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MARSHALL'S SUCCESSFUL FAIR.

The most memorable week in Marshall's history has just been concluded. The long years of her steady and gradual upbuilding have never witnessed a parallel of such significance, nor do the years of advancement and growth, which the future seemingly holds in store for this, the county seat and center of the garden spot on earth, promise to us, a more propitious six day period, than than the one which has culminated in a great triumph for this town. Not that Marshall will not reach stages in metropolitan advancement, which will cause this Fair to appear distinctly village like and lessen the importance of the event itself, for greater weeks are certain to be allotted her, but none which will mark a turning point of more significance to her future success than the last one.

Though the Fair came in the midst of the work upon our street improvements, it followed close enough the beginning of this move to serve as a date in after years, marking the ushering in of a new era, and yet after a completion of such a part, as would evidence the great stride taken by our city in public improvements and indicate the awakening of local sentiment to the advantages of such improvements.

Then again, it will be remembered, as the first time Marshall attempted successfully to interest a larger trading territory, than had previously fallen to her as a result of proximity of location. Her success in interesting customers from a distance, has given the people of the town an appreciation of what this supply made permanent to us, would mean, and with this has come a desire that is deep rooted, to bring about this very accomplishment. This is to be one of the lasting effects of the Fair, that promises much to our future prosperity.

The incidental results of the week's crowds were very beneficial to the mercantile class. Sales ran high at each store almost every day. The crowds were large, they had money and spent it liberally, considering the attractions on the outside, which tended to occupy the attention and minds of the visitors. In a social way carnival week was filled with amusements and entertainments, the old were young and the young were giddy. Merriment on every hand was the order of the day and the larger half of the night. Merry-go-rounds, midways, side shows, each contributed their quota of diversion or gulling as the case might be, to the contented happiness of the throngs that filled the streets.

Though the toot of horns and bellowing of balloons and bag pipes furnished racket and noise galore the crowds for such occasions

were distinctly orderly. The few arrests made testify not only to the vigilance of officials in suppressing all vice and the efforts of the Fair association in allowing only clean attractions within the city, but to the high standard of what is right and proper, held by the people of Saline. Ruffianism never shows itself even in crowds, where the moral tone of the people is sufficiently high; and of this trait, the people of this county have the right of self congratulation. The officers of the fair should be accorded the credit that is due for the success of the fair, as it was their enterprise, which led the way. That Marshall will hold a Street Fair during the Fall of 1900 is assured. Look out for the date.

The Missouri editor who seemed to be quaking in their shoes, in anxious dread lest this infantile country attempt that which it is not capable of, and depart from the ways of its fathers and forefathers, influenced by hallucinations of military ardor, which is termed, appropriately militarism and depicted as the shooks upon which our happy republic is certain to be grounded in ruins—these men, the words and interviews of the hero of the hour, Admiral Dewey, should make some impression upon, if their admiration of the sailor is half so spirited or sincere as vaunted and expressed. Practical men, those who have witnessed the conflict of which they speak, who are cognizant of the conditions in the Philippines and appreciate the future of their resources, should be given more attention than bombastic minds such as Addison and Macdon possess or their stubborn will such as characterizes the perverse Hoar. The flurry that is made over the step America has taken in holding the Philippines, is nonsensical and has not proven a stimulant to such sentiment in the least. It is farcical and too strongly imaginative to influence people.

The State Tribune calls the attention of its readers to the largest fee ever paid into the secretary of state's office, of \$20,000, levied on by the Street Railway combine of St. Louis and this the amount due by the increase of capitalization. Twenty thousand is a small matter to what was spent in the last legislature for this purpose and only a drop in the bucket to the millions that will be paid by the people into the hands of such a combine, whose watered stock will show no earnings. Democratic papers had best keep still upon every point of this robbery, enfranchised by a Democratic legislature and approved by a governor of that party. This large fee and seemingly rich plum for the state tells a sorry story of successful lobbying in legislative halls, abetted by the executive branch, and presents an unhappy picture of future evils as a result of this ill-sprung act.

There was no flaw in your victory, there will be no faltering in maintaining it" were the words of the President in presenting Admiral Dewey his jeweled sword as the gift of the nation. They are decisive words, which can neither be misinterpreted or doubted. Those critics, who have ever persisted in refusing to see where the administration stood, should take full cognizance of these terse lines that teem with meaning.

PRIMARIES VERSUS CONVENTIONS.

The agitation that has been precipitated upon the Democracy of this state as to the advisability of adopting primaries in preference to conventions, by some of the shrewdest of the party leaders such as Cook, Clark and Stone, has so much of the rush and gush attached to its advent, that many refuse to take the situation seriously. The words of Champ Clark that "it gives every Democrat, rich or poor, big or little, old or young, wise or unwise, a direct voice in selecting the nominees," has the popular ring to it, doubtless a fact which the close observing and public opinion pulse reading Congressman had well foreseen. But the Ninth district man has a record consistent with this anti boss sentiment, an element of strength that neither Stone nor Cook can boast of. Yet they are equally fond of currying favor with the people, and both are keen to make some demagogic and impracticable theme their play. Not that a primary is not practicable, for such is not the case, but those who study the intrigues and moves of some politicians have ever sufficient reasons to doubt their sincerity in the best of causes. Stephens professes to doubt its practicability in state matters, but the governor has often been mistaken and it is hardly discrediting him, to say that perhaps he is again. He opposes it as a bad move for the party. Evidently, the manner in which Champ Clark has depicted the primary as dealing death blows to hoodlars and machines is not very comforting to the Governor, whose entire administration has been spent in upbuilding a machine and whose official acts confirm the statement that the will of the people has been held of lighter moment than the wishes of friends.

But the issue upon its merits should hardly be judged by the politicians, who cast their lot for or against the innovation of state primaries. In these, it is urged that the work of the wire-puller and slate maker is reduced to the minimum and the nominations made, brought close to the people. In putting theory into practice, it has been found in many counties, that bringing the responsibility and opportunity of election directly to the people themselves, does not break the schemes of pluggers and hoodlars. If the direct vote can be induced to support a slipper and uncertain delegate to a convention, who may be used by bosses and schemers, then it is likewise true that this same vote will be found in support of that class of nominees. Party politics is made pure not through the means used in expressing it, but depends upon the solidity of character of its voters.

In the present instance, it may succeed in showing up the amount of wire pulling, double-dealing and political trading that is done in the majority party in Missouri to secure a nomination. It would tend to bring closer to view the evils, whose eradication is sought. Democracy seems to be on slippery ground as to what would be the more advisable move for the party in this day of dissatisfaction over our state government.

The Higginsville Advance, under the new proprietorship of Messrs. C. H. & U. C. McDermond, presents a most neat appearance, with substantial, interesting news columns.