

THE COMET.

Twenty-Fifth Year.

JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1908.

Whole Number 1246

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"I Say to You Frankly There Probably Was"

"Ah, but Gov. Patterson says you had a senatorial primary down in Memphis and there was fraud in your senatorial election. There may have been. I say to you frankly there probably was."—Senator Carmack.

In the primary in Shelby county between Taylor and Carmack, it is stated by reliable people that about 3,584 votes were cast. Of these votes Carmack probably received a majority of about 300.

But the official count gave Carmack a majority of 4,700, or a majority of more than one thousand of all the votes cast for both Taylor and Carmack.

If Taylor had come to Shelby county with a majority of 1,500, Carmack's legitimate majority of 300 would not have altered the result. But Carmack's fraudulent majority of 4,400—the amount stuffed and counted—would have defeated Taylor.

And Taylor's defeat would have been secured by fraud and Carmack's victory would have come to him rotten with fraud.

The same gang that robbed Bob Taylor for Carmack were ready to rob Patterson for Carmack.

Carmack's primary plan would have made it possible for these men to "do up" Patterson just as they robbed Taylor.

The plan adopted by the state committee took the chances for robbery in Shelby from those who robbed Taylor. A man who stuffs a ballot box once will stuff it again.

This in itself justifies the state committee as to Shelby county.

The state committee's plan robs those who robbed Taylor for Carmack of a chance to rob Patterson for Carmack.

No one charges Carmack with a desire to win this victory through fraud, but no one is willing to trust the same crowd that betrayed Taylor to do justice to Patterson.

The yell against the state committee's action in this county was raised principally by those who were active spirits in the fraudulent primary in Shelby in 1905.

The plan of election advocated by Carmack's friends resulted in fraud in Shelby. That much is certain.

The plan adopted at least has not been convicted of fraud yet, and as it provides for an equal division of judges and clerks, the friends of the candidates can prevent fraud.

Carmack's admission justifies any measure that takes from those who manipulated ballots in 1905 to do the same thing in 1908.

A well known politician hurried back from Hot Springs, Ark., on the day of the Taylor Carmack primary.

"Why did you return to Memphis?" asked a man who was supporting Taylor.

"I want to work for Carmack," replied the man who had been absent.

"I will kill your vote," said the Taylor man.

The next day the Carmack man met the Taylor man and said to him: "You may have killed my vote, but I put 700 ballots in for Carmack, and that's why I came back."

This story is told by a man not given to lying.

It is just this sort of work that would have been possible in Shelby under the plan which Carmack's friends insisted on.

Carmack, by his own admission quoted above, is estopped from urging the plan by which his and Taylor's differences were settled.

The World's Best Climate is not entirely free from disease, on the high elevations fever prevails, while on the lower levels malaria is encountered to a greater or less extent, according to altitude. To overcome climate affections, lassitude, malaria, jaundice, biliousness, fever and acute and general debility, the most effective remedy is Electric Bitters, the great alterative and blood purifier; the antidote for every form of bodily weakness, nervousness and insomnia. Sold under guarantee at H. C. Miller's drug store, 500.

The Farmer and the Market.

When one farmer produces less than he could produce, and one city-dweller has less to eat than he wants, there is something wrong, and both are getting less of satisfaction and comfort out of life than they are entitled to. When this is true of thousands of farmers (and it is true) and of thousands in the cities (this also is true), the wrong is a crime, against the helpless who must suffer, and a serious charge against the intelligence of the whole people. But suppose every farmer produced all he could produce, and the city-dwellers want it, where is the benefit unless the farmer's produce can be transported? There is none, of course. The question of transportation, then, is the crux of the whole matter. The prosperity of the farmer, and the welfare, even the lives of those who dwell in the cities, depend upon it absolutely. If the means of transportation are convenient, if, in other words, the road between the farmer and his city customer is easy, safe and quick, the farmer can produce all his farm will grow and sell all he can produce. If the road is long and hard to get over, he can produce little, because he can deliver but litte.

COULDN'T SHOOT STRAIGHT

Two Rebels Outrun Canon Balls for a Mile Not Because They are Scared But for the Exercise.

INTERESTING STORY FROM TEXAS

San Angelo, Texas, May 25, 1908.—

I will again address you from my far-away western habitation, which is some 1400 miles away from Johnson City. In old East Tennessee you can sometimes pretty safely conjecture about the weather, but you can't do it here, for all kind of signs fail in all kinds of weather, or rather there is no sign at all about the weather here. But no cyclones or tornadoes visit here, or have not since I have been here, and much of the weather is mild and exhilarating. "The wind blows where it listeth," and so, notwithstanding it is very hot here now, it is tempered by the mild and gentle zephyrs making it a salubrious desirable elixir. This is truly a country of many curiosities and diversities, where it gets hot in election times, but as soon as it is over "the lion and the lamb lie down together and a little child can lead them," claiming he is a "Joe Bailey democrat." As I said he would be, sure enough he was elected by about 25,000 majority, though some 100,000 failed to vote, it only being an election for delegate to the national convention. Many unlikely things happen and Joe Bailey might be on the democratic ticket for vice-president, for as Bob Taylor says, he is about one of the greatest men in America, the Dallas News to the contrary notwithstanding. The Dallas News is a little like the Courier-Journal—the mighty have fallen and their influence zone where the woodbine twined. This part of Texas is not so much of an agricultural as a stock country, where cattle and sheep pasture on the ranches in great numbers and grow into money for the ranchmen. But like as of the balance of the south, so we may appropriately sing of this:

"Dixie's land is a land of cotton, Dixie's land is not forgotten."

The Confederate reunion at Birmingham will be a grand affair, and be largely attended and much talk and telling of old jokes indulged in. Even a Yankee couldn't shoot crooked. Their breastworks were taken at Petersburg, but couldn't be held because of reinforcements. M. D. L. Miller and Abe McClellan always claimed they in falling back outran two Yankee minnie balls for 100 yards going six z-z all the way behind them, and as they turned behind some old winter quarters the balls went zip into the corner of the cabin. They outran the balls in a straight run and then made the turn which the balls couldn't do, for the Yankees couldn't shoot crooked, but they could do about everything else to be thought of.

Now this is "the land of the free and home of the brave," and the mighty deeds of valor were not confined to north or south, but to every section of our beloved land. The bitterness growing out of Seward's "irrepressible conflict" is hardly remembered and fraternal peace and good will abide.

May the president's warships never be needed through all the unmeasured years to come—may "nation never lift up sword against nation and never learn war any more."

Mrs. D. S. Taylor and all are doing finely—in fact, I was a little off on what I said of her before. It was hearsay, but I have been about the court house enough to know "hearsay evidence is no evidence at all," so I just take it back. All friends generally well.

Good-bye till we meet again in our own beloved East Tennessee, and we love as well as any other earthly paradise. A. H. BELLOCK.

The Most Common Cause of Suffering.

Rheumatism causes more pain and suffering than any other disease, for the reason that it is the most common of all ills, and it is certainly gratifying to sufferers to know that Chamberlain's Liniment will afford relief and make rest and sleep possible. In many cases the relief from pain, which is at first temporary, has become permanent, while in old people subject to chronic rheumatism, often brought on by dampness or changes in the weather, a permanent cure can not be expected; the relief from pain which this liniment affords is alone worth many times its cost. 35 and 50 cent sizes for sale by H. C. Miller.

"And now, ladies," concluded the lecturer on woman's rights to her down-trodden sisters, "I am ready to answer any questions." "Would you mind telling us," ventured one fair auditor, "where you got that perfect love of a hat?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

By the treaty of peace after the close of the American revolution in 1781 each one of the thirteen colonies was reorganized by name and acknowledged a sovereign and independent nation by George III and the British parliament. Here were thirteen nations possessed of all the powers necessary to organize an army, build a navy, declare war, and enter into treaties of peace and commerce with other nations occupying common territory won from British despotism by the joint efforts and sacrifices of all with nothing but an air line between them. Of course it was a human impossibility for these thirteen nations to live in peace and amity so situated. Hence the necessity to organize a government to secure life, liberty and property to the inhabitants became manifest to all. Six years, from 1781 to 1787, were given to the discussion of different forms of government, and this naturally put to work the old political leaven of the revolutionary period by which the people as whigs and Tories had fought the seven years of war to achieve their independence. But now there must be a new alignment of parties. All eyes were turned to Washington to give direction to public opinion. He favored a federation of all the states as a national government, reserving to each state all the rights and powers necessary to govern its own people. To carry out this plan all the thirteen nations agreed to elect and send to Philadelphia representatives who, in their stead and in their name, were to consult and agree upon a system of government for all the states as one nation to conduct their intercourse with other nations. When the scheme was completed and the constitution formed binding all the states in one nation for national purposes they called it THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Thus it may be seen by all who are willing to see and honest enough to look at things as they are that the states as states by their chosen representatives created the Federal Government to be and remain as their political agent and not as their master. Here for the first time in the history of the world did an earnest and intelligent people adopt the fundamental principle of a representative democracy in the creation and organization of the federal government and bind their agent by a written constitution to do their will. But unfortunately the state of New York chose a brilliant young Englishman by the name of Alexander Hamilton as one of her representatives to execute her sovereign will in the Philadelphia convention. Now this young man Hamilton had been born and raised to manhood on the British Island of Nevis and did not have one drop of American blood in his veins, but he did have the highfalutin' ideas of the British hereditary aristocracy. Of course it was reasonable for him to think English monarchy was the best form of government established since the days of the illustrious Nimrod. And why not? Had not his ancestors lived under it and loved and admired it for hundreds of years and stood by and shouted "God save the king" when the heads of men like Sidney had rolled from the block for uttering a word against it?

Naturally at the reconstructed stories of the revolutionary period who had fought seven years to hold a king in the saddle to ride on the backs of the people rallied around this New York delegate and struggled through the entire session of the convention to make the federal government as near like a monarchy as possible. But a majority of the members sided with Washington and Madison, of Virginia, and drew up a constitution to define and limit the powers of this federal agent of the thirteen states they had created. Thus it seems the convention of 1787 by their divided councils and conflicting views gave us a mixed form of government and called it a republic. Thus the supreme court was not to be elected by the people for a certain term of years, but appointed by the president for life. This was a simple absurdity in a republic and the forerunner of a monarchy in the future life of the nation when the people became corrupt and purchasable as others have been. This and some other features of the scheme was so repugnant to Franklin's idea of a free government he offered an amendment and made a speech in the convention. He said in part:

Fulfilling Prophecy.

"Sir, there are two passions which have a powerful influence in the affairs of men. These are ambition and avarice—the love of power and the love of money. * * * Place before the eyes of such men a post of honor, that shall, at the same time, be a place of profit, and they will move heaven and earth to obtain it. * * * I am apprehensive, therefore—perhaps too apprehensive—that the government of the states may, in future times, end in a monarchy. * * * And, therefore, it is that I move the amendment. If it be not seconded or accepted I must be contented with the satisfaction of having delivered my opinion frankly and done my duty." So that grand old man talked to the makers and builders of the federal government, and there is not a sentence in his writings but shows clearly he regarded the federal government as the agent of the states. But in case of an honest conflict of authority between the two governments each one remaining in its own constitutional sphere the federal government should be supreme in the controversy between them. Think for a moment of the gross absurdity of this provision to make the agent supreme over his creator. How would a law sound in your ears which said if A and B differed as to rights of property B should always decide the controversy between them. This was the chicanery of the monarchs in preparation for the ultimate obliteration of the states and the establishment of a monarchy as Franklin so much feared. Instead, therefore, of making the federal agent of the states supreme in cases of conflict of authority between a state government and the federal government the constitutional convention of 1787 had created a court of conciliation to decide and settle all such controversies our double governments might have continued its blessings to the people for many generations to come. As it is and as it will continue in its present form to the end, it must become a consolidated empire or military despotism in the near future.

We have had twenty-six presidents and three of them have been assassinated while in office. To the spirit of anarchy evoked by the war between the states in 1861-5 two of them fell victims and the third was murdered to appease the wrath of the god of war that convulsed the country in 1863. All of them lived on a salary of \$25,000 a year until the back salary grabbers mounted into the saddle during Grant's administration and ran it up to \$50,000 a year. Since then in a time of profound peace congress neared the sovereignty of the people and ran the salary up to \$75,000 a year under the false pretense that \$50,000 was not enough to enable the president to strut like royalty in a bear hunt. It requires lots of money to fix up a president for a bear hunt. But have we not fulfilled Dr. Franklin's prophecy both in letter and spirit in a little more than a hundred years? And if that be true on the salary, how long will it take the whirligig of time to enable us to blunder on the monarchy Franklin foresaw and feared? Of course we will not call our master a king. He will still be president. But imperial Rome was a grinding despotism and the people all slaves hundreds of years before she gave up the name of a republic. It is true a corrupt faction of the Roman senate had been selling the executive office of the empire for many years. Have we not been doing the same thing with our president for a number of years? How can we hope for a clean good government by men who traffic in public office? And do we not know that public office in the United States has been bought and sold in recent years very much as the stock gamblers deal with stocks?

Go call the long roll of dead nations that lie scattered along the world's highway for four thousand years, and ask the historian to tell you what malignant spirit entered into all these millions of men that led them to rot out and die as the fool dieth. He will tell you the people became corrupt and sold themselves to an unscrupulous and grasping political master as Esau sold his birthright for a "full dinner pail" and stood pat on his fine bargain.

Take a home illustration in our own state of recent occurrence at Nashville. What principle of state policy did Brownlow and Evans differ on? They were both seated on the Roosevelt-Taft band wagon as merry as larks in May. But when they got to Nashville on the 25th of March see how they sought to cheat each other out of the use of the capitol for their powwow. The battered heads and broken chairs told the tale—a war of factions to get near the throne.

Valued Same as Gold.

B. G. Stewart, a merchant of Cedar View, Miss., says: "I tell my customers when they buy a box of Dr. King's New Life Pills they get the worth of that much gold in weight, if afflicted with constipation, malaria or biliousness." Sold under guarantee at H. C. Miller's drug store, 500.

"I suppose it is love of country that that impels our friend to run for office." "I can't be quite sure," answered Farmer Cogswell. "Whether it is love of country or hatred of work."—Washington Star.

VICTORY FOR BROWNLOW.

Evans Faction Failed to Keep Him Off Soldiers' Home Board.

Representative Brownlow won a victory over the Evans faction when the president signed the house resolution re-electing him a member of the board of managers of the National Soldiers' Home at Johnson City, Tenn., says the Washington correspondent of the Nashville American. The other members re-elected, whose terms had expired, were: Gen. Thomas J. Henderson, of Illinois; Gen. E. P. Hammond, of Indiana, and Gen. Hill, of Maine. Mr. Brownlow was also re-elected secretary of the board, which position he has filled for the past six years.

The re-election of Brownlow was actively resisted by H. Clay Evans, former chairman of the republican state committee; A. W. Willis, postmaster at Nashville; Lee Brock, assistant United States district attorney for the middle district, and John Avemil, United States marshal, all of whom favored the election of Capt. Chamberlain, of Chattanooga. In addition to preferring charges against Brownlow in connection with the management of the Soldiers' Home at Johnson City, the democratic members of the Tennessee delegation in congress were asked to vote against him with a view to the selection of a democrat. Without exception the democrats refused to encourage the fight on Brownlow on the ground that it was through his personal initiative and by his efforts that the home for disabled volunteer union soldiers was established and he, more than any other man, was entitled to official connection with its management. The board of managers is recommended by the military affairs committee of the house and senate and then voted upon by the two bodies.

Contemptible Criticism.

A few days ago, Gov. Patterson appointed Sparrel Hill, a prominent attorney of Trenton, a Special Supreme Judge, in place of Chief Justice Beard, who was incompetent in an important case coming before the court. Mr. Hill is a gentleman, an able attorney, a loyal fighting Democrat, and a devoted friend of the Governor's, and yet, in spite of all these things, this appointment, like every other action of Patterson's, provoked a tirade of insane criticism, from the Memphis News-Scimitar. Here is its ravings on the subject:

"The Governor of Tennessee has the courage of his friendships. He has appointed as acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tennessee his loyal and steadfast supporter, Hon. Spil Hill of Trenton. The Hon. Spil is a typical Ham appointment. He has been a politician of politicians. As a public man he has been, as the Seanty Creek News declared, as crooked as 40 cents worth of shoe strings in a cyclone. He was appointed to the guiding spirit of the county unit bogus primary plan. It was he who two years ago put through a Gibson County delegation for Patterson, after having practiced the grosser deception upon the unsuspecting followers of Judge John B. Bond. To him more than to any other on the railroad, Ham owed his nomination. It was he who stood by Ham agencies during all the dark days of the long protracted campaign. He burrowed in the dirt and dug out a set of political methods which Tennessee politics has never known. He was the brain that manipulated the "conjure bag" during the 1906 contest. He was one of the committee which brought order out of the mob convention's chaos by naming as its compromise Chairman Corporation Attorney James C. Bradford. It is declared that he was responsible for the Ham conference with the railroad President. It is he who in this campaign is the recognized authority on ways and means for Ham's perpetuation. Whatever is needed, Hon. Spil will be relied upon to recommend it. He looks the part too—that is the part of a subterranean adviser to a machine administration, not the part of a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Yet if either member of the court from West Tennessee should die or resign, Hon. Spil would probably be named for permanent successor by his ward, the governor.

The appointment of Mr. Hill, while doubtless very agreeable to the governor, was predicated primarily upon the following letter from Chief Justice Beard:

Jackson, May 2, 1908.—Gov. Malcolm R. Patterson, Nashville, Tenn.—My Dear Governor: In the case of P. I. Plummer et al vs. Charles Troglie, Shelby Chancery docket, pending in this court and for trial at this term, I am incompetent.

The counsel in the cause asked the appointment of some one to sit in my place. The matter has been submitted to the members of the court, and they express a wish that you should issue a commission to the Hon. Sparrel Hill, of Trenton, Tenn., a lawyer of ability and a man with whom they believe it would be a pleasure to be associated.

Your action in this matter at as early a date as possible and in consonance with what has been suggested will be greatly appreciated. Yours truly, W. D. BEARD.

In view of the above recommendation of the supreme court and request of the Chief Justice, what does a decent man think of such crazy criticism?

Now this is a fair sample of the dirty assaults that this same sheet has made repeatedly on Palmer, Lamb, Henderson and Bell, and on the governor for appointing them judges.

Had Gov. Patterson refused to follow the request of the supreme court in this instance, the News-Scimitar would probably have held him up to the scorn of the state for contempt of the highest tribunal. It is simply a case of "he damned if you do or he damned if you don't."—Nashville American.

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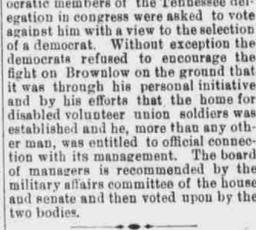
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3—DAILY TRAINS—3

N. B. The following schedule figures published only as information and are not guaranteed:

Lv. Bristol 11:00am 1:55pm 10:00pm

"Johnson City 11:57am 2:50pm 10:07pm

"Jonesboro 12:19pm 3:10pm 11:32pm

"Greenville 1:02pm 4:05pm 12:32pm

"Morristown 2:00pm 4:55pm 1:45pm

Ar. Knoxville 3:25pm 7:45pm 4:10am

Lv. Knoxville 3:35pm 5:00pm 4:30am

Ar. Chattanooga 7:30pm 8:55am 10:10am

Ar. Memphis 7:15am 10:30pm

Double daily trains from Knoxville for Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago.

Lv. Knoxville 9:15pm 9:30am

Ar. Cincinnati 8:15am 8:10pm

Ar. Louisville 8:45am 9:05pm