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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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FREELAND, NOVEMBER 4, 1895.

THE PLATFORM

The Following is the Platform Adopted by the Williamsport Convention.

First. The Democratic party, in State Convention assembled, hereby renews its allegiance to and declares its faith in the principles of Democracy as articulated by Jefferson and illustrated by Madison, Monroe, Jackson and Cleveland. It congratulates the American people upon the first fruits of the Democratic administration, which inherited from its Republican predecessor a bankrupt Treasury and unwise financial legislation, impaired public credit and widespread disaster, and which, under the sagacious, courageous and patriotic leadership of its great President, Grover Cleveland, led the people out of the slough of despondency to the high ground of substantial and increasing prosperity.

We challenge the fairness of our countrymen to ask that the Democratic party now receive the benefit of that renewed prosperity whose welcome note is heard on every side.

Second. The enactment of the Sherman silver-purchase act, the McKinley tariff law found, as accurately predicted by Mr. Cleveland, their results in bankrupt railroads, closed factories, ruined farms, abandoned fields, impaired national credit and general disaster. The repeal of such iniquitous legislation and the substitution of more moderate tariff laws have found their immediate results in the resumption of business and the restoration of the national credit.

Third. As vindictive of the principles of tariff reform, to which the Democracy is unalterably pledged, we challenge special attention to the fact that the McKinley tariff, the consequent material increase of wages has been most pronounced in the industries whose existence or continuance is dependent upon high tariff duties. The gloomy prediction that the iron and steel industries of Pennsylvania would be ruined by a reduced tariff has been contradicted by their present unimpeded prosperity.

We invite the attention of the wage earners to the fact that the present voluntary increase of wages of those employed in the iron and steel industry amounts to not less than \$250,000,000, was absolutely unknown under the McKinley tariff act. To prevent the reaction of legislation threatened by the Republican party of Pennsylvania in their recent State Convention, which would have destroyed the business by destroying faith in the stability of present conditions, we invite our fellow-countrymen to stand in solidarity with the Democratic party, to so act together as to insure, by the election of a Democratic President in 1896, the maintenance of the present prosperity.

Fifth. We especially reaffirm so much of the platform of the last Democratic National Convention as calls for the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country; but the dollar unit of exchange of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value, or be adjusted by international agreement, or by such safeguards of legislation as shall insure the maintenance of the parity of the two metals and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the payment of debts. We believe that such parity could not be maintained by the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and we are therefore opposed to any legislation looking to that end.

Sixth. We arraign and condemn the present administration, both in the executive and legislative branches of the government, for its refusal to reappoint the State, in accordance with the mandates of the Constitution; for its profligate waste of public money; for its creation of private awards and undesired public offices; for its degradation of the public service in factional contests; for its unnecessary increase of official salaries; for its retention of many disreputable and justly merited and received the almost universal approbation of the people of this Commonwealth.

Seventh. We challenge comparison between this State administration, which has been so faithless to its pledges, and the wise, economical and honest administration of Robert E. Pattison, which in the stainless purity of its retirement, by its dignified and justly merited and received the almost universal approbation of the people of this Commonwealth.

Eighth. We especially invite the sober consideration of the people of this State to the remarkable fact that the McKinley tariff, a struggle which involved no principle or public policy, but simply the supremacy of the contending factional leaders. The worst arrangement at our hands of Republican misrule falls short of what representative Republican newspapers and leaders testified of each other. The admitted prostitution of the public service, the invasion of corporate influences, the degradation of the public service, the attempted terrorism at Harrisburg by men of the most abandoned type, the high water mark of political demerit, but heeded to complete its infamy the transparent hypocrisy which led a convention, thus constituted, to adopt "highly laudatory" resolutions condemning the very methods by which its delegates had been selected. Such condemnation of "the growing use of money in politics; the corporate control of the Legislature, municipal Councils, political primaries and elections; the employment of public officers and employees; favoritism in granting contracts and the granting of exclusive franchises in public necessities," while valuable as evidencing the truth of the accusations of the Democratic party in the last quarter of a century, yet coming from the very source which is responsible for these evils, constitutes the crowning insult to the intelligence of a forwarding and long-suffering people.

A very large meteor which fell from the heavens some weeks ago near Gulf Summit is causing a queer legal muddle. The meteor fell on the land of Farmer Swackhammer, almost on the boundary line between New York and Pennsylvania. The exact location of the state line has for many years been a matter of dispute, and the matter has been brought to a focus by the falling of this meteor. Not only has the dividing line between Swackhammer and Farmer Littlejohn's lands, dependent upon the state line, has never been located. Falling in the disputed territory this meteor has brought about a legal battle, as both farmers claim it, while a third person claims it by right of discovery. Injunctions have been obtained by all three. Meanwhile scientists have partly excavated the stone and have endeavored to determine its origin.

The Problem of Economy.

No subject is more interesting to the general public than the cost of living. The problem the majority are trying to solve is how to save money and make the best possible appearance. Usually it is discovered that the bank account increases as the family curtails its wants. The length of the bank account is in proportion to the increase of the things not bought. Once in awhile, writes a philosopher in Outing, when patience is exhausted, because even going without does not bring the desired results, one is tempted to accept that fallacious definition of economy: "Economy is going without something you do want, in case you should some day want something you will not want." Economy is the promise of the future, the despair of the present, with most of us. We act on the same principle that governs us in the treatment of our favorite sins; we are waiting for the miracle of accumulated strength to overcome them. We would scale mountains without walking in the monotonous road that leads to them. After all, what is economy but proportion? To refuse to spend what is legitimate, in order to secure future wealth, is putting a heavy mortgage on life with the prospect of very uncertain returns. To spend regardless of the future is to ignore an investment that makes a sure return. The courageous are those who live in harmony with an educated conscience. These build on a sure foundation. They are the only true, the only wise, as well as the only courageous people. May their numbers increase.

Conventional Standards.

It has been quite a feature of the last summer season that a number of brave resenes have been made, not only by men, but also by women and children. These results show perceptibly and eloquently the changing of the conventional standards. Till of comparatively recent years self-reliance and courage were looked on as exclusively masculine virtues, and the womanly character was considered as more strikingly in relief when displaying utter dependence and inability to face or fight danger. Now, owing to the physical and mental training of women, the new ideas that none of her natural resources are to be stilled, but rather to be developed, have obtained sway, and with their ascendancy has come the downfall of the theory that a woman who has nerve and coolness enough to help herself and aid others in case of danger is unsexed thereby. Graceful faints are no longer characteristic of the woman of to-day. She may have lost some of her angelic air, but the atmosphere of sturdy common sense which has taken its place is much more refreshing for the public and infinitely safer for herself.

A Prominent Chicago Physician.

Dr. F. W. Reilly, pathologist, bacteriologist, meteorologist, archaeologist, and erstwhile editor, says that the common practice of kissing is "vicious, intolerable, barbaric and vile. This question of kissing has been a hobby with me for some time, and I have studied its results. I knew a consumptive preacher down in Nokolmis who made a practice of kissing his flock after service every Sunday. The mortality in the village increased twenty-two per cent. in one year, and when I left there half the members of the congregation were leaning against fences for support. The germs were in the contribution boxes, in the hymn-book racks and all about the pulpit." Let those who are given to promiscuous osculation pause and reflect upon the dangers attending the pleasant practice.

Nearly All Attempts to Make Convict Labor Profitable Have Failed.

In Mississippi the attempt to make convict labor profitable have failed, but Mississippi, under peculiar conditions, seems to have succeeded. Last year the state abandoned the vicious plan of farming out the labor of convicts to contractors, and purchased a farm of ten thousand acres on which to raise cotton. Nearly all of the convicts are field hands—virtually expert workmen—and it is reported that the managers of the farm have turned fifty thousand dollars over to the state treasury, representing the profit made after paying all expenses. This represents five dollars an acre, a good return on the investment. Another farm will probably be purchased, that work may be provided for all the convicts. There appears to be no objection from free laborers to this use of the convicts, but there are very few states that could successfully follow Mississippi's example.

In Montana the Penalty for Attempting Burglary at Night is Seven Years in the Penitentiary.

While an attempt to commit the same offense during the day is only a year in the county jail. According to law also the day is between sunrise and sunset. A man was tried the other day in Butte for attempted burglary in the night, but his attorney established the fact that the crime was committed at 5:10 in the morning of August 5. The almanac showed that the sun rose at 4:56 a. m. on that day, and this enabled the accused to get off with nine months in jail.

California Fruit Has Found a Clamorous Market in London.

The keeping qualities of the fruit having stood the test satisfactorily, there is every reason to expect that the trade begun in an experimental way will rapidly assume commercial importance with the coming of another season.

Meteorological Item.

He—Do you know that you remind me very much of the weather?
She—In what respect?
"You are so changeable."
"Is that so? Do you know that I don't see the least resemblance between you and the weather?"
"You don't say so."
"You are certainly not like the weather. You know the weather is bright occasionally—you never are."—Texas Siftings.

She Resented It.

"How dare you accuse me of being a kleptomaniac?" she said, indignantly.
"Why," replied the young man who was on his knees, "I didn't."
"Isn't a kleptomaniac a person who purloins things for which he has no possible use?"
"Yes."
"Did you not just say that I had stolen your heart? Hence, monster, hence!"—Washington Evening Star.

On the Trail.

If there's any mishap that can wring from the soul
An anguished and heart-rending wail,
'Tis to patiently wait for the tunnel to come,
And then find that she's loved her well!
—Truth.

THE NEW CHILD.



Aunt—I thought I said you were not to play with those boys?
Niece—But if I don't look after my own matrimonial prospects, who will?
—New Budget.

Not a Good Sinker.

"How was my angel cake?" she said;
Her husband answered with a frown;
"It was heavier than lead,
I fear I cannot keep it down."
—N. Y. Recorder.

Knew His Business.

The new woman prisoner looked over the jury of gentlemen in the box. "May it please the court," she said, with great hauteur, "I desire to be tried by a jury of the peers."
"That is impossible, madam, I am sorry to say," replied the gallant judge.
"This court hasn't the power to summon angels to serve on juries."—Detroit Free Press.

Infantile Diplomacy.

Kitty (aged four)—Mamma, I want a piece of bread and butter.
Mamma—You can have it when dinner-time comes, dear.
Kitty (happening in kitchen a few moments later)—Mandy, mamma says I can have a piece of bread and butter, but you'd better not ask her about it, 'coz maybe she wouldn't let me have it. —Chicago Tribune.

Artenus Ward as a Punster.

"They have queer hotels in Oregon," said Ardenus Ward. "I remember one where they gave me a bag of oats for a pillow; I had nightmares of course. In the morning the landlord said: 'How do you feel, old hoss—hay?' I told him I felt my oats."—The Pathfinder.

Inclined to Assist Him.

"You don't object to a contributor dropping into poetry once in awhile, I presume?" said the caller, with an affable smile.
"Certainly not, sir, sit down," replied the editor, pushing the waste basket toward him. —Chicago Tribune.

He Knew.

The Editor's Little Boy—Pop says there was a donation party up at your house last night; what's that?
The Minister's Little Boy—Why, that's when folks come to your house and bring pie and cake, and eat it all up, and then go home again.—Puck.

Not a Success to Him.

"I heard that your wife has been taking a dumbbell course."
"She has."
"Is it a success?"
"Not she talks as much as ever."—Town Topics.

Insonia.

Physician (to government clerk)—Well, what do you complain of?
"Sleeplessness, doctor."
"At what time do you go to bed?"
"Oh, I don't mean at night, but during office hours."—N. Y. Journal.

A Job 't Wanted.

"What does a marriage-license cost?" said a Chicago young man to the officer who issues the nuptial permits.
"One dollar and a half."
"How do you sell them by the dozen?"
—Judge.

Think of the Butterfat!

"We had some lovely grape butter in the country."
"Do you know how they made it?"
"Oh, churned the wine, I suppose."—Chicago Record.

A Case of Counterfeiting.

She—I thought you said you had money.
He—So I have—in my mind.
She—Then I take it you haven't it with you.—Truth.

He Preferred the Other.

Van Dyne—What caused the duke to break off the engagement?
Van Etten—Bullion put up some common stock as part of the marriage settlement.—Bay City Chat.

FLOWERS.

The flowers of some sensitive plants are as sensitive as the leaves. EVERY saint in the calendar is said to be provided with a floral emblem. NO PLANT will produce flowers unless there is iron in the soil in which it grows. EVERY ancient hero and god had a flower specially consecrated to his honor. THE Venus fly trap produces juice that to nearly all insects is a deadly poison. THE marigold goes to sleep with the sun and remains quiescent until sunrise. THE saffron is valuable as a dye. It grows wild in many parts of south Europe. In all mythology and folklore white flowers are supposed to spring from tears. A FLOWERING plant is said to abstract from the soil two hundred times its own weight of water. THE coral flowers, so called, are animals. A coral reef resembles a bed of anemones. SOME plants, as the peach tree, send forth their flowers before the leaves have started. DOUBLE flowers are generally the result of cultivation and always an abnormal growth. THE rose among the Romans was the emblem of secrecy, hence the phrase sub rosa. In all mountainous countries flowers are found growing up to the line of perpetual snow. THE catalogues and floral dictionaries give the names of seven hundred and fifty kinds of roses.

MIXED.

AN epidemic broke out among the silk worms of Spain during the middle of this century, which for a time threatened to destroy the entire European silk culture. KROSS is to be erected in the public squares of Copenhagen containing public telephones, conveniences for writing and an office for receiving letters, besides the usual newspaper and book-bank stands. IT is a significant fact that emergency hospitals in New York aid their testimony as to the benefit of Sunday closing Sunday, instead of being the busiest day, is now the quietest. A SHARK recently washed ashore at Midlan, B. C., had two distinct tails, three perfect eyes, and what appeared to be the rudiment of a fin or flipper hanging to the under jaw. A WRITER in the Fortnightly points out that divorce is more common among the Turks than in the United States, and that when a Turkish wife is divorced her husband has to restore every piaster of her dowry. IT is proposed in England to build warships in docks instead of on slips, and thereby reduce the expense and danger of launching. AN Austrian mountain battery division recently managed to get two batteries, guns, horses and full equipment, from the Zillertal in Tyrol to the top of the Pfister Joch, which is seven thousand three hundred feet high. EVERY soldier knows that a horse will not step on a man intentionally. It is a standing order in the British cavalry if a trooper becomes dismounted he must lie still. If he does this the whole squadron will pass over him without doing him injury. DESERTIONS from the French foreign legion have, it is said, been numerous of late, owing to the rigid discipline of the corps. A list of absentees has been published in some of the newspapers, and it includes the name of one British subject, an Irishman, among the others, which are principally those of German or Swiss.

CHURCHES.

THE Adonal Shomo has one organization and 29 members. Their place of worship is valued at \$5,000. THE Seventh-day Baptists have 100 societies and 9,123 members, with church property valued at \$294,010. THE Church of God has 479 organizations and 22,511 members. It claims 228 church buildings, valued at \$949,185. THE Cumberland Presbyterian church claims a membership of 104,940, and has church property valued at \$3,515,511. THE Colored Methodist Episcopal church has a working force of 129,383. They own church property valued at \$1,713,303. THE Universalists claim 950 societies, 832 churches and a membership of 49,194. Their church property is valued at \$8,054,333.

Realizing on Assets.

Old Ballion (playfully)—Suppose I should lose my money and die poor, what would my little duckie darling do then?
Young Bride (thoughtfully)—Perhaps a medical college would give me something for your corpse.—N. Y. Weekly.

Feine Amities.

Miss Oldenish—Julia, dear, I'm going to give such a novel birthday party. I've invited a guest for every year of my life. Won't it be just lovely!
Miss Passeur—Yes; but where will you find room for them all?—N. Y. Journal.

On a Hot Trail.

Editor—Have you found out the inside facts of the Sharp divorce case?
Reporter—No, but I expect to soon. Mrs. Sharpe told my wife all about it in the strictest confidence.—Bay City Chat.

Good Hair Dye.

A maiden writes: "Can you tell me how to change the color of my hair, which all the young men tell me is 'red'?"
Certainly we can. Get rich; they will then call it golden or Auburn.—Eric Messenger.

THE HIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.

Anthracite coal used exclusively, insuring cleanliness and comfort. ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS. MAY 15, 1895. LEAVE FREELAND. 6:05, 8:25, 9:35, 10:41 a. m., 1:35, 2:27, 3:40, 4:25, 6:12, 6:58, 8:05, 8:57 p. m., for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumber Yard, Stockton and Hazleton. 6:05, 8:25, 9:35 a. m., 1:35, 3:40, 4:25 p. m., for Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Philadelphia, Easton and New York. 6:05, 9:35, 10:41 a. m., 2:27, 4:25, 6:58 p. m., for Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and Pottsville. 7:28, 9:16, 10:46 a. m., 11:54, 4:34 p. m., via Highland Branch for White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pileston and L. and B. Junction. SUNDAY TRAINS. 11:49 a. m. and 3:45 p. m. for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumber Yard and Hazleton. 3:45 p. m. for Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, New York and Philadelphia. ARRIVE AT FREELAND. 7:28, 9:27, 10:56, 11:54 a. m., 12:58, 2:13, 4:34, 5:33, 6:58, 8:47 p. m., from Hazleton, Stockton, Lumber Yard, Jeddo and Drifton. 7:28, 9:27, 10:56, 11:54 a. m., 12:58, 2:13, 4:34, 5:33, 6:58, 8:47 p. m., from Delano, Mahanoy City and Shenandoah (via New Boston Branch). 12:58, 2:13, 4:34 p. m., from New York, Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Allentown and Mauch Chunk. 9:27, 10:56 a. m., 12:58, 5:33, 6:58, 8:47 p. m., from Easton, Philadelphia, Bethlehem and Mauch Chunk. 9:27, 10:56 a. m., 2:27, 4:25 p. m. from White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pileston and L. and B. Junction (via Highland Branch). SUNDAY TRAINS. 11:31 a. m. and 3:21 p. m., from Hazleton, Lumber Yard and Drifton. 11:31 a. m. from Delano, Hazleton, Philadelphia and Easton. 4:25 p. m. from Delano and Mahanoy region. For further information inquire of Ticket Agents. CHAS. S. LEE, Gen'l Pass. Agent, Philadelphia, Pa. ROLLIN H. WILBERT, Gen. Supt. East. Div. A. W. NONNEMACHER, Asst. G. P. A., South Bethlehem, Pa.

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