

EVENING NEWS.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Thursday, Oct. 21, 1890.

BIENNIAL ELECTION.

Tuesday, Nov. 2, 1890.

PEOPLE'S TICKET!

For Delegate to Congress,
GEORGE Q. CANNON.

A "BRUSH" WITH A MACHINE

We give space to a communication from the agent for the Brush electric light machine, who seems determined to raise a controversy with the *Desert News*, but which we shall decline, after pointing out the fallacies and persistent misrepresentations contained in his letter. We do not propose to give him notoriety by free advertising, neither do we intend to throw anything in the way of an improvement which he or any one else may be able to introduce.

He says that in the first part of our article of October 19th we "intimate that he has come here to make a large sum of money out of the city." This is the same character as our assertions in which he so freely indulges. We said nothing of the kind, either in the first part or any other part of the article. The untruth he makes the text for an argument to show that small profits he would make in comparison with those of the gas company, a subject quite foreign to the tenor of our editorial and not pertinent to the question, which is simply whether the City Council shall rush into an acceptance of his proposition, or take time for full deliberation. In other words, whether that body shall accept the agent's rash and reckless assertions, or find out beyond doubt the facts about the working of the light in other places.

We have not taken up the endgame for the gas company. We have not said anything against the electric light. We have not advised the City Council to continue the use of gas for street lighting, nor touched on the question of its comparative value or cost with that of the proposed illuminator. But since this brush agent has thrust his figures forward as facts against the gas company, suppose we examine them a little. It will be observed that in drawing his comparison he counts in the cost of his plant and reckons on full payment for it in five years. Adding to this all his running expenses, he brings out a profit of ten per cent. per annum on his investment. But in stating the gas company's costs and profits, he ingeniously but not ingenuously leaves out of consideration its plant altogether, and by this process of calculation makes out a profit of \$3,200 per annum for the gas company on the street lighting. But he gives the gas company credit for its plant on the same principle as he states and reckons his own, and how will the case stand?

The gas company's plant in ground figures cost \$170,000. But this is not wholly correct for the city for street lighting. One-fourth of this sum will be considerably under the real amount of the outlay for city purposes, as can be easily demonstrated. That is \$42,500. Divide this into five yearly installments, and we have \$8,500 per annum to be deducted from \$12,200, leaving a balance of \$3,700. He puts the cost of making the gas for the street lighting at \$8,000. This, instead of leaving a profit of \$3,200, would make an absolute loss of \$2,500 per annum! And this estimated cost of his is simply for making the gas, counting nothing for lamp-lighting, breakages and contingencies. We are simply making the calculation on his own principle. We point out this cunning way of his of drawing a contrast, to show what kind of a reasoner, or rather sophist, he is; not to make any defense of the gas company, in which we have not the slightest pecuniary interest. But he seems anxious to attack the company, or why does he bring this comparison in, when the gas company was not called in question?

In the same unfair and petting manner he speaks of "other cities" where gas is \$3 per thousand, and street lighting charged but \$20 each. He does not refer to Galena, Illinois, another city which he has falsely published as having "adopted" the Brush light, which has merely had a trial of it without yet adopting it as a substitute for gas, using a liberty pole on which to hang four electric lamps. The price of coal there is probably about \$2 per ton. The cost to the gas company here, counting in the coal needed as a mixture with other coal, is a little over \$10 per ton. It has averaged in past years about \$13 per ton. If we wished to take up this subject fully, we could show that the profit in other cities of gas is much greater than in this city, and that Galena, which still uses gas lamps—with its \$3 per thousand paid by private citizens, gives a greater compensation than Salt Lake where it is \$4 per thousand.

And while on the subject of cost and savings, we wish to remind our readers that this city owns one-third of the stock of the gas company, from which it derives a revenue of about \$7,500 per annum in dividends. Deduct from this the \$12,200 expense for street lighting, and we have left but \$4,700 per annum actual outlay, and this will no doubt be curtailed when the ten years contract has expired, by a reduction in the charge per lamp. But the company, do away with gas, and that income, with the principal, goes

into a sinking fund from which it will never rise again.

He next speaks of "the comparative merit of different electrical apparatus." Reference to our article will show that this also is not a point raised nor alluded to, and we should want something more substantial than the agent's assertion to convince us of anything he puts forward in favor of the Brush apparatus, though, let it be borne in mind, we have said and do say nothing against it.

As to Washburn's letter, we noticed nor avoided it. We were not discussing the success or failure of the light. We merely clipped the notice of the Nantucket fizzle in explanation of a remark from the Cleveland correspondent. And the agent in simply assuming, with a great deal of impudence, that we have read articles proving that the Washburn experiment is a success, an assertion for which he has no grounds whatever.

Now to the next point. We have not asserted that the City Council was in a hurry. We cautioned that body about getting into a hurry, and that was the whole drift and substance of our remarks until this agent, who is "not anxious to make money out of the city," rushed into the field hot for controversy. He says he is not in a hurry. We are glad to hear it. We shall now be suited all round. But he must have become converted to our view of the case, for anyone who will read his latest proposition will see that he was at the time he made it in a terrible hurry, and desirous of rushing the Council into immediate action on this subject.

Now as to the Cleveland matter. His "towers erected for a general illumination of the city," as a consequence of Cleveland's "adoption of the electric light two years ago," dwindle down to some posts which the Brush Company has put up at its own expense, as a test for lighting one street! And in the face of this he persists in his first statement. Has Cleveland adopted the Brush light, instead of gas for street lighting? No. A statement to the contrary by one who resides in that city is a deliberate and infamous untruth. Monumental Park is an open space in Cleveland which takes its name from a monument of Commodore Perry in the center. It is lighted by 12 Brush lamps on posts 15 feet high. Gas is still used in Cleveland for street, house and business lighting, as before. Now who, with a spark of regard for the truth, will say in the face of those facts that Cleveland has "adopted the electric light in the place of gas?" His statement that "towers were being erected for a general illumination of the city" is now whitened down to, "it was given to understand that a general illumination was contemplated."

What this agent has tried to make the people believe is this: That in certain cities the Brush light had been adopted by the municipal authorities in a similar way to his proposed plan for lighting this city; that is, by lamps on a single tower, and as a substitute for gas. Whereas the facts do not bear this out, but on the contrary prove that gas is still in use in the cities named, where it was in use before the electric light was tried, and as a substitute for gas in street lighting, as we have stated all along, the electric light is still an experiment. This person makes, with the utmost confidence, assertions which are substantially incorrect, but which have just enough of truth in them to save them from the brand of utter falsehood, and just sufficient to enable him to bring the changes on, and to persist that he was right.

In view of all that has been said and shown, is it not plain enough that what we have urged is the best course for the City Council, that is to "wait awhile and investigate?" This person who now says he is not in a hurry, is simply an agent for the sale of the Brush machine, like a sewing machine agent. The Brush Company is not responsible for its contracts for lighting cities. He attempts to show on his own individual responsibility. How far that extends we are not prepared to state, as we wish to discuss it. He has assumed very foolishly and incorrectly that the *Desert News* opposed the adoption of the electric light, and that view has under no circumstances against us which we have given any only to himself. We wish no further controversy with him. We are no judgment on the light he is trying to introduce. But we do caution the City Council and every body else against accepting his unsupported assertions, no matter how confidently made, and advise them not to rush into contracts which they may possibly regret, but to look into the experience of others, and be sure they are right before they go ahead.

GOOD NEWS.

The building of the Utah Eastern Railroad is no matter of doubt or uncertainty. In two or three weeks the road will be completed to Kimball station, from whence teams can bring in coal to this city. It will probably be laid down there at about \$3.50 per ton. This will be splendid news for the public who have had some serious forebodings on the probable scarcity of coal during the coming winter.

There are many persons in this city who have signified their desire to help this enterprise by taking shares in the capital stock. They could only afford it, and their willingness to subscribe a small sum, say \$10. We understand that it is the intention to take steps to meet their wishes and accept subscriptions of from \$10 up to \$100,000 for which certificates will be issued. Arrangements should be made in different parts of the city to facilitate the receipt of these small amounts so as to give everybody who wishes to assist in this laudable enterprise a chance to do so. As soon as this is done, will your money for traditional shares, and help to secure a steady supply of cheap coal. Winter is coming, and there will be cold law in Zion, unless fuel is made sure.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINES.

AMERICAN.

Garfield Speaks to a Colorado Delegation.

MENTOR, 21.—Two hundred and fifty colored men of Cleveland visited Garfield to-day, who in reply to an address said he had studied the difficult problem of equal rights. The settlement of that problem was a tremendous strain on our institutions. It was not for your sake alone that the thoughtful men of this country

It was certainly a good reason why slavery ought to die that it wronged your race, but it was as equally good reason why it ought to die because it was dangerous to the peace and prosperity of the white race and the stability of the republic. We are always inclined to express much sympathy with the man who suffers wrong. That is right, but we ought also to express anxious solicitude for the man who does the wrong. It is his duty to bear the burden of the wrong but the burden of the wrong will rest for the murdered man who committed the murder, and so say the men who said your race were wronging themselves as well as you. The protest against being wronged does not shield your race from suffering wrong was a mighty problem which was solved by the abolition of slavery. Now follow citizens, in this struggle of war after Lincoln had given utterance to the great thought that the centuries of slavery had committed no great sin in that the shedding of blood there was no remission and that our war was a blood expiation for that sin, even then when you were forced by the proclamation of Lincoln and the great declaration of the constitution that saved your citizenship, your problem was not solved. What is freedom without intelligence to use it wisely? Intelligence combined to make it not a curse, but a blessing? You were not made free merely to be allowed to vote, but in order to enjoy the rights of citizenship, the opportunity of the race of life and to stand equal before the law. Permit no man to oppress you because you are black, and you will be understood you are ready and willing to work out your own material salvation by your own energy, your own world, your own labor. All that liberty can do for you is to give you a fair and equal chance. I congratulate you on the great advance which your race has made under liberty. I have seen your representatives in Congress and in the Senate, and I have seen them behave with such self-restraint, good sense, judgment, modesty and patriotism that it has given hope that all their brethren will continue to climb up towards the light with every opportunity. I will not affect to be any more your friend than thousands of others, but do not even pretend to be particularly your friend, but only your friend with all other just men. On that basis and within those limitations whatever can be justly or fairly done to assure to you an equality of opportunity, it will always be my pleasure to do.

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY, October 20th, 1890.

Editor *Desert News*:

Sir:—Permit me to make a brief reply to your editorial of Oct. 10th, on the Electric Light.

In the first part of your article you intimate that I have come here to make a large sum of money out of the city. My proposition for lighting the city with electric light would cost \$3,000 per annum. My plant would cost \$10,000. I have been over five years would disburse my income \$1,000 per year. Not counting interest. My engineer would cost \$1,500, my gas-burners \$300, my expenses, not counting fuel, for which water power would be a substitute, would be fully \$500. This would leave me a net profit of about \$500 a year on a \$10,000 investment. Now let us see what the gas company is making out of the city. It is fair to assume that to make the gas costs \$4,000, at least. It has been \$3 per thousand for the last year. The net profit, then, would be \$12,200, less \$4,000, or \$8,200 as against \$500 by the electric light. This is a light five miles of street lighting against the electric light. When the company got its franchise it demanded 20 years for part of its business, and for ten years the exclusive right to charge the city for the use of the gas. Such a low rate as to be the way for the general use of the electric light in my territory. I make no large profits, nor would I make half as much as the gas company is making to be clear profit.

As to the comparative merits of different electrical apparatus, I can safely challenge the closest investigation of the Brush system. It has been adopted by the British Government, and there are 4,000 of the Brush lights in use in the world as compared with about 100 lights of other systems in this country. The Weston apparatus referred to is very defective although it infringes on Brush patents, and has been the subject of decisions against the patent holders.

You speak of an experiment at Nantucket. Suppose it was a failure, and suppose that lighting other cities was an entire failure? If my apparatus is a failure, then the city loses nothing under the proposition. You appear to forget that I and my associates invite the risk of failure, not the city. We carry the risk as by certain area four times as well as by Washburn, which is a success, as you know from newspaper articles you have seen. In Salt Lake we would not only have a higher elevation by from 50 to 75 feet, but I propose to use a machine three times as powerful, and capable of furnishing 10 times as much light as your 222 gas lamps. We would four times in the proposition, and we would be under no state, rather than Washburn's matter.

The Council has now had about six weeks to investigate this matter, and the committee have reported. I fail to see that they are any particular hurry. I am sure that I am not, for I feel as confident of its ultimate adoption, though it were already an assured fact.

Now to a matter of personal interest. I have questioned the veracity of my statement regarding Cleveland, and assuming that you have proved it, have called on the community to doubt all my assertions. The *News* in its editorial said that Cleveland had not adopted the electric light, and that it was a failure. I answered that I had, and that I had learned that I should have qualified my statement by adding "the city," the residence portion of Cleveland had been decided upon. When Cleveland was given to understand that the city had adopted a general illumination was contemplated. Towers or posts about 15 feet high, were then being erected on the viaduct, which is a mile and a half long, and on the other street and other street. It is not Cleveland with the light is doubted. I can show a letter from the Mayor of Cleveland that he had, and therefore, maintain the assertion.

News that Cleveland had not adopted the electric light was untrue, although I am sure that you may have been misinformed.

Yours truly,
WM. FOWLER

Chimney Sweeper
Residence 1212 North Main Street
Sweeps all chimneys with great care and at a reasonable price.

ESTRAY DOG
CAME TO MY PLACE about 10 o'clock on last night, a red dog, four years old, about 15 lbs. weight. The owner can have him by paying charges.
J. S. WILSON
1212 North Main Street

speech said: Ladies and Gentlemen—I tried my very best to help in here quietly without being seen, in hopes of hearing something that would assure me that the right thing for me to do was to be reasonable in this country (applause). I was not quite certain but what, between this and the 2nd of November I might have a special commission sent to me, or a caterpillar's column, which was one of the kind he didn't approve in republicans. I was sure settling that problem was a tremendous strain on our institutions. It was not for your sake alone that the thoughtful men of this country

It was certainly a good reason why slavery ought to die that it wronged your race, but it was as equally good reason why it ought to die because it was dangerous to the peace and prosperity of the white race and the stability of the republic. We are always inclined to express much sympathy with the man who suffers wrong. That is right, but we ought also to express anxious solicitude for the man who does the wrong. It is his duty to bear the burden of the wrong but the burden of the wrong will rest for the murdered man who committed the murder, and so say the men who said your race were wronging themselves as well as you. The protest against being wronged does not shield your race from suffering wrong was a mighty problem which was solved by the abolition of slavery. Now follow citizens, in this struggle of war after Lincoln had given utterance to the great thought that the centuries of slavery had committed no great sin in that the shedding of blood there was no remission and that our war was a blood expiation for that sin, even then when you were forced by the proclamation of Lincoln and the great declaration of the constitution that saved your citizenship, your problem was not solved. What is freedom without intelligence to use it wisely? Intelligence combined to make it not a curse, but a blessing? You were not made free merely to be allowed to vote, but in order to enjoy the rights of citizenship, the opportunity of the race of life and to stand equal before the law. Permit no man to oppress you because you are black, and you will be understood you are ready and willing to work out your own material salvation by your own energy, your own world, your own labor. All that liberty can do for you is to give you a fair and equal chance. I congratulate you on the great advance which your race has made under liberty. I have seen your representatives in Congress and in the Senate, and I have seen them behave with such self-restraint, good sense, judgment, modesty and patriotism that it has given hope that all their brethren will continue to climb up towards the light with every opportunity. I will not affect to be any more your friend than thousands of others, but do not even pretend to be particularly your friend, but only your friend with all other just men. On that basis and within those limitations whatever can be justly or fairly done to assure to you an equality of opportunity, it will always be my pleasure to do.

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