Republican News Item CHAS. LOREN WING, Editor.

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"FIRST OF ALL--THE NEWS." The News Item Fights Fair IT IS A PATRIOTIC HOME NEWSPAPER

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Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 19.-The declaration of Congressman Henry W Palmer, of this city, in behalf of Colonel Watres for governor is the po litical event of the week in northeastern Pennsylvania. Congressman Palmer's words carry great weight in this section of the state. He is an eminent and brilliant member of the Luzerne bar, was a member of the last state constitutional convention, served as attorney general under Governor Hoyt, and is a member of the present congress, having been elected by a large vote in an important industrial district which for many years was represented at Washington by the late Hendrick B. Wright, famous as a Dem ocratic leader and publicist. Con gressman Palmer, who is a regular Republican, is regarded as one of the ablest men that ever represented this district at the national capital. He is a man of thoughtful, conservative views and anxious for continued kepublican success in Pennsylvania. His interview on the outlook for next year was published in Philadelphia and copied with approval in the leading papers of this section.

WATRES THE CANDIDATE.

"Speaking as a Republican," said General Palmer, "and looking only to the best interest of our party, it is my judgment that it would be wise policy on the part of the party leaders in this state to nominate former Lieutenant Governor Louis A. Watres as the candidate for governor. Existing conditions in the politics of Pennsylvania make it necessary for the Republicans to nominate a candidate whose public record will be accepted by the people of the state as an evidence of what he may do should he be placed in control of the executive department of our commonwealth. From a political standpoint we must not lose sight of the fact that we need the strongest kind of a candidate to lead our party to victory, and one who will carry with him to success all the Republican candidates in Republi can counties.

"Take for instance the Luzerne and Lackawanna districts, where we will have next year to elect two congressmen, one state senator and ten members of the legislature. My belief is that with Colonel Watres as our candidate for governor we would carry not only Luzerne and Lackawanna counties, but also Schuylkill and adjoining counties in the anthracite coal regions. In fact his candidacy for governor would materially aid every Republican candidate in the several counties of our state. This is important in view of the fact that the next legislature will be called upon to elect a successor to United States Senator

CONGRESSMAN PALMER'S VIEWS ENDORSED.

The Wilkesbarre Record, one of the ablest and most widely circulated Republican newspapers in the interior of the state, indorses Congressman says as to the necessity of nominating a candidate who will unite the party if Republican candidates for congress in half a dozen districts are to be saved, and the party's candidates for county offices are not to be sacrificed in a score of counties. Mr. Palmer believes ex-Lieutenant Governor Watres is the man who can bring the party together and enable it to win an all-

around victory." The opinions here expressed, both by Congressman Palmer and the Wilkesbarre Record, voice the sentiments of observant Republicans throughout the state. The party demand is for a gubernatorial candidate whose nomination will help to elect congressmen and legislators, and make the election of a United States senator secure beyond the possibility of doubt. No machine candidate whose nomination is dictated can, it is confidently believed, bring about this result.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE.

As a man who has had much to do "h nublic affairs, Congressman Palvalue of executive exe of Colonel lieve I have

former let-

wrs. As lieutenant governor of the state, state senator and commander of the Thirteenth regiment, not to speak of the other important positions he has filled with credit, Colonel Watres is admirably equipped in this respect for the office of governor, and would inspire confidence throughout the commonwealth. His thorough legal training leaves nothing to be desired on the score of his entire fitness for the important office of chief magistrate of the commonwealth.

Nothing is more certain that the statement of Congressman Palmer that "existing conditions in the politics of Pennsylvania make it neces sary for the Republicans to nominate a candidate whose public record will be accepted by the people of the state as an evidence of what he may do should he be placed in control of the executive department." The passage of the notorious "ripper" bill in the late legislature, and the profligate character of the entire session, which welcomed all manner of corrupt and iniquitous schemes, from the "ripper" to the "trolley grab," and acted upon them with alacrity, while measures devised for the public good were neglected or ignored, show the importance of having an executive whose unshaken integrity, as proved by his record, could be relied upon to halt dishonesty at the state capital.

With Governor Watres in the executive chair the interests of the state would be safeguarded, and the people might rest assured that no crooked project would meet with his approval. There is a pronounced feeling throughout the state to the effect that any body who had aught to do with shaping the work of the legislature of 1901 need not expect to return to Harrisburg, and party managers will prove short-sighted if they fail to recognize this fact. Not only this, but the men and influences by which that legislature was controlled are discredited. and it will be the height of folly if they or any of them are put forward for promotion in a popular election.

A REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE

Republicans everywhere are anxious for party success, but they demand candidates who will command support on their merits. Above all, there is an earnest demand for a representative candidate for governor, one who will not imperil the chances of all the other party candidates. If an un-desirable factional or machine man is put forward for governor next year he will influence the result in every district and every county in the state. As already stated, this will affect congressmen, legislators and United States senator. It will do more than this. It will place in jeopardy the election of Republican county commissioners, district attorneys, treasurers and other county officers. For this reason there is a substantial demand in every county in the state in favor of such a candidate as Colonel Watres, whose party regularity is unchallenged, and whose public record is untarnished. That he would unite the party in next year's fight is as certain as that he would lead it to vic-

I have already mentioned, in this correspondence, the friendship exist ing between ex-Senator Cameron and Colonel Watres. It is interesting, in view of the frequency with which the name of Mr. Cameron has been mentioned for governor. That veteran of Republican veterans, Hon. Thomas V Cooper, of Delaware county, who is widely known as editor, statesman and stalwart, has kept the Cameron flag flying for some time with unfaltering devotion, and is, I understand, still ready to do battle for his oldtime chief, provided the latter says the word. This week another interesting phase of the Cameron candidacy was presented in the statement made on the subject by Congressman Palmer's views, and adds: "There is George F. Huff, of Greensburg. Mr. undisputed truth in what Mr. Palmer | Huff is quoted as saying: "I am for Don Cameron. I do not know that he will run, but if he can be induced to be a candidate I will support him. 'Do you care to say in what respec the candidacy of Cameron would appeal to you?" was asked,

SENATOR CAMERON'S FRIENDS.

"He is a Republican," promptly re plied Congressman Huff, "one the people of the state know and in whom they repose the fullest confidence Cameron is a man of distinctive type, of affairs, of unquestioned honor whose integrity has never been questioned. He would not be a party to the disgraceful chicanery, the thoroughly detestable methods which in the past few years have disrupted the Republican party and scandalized it in the eyes of the people of the commonwealth. Such a man must be nominated if the next governor of Pennsylvania is to be a Republicau. and what I have said of Cameron eligibility holds equally good as to

The opinions of Congressman Palmer and Congressman Huff, representing as they do northeastern and western Pennsylvania, are significant. They show that Republican sentiment is strongly in favor of a representative candidate for governor, a man like Colonel Watres, whose nomination would insure success for the party in the state and in every county and district thereof. STREPHON.

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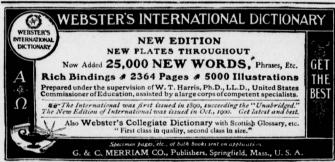
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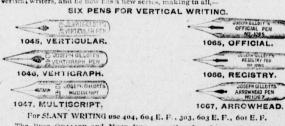
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