SCRANTON TRIBUNE

F. E. WOOD,
General Manager.

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THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 7, 1894.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET

FOR CONGRESSMAN-AT-LARGE,
GALUSHA A. GROW,
OF SUSQUEHANNA.

ELECTION FEBRUARY 20.

THE PEOPLE'S VOTE.

Congressman Lemuel E. Quigg, the bright Gotham journalist who was chosen to represent the Fourteenth New York district in the face of almost insuperable odds, wears his honors with becoming modesty. In a personal letter to the editor of THE TRIBUNE he writes: "Of course, I don't flatter myself that many votes were cast for me individually. We simply took an aye and nay vote on the Wilson bill and with a former majority of 11,000 to the credit of the Democratic party, the people said 'No.' I think the result ought to be an inspiration to the Republican party everywhere." Pennsylvania Republicans accept the omen and will add their dead to the harvest thirteen days from date.

UPON REFLECTION Editor Singerly has evidently decided that the best political harmonizer is an expertly swung political club.

THE BEST method of out door relief that we know of just now would be for the senate to pitch Wilson's bill income tax and all, out the nearest window.

NO DOUBT can exists after yesterday's Third district convention of the sincerity and earnestness of the Hastings movement. The hero of the Conemaugh is pre-eminently the favorite of the Lackawanna.

MR. PECKHAM not having been broiled to a sufficiently appetizing shade of brownness over the slow fire of senatorial courtesy, his case is shoved over until next Monday. Meanwhile, Hill can saw more wood.

MR. HINES announces melodramatically that his course toward the Wilson bill "is entirely satisfactory" to Mr. Atkins, manager of the Wilkes-Barre lace works. This may be, and yet not indicate its complete acceptability to the district's other thirty-one thousand and thirty-five legal voters. We suspect that it does not.

THE NEW president of Philadelphia's Pen and Pencil club, the best conducted organization of journalists in the country, is Louis N. Megargee, city editor of the Philadelphia Times and a brother of Megargee Bros., of this city. That the creditable honor is worthily bestowed will be conceded when it is said that President Megargee is just like his Scranton relatives.

MR. GROW has every reason to feel proud of the loyal support he is receiving in Scranton. The action of Third district Republicans yesterday in instructing for his re-nomination at the May convention is a broad hint of the inevitable as it now appears. Mr. Grow will have the voice and vote not only of every Lackawanna Republican, but also of hundreds who have been won from the error of misguided political ways.

THE DEMOCRATIC press is displaying its best humorous propensity in an effort to ridicule Mr. Reed's statement that, since 1860, protection has raised the purchasing value of wages in this country ninety-seven per cent. It is a significant fact, however, that it does not attempt to disprove the assertion, which is founded on statistics as accurate as the multiplication table. Merely trying to laugh it out of sight is as good as a concession of its truthfulness.

THE ESTEEMED Washington Post has made a collection of Cleveland epigrams, witticisms, anecdotes and attempts at repartee. The collection as a whole impresses us as being somewhat wearisome and ponderous. Nevertheless, there is one gem in the list which seems worthy of a re-setting. It is the assertion of Mr. Cleveland to his chum, Don M. Dickinson, that "an enemy is never so thoroughly defeated as when one refuses to quarrel with him." It is evident from contemporary indications that Senator David B. Hill is not yet "thoroughly defeated."

THE DEMOCRATIC News-Dealer is now dissatisfied with THE TRIBUNE'S assertion that the money cost of Democratic misrule, not because the figures representing that cost were incorrect, but because, in the News-Dealer's opinion, they were irrelevant. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the first year of complete Democratic ascendancy since Buchanan has cost the country more than the money cost to the north of four years of frightful civil war. Voters who ordered that kind of a "change" and are satisfied with it are exceedingly rare, outside the offices of Democratic newspapers.

ATTORNEY GENERAL HENSEL'S reply to Treasurer Powell's questions respecting the theatrical license problem is an opinion full of common sense. The paragraph exonerating county treasurers from "active duties in the way of ferreting out attempted, presumable or actual violations of the law" may annoy casuists; but it will be pleasant reading to thousands of Pennsylvania theater-goers who do not wish to encourage violations even of a discredited pioneer law yet who, at the same time, do not especially desire to see that law enforced. The natural inference from the attorney general's brief is that the heavens will continue to span the skies even if this law be not lived up to in the fulness of its antiquated meaning; and that is approximately the general idea.

Four billions of loss is a steep price to pay for Democratic "reform."

SOON BEFORE the congressional elections of 1890, when the Democratic party was making its furious calamity shout, crying "panic," "hard times," "farm mortgages" and "plutocracy," certain Republican journals warned the opposition that it was establish a precedent which would re-act. On a bogus scare Democracy got into power. But now, when its colossal incompetency has precipitated a real panic, the worst according to Dun, in the past forty years, it has the nerve to ask that the stringency be not alluded to. It obviously doesn't relish being hoist with its own petard.

MR. SINGERLY'S experience as a pacificator has made him as mad as a hornet. These are some of the tender and affectionate epithets which he hurls with double loaded emphasis at those who refused to be harmonized by him: "Malaperts" possessed of the "accursed lust for power and place," a "mousing and mutinous cabal" showing "petty and selfish malignity," and so on. In conclusion, the disgusted mediator says: "The party cannot afford to get into bankruptcy and enforce a liquidation simply because it has a pimple on its little finger." Evidently the role of peacemaker has its disadvantages.

OUT DOOR RELIEF.

It is growing obvious to Scrantonians that the problem of out door relief will not be satisfactorily and permanently settled this side of a complete and searching revision of the acts of 1862 and 1863. Within the past ten years a widespread change has overtaken the prevailing methods of administering relief. The idea that because a citizen is unfortunate he should therefore be treated to the additional infliction of having himself branded a pauper and put into public evidence as an object of contempt has been so vigorously assailed by honest and considerate reformers that it already shows signs of weakening and must soon disappear entirely.

There ought, in the nature of things, to be no serious difference of opinion as to the statutes upon which our relief system is founded. Any friction or uncertainty as to the meaning of the law tends inevitably to obstruct and impair the efficiency of that system's practical and daily operation, and thus to augment the misery of the system's helpless beneficiaries. The change in sentiment which has developed since the law was last revised should have clear and explicit recognition in the statutes of the commonwealth. It should no longer be due to chance, local generosity or the waiving of possible legal interference that unfortunates are enabled to obtain relief through the performance of honorable work upon terms involving no public reproach, rather than be carted ignominiously "over the hills to the poor house," that unequalled graveyard of of hope, ambition and self respect.

The present difference of opinion will be valuable to the public if it shall lead to a correct definition of the law as it exists, thus clearing the pathway to any amendments that may be thought necessary. The present uncertain location of authority under the special act of 1862 is an anomalous condition whose further continuance would be a reflection upon the fairness of our legislative assembly. Viewed from any standpoint, the question bristles with perplexities which could be most satisfactorily removed by the framing of a complete, new law, applicable uniformly to all similar districts in the state.

IT WILL BE very agreeable news to the numerous friends of Rev. Dr. Warren G. Partridge, pastor of the Penn Avenue Baptist church in Scranton, and elsewhere throughout Pennsylvania, that he has decided not to accept a recent call to the pastorate of the First Baptist church of Syracuse, N. Y. In many particulars this call embodied one of the highest tributes that could be paid to a Christian minister. It was a compliment to his learning, his eloquence and his piety that will unquestionably be a grateful recollection in his memory and that of his friends. But the peculiarly warm and cordial relationship that exists between Dr. Partridge and members of his Penn avenue congregation has happily carried the day, a fact which will be most pleasantly received by every Scrantonian in touch with the success that has attended Dr. Partridge's ministrations in this city.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

It is announced in the columns of a local contemporary that collector Grant Herring "makes no pretensions to being a civil service reformer." Well, so much the better. It is unfortunately to often the case that the politician who makes the most pretensions is the one that does the least genuine reforming. It is not always the man who occupies all his energy in telling what he intends to do that really does the most in this world. One trouble with civil service reformers—those who spell their titles with large letters and find a melancholy solace in the irreverent designation, "Mugwumps"—is that by the time they get ready to do something, they too frequently discover that their mental resource have been eaten up in superfluous preliminaries.

On instance in point suggests itself in the speech delivered in New York the other evening by an eminent educator, the president of a prominent American university, who exhausted a large amount of really valuable energy in such serio-comic rhetoric as this:

> The party of moral reform mean to convert the epigram "Public office is a public trust" into an actuality. At the present time, I fear public office is a private crust, flung by the boss to the party benchmen who feed from the crumbs of plunder that fall from his unhallowed table. The American despot is a new-minted boss, insensitive to the modulating and restraining influences of wonty prestige or sentiment; a base and ignorant fellow who excels in low cunning and in the wretched arts of venal leadership, and who is in what (Heaven save the mark!) he calls politics simply for what he can get out of politics. This is the worst of all tyrannies under which a people can groan.

And yet, if the people do any amount of groaning under this burden, it is of their own direct volition, since all that they need to do, to get rid of it, is to go to the primaries, attend caucuses and put fit men into office. The much derided "boss" is a base growth directly chargeable to the fact that while the professional Civil Service Reformers of the large capital variety were staying away from the primaries and polls, to prepare fine orations against matters and things in general, the enterprising ward "heeler" was getting in his vote.

It will be greatly to the credit of the new collector, Democrat though he is, if he should prove to have a practical man's contempt for vapidities of fine platform talk and a wholesome regard for the business interests of his department. The true civil service reformer—the one, be he Republican, Democrat or what not, to whom a level headed public will lift its hat in sincere respect—is the one who makes of the civil service a carefully conducted business, run by business men, for business men, on business principles.

Four billions of loss is a steep price to pay for Democratic "reform."

THERE ARE conditions of social despair which to an American are almost incredible. Even in the blight of a partisan threat to reproduce in this favored land one of the severest factors in the creation of this condition, we are saved from a personal realization of the economic and sociological depths in which are nurtured such human anomalies as Vaillant. Destitute alike of fear, feeling and conscience, his very existence was an incessant menace and his execution a mathematical problem of self protection. Only in morbid eyes was there anything heroic in his continuous bravado. The human mechanism which, for any reason, is bereft of its controlling spiritual tenant, whether alive or dead, provokes less of pity than of surprise. Anarchy is the gospel of madness. Let the agents of anarchy be treated as maniacs whose departure from life is society's gain.

IN LAST EVENING'S Carbondale Herald appears the formal announcement of J. W. Gould's retirement as its managing editor. A new relationship has been formed by which Mr. Gould will have control of the Herald's weekly issue, which is to be doubled in size and otherwise improved. Mr. Gould is a TRIBUNE graduate who has acquitted himself admirably since his entrance into the journalism of the upper end. Under his control the Daily Herald has achieved a place among the very foremost of inland state journals. That his new venture will be equally successful can be confidently predicted from THE TRIBUNE'S knowledge of the man.

Four billions of loss is a steep price to pay for Democratic "reform."

FOUND, Then Noted.

Hon. James T. DuBois, of Great Bend, one of Mr. Grow's warmest supporters, may be included among the talented sons of Susquehanna county who are well qualified to represent the our great commonwealth in the halls of congress. Although still a young man, Mr. DuBois has a thorough acquaintance with national politics. From the modest occupation of setting tyne at the case in a country newspaper office, Mr. DuBois rose to the editorial chair of one of the leading Republican organs at Washington, D. C. He was subsequently made United States consul at Aix-la-Chapelle, which position he filled with dignity and fidelity. Returning to this country at the beginning of the Cleveland administration, Mr. DuBois became publisher of the Inventive Age a journal, issued weekly at Washington, D. C., and now divides his time between that city and Great Bend, where he has an elegant residence. Mr. DuBois' name has been mentioned as a congressional nominee from the Fifteenth district upon several occasions but he has always declined the honor, saying, that the time had not arrived for him to seek a nomination at the hands of his friends. Mr. DuBois is an eloquent speaker; a pleasant gentleman to meet socially, and possesses all the other qualities calculated to insure success politically. It is safe to predict that Hon. James T. DuBois will again be heard from in Northwestern Pennsylvania politics.

* * *

Editor James P. Taylor, of the Montrose Republican, is one of the enthusiastic fishermen of the northern tier. Editor Taylor has spent much time and money in distributing trout and salmon fry in the streams and lakes of Susquehanna county, and can tell a fish story with the ease and fluency of the oldest inhabitant.

* * *

Dr. J. W. Coolidge, the well known homœopathist, is one of the most enthusiastic archeologists in this section. The doctor has made extensive study of the relics of the Colorado and Arizona Cliff dwellers, and has written many interesting articles upon the subject. Dr. Coolidge is a graceful writer as well as a thorough student, and his discourses upon the antiquities are always interesting and instructive.

* * *

Editor Edward A. Niven, of the Wilkes-Barre Times, is one of the most prolific versatile writers in this part of the state. Upon apparently barren soil from a literary standpoint, Mr. Niven produces daily one of the most interesting papers in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Editor Niven as a writer of verse has few equals in this section, his poems always read with interest by people of literary taste. His libretto for the comic opera, "The Smith Family," sparkled with good things and deserved the recognition it received at the time the opera was produced.

Should Know How to Act.

Philadelphia Press.

We reproduce from the SCRANTON TRIBUNE an interview with Mr. William Connell, of that city, which speaks authoritatively on the question of free coal. Mr. Connell is an expert with personal knowledge of the Nova Scotia field and with long experience in our own. His facts and figures show the danger which menaces us under the Wilson bill. The vast interests of labor and production involved in the coal industry should know how to deal with the representatives who have been false to them.

Not in the Anthracite Region.

Reading Herald.

If we could annex the climate of the Hawaiian islands, without the people, the project would carry unanimously.

It Is Partisanship Gone Mad.

Reading Times.

The reckless partisan obstinacy of the promoters of this ruinous Wilson scheme in persisting in it in the face of the manifest and unmistakable resistance of the country certainly is amazing enough, but to assert that its enactment is "giving to the country what it asks for" is tantamount to declaring that the idle and starving thousands ask for continued idleness and starvation instead of work and bread.

Trenchant and Versatile Pen.

Susquehanna Transcript.

E. T. Sweet, a former Montrose newspaper man, is now associate editor of the SCRANTON TRIBUNE. Mr. Sweet wields a trenchant and versatile pen, and will prove a valuable acquisition to the staff of that excellent inland daily.

Here's the Bourbon Chorus.
Wilkes-Barre News-Dealer.

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As knows what he's about;
So let us have a chance at pap
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For we are in the same fix. More shirts than drawers of some kinds, more drawers than shirts of other kinds.
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Odd pieces at the oddest of odd prices. We've no tar paper or camphor to pack away woolens in. Won't have it around. Don't like the smell of it. Always suggests undertaker shops.
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Big, Clean, wholesome, warm, worth $5, price now $3.75 a pair.
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