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R. G. STROTHER, Editor. F. K. STROTHER, Manager.

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If we are to have a Fourth of July celebration at Columbus this year it is time a public meeting was called and the proper committees appointed.

Many people predicted that, this being presidential year, congress would make no appropriations for public buildings so as to make a good record for economy, and all that, and that Columbus would fail to receive an appropriation for a new post office building.

Postmaster Kramer has received a dispatch from Congressman Boyd announcing the good news that the committee of the House has reported in favor of an appropriation of \$65,000 for a post office building for Columbus.

Only a few weeks ago it looked as though the nomination of Bryan by the democratic convention at Denver would practically be unanimous, while Taft would have a big fight on his hands at Chicago to receive the republican nomination.

It is an old saying that when an attorney has a poor case he puts in his time in making his argument by abusing the attorney of the other side. Our democratic orators are in about the same predicament.

When the presidential campaign of 1908 first opened, Wm. J. Bryan declared that he was a candidate for re-nomination if the democratic party really wanted him for a third time, but that if somebody else was considered better and stronger, he would cheerfully step aside.

faith and all that. Mr. Bryan and his friends are pursuing the wrong tactics. There are many honest and sincere Democrats who are firmly convinced of the fact that Bryan, twice defeated, cannot possibly be elected now.

ASININITY VS. REGULARITY.

In his address at Omaha, after having received the endorsement of the democratic and of the populist state convention for the presidency, Mr. Bryan said:

"Democracy faces the future with hope. Our party is united, while the republican party is divided."

As the republicans used one faction of the democratic party to defeat us in 1896, we shall return the compliment this year and use one part of the republican party to defeat the other.

Taking into consideration the personality of the speaker and the time, place and circumstances under which it was made, that utterance may be fitly described as the most asinine in the history of recent oratory.

If the statement was the candid expression of a sincere belief on his part, it reveals in the mind of Mr. Bryan a most childish credulity. If it was a piece of rhetoric designed to delude the democratic rank and file into a further acceptance of his leadership, it shows an impudent contempt for the stupidity of his followers and a brazen disregard of the plainest facts of the political situation.

Call it egotism or call it hypocrisy, it will be equally silly and equally false. The democratic party is not united. It never will be united under Mr. Bryan. Not only is it divided, but it is discredited and demoralized.

When such leaders as Seward, Cameron and Chase were defeated by Lincoln in the Chicago convention of 1860 all factions of the party rallied to the support of the nominee. The cry of loyalty was spontaneous: "Stand by the ticket!"

It was a united republicanism against a divided democracy, and the result was a triumph for discipline and regularity. So it has been ever since. When the great republican statesmen were set aside in 1868 for Grant, who had been a proslavery democrat, they gave him an unbroken support.

In the long series of contests between Blaine and his opponents in the party, when in convention after convention the favorites were defeated and Hayes, Garfield and Harrison were nominated, the party discipline was never relaxed save in one instance, and in that the defection was so slight that the change of a few hundred votes in New York would have elected the ticket.

As it was in the past so it is now. If Mr. Bryan be nominated the democratic party will be more disordered and disintegrated than ever, while the republican candidate, whoever he may be, will receive the full vote of his confident and aspiring party.

It will be a contest between organized political intelligence and disorganized asininity.—New York World (dem).

MR. JOHNSON'S "IMPERTINENCE."

The effort of Willis J. Abbot, head of Mr. Bryan's personal press bureau, to sneer at as "impertinent" any mention of Governor Johnson of Minnesota as a democratic presidential possibility, and to describe Mr. Johnson as an "interloper," is bad politics and worse taste.

The Hon. John A. Johnson has risen from the ranks on his merits. He has won a fair degree of material prosperity, not by the reckless arts of a demagogue, but by the constructive work of a citizen who grows up in and with his country.

AN IRREPRESSIBLE CONFLICT.

There is now in the Democratic party, as for twelve years past, a fundamental trouble that has not been settled, but that will have to be cleared away some day with a severe wrench to the party. It may be possible during another quadrennial period to edge around the matter and defer the final trial of strength, but it must come at last according to the nature of human affairs.

A large number of Democrats have never been reconciled to Mr. Bryan and his Populist theories and never will be. They hesitate to break away definitely, hoping that something will occur to end the Bryan spell on the party, or that the man himself will weaken in his remarkable persistency, but no relief of this kind is in sight at present.

Prominent Democrats are reluctant to try for the nomination, knowing that if they should get it they would suffer the fate of Parker, as there is no doubt that Bryan would knock them in this campaign and at the polls in the same fashion.

Bryan was beaten in 1896 by 600,000 and in 1900 by 800,000. Through the defection of the Bryan support Parker was overwhelmed by 2,500,000. These are the horns of the dilemma. Defeat awaits the party either way. But it does not seem to realize that it must tear loose from Bryan positively before it can hope to command confidence in the national field.

This sundering must inevitably come, but when or how does not appear at this time. Perhaps another defeat will bring it about, but that Bryan will ever voluntarily let go of the party, or genuinely support any man for president whom he could not name or control is improbable.

When the party summons courage enough to defy his leadership and act for itself it will bring the situation to a point. No doubt it will be stormy, but storms clear the atmosphere.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

OPPOSITION TO BRYAN.

The Bryan managers did not underestimate the importance of securing New York's delegates to the Denver convention. Without them the Nebraska man may be nominated, but their loss will certainly shake the confidence of his supporters.

With Governor Johnson making a dignified bid for support, with the powerful Senator Tillman asking that southern democrats do not instruct their delegates, Delaware firmly for Gray, Illinois still inclined to listen to the doctory Roger Sullivan, Pennsylvania looking with much favor on Gray, New England admittedly lukewarm toward the "peerless" one and now with New York foot loose to support whomever it chooses, the outlook for an easy victory at Denver cannot be called bright.

Signs multiply that the nomination will not be allowed to go by default. Anti-Bryan democrats must regret that they did not show fight sooner, sorry that they remained in a comatose state until Mr. Bryan had corralled all the early delegations. While in some instances Mr. Bryan is to be honored for the enemies he has made, these elements of the party of Jefferson must be figured into any estimate of the opposition that the Nebraska man may expect at Denver.—Cleveland Plain Dealer (dem).

Trip of Los Angeles & San Diego Beach Railway Motor Car—Omaha to Los Angeles.

A feature of the celebration of the arrival of fleet at San Diego, is the Union Pacific gasoline motor car which President Babcock of Los Angeles and San Diego Beach Railway has installed as a treat and novelty for the world-girdling jockies and the thousands of others who will flock in and out of the Southern California city while participating in the festivities of the occasion.

President Babcock thought it would be a novel experience for the sailor boys and sightseers to have the pleasure of riding through the sunny California climate on one of these modern and up-to-date mediums of transportation, and it is safe to say those who have the opportunity will agree with him.

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Louis Schrieber

being built by the Omaha Union Pacific Shops are not surpassed, as far as workmanship is concerned, by the product of any of the great manufacturing industries of the world.

GIRL WAS OTHERWISE ENGAGED.

Father Right in Thinking He Knew Cause of Her Preoccupation.

For some time the father of the family had suspected that his girl and the young man of whom he disapproved on account of his poetic tendencies and been riding downtown together and uptown together every day in the elevated train, says the New York Press.

"Wonderful progress they are making on the Pennsylvania station," he said.

"The girl looked up dreamily. 'Are they?' she murmured. 'Why, yes,' said the father. 'Haven't you noticed it?'"

"No," said the girl, softly. "I haven't."

To test her still further the father enumerated a dozen other improvements along the line that were bound to strike any observant eye. The girl had been blind to them all. The father went upstairs to the girl's room.

"It's a hopeless case," he groaned. "She's dead in love."

He told the mother how he knew. "If she wasn't steeped in love," he added, "and if the didn't keep her eyes fastened on somebody that talks nonsense to her every minute, she'd never have traveled over that road twice a day for the last three months without noticing some of the things I pointed out."

"Maybe she was reading," ventured the mother.

"Reading!" snorted the father. "Yes, from the most popular book on earth. Call it reading if you like. I wouldn't be surprised to hear of their engagement to-morrow."

It was well that he was fortified against all such surprises, for that was that he really did hear the very next day. He had meant to storm and stomp, still, as there was nothing against the young man except the poetry, and as the girl's heart was set on him—well, what could a father do?

Reward for Kindness. As a reward for befriending a poor, homeless wanderer, George B. Kofoth, a former hotel clerk of Honeybrook, Pa., is to-day \$70,000 richer than he was a short time since, says the Philadelphia Inquirer.

At the time it was not known that the foreteller had any estate of consequence, but subsequent developments proved that he was almost the sole legatee of a wealthy uncle, a silk manufacturer of St. Gallen, Switzerland. After prolonged litigation, in which a half hundred other false claims had to be contested, the money has been received, and is now in deposit in a Lancaster bank.

Kueszler came to America 24 years ago. He was without means and secured work as a hostler at hotels in New Holland, Honeybrook and Elverson. It was while engaged in this capacity that he met Kofoth and when other homes were barred to him the clerk gave him shelter and clothing. Kofoth had neither hope nor prospects of reward, and was dumfounded upon receipt of the news.

Better Still. "Of course," she said, in a tone redolent with sarcasm, "I am the first girl ever loved!"

"Of course, you are not," answered the truthful young man, "but you are the last."

And being a wise maid, she let it go at that.

DAYS OF DISASTER

TERM "BLACK" APPLIED TO VARIOUS PERIODS OF HISTORY.

Chiefly Understood in This Country in its Application to the Financial Panic of Friday, September 24, 1899, in Wall Street.

The designation of Black Friday is popularly supposed to be restricted to a certain day in the financial history of New York, but in point of fact it has been applied to a number of days at various times in history. As used in the records of stock speculation in Wall street, it is applied to two days. The first was Friday, September 24, 1869, when a panic was caused in the money market by the joint efforts of Col. James Fisk and Jay Gould to corner the gold market, the price of gold going up to 163 1/2, and a large number of financial concerns undergoing heavy stress.

The name Black Friday is also applied to September 19, 1873, when the great financial crash in the stock exchange preceded the panic of that year occurred.

In the financial history of England May 11, 1866, is designated as Black Friday, as that day began a disastrous financial panic, which was brought about by the failure of the firm of Overend, Gurney & Co., in London, who were afterward tried and acquitted of conspiracy to defraud.

In ecclesiastical history the Roman or Western church has frequently designated Good Friday as Black Friday, as on that day all clerical vestments and altar draperies are strictly of black. The term black-letter days is applied to minor holidays and saints' days whose names appear on calendars in black letters instead of red letters, as do the high days and holy days.

In the English calendar certain black-letter days have been retained because they mark critical dates of importance, such as Hilary term and Martinmas summer, or because they commemorate some public benefactor.

The name Black Monday is given in English history to Easter Monday, April 14, 1360, when Edward III, lay with his host before the city of Paris, and the weather was so stormy and bitter cold that many men died as they sat on their horses. The term was afterward extended to include all Easter Mondays, and is so used by Shakespeare in "The Merchant of Venice" in the line "Then it was not for nothing that my nose fell bleeding on Black Monday last."

Dickens refers to the schoolboy custom of regarding the day for returning to school after the long vacation as Black Monday, and an article in Household Words mentions "the due observance of the ancient institution of Black Monday," the eve of which was kept on the Saturday night, when the school box was packed. In Irish history the term Black Monday was applied to the day when a number of English were slain in a village near Dublin in 1299.

Australia has a Black Thursday in its history, the name being given in the colony of Victoria to Thursday, February 6, 1851, when the most terrible bush fire ever known in the history of the colony raged over an immense extent of territory and the heat was felt far out at sea, and birds overflew the sea.

The loss caused by a Black Saturday was the name given in Scotland to August 4, 1621, when the parliament, sitting in Edinburgh, ratified certain articles introducing the Church of England practices in the Church of Scotland which were opposed to the religious convictions of the Scotch Presbyterians. The violent thunder storm which occurred at the time, with much lightning and great darkness, was held to be a manifest token of the displeasure of heaven.

So far as the records show, no other day of the week has had the adjective black attached to it. Red-letter days are any lucky, fortunate or auspicious days, and are so called because in the older liturgical works the greater holy days are designated by red letters. Dickens makes one of his characters in "Bleak House" say: "It is the old girl's birthday, and that is the greatest holiday and reddest letter day in Mr. Bagnel's calendar."

Charles Lamb, in his "Orford in the Vacation," writes: "The red-letter days now become, to all intents and purposes, dead-letter days."

Too Young, Alas! "You doubtless cursed the day you were born!" sneered the heroine, magnificent in her new autumn coat, to say nothing of her anger.

The villain winced. "Believe me, no," he protested. "I never swore until I was eight months old!"

"For in every life, after all, there is a period of innocence, ere yet inevitable depravity asserts its way."—Washington Post.

The Lucky Ones. "Don't you believe, then," asked the plain citizen, "that 'public office is a public trust?'"

"Sure!" replied the disgruntled office-seeker, "it is very like a trust. Some fellows seem to have a regular monopoly of it."

Force of Habit. "I wonder why Mr. Jones has such a way of always dictating to his wife and why she stands it."

"I guess neither of them can help it. She used to be his typewriter."

A Born Politician. "Sir, I ain't askin' fer no handout or cold bite."

"Well!" said the householder. "But I sure am a receptive candidate."

His modesty was rewarded.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Spleen. "There is something almost satanic about the Mr. Potters."

"Has he shown the cloven hoof?"

"No. But he always displays the cloven breath."

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WESLEY'S WIFE AND CHILDREN.

Two Sons Early in Life Showed Remarkable Musical Genius.

Charles Wesley's reputation has suffered not a little from the overshadowing predominance of his brother, says a writer in Zion Herald. There is no disputing, however, but that at one point he greatly surpassed both John Wesley and George Whitefield—he had a most happy wedded life. It was in the spring of 1748, when he was no longer young, that he first began seriously to entertain thoughts of marriage.

Miss Sarah Gwynne, a girl of 23, daughter of a pious family occupying a high position in Wales, attracted him by her many lovable qualities. Brother John heartily approved the match. There was trouble at first of the part of the bride's people over the question of a settled income, £100 a year being thought the smallest amount that would suffice. This was finally guaranteed from the profits of the books, and Saturday, April 8, 1749, the wedding took place, John Wesley tying the knot.

It was an ideal Christian marriage, blessed with eight children of whom three grew up, and two became very celebrated musicians. These two were Charles Wesley, Jr., and Samuel. Both showed remarkable musical genius from their earliest years.

Charles was a great favorite with George III, his private organist occasionally at Windsor, and very early created much excitement by his wonderful performance of Handel's works. He played a tune to the harpsichord at the age of two years and nine months. He was called by one of the highest authorities in music "the greatest genius in music I met with."

His death was in 1824. Samuel who died in 1837 leaving a numerous family) was recognized as the best organist of his day and was a gifted composer. At the age of eight he wrote an oratorio called "Ruth" which was much admired. For several years he and his brother gave a series of famous concerts at their father's house. Among his sons were Rev. Dr. Wesley, sub-dean of the Chapel Royal, and also Samuel Sebastian Wesley, organist of Gloucester cathedral, and composer of many pieces, three of which are in our hymnal. The latter died in 1876.

Obscure Art. "I'm afraid that you don't appreciate that composition," remarked the musician, to a young man.

"No," answered Mr. Cumrox, "in all frankness, I must say I don't. It keeps me guessing."

"Keeps you guessing?" "Yes. I always have three guesses—why anybody wrote it in the first place, why anybody plays it in the second place, and why anybody listens to it in the third."

Literal Charity. "I would like to take the sense of the meeting about this charity relief," said the professional philanthropist.

And when the contribution was taken up he found he had taken nothing else.

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