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BRYAN GOES FOR HANNA.

If Hanna is to be President He Will Debate With Him.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Sept. 19.—A special train over the Missouri Pacific bore Mr. Bryan out of Kansas City today. This was the last of the three days of the Kansas-Missouri border tour and it will be begun at 8 o'clock.

The first stop was made at the historic city of Leavenworth and Mr. Bryan spoke for half an hour from the rear platform. Mr. Bryan's attention was called to a speech made at Delphi, Ind., by Senator Hanna, chairman of the Republican national committee, in which he said he was ready to debate the question of imperialism with Mr. Bryan or any other Democrat.

In reply to the question whether he would accept a challenge from Mr. Hanna, Mr. Bryan said:

"I know nothing of the matter except what appears in the papers. No challenge has been received and I would not accept it if it were. While I would be glad to debate public questions with the Republican candidate for the presidency, I would not be willing to debate with one whose responsibility is less than my own. If I am elected I shall be president. If the Republican committee will certify that Mr. Hanna is to be president in case of Republican success, I shall willingly meet him in joint debate."

Mr. Bryan was also asked if he had anything to say in reply to Mr. Hanna's charge that he was influenced by sinister motives in securing the ratification of the treaty with Spain. To this he replied:

"I have given my reasons for believing it better to ratify the treaty and declare the national policy by reason and the voters have an opportunity to pass judgment on my reason. I must confess, however, that Mr. Hanna is an expert when he discusses sinister motives, but I can stand his criticism if Senator Hoar can endure his praise."

Entering upon the body of his speech Mr. Bryan said that the Democratic platform is in the interest of the common people. He wanted not to injure the rich but to promote harmony among all classes.

"I have heard many definitions of heaven," he said, "but I have never yet heard a man say that we would have two heavens, one for the rich and one for the poor. And if there is but one heaven and if it is that heaven the rich and the poor are to mingle together forever, possibly I can do some good if I help the rich and the poor to get acquainted in this world so that they will not have to be introduced when they cross the river."

While a candidate, his interest in the present campaign was, he said, not circumscribed by that circumstance. He wanted the right principles of government maintained in his own interest and in the interest of other people's children. He declared that in order to be in good standing at the present time a man must be able to change his convictions. The Republicans had changed upon the silver, the greenback, the income tax, the militarism and other questions. Here he referred to a report of a recent speech made by Senator Hanna, saying:

"I read in the morning papers a speech made by Mr. Hanna yesterday in which he said there are no trusts. When I said to want humorous reading I would go to those books which contained a collection of the writings of humorists. But now when I want to read something funny I read Mr. Hanna's serious campaign speeches. There are no trusts; can you expect the Republican party to destroy the trusts when the leader of the Republican party says there are no trusts?"

Mr. Bryan asserted that the Republican party had completely changed its code of morality and had adopted the motto that might makes right. The party had been worse than it had been charged with being heretofore. There had been no criticism of its code of morality, but now it stands for the violation of all the principles present at the birth of the party.

Why the Elephant Didn't Play the Piano.

A showman recently advertised a "piano-playing elephant," and drew a crowd for the first performance. After some preliminary remarks describing the talents of the beast and his education, the elephant was led into the ring. He stepped up to the piano, ran a scale, stopped, lifted his trunk and ran below from the tent. The showman stepped forward, not a whit embarrassed. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "an unfortunate occurrence prevents the performance. I am sure that you will all respect his reason for this abrupt conclusion. He has just recognized his dead mother's teeth in the piano keys."

Did Wickedness Cause Destruction?

Macon, Sept. 17.—Dr. J. L. White, pastor of the First Baptist church, preached a pointed sermon last night on the subject of the Galveston disaster. He said the city of Galveston had been a very wicked one, and in the course of his remarks he referred to the floods in Catalonia, the inundation of Holland when 400,000 people were drowned at one time, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the Johnstown disaster, the Chicago fire, etc., in an effect said that the wickedness and hard-heartedness of man brought on such calamities.

COTTON SITUATION MOST PERPLEXING.

Closing of the Mills Causes a Decline in the Price.

News and Observer.

For the first time in nearly three weeks the cotton market yesterday showed signs of weakness, both the spot and speculative markets going off considerably.

On the local market here the best grade of cotton dropped from 10 1/2 to 10 1/4 off.

Owing to the high price of cotton and the low price of the manufactured goods, many Northern mills and a great number of mills in England are closing down.

So far only a few North Carolina mills have joined in this independent curtailment of product, but mill men say that a continuation of present conditions will cause the movement to become quite general among the mills of the State within the next ten days.

Very few mills have any large stock of cotton on hand, and so they must either buy more or stop work. The manufacturers say that with cotton at 9 cents and cloths and yarns at the prices that have prevailed since last winter they could barely make both ends meet. Now that cotton has gone up two cents there must of course be a corresponding increase in the price of the manufactured goods, or the mills must stop.

Such a situation as now prevails in the cotton and cotton goods market is unparalleled, and it is the very general belief that it cannot long continue. Even advances that place goods on the basis of 10 cent cotton are prohibitive at the moment and are likely to be for some time to come. Such a basis, however, is practicable only for the few mills which have stocks of old cotton. There are few such.

The great majority of mills are facing the necessity of securing cotton at lower prices, or goods prices based on 11 cent cotton or of shutting down.

This is the situation, not only in North Carolina, but in all the mill States, both North and South. News is already coming in of many mills which have decided to shut down until conditions render manufacturing at a profit possible. The Stafford Mills, Fall River, and several large mills in the Augusta, Ga., district shut down last Saturday for an indefinite period.

This action may result in depressing cotton prices and is therefore, from the standpoint of the Southern farmer, much to be regretted, though no one can blame the mills for declining to run at a loss.

The trouble is with the demand for goods; when that becomes sufficiently strong, prices will advance so as to give the mill man a profit, no matter what the price of raw cotton, and the mills will then start again. It is stated that more than enough orders for goods are in sight to cover the available supplies of cheap cotton owned by Fall River mills. If cotton prices remain firm print cloths may sell 4c in a few weeks.

Blazing Automobile Dashes Through a Town, Starting the Inhabitants.

Winstead, (Conn.) Cor. New York Herald.

No such sensation has visited the town of Winstead in years as that which dashed through its peaceful streets today in the shape of a blazing automobile. Burnville's handful of population turned out in great alarm when the word was passed quickly around that a great ball of fire was rapidly approaching the place on the road from Winstead.

"It's the end of the world, sure," tremulously suggested an old resident.

In another instant the automobile which was covered with flame, rushed past. A man in the vehicle was struggling to extinguish the fire, which had reached the garments of a frightened woman at his side.

A trolley car chased the horseless carriage in distress, and finally the conductor helped the man in the vehicle to stop it. The automobile was almost destroyed.

Mr. Mertz said that there was no explosion, and he thought that a leak in the air-pipe between the gasoline tank and the burners caused the fire to suddenly burst upon him and his wife. Mr. Mertz's hands were slightly burned. He bought the automobile last week for \$1,800.

A Horse That is a Curiosity.

The Greensboro papers tell of a great living curiosity at Summerfield, in Guilford county. It is a horse that has not been outside its stable in fifteen years. It belongs to a man named Clark, and he cares for it as tenderly as he would a child.

The Telegram, writing of the horse and its owner, adds:

"The horse is of ordinary size and glossy black in color. Both his mane and tail are very long, the latter reaching to the ground. The animal has never been shod and his hoofs are extremely long, turning up something like snow shoes. Although offered big prices, Mr. Clark has steadfastly refused to sell the horse. If the owner could be prevailed upon to allow the animal leave the stable, he would be a splendid attraction for the Fair."

In an interview in the Baltimore Sun William Jennings Bryan says everything he owns amounts to between \$2,500 and \$3,000.

SIMMONS FOR SENATOR.

The Republicans Are Praying Night and Day for Anybody on Earth Except Simmons.

Greensboro Telegram.

Will you allow a plain citizen to offer a few reasons why, in my judgment, Hon. F. M. Simmons should succeed the Hon. Marion Butler in the Senate of the United States?

1st. He is faithful. Twice he has had the burden of the campaign resting on his shoulders. He bared his bosom to the storm. He faced without flinching the most bitter and relentless persecutions. He endured the contradiction of sinners. Many men would have quailed under this cyclone of tradition; but he opened not his mouth and went calmly on with his great work. For the sake of his State and his people he suffered the vilest torrent of abuse that was ever heaped upon the head of a gentleman. And he conquered. No man was ever more faithful. Is it not worthy of acceptance in North Carolina that the horse that pulls the plow deserves the fodder?

2d. He is able. Some have doubted that this man will be able to hold his own in the Senate. Why, I do not know. Such men may be honest, but they must be blind. Barring Aycock, there was not a stronger speaker in the last campaign than F. M. Simmons. He is a man of scholarship and of culture, withal, of fine social qualities. In mental vigor no man yet mentioned for the exalted place to which he aspires is his superior.

3d. He is generous. He gave freely of his money as well as his time to the last campaign. No man in all North Carolina, in proportion to his ability, gave more actual cash to advance our cause. I sincerely doubt whether any other gave so much. I learn that his campaign contributions aggregated two thousand dollars.

4th. He is clean. I have heard a good deal of sneering at the idea of sending a politician to the Senate. Then who, pray, will we send? It does not lie in our mouths to talk about "short-cuts" in politics. If a man is fit to plan and conduct a campaign in a great State, and outline the policy to be pursued, he is certainly fit to represent it in our highest legislative body. Will we follow him in one place and repudiate him in another? Are we hypocrites? That argument falls to the ground unless we want to brand ourselves. But the truth is, Mr. Simmons made an open, manly fight all the way through, and unhorsed his opponents by his matchless skill. He was simply too much for the enemy. That is all. I have never heard his character assailed. He is sober, honest and capable. He loves his State with passionate devotion. He is not a Roman Catholic, as some have alleged.

5th. He is poor. He is not able to "dispense hospitality" in Washington. Thank the Lord this is true, and it is one great reason why I want to see him go there. We are having a little too much hospitality dispensed already. Our Senators are becoming a little too lordly. Mr. Simmons can find plenty to do without spending his time fattening rich fools. Yes, he is poor, and we helped to make him poor. He borrowed money on his private property. I am told, to help defray the expenses of the campaign. But, fellow citizens shall we cast him aside because of his poverty? Will as shameless an argument as this find acceptance in North Carolina? I throw not.

6th. The Republicans and Populists are praying night and day for anybody on earth except Simmons. And if the other five reasons are worthless this last is reason enough for me to stand by Simmons. COUNTRYMAN.

Texas Estimate of Storm Damage to Cotton and Rice Crops.

Austin, Texas, Dispatch, 17th.

The State Department of Agriculture today reported that the quantity of growing cotton lost as a result of the storm will aggregate 75,000 bales. This is about 10,000 bales less than estimates made by cotton men who have been through the devastated district.

In some places according to the reports received by the Agricultural Department, the wind blew all the loose cotton away and broke off all the bolls, causing almost a total loss of the crop. This is confined to the coast counties and does not extend into the interior.

In many places the estimate of cotton crop damage is only 10 per cent., while in other places it will reach 50 per cent.

About 50,000 bales of the product, which were at Galveston and other places awaiting shipment, were swept away and widely scattered. Much of this cotton will never be recovered.

The damage to the rice crop is about 10 per cent. It was in the midst of the rice harvesting season and this caused the damage to be greater. Sugar cane is badly blown down, but much of it will recover.

"The ignorance of some people is something fierce," said the barkeeper. "Here was a guy wanted to know over the telephone whether L. C. was in Missouri or Kansas."

"Did you tell him Kansas?" asked the boss. "Course not."

"You may be all right on geography, but you are no good in business. If you had said Kansas he'd have ordered any way a gallon to take with him."

Mr. Bryan's Letter of Acceptance.

Baltimore Sun.

In his speech at Indianapolis, when notified of his nomination for President by the Democratic National Convention, Hon. W. J. Bryan discussed the issue of imperialism and outlined the policy of his party on that issue. In his letter of acceptance, which is printed in The Sun today, Mr. Bryan gives a concise review of the several planks of the Kansas City platform. Imperialism, he reiterates, is the paramount issue of the campaign. "Whether we shall adhere to or abandon those ideas of government which have distinguished this nation from other nations is," he declares, "a question the settlement of which cannot be delayed. No other question can approach it in importance, no other question demands such immediate consideration." * * * When the doctrine that the people are the only source of power is made secure from further attack, we can safely proceed to the settlement of the numerous questions which involve the domestic and economic welfare of our citizens.

Mr. Bryan arraigns the Republican party for its record on the trust issue. "The appalling growth of combinations in restraint of trade during the present Administration," he says, "proves conclusively that the Republican party lacks either the desire or the ability to deal with the question effectively." He promises, if elected President, "to select an Attorney-General who will, without fear or favor, enforce existing law. I shall," he adds, "recommend such additional legislation as may be necessary to dissolve every private monopoly which does business outside the State of its origin." He condemns the Dingley tariff act, because "under its operation trusts can plunder the people of the United States while they successfully compete in foreign markets with manufacturers of other countries." Mr. Bryan declares that the Democratic party "makes no war upon honestly acquired wealth, neither does it seek to embarrass corporations engaged in legitimate business."

"It does protest," however, "against corporations entering politics and attempting to assume control of the instrumentalities of government." In his review of the Kansas City platform Mr. Bryan discusses briefly the money plank of that platform. He indorses the demand for a constitutional amendment providing for the election of Senators by the people. He denounces "government by injunction," and the blacklist. He advocates arbitration between corporations and their employees, and urges the establishment of a Department of Labor with a member of the Cabinet at its head. He opposes entangling alliances with foreign nations and emphasizes the importance of maintaining the Monroe doctrine. He condemns the Republican party for extravagance in the expenditures of the Government and for imposing heavy burdens upon the taxpayers. Mr. Bryan's letter is a clear, concise statement of the principles and policy of the Democratic party as set forth in the Kansas City platform, and a terse arraignment of the vicious practices of the Republican party.

Brother Dickey on Republican Ticket.

Atlanta Constitution.

"I wonder who runnin' for president on the 'publikin ticket?' said Brother Dickey, as he laid the morning paper down, with his brass-rimmed spectacles. "I wonder who de head man on dat ticket is? I done hear tell dat Br'er 'Kinley got de nomination, but 'epite er dat, 'pears lak Br'er Goosefeet is de leadin' hoss in de footrace. Heah he is, dar he is; he hop fu'm place to place lak a flea playin' leapfrog in fly time; and fu'm de way he cacklin' you'd tink he wuz de only goose in de barnyard dat had feathers on him! You see, he fit en fout in de war wid de Spaniards; dar wuz a hoss kilt under 'im, en lucky it wuz fer 'im, kaze it wuz a Texas hoss, en ef he hadn't got kilt he'd er thow'd 'im head over heels en broke his neck fo' he could draw his pension. Deysay Br'er 'Kinley ain't ben feelin' well sence Br'er Goosefeet hit de grt. He got de rattlin' er de brain en de misery er de mind. He'd give de kunnel \$2 a day ter quit en res' up; but de kunnel dole been wind up, en he can't quit twell he run down. De kunnel he runnin' on de army, en Br'er 'Kinley runnin' on a shacklin plank road dat won't hol' two. Hit's disaway: Br'er 'Kinley he declar war 'gin de Phillistines, en Br'er Goosefeet, he whirl in en say dat's right, en slay 'em right and lef' wid his jawbone. He pirouetin' all round; but he don't go nigh whar Br'er 'Kinley live, kaze Br'er 'Kinley so mad kaze he can't git in a word edge-dat he'd inwite 'im ter dinner en pizen 'im! He sho' would. Ef Br'er Goosefeet don't watch out, some er dese days wen he ain't lookin' Br'er Kinley 'll th'ow a guanner sack over his head en toat 'im in, en git Br'er Hanna ter set on 'em, en give Br'er 'Kinley a chance to projick rotn' some and git acquainted wid de country. You see ef he don't!"

Drift to Bryan.

W. J. Abbott, in Chicago American.

The strong and convincing letter of ex-Secretary Olney explaining the reasons why he, who bitterly antagonized Mr. Bryan in 1896, will this year support the regular Democratic ticket, has drawn attention anew to the extraordinary force and steadiness of the tide setting toward Democracy. It is doubtful whether at any time men of such national fame have abandoned the party affiliations of a lifetime or reversed their action in an election held only four years ago.

Such a list of names as that which includes Carl Schurz, an ex-member of a Republican cabinet, George S. Boutwell, a former member of a Republican cabinet, Senator Wellington, a Republican leader in Maryland, Webster Davis, an assistant secretary of the interior in a Republican cabinet, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, a lifelong Republican and a historic abolitionist, William Lloyd Garrison, son of the great apostle of freedom, Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield Republican, Hon. Patrick Egan, a former United States minister, Gen. William L. Wilson, ex-postmaster general, all men who four years ago opposed the Democratic cause, and many of whom have opposed it throughout their lives is a list not to be paralleled in political history.

Whenever you are tempted to pass a harsh and sweeping judgment on any human being, pause long enough to search your own heart to the bottom of it.

Li Hung Chang has given formal assurances that American lives and property in China are to be protected.

New York for Bryan.

News and Observer.

Walter Wellman, the well known correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald, says that Croker is in earnest and believes New York can be carried for Bryan. "He has literally gone daft on the proposition to carry New York for Bryan," adds Mr. Wellman. "He says with every evidence of sincerity that he can roll up for Bryan in Greater New York the greatest majority ever given a presidential candidate south of the Bronx. I am told that Croker believes he can give Bryan from 115,000 to 130,000 south of the Bronx."

In an interview in the New York Journal on Sunday in answer to the question: "Do you think Bryan and Stanchfield will carry New York?" Mr. Croker said:

"I certainly do. It appears to me a question of the size of the majority only. This is a Democratic year. We are now thoroughly organized and united and harmonious. All Democrats will work together for victory hereafter."

The Republicans, who have been relying upon the immense majority of 1896, begin to see that New York is a doubtful State and that Bryan is likely to carry its electoral vote. The Democrats are wise to open headquarters in New York city and wage an earnest campaign for the electoral vote. There are many well informed politicians of both parties who believe it will go Democratic this year. Its 36 electoral votes would insure Bryan's election. The people of that State have seen and felt the wrongs of McKinley's administration as deeply as elsewhere and in that State the Democratic party has always been strong. This is the year for New York to go Democratic.

How Negroes Are Welcomed in New York.

The awful threat is held over us by Representative White, colored, of the second district of this State, that if the courts uphold the constitutional amendment he will move to New York and that 50,000 negroes will leave the State. Those of them who contemplate going with Col. White to New York will, along with him, be interested in the following story in The Observer's New York correspondence, Sunday, of a parade of a colored club in that city:

The other night the Eberon Club paraded. For the size of the club, or rather for the number of paraders, it had the biggest escort of police ever seen in this town. The paraders amounted to eleven colored men and there were eleven other colored men in the drum and fife corps—total, 22 "coons." Their escort consisted of ten policemen in front, fourteen behind, and more than four hundred, including detectives, along the sidewalks.

This was an average of 19 and a fraction policemen to each parader, and will indicate to our darkeys how hospitable a welcome awaits them in New York.

Growth of Furniture Manufacturing.

Southern Field.

That the furniture industry is having a rapid growth in the South along the Southern Railway may be readily seen from the fact that during the past year 39 new establishments began operations. Nearly all of these are located in the piedmont section, where there is an almost unlimited amount of hardwood and such other material as is needed by this industry. In another column is given a brief resume of the industrial concerns of High Point, N. C., which is one of the foremost furniture towns in the South. At many other places large plants are now in operation, and their products are shipped all over the Union. Several Northern concerns have become interested in this section, and well might, for the South now has the best timber supplies remaining in this country, and with its low-priced labor, fuel and liberal labor laws, offers exceptional inducements for a continued growth in furniture manufacturing.

Drift to Bryan.

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Such a list of names as that which includes Carl Schurz, an ex-member of a Republican cabinet, George S. Boutwell, a former member of a Republican cabinet, Senator Wellington, a Republican leader in Maryland, Webster Davis, an assistant secretary of the interior in a Republican cabinet, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, a lifelong Republican and a historic abolitionist, William Lloyd Garrison, son of the great apostle of freedom, Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield Republican, Hon. Patrick Egan, a former United States minister, Gen. William L. Wilson, ex-postmaster general, all men who four years ago opposed the Democratic cause, and many of whom have opposed it throughout their lives is a list not to be paralleled in political history.

SAM P. JONES ON SCANDAL-MONGERS.

Talk is cheap. This is the on-year in politics and the spell-binders will soon be entertaining the dear people at the court-houses, at the cross-roads, and the big spell-binders, such as Bryan and Roosevelt, will meet their audiences in the great auditoriums and open air meetings. Of course each side putting the best light upon their own principles and policies, the other side doing the same for theirs, and both magnifying the faults and bad policies of the other. I don't believe much that one politician says about another politician of different politics from himself. Really, I don't believe much I hear "nohow." Like Bill Nye when he was caught snoring. A gentleman punched him and said, "Wake up, your snoring disturbs us." Bill replied, "I was not snoring." The man replied, "You were snoring, sir." Bill said, "How do you know I was snoring?" "I heard you," said the gentleman. "Law," said Bill, "stranger, you can't believe half you hear these days."

I am by politicians like I am by scandal-mongers. You can make a heap of allowance and then, as the negro says, "low some more before you get it straight." Saint James said, "The tongue is an unruly evil and full of deadly poison, and setteth on fire the whole course of nature, and it is set on fire of hell." The average person does not weigh his words nor appreciate what he says. It is also true that the average hearers do not give much weight to words and assertions. A hog at his slop, a dog eating bologna-sausage, a vulture at work on the carcass are so much higher animals than scandal-monger that they ought not to be mentioned in the same week, or the same year, or the same decade. The scandal-monger is sometimes male and sometimes female, and sometimes just a plain "it!" I don't really know whether they belong to the genus homo or not. They are no more like decent people than a buzzard is like a bald eagle. I think some people talk too much because they have got nothing else to do. I think some people talk because they are on such a low plane that they would like to talk other people down on a level with them. Ninety-nine times in a hundred the scandal-monger is talking about his betters or her betters. I had rather bescratching when I was not itching than to sit down and listen to a scandal-monger, and as a rule the one who listens to scandal is no better than the one who does the talking. It is as true today as ever, the purest characters have suffered most from this tribe of vultures. Each community has some noble wife, some good mother or daughter that has been the prey of these scandal-mongers. They are to be shunned, avoided, despised and will be finally damned.

The devil is going to be dissatisfied with some of the gang that is put off on him, in my judgment. To think the devil wants some fools that I know he is going to get would lower my estimate of him, his intelligence and his sense of what decency demanded. I don't believe the devil will get anybody that he ought not to get, but I do believe that he is going to get some that he would not have been sorry if he had missed. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth.

If Mrs. Snipes tells Mrs. Scroggins that she saw Mary Jane Brown wink at Billy Smith, that is foundation enough. The next you hear of Mary Jane Brown she has lost her virtue, wrecked her character and blasted her life, when the real foundation for the beginning of the report was that Mary Jane Brown batted her eyes because it was her nature to. It is any anybody that I love to run after and associate with it is the people who keep their tongue from evil and their lips from speaking guile, who backbite not with their tongue nor do evil to their neighbor. Some people will lie down in hell at last conscious of the fact that their tongue damned them, and if they had not talked they might have made their way to heaven, but after all a lie will run a mile while truth is putting on his boots, but a lie never stops until it has run itself to death, but truth comes along by and by and sees the dead carcass by the wayside and walks on with the consciousness that she shall live forever, that the eternal years of God are hers. A person who will slander a man or slander a boy is a bad citizen, but the person who will blast a woman's character is a devil incarnate, infernal in every instinct of their nature. Yours, SAM P. JONES.

P. S.—I have been farming a week—cutting peavines, crab grass hay, looking at sickly cotton and piny corn, but I have enough crab grass to do me and enough corn to fatten my hogs and enough cotton to pay for the guano. I am sorry for my creditors and for my mules. I will lose a million dollars on cotton this year by not having the cotton to sell at 10 cents a pound. No wonder my mules and creditors will suffer, such being the case. I am sure cotton will go to 12 cents. It is just my luck for it to do that way when I haven't got it to sell. I made a good deal of cotton a year or two ago when it was going at 5 cents a pound. Think, says I to myself, if cotton ever does go to 10 cents I will bet I won't have much, and so it turns out.

With nothing but good-will to humanity, with its faults and foibles, yours, SAM P. JONES.