

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION.

"Here Shall the Press the People's Rights Maintain, Unawed by Influence and Unbribed by Gain."

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FROM KANSAS CITY.

Notes of the Democratic Convention by Our Washington Correspondent.

Contrast Between the Democratic National Convention and the Republican Performance—A Message of Hope—Enthusiasm Over Anti-Imperialism and Bryan.

[Special Correspondence.] No sharper contrast could be imagined than that shown by the democratic national convention at Kansas City when compared with the republican performance at Philadelphia.

The latter was boss-ridden from start to finish. In the democratic convention no man, nor even any set of men dictated the proceedings.

In Philadelphia the reading of the platform was received with apathy and indifference. At Kansas City the platform was received with unbounded enthusiasm. The plank naming "imperialism" as the paramount issue called forth a flag demonstration unequalled in the history of national conventions.

Among the democrats there was no cut-and-dried platform. The committee on resolutions held a fourteen-hour session, listening to all shades of opinion on the vital issues. The platform itself was written only three hours before it was presented to the convention. It satisfied everybody.

The republicans brought their white-house-manufactured platform to Philadelphia and then the leaders quarreled among themselves until the platform has become a public scandal.

Hope and Harmony. The democratic platform is an application of the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and the letter of the constitution to the new and momentous issues which have arisen in the past three years. It is a message of hope and encouragement to every citizen who wants good government and who knows that it never can be compassed under a second term of this administration.

The temper and atmosphere of the democratic convention was very significant. There were gathered not only delegates from widely separated sections of the country, but also men, united as to the necessity for governmental reform, but differing widely on many details of the campaign.

It was a convention where dissension might easily have gained a foothold, unless repressed by some higher and stronger sentiment. There were no bosses to keep up an appearance of surface harmony, without regard to the real feeling, as at the republican convention. Everything was open, above board and spontaneous at the democratic convention.

The Anti-Imperialism Plank. Those who came to criticize admitted that all minor differences were shelved in the face of the serious issues to be met.

It was the most enthusiastic political convention ever held in the country. It was at the same time the most earnest and sincere.

The outburst of enthusiasm over the anti-imperialism plank in the platform was entirely spontaneous. It was 30 minutes of flag waving, cheering, marching, waving of banners and singing of patriotic songs. There was something very inspiring in the contemplation of that vast assemblage set wild by an enthusiasm as grim and earnest and irrepresible as that of the Crusaders of old. It was the protest of the flag itself against imperialism.

Enthusiasm Over Bryan. The fact that the nomination of Bryan was expected did not lessen the enthusiasm. The demonstration at the mention of his name showed how thoroughly he has fixed his place in the hearts of the people as the leader who is great as his opportunity. There was affection and admiration and trust and loyalty in the enthusiasm which marked the nomination of Bryan.

At Philadelphia Mark Hanna had to force some shadow of enthusiasm for the name of McKinley. His puppets creaked when they clumsily obeyed his signals, and the hollowness of the whole farce was apparent to the most casual observer.

When Bryan was nominated the cheering and waving of flags lasted so long that it seemed as if the convention could not bring itself back to the transaction of routine business.

Stevenson's Nomination. The nomination of the vice presidential candidate showed how thoroughly democratic was the Kansas City convention. An hour before Stevenson was nominated, no leader or no delegate could tell whether it would be he or Towne or Hill. It was simply a question of the best judgment of the convention. The nomination gives satisfaction all around. Stevenson adds strength to the ticket in the great middle western states, where the battle is being fought and where the decisive vote is to be cast. He is a thorough democrat, loyal to the platform and devoted to Bryan. Mr. Towne, while deservedly popular, felt that his nomination would not be the most advisable one and will work as hard for party success as though he were Bryan's running mate. Hill's declination, of course, put him out of the race, and it increased the chances of democratic success in New York state. Had Hill been nominated New York would have been torn asunder with factional fights.

The democratic national committee is preparing actively for the campaign. Along with the realization

that it is to be a serious campaign against trust influences and republican machine organization, is the abiding certainty of a democratic victory next November.

ADOLPH PATTERSON.

WORDS OF WARNING.

Prophetic Utterances of Washington and Webster Concerning Imperialism.

In his farewell address Washington warned his people against the time when aggregated wealth should become arrogant and tyrannical. His prophetic spirit foresaw the day of McKinleyism and trusts.

No less clearly did Lincoln foresee and foretell the very times that have come upon the country. His words of warning were:

"It is in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless."

His fears were not groundless. They have been realized in more terrible form than ever he imagined possible. His anxiety for his country was well-founded. There remains but one step in his prophesy unfulfilled—the destruction of the republic. All this is not past believing, unless the people shall rise in their might and overthrow the tyrant wealth, before it has subjected them to its power so completely that there is no relief except through the frightful method of war.

There was another great American in his day, now scorned and scoffed and held in contempt as a little American by the Hanna-McKinley quality. His name was Daniel Webster. He, too, with prophetic spirit, divined the day of McKinleyism and warned the people against it. The seeds of imperialism had been sown in his day. Though he wrought mightily to exterminate them, up to the last day of his life he could not do so:

"Arbitrary governments may have territories and distant possessions, because arbitrary governments may rule by different laws and different systems. We can do no such things. They must be of us, part of us, or else strangers. I think I see a course adopted which is likely to turn the constitution of the land into a deformed monster, into a curse, rather than a blessing; in fancy, a frame of an unequal government, not founded on popular representation, not founded on equality, but on the grossest inequality; and I think that this process will go on, or that there is danger that it will go on, until this union shall fall to pieces. Resist it to-day and always! Whoever falters or whoever flies, I continue to contest!"

Either this must become an arbitrary government or we must give up colonial possessions. The genius of the constitution and law of the United States is opposed to different forms of government for different peoples of the nation. The constitution will become a deformed monster if it is made to mean one thing for part of our people and another thing for others. And once it becomes a deformed monster it may turn and devour its creators.

Webster foresaw that McKinleyism would come, though he never ceased resisting the tendency. He foresaw, as Lincoln did, the ultimate destruction of the land of liberty, the land both loved so well, unless there was a radical change in the tendencies of their times. Both saw the dire fate in store for our people, and both had sufficient ground for predicting it.

Voices from the past warn the voters of the United States to rouse themselves before it is too late. The accumulated dangers foreseen by Washington and Lincoln and Webster are upon the people of the United States. —Helena Independent.

PRESS COMMENTS.

—If the republican party succeeds in fastening the imperialistic doctrine up on the American people the Declaration of Independence and the Fourth of July will become a farce.—W. J. Bryan.

—On the question of imperialism and the trusts the country is against the republican party, and if the democrats do not so far oblige their opponents as to push these problems into the background Mr. McKinley is likely to be beaten.—Brooklyn Citizen.

—The McKinley and Roosevelt ticket, amid the cheers which greeted it in Philadelphia, has witnessed its only day of enthusiasm, and from now on must fall into that mediocrity of estimation which attaches to the insufficient and the bungling.—Atlanta Constitution.

—It is a remarkable circumstance that in the midst of all our boasted prosperity this year so far has sown more strikes and shut-downs than for many corresponding periods past. McKinley prosperity is too hogwash. It won't distribute itself enough.—Houston Post.

—The republican party demanded that the constitution be amended before the trust question should be grappled with. On the other hand the party made no scruples of violating the constitution for the benefit of the trusts in the Porto Rico question.—Georgia Herald-Transcript.

—The republicans are somewhat alarmed over the political situation in Wisconsin, caused by what one of their leading papers calls "the ominous silence among the Germans." The imperialist plunge of the administration does not rest easily on the German mind. The "silence" of the Germans is declared to resemble the situation at the outset of the campaign over the Bennett school law of some years ago, which drove the Germans in a body over to the democrats and carried the state against the republicans.—Pittsburgh Post.

MEANING OF IMPERIALISM.

Entirely at Variance with the True Principles of Freedom and Fairness.

If definitions in the dictionaries will not aid much the platform adopted at Kansas City may. It is understood that Mr. Bryan had something to say about the construction of the platform. We may presume, therefore, that Mr. Bryan means about what the platform means by the word "imperialism." The second paragraph of the platform reads:

"We declare again that all governments instituted among men derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; that any government not based on the consent of the governed is a tyranny, and that to impose upon any people a government of force is to substitute the methods of imperialism for those of a republic."

This declaration seems to convey a pretty clear idea of what the framers of the platform mean by "imperialism" and we may safely assume that what they mean Mr. Bryan means. The idea is more fully conveyed, perhaps, by the words quoted than it would be by a formal definition.

Essentially, imperialism is arbitrary power exercised over a people without their consent. It is the power that the British government asserts in many places, though in general it exercises the power with such moderation that the people over whom it is asserted are practically self-governing. At bottom it is a flat denial of the right of self-government.

It is entirely immaterial whether the power to govern without the consent

SCANDAL UPON SCANDAL.

Another Instance of Republican Rotteness in Public Office.

It is well known that the present head of the treasury bureau of statistics is preparing the campaign text-book of the republican party. Such a scandalous disregard of the proper duties and dignity of that bureau has never before been shown. There have been charges made of partisan use in the past, but these charges have never been proved to such an extent as to affect the correctness of the returns issued by the bureau. There have been issued, under official sanction, interpretations of commercial and industrial returns, favoring a particular policy or measure, and when Charles Foster was secretary of the treasury the head of the bureau permitted a violently protectionist interview to be circulated as a treasury document although it was well known at the time that the matter had been prepared by another hand. Such exhibitions of improper political activity by the bureau have been rare, however, and have never failed to bring down criticism on those who were responsible.

Secretary Gage must bear the full responsibility of causing the present scandal. He removed a man of experience to make room for a political hack, whose only qualification was his service during the campaign in running a "literary bureau" for the republicans. From the beginning this partisan has used the bureau for par-

NEW YORK'S RIALTO.

Gothamites Take Great Pride and Comfort in Broadway.

It is Crowded from the Beginning to the Close of the Day—Origin of the Most Famous Street in America.

[Special New York Letter.]

WHEN the Dutch founded New Amsterdam they contracted the habit of living out-doors, and the dwellers of later New York have readily followed the custom set them by the early inhabitants of Manhattan. From the first gentle breeze of spring till the frost appears in the late fall all New York is on the street. Broadway is the Rialto. From Broadway square to Bowling Green is one moving panorama of life. Over on



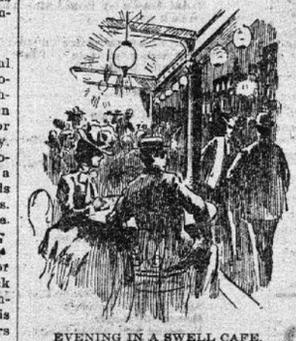
STROLLING ON THE RIALTO.

Sixth avenue the express trains are bringing the women folk into the heart of the shopping district. On the side streets the little shops are thrown open to the byways, and on the Bowery—well, the Bowery is an apparently never ending midsummer fair and pleasure grounds. There the storekeepers do not pretend to do business within doors. Their wares are all displayed upon the street. Men lounge about the corners, and women and children pass to and fro. And so it is on every little crooked street in the lower part of town. And on the broad avenues as far up as Washington Heights one may see the people walking on the streets or sitting on their doorsteps in the cool of the evening.

But the favorite parade ground of the New Yorker is Broadway. Broadway is his pride and his delight. It is there that you may see the true type of the New Yorker. Broadway is never deserted. From the earliest morning hour till the last flicker of the electric light the strollers are there. In the area between Forty-second street and Thirty-fourth street one may see more actors and actresses in the open air on a pleasant afternoon in 15 minutes than he could observe in a week's tour of the theaters.

This love of outdoor life has so impressed itself upon the people here that they only go under a roof when the weather or their business compels them to. In the summer time they seek their recreation on the street and in the open air of the roof gardens, and they endeavor, as far as possible, to eat their meals unhampered by the confines of brick, stone and mortar. Not only do the lower classes eat from counters in front of lunch stalls on the street and from palatial eating cars that are driven about here and there, but those more favored by wealth and position are never so happy as when they are dining in a restaurant thrown open to the town by wide doors and windows. The restaurant of an swell Broadway hotel has come as near being on the street as is possible and still remain

under a roof. Facing on Broadway, it commands a broad view of that thoroughfare. On the Forty-second street side the tables are so close to the open windows that one sitting there might as well dine on the sidewalk. A passer-by can readily reach in and help himself to any of the dishes on the tables.



EVENING IN A SWELL CAFE.

This Broadway of the New Yorker is a highly beloved street. The stranger without the gates hears of Broadway before he knows there is really such a place as New York. And when one stops to think about it, Broadway is older than New York. It began its career when the town of New Amsterdam was founded. When the sturdy Hollanders laid out their squat little town they established only two roads. One was on the line of Stone and Pearl streets (the latter in those days was the water front) which led from the fort, located about where Peck slip is now. The other was the present Broadway and led up toward the north past the farm lands and gardens, in the direction of the North river, and then was lost in the wilder-

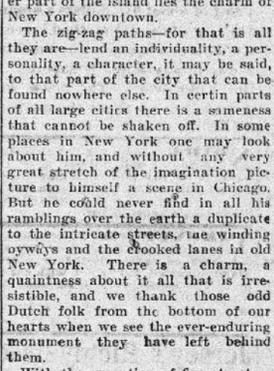
BILL ARP'S LETTER.

Has Something to Say About National and International Politics.

Believes Bryan Will Be a Winner—The Chinese Muddle—Mrs. App Concerned About the Missionaries.

Away back in the '40s when James K. Polk was nominated at Baltimore for president the mail came to our little town three times a week by stage. It brought the news in an Augusta paper. My father was postmaster, and when he tore off the wrapper to read the news to the waiting people and gave the name of Polk as the nominee my good old Norwegian friend, Nic Omberg, threw his hat up and shouted: "He is de man—de best man. He will beat Mr. Clay out of his boots. He'll beat Smit, vot did you say hee name was?"

That is faith—democratic faith. I am just that way about Bryan, only I know his name. "Clarum et venerabile nomen." Was there ever a grander, purer statesman on the American continent? Was there ever a partisan aspirant for the presidency who stood so far above all rivals that no one presumed to question his right to the nomination and this notwithstanding his defeat in the last race? What manner of man is he that without effort or political intrigue he has for four years stood preeminent the choice of the democracy of every state? Without fear and without reproach, his will has been and still is the will of the party. Sincerity, earnestness and purity of character in private and in public life have enthroned him in the hearts of the people and his faith is like Omberg's. "He will beat McKinley out of his boots." As to his running mate, Senator Tillman is right. It doesn't make any difference so he is a democrat and a gentleman. Bryan doesn't need a helper. In horse talk, a running mate is a teaser, an exciter, a stimulator put on the track to make the racer go faster if possible. Bryan will not mix as many races in New York without Hill as with him. Hill and Croker quarreled and each told the truth on the other. They are exquisite politicians. Bryan is a statesman. There are thousands of us who believe that all these wars have been precipitated for party purposes, and the blood of our boys is crying from the ground. Our southern people have lost faith in the ability of the administration to extricate the country from this mountain of trouble. We must have a change and that soon, or the mountain will get bigger. This administration began with war on its heart, for heretofore wars have been popular with the people and kept the war party in power and gave the manufacturers up north plenty to do. What a muss have they got in Cuba and Porto Rico and the Philippines, annexing a few more million negroes to give us trouble and killing them by the thousands without a cause, and raising a big rumpus if we lynch one down here. And now we are about to be involved in this war with China—a war that no doubt was precipitated because of our aggressions on the Philippines and the English on the Boers. China sees that the motto of the Christian nations is: "Let those take who have the power, and let those keep who can."



THE BROADWAY PROCESSION.

For 30 years England has forced China to buy her opium, grown and made in India for English merchants, until the product now amounts to \$50,000,000 a year. And now China is taking her revenge. For many years past Russia has been discussing the partition of China just as the partition of Poland was made and discussed for

Freedom shrieked "When Kosciuszko fell, and Poland was divided 'out among the powers." China has brooded over all this and the time came for a terrible revenge. But what about our missionaries? My wife, who is my running mate, is much exercised about that, for she is a great missionary woman and attends every meeting and takes her money along. I told her not long ago that I didn't have much faith in the conversion of the Chinese, for there are thousands over here, right under the sound of the Sabbath bells, and not one ever attends church or has expressed any concern about his soul. Lady Churchill reported to her society that it had spent \$200,000 in 12 months in an effort to convert the Jews in Poland, and she was satisfied they had converted one—perhaps two—and she advised an abandonment of the work. The religion of the Chinese is as old as that of the Jews and sticks to them as close, but still the missionaries do report a healthy progress and are refining and reforming the children and doing much charitable work among the poor. That's all right, or it seemed to be so, but now it is all wrong. It makes any people jealous for foreigners to come in with new methods and begin to dictate as to their needs and manners and religion. We wouldn't stand it a week. We can hardly stand the Mormons, who pretend to be Christians.

But we are going to elect Bryan, silver or no silver, for he is an honest man and his wife is his running mate, a beautiful and impressive woman if the picture of her face is a true one. We will all rejoice when they are domiciled in the white house.

Then here's to Mr. Bryan and Mrs. Bryan and Miss Ruth, their pretty school girl, and the little boy and the baby. I want to see some children playing in the white house yard. When that good time comes I am going to see the family if I'm alive and I'll walk in without knocking. I'm not afraid to venture in any house where I see pretty children in the front yard.—Bill App, in Atlanta Constitution.



"THE DOLLAR BEFORE THE MAN."

of the governed is asserted by a person called an emperor or by a person called a president or by a parliament or by a congress.

The material thing is the assumption of supremacy—of sovereignty—by some person or number of persons over other persons whose consent is not given and who are not consulted.

It is the utter negation of the American doctrine that sovereignty resides in the people and not in others assuming by divine right or the right of mere might an authority above that of the people.

This is the imperialism which has been set up in Washington over distant peoples. It is an imperialism which the American people cannot permit to be exercised in their name over other peoples of the earth without incurring great risk that it will soon be exercised over themselves.

To quote once more from the platform: "We assert that no nation can long endure half republic and half empire, and we warn the American people that imperialism abroad will lead quickly and inevitably to despotism at home."

Substantially the same thing was said by Abraham Lincoln, but it is not the mere dictum of any man or body of men. It is an eternal truth rooted clear down at the bottom of human nature.

He who accepts the principle of despotism is a fit subject of despotism. Men may laugh at that, but let them remember that some things are regarded with tolerance to-day which would have been rejected with indignation and horror hardly more than two years ago.—Chicago Chronicle.

Clear and Straightforward. Upon all phases of all the questions involved in the issue of imperialism the democratic platform is clear, straightforward, admirable. There is no evasion, no juggling. After reading these vigorous yet moderate and sane utterances no one can have the slightest doubt either as to the principles laid down or as to how the democratic party interprets those principles into policies. The evils are defined and the remedies of justice, liberty and American fair-dealing are proposed explicitly and fearlessly. Upon the other great issue, monopoly, the platform is again clear, straightforward, admirable. Instead of incoherent ravings and indefinite promises, there is sanity of statement, avoidance of confusion between corrupt and legitimate uses of capital and a demand for real reforms—for publicity, for the constitutional extension of law, and above all for the ending of monopoly-fostering tariffs.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

hisian purposes, and he is now occupied in preparing the campaign hand-book. Such a function is as remote from those proper to the collection of commercial statistics as of a church, and the knowledge that this hack is engaged in the task is sufficient to bring into discredit his activity in statistics of trade as issued by the treasury. Since Mr. Austin has been in office he has not added a single feature to the tables as formerly issued, save that of throwing discredit on the whole by his evident intention to make himself useful to his party. The worst feature of it is that the tables are discredited abroad as well as at home, and it is not strange that so little regard is paid by statisticians of Europe to the work now done under our government.—N. Y. Post.

Where Bryan is Strong. Bryan shows his greatest personal strength in the fact that he is today, as he has ever been, utterly without a political machine. Other men in American politics stand or fall for reasons outside of their personality. David Hill, for instance, is a geographical location. Mr. McKinley is a kind of syndicate. Roosevelt stands for an ideal of civic righteousness. Mr. Croker is an impudent appetite. Quay is a system of wireless telegraphy. But Bryan is Bryan, and Bryan is his prophet. More power for good or evil rests under Bryan's black slouch hat than under any other single headpiece in America. Bryan is machineless, not because he abhors the machine, but because he ignores it. He would not know what to do with captains and lieutenants. If his party should begin to turn from him, Bryan could not call: "What, ho, warder, let the portcuilins fall!" in a score of states and check the stampede. If oratory would not stop the panic, the multitude would have to have him as it came to him. After which he would go on lecturing until that gave out, and running for the senate till that gave out, and for congress till that gave out, and when he would return to his law office and continue as he was in the beginning, an honest, hard-working, ordinary country lawyer, with an extraordinary voice and a forceful, direct, plausible way of putting about Anglo-Saxon words that often move faster but are not so thrilling in briefs.—Will Allen White, in McClure's Magazine.

If the republican congress postpones the reduction of the war tax, the people will not postpone the reduction of the republican vote in congress.—Albany Argus.