

The Tribune.

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TRIBUNE BRANCH OFFICES. THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE has established branch offices for the receipt of subscriptions and advertisements as follows:

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 43, B. A. M.—Special Convocation Thursday evening, Oct. 25, at 8 o'clock, at hall corner of Randolph and Halsted streets.

COVENANT LODGE, No. 526, A. F. & A. M.—Special Convocation Friday evening, Oct. 25, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Monday evening, Oct. 29, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Tuesday evening, Oct. 30, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Wednesday evening, Oct. 31, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Thursday evening, Nov. 1, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Friday evening, Nov. 2, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Saturday evening, Nov. 3, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Sunday evening, Nov. 4, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Monday evening, Nov. 5, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Tuesday evening, Nov. 6, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Wednesday evening, Nov. 7, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Thursday evening, Nov. 8, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Friday evening, Nov. 9, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Saturday evening, Nov. 10, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Sunday evening, Nov. 11, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Monday evening, Nov. 12, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

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CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Wednesday evening, Nov. 14, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Thursday evening, Nov. 15, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

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CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Saturday evening, Nov. 24, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Sunday evening, Nov. 25, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Monday evening, Nov. 26, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Tuesday evening, Nov. 27, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

CHICAGO COMMANDERY, No. 10, K. T.—Special Convocation Wednesday evening, Nov. 28, at 8 o'clock, at corner of Madison and Dearborn streets.

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Clerk with absolute arbitrary power. The Committee urges the party to take no chances, as it cannot compete with the Democracy in rascality.

The London Times yesterday declared the Glasgow bank-failure to be "the result of mismanagement and long-continued fraud," and that the total loss will aggregate \$6,200,000.

The County Commissioners' Ring complete asking the people to put a mortgage of \$750,000 upon the taxable property of Cook County. In 1876 it cost \$667,480 and in 1877 \$700,000 to run the several departments and institutions of the county.

BEN BUTLER has been reading up ancient history, and feels encouraged. Before SYLLA defeated young MARIUS, he saw two goats fighting. Old STRABISMUS saw two goats fighting on Boston Common, which he considers a favorable augury.

TOM EWING, who barely got himself returned to Congress, was delivered of a lot of stuff in Washington yesterday. In the face of the temperate and sensible opinions of Senator McDONALD, EWING declares that "opposition to redemption and bank money carried Ohio by 30,000 and Indiana by 45,000, and gained eleven Congressmen."

An important decision was rendered yesterday by an Indiana Court touching the responsibility of bondsmen. JOHN A. DROEGEMEYER, Treasurer of Fort Wayne, proved a defaulter in the sum of \$50,000. He had just been re-elected, and when the city brought suit to recover it was found that the names of his second bondsmen were all forged. The city then sued on the original bond, and got a verdict for \$17,200.

Col. ABNER TAYLOR, one of the candidates for Senator of the First District, publishes a card making a proposition to Mr. GEORGE E. WHITE, which, if accepted, will settle the Senatorial imbroglio in the district at once. The Colonel is evidently disgusted with the shape the thing has assumed. He is tired of attempted arbitrations, and is not disposed to leave so grave a matter to a game of chance, or to skill in cards of "mutual friends."

WHITNEY would do the same, in order that a new man, on whom the whole party could unite, might be placed on the ticket and be elected Senator. If Mr. WHITE is sincere in his declaration that he is willing to withdraw if TAYLOR does, he has only to signify his acceptance of the Colonel's proposition, and the party will soon supply the vacancy with some acceptable candidate.

THE HERSEY OF DR. THOMAS. The Rock River Conference, in session at Mount Carroll recently, adopted a series of resolutions censuring Dr. THOMAS. Residents of Chicago and members of the Methodist Church throughout the country do not need to be informed who Dr. THOMAS is; but, for the benefit of others, it seems well to explain that he is a Methodist clergyman who, though now barely 40 years of age, has long been prominent in the Northwest.

Whether these resolutions were offered and adopted in the assurance that somebody connected with the Citizens' Association could be found to indorse the bond issue, or whether they were merely designed to secure the consent of the Association to a conference with the hope that even such recognition would give the Ring countenance, we hope the Citizens' Association will not be caught with any such chaff.

It is simply insolent on the part of the County Ring to ask an association of citizens to consult with them as to whether the appropriations for next year can be reduced so as to save money enough to go on with the Court-House work. The facts are so clear that he who runs may read. The County Ring has exhausted the entire tax-revenue in appropriations for the general expenses, all the money they are permitted by the Constitution to levy against the property.

The Conference asked Dr. THOMAS for a categorical statement of his views. He gave one, and it was unsatisfactory to his brethren. But, inasmuch as he professed loyalty to the Church, and promised at least to make himself clearly understood in the future, it was deemed best not to arraign him for trial at once. The Conference was content, therefore, to pass a series of resolutions distinctly setting forth the facts, and censuring him. The last resolution, which was a warning that persistence in the errors complained of would provoke a trial, closed as follows:

The issue is thus fairly made; and it may be interesting to inquire, in view of the prospect of further trouble, precisely what are the doctrines of Dr. THOMAS to which his brethren take such serious exception. In the paper submitted by him to the Conference, he made a tolerably clear breast of it; and from this and his printed sermons it will be possible to state his opinions without any chance for misrepresentation.

His first point was as follows: "On the subject of religion, I hold substantially to what is known as the moral-influence theory. This is so heterodox that, for all the Conference desired to know, Dr. THOMAS might have stopped with it. The 'moral-influence theory' is only a form of modified Unitarianism. It is a theory that Christ did not come into the world to suffer the penalty of the sins incurred by man through Adam, but to regenerate society through the influence of His example. Dr. THOMAS makes the story of ADAM'S FALL 'a kind of poem,' a song sung to the childhood of our race." Further, he says (Ibid., p. 56): "In relation to the Adamic transgression I must contend

against the doctrine that we inherit guilt because there was sin in the first pair." Believing, as he does, that we do not inherit guilt from ADAM,—"that in ADAM'S fall we sinned [not] all,"—he has no need to provide for a vicarious atonement. There is no room in his system for the doctrine of "expiation." To his mind Christ is only a Great Exemplar, as CONFUCIUS, ZOROASTER, MARCUS AURELIUS, and MOHAMMED were in a less degree.

Secondly, Dr. THOMAS says: "In reference to the final condition of the wicked I have never doubted, nor do I doubt, the fact of future or after-death punishment. Whatever may be the condition of the soul or the nature of the punishment, I cannot conceive of that condition under the government of a Just God as being worse than non-existence. As to the duration and results of that punishment, whether it be eternal or corrective, resulting in reformation or ending in annihilation, I have not reached any settled conviction. The subject has cost me almost unutterable mental anguish, and I find my mind wandering, as if by growing into a larger hope for mankind."

He believes "that 'Origin and Destiny of Man,' p. 163) that 'Heaven and Hell begin in this world'; that (Ibid., p. 169) 'it is not essential to our belief in endless punishment in order to be Christians'; that 'a wrathful or vindictive punishment' of man by God is 'absolutely unthinkable.' (Ibid., p. 171.) This, of course, is Universalism. The moment it becomes optional for a church-member to believe in endless punishment or not, the doctrine is of no consequence in the creed of the Church. It is a mere bugaboo to frighten timid women and children, and might as well be dropped.

Dr. THOMAS' third statement is as follows: "On the question of the inspiration of the Scriptures, I should find difficulty in accepting the verbal theory, but I do fully believe that the men who wrote the Scriptures were inspired, and that these Scriptures contain in substance the word of God; and I think that those who have heard me request that at a certain time of my printed discourses, will bear me out in the truthfulness of these statements."

Confirmation of this is found in the volume already quoted from, where it is said (page 199): "There is not a man in the world that knows certainly who wrote the book of Genesis, the book of Exodus, of Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy." On another page we find this: "Nobody knows, or ever will know, whether we have in the New Testament the exact words that Christ uttered." This view is correctly and mildly described by one of Dr. THOMAS' clerical brethren as "unorthodox."

There is much more of the same sort in his printed discourses, as when he subscribes to the theory that ADAM was not the first man, but only the first white man, thus convicting Genesis of a paltry quibble, and that the Darwinian theory, though not yet proved, is in a way of being proved. But enough has been told already to show how greatly Dr. THOMAS is at variance with the views officially promulgated by his Church. It is not the purpose of this article to judge whether he or the Church is right, or to express an opinion as to the action of either in the future, but merely to provide material for the reader to draw his own conclusions from, and to follow the further progress of the controversy in an intelligent way.

THE COUNTY RING'S SCHEME.

The latest expedient of the County Ring to gain some popular support for the proposed issue of \$750,000 bonds may be found in the following resolutions offered by "Reformer" WHEELER, and passed by the Board: WHEREAS, It is represented by the press of the City of Chicago that the County Board of Control, by a judicious management of the affairs of the county, defray the current expenses of the County for the benefit of the people, and in the same time retain sufficient money from the tax-revenue to prosecute the work on the Court-House; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated by the County Board that it will require the full amount of the tax-revenue to defray the current expenses of the county; and WHEREAS, It is desirable to continue work on the Court-House, provided funds can be raised for that purpose; therefore, Resolved, That the Citizens' Association of the City of Chicago be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to appoint a committee of the county to meet a committee of the County Board for the purpose of devising the best means for raising funds to continue the work on the Court-House building.

Whether these resolutions were offered and adopted in the assurance that somebody connected with the Citizens' Association could be found to indorse the bond issue, or whether they were merely designed to secure the consent of the Association to a conference with the hope that even such recognition would give the Ring countenance, we hope the Citizens' Association will not be caught with any such chaff. The case in hand is not one that requires any consultation, and the Citizens' Association should not encourage the Ring, even to that extent. There is just one Citizens' Association to pass upon this proposition, and that is the taxpayers, who are asked to mortgage their property \$750,000 more than it is now mortgaged for the benefit of a scheming, unscrupulous, and voracious Ring.

It is simply insolent on the part of the County Ring to ask an association of citizens to consult with them as to whether the appropriations for next year can be reduced so as to save money enough to go on with the Court-House work. The facts are so clear that he who runs may read. The County Ring has exhausted the entire tax-revenue in appropriations for the general expenses, all the money they are permitted by the Constitution to levy against the property.

After paying for the payment of the interest on the indebtedness, there remained \$1,123,550, and this vast sum was divided up among the different departments and institutions. The appropriations for the very same departments and institutions last year were \$700,000, and the year before \$667,480. That is to say, the Ring propose to run up the general expenses the coming year \$433,550 more than they were this last year, and \$476,070 more than the year before, when the indolent Commissioners ran the affairs of the county. Such a proposition is too preposterous to admit of any consultation. It needs no conference to determine that over 33 per cent more money is not required to pay the expenses for the coming year than was required two years ago, when it was a matter of common notoriety that the demands of the paupers and the cost of everything purchased by the county have decreased 33 per cent.

The simple fact is, that the County Ring has exhausted the tax-levy in appropriations for general expenses in order to create the impression that work on the Court-House will be stopped unless the bonds be voted; but the device is too transparent to deceive anybody. Why should \$115,000 be voted for the County Clerk's office, when only \$80,000 were voted for the last year of LEE'S extravagant administration? Why should \$12,000 be voted for keeping the County "Building clean and in repair, when \$10,000 sufficed for that purpose last year? Why should the cost of running the Insane Asylum be increased this year to \$110,000, or nearly double what it was last year? Why should the County Agent be authorized to expend \$150,000 this year, when \$100,000 was more than enough for him last year? Why should \$85,000 be spent on the Hospital this year, as against \$60,000 last year and \$50,000 the

year before? Why should \$32,000 be appropriated for outdoor relief, when \$20,000 was regarded as enough last year? Why should there be an item of \$47,000 for "miscellaneous expenses" that did not appear at all in last year's appropriations? The same answer applies to all these questions, viz.: It was designed to swell every item till the tax-levy should be exhausted, and leave nothing for the Court-House, and then say to the public, "You must vote the bonds or the work must stop."

The proposition to vote \$750,000 bonds is plainly a steal. The sum originally fixed upon was \$500,000, but \$250,000 were added as a fund to help carry through the job. The popular approval of this proposition would enable the Ring to steal between \$600,000 and \$700,000 during the next twelve months. Enough money can be saved out of the general tax-levy to pursue the work, and this will be done if the Ring be forced to it. They will be forced to it if the people refuse to vote the bonds. No committee of the Citizens' Association is necessary to convince the people that this is the proper course, nor could any such committee convince the people of the contrary. The Ring should not be countenanced to the extent of a conference on the subject, but all good citizens should turn their efforts in the direction of electing five good men, whom there is every reason to believe the Republican ticket has presented this year, as the first step toward dislodging the present corrupt gang. Pending this achievement, no bonds should be voted on any pretext.

THE LOCAL CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN.

The Congressional nominations in the three Chicago districts are now full. In the First, the Republicans have nominated WILLIAM ALDRICH; the Democrats, J. R. DOOLITTLE, Jr.; and the Greenbackers, WILLIAM V. BARR. In the Second, the Republicans have nominated GEORGE L. DAVIS; the Democrats, MILES KENZIE; and the Greenbackers, JAMES FELCH. In the Third, the Republicans have nominated HERMAN BARBER, Jr.; the Democrats, LAMBERT TREE (involuntary); and the Greenbackers, A. B. CONNELL. The riffraff nominated by the Independent Greenbackers and Socialists is not of sufficient importance to specify, as it will not make a ripple in the election, nor for purposes of comparison is it necessary to consider the regular Greenback nominations, as they will make scarcely any impression upon the vote of the three districts. The real fight in every district is between a Republican and a Democrat; the real issue is between honest money and dishonest money; and we have every reason to believe that Chicago, and the towns and counties embraced in the three districts, will send three honest-money Republicans to Congress, leave three soft-money Democrats at home, and utterly reject the nine Flatists and Socialists who have the temerity to cumber up the ticket, for no apparent purpose except to delay the counting of the final result.

It does not need, much argument and but very little comparison to show that the Republican nominations are immeasurably stronger than the Democratic, and that the Republicans have placed men in the field who deserve to win and will win if the taxpaying, intelligent, and respectable class of citizens do their duty; Every Democratic candidate represents financial repudiation and dishonesty, and against them the reserves of the Church, the schoolhouse, the workshop, and the counting-room should be brought up.

In the First District, the Democratic nominee is the son of his father, and partakes of the mania for office which has always been characteristic of the family, and has become a chronic complaint. As to ability, there is no reason why he should have been chosen in preference to a thousand and one other lawyers of his calibre. So far as any service to the city is concerned, that has yet to be performed, and will not be of any more importance than the usual style of service rendered by professional politicians. So far as principle is concerned, he is all things to all men. He secured the Democratic nomination, and then got an independent Greenback nomination by cutting under the regular Flat candidate and offering to go still deeper into the absurdities of the Flat lunacy. He is now pandering to the Communists in order to get their vote in the Fifth and Sixth Wards, and will leave no stone unturned to muster the votes of the most corrupt and dangerous elements in the district and array them against the Republicans. As against this man, without ability without political principle, without experience, without any fixed standing, known only to the public as an inveterate office-seeker, the Republicans have nominated Mr. ALDRICH, who has already served one term, is thoroughly acquainted with the wants of his district, and will be all the better qualified to represent his constituency by reason of his experience in Congress. He is a successful and honorable merchant, who has reflected credit upon the commercial reputation of Chicago at home and abroad, an advocate of honest money, a man whose personal character is above reproach, and whose record for honesty and manliness is without stain, and a legislator who did all that could be done for Chicago in a Democratic Congress.

In the Second District, the chronic Democratic office-seeker, MILES KENZIE, heads the ticket. Like his associate on the South Side, he, too, is representative of dishonest money, and has that remarkable degree of ability and qualification for the position of Congressman which can only be acquired by long and intimate connection with the petty details of ward politics and the manipulation of saloon bumpers. He is nominated to succeed a man immeasurably superior to him in ability, whatever may be thought of his aquiline eccentricities. His nomination is clearly to be traced to the sentimental indignation of the Irish against Mr. HARRISON for voting against Gen. SHELTON in his candidacy for Doorkeeper of the House; but the American and German Democrats, and the better and more sensible portion of the Irish, take very little stock in this indignation, and are not so well satisfied with the slaughter of Mr. HARRISON as to lend very enthusiastic aid in the election of so small a man as MILES KENZIE to fill his place. Against him the Republicans have placed GEORGE L. DAVIS, a young and rising man of honorable record, a full and energy and industry. In Congress he will be a law worker, and he will go there with as high and honorable a reputation as any man on the floor. He has no axes to grind, no ward bumpers to recompense. His honorable career as a citizen, his success in his profession, and his sterling qualities as a man; commend him to the voters of his district, and will undoubtedly secure votes for him from the opposition.

In the Third District, the energetic and enthusiastic manner in which the Republican candidate, Mr. BARBER, has already con-

ducted the campaign, and his great popularity among voters of all parties, have so completely demoralized the Democracy that it looks as if his canvass and election would be a walk-over. He was nominated with surprising unanimity, and he will be elected in the same manner. Against his involuntary competitor, Judge TREE, there is nothing to be said. He is a gentleman of unblemished reputation and high professional position, and, if it were possible to defeat Mr. BARBER, the regret would be tempered with the reflection that he was beaten by such an eminent citizen. As the Democratic Congressional Committee, however, has gone begging with the nomination, and as it has finally, after repeated declinations, forced it upon Judge TREE, who does not want the office, and will spend neither money nor time in the race, and as it is going to drag him over the course a dead, inert weight, it is evident enough that, if the Republicans of the Third District do their duty on the 5th of November, Mr. BARBER will be elected by an overwhelming majority.

The prospects in all three districts are good for a Republican victory. To insure that victory it is only necessary for every Republican to vote and work for his candidate, to be active in rallying the whole strength of the party, and to watch the ballot-boxes with vigilance. Chicago has a large majority for honest money. If it does not cast that majority, it can only be because of the supineness of Republicans, or because their majority has been obliterated by corrupt and dishonest means.

PAYING DEBTS IN FIAT MONEY.

There are a great number of persons in all parts of the country who are in debt and whose land is in mortgage, and who, because of the depreciation in the value of property, assume that if Congress would authorize the issue of "absolute paper money" in sufficient quantity it would sink in value so much and be so abundant that, being legal tender, existing debts could be paid off and mortgages discharged at a reduction of one-half or one-quarter of their amount in present money.

We suppose—and all the facts and circumstances justify the supposition—that, were it not for the expectation and hope that the issue of this scrip would in some way enable a man to pay his existing debts at a comparatively small cost to himself, the advocates of fiat shillupsters would be few and far between.

The argument runs thus: A is a farmer owing a mortgage on his land for \$5,000, bearing 9 per cent interest. B is a mechanic owing a mortgage on his home of \$1,500, bearing 8 per cent interest. Wheat is selling at \$1 per bushel, and wages are \$2 a day. If fiat money is issued, it will depreciate to 25 or 30 cents on the dollar; wheat will sell for \$3 or \$4 per bushel, and wages will rise to \$10 or \$8 per day in this cheap stuff. The money, being legal tender, can be forced on creditors and employed to pay off mortgages, after which these persons will have no further interest