Republican News Item CHAS.ILOREN WING, Editor. THURSDAY, AUG. 9, 1900. "FIRST OF ALL -- THE NEWS." The News Item Fights Fair. IT IS APATRIOTIC HOME NEWSPAPER Published Every Friday Morning.

By The Sullivan Publishing Co. At the County Seat of Sullivan County. LAPORTE, PA.

SUBSCRIPTION-\$1.25 per annum. If paid in advance \$1.00. Sample copies free. All communications should be ad-

REPUBLICAN NEWS ITEM, Laporte Pa.,

Entered at the Post Office at Laporte, as second-class mail matter.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Aug. 7.—Col. James M. Guffey, the Bryanite leader of the Pennsylvania Democracy, as a full fledged candidate for United States sea-

Pennsylvania Democracy, as a tuil fedged candidate for United States sen-ator is the latest revelation in the po-litical situation in the Keystone state. While it has all along been suspected that Millionaire Guffey was not wasting his time and money for nothing, it was hardly supposed that he seriously ex-pected to be able to prevent the Repub-lican party from filling the present vacancy in the United States senate from this state. Guffey has been play-ing a waiting game. He has been de-voting almost his entire energies to disrupting the Republican organization and then spreading the doctrine of fu-sion in the legislative districts. He has been preaching reform, so as to detract attention from his main pur-pose, the election of Democrats to the legislature who will vote on the United States senatorship.

pose, the electron of Democrats to the legislature who will vote on the United States senatorship. He has, of course, started out with the idea of first electing Democrats, but where he finds that conditions make that impossible he seeks to do the next best thing for the Democracy— make a fusion deal by which one Demo-crat and one independent Republican are nominated and together they are to wage a campaign against the regu-lar Republican nominees. In that way Guffey counts upon cutting down his Republican opposition and at the same time stirring up a feeling of bitterness between the factions in the Republican organization that will ultimately be to his advantage. GUFFEY'S REAL POSITION. But the Republican voters of Penn-

his advantage. GUFFEY'S REAL POSITION. But the Republican voters of Penn-sylvania, through an indiscreet utter-ance from Col. Guffey, due possibly to his surroundings, have been given an insight into his plans, and they now have Guffey explaining. Guffey was in New York attending the initial conference of the leaders of the Democratic national committee, and with Richard Croker spent a whole day at Elberon with Chairman J. K. Jones, of the Democratic national com-mittee, mapping out plans for the Bryan campaign. While on his way home Col. Guffey was interviewed by a reporter of the New York Journal, and in that recog-nized organ of the Democratic national committee on July 30 last appeared a statement from Col. Guffey regarding the Democratic outlook in Pennsylva-nia. In this interview he made no secret of the real purpose of his plans for fusion with the disgruntled Repub-licans. The Journal quoted him as fol-lows: "IT IS THE PLAN OF THE

licans. The Journal quoted him as fol-lows: "IT IS THE PLAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC MANAGERS THERE TO MAKE THE MOST AGGRESSIVE FIGHT POSSIBLE FOR THE ELECTION OF MEM-BERS OF CONGRESS AND MEM-BERS OF THE LEGISLATURE SO WE CAN SUPPLANT MAT-THEW S. QUAY WITH A DEMO-CRATIC SENATOR." When Guffey reached Pittsburg he discovered that he had made a very had break in so freely and frankly stating while in New York his hopes of Democratic triumphs in the Keystone state. He was taken to task by his Republican insurgent allies, who said that if this Democratic boast got wide circulation in Pennsylvania it would drive the independent Republicans back into their old party lines and the fusion scheme would go to smash. Guffey quickly realized the force of this argument and he set to work to counteract what he had done in New York.

York. He prepared another statement in-tended for the eyes of Pennsylvania Republicans. In this declaration he disclaimed any thought of Democratic victories at the coming election in this

and Bryan and all the other Bryanites of the present wild-eyed leadership of the ratile-trapped national Democracy. Guffey, while professing to be with David B. Hill in favor of a conservative platform and the elimination of the 16 to 1 plank, upon which Bryan had set his heart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set his heart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set his beart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set his beart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set his beart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set his beart, permitted the Pennsylvania delegation, which Bryan had set out on the floor of the convention, where the undoubted sentiment of a large majority of the delegates was against the 16 to 1 proposition. The vote in the Pennsylvania dele-gation under the unit rule made the Keystone state Democracy put their 64 votes on record with those of the most rampant of the Tillingans, the Alt-gelds and the Joneses in opposition to a minority report against 16 to 1. With Guffey in this game was Richard Cro-ker, who closed Hill's mouth by spring-ing the unit rule upon him and cast-ing the entire New York delegation of 72 votes against the minority report, advocated by Hill. The action of Guf-fey and Croker decided the fate of the 16 to 1 plank. It went into the plat-form without attempted objection on the floor of the convention. It was quite natural that Col. Guf-fey and Richard Croker should be summoned to the first conference ar-ranged by Chairman J. K. Jones, of the Democratic national committee. Guf-fey and Croker were the only promi-ment party leaders invited. GULD DEMOCRATS SHY. Guffey is going to have his own trouand Bryan and all the other Bryanites of the present wild-eyed leadership of

GOLD DEMOCRATS SHY.

nent party leaders invited. GOLD DEMOCRATS SHY. Guffey is going to have his own trou-bles in pushing his canvass for United States senator. The Republicans are now famillar with his game, and are going to watch him closely, but there is a conservative element in his own party that will not permit him to use them for his per-sonal advantage. Guffey stands for Bryanism and free silver, and the sound money men will have none of either. No other consistent course is open to the gold Democrats. Practically the only reason that they opposed Bryan four years ago was his advocacy of free silver. The action of the Kansas City convention in specifically adopting a free silver plank at Bryan's demand brings the silver question again before the public. Gold Democrats cannot support Bryan or Guffey in the pres-ent campaign without virtually repu-diating the principles they professed in 1896. Their leaders evidently perceive that the only way to crush out the free sil-

diating the principles they professed in 1896. Their leaders evidently perceive that the only way to crush out the free sil-ver delusion is to concentrate the sound money vote of the country on McKin-ley. The course of Bryan in forcing free silver again on the Democratic party shows that it is futile to expect him to abandon this craze as long as he thinks there is a political profit in it for him, and the only manner by which he can be cured of this error is by an-other overwhelming defeat. For this purpose no occasion could be more propitious than the present. The coun-try is prosperous, and farmers, work-ing men and other toilers, contrary to Bryan's predictions, have seen prices and wages rise under the gold stand-ard. Many men can understand the truth now, as they could not in 1896, when the nation was just emerging from a disastrous panic. Guffey stands for Bryanism and the gold Democrats of Pennsylvania will vote against them both. FUSION WILL HELP BRYAN. The gold Democrats are primarily opposed to Guffey, because his success

FUSION WILL HELP BRYAN. The gold Democrats are primarily opposed to Guffey, because his success means Bryan's success. Those who at-tended the meeting of the Chester county Democratic committee held last week or read reports of the pro-ceedings were impressed with a state-ment made by W. S. Hastings, who was a delegate to the Democratic con-vention at Kansas City. He is an ar-dent advocate of fusion on the legisla-tive ticket, and in a speech before the county committee said he favored fu-sion because it would help Bryan, and he wanted to do everything to poli a big vote for Bryan. Of course he is for Guffey for United States senator. THE "PARAMOUNT ISSUE."

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THE "PARAMOUNT ISSUE." "Paramount issues are sometimes ex-pressed, but they are never made by platform declarations. The people think and form impressions of parties as organized entitles, with virtues and vices like individuals, and the party, considering its history, character and professions, that has the best claims upon the public confidence usually wins. Many voters have pronounced party predilections without being able to define them, but they have an intel-ligent basis just the same. "Imperialism will receive its share of attention on the stump and in party organs during the campaign, but the people are disposed to look upon the question as a political stalking horse, trotted out for this campaign only. If

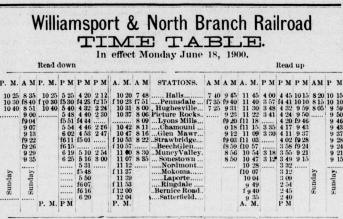


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