

THE AMERICAN

Entered at Postoffice as second-class matter. JOHN C. THOMPSON, EDITOR. W. C. KELLEY, Business Manager. PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE AMERICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, 1615 HOWARD STREET, OMAHA, NEB.

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JUNE 10, 1896.

Congressman Mercer is expected to arrive home Saturday.

It is generally conceded that the Republican platform will favor a single gold standard.

We suppose Senator Thurston will now adopt a silver standard since he has become one of the incorporators in a large Wyoming silver mine.

ENGLISH bimetallicists are making an interesting fight in the cause of the white metal, and the price of silver has materially advanced during the past week.

THE Canadian Presbyterians at their general assembly in Toronto passed strong resolutions in favor of the maintenance of a national school system in the Dominion.

CONGRESSMAN MERCER has been chosen secretary of the national congressional campaign committee, and his duties as such will probably detain him in Washington for a short time.

SHOULD Senator Teller bolt the Republican national convention, be nominated by the bolters, get the endorsement of the silver Democrats and the Populists what would happen to the apostle of protection?

THE AMERICAN believes that all money, whether gold, silver or paper, should be issued by the general government. This might require a great many changes from the present system, but the question will never be set at rest until settled in this manner.

RICHARD KERENS defeated Chanery I. Filley for the position of national committeeman for Missouri. Filley is an avowed friend of the A. P. A. and Kerens is the man who attempted to get the Republican state convention to denounce the American order.

MR. LOOMIS, a former resident of Omaha, and at one time a member of the fire department, has written Mr. Flagg that the claims of the American Gold Mining and Milling Company, according to the opinion of experienced miners, are in the best portion of the Cripple Creek district. See their advertisement.

OUR readers have heard of the A. P. A. They have probably also heard of the American Order of United Catholics, which is said to have been organized to counteract the influence of the first-named organization, while the A. P. A. is said to have been organized to oppose the influence of Jesuitism in the affairs of state. If the people were true to their country and its institutions instead of being true to their party, there would be no need of organizations such as the A. P. A.

MCKINLEY AND HOBART.

The Republican party has chosen Wm. McKinley and G. A. Hobart as its standard bearers. Wm. McKinley is known to everybody, loved by a large majority of our people, respected by all classes, trusted by those who know him personally, and admired generally for the magnificent success he has achieved in politics. The same is not true of Mr. Hobart. He is unknown to fame, unknown to nine out of every ten newspaper men and to ninety-five out of every 100 electors in the country.

We are not prepared to say whether this paper will or will not support the Republican nominee on a gold standard platform, since his party has studiously avoided taking ground against the appropriation of public money for private or sectarian institutions, since it failed to declare in favor of the taxation of all property not held by the state; since it failed to condemn the assault of the pope's faithful on American citizens parading under the American flag and carrying a miniature public school house on Independence day; since it failed to arraign the present Democratic government and its popish sympathizers for declaring the Monroe doctrine applicable to Venezuela—as against England—in order to get the Roman Irish vote, and for its failure to acknowledge the belligerency of Cuba, which is battling against Roman Catholic Spain; since it went out of its way to reward R. C. Kerens, a Roman Catholic, and to slap Chanery I. Filley, a Protestant and alleged friend of the A. P. A.; since it got scared at a Roman Catholic bluff and chose a Democratic Jew to act as chaplain of the convention; since it did not declare in favor of improvement in our naturalization laws, and since it has, apparently, sold out to the money power, which is controlled by the Roman Catholic church. We say, since this has happened, we do not know whether we will or will not support the Republican nominee for the presidency. It depends altogether upon what the other parties do.

As far as Wm. McKinley is personally concerned we believe him acceptable—but there is nothing against him—but he is unfortunate in being placed on a platform which says so much about things of so little interest to the people and leaves so much unsaid about things they consider of vital importance.

DANGER AHEAD.

All interest centers in the St. Louis convention this week. To it all classes are looking for relief except the capitalist, and he realizes that a change in the financial policy of the government may lessen his opportunities to make money off the oppressed and already overtaxed people. While he argues for honest money, or for sound money, he knows that a change in the financial policy of the government does not mean the depreciation of his dollar, but the appreciation of the poor man's dollar; that no matter what the professed intrinsic value of the gold dollar is to-day, that is what it will remain regardless of any fiat our government may issue in behalf of paper or silver.

The laborer and the manufacturer look to that convention for some expression that will afford them permanent relief from foreign competition in our home markets, that are to-day glutted with the products of alien, pauperized labor, such as has been for years and is still being dumped on our shores from the south of Europe. The thrifty German, the sturdy Swede and Dane, the trusty Scotch, the frugal English and the Belfast Irish together with the Canadians and the native-born are all anxious to see the Republican convention take advanced ground on the question of immigration. All, except the native-born, came here to better their condition, to provide homes for their wives and little children, and they realize more fully than we of native birth, that if our gates remain open for the importation of the pauperized labor of Hungary, Spain, Italy and the South of Ireland they are no better off than they were before they came, and in many instances not so well, for in many of their countries foreign labor did not compete with the native-born to any appreciable extent.

Most of these people are Republicans—they are all loyal American citizens who will discard party before they will surrender their stand for the radical and immediate restriction of immigration. Both these classes are interested in the financial plank that will be inserted in the platform. They both realize that we need more money; that the circulating medium is inadequate for the volume of business done and that a single standard is too easily

manipulated—cornered—to be of real use to a country. We are in favor of free coinage of all silver mined in the United States, but are not decided as to the ratio. We rather incline to the belief that neither gold or silver should be used as the primary money of a nation. Our idea of money is not that the dollar should have an actual intrinsic value of 100 cents, but that it should represent, stand for, be taken in exchange, pass among merchants, mechanics and manufacturers, and be received by the government for all duties and imposts on the same basis as the gold dollar. It would represent the credit of the nation, the same as your note represents your credit.

Capitalists and bankers all admit that there is something better than gold when they exchange their yellow metal for bonds. The government might take this as a pointer and issue bonds of a small denomination in convenient shape, which could be converted into a medium of exchange the same as the greenback, the gold and silver certificate and the national bank note.

When the Republican party has constructed its platform it has either won or lost the election. It is our calm and unbiased opinion that even so strong a man as Wm. McKinley would find it difficult to win on a single standard platform. The people have had four years of a single gold standard and how do you think they like it? Look into the homes where want, misery, privation and penury hold sway, where the wives and children are in rags and tatters, and where the father sits in enforced idleness. Look at them and you will get their answer! Look at them and you will see what is in store for the party which declares that it favors a financial policy which will perpetuate their misery and increase their suffering. Look at them and tell us if the Republican party, the party of Fremont, of Lincoln, of Grant, of Garfield and of Harrison, is ready to acknowledge before the world that it has ceased being the champion of the poor, the weak and the oppressed. If it is its nominee might as well arrange his affairs and get in shape to continue business at the old stand, for it is our honest belief that the people will have no more of the single standard if they can help it.

Since writing the above the platform has been adopted. It declares in favor of a single gold standard, ignores all the questions demanded by the A. P. A. but that relating to immigration, and that is stated in a way that shows the Republican party was not controlled by any desire to hearken to the wishes of the A. P. A.

BEFORE THE FOOTLIGHTS.

Now that the theatrical season is over it will not be out of place to say a few words in behalf of some actors who appeared before the footlights in this city during the last eight months. We may not mention all whom some of you may deem worthy of a very flattering notice, but nevertheless what we do say shall be what we believe to be the truth. Foremost among the actors whom we have seen are the Leckys—the one as Svengali in "Tribby," the other as the elder brother in "Shore Acres." Both were magnificent conceptions of the characters represented. Frank Mayo in "Puddin'head Wilson" was among the best characters we saw last season. Clay Clement in "My Own Dominion," and Salvini in the "Three Guardsmen," both understood the character they delineated. Mr. Gillet portrayed a very difficult character in "Too Much Johnson," in a most acceptable manner. The same is true also of Mr. Crane who appeared in the leading part in "My Wife's Father." Louis James and Walter Whitesides were quite acceptable in their Shakespearean roles, while Henry Long and J. Francis Kirk of the Woodward Theatre Company were prime favorites with the audience for more than two weeks.

Of the ladies who appeared before the audiences in this city not over half a dozen were even average in their conception of the parts they took, if memory serves us right. We thought Caroline Miskel Hoyt's acting very good. The same was true of Effie Eisler, Pauline Hall and Mrs. Woodward. The manner in which Bessie Bonhill sang "Paradise Alley," was refreshing, and some of the living pictures rendered by members of the troupe to which she belonged were realistic and beautiful. The flag dance by Miss Goldie of the Woodward Theatre Company was very good, though we believe it would not have been as much appreciated by a majority of the audience had her costume been less abbreviated or her limbs less symmetrical.

We were disappointed in Primrose and West's aggregation. The only meritorious things were the singing of the small colored boy and the drill by the troupe under the direction of Mr. West. The much advertised Geo. Wilson wasn't in it at any stage of the game as a funny man.

The Grand Opera in some of its parts was very good; in others greatly overdrawn and exaggerated, and in others positively weak. The Hanlons were good, Faust was

tiresome and the Devil's Auction was but little better.

The young ladies who performed before the public in lights, had with few exceptions, the appearance of being underfed, and were anything but well proportioned.

The dancers and high kickers of the female persuasion were as good, on an average, as any we ever saw.

KEEP THE EXPOSITION OUT OF FACTIONAL POLITICS.

The exposition bill has been passed by Congress. Appropriations will be asked from the legislature of the state of Nebraska, from the county commissioners of Douglas county, and from the city of Omaha, aggregating probably a million dollars. It is thought that \$500,000 will in all probability be invested by the United States government and other states and territories—possibly more. In addition to that, private contributions will be requested from all citizens interested in the success of the exposition.

Nothing is more natural than that politicians should attempt to take advantage of the exposition to boom themselves into office, or to be placed in position where a portion of these great funds will have to pass through their hands. Every candidate for the office of governor is attempting to state that he would be of more assistance to the exposition than any other, and should be the exposition candidate. The same is true of every other state office seeker. The Bee is insisting that its friends and candidates for office are the only ones who would be to the advantage of the exposition. It is stated that there are over ten candidates for the state senate in Omaha who claim that the exposition will be a failure unless they receive the nomination and election. There are nearly sixty men who feel the same about their candidacy for the legislature from this county, and the exposition is their special argument in their behalf.

The exposition does not take place until 1895, so that we can reasonably expect two years of this talk. Meanwhile what should the true friends of the exposition do? They must treat it as a business matter for the advantage of Omaha and as a great advertisement for the west. If they run it into politics, political dissensions will destroy the usefulness of all the prominent managers. Charges and counter-charges and campaign lies will be circulated to the disgrace of our citizens. It should be inaugurated as a business movement and conducted throughout as such. Men of all parties should be taken in on equal terms, where no contention should arise excepting that who best can serve and how best to agree as citizens for the welfare of the state. Charges of venality and corruption will doubtless be made; but, if without any partisanship, without any attempt on the part of the managers to advertise any favorite candidate for office, the best citizens of all parties put their shoulders to the wheel to make the exposition a success, it will be, without doubt, of incalculable advantage. An attempt to force it into politics will disgust good citizens, discourage contributions and impair the usefulness of all who are connected actively with the enterprise.

PARTY PROMISES.

Senator Thurston, on taking the chair as permanent chairman of the National Republican Convention at St. Louis, made the following announcement of the aims and objects of the party:

The supremacy of the constitution of the United States.

The maintenance of law and order.

The protection of every American citizen in his right, to live, to labor and to vote.

A vigorous foreign policy.

The enforcement of the Monroe doctrine.

The restoration of our merchant marine.

Safety to the stars and stripes on every sea, in every port.

Revenue adequate for all governmental expenditure and the gradual extinguishment of the national debt.

A currency "as sound as the government and as untarnished as its honor," whose dollars, whether of gold, silver, or paper, shall have equal purchasing and debt-paying power with the best dollars of the civilized world.

A protective tariff which protects, coupled with a reciprocity which reciprocates, thereby securing the best markets for American products, and opening the American factories to the free coinage of American muscle.

A pension policy just to our living heroes and to the widows and orphans of their dead comrades.

The government supervision and control of transportation lines and rates.

The protection of the people from all unlawful combinations and unjust exactions of aggregated capital and corporate power.

An American welcome to every God-fearing, liberty-loving, constitution-respecting, law-abiding, labor-seeking, decent man; the exclusion of all those birth, whose blood, whose conditions, whose teachings, whose practices, would menace the permanency of free institutions, endanger the safety of

American society, or lessen the opportunities of American labor.

The abolition of sectionalism—every star on the flag shining for the honor, and welfare, and happiness of every commonwealth and of all the people.

A deathless loyalty to all that is truly American and patriotism as eternal as the stars.

THE public has often been assured that the Roman Catholics of this country do not oppose the election of Protestants to positions, and that the charge that they do is wholly and absolutely false. We do not care to argue this point at this time, but will say the attitude of the church in Quebec gives the color of truth to the charge. Of course the printed reports may be false. We have known the Omaha Bee and the Kansas City Star to publish untruthful statements. The press of Canada may be as unreliable.

AT the suggestion of some of the gentlemen interested in THE AMERICAN we omitted nearly everything of an anti-Roman character from the last two issues, in order to convince them that our subscribers would be satisfied with nothing but a vigorous opponent of political Romanism. They are convinced and are willing to let the editorial policy remain in our hands, and we feel for all the world like a man who had been endorsed. Thank you friends for kicking.

THE Roman hierarchy will stoop to any scheme to withdraw public attention from their rotten system of political intrigue. Be careful, they will bear very close watching. We need Americans on guard at every station and at every post of duty in this government.

ELECT the man for president who will say to all foreign powers: "You shall respect our flag and our citizens when in foreign ports."

THE attempt to turn public attention from the Roman question by the agitation of the money question will not succeed.

LINTON is a Republican. Hainer is a Republican. Such men act as Americans should act in congress.

THE POLITICAL LANCE.

No man can permanently be successful in making political combinations who by means of pledges or otherwise succeeds in obtaining at one and the same time the support of the Bee and World-Herald, the railroads and anti-monopolists, the Catholics and the A. P. A., the Republicans and Democrats. The combination is too inconsistent to be permanent. It must result in deception to some and mistrust to all. The success it met with in two campaigns is in itself the reason why it must be unsuccessful in the third, for the means that brought it about cannot always remain secret.

Of the candidates of the position of congressman there is not one who can be said to be lacking in ability to properly represent this district. They are all lawyers. Messrs. Cornish, Kennedy, Brome and Carr take high rank amongst the lawyers of the state. Mr. Cornish was assistant city attorney, and as such for four years attended personally in the district court and supreme court to all suits brought against the city which required a jury trial, while the city attorney attended to equity cases and advised city officials. The levy for the judgment fund to pay judgments rendered against the city during his administration was reduced from two mills to one-half mill. Although the total levy for 1895 was less than it had been for any year since 1885, there was still over \$5,000 surplus left in the fund. This very enviable record puts him among the first rank of lawyers at the Omaha bar. Messrs. Kennedy, Brome and Carr have held no official position, but their rank is no wise second to that of Mr. Cornish.

There are more people in the United States who believe that the general government should possess the sole right to issue all money than the combined number of "gold-bugs" and "silverites," and the party that has the nerve to make such a declaration in its platform will come pretty near getting their votes.

It has been quietly hinted among the friends of A. J. Lunt, that that gentleman would like to be a councilman from the Fifth ward. Lunt is a young man, but he is in possession of a good stock of business sense.

Isn't always a good plan to "plug" friends of a candidate for the same office you are seeking in another ward. It usually reverts against the man who does the most "plugging."

There are more conventions to the square inch this year than for the past four years. Next comes the National Democratic and then the Nebraska State Republican conventions.

The Board of Education has selected two very capable men to fill the positions made vacant by the removal of Rev. T. C. Cramblett and John L. Pierson to other states. Superintendent

Gillespie of the Deaf and Dumb Institute was chosen in Rev. Cramblett's place, and Col. Henry C. Akin in the place of John L. Pierson. Both are men of wide experience. They are capable of doing much for the elevation of our school system.

John H. Russell is the latest candidate for the office of city councilman from the Seventh ward.

The next important duty of the Board of Education is the selection of a superintendent of buildings, a custodian of supplies and a secretary of the board. Of these the superintendent of buildings is the most responsible position. The man who is chosen should be one thoroughly capable, sober and careful. His ability should be unquestioned. A careless, inefficient or a drinking man should not be chosen, particularly when the board has so many capable, temperate men to choose from. The present incumbent is not efficient or capable. He is both a drinking and a profane man, if the reports that reach us are true. He has never contracted as the law specifies, and he knows just enough to stand up in an A. P. A. council chamber and slur the Y. M. C. A. and to declare that they are not there to listen to a man talk about the flag of our country. To choose such a man when such men as Wm. Stevens, Daniel Coy and Samuel MacLeod are applicants would be a disgrace and cast upon the board a stigma it cannot afford to bear. To think that the board once chose such a character over as true, loyal, trustworthy and able a man as Samuel MacLeod, simply because the Omaha Bee was opposed to him, is enough to cause all true patriots to blush and to wonder if the present board will repeat the mistake. While Samuel MacLeod was superintendent of buildings there was no occasion for the employment of a man to superintend the construction of new buildings. The same will be true if either he or Mr. Stevens is chosen to succeed Mr. Banker. Banker does not know enough about carpenter work to instruct his men how to do a piece of work. He almost invariably asks them how they would do it and after they have told him he says, "well, do it that way." Give the people a man who knows enough to honor the flag, to tolerate the Y. M. C. A., who will not drink with his men during working hours, and you will have our support.

The Omaha Bee has started another campaign of lying and misrepresentation. It imagines that the editor of THE AMERICAN is a formidable candidate for the city council from the Seventh ward, and that he must be defeated even if it must be through misrepresentation and probably of abuse. Its chief fugleman is Ed. Walsh and its preferred candidate is an A. P. A., and a good man; but what benefit is a good man if he gets in the hands of designing and unscrupulous demagogues and malcontents—the one a contractor on the people of this city and county and the other so dishonest that it would not expose the corruption when it was laid before it in the shape of affidavits. If Rosewater undertakes to dictate the councilman from the Seventh ward he need not be surprised if the people repudiate him. They have done that before when he assumed the role of a dictator.

In every campaign are to be found a class of "leg-pullers" who make it a point to work every candidate who may have any political aspiration. Sometimes they want the favor of a loan for a few days and forget thereafter to return it. The Lance has seen a man hurriedly step up to a candidate with a story that he has some one "to fix," and in order to do it he must get the price of the drinks that he may treat the aforesaid friend; at another time this fellow has a bill to pay and he must pay it at once, or he must have anything from a street-car fare to a railroad pass—especially if the candidate has any pull with the railroad company. These are only a few of the various schemes concocted to "work" the wayfaring candidate until it has come to pass that a man who enters politics, if elected, must count on donating his first year's salary to "friends who elected him," and yet there is no law upon the statute books that makes "leg-pulling" a crime and punishable. The legislator who has back-bone enough to secure the passage of a law of this kind will be a public benefactor.

Burned the Bible.

In a small town near Pittsfield, Mass., a resident was burning some brush near the school-house, when he discovered a partly burned Bible. He looked around and found four more in the same condition. He made inquiries from the children, and was informed that the teacher had burned some books and papers. When he confronted the teacher she almost fainted on being informed of his discovery. The case was reported to the school committee, and on visiting the school they found the teacher and pupils reading from a prayer-book instead of the Bible. The teacher received an indefinite vacation. —National Messenger.

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