

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, AUGUST 16, 1898.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

STATE. Governor—WILLIAM A. STONE. Lieutenant Governor—J. P. S. GOBIN. Secretary of Internal Affairs—JAMES W. LATTI.

LEGISLATIVE. Senate. Twentieth Dist.—JAMES C. VAUGHAN. House. First District—JOHN R. FARR. Fourth District—JOHN F. REYNOLDS.

COLONEL STONE'S PLATFORM.

It will be my purpose when elected to so conduct myself as to win the respect and good will of those who have opposed me as well as those who have given me their support. I shall be the governor of the whole people of the state.

"The highest tribute that can be paid to the soldier is to say that he performed his full duty. The field of duty is determined by his government, and wherever that duty is to be performed, he will go."

Railway Organs Rattled.

It will cause regret among but it will hardly surprise the members of the Anthracite association recently organized in this city to learn that its determination to go gunning for the scalps of railway officials who practice systematic discrimination against anthracite coal does not command the sympathies of the railway organs.

The long-range view of the tactics being pursued by the anthracite association does not tend to enhance expectation of early material results from the operations of that body. At the formation of the association it was announced to be its primary intention to confer with the anthracite carrying companies, with the view of arriving at a better understanding as to tolls on hard coal, and the relations between the producers and the railroads.

Our contemporary, it will be noticed, still tries to make light of the association's plans, but the lines can see that it is wretched. It is hardly so innocent as to think that the association's "primary purpose" was merely to "confer" with the anthracite carrying companies.

The Anthracite association has enlisted in this fight to win. It will become "amiable" the moment it receives the surrender of its oppressors, but not before.

The successor of Russell A. Alger as secretary of war will undoubtedly be a man capable of respecting the confidence of personal correspondence.

Manifestly the Proper Thing.

Very general—indeed, we may say unanimous—assent greets the proposition that when congress re-assembles it revive the grade of admiral and recommend to the executive the appointment to that position of Rear Admiral Dewey.

It is evident from a recent interview that Secretary Long is heartily favorable to this idea, for he virtually admits that when the executive, in the first flush of Dewey's Antia Victory, acted in the matter of Dewey's promotion neither he nor the navy department had then taken the Vermont commodore's full measure. Dewey became a rear admiral six

months earlier than if he had done nothing; that is to say, he was moved up two points, while for defeating Cervera Sampson and Schley were advanced, the one eight points and the other six.

It is not a reflection upon any of the other naval officers who in this war were introduced to special opportunities and acquitted themselves well to point out that the responsibilities encountered and grandly mastered by Dewey were the most onerous and exciting that have ever befallen the lot of an American naval commander. His has been the supreme duty. Let his, therefore, be the supreme reward. This advantage presents itself in connection with the movement to make Dewey admiral. His success will not encounter any syllable of dissent, among either the people in general or Dewey's colleagues in the naval service.

More important than the political problem in free Cuba will be the problem of finding for idle Cuban hands something profitable and honorable to do. Industry is at once a great educator and a great harmonizer.

The Crisis in the Far East.

The foreign policy of the Salisbury cabinet is receiving the universal condemnation of all shades of political opinion in Europe. Such a consensus of adverse criticism is as unique as it is significant. Lord Salisbury's supineness in dealing with Russia in the east has alarmed Englishmen as they were never alarmed since Napoleon threatened to invade their country. They do not know how far he has gone, or is likely to go, in acquiescence in Russia's aggressiveness and territorial aggrandizement.

The emperor of China is a weakling, a fatalist without moral or physical strength either to direct, control or govern his vast kingdom. Nominally omnipotent, practically Kwangsu, the Son of Heaven, is more a clod of the earth than a divine despot. The empress dowager is the real ruler, and Li Hung Chang is her minister.

How far they may go in this direction depends entirely on how far Lord Salisbury proves pliable, and the English people acquiescent. Just at present it seems that England has allowed the intrigues at Peking to go as far as she will submissively permit without trouble. The English people do not readily follow the slauisities even of their own diplomacy.

It is reported that Lord Salisbury is yielding to the desire of the queen, who has no wish to sign another declaration of war which she foresees would dim the last days of her long and glorious reign. Her influence among the crowned heads of Europe is great. She can even hold in check the impetuosity of the Emperor William, who is more responsive to her counsel than to that of any other human being.

Personally Tomas Estrada Palma, of the Cuban delegation, thinks it is only a question of time when the people of Cuba will wish annexation. And probably not a long time at that.

In a short time it is probable that Bob Fitzsimmons' name will again appear in the papers in as large type as that lately devoted to General Shafter.

With the dawn of peace the flourish headlines have disappeared from the news pages of most of our esteemed contemporaries.

During the coming theatrical season the stage villain who does not wear a Spanish costume will be of little account.

If Secretary Alger desires to be happy he will at once cancel any contracts he may have with press clipping bureaus.

The war bulletin board was called in just in time to save the fall theatrical board from total oblivion.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaachus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrological Cast: 4:34 a. m. for Tuesday, August 15, 1898.

A child born on this day will observe that there will soon be no further need of petitions against the army canteen. Our patriotic citizens will experience more pleasure and relief in taking samples of medicine, baking powder, soap, etc., that are decorated with the one-eighth cent revenue stamp.

successful; but that it will be her strategic manoeuvre on the outbreak of war is obvious and necessary. The disposal of her fleet in Asiatic waters would depend upon Japan. The government of the Mikado is only too anxious to co-operate with Great Britain in a war in which it is no less concerned than England herself. Japan has some of the largest and fastest battleships in the world. In the meantime the powerful fleets of France and Russia will combine, if not for the invasion of England, at least for the blockade and destruction of her ports and the conquest or devastation of her colonial possessions. We are evidently on the eve of the most momentous and sanguinary war in the history of the world.

Spain's belief that she will not have to give up the Philippines recalls the fact that it was not long ago that she didn't expect to have to relinquish Cuba.

A Temperance Lecture.

Not less striking than the finely balanced moral judgment which the president has shown during his handling of the Cuban problem has been his power of physical endurance. It is said by those who have knowledge upon this subject that since the controversy with Spain became acute Mr. McKinley has not averaged four hours of unbroken sleep in twenty-four. In other words, five-sixths of his time has been given to mental and physical activity, most of it under a strain such as few of our presidents ever experienced; yet today, though worn, he is perfectly well and needs only natural rest to restore him to a normal condition.

A cabinet officer, speaking upon this point to the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Times, remarks: "I have seen the president constantly all throughout this matter. He has been in good health, in equitable temper, in perfect equipoise, and in unchanging mood of confidence. He has been a Christian gentleman all of his life, never given to revelry or ribaldry. Therefore, when he was confronted with conditions requiring perfect health and perfect mental balance he was equal to the emergency. If I were given to moralizing I could deliver a temperance lecture on this subject."

A lecture is unnecessary. The example suffices.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett is again in trouble. Upon receiving her divorce from Dr. Burnett she desired to be known only as Frances Hodgson. To this arrangement her publishers object. They claim that her reputation has been made under the name of Burnett and that to drop it would be financial suicide. It begins to look as though the talented writer would have to begin at the bottom of the ladder of fame again unless she will consent to the use of her old title, or apply "successor to" when affixing the new signature.

An honorable and characteristic attitude has been assumed by Governor Black, of New York, who will not lift a finger to secure his own renomination, but who submits the matter in absolute good faith to the people. Black's administration has been singularly high-minded, courageous and successful. If merited rule as it should there would be no uncertainty of his renomination and re-election. Even as it is we expect to see him given a second term.

The promotions made among the captains of Sampson's command are at the expense of those of Dewey's, which is another way of saying that congress must pass the naval personnel bill which goes away with this kind of injustice.

New York Captain Bradley Strong, of New York, it is said, will marry Princess Kalani, of Hawaii, heir to a throne which no longer exists. This looks very much like chasing the royal matrimonial rainbow.

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Proposed Change In Party Rules

Editor of the Tribune— Sir: The writer, in his observation published a few days ago in The Tribune, was not actuated by a desire to create, in a controversial sense, a discussion over the proposed change in the nominating candidates. His purpose was to awaken, if possible, an sufficient interest in these as would lead to a broader knowledge of what the proposed plan really is and what may possibly follow its adoption. Those of us who were in attendance at the last city convention fully appreciate the fact that the rules were presented there without reading and without debate. It is to prevent, if possible, a recurrence of such precipitous action, that the writer has endeavored to present these observations. It is not so much the desire of the writer to obstruct their adoption as it is to reveal their character, and if there is any merit in them they will stand analysis. If not, they ought to fall.

We have already adverted to several of the dangerous features of these rules taken collectively and while they may be a serious improvement they are sufficiently important and so near to the line of probability as to merit the closest scrutiny, irrespective of the faults, real or imaginary, which their consideration of the maladministration of the present party rules. Such scrutiny should be dispassionately and without prejudice and with an eye single to party welfare. If adopted they are to be the rules of the Republican party, and any change in them, therefore, of the ethical or moral effect upon the entire body politic is irrelevant. Will they or will they not advance party interest is the chief consideration.

The question of the political regeneration of the boodler and the heeler, of the present party, is a different standpoint; as well might we expect the discipline of the church to create within its members more than a disposition to "traffick in the rapids." But let us first clear the ship of the barnacles so that it may have more power to resist the waves. If we are to have a direct nominating system let it be free from such defects as are clearly apparent and easily remedied. If we are to have a direct nominating system let it be free from such defects as are clearly apparent and easily remedied.

Rule 1 says: "The organization shall consist of a vigilance committee of three members in each district of the county, and of a county committee, which shall be chosen by the chairman of the county convention and the several candidates. This takes the organization entirely out of the hands of the voters and places it absolutely in the hands of the chairman of the county convention in body, by the way, for which the rules make no provision whatever who may name as many committeemen as he chooses and whomsoever he pleases. Should the chairman wear a "collar" it is clearly manifest that the boss can shape party affairs in accordance with his desires and execute his will without fear without opposition. Why this contract the privileges of the electors in a system which is supposed to extend their authority? Why is the membership of the county committee made an unknown quantity?"

Rule 2 reads in part: "Each voter for three electors in the district for such vigilance committee and the person receiving the largest number of votes as member of the vigilance committee shall act as judge, and the other two as inspectors? What other two? There can be as many candidates for vigilance committee as there are electors in the district. Why not make it explicit and say the two receiving the next highest number of votes shall act as inspectors?"

Rule 3 reads: "The persons having a right to vote at the primary election shall be the members of the vigilance committee. This is important as its omission may give to an unscrupulous and designing chairman opportunities now denied him."

Rule 4 reads: "In case any vigilance committee shall receive a majority of votes from five or more persons not entitled to vote under these rules the convention is authorized to reject the entire vote of the district in which such votes were received." Here is where the fine hand of the politician is apparent. This rule opens the door to more manipulation of the voters than any other rule in the proposed constitution.

Rule 5 reads: "The persons having a right to vote at the primary election shall be the members of the vigilance committee from a district having that number of votes, which may belong to his closest competitor, they admit five or more illegal votes may have been cast in their district. If this candidate can control the convention, either honestly or by purchase, twenty-two hundred votes may be thrown out, the voters of the district thus disfranchised and the candidate becomes a party nominee by the same old method of bribery which has been struck out entirely."

Rule 6 reads: "The persons having a right to vote at the primary election shall be the members of the vigilance committee from a district having that number of votes, which may belong to his closest competitor, they admit five or more illegal votes may have been cast in their district. If this candidate can control the convention, either honestly or by purchase, twenty-two hundred votes may be thrown out, the voters of the district thus disfranchised and the candidate becomes a party nominee by the same old method of bribery which has been struck out entirely."

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