

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, OCTOBER 7, 1896. THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

NATIONAL. President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Vice-President—HARRIS T. HOBART.

STATE. Congressmen—J. L. LAFRANCE, GALUSHA A. GROW, SAMUEL A. DAVENPORT.

COUNTY. Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL, COMMISSIONERS—S. W. ROBERTS, GILES ROBERTS.

LEGISLATIVE. Senate, 21st District—COL. W. J. SCOTT. Representatives, 1st District—JOHN R. FARR, 2d District—A. T. CONNELL.

Just four weeks from today The Tribune, according to its well established custom, will give the most accurate and comprehensive returns of the presidential election which will appear in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

In the Fourth Legislative District. Very much the same considerations prevail in Carbondale with reference to next state legislature as obtain in the election of a representative in the Second district which includes a considerable portion of the city of Scranton.

Does it look reasonable that a Democrat could at Harrisburg exert the same influence in committee room, on the floor of the house, in caucus where legislative policies are considered, or among the various departments that would be wielded by a bright young Republican like Mr. Reynolds, in touch with the majority and politically well fitted to utilize the resources of diplomacy in behalf of measures particularly affecting his constituents?

Some Republican contemporaries in New York are beginning to claim for the Empire state the honor of casting the banner plurality for McKinley. On behalf of Pennsylvania we beg to inform them that this honor is already pre-empted.

Plotting to Capture Congress. It is believed by those who have been in close watch upon the managers of Mr. Bryan's canvass that the real reason why the Popocratic candidate has been permitted to make repeated invasions of the "enemy's country" where even he must know that he stands no chance of gaining an electoral vote is because of a desire to divert Republican attention while the free silverites try on the quiet to capture the next congress.

They no longer expect to force an unlimited free coinage bill through but they believe that appropriations and confirmations could be so held up if necessary that President McKinley would be glad to purchase peace by assenting to a limited coinage of silver, perhaps on the lines of the Sherman act of 1890.

The talk of an empty treasury which is so conspicuous at Democratic headquarters is true only in a sense. The Popocratic treasury is empty in response to miscellaneous demands from states that under no possibility could be carried for Bryan. But there is reason to believe that there are funds in abundance to aid "still hunt" campaigns for free silver in congress districts where it is deemed possible by secret dike and fusion to capture congressmen. While Bryan continues his steeplechase tour of personal exhibition before noisy thousands, the pool of rich silver mine-owners is looking carefully over the congressional situation and deciding by means of secret agents where it is advisable to disburse corruption funds. Of this there can be little doubt. While it is not susceptible of direct proof, it accords

fully with the object of the Popocratic canvass, which is to secure at any cost a government market at an inflated price for the output of western mines. In some instances this adroit plan may succeed, but it can only do so through the indifference or overconfidence of the sound money forces. In Pennsylvania, for example, it ought to be possible for the opponents of free trade and repudiation by cordial cooperation and earnest organization to secure the election of a solid congressional delegation of 32 members pledged to sustain the integrity of the currency.

We do not wish to throw cold water on Republican enthusiasm by calling attention to the need of continuous and increasing work. We simply wish to put friends of Protection and sound money on their guard.

General Harrison's speech at Richmond did not appeal to the rabble as Bryan's did; but it will bear analysis, which Bryan's won't.

The Albany Law Journal for Oct. 3 contains a paper by James J. H. Hamilton, of this city, touching legal tender notes and the gold clause in contracts which is of interest to laymen as well as to lawyers, especially in view of the fact that a political party is battling this year to make 53 cents' worth of silver billion plus a government stamp full legal tender for one dollar's worth of debt, and to prevent the stipulation in a money contract that it shall be paid in a particular kind of coin, as for instance gold. The points considered by Mr. Hamilton are: What would be the effect of a free silver triumph upon contracts? Could a creditor be compelled to receive payment of his claim in depreciated silver whether he would or not? Could he stipulate in his contract for payment in gold irrespective of a federal statute making silver full legal tender?

In passing it may be observed that gold coin today is not legal tender at its face, but only at its market value. If a gold coin be abraded, it will pay only its weight's worth of debt. On the other hand, our greenbacks, having no market value, are legal tender at their face; and our subsidiary silver, being worth less as bullion than as coin, is by law made a legal tender within limited amount (\$5). The object of such a statutory bolster to inferior money is apparent from the fact that without it creditors would not take it in payment of debts when by contract they could demand bullion value.

The principal decision quoted by Mr. Hamilton as bearing upon the foregoing points occurred in connection with the act of congress of Feb. 25, 1862, declaring that "United States notes commonly called greenbacks shall be payment of all debts, public and private, within the United States, except for duties on imports and interest on the public debt." In interpreting this act the Supreme court held that it had no application to contracts payable by their express terms in gold or silver coins or specie, no matter whether such contracts were entered into before its passage or after; and that a tender of greenbacks is not sufficient to discharge such contract. It was also held that in all contracts entered into before the passage of the act there was the implied condition of payment in gold or its equivalent and that, therefore, the legal tender act had no effect upon contracts executed before its passage. The right to expressly contract for payment in specie or its equivalent is thus fully affirmed by the highest court. Other decisions of similar tenor are cited by Mr. Hamilton to the number of twenty-five or thirty.

In conclusion, then, as Mr. Hamilton points out: Under the decisions of the court of last resort, in spite of the repeal of any proviso contained in the statutes, legal tender laws cannot prevent contractual stipulations for payment in gold, or in any other desirable form of tender, nor the enforcement of such stipulation; and it is more than doubtful whether it lies within the power of congress to forbid or prevent such stipulations. To hold that it will require another reversal of the uniform and unbroken line of decisions of the most illustrious court on earth, that is, about, what? Legal tender laws cannot increase the purchasing power of money, and a remedy to a man to sell his property for a stipulated price, or to give something for nothing, or to exchange in exchange for his wheat, his coal, his ore or his merchandise, something which he does not want and is not willing to accept. They may, however, put a sprag in the spokes of commerce, stop business transactions, and bring about a general depression, and if I contract for 1,000 bushels of wheat, and the price of wheat is to be satisfied with receiving 1,000 bushels of oats, gold and silver are commodities, and are sought and sold in the same manner. Unless the government should assume a monopoly of dealing in these metals (and it will hardly be claimed that it has the constitutional power to do this), no one can be prevented from contracting for the purchase of gold; and when he has contracted for its purchase, he is entitled to damages for a breach of a contract as he is in the case of the breach of a contract for the purchase of any other commodity. His contract in this case would not call for current coin, and, therefore, could not be satisfied by a tender of silver or greenbacks, and would not come within the purview of the legal tender decisions. In such case, however, both the logic of the situation and the law of the case would prevent the enforcement of a judgment payable in gold; but the judgment entered would be a general money judgment for the damages the contracting party has suffered by the breach of the contract; and the measure of these damages would be the value of the gold at the time of the breach, calculated in legal tender.

In other words, even free coinage would not put the creditor at the debtor's mercy; the most it could do would be to upset present forms of business and cause a wholesale readjustment. There would still be no way out for the man who wanted to escape from an honest performance of his contract obligations.

he is not eligible to the office of president. It is thirty-five years since the war began, and if Mr. Bryan was born since the war he cannot be thirty-five years of age, which is the minimum age requirement under the constitution. But we suppose that remark was merely a slip of the tongue. The biographies locate the date of Bryan's birth in 1850.

Mr. Sewall denies that he put \$30,000 into the Popocratic campaign fund. No wonder he is so unpopular.

An International Supreme Court. Those who consider as Utopian the proposition to establish an international court of arbitration for the bloodless settlement of disputes between nations may be surprised to know how feasible a plan has been outlined by a sub-committee of the New York Bar association for the organization of such a tribunal. It suggests:

A court of nine members, one each from nine independent states or nations, each to be chosen from the bench of the highest court in that nation by a majority vote of his associate judges and each to hold office during life or during the will of the court selecting him; such court to make its own rules of procedure, fix its place and length of sessions and settle all points at issue by a majority vote. Each nation represented in the court shall pay the salary and expenses of its own representative and attaches, selected from its citizens, and the nation at whose capital the court shall hold its sessions, for the time being, shall provide a place for its sessions, local court attendants and meet other necessary local expenses. Controversial questions arising between any two or more independent powers, whether represented in said "International Court of Arbitration" or not, may be submitted by treaty between said powers to said court, providing only that said treaty shall contain a stipulation to the effect that all parties thereto shall respect and abide by the rules and regulations of said court, and conform to whatever determination it shall make of such controversy. Said court shall be open at all times for the filing of cases and counter-claims under treaty stipulations by any nation, whether represented in the court or not, and such orderly proceeding in the interim between sessions of the court, in preparation for argument and submission of the controversy, as may seem necessary, may be taken as the rules of the court provide for and as may be agreed upon between the litigants, and said court shall convene on call duly made by its presiding judge for the time being, for the purpose of trial, submission of argument and disposition of the controversy, as provided by the treaty stipulations between the litigant nations. Independent powers not represented in said court, but which have become parties litigant in a controversy before it, and, by treaty stipulation, have agreed to submit to its adjudication, shall comply with the rules of the court, and shall contribute such stipulated amount to its expenses as may be provided for by its rules or determined by the court.

In what detail is such a plan of organization defective or inexpedient, assuming that the civilized nations of Christendom, in this noon-time period of human enlightenment, are willing, as nations, to submit their disputes to the same form of adjudication which they require among those of their individual citizens who disagree? No nation will permit its citizens to try points at issue by brute force if they can prevent it. Why should not the same rule of orderly rather than disorderly arbitration be insisted upon for nations as well as for individuals? What is there Utopian about it? And if civilization cannot improve upon savage practices, what is civilization worth?

The coming visit of 500 ex-Confederate soldiers to Canton is another graceful recognition of the fact that the war is over.

In the Interest of Harmony. A new turn has been taken by the shrilly light in Philadelphia through the appearance of an open letter addressed to both candidates, Messrs. Miles and Crow, urging them in the interest of party harmony and especially in the interest of the Republican national ticket which must inevitably suffer if the present factional warfare shall be continued until election day, to retire and make way for the nomination of an acceptable third man, such for instance as any one of the following six gentlemen: C. Stuart Patterson, William H. Lambert, Robert E. Beath, J. Levering Jones, John Field and William Wood. The letter bears the signatures of some of the Quaker City's foremost citizens, among them being those of Samuel R. Rhipley, John H. Converse, Edgingham B. Morris, Robert C. Ogden, Clement A. Griscom, Theodore Justice, William Pepper, J. C. Strawbridge and H. L. Carson; and it undoubtedly represents the sentiments of the conservative business elements of the city, which has become weary of the incessant scrapping of the factions.

Undoubtedly the Crow forces will herald this letter as a symptom of Combine fright and will soon pay attention to its moderate and conservative advice. Mr. Crow himself is quoted in the papers as saying that he does not feel at liberty to respond to a request for his retirement from the race without first receiving the consent of the 50,000 citizens who in public mass meeting urged him to run. This is an euphonious way of saying that he considers himself inviolable and that he does not propose to let the interests of the party take precedence over his personal desire to be sheriff of Philadelphia. But can his candidacy bear up under such a construction of its animating motive? Is Mr. Crow's personal ambition of sufficient importance to them in jeopardizing the interests of the national ticket in order to gratify his hankering after a "scrapp"?

This wrangle is no concern of ours' further than the bad influence which it will exert upon the Republican party generally. It has already done harm, and if persisted in will do more harm. For that reason we think the Republici-

can press throughout the state ought to urge in behalf of party harmony that it be brought to an end, at least for this year, by means of an honorable compromise or a truce.

We are indebted to the Syracuse Courier for a copy of a charming piece of music called the Syracuse Courier March, and composed by William A. Niver. If the Courier as a newspaper shall always keep step with the merits of the Courier march it will have no reason to complain.

Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, has refused to accept pay from the state during the time he has spent on the stump for McKinley. And yet he did his state valuable service in that period.

Ex-Mayor Gilroy, of New York, says he will do all in his power to defeat Bryan. And yet Bryan imagines that Tammany is loyal.

According to Bryan the silver sentiment is steadily growing. And so it is—growing less.

One Example of Free Trade's Work

From the Times-Herald. Very few people had any adequate conception of the magnitude of the wool industry under the customs law of 1883. There were 700,000 sheep in the principal industry was that of growing wool. There were probably 10,000 more who were owners of small flocks of sheep in the United States. It is estimated that the industry employed, besides the owners of flocks, at least half a million laborers. According to the industrial census of 1890 there were 1,124 establishments engaged in the manufacture of woolen and worsted goods, employing 122,944 persons, to whom were paid in wages \$32,577,000, the value of the product of these mills being estimated at \$25,729. The Wilson-Dorman law reduced the tariff on woolen goods and worsteds three-fourths and placed raw wool on the free list.

From 1883, when the McKinley tariff took effect, until 1896, under the Wilson-Dorman tariff, the price of wool, as shown by the statistical abstract of the United States declined nearly 30 per cent. Fine wool which brought 32 cents per pound in 1883 brought only 17 1/2 cents in January, 1896; medium wool fell from 27 cents to 23 cents, and coarse wool from 21 cents to 15 cents per pound. The McKinley tariff had the effect to check the decline in the price of wool in the United States, caused by enormous production in other countries, as compared with the decline elsewhere. It did this by checking the importation of woolen goods manufactured abroad. The importations of wool have been as follows: 1891, 129,377,571 pounds; in 1892, 17,784,400 pounds; in 1893, 11,752,068 pounds; in 1894, 11,752,520 pounds, an average of 1892-4, 12,763,036 pounds, or 29 cents per pound. In 1895 under free trade the importations were 28,599,277 pounds, valued at \$2,776,129, which is \$15.83 per pound, the price of wool in the United States. This \$15.83 represents the amount which the Wilson law took from the pockets of the American sheep growers in one year. The imports of woolen goods also increased from \$3,047,728 in 1884 to \$29,168,185 in 1895. The imports of dress goods increased from \$7,539,522 in 1884 to \$22,549,845 in 1895. During the first nine months of the present year importations of woolen goods increased at such a rapid rate that it was estimated the value of these importations for the twelve months ending June 30, 1896, must have reached the sum of \$37,375,000.

The reports of the department of agriculture at Washington show that there were 47,273,900 sheep in the United States in 1892 valued at \$125,939,000. On the 1st of January, 1896, there were 28,288,000 sheep in the United States valued at \$25,000,000, a decrease of 9,985,900 in the number of sheep and of \$99,939,000 in value. These figures furnish an idea of the loss to American wool growers and manufacturers of woolen goods under the Wilson-Dorman tariff. The excess of imports of raw wool and of wool represented in its manufactures, comparing the last year of the McKinley law and the first year of the Wilson-Dorman tariff amounted in round numbers to the enormous quantity of 33,000,000 pounds. The question is between the home supply and the foreign supply of the home demand for woolen goods. The wool growers and the manufacturers will decide in November who shall supply this demand.

PRESIDENTIAL NICKNAMES.

Washington was "Father of His Country," "American Fabius," "The Cincinnati," "The Atlas of America," "The Star of the West," "The Deliverer of America," "Savior of His Country," and "Savior of the World." Adams was the "Colonius of the Republic," "The Old Man of the Sea," "The Wizard of Monticello" and "Long Tom." Madison was "The Father of the Constitution," "The Last of the Mohicans," and "The Old Man of the Sea." Jackson was of course, "Old Hickory," "Big Knife" and "Sharp Knife." The "Old Hero" was "The Little Giant," "The Wizard of Kinderhook," "The Father of the Footstep," "Whiskey Man," "King Martin the Great," "The Little Giant," "Political Grimaldi," and "Wesley." W. H. Harrison was "Tippecanoe," "Old Tip," and the "Young Hickory" and "Accidental President." Polk also was "Young Hickory," the sobriquet being used to resurrect the Jacksonian element. Taylor was "Old Rough and Ready," "Old Buena Vista," and "Old Zach." Fillmore was the "American Louis Philippe." Pierce was "Parsee," "Buchanan was "Old Public Functionary," "The Bachelor President" and "Old Back." He has never been reached. Lincoln was "The Great Emancipator," "Honest Old Abe," "Uncle Abe," "Mama Lincoln," "Father Abraham," and "The Great Emancipator." The last name being given by the supporters who maintained that he represented the north and not the whole people. Then comes Johnson—"Sir Veto," "Grand Old Man of the South," "Old Union," "Three Stars," "Hero of Annapolis," and "The American Caesar." Hayes was the "President de Facto," a name given him by the defeated Democrats. Garfield was the "Martyr President," Arthur was "Our Chief" and the "First Gentleman in the Land." Cleveland is the "Man of Doings," "Progress and Reform," "The People's Choice," "The Buckeye Boy" and "Grandfather's Hat."

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Aeneas The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrological cast: 2:17 a. m., for Wednesday, October 7, 1896. It will be apparent to a child born on the 7th that it is a day of great importance to the Times with a free ticket to Canton pretty soon, tragedy, from spontaneous combustion will result. Some of the enthusiastic Bryanites are of the opinion that Dave Hill contemplated his being elected by the voters. It is evident that some one must have turned the nose on the fireworks intended for Mr. Merrill's campaign. From present indications Christy Bowers' "bad head" will be a million before the campaign is over. Boy Grotter Billy Bryan will do well to pray himself with good stockings before the November frosts arrive. The "doubtful voter" cuts no figure in Pennsylvania politics this year.

Autumnal Rhymes. The equatorial days have come, With all their melancholy; And shouters for "16 to 1" Are slouters "off their trolley."

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