



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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## FISTS, FUSS, FAMILY FIGHT.

**Republicans Harmonize by Gouging Out Eyes, Blows, and Adopting Resolutions.**

**Complete Rout of the City Forces by the County Wing of the Party.**

**General Gossip from the Various Political Camps, with Current News from the Official Departments.**

"Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

Never has there been a more perfect illustration of the truth of the old adage than in the recent conduct of the leaders of the local Republican organization. The very spirit and essence of the demon of disunion seems to be rampant among them, and during the past week they have furnished a spectacle for gods and men.

The struggle for supremacy between the two factions into which the party is now fairly and squarely split, and which has been so frequently outlined as the inevitable result of the trend of affairs among the leaders, is perhaps the most fierce and bitter of its kind ever witnessed in Cook County or anywhere else in this country.

Four times within a week have they met in organized assembly, and four times have each side dealt the other deadly blows in the bitter fight for "the flesh pots of Egypt."

Physical violence has even been indulged in, and the fiercest, implacable and personal hatreds developed in the struggle cannot and will not be healed during the series of vitally important campaigns now opening up in Illinois. What, we wonder, have the blue-nosed frauds who have posed as the advisers, the scribes and the prophets of the so-called "party of respectability" to say now for the organization which they have so long maintained to be the sole depository, nay, the very embodiment of all the goodness, sobriety, law, order and decency in politics?

The scenes which have been enacted last week on floor K of the Great Northern Hotel have been such as to disgust all decent men, and we are much mistaken if they do not disgust the general public with the entire outfit. With the exception of one or two men of sound judgment and sober sense, such as Alderman M. B. Madden and John M. Smyth, the Republican leaders in their mad struggle at the edge of the public trough have acted in the most disgraceful fashion. Listen to what the Evening Post, the special organ of the Republican city administration, has to say on the subject:

"The public, who take no interest whatever in the merits or demerits of the claims of rival factions of the Republican Central Committee, view with disgust the unseemly exhibitions of yesterday's meeting.

"Whether the city faction or the county faction gets the upper hand and the grip on the machine is of no consequence to the general body of voters. But the spectacle of the vulgar wranglings and brutal violence of committee men which was afforded at the Great Northern Hotel yesterday is humiliating to all properly behaved men. The meeting seems to have been a riot—foul language, nasty practices and bloody noses being the most salient features of eight hours of purposeless uproar.

"The only conclusion to which the independent onlooker can bring himself is that the leaders of the party have little or no sense of decency, while the respectable Republican voter may well feel that if this sort of thing goes on the party will throw away all that has been secured in the confidence and good will of the electorate of the city and county."

Other newspapers like the Tribune and the Record appear to be equally horrified at the spectacle of the boys in a shindy. Small wonder.

"Buck" McCarthy on guard at the door of the meeting, smashing the faces of men on the other side of the fence as they approached and demanded entrance.

Van Cleave and Lloyd J. Smith, smashing at each other across tables and chairs. Henry Wulff rushing up to the rostrum with fire in his eye and a chair in his hands. Commissioner "Billy" Kent forced to run for his life from the room and given the "hot foot" as he bounded down the hotel corridors. "Fin" Hogan and "Billy" Cook execut-

ing war dances and looking for scalps, fist fights and shillalabs everywhere. These are a few of the delectable scenes that marked the great Republican pow-wow last week.

We ask our pious and proper Republican sages of the press and otherwise if ever in their experience they have seen among the despised Democrats a more excellent imitation of a Donnybrook fair than Messrs. Hertz, Lorimer, Madden, Perry Hull, Henry Wulff and the rest of them have reproduced before the wondering eyes of the people of Chicago.

The next time the great Republican newspaper editors sit down to write a diatribe against the conduct of a Democratic gathering visions of the scenes enacted in the Great Northern will float upon them and freeze the venom and gall in their pens.

Well, gentlemen, an impartial observer can afford to look on and observe calmly the offering spectacle and note its present effect and its probable future effect. For the present, as we have said, it has disgusted the people at large. In the future the heartburnings, the personal considerations and the cravings for vengeance that will exist, no matter which side comes out uppermost, cannot be eradicated and must have an evil, if not disastrous, effect upon the Republican party, not only in Cook County, but in Illinois.

No doubt the control of the party organization at this juncture means much to that particular wing of the local leaders' combine which got hold of it. We are on the threshold of an important fall election, but this is of small consideration when compared with the great issues in the campaign of the coming year. The organization in control this fall will be in control all through 1896, when the Republican party will nominate in the spring one-half the Board of Aldermen as well as the usual grip of town officers. In the fall it will nominate candidates to the Legislature, which will elect a United States Senator, and possibly two, as will be explained in another article, a candidate for Governor of Illinois, for State Treasurer, for State Auditor, for Secretary of State, for County Coroner, for State's Attorney, for County Recorder, and will name fourteen delegates from Cook County alone to the presidential convention of 1896.

It is years since a campaign of such great importance and so generous in promise to the scythe of the Republican harvestmen has opened upon their vision, and it is not to be wondered at that they should have fallen out among themselves and quarreled over the prospective harvest.

But the quarrelling has gone far beyond the expectations of those who had most at stake, and old time spoliemen as well as the young and enthusiastic leaders who have lately sprung into the breach are shaking their heads already and predicting all kinds of evil and misfortune. The fight for control began in two meetings of the executive committee, where the county faction had things its own way and, if the statement of the city faction is to be believed, attempted to "pack" the main committee with their adherents by removing men who forfeited their right to act as committee men in accepting appointive office. The county men claim they were authorized to do this by the ward clubs, which have the authority to remove members for the cause mentioned and fill their places. The main committee refused to ratify the action of the executive committee, and both sides being equally divided in this body the deadly wrangle here began.

After the first day's disgraceful proceedings a "harmony committee" was appointed and here is how the work of this body is described by a contemporary:

No peace is in sight. When the warring factions of the Republican County Committee met at 4 o'clock to-day to play the second half of their football scrimmage for control they were as far

from an amicable settlement of their differences as ever.

The "harmony committee," consisting of Lloyd J. Smith and George Gibbs, of the city hall faction, and Congressman Lorimer and John M. Smyth, of the county side, who were assigned the hard task of arranging a compromise, had little of encouragement to offer. For hours they consulted together and argued the causes of difference from every point of view, without being able to agree. At 2 o'clock they again met for conference, but neither side showed signs of yielding. The bone of contention is the admission of the new committee men elected by the ward clubs to succeed those removed because they held appointive positions. Their recognition, which it is claimed, gives the county faction a majority, is bitterly opposed by the city men.

At the conference of the representatives of the two factions (Congressman Lorimer and John M. Smyth, in behalf of the county men, insisted on the following conditions:

1. Recognition as members of the County Committee of the men certified by the regular ward organizations.
2. An agreement that the executive body is the ward organization and not the County Central Committee.

The county men offered to concede that the committee is the judge of its own members, but insisted on the right of the secretary (Van Cleave, a county adherent) to put their names on the rollcall, and that they have the right to vote on all questions where their membership is not contested.

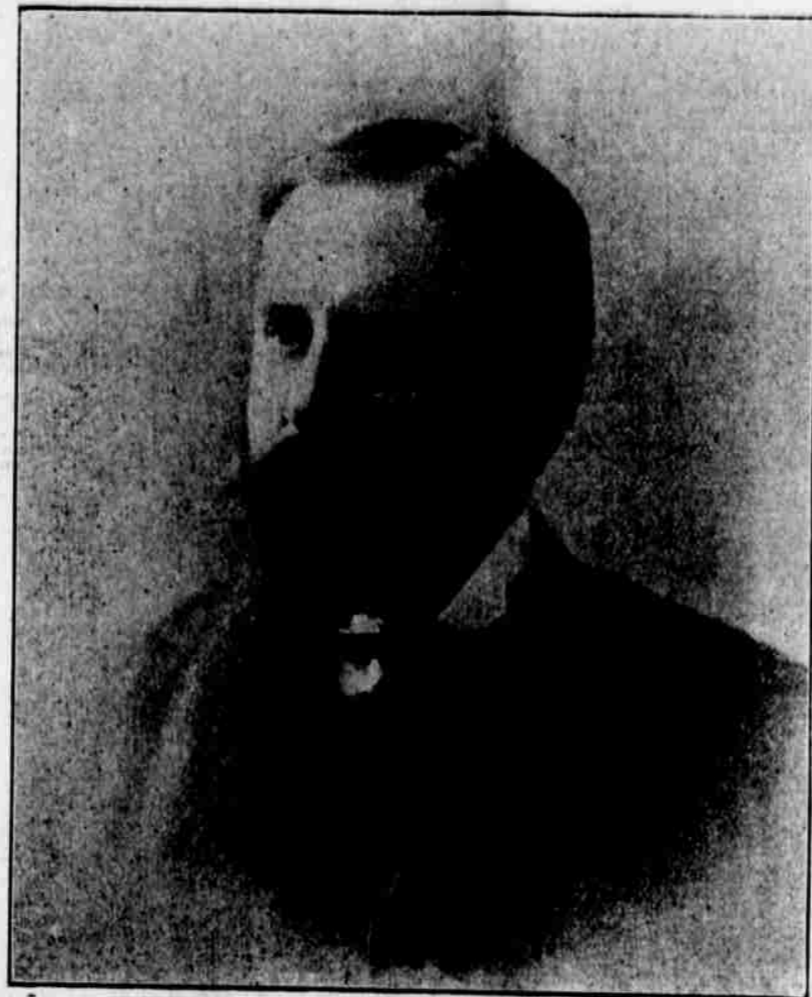
Messrs. Smith and Gibbs regarded these demands with disfavor and in turn made the following propositions to their opponents:

1. That the old members of the committee be permitted to vote on all questions considered before the contested memberships are taken up.
2. That the action of the executive committee in removing committeemen shall not be recognized as regular.

Neither side would agree to the above propositions and the prospect is that yesterday's disgraceful powwow will be repeated to-day. The county men, who dominate the executive committee, insist on its action being recognized as regular. The city hall sympathizers are smart enough to know that means defeat and will therefore fight its adoption as vigorously as they did yesterday.

No wonder that the sages of the party are indulging in direful forebodings. Lloyd Smith, in a published interview, says: "There is one thing about this whole disgraceful fight. It is ruining the Republican party in Cook County, and if we don't manage to patch it up there soon won't be enough Republicans left to elect the ticket put up by either side."

Here is what Congressman Woodman says: "This thing is most unfortunate, and I greatly fear if this bitter



HON. GEORGE S. WILLITS.

spirit is kept up we will have no conventions next fall."

John R. Tanner takes a gloomy view when he says: "Nothing remains for those city men who number eighteen on the committee but to submit to the majority. I hope something will be done to restore unity in the party."

True for you, gentlemen. You recognize the truth of the homely old saying that when two dogs quarrel over a bone a third is likely to come in and take it.

That your forebodings are not ill-founded a glance at the situation will reveal.

No matter which side comes out victorious in this struggle, and the struggle will not end in the central committee, there is likely to be such a chaos of ill-feeling as nothing can bridge over. It is likely to yawm wide during the coming campaign. Apparent compromise will be but upon the surface.

That the contest will not end here will be seen from a discussion of the situation on this point in another article.

Meanwhile the Democratic leaders are patiently but closely observing the whole business and laying up whole cargoes of hope for the future of their own party as a result of it all.

There is likely to be a dispute and a very serious one in the Republican county convention, which meets Oct. 3. There is a difference of opinion as to whether the committee over which there has been so much wrangling shall hold over or whether a new one shall be named.

The county leaders hold that the committee shall hold over, the election of Judge being a special and not a general county election. The city hall men hold that a new committee shall be appointed, and say the judicial election is a general election, on this point the scenes of committee room K may be repeated in the convention next month.

"Buck" McCarthy snugged and knocked out big "Joe" Lammers at the close of the Republican committee meeting.

It was a fitting finale to the whole extraordinary proceeding. Whatever may be said against the stock yards slugger, it must be said that this time he has done a public service, as big Lammers had a chip on his shoulder for months, is a loud-mouthed, swaggering bully, and has been acting for a long time. He has got what he was looking for, and will be quiet for the future.

McCarthy's strong fist has abated a public nuisance.

Mr. Eli B. Felsenthal, senior member of the firm of Felsenthal & D'Ancona, is being urged by his numerous friends to be a candidate for judge of the Superior Court.

Although Mr. Felsenthal's practice yields him much more than the salary of a judgeship, it is hoped he would

make the financial sacrifice if he thought the people required his services on the bench.

The bimetal conferees concluded their labors at the Auditorium Wednesday and announced the practical consolidation of the three free silver organizations. To put in motion the machinery of the united national free silver party they decided to appoint an executive committee of three from each of the bodies. So far as selected at this time, this committee is composed of J. H. Aeklen, A. W. Rucker and Joseph Battell of the National Silver Committee; Thomas G. Merrill and Edward B. Light of the Bimetallic Union; and Gen. A. J. Warner of the Bimetallic League. Gen. Warner was made president of the managing committee and Mr. Light secretary. The national committee appointed by the Memphis convention adopted the following, which it was expected would be endorsed by the members of the union and the league:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that an early conference of bimetalists who are ready now to place cause above party be called from all the States to meet and formulate a plan for holding a national convention to name candidates for the presidency and vice-presidency upon a platform with a single plank favoring independent bimetalism for the United States.

Mr. Light declared that the bimetallic union would not endorse this proposition, and indicated that there would be serious objections to action which would preclude favorable consideration of the silver question by either the Republican or Democratic parties. The majority of the conferees, however, were confident that an independent movement will be necessary.

Ex-Mayor Hopkins will be tendered a hearty welcome home by his friends at Kinsey's on Saturday night.

Our red brother is remarkably imitative. He has even adopted the white man's habit of going on strike. In Deer River, Minn., 150 Indians learned that their employer was making a large profit on the hay they were cutting for him at \$2.50 per ton, and, in order to make the demand more impressive, held a war dance around the farmer, telling him that they were going to scalp and burn him. But he escaped, employed a gang of white laborers, and the Indians returned to their reservation. Up to date, however, they have written no tear-bespattered and poetry-decorated letters about Daniel in the lion's den and mother's knee; which shows that they have more sense than white men of their grade of intelligence.

The account of the havoc created by a lot of long-horned Montana steers let loose in Chicago the other day will confirm the belief of the Bostonians that steers and wild buffalo run the streets of the Western metropolis.

## IT MEANS SENATOR CULLOM.

**The Victory of the County Republicans Means Illinois Delegates for Shelby for President.**

**John R. Tanner, the State Chairman, Is with Him and Engineered This Deal.**

**So the Plot Thickens as Black Eyes Grow More Numerous Among Brethren.**

Several people were wondering during the week what possible interest the Hon. John R. Tanner could have in the fight between the local factions for control in the party organization, or why he should so freely and fully identify himself with the county faction.

To a man up a tree the thing is plain enough. John R. is a shrewd politician, as his conduct of the affairs of Shelby M. Cullom last year proved beyond a doubt.

Then, as now, the men who led the affairs of the Republican party of Cook County were suspected of coquetting with Tanner and Cullom, while openly professing to be the champions of another candidate for United States Senator.

Shelby M. Cullom has a bigger bee in his bonnet now than the Senatorship of Illinois. It is the nomination of his party for President of the United States.

With so many heavyweight candidates in the field, a man who could come in with the solid delegation of Illinois and all that that would mean in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the two Dakotas, would make no mean or insignificant dark horse.

So it would seem that Shelby M., through his old-time man Friday Tanner, has again been coquetting with the Cook County leaders on that which he considers the winning side. The fourteen votes of Cook will be no insignificant part of the Illinois delegation.

Of course his nomination would leave a vacancy in the Senatorship, and throw the appointment into Gov. Altgeld's hands.

Altgeld would no doubt name a Democrat, probably Franklin MacVeagh, but what of that. It would only last for about six weeks or until the convening of the next Legislature, when that body would have the election of two Senators in hand and divide the plums between the county and Cook County, recognizing William E. Mason on one hand and some deserving Republican from down the country on the other. It was a nice little program if it could be carried out.

The end of the strife between the Republican factions comes not with the patched-up "compromise" of Thursday evening. While the struggle was apparently for the control of the committee by securing a majority of its membership, and the Madden forces seem to have had the best of that, the fight really was for the power to name the judges and clerks of election for the ensuing year. The committee names these officials and relies upon them to elect the delegates to the convention.

But then there is a higher court of appeal, namely, the election board.

No party or faction seems to have control here. Meier, the Populist member, is really a creature of Judge Carter, however, and will be likely to side with Baird, the president, who is a county sympathizer; so here, too, the Madden forces seem to have the upper hand, and here, again, the fight for control will be carried and fought out. Then, again, there is a Board of Review, consisting of County Court Judge Carter, County Clerk Knopf and State's Attorney Kern. Here in the very last court of appeal the Madden faction is on top, and here again there will be many a struggle in the bitter war now on.

So that taken all along, the prospects now seem gloomy all along the line of battle for the city hall, army and rosy enough for the Madden hosts.

While Chief of Police Badenoch was perfectly justified in sending his men to the Republican free-for-all fight Wednesday when called upon to keep the G. O. P. leaders from murdering each other, it must be said to his credit that, although an out and out politician Mr. Badenoch did not go there himself, either as a partisan or a spectator. As

much can not be said for the heads of other departments. It is not to the credit of Commissioner Kent that he did not content himself with sending his army of subordinates to the committee meeting, but actually went there himself to participate in the melee, and had to be reminded of his duty and his proper place when put out of the room by the committeemen.

Thorpe Patton, the city sealer, is paid for other things than to stand around the corridors of the hotel and hound on his henchmen to the fray.

Health Commissioner Kerr, it must be said, set a good example in this regard by remaining at his post of duty and allowing the politicians to fight their quarrels out.

Nor is the blame solely attachable to city officials. "Doc" Jamieson is paid \$4,000 a year as county purchasing agent. If one were to see him at the Great Northern Hotel last week one would imagine he was some retired capitalist who had condescended to mould the destinies of his party as a mere matter of personal amusement. Is it not time that the people should do something to teach these expensive hired servants that their wages is paid them for other work than setting up political pins and nailing out campaigns?

Coming upon the heels of the Holmes Insurance swindle the Fraker case in Kansas City calls public attention to a comparatively new form of fraud which has in it great possibilities. Dr. Fraker of Kansas City was insured for about \$48,000. Two years ago he accidentally tumbled into the Missouri one afternoon while drunk and had a narrow escape from drowning. Finally he succeeded in clambering out of the water and spent the next day in sleeping off his debauch. The first newspaper he saw contained an account of his death by drowning. This prompted him to remain in seclusion until his beneficiaries should secure the insurance money on his life. He came to Chicago, went to Milwaukee, and later, under an assumed name, has been living in a logging camp in northern Wisconsin. Fraker's relatives recently brought suit for the insurance money, and after carrying the case up to the higher courts obtained a judgment for the full amount. The insurance companies offered rewards aggregating \$20,000 for proof that Fraker was still living. The accidental discovery of the missing man was made in time to prevent the court judgment from being satisfied. Now the news comes from Kansas City that Fraker cannot be punished, as he has not received a cent of money fraudulently, nor has he made any demand for insurance money, nor obtained money by false pretenses. It is a queer case.

The telegraph brings the interesting information that while Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt has not yet succeeded in landing the Duke of Marlborough, her cousin, Gertrude Vanderbilt, is engaged to marry Mose Tyler. We have heard the name Mose before, but we do not recall this particular one. However, hurrah for Mose, anyway! It is said that he is a "mere American," whose only claim to distinction is the fact that he holds the polo championship. Well, what more could be desired?

It appears from the full text of the suffrage decision by the Supreme Court of Utah that women cannot vote for State officers nor be candidates for any office. The first reports of the decision were to the effect that they could not vote on the adoption of the constitution, but might vote for State officers and be candidates, the constitution having retroactive effect if it should be adopted. The full report says that they are entirely excluded from the suffrage and are ineligible for office.

The best way for those managers who have formed a "theatrical trust" to make money is to stop abusing the theatrical trust of the public.