

The Daily Mail

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THE ISSUE DEFINED

The persistent efforts of the supporters of Mr. Guthrie to belittle the opposition to his candidacy is as futile as it is untrue. In fact, the leaders of his faction must recognize by this time that his nomination was a political blunder that will bring defeat to him and disaster to themselves. He is opposed by a large faction within the party, a faction which includes many leaders and workers and the most respected members of the party. He is vigorously opposed by a large number of the independent and better citizens of this city who believe in the enforcement of law and the impartial administration of civic justice. The ministers of the gospel who stand for the triumph of righteousness in public and private life have arrayed themselves against him. The Temperance Convention, which met in this city and endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Scott, spoke of Mr. Guthrie as a man "acting in opposition to the wishes of the temperance people." Opposition from all these quarters is enough in itself to make the honest and independent voter realize the real issue before him and refuse to follow the faction that is seeking to use his franchise for the attainment of its own selfish ends.

The determined opposition to Mr. Guthrie within his own party is due to the fact that he is not accepted as the choice of the great Conservative party but is regarded as the candidate of a machine which is seeking to advance itself at the expense of the party and by means that will ultimately bring about the defeat of the party. This opposition includes stalwart and life-long Conservatives like Mr. C. H. Thomas, the president of the Conservative Association; Dr. Morehouse and Mr. Pinder, two of our members of the Legislative Assembly, the older and more prominent members of the party and these men regard the defeat of Mr. Guthrie as essential to the freedom and liberty and welfare of the party. Their opposition is a fight within the party to rid it from the rule of the boss and the control of the machine and there is no doubt that the rank and file of the party are lining up with them in this fight.

But in addition to this straight party opposition Mr. Guthrie is opposed by a large number of temperance Conservatives, who have known his record in civic politics and who believe that his defeat is essential to the triumph of righteousness and impartial justice in our social life. The readers of this journal will remember that when Mr. Guthrie first became a candidate for aldermanic honors in this city it was rumored about the streets that a "deal" had been consummated between the party machine and certain liquor interests known as "Regent Street." Of course the leaders in that transaction have denied that there ever was a deal. But history has shown that some understanding did take place for the terms which were rumored about the streets have actually been fulfilled. The "Liberals" interested left their own party and joined the Tory machine, "Regent Street" changed its politics and since that time the influence of the saloon has been marked upon the leaders of this faction of the party. The Gleaner, which talks about unholy alliances, has something here worth its marvelous powers of vituperation and abuse. Mr. Guthrie's administration in civic politics was in perfect harmony with the terms of the supposed "deal." Under the last year of his administration of justice in this city, we had a condition that shocked all sense of decency; in fact, the police department became so demoralized that he was compelled to make an "investigation," and to undertake a reconstruction; a reconstruction, however, that still showed the strong hand of the combination and the influence of "Regent

Street." Alderman Farrell fought his administration throughout the year and repeatedly stated that the down-town saloon-keepers were shielded but that the smaller uptown fry were severely punished. He asked for a fair and impartial administration of the law, an administration that would catch the big offender as well as the little ones, that would punish the men who had recently joined the "Tory" party as well as those who were not concerned in the "deal." In fact, it was this attitude on the part of Alderman Farrell that returned him without opposition to the present aldermanic board.

But "Regent Street" controls the situation and from that day to the present time the administration of temperance legislation in this city has been such as to drive out all real opposition and to give these men a practical monopoly of the lucrative profits of the saloon enterprise. Do not our citizens believe that there exists some understanding with "Regent Street"? What did Dr. Morehouse mean by his reference to "Regent Street" in his denunciation of the machine within his party in his address to the electors at Burt's Corner the other evening? And what does The Gleaner mean in its attack upon ex-Mayor Thomas, who was acting mayor of the city at the time of the rumored deal. If the statements which The Gleaner makes in regard to his election are true (and we doubt them) then the influence of "Regent Street" has been far more potent and the "understanding" with them involved more persons than the average citizen ever realized. The argument of The Gleaner is practically this, why do you single out Mr. Guthrie and oppose him on account of the influence of the liquor interests when so many other Tory leaders have come under the same influence?

There are a large number of independent voters in this city, both Liberals and Conservatives, who believe that we have built up in this city a little Tammany ring and that this ring must be broken in the interest of good government and impartial justice. Tammany rule is an alliance of selfish politicians with financial interests that can only prosper at the expense of the social welfare. Each class needs the other for its existence since the people wish neither. If Mr. Guthrie were elected to the legislature he could exercise more influence detrimental to the administration of justice in this city than he exercised when a member of our aldermanic board. We already know how the saloon interests when they are defeated by the voters of this city seek protection from punishment from our provincial legislature. Tammany rule always means to bring the city administration into subordination to the state or provincial governments and the beneficial working of this combination has shielded the saloon interest in this city during the past year and they are enjoying its protection at the present time. It was a recognition of this serious and immoral condition that led the ministers of this city to declare against Mr. Guthrie before another man was placed in the field. It was this situation that led the Temperance Convention to enter its "protest against an unholy alliance between the liquor interest and the party machine" and to declare that Mr. Scott was deserving of "the united support of all friends of temperance."

These are some of the real facts of this issue before the electors and the gross misrepresentations of The Gleaner cannot deceive them. The Gleaner would have us believe that Mr. Scott is the candidate of Mr. Pinder and Dr. Smith and that these men are acting from personal and

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very unworthy motives. The electors of this city who believe in fair play will know how to deal with a campaign which seeks to discredit and injure a prominent clergyman because he has the courage to be true to his gospel of righteousness in public and private life. In fact, the leaders in the campaign of Mr. Guthrie are actually seeking to discredit the clergy in this city in order to escape the consequences of their actions. The facts are against them and the only possibility of success is through a campaign that belabors the issue and distorts the truth. And in a campaign of this character The Gleaner occupies a unique position among the journals of this country. It has acquired a proficiency and skill in abuse and misrepresentation from its long training and experience in taking that side of any question with which its own interests happened to be identified and it has succeeded so thoroughly in ridding itself from the qualms of conscience or the regard of truth that belongs to the average specimen of humanity that it is admirably adapted to the kind of campaign in which it is at this moment engaged. But no diabolical cleverness in the jugglery of words or the

(Continued on page two.)

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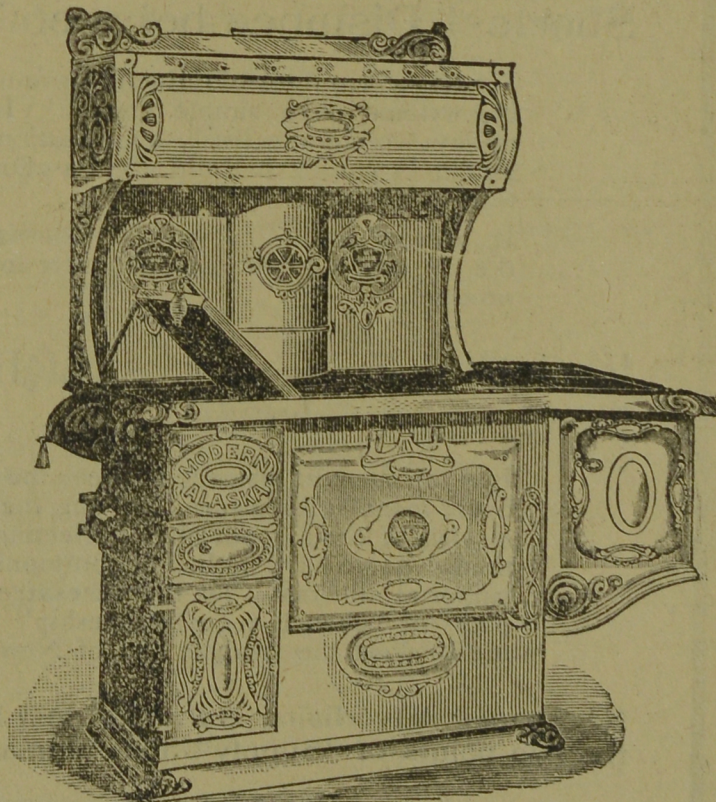
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