

THE FORUM OF THE WEEKLY PRESS

Clinton (Ill.) Register: The gold democrats of Ohio are keeping still since they showed how to run things.

Franklin (Tenn.) News: It is best to stick to principle. A democratic victory on republican principles would be a barren victory.

Gallipolis (O.) Bulletin: Republican criminals need no longer flee to a foreign country to avoid punishment. Indiana affords them a safe retreat.

Gallatin (Tenn.) Tennessean: Beware of the so-called democratic newspaper that continually assails the democratic organization—it's a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Chicago Public: The democratic party is, indeed, in a sorry plight, if it has no better presidential possibilities to choose from than the republicans and the coadjutor republicans offer it.

Springer (N. M.) Stockman: When democracy gains two United States senators in an off-year the necessity for the services of reorganizers or disorganizers is not apparent to the naked eye.

Gunnison (Col.) News: As Ohio went republican by the largest majority ever known in an off year, it is to be hoped that John R. McLean is satisfied with his attempt to reorganize the democracy.

Ducktown (Tenn.) Gazette: Judging from the result of the late election in Ohio the reorganizers of the democratic party in that state are not meeting the fate of the doorkeeper of the ancient continental congress.

Springfield (O.) New Era: The time was when the republican party claimed to be the party of radical ideas and progressive thought. In the late campaign in Ohio it made the struggle on the issue "Let well enough alone." That was simply conservatism gone to seed.

Celina (O.) Democrat: The gold-bug democrats of Ohio have no doubt discovered by this time that they are not the whole thing. Traitors to a party cannot swing the rank and file of a party at will, and, besides, this was no time for the tail to attempt to wag the dog.

Breckenridge (Tex.) Democrat: Some of our gold bug friends in Texas are vamping considerably about "reorganization." As the regular democrats, by sheer force of numbers, will continue to rule the roosts in this state in any case, it seems that our friends are wasting lots of valuable energy.

Concordia (Kas.) Kansan: Born a Britisher we have been inclined to have a feeling of pride for the sturdiness of the English character, but we have had a fall taken out of us when we read that the physicians to King Edward have ordered him to refrain from smoking cigarettes. A king the victim of the cigarette habit, what do you think of that, anyway? Go it, Mr. Boer, you've got a fighting chance, yet, if the English have gone to smoking cigarettes.

Coldwater (Mich.) Star: We have a mighty sight more sympathy for those brave American boys who were slaughtered in the island of Samar, Philippines, by the natives who are fighting for their homes and their liberties than the imperialists who sent them there to slaughter and be slaughtered.

Lamar (Mo.) Democrat: The Chicago Chronicle came out in flaming headlines, Wednesday morning, declaring that as a result of refusing to reaffirm the last democratic national platform, the party made enormous "gains" in Ohio. The Chronicle had best read the returns once more, before it gets too gay.

Moulton (Ia.) Sun: The result of the late election proves that it will not strengthen democracy for the party to repudiate its last national platform. The party was beaten as bad if not worse in Ohio than it was in Iowa. A shoulder to shoulder fight for democratic principles is what will win in 1902 and 1904.

Alturas (Cal.) Plaindealer: Our democratic exchanges frequently express a wish for the return of another Old Hickory. If Andrew Jackson or even Thomas Jefferson were alive they would be denounced by the trust organs as anarchists and enemies of mankind.

Charlestown (Ind.) Democrat: Wonder what the Indianapolis Sentinel thinks about that Ohio democratic platform now. It will be remembered that the Sentinel nearly had "canip-tions" over it at the time it was adopted. Wonder if the Sentinel would want the Indiana democracy to adopt one like it next year.

Lansing (Mich.) Democrat: The vote in Ohio is much smaller than usual this year, even for an off year. Perhaps the democrats who engineered the turning down of Bryan will see something now and profit by it. They arranged to gain the gold democrat vote, but if they gained it the loss is many times what they gained.

Salem (Ill.) Democrat: Those professed democrats who are clamoring for a reorganization of the democratic party, seem to be so actuated for the sole purpose of winning out in the national elections. All true democrats are actuated from principle to espouse the cause of democracy, and to obtain the loaves and fishes is a secondary consideration.

Geddes (S. D.) Record: In Ohio and New Jersey the reorganizers were cut to the quick, and are now buried under an avalanche of votes from which they are not likely to emerge for many years. Reorganization in those states meant disorganization after the fashion in Cleveland's time. The few hungry fellows who enjoyed the privileges of the pie counter under Cleveland wanted reorganization in the hope of getting an office, and there is no other reason for it.

Hastings (Neb.) Democrat: The various leaders in Ohio got together some three months ago in consultation and agreed on repudiating party principles for the first time in that state. Their ticket was beaten last Tuesday by 60,000, worse than it has ever been for many years. Party leaders can compromise, but the trouble with the voters seem to be that they will not always compromise.

Rock Port (Mo.) Mail: The ship owner who took \$100,000 worth of shoes to Brazil and exchanged them for a cargo of coffee, took that to England and exchanged it for cutlery worth \$80,000, with which he returned to New York, lost \$20,000, but he made the country richer because he preserved "the balance of trade," according to republican logic.

Jefferson City (Mo.) Press: If some of these city wise ones who are so glib in asserting that the silver issue is dead will spend a few days talking to western country democrats, they will change their opinions. Principles among these democrats are more than coat deep, and they do not off with the old and on with the new at the behest of every opinionated boss who presumes to give them enlightenment.

Rockville (Ind.) Tribune: Once upon a time a Kentucky democratic convention by "polly-foxing" around, adopted a Cleveland-Carlisle platform. Up to that time it had never been regarded as possible that Kentucky should be carried by the republicans. The Tribune promptly said "good-bye, Kentucky"—three months ahead of the November election. It was just as apparent last summer when the reorganizers "bamboozled" the real democrats in the Ohio convention that thousands of democratic votes would be wintered. That democrats won't stand such "monkey business" ought to be plain to everybody, even to the editor of the Indianapolis News.

Seneca (Kas.) Courier-Democrat: "Bryan Called Down," was the heading of an article which appeared in Tuesday's Topeka Capital. The article was quoted from the San Francisco Call and was characterized as a "stinging rebuke for the attack he made on the land grants given western railroads." The article goes on to say that the grants to the Illinois Central railroad by a democratic administration in Illinois are treated by Bryan "as politically and economically proper, while everything done in the far west is denounced as a steal." Both the Capital and Call show their ignorance of the condition on which the grant was made to the Illinois Central. The Illinois Central, through the instrumentality of Stephen A. Douglas, was compelled to agree to pay into the Illinois state treasury 7 per cent of its gross earnings forever, as an offset to the grant. The state now receives nearly half a million dollars per year from the grant to this railroad, and until the constitution of Illinois is re-

pealed this income will continue. It is very easy to criticize a man like Bryan when a portion of the facts are concealed, but newspaper editors who value their reputation cannot afford to use such means.

Rochester (Pa.) Commoner: The reactionaries are not so jubilant since the election. Ohio has been heard from. It increased the republican majority of Governor Nash of two years ago by 50 per cent. The reactionaries intended to teach the Kansas City platform democrats a lesson. They expected to elect Colonel Kilbourne governor (who, by the way, is much better than the gang he has been training with), and send J. R. McLean to the United States senate. But their plans failed them. Kilbourne received a permit to remain in private life for two years at least and the distrustful McLean has been effectually disposed of. So much for the good work of the reactionaries!

Norton (Kas.) Liberator: To those republicans who offer the criticism that the democratic party is simply a negative party and stands for nothing, we would suggest that there are enough unrighteous movements going on in the republican party to hold the attention of more than democrats, but the great body of populists as well. But the democratic party does stand for something. The Kansas City platform stands for Jacksonian and Jeffersonian principles, iterated first in the Sermon on the Mount and reiterated in the Kansas City platform. Until a national convention changes the import of that platform it must be taken as the creed of democracy. No party that meets defeat on such a platform will be dishonored in its defeat.

Mount Vernon (Tex.) Herald: The able editor of the Courier-Journal, Col. Henry Watterson, wrote a most readable and spicy editorial several weeks ago in which he recorded his belief that the democratic party was now in its "Valley Forge State." If the able Kentucky editor is right the Herald mildly suggests that the reason why we are now camping out in the cold and snow was a modern repetition of the field of Monmouth, where Lighthouse Harry disobeyed his commander and ordered a retreat. History has repeated itself, for another hot-headed southern commander from over about Louisville led a small squad in nankeen uniform outside the democratic camps, and we have been fighting greater odds ever since than the brave old George Washington and his handful of frost-bitten continentals ever had to face. In view of the fact that many of the yellow uniformed squad have commissions from "Lord Howe," and the further fact that the gallant Kentucky cavalier has been roaming around in the woods since 1896, may we not hope to touch elbows with him again at the storming of Yorktown in 1904? Haven't you been out in the snow long enough?