

# The Somerset County Star.



VOL. XIV.

SALISBURY, ELK LICK POSTOFFICE, PA., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1908.

NO. 37.

## REPUBLICAN NATIONAL TICKET.

For President,  
WILLIAM H. TAFT,  
Of Ohio.

For Vice President,  
JAMES S. SHERMAN,  
Of New York.

### STATE.

Judge of Superior Court,  
WILLIAM D. PORTER.

### DISTRICT.

Congress, 23rd District,  
ALLEN F. COOPER.

### COUNTY.

#### Legislature.

WM. H. FLOTO,  
A. W. KNEPPER.

#### Sheriff.

CHARLES H. WEIMER.

#### Auditor.

W. H. H. BAKER,  
JACOB S. MILLER.

Recorder of Deeds,  
NORMAN E. BERKEY.

Clerk of Courts,  
F. A. HARAHA.

Register of Wills,  
BERT F. LANDIS.

Treasurer,  
RUSSELL G. WALKER.

Prothonotary,  
JACOB B. GERHARD.

Poor Director,  
JACOB C. DRITZ.

County Commissioner,  
R. S. McMILLEN,  
JOSIAH SPECHT.

County Surveyor,  
IRENIS S. PYLE.

### TAFT'S RELIGION.

Reply to an Irresponsible Garrett County Scribbler Who Has Made a So-Called Open Confession.

A Writer Evidently Ashamed to Disclose His Name Tries to Pose as a Great Religious and Political Adviser.

In its issue of Sept. 10th there appeared in the Oakland Journal nearly two columns of inane and laborious "tommyrot" concerning the religion of Wm. H. Taft, the Republican candidate for President of the United States. The article referred to is signed "A Republican," but whether it was really written by a Republican or a narrow-minded bigot or political trickster of some other political faith, is an open question. At any rate the writer, whoever he may be, was evidently ashamed to sign his real name, hence the use of a nom de plume.

Following we shall reproduce some of the statements of the irresponsible Garrett county scribbler to whom we refer, with appropriate and truthful comment.

The Scribbler: "The writer of this article has always been a staunch Republican and is indeed proud of the great achievements of his party, the party of Lincoln, Grant, Garfield and McKinley."

Comment: As you are proud of having been a member of the party of Lincoln, Grant, Garfield and McKinley, you doubtless are also proud of the illustrious men you mention, as all the Americans ought to be. Yet, as you cannot tolerate Taft, because he is a member of the Unitarian church, how can you consistently praise the name of Lincoln, who was not strong enough in the faith of any Christian church to become a member of it? The fact is, most of our Presidents, as well as a majority of our greatest thinkers and statesmen, have been men on the outside of the churches, and one of our Presidents, at least, (Thomas Jefferson) was an infidel, if not an out and out atheist.

The Scribbler: "A student of present day politics, if he wants to be fair, must admit that the ideas of Mr. Bryan and President Roosevelt run in the same channel. Plainly speaking, it must be admitted that Mr. Bryan is a good man. Mr. Bryan may, no doubt, have been wrong in some of his theories, but certainly he is sincere; he is conscientious; he is a man of the noblest character; a great orator and statesman, and if never elected his name will stand in history with those of Webster, Clay and other men of their character. He is a Christian gentleman and an advocate of Christian patriotism; a man whose integrity, honesty and good intentions can never for a moment be questioned; a man who will stand for God, home and country."

Comment: President Roosevelt denies that the ideas of Mr. Bryan run to any considerable extent in the same channel with his own. But on the other hand, the President has recently written a strong letter to support the well-founded belief that Mr. Taft, if elected, will come nearer carrying out the Roosevelt policies than any other

man in the country. Any man who knows anything about the things that influenced and brought about Mr. Taft's nomination, knows that he was nominated solely because he had the influential backing of Roosevelt, who recognized Mr. Taft as being pre-eminently the man to complete the policies begun by the Roosevelt administration. To believe that President Roosevelt does not know his man, is to charge the President with ignorance and stupidity. It's a pity, indeed, that our worthy President did not consult the little, narrow-minded Garrett county bigot who wishes to pose both as a political sage and a religious teacher.

"But certainly Mr. Bryan is sincere," the irresponsible scribbler tells us, and he is a great orator, statesman, Christian gentleman, etc., etc. Yes, you bet he is sincere, especially in the matter of landing himself into the Presidential chair on any old issue that he thinks will get him there. At first he wanted to get there on the "cross of gold and crown of thorns" speech, even though the sentence quoted was borrowed rhetoric. After failing twice on the demagogic and purposely deceptive Free Silver dodge, he is now willing to drop his former brand of "sincerity" and try to get there on the demagogic plea that the people cannot rule unless they elect him. We deny, however, that his name will ever stand in history with the names of Webster, Clay and other men of their character. We predict that when Mr. Bryan once quits running for President, that he will be speedily forgotten, no matter whether he is ever elected or not.

And, after all, what does the Garrett county scribbler know about the personal character or Christian standing of Mr. Bryan? Nothing whatever. The editor of this paper has lived near Mr. Bryan's home long enough to gain a good deal of reliable information concerning the man's personal traits. We have nothing mean to say about him, for Mr. Bryan is a whole-souled, genial man. However, he has never been known to exhibit even an average amount of religious zeal, and like many other men, seems to be content to drift along and run chances of getting to heaven on his wife's religion.

As to his great statesmanship, where has he ever demonstrated that he is one of the shrewdest and craftiest politicians the world has ever known, is a fact which cannot be successfully disputed. His closest neighbors and home people evidently have never sized him up as a great statesman or unselfish patriot, or he surely would have been able, four years ago, to carry his own ward, city and state. It is strange indeed that a much benighted citizen away back in the woods of Garrett county, Md., has all of a sudden been able to discover in Mr. Bryan that which the majority of his own home people have not yet been able to discover.

The Scribbler: "We shall not unjustly criticize Mr. Taft. We believe him to be a statesman of judgment and ability. We consider him a moral man, but when this is said we can say no more."

Comment: In the last portion of the last sentence quoted, we agree that the scribbler amply demonstrated that he could say no more. In fact in his entire article he has written much and said nothing. More properly speaking, he has said little or nothing worthy of consideration. However, he admits that Taft is a moral man, which is the truth, and it is needless to add that one good, moral man is worth more to humanity in general than ten thousand of these little, narrow-minded, intolerant bigots who profess much that does not harmonize with their daily lives. A good, moral man of ability is all we need in the Presidential chair at any time, or in any other public office. No man is placed in public office to use said office for the dissemination of his religious ideas, or for the promulgation of his unbelief. Our forefathers wisely decided when they founded this government that religion and state should be conducted separately, and that every man should be accorded the right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. He who would hound a candidate for office on account of his religious belief, is guilty of persecution, and all such should have lived during the dark ages when people were tortured on the rack, burned at the stake and suffered death in all sorts of murderous and hellish ways devised by the churches and carried on in the name of religion. When and where have even infidels and atheists committed red-handed murder to compare with that in vogue during the dark days of the Salem witchcraft and during the dark ages of religious fanaticism and bigotry? Can you point out a single murder ever committed in order to force the Unitarian faith upon anyone?

The Scribbler: "We understand Mr. Taft is a Unitarian. We do not wish to criticize him for being a member of this church, but let us see what it really is. Any man can be a Unitarian. Indeed Robert G. Ingersoll was invited to make a speech in one of these churches. Mr. Taft's own pastor is on record as saying that they do not think of inquiring into an applicant for membership as to his religious belief. It matters not what one may believe they can associate themselves with this church. \* \* \* In fact, it becomes nothing less than a dumping ground of the other churches. The chief creed of Unitarians is to reject Christ."

Comment: The scribbler says he does not wish to criticize Taft for being a member of the Unitarian church, and then he goes on to criticize him with all the venom his limited intelligence can command. He says any man can be a Unitarian. Any man can also be a member of almost any other church, if he wants to surrender enough of his personal liberty and the right to think and act for himself. We are also told that Robt. G. Ingersoll was once invited to speak in a Unitarian church, which may or may not be true, and it doesn't matter much whether it is true or not. Ingersoll was one of the world's greatest orators, and he spoke on many topics besides religion. Furthermore, he died as he lived, an agnostic. He never denied the existence of a God, but did deny the inspiration of the Bible. And even Ingersoll had many admirable traits of character, regardless of what we may think of his views on the Christian religion. He had the courage of his convictions, at least, yet not one whit more of an infidel was he than some salaried ministers of the various Christian churches, who do a big lot of pretending for a salary of a few thousand dollars a year, but whose daily life and real beliefs are sadly at variance with their preaching.

As to the dumping ground for other churches, there are doubtless a good many dumping grounds. But whether the Unitarian church is one of them, we are not prepared to say. We believe that it is not, for most of the other churches seem perfectly willing to retain their own quota of rubbish that ought to be dumped out, the only requirement needed to remain in the fold being a willingness and ability to pay the preacher, wear the necessary Puritanical long face, and show the necessary amount of bigotry and fanaticism when in the minds of such impostors it is necessary to hoodwink somebody. The real dumping ground for all of the churches and the balance of the world is supposed to be on the other side of this life, where we are taught that the sheep shall be separated from the goats. Holy Writ tells us that many professing Christians shall be sent away into torment with the goats, and it is safe to conjecture that not all of them will be Unitarians, either.

Furthermore, is the Garrett county scribbler aware of the fact that the Chaplain of Congress, at Washington, the man who does the praying for the nation, is one of those awful Unitarians, the kind of people he classes with infidels? Is he aware that Benjamin Disraeli, the great and wise statesman who served England so long and creditably as her Prime Minister, and who died in 1881, was a Jew?

The Scribbler: "I fear it would be nothing less than a crime to place in the Presidential chair a man who rejects God's Son, and then ask Almighty God to bless the head of our nation. We do not wish to draw religion into politics, we should not object to any man who is a member of some Christian church, but we do think that no Christian can conscientiously support Mr. Taft, for in supporting him you are rejecting Christ for whom and His cause you promised to stand when you united with His church."

Comment: What rot! If a man who rejects God's Son, whether that man be President of the United States or its humblest citizen, should not be prayed for, who should? Again we ask, from a Christian standpoint, who is more urgently in need of Christian prayers than he who knows not Christ? Is it right or just to treat a man like an outcast who has an honest difference with us on religion? The bigot, the fanatic, the Pharisee and the hypocrite always seek to boycott those who do not think as they themselves think. They seek to persecute all who differ with them on religion—to boycott them at the ballot-box and in business; to ridicule and denounce them in public print, and when they yet had the power, to cast them into prison, burn them at the stake, torture them on the rack, subject them to the hellish arts of the inquisition, etc. And not one of them ever made a single convert to their cause by such tactics.

The scribbler says he does not wish to draw religion into politics, but he shows his insincerity by devoting nearly two columns of newspaper space

to accomplish that very thing. The scribbler also tells us that in supporting Taft we are rejecting Christ, all of which is so far-fetched and ridiculously untrue as to make it akin to blasphemy. The fact of the matter is that the scribbler is as ignorant of the Unitarian faith as a hog is of parlor etiquette, and for his special enlightenment we will here quote from the New International Encyclopedia, a work of standard authority, just what the principles of the Unitarian faith are:

"Unitarians believe in one God, the Father, not the Trinity of persons in the Godhead. They believe that Jesus is a son of God, not that he is God, the son; they recognize him as the great teacher of spiritual truth and the example of the noble life, but they do not accept him as God, the equal of the Heavenly Father. They do not believe in worshipping Christ, but in following him, and they discover no need of a mediator between God and man. Unitarians believe in the Holy Spirit, not as the third person in the Godhead, but as the name for God's spiritual influence in the hearts of men. They consider all men God's children, not merely His creatures, and therefore they declare the dignity, not the depravity, of human nature. The doctrines of the fall of man and of sacrificial atonement have, therefore, for Unitarians no reality or significance. Unitarians believe that the Bible contains the Word of God, not that every word it contains is God's word; they use the Bible as an oracle of the spiritual life to touch the conscience and to draw the soul to God. They hold that salvation is won, not through miraculous substitution, but through the energies of a good life; they hold that fruitfulness is the test of religious vitality. To them heaven and hell are not places of bliss and misery, but states or conditions of the soul; each man making for himself his own heaven or hell and carrying it with him wherever he goes. Unitarians find an adequate basis for religious organization in a common purpose to do good and to be good."

Now then, isn't a religion of that kind about all right? It sounds pretty good to us, and we don't care who knows it, even though, like Abraham Lincoln and many other good men, we belong to no church. The Unitarian church is as much a Christian church as any other denomination, and it is so classed by recognized authorities on church matters, the would-be religious and political sage and statesman of Garrett county's underbrush, of course, excepted.

What we like about the Unitarian church is the fact that that denomination does not try to frighten people into repentance by continually dangling a terrible devil before them and a great, big, burning hell. Neither do its followers get hysterical about once or twice a year and do stunts at revivals about as senseless as the Indians do at their Ghost Dances. Phariseeism, hysterical nonsense and child's play is unknown among the Unitarians. They teach that the man who is a Christian simply because he is afraid of going to hell if he is not a Christian, is not as good a man as he who does right for right's sake. Honesty is the best policy, is a saying old and true; but he who is honest for no other reason than for policy's sake, is dishonest. In other words, he is just like the man who professes Christianity for no other reason than the fear of hell fire; he's a fraud.

The Scribbler: "I have always been a Republican and especially a Roosevelt Republican, but in the light of this campaign I consider it my duty to rise higher than party and throw off the fake yoke of Taft, which is not in true keeping with the Roosevelt policies, because Taft is not a man of the Roosevelt type."

Comment: You cannot be a Roosevelt Republican without supporting Taft, for Roosevelt's own private and public utterances have effectually settled that point. You say that Taft is not a man of the Roosevelt type, while Roosevelt declares emphatically that he is, and "Teddy" ought to know. You talk of throwing off a fake yoke. My poor, benighted man, you have no fake yoke on your graceful neck to throw off; but you have a real yoke to get rid of—the galling yoke of ignorance. And, lastly, if you want to throw off a real fake and make a real and beneficial confession, a confession that is good for the soul, then either throw off your disguise, let your light shine, write and fight for "Windy Bill" Bryan in the open, or else humbly confess that you were in ignorance concerning the Unitarian religion, since we have amply proven it by high standard authority. Do not hide behind an assumed name, if you have faith in what you write about on economic or religious questions. And above all, do not get the foolish notion into your head that you are serving either God or Christ by voting for Bryan, the man who is running away from his record. We do not believe that a vote cast for Bryan would even be serving your own or your country's best interests. Christ would look very much out of place in the Democratic band wagon, along side

of "Windy Bill," the windmill. For a Republican to vote against "Bill" Taft is a sign that such voter is going daft. Don't do it, but stay, we pray, in the middle of the way, and help Bill Taft to gain the day. Like the man at the plow, or a swift boat's prow, he's going to get there, anyhow.

### A PAYING INVESTMENT.

Mr. John White, of 38 Highland Ave. Houlton, Maine, says: "Have been troubled with a cough every winter and spring. Last winter I tried many advertised remedies, but the cough continued until I bought a 50c. bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery; before that was half gone, the cough was all gone. This winter the same happy result has followed; a few doses once more banished the annual cough. I am now convinced that Dr. King's New Discovery is the best of all cough and lung remedies." Sold under guarantee at E. H. Miller's drug store. 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. 10-1

When President Roosevelt and W. H. Taft dumped Joe Foraker out of the Republican party for being too badly smeared with Standard oil, it pleased some of our local Democrats very much. They took great pleasure in trying to look holy and blowing off their gas in the postoffice lobby about it. But when "Teddy" asserted that "Windy Bill" Bryan's right bauer, Gov. Haskell, of Oklahoma, was as badly smeared with Standard oil as Foraker, they held up their hands in holy horror, and like Bryan, they cried for the proof. Well, they got the proof in today's daily papers, and they got it good and strong. "Teddy" gave them Oklahoma's court records as the proof, and that has taken the wind all out of their sails. Facts are developing every day to prove that Bryan is a demagogic windbag and fakir, only that and nothing more.

Congressman Cooper and his opponents for office, M. R. Travis and "Windy Willie" Likins, were all visitors to the Meyersdale Fair, yesterday. Mr. Cooper was greeted by hundreds of his staunch friends and supporters from all over Somerset county, and Mr. Travis was enthusiastically received by the few Democrats residing in and about Meyersdale. We had the pleasure of a pleasant talk with both of the gentlemen aforesaid, and several citizens volunteered to give us an introduction to "Windy Willie," whom they conceded to be the champion freak of three counties. We declined the proffered honor (?), however, on the ground that we already know too many men of the Likins stripe, and have no desire to shake hands with fellows of his ilk. He looks, acts, talks and writes like an escaped lunatic, and we have no time to waste in shaking hands with such as he.

John L. Johnson, an old Elk Lick township soldier, was recently granted an increase of pension and a nice wad of back pay, through the untiring efforts in his behalf of Congressman Allen F. Cooper, who has done more for the old soldiers than any other Congressman that ever represented this county at Washington. John L. Johnson has rendered his country valiant service, and he richly deserves the increase of pension granted him. In speaking to the editor, several days ago, Mr. Johnson said, "Mr. Cooper has done me more good than all others combined, and I will remember him at the polls in November." Right here it is not out of place to remark that the only man who ever censured Congressman Cooper for his valiant work in behalf of the gallant old boys who wore the blue, is one Wm. M. Likins, Prohibition candidate for Congress, who is now seeking votes among the people of this Congressional district. All old soldiers, their sons, brothers and all their sympathizers, should bear this in mind when their votes are solicited by that red-headed, untutored Puke, "Windy Willie" Likins, late of Beaver Dam, Ky., and that other place where he once resided in that state, but keeps so silent about.

### HOW TO GET STRONG.

P. J. Daily, of 1247 W. Congress St., Chicago, tells of a way to become strong: He says: "My mother, who is old and was very feeble, is deriving so much benefit from Electric Bitters, that I feel it my duty to tell those who need a tonic and strengthening medicine about it. In my mother's case a marked gain in flesh has resulted, insomnia has been overcome, and she is steadily growing stronger." Electric Bitters quickly remedy stomach, liver and kidney complaints. Sold under guarantee at E. H. Miller's drug store. 50c. 10-1

### THE CONGRESSIONAL CONTEST.

From the Connellsville Daily Courier.

The contest for Congress in this district is not taken very seriously by the voters generally. The Prohibition candidate, it is true, is making considerable noise, but that is his peculiar political style. We are accustomed to it here in Fayette county. It is diverting to the people, but not seriously disturbing to Republican majorities, though it has at times chased the Democratic party pretty closely for the honor of being the minority party. Nobody expects Colonel Likins to go to Congress, not even the colonel himself. Colonel "Pete" Livengood certainly does not expect it, at least not since he has opened the rapid fire guns of THE SALISBURY STAR upon William of the Water Wagon.

Nor does anybody seriously consider the candidacy of the Democratic nominee. Few Democrats even know his name, and few have seen him this campaign, though it is reported that he has been in Fayette county. The Uniontown Standard says:

We read in the Greene county papers that M. R. Travis, Democratic candidate for Congress in the district, "has just returned from Fayette county, greatly encouraged by the outlook." It takes a mighty little to encourage some people.

The next Congressman from this district will be Allen Foster Cooper, the Republican nominee.

### WHEN TRIFLES BECOME TROUBLES.

If any person suspects that their kidneys are deranged, they should take Foley's Kidney Remedy at once, and not risk having Bright's disease or diabetes. Delay gives the disease a stronger foothold, and you should not delay taking Foley's Kidney Remedy. Elk Lick Pharmacy, E. H. Miller, proprietor. 10-1

### THE GRAND ARMY.

It is estimated that of the more than 2,500,000 men who enlisted in the ranks for the Civil war, about 500,000 survive. Most of them are old men. The average age is almost seventy. Some of the survivors are yet in good health and in active life, but most of these were boys when they donned the uniform. The death list amounts to about forty thousand every year. Those who marvel that so many are yet living should remember that army life weeds out the incapable. More men died of disease than from bullets. The law of the survival of the fittest works admirably in this case, and those who are alive now have more than the ordinary expectation of life because they are the selected few.

The rising generation has a tendency at times to make light of the services of the veterans. Knowing nothing of war unless of the mock-herosics of the late contest with Spain, they are apt to look upon the old veterans as men who didn't do so much after all, and who are treated with more consideration than they deserve. Those who remember the dark days of the conflict have no such sentiments. They remember the appeals for every man possible to go to the front and bare his breast to the bullets. Of course, a majority survived, many did not even get into danger; but when a man put on the uniform and swore allegiance, he knew full well that he might be called upon to face certain death at any moment. That was the step that counted most.

The Nation has not been ungrateful. It has paid out more in pensions than it has paid out more in pensions than it did when they were most numerous. It pays more than the Kaiser does for his great army. But aside from this care, the fact should be impressed upon all of the rising generation that these men did not go to fight for pay. They were no mercenaries. They fought that the Nation might live and the present generation enjoy the abundant blessings of peace and prosperity. All honor to the survivors of that victorious army!—Inquirer.

### PASSED EXAMINATION SUCCESSFULLY.

James Donahue, New Britain, Conn., writes: "I tried several kidney remedies, and was treated by our best physicians for diabetes, but did not improve until I took Foley's Kidney Remedy. After the second bottle I showed improvement, and five bottles cured me completely. I have since passed a rigid examination for life insurance." Foley's Kidney Remedy cures backache and all forms of kidney and bladder trouble. Elk Lick Pharmacy, E. H. Miller, proprietor. 10-1

WEDDING Invitations at THE STAR office. A nice new stock just received. 10-1