his present set-up in county politics?

Read the answer next month!

A POLITICAL POINTER—

If you indorse the free trade and free-silver Chicago platform as the Lackawanna Democracy does, "fully and without reserve," then work and vote for Schadt, Horn, et. al. If you believe in McKinley, protection and prosperity, turn these agents of Bryan

This revival of talk in favor of Cuban annexation to the United States is merely a phase of a ferment in public opinion caused by the general recognition that Spanish sovereignty in the pearl of the Antilles is rapidly approaching its doom. Some day and somehow, in the far future, Cuba may be gathered under the folds of the Red, White and Blue, not by aggression but by manifest destiny; but it will not be until Cuba has had preparation for the change, and successful experience in the art of governing herself. The question of annexation in all its bearings may safely be confided to the statesmanship of the time to come; today, the issue is, not annexation but justice. Cuba has a just claim to freedom; the United States is in duty bound to take the subject in hand, and in our judgment the quickest and safest solution is to recognize Cuba's belligerency and let the Cubans then by their own prowess clean Spain out.

The Tribune acknowledges with pleasure the receipt of a beautiful volume from the Peter Paul Book company of Buffalo containing under the title, "The Fugitives and Other Poems," a collection in permanent form of verses written at odd times by Hon. John E. Barrett, the editor of the Truth. With Mr. Barrett's graces of diction and felicity in rhyming Scrantonians are already familiar; but all, we are sure, will be glad to have the opportunity to enjoy the children of his fancy in the fine dress and neat typography of this charming volume. We hope to have the opportunity at a future time to examine in company with our readers some of these meritorious productions, many of which possess to residents of this community the double interest of local authorship and local themes and color.

Today at Lake Geneva, Wis., Charles T. Yerkes of Chicago will formally present to the University of Chicago the largest refracting telescope in the world and there will be added to science an astronomical instrument of unprecedented power and cost. The telescope is 64 feet long and has a 50-inch lens; its weight is six tons, and the cost of the entire apparatus, including observatory and grounds, is not far from $1,000,000. What developments in science the dedication of this wonderful instrument will presage cannot be conjectured; but the mind fairly loses itself in the vast field of speculation and study which this greatest of telescopes will sweep, and in the yet vaster expanse which even its piercing vision cannot penetrate.

The late George M. Pullman was unquestionably a man of wonderful energy and extraordinary business ability; but none of the good points in his career nor all of them put together can obliterate the stain on his fame caused by his inexcusable inhumanity to his employes at Pullman.

One of the new tricks introduced in this campaign must be credited to Mr. Schadt. It is said that in every locality he selects a poor widow, promises her a place in the jail, and gets her to solicit votes for him on the representation that it will aid her. Alas for the credulous!

The Times doesn't publish John R. Jones' explanation of those rules of court. It doesn't explain that the multiplication of indictments is the work of aldermen and justices. It prefers to misrepresent. But just the same it is making votes for him.

When the Times said that Clarence E Pryor fought Thomas D. Davies three years ago of course it said what was untrue and what it knew was untrue. But in the desperation of the Bryanite cause apparently anything goes.

Unless there is an epidemic of lying among the Cuban leaders something Spanish may be expected to drop about the time congress re-assembles. Americans hope that it may drop and drop hard.

It will cost $10,000 just for the printing of the official ballots in greater New York. The campaign in that city, when ended, will doubtless represent a total outlay of little less than $5,000,000.

SIGNS.

The melancholy days are here;
The signs are everywhere,
The woodland leaves are turning sere,
And fluttering through the air;
The cricket chirps its mournful lay
Beneath the window sill;
The buckwheat field is turning gray
Upon the distant hill;
A dreamy silence seems to spread
O'er all the country side;
The flowers that bloomed, alas! are dead,
Their petals scattered wide,
But e'en without such signs as these—
The hills immersed in haze,
The turning leaves upon the trees—
We'd recognize the days;
For now the agile college "men,"
With hanks of hair to spare,
Are on the campuses again
And raising hades there;
They're roisting flags and rushing canes,
And also hazing some,
And elsewhere showing that their brains
Continue out of plumb.

—Cleveland Leader.

Good Journalism Versus Cheapness

Through intense rivalry the price of two of the newspapers of Rochester, N. Y.,—the Democrat and Chronicle, and the Herald—has dropped to one cent a copy. Both are expensive papers, the former being, indeed, one of the largest, best-edited and most influential journals in the United States. It is a business impossibility to print in a community the size even of Rochester—which has a reading population, city and suburban, about ten times as large as that of Scranton—a first class paper for one cent and earn a fair profit on the money and brain-power invested. Only a few of the penny papers in the very largest cities are today making any money, and it would be better all around if these papers would charge two cents and use some of the thus increased revenue in still further improving their contents. This would add to their value as agencies of public education and enable their proprietors to earn a deserved profit as an encouragement in their good work.

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In this connection we desire to quote with hearty indorsement these words from the Elmira, N. Y., Advertiser: "The passion for circulation at any cost has invaded the newspaper world of western New York. In New York city it has wrought such havoc that but three or four of the whole array of newspapers are self-supporting and some of them have become the grave of millions of money. A modern daily cannot be printed profitably at the price of one cent and maintain its quality as a leader of public opinion. It must run more and more to sensationalism, must cultivate the exciting hunt for scandal and make nauseous display of it, must cater to the slums. Such is the uniform course of such journalism.

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"Its tendency is constantly downward, for it cannot be otherwise. This newspaper war in Western New York has led newspaper managers to offer their wares at a cent a copy. After a brief experience of them no man who values clean reading in his family paper will tolerate one of them in his house. The policy of cheap journalism of that sort is ruinous as a matter of business. One of these competitors announces that it is prepared to sink $100,000 in its idiotic competition. Another one is figuring in the county records as causing mortgages to grow when they were unknown.

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"The simple questions with a sensible man are whether he wants to get for a cent what he will be ashamed to have in his house, whether he thinks that a policy of bankruptcy should be encouraged, whether he wants ever more and more of the vulgar. Yellow journalism is the reproach of the metropolis. Does he want to reduce himself to the same alternative in the country by encouraging the mad scramble in western New York? There is something besides one cent to think of."

NEWSPAPERS AS TEXT BOOKS.

From the Washington Post.

The superintendent of the Kansas City schools has introduced newspapers as text books. It is not altogether a new idea, because here in Washington many of the school teachers invite their pupils to discuss the topics of the day, as gathered from the press, and the result has been most satisfactory. The experiment in the Kansas City schools will also be a success, we believe, because that enterprising town possesses like Washington, a newspaper press that is not merely local in its nature, but whose news and editorial columns are filled with legitimate and instructive matter.

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It may be said that newspapers do not always print every detail of the truth and that sometimes they are guilty of absolute mendacity. So it may be said of historics, that they are not always a correct or an unprejudiced record of the periods and events which they profess to chronicle. As to bald and malicious mendacity in newspapers, it can be said that its rare occurrence only proves the rule of general fidelity to truth. The really successful newspaper of today cannot survive unless it is, as near as careful editing and faithful reporting can make it, an actual record of daily events. A newspaper is published as a business venture, and it can no more succeed by daily fraud upon the public than a grocer can build up a remunerative trade by dealing in adulterated goods. It is the pride of every paper of any standing whatever that its assertions can be relied upon. The editor who deliberately misrepresents is nowadays the exception. Even if he were not influenced by the higher principles of morality he would soon find his influence waning and his circulation decreasing if he held not to the principle that truth-telling is the best policy.

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We make history rapidly in these times. The world is interlocked by the telegraph wire and the cable, and the fall of the Spanish cabinet is known in Washington almost at the same moment that it is announced in Madrid. The latest discovery of science, the last important legal opinion, the spoken thought of statesmen, the tragedy that thrills or the comedy that amuses—all these are daily presented in the newspaper. If the growing child wants to keep pace with the advancing world he must know what the newspaper is printing, and who is better qualified to explain for him the trend of events than his teacher? Under wise instruction he will learn the significance of England's latest coup, the cause and progress of unfortunate war, the purpose and intent of national legislation. His mind will become broadened. His horizon will no longer be restricted to the four walls of his schoolroom or the boundaries of his own city. The world will lie before him and Egypt will be as near as his next-door neighbor.

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Nor will this introduction of newspapers into the schools be without its good influence upon the press. The knowledge that his work is to be accepted as a great factor in the education of the young will inspire the editor to greater carefulness both in the character of the printed news and the expression of editorial opinion. It will not be long before the newspaper in the schools will be a universal fact.

BUNCOERS ABROAD: BEWARE!

It is the trick of the Bryanized Democracy this fall to make false charges against Republican methods, raise a big dust, hire Republican malcontents to organize Republican bolts and then coax individual Republicans to desert their party on the representation that "party ties needn't count for anything in an off year." By this trick, if it shall work, the Bryanites will get a foothold for a hopeful fight in national campaigns, and make just so much more trouble for McKinley, the Republican congress and the cause of sound money.

You now see through this trick. Are you going to let it work?

SURE TO BE ELECTED.

From the Taylor Herald.

Tommy Daniels is very popular among the people of the West Side, as well as in other parts of the county. We mention the West Side because he has lived there and is well known. An alderman in Hyde Park told the writer that Tommy will be elected. He is so civil, so kind and obliging, that he has made a large number of friends. The qualities named by the alderman are important; for the clerk comes in contact with so many people, and to have a gentleman of such good parts as clerk will make his office attractive and agreeable to those who have occasion to visit it.

In Doubt.

Ella—Did Fred propose last night?
Stella—I really don't know; I fell asleep about 1 o'clock.—Town Topics.