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FREDERICK E. ABBOTT, Editor.

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CHANGE IN ADDRESS—When ordering a change in the address, subscribers should be sure to give their old as well as their new address.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

STATE.

CHARLES B. LETTON....Supreme Judge
V. G. LYFORD } ..University Regents
F. H. ABBOTT }

COUNTY.

W. L. SMITH.....Treasurer
ED. LUSINSKI.....Clerk
J. D. STIRES.....County Judge
R. B. WEBB.....Sheriff
O. H. SMITH.....Superintendent
Dr. H. G. MORRIS.....Coroner
O. C. SHANNON.....Surveyor

What do you think of Stires' platform? The rest of the republican candidates are with him.

There will be no mud slinging in this campaign. But there will be some pretty muddy facts taken from the official records.

If Ernst and Bender and the Telegram would only put it back, a democrat might dig up some excuse for voting the democratic ticket this fall.

The democratic county convention "resolved" against passes. Democratic county officials who ask re-election on that anti-pass platform continue to ride on passes. The republican state convention "resolved" against passes and a majority of our state officials sent in their card boards the next day. Another example of democratic promises and republican fulfillment.

On the day following the convention two democrats in Lincoln took the trouble to communicate to the Journal office their determination to join the republican party. "That platform suits me," one of them explained. The other said that at last there seems a chance to bring about a real reform in Nebraska politics and he wanted to affiliate with the party that is starting out to do things.—State Journal.

The Telegram is exceeding generous. It credits the editor of the Journal with "trying to disrupt the democratic party in Platte county." Thank you brother, but our modesty forces us to "pass." What we are charged with trying to do, has already been completely accomplished, and we are compelled to agree with four out of five democrats in the county that the credit for the accomplishment belongs to the Columbus Telegram.

The democratic supervisors pay 25 per cent more than the law allows for printing the proceedings in the democratic papers on the pretext that it is necessary for all the taxpayers to have an opportunity to read the record. And yet when the Journal requested a carbon copy of the same proceedings offering to print them free for more taxpayers than any other Platte county paper reaches, Bender moved to table the Journal's request and Held seconded with the remark, "Yes, and let us table it a d—— long time." And still the personal organ of Ernst and Bender says that Goetz and Kiernan and Swanson are "political shysters" for having the honesty to tell the people of Platte county that those gentlemen are holding $500 of the county's money illegally.

STIRES ANNOUNCES PLATFORM

EDITOR JOURNAL:—The Republican convention has honored me with the nomination of County Judge, and as I was not present, to express my views upon the issues that have been made prominent, I take this method to announce some of the principles that shall govern my official conduct, should I be elected.

I have noticed, with much satisfaction, your efforts to correct some of the abuses that have grown up in the management of our county affairs, and I hope the people have been aroused to the danger of this tendency to squander public funds and prostitute officials position to personal and political advantage.

The "Railroad Pass" question: While a railroad pass may neither be given nor accepted as a bribe, more than any other form of courtesy or favor from an individual, yet it is a growing evil with a dangerous tendency, and to avoid any possible undue influence, and hold "the scales of justice" impartially between the rich and poor, I propose to refuse such favors during the campaign and my term of office, if elected.

Legal Printing: I regard it an injustice to litigants and an abuse of official prerogative, as well as a corrupting political practice, to give the publication of all legal notices and official proceedings to some party paper, as a compensation for political services, regardless of the wishes of interested parties or value to the public; but I believe that the party requiring such service should have the right to select the pap r, and, if elected I shall comply with all such requests; provided the paper selected fulfills the letter and spirit of the law.

Respectfully Yours,
J. D. STIRES

WORK OF THE STATE CONVTION

The work of the republican state convention last Thursday, both in its selection of a candidate for supreme judge and in the fraiming of its platform is such as to inspire confidence in the heart of every friend of good men and clean government in Nebraska.

Charles B. Lettan, candidate for supreme judge, is entitled to every vote that was cast for Theodore Roosevelt last fall.

Possessing the highest legal qualifications and the advantage of many years of experience on the district bench, Judge Letton is clean, honest, courageous and a shouting disciple of Theodore Roosevelt.

His speech of acceptence before the convention is sfficient, taken in connection with his admitted qualifications for the office to commend him to the people of Nebraska: He said: "I want to say that if elected, which I expect to be, I shall know neither rich nor poor, neither corporation nor individual, and that so far as in me lies, I will dispense justice with even hand to every man with in the borders of the state."

What higher pledge could be expected from the tongue of the highest member of our state judiciary?

But the republican state convention did other work than to name a candidate for supreme judge who perfectly represents the highest type of Roosevelt republicanism. It framed a platform. And be it said to their honor that the Platte county delegates helped to adopt it. That platform strikes out boldly and directly at every important issue of state and national politics, commending the railroad and corporation program of President Roosevelt, and demanding an anti-pass law and a direct primary law.

Here are a few planks from that excellent platform: „We heartily endorse and support President Roosevelts position and effort to secure adequate and effective interstate commerce.

"We believe strictly in the principle of equality before the law as applied to the transportation business, and, therefore, demand immediate relief through the enforcement of existing laws, or through amendatory legislation from the payment of rebates to favorite shippers, to unlawful and wrongful discriminations between communities and individuals, both in the state and in the nation.

"We request and demand of our representatives in congress active and harmonious co-operation with President Roosevelt along these lines, to the end that corporate rapacity, extortion and abuses may be subdued and abolished, and the sovereignty of the people over corporations fully, promptly and permanently established.

"Believing that the nearer the control of public affairs can be brought to the people, the better the result will be, we declare ourselves in favor of a direct primary law governing the nomination of all public officers.

"We believe that the giving of free transportation upon railways is detrimental to the interests of the people and recommend that a law be enacted by the legislature of this state to prohibit it."

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

It is with feelings of deepest appreciation that I acknowledge my indebtedness to my friends on the Platte county delegation and elsewhere throughout the state, especially the newspaper boys, for their loyal and enthusiastic support which led to my nomination for university regent at the republican state convention.

F. H. ABBOTT.

THE ISSUE IN PLATTE COUNTY.

The one issue before the people of Platte county this fall is the question of a clean, businesslike administration of county affairs and the destruction of the spoils system.

Consult your tax receipts and you will see that your taxes have not only grown, but that by far the greater part goes for county and local purposes.

What is the cause of high taxes in Platte county? Have we a new court house or other improvements, proportionate to the increase in your taxes?

Then where has your money gone? Ask Supervisors Ernst and Bender who have overdrawn their legal salaries more than $500 in a single year. Ask the democratic newspapers of Platte county which for years have been paid 25 per cent more than the legal rate for official printing. Ask the Columbus Telegram which for years has secured the county printing on a fraudulent contract through "secret understandings" with the county clerk. Ask the sheriff and the county judge who are pledged under the spoils system to serve their friends and the democratic press first, and the public afterwards. Look up the expensive litigation of Platte county, inaugurated to secure fees and favors for court officers and their friends. In these things you will find a partial explanation of high taxes in Platte county.

What is the remedy? First kill off the spoils system at the basis of this extravagance and curruption. Then turn out of office the Ernsts and Benders and those who defend them. And then elect men like the republican candidates who are pledged to serve the people first and their friends and the newspapers afterwards.

What the taxpayers of Platte county demand, democrats and republicans alike, is a strict business administration of county affairs by men who know neither republican nor democrat, friend nor foe, rich nor poor, in the performance of their duty.

Business and not politics is the issue.

PLATFORM OF REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES:

If elected we pledge ourselves to a business administration of the county affairs in strict accordance with law. Opposed to the spoils system now in vogue in Platte county, we will be guided in the placing of patronage by the wishes and interests of the patrons of our offices, and not by pledges made to friends in return for political favors.

REPUBLICAN CAEDIDATES.

PLATFORM OF THE "RING" ON LOCAL ISSUES.

(Inferred from the Records)

We stand for illegal salaries, excessive fees, useless litigation, and a democratic printing trust.

Which will you take?

Return of... Sherlock Holmes

"I'll chance that," said he. "First of all, I want you gentlemen to understand that I have known this lady since she was a child. There were seven of us in a gang in Chicago, and Elsie's father was the boss of the Joint. He was a clever man, was old Patrick. It was he who invented that writing, which would pass as a child's scrawl unless you just happened to have the key to it. Well, Elsie learned some of our ways, but she couldn't stand the business, and she had a bit of honest money of her own, so she gave us all the slip and got away to London. She had been engaged to me, and she would have married me, I believe, if I had taken over another profession, but she would have nothing to do with anything on the cross. It was only after her marriage to this Englishman that I was able to find out where she was. I wrote to her, but got no answer. After that I came over, and, as letters were no use, I put my messages where she could read them.

"Well, I have been here a month now. I lived on that farm, where I had a room down below, and could get in and out every night and no one the wiser. I tried all I could to coax Elsie away. I knew that she read the messages, for once she wrote an answer under one of them. Then my temper got the better of me, and I began to threaten her. She sent me a letter then, imploring me to go away, and saying that it would break her heart if any scandal should come upon her husband. She said that she would come down when her husband was asleep at 3 in the morning and speak with me through the end window, if I would go away afterward and leave her in peace. She came down and brought money with her, trying to bribe me to go. This made me mad, and I caught her arm and tried to pull her through the window. At that moment in rushed the husband with his revolver in his hand. Elsie had sunk down upon the floor, and we were face to face. I was heeled also, and I held up my gun to scare him off and let me get away. He fired and missed me. I pulled off almost at the same instant, and down he dropped. I made away across the garden, and as I went I heard the window shut behind me. That's God's truth, gentlemen, every word of it; and I heard no more about it until that lad came riding up with a note which made me walk in here like a jay and give myself into your hands."

A cab had driven up while the American had been talking. Two uniformed policemen sat inside. Inspector Martin rose and touched his prisoner on the shoulder.

"It's time for us to go."

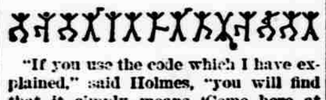
"Can I see her first?"

"No, she is not conscious. Sherlock Holmes, I only hope that if ever again I have an important case I shall have the good fortune to have you by my side."

We stood at the window and watched the cab drive away. As I turned back my eye caught the pellet of paper which the prisoner had tossed upon the table. It was the note with which Holmes had decoyed him.

"See if you can read it, Watson," said he, with a smile.

It contained no word, but this little line of dancing men:



"If you use the code which I have explained," said Holmes, "you will find that it simply means 'Come here at once.' I was convinced that it was an invitation which he would not refuse, since he could never imagine that it could come from any one but the lady. And so, my dear Watson, we have ended by turning the dancing men to good when they have so often been the agents of evil, and I think that I have fulfilled my promise of giving you something unusual for your notebook. Three-forty is our train, and I fancy we should be back in Baker street for dinner."

Only one word of epilogue. The American, Abe Slaney, was condemned to death at the winter assizes at Norwich, but his penalty was changed to penal servitude in consideration of mitigating circumstances and the certainty that Hilton Cubitt had fired the first shot. Of Mrs. Hilton Cubitt I only know that I have heard she recovered entirely and that she still remains a widow, devoting her whole life to the care of the poor and to the administration of her husband's estate.

The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist

No. 4 of the Series

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(Copyright, 1905, by McClure, Phillips & Co.)

FROM the years 1894 to 1901, inclusive, Mr. Sherlock Holmes was a very busy man. It is safe to say that there was no public case of any difficulty in which he was not consulted during those eight years, and there were hundreds of private cases, some of them of the most intricate and extraordinary character, in which he played a prominent part. As I have preserved very full notes of all these cases and was myself personally engaged in many of them, it may be imagined that it is no easy task to know which I should select to lay before the public. I shall, however, preserve my former rule and give the preference to those cases which derive their interest not so much from the brutality of the crime as from the ingenuity and dramatic quality of the solution. For this reason I will now lay before the reader the facts connected with Miss Violet Smith, the solitary cyclist of Charlington, and the curious sequel of our investigation, which culminated in unexpected tragedy.

On referring to my notebook for the year 1895 I find that it was upon Saturday, the 23d of April, that we first heard of Miss Violet Smith. Her visit was, I remember, extremely unwelcome to Holmes, for he was immersed at the moment in a very abstruse and complicated problem concerning the peculiar persecution to which John Vincent Harden, the well known tobacco millionaire, had been subjected. My friend, who loved above all things precision and concentration of thought, resented anything which distracted his attention from the matter in hand. And yet, without a harshness which was foreign to his nature, it was impossible to refuse to listen to the story of the young and beautiful woman, tall, graceful and queenly, who presented herself at Baker street late in the evening and implored his assistance and advice. It was vain to urge that his time was already fully occupied, for the young lady had come with the determination to tell her story, and it was evident that nothing short of force could get her out of the room until she had done so. With a resigned air and a somewhat weary smile, Holmes begged the beautiful intruder to take a seat and to inform us what it was that was troubling her.

"At least it cannot be your health," said he as his keen eyes darted over her. "So ardent a bicyclist must be full of energy."

She glanced down in surprise at her own feet, and I observed the slight roughening of the side of the sole caused by the friction of the edge of the pedal.

"Yes, I bicycle a good deal, Mr. Holmes, and that has something to do with my visit to you today."

My friend took the lady's ungloved hand and examined it with as close an attention and as little sentiment as a scientist would show to a specimen.

(To be continued.)

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