

National Democratic Ticket

For President of the United States, SAMUEL J. TILDEN, Of New York. For Vice-President, THOMAS A. HENDRICKS, Of Indiana.

Democratic State Ticket.

For Congress, LA FAYETTE LANE, Presidential Electors, HENRY KLIPPEL, Of Jackson. E. A. CRONIN, Of Multnomah. W. B. LASWELL, Of Grant.

Political Notes.

Stanley, the African explorer has been heard from.

How is the government going to resume specie payment?

Speaker Kerr died last Saturday. His death will be mourned by all.

Gov. Tilden distinctly represents the principle of reform in politics; but can the same thing be said of Gov. Hayes.

It is gratifying to find so many Republicans who recognize the ability of Mr. Tilden's letter of acceptance.

Compare the two—Tilden's and Hayes's letter of acceptance. All are compelled to admit that the former's is the most sensible.

The Boston Post asks, "how's this for a straw?"

1860. 1876. HAM LIN TILDEN LIN COLBY HEN DRICKS.

We had supposed that the Rev. J. H. Acton, editor of the Pacific Christian Advocate, intended to continue in the path made by his illustrious predecessor, and let politics alone, but we were sadly mistaken.

Notwithstanding the report to the contrary, the Republicans expected to carry the recent election in Alabama. Note the action of Gov. Hayes, Zach Chandler, Senator Morton, and others in waiting the Spencer and anti-Spencer factions.

Grant has ordered that Moore, a clerk who made himself servicable to Babcock in the whiskey trial, and who was dismissed from office, shall be reinstated, and that his salary shall date back to the time of his dismissal. This is one of those shameful deeds by which Grant expects to aid the election of Hayes.

It has been suggested to place U. S. Grant at the head of the Smithsonian institution when he retires; but we hardly think, says the Sun, there would be much in science congenial to his tastes. What can be done with him? We have it. Give him charge of a sample room!

Such of our soldiers as are killed and wounded in the expedition of Gen. Crook against Sitting Bull, fall under the fire of breech-loading rifles of the best patterns furnished our savage enemy, either directly by the agents of Gen. Grant or through their connivance. It is a fact worth thinking about.

The managers of the Grant-Hayes campaign, Secretary Chandler, is compelling the Government functionaries at Washington to pay in their assessments to the Grant-Hayes fund under penalty of dismissal. He tolerates no nonsense, listens to no excuse, and gives no heed to the plea of poverty. They must walk the plank if they do not come down with the two per cent. He employs Government clerks, drawing their salaries from the Treasury, to enforce his decrees. So it goes, and Hayes, like Grant, is a reformer, opposed to official assessments for political purposes.

The answer of Gov. Tilden and other defendants concerned in the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad Company transactions, is long but perspicuous and to the point. It shows that the company was immensely benefitted by the accession of Gov. Tilden and his friends to its control. The transactions in the stock were individual acts and not those of trustees. The amounts paid Mr. Tilden for legal services were for specific work done, and his charges were less than they might justly have been made. In short, there is no apparent occasion for the mud throwing about this business in which some of Gov. Tilden's opponents have so vigorously indulged.—N. Y. Tribune.

Will the Oregonian and Bee please make a note of this, and be more careful in the future?

THE BLOODY SHIRT.

Morton in the Senate, and Eugene Hale in the House, have been frantically waving the bloody shirt, thus hoping to frighten Northern voters into the Republican ranks.

Democrats have ever denounced such demagoguery as false in fact and belittling to its perpetrators and to our nation. The war of the rebellion was not a Democratic war, but most decidedly a Republican one, or rather it was the clash of elements in our nation older than either of the parties then in existence.

Democracy and the old Whig party sought to reconcile these elements and give freedom to electors, hoping as time wore on, these electors would allow the right to prevail.

These elements of discord in our nation, however, came in contact in spite of all that could be done, and have settled the question at issue. There is no slavery and no defenders of slavery. The Democratic platform pledges its candidates and its policy to defend the citizens without regard to their past condition, and certainly those who have striven to maintain peace heretofore ought to be trusted in their pledges on the same thing in the future.

These Southern massacres, as a rule, are the hellish outgrowth of unscrupulous politicians who hire men to kill that they may have something to fire the loyal Republican back with. The trick is old and devilish.

History of Alcohol.

The Baltimore Journal of Commerce of recent date gives the following history of Alcohol:

Alcohol was invented 950 years ago in Arabia. Ladies used it with a powder to paint themselves that they might appear more beautiful, and this powder was called alcohol. During the reign of William and Mary, an act was passed encouraging the manufacture of spirits. Soon after intemperance and profligacy prevailed to such an extent that the retailers of intoxicating drinks put up signs in public places, informing the people that they might get drunk for a penny, and have some straw to get sober on. In the sixteenth century distilled spirits spread over the continent of Europe. About this time it was introduced into the colonies, as the U. S. were then called. The first notice we have of its use in public life, was among the laborers in the Hungarian mines, in the fifteenth century. In 1751, it was used by the English soldiers as a cordial. The alcohol from Europe was made from grapes and sold in Italy and Spain as medicine. The Genoese afterwards made it from grain, and sold it as a medicine in bottles, under the name of "water of life." Until the sixteenth century it was kept by apothecaries as a medicine. During the reign of Henry VIII, brandy was first known in Ireland, and soon its alarming effects induced the governor to pass a law prohibiting its manufacture. About 120 years ago it was used as a beverage, especially among the soldiers in the English colonies in North America under the preposterous notion that it prevented sickness and made men fearless in the field of battle. It was looked upon as a sovereign cure. Such is a brief history of its introduction into society as a beverage.

Is It Nothing to Pay Off the National Debt?

That Gov. Tilden is an able, practical financier, there can be no question. In his letter of acceptance he shows the people how the whole national debt can be paid off in the comparatively short period of thirty-eight years, simply by the adoption of a financial policy which should secure to the country the highest credit. By wisely availing ourselves of this, he estimates that a reduction of one per cent. on the interest of the loans could be effected; and this saving, invested at the low rate of four-and-a-half per cent. interest, would cancel our entire national debt in the course of thirty-eight years.

This is no chimera. It is no wild visionary scheme. It is the careful calculation of a practical business man, who knows how to put it in operation, and who will carry it into effect if an opportunity is afforded him.

We put it to the voters of the country, the sensible men, whether this payment of the national debt is not a consummation devoutly to be wished? The heavy burden of taxation which rests upon us would at least be removed from the shoulders of our children.

Tilden, Economy, and the Reduction of the National Debt—let this be the war cry!

TILDEN'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

[Continued from last week.]

The public debt of nine hundred and eighty-five millions bears interest at 6 per cent. in gold and seven hundred and twelve millions at 5 per cent. in gold. The average interest is 5.58 per cent. A financial policy which should secure the highest credit, and wisely availed of, ought gradually to obtain a reduction of 1 per cent. interest on most of the loans. A saving of 1 per cent. on the average would be one hundred and seventy-seven millions a year in gold; that saving regularly invested at 4 1/2 per cent. would in less than 38 years extinguish the principal, and the whole one thousand seven hundred millions of funded debt might be paid by this saving alone, without cost to the people. It is best seen, when preparations shall have been matured on the exact debt, that it would have to be chosen with reference to the existing state of trade and credit operations in our own country, and the course of foreign commerce and condition of exchange with other nations.

The specific measures and actual dates are matters of detail having reference to ever changing conditions. They belong to the practical, administrative statesmanship. The captain of a steamer about starting from New York to Liverpool does not assemble a council over his ocean chart; a helmsman intelligence must be at the helm to place the shifting forces of waters and winds, to feel the elements day by day, and guide to mastery over them; such preparations are nothing without them. A legislative committee fixing a day and official promises are shams. A long thoughtful man, whose judgment will, at least, say public opinion in an attempt to act on such a command, or such promises, without preparation, would end in a new suspension; it would be a fresh calamity of confusion, distrust and distress. The act of Congress of July 14, 1875, enacted that on and after the 1st of July, 1876, the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem, in coin legal tender notes of the United States, on presentation at the office of the assistant treasurer in New York. It authorizes the Secretary to prepare and provide for such redemption of specie payments by use of any surplus revenues not otherwise appropriated, and by issuing in his discretion certain classes of bonds. More than one and a half of four years have passed and Congress and the President have continued ever since to unite in acts which have legislated out of existence every possible surplus applicable to this purpose. The coin in the treasury claimed to belong to the government, had, on the 30th of July, fallen to less than forty-five millions of dollars against fifty-nine millions on the 1st of July, 1875, and the availability of part of the sum is said to be questionable. The revenues are falling faster than appropriations and expenditures are reduced, leaving the treasury with diminishing resources. The Secretary has done nothing under his power to issue bonds; the legislative command and the official promises, fixing a day of redemption have been made, but there has been no economy in the operations of the government. The hourly maxims of every day life are the best standard of its conduct. A debtor who should promise to pay a loan out of a surplus income, yet be seen every day spending all he could lay his hands on in riotous living, would lose all character for sobriety, and his offer of a new promise, or his profession as to the value of old promises, would alike provoke derision. The St. Louis platform denounces the failure for 11 years to make good the promises of the legal tender notes; it denounces the attempt to accumulate any reserve for their redemption; it denounces the conduct which, during eleven years of peace, has made no advance toward redemption, no preparation for redemption; but instead, has obstructed redemption by wasting our resources and exhausting all our surplus income, and while professing to intend speedily to resume specie payments, has annually enacted fresh hindrances there to, and having first denounced the bases of a promise of a day of redemption, it next denounces that barren promise as a hindrance to redemption; it then demands its repeal, and also demands the establishment of a judicious system of preparation for redemption. It cannot be doubted that the substitution of a system of preparation without promise of a day for the worthless promise of a day, without a system of preparation, would be the gain of the substance of redemption, in exchange for its shadow.

Nor is denunciation unmerited of that improvidence which in the 11 years since peace has consumed forty-five million dollars and yet could not afford to give the people a sound and stable currency. Two and a half per cent. of the expenditure of these 11 years or less would have provided all the additional coin needed to resumption. The distress now felt by the people in all their industries, though it has its principal cause in the enormous waste of capital occasioned by the false policies of our government, has been greatly aggravated by mismanagement of the currency. Uncertainty is the prolific parent of mischief in all business. Never were its evils more felt than now. Men do nothing, because they are unable to make any calculations on which they can safely rely; they undertake nothing, because they are at a loss in everything they would attempt; they stop and wish; the merchant dares not buy for the future consumption of his customers; the manufacturer dares not make fabrics which may not refund his outlay; he shuts his factory and discharges his workmen; capitalists cannot lend on security they do not consider safe, and their funds lie almost without interest; men with enterprise, who have creditors to please, will not borrow; consumption has fallen below the natural limits of reasonable economy; prices of many things are under the range of the frugal specie payment times before the civil war. Vast masses of currency lie in hands unused. A year and a half ago legal tenders were their largest volume and twelve million dollars since retired have been replaced by fresh issues of one hundred million dollars of bank notes. In the meantime, banks have been surmounting about four millions per month, because they can not find profitable use for so many of their notes. The public mind will no longer accept shams; it has suffered enough from illusions in an insincere policy which increases distrust, and an unstable policy which increases uncertainty. The people need to know that the government is moving in a direction of ultimate safety and prosperity, and that it is doing so through prudent and safe conservative methods, which will be sure to inflict no new distress on the business of the country. Then the inspiration of new hope and well founded confidence will hasten, restoring the prices of nature, and prosperity will begin to return. The St. Louis convention concluded its expression in regard to the currency bill by the declaration of its convictions as to the practical results of the system of preparations. We believe such a system, well devised, and above all, instigated to competent hands for execution, creating at no time an artificial scarcity of currency, and at no time alarming the public mind into a withdrawal of that vast machinery of credit by which 95 per cent. of all business transactions are performed—a system open to the public and inspiring general confidence—would, from the day of its adoption, bring healing wings to all our harassed industries, set in motion the wheels of commerce, manufactures and mechanical arts, restore employment to labor, and renew in all its material sources the prosperity of the people. The government of the United States, in my opinion, can advance to the resumption of specie payment on its legal notes in gradual and safe processes, tending to relieve the present business distress. If charged by the people with administration of the Executive office, I should deem it my duty to exercise the powers with which it has been or may be invested by Congress so as best and soonest to conduct the country to that beneficent result.

The convention justly affirms that reform is necessary in the civil service, necessary to its purification, necessary to its economy and efficiency, necessary in order that the ordinary employment of the public business may not be the prize fought for at the ballot box, brief reward of party zeal in stead of posts of honor assigned for proved constancy and held for fidelity in public employ. The convention wisely allowed that reform is necessary even more in the higher grades of public service. The President, Vice President, Judges, Senators, Representatives, Cabinet officers and all others in authority are not a private perquisite—they are public trusts. Two evils infect the official service of the federal government: One is the prevalent and demoralizing notion that the public service exists, not for the benefit of the whole people, but for the interest of office-holders, who, in truth, are but the servants

of the people; under the influence of this pernicious error, public employments have been multiplied, and the number of those gathered into the ranks of the office holders have been already increased beyond any possible requirement of the public business; while inefficiency, speculation, fraud and maladministration in public business, from the highest to the lowest places of power, have overspread the whole service like a leprosy. The other evil is the organization of the official class into a body of political mercenaries, governing caucuses and directing the nominations of their own party, and attempting to carry the elections of the people by undue influence and, by an immense corrupting fund, systematically collected from the salaries and fees of office holders. The official class in other countries, sometimes by its own weight and sometimes in alliance with the army, has been able to rule unorganized masses, even under universal suffrage; here it has already grown into a gigantic power, capable of stifling a sound public opinion, of resisting an easy change of administration, until misgovernment becomes intolerable and public spirit has been stung to the pitch of civil revolution. The first step in reform is an elevation of the standard by which the appointing power selects agents to execute official trust. Not less in importance is a conscientious fidelity in the exercise of the authority to hold to account and displace subordinates. The public interests in an honest and skillful performance of official trust must not be sacrificed to the usufect of incumbents. After these immediate steps, which will insure the exhibition of better examples, we may wisely go on to the abolition of unnecessary offices, and finally, by a patient and careful organization of a better civil service system, under test, wherever practicable, of proved competency and fidelity. While much may be accomplished by these methods it might encourage delusive expectations if I were to withhold here an expression of my conviction that no reform of civil service in this country will be complete and permanent, until its chief magistracy is constitutionally disqualified for re-election; experience having repeatedly exposed the facility of self-imposed restrictions by candidates or incumbents, no matter what may be their solemnity. In this way the President can be effectually delivered from his great temptation to misuse that power and patronage with which the Executive is necessarily charged. Educated in the belief that it is the first duty of a citizen of the Republic to take his fair allotment, care and trouble in public affairs, I have for forty years, as a private citizen, fulfilled that duty, and though occupied in an unusual degree, during all that period with concerns of government, I have never acquired the habit of official life. When a year and a half ago I entered on my present trust, it was in order to consummate reforms to which I had already devoted several years of my life. Knowing as I do, therefore, from fresh experience, how much the difference is between going through an official routine and working out reforms of systems and policies, it is impossible for me to contemplate what needs to be done in the Federal administration without an acute sense of the difficulties of the undertaking. If summoned by the suffrages of my countrymen to attempt this work, I shall endeavor with God's help, to be the efficient instrument of their will.

SAMUEL J. TILDEN. To J. McClelland, chairman; George W. B. Franklin, Hon. J. J. Abbott, Hon. J. H. Spanghorst, Hon. J. Rodfield, Hon. F. S. Lyon and others of the committee, etc.

An American who is No American.

It is the misfortune of the United States to be represented at Berlin by a Minister into whose heart there never entered one genuine American sentiment. A fawning sycophant of power, a snob of snobs, Mr. Bancroft Davis has been singularly rebuked for his infidelity to the principles of his own Government by a large body of the subjects of the monarchical Government to which he is our Minister. Ashamed of his own country he refused to receive a congratulatory address from a large number of Germans on the occasion of our Centennial Fourth of July.

The very monarch to whom Mr. Davis has shown himself such a sycophant must despise him, as it is evident the German people do, most heartily. What would the American people say to giving such an anti-American as Bancroft Davis a life tenure in his office? It is the rare misfortune of Gen. Grant to bring his country into contempt abroad as well as at home.—Sun.

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