

The Scranton Tribune

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E. P. KINGSBURY, Prop. and Gen'l. Man. E. H. RIPPET, Sec'y and Treas. L. V. RICHARD, Editor.

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"Printers Ink" the recognized journal for advertising rates, terms, conditions, and the best advertising medium in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Weekly Tribune, issued every Saturday, contains twelve handsome pages with an abundance of news, fiction, and well-edited miscellany.

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SCRANTON, JUNE 13, 1895.

"We ought to realize by this time that we should not do our work nor make our loans in Europe. Let us place what options we have with our own capitalists."

That Victory at Wilkes-Barre. The magnificent victory of the Scranton United choir at the Concordia extended in Wilkes-Barre yesterday is a signal tribute, first to the efficiency of the choral singers of this city and to their good judgment in bringing past chasms; and secondly, to their painstaking and indefatigable conductor, John T. Watkins.

It is hardly possible to exaggerate the significance of this victory. It is a victory won against sharp, keen and determined competition, waged by singers so little less effective than our own that the slightest falling off on the part of the Scranton choir would certainly have turned the scale.

It is to be hoped that the success which has attended the recent healing of local differences among our Welsh singers will be a sufficient proof of the wisdom of harmony and good fellowship to perpetuate both.

One Live Man's Work. Even those who are prejudiced against the present New York city administration are forced to bear testimony to the efficient and business-like work of Theodore Roosevelt as president of Gotham's hitherto unsatisfactory police board.

A fine tribute to President Roosevelt is paid by "Holland" in a recent letter from New York to the Philadelphia Press. After noting that the young reformer has already, by his untiring diligence, virtually assumed command of the entire police force, thus realizing in effect the desired centralization of authority in that department which was denied in law by Mr. Platt's recent legislation, he continues: "Mr. Roosevelt expects, so long as he is president of the board, to attend not only to the perfunctory and routine duties which come before him, but to be here, there and everywhere, a terror for those who are negligent or vicious, but the best friend of those members of the force who want to do their duty."

This observant correspondent further testifies that "already an improvement in morale and a better spirit prevails throughout the force. Roosevelt has a personality and a sort of impetuous enthusiasm that causes him constantly to do something which puts him in the public eye, although no man is freer from affectation or posing than he. His experience of the other evening which was reported, and in some instances with a rather free hand, illustrates that disposition of his. No other police commissioner, excepting Erhardt, has ever wandered forth in the still hours of the night that he might see with his own eyes what the discipline of the force in the small hours was. Mr. Roosevelt's prowling around the city and facing big and gruff and insolent policemen who were neglecting their duty, and whom he forced by the mere mention of his name to change their attitude of insolent bullying and threatening to that of obedient cowardice, is an experience at which the whole community smiles, and, nevertheless, respects him for sub-

mitting to it. Of all the subordinates appointed by Mayor Strong Roosevelt is easily chief in public interest. He does not care for that, but it does please him to know that already the police force is beginning to understand him, and that he is getting from the worthy members of it respect and admiration. There is, of course, nothing theoretically extraordinary in what President Roosevelt has done. He has not done a thing more or less than any honest official in his position ought to do, and ought to be expected to do. It is hardly a pleasant reflection upon the condition of civic morals in America's foremost city that a great stir should be occasioned simply because the president of the police board of that city had the temerity to insist that policemen paid by public taxation do certain public labor should do it. But the fact that so sensible a course of action on his part should create a commotion is prima facie proof that his services were needed, and that he is the man for his place.

Some day, when the American people get time to sift out their true benefactors from the false ones who make at times a big noise, and between times live on the reputation thus acquired, they will probably put a proper estimate on the hard and patient work of men like Theodore Roosevelt, who accept office through a sincere desire to be of benefit to the community; and who do their duty toward the public even if most ungrateful.

Allen Norion Lects. There was much of the dramatic in the career of the veteran journalist which terminated with such unexpected suddenness in this city on Tuesday evening. Born of affluent parents, and educated in one of the best of the eastern universities, Dr. Leece, in early manhood, saw the family fortune swept away almost in an instant by a series of disastrous fires. He was at that time interested in the petroleum business, and was the first man in that business to make a practical success of the use of oil as fuel. It was a workman in one of his refineries who was afterward instrumental in introducing petroleum fuel in Russia. A period of newspaper work followed, successful in all save its financial results. Very recently, as most persons know, occurred the dramatic inheritance from a Californian whom Dr. Leece had once befriended, and again he had almost reached the goal of wealth when, in a twinkling, death ended the story. In the intervals between these experiences, he gave his best energies to journalism; and for more than a quarter of a century was, in that influential capacity, a foremost figure in the public activities of his time.

As a newspaper worker, Dr. Leece was tireless, vigilant and exceedingly well-informed. His memory was uncommonly keen; and retained at ready command the numerous incidents of his eventful career. In his rapid discernment of the value of news, he was one of the few great news editors of his day. At a glance he seemed to comprehend the exact importance of a telegram, and was ready, before the eye had finished its scanning of the contents, with a plan for the news' proper presentation. One feat of which he often spoke illustrates this gift. When the brief bulletin came of the terrible disaster at Johnstown, the doctor was acting as news editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer. It was late at night; in an hour the last form had to be on the press. Calling to an assistant to take charge of all other subjects, he began to write a description of the torrent's path through the Conemaugh valley, made with senses alert, supplied the needed information, and legitimate imagination—the imagination which, basing itself on facts, reaches conclusions by unerring induction—contributed the rest. Whereas the other papers next morning had merely the bulletin announcement, the Inquirer, alone among the great dailies of the United States, contained an elaborate descriptive narration, subsequently verified in every important detail.

Dr. Leece came to The Tribune during its infancy, and to his executive ability and abundant energy is due a large share of its present success. As a superior officer he was notably kind and considerate; as a companion he was most entertaining, and as a friend he was firm and loyal. There was a vein of cheery philosophy in his disposition which seemed to make him proof against adversity and to strongly fortify him against petty prejudices. He was liberal minded, genial and generous. If he had faults, they were extinguished in the preponderance of his merits; and at his graveside there will be no thought save that of grief and reverence.

The Future of the Tariff. It argues no diminution of fealty to the beneficent principles of a wisely adjusted protective tariff to argue, as many Republicans are doing at this time, against the effort of certain leaders to make this familiar topic the predominant issue of the next campaign. The course of recent events makes it an issue, and a very important issue, but only in one way. The course of events has taught in emphatic fashion the unfitness of the Democratic party to experiment with the tariff. This lesson is fixed and, so far as this generation is concerned, we trust and believe it is final. The public has, by an instructive recent object-lesson, been at last convinced that moderate protection, as a revenue policy, is absolutely essential to its continued welfare.

To this extent, therefore, the tariff will be an issue in next year's presidential election. But it will not be an issue which will have to be bitterly fought for, neither will there be a general public demand for the radical reopening of the subject of schedule amendment. Such changes are deemed necessary will be made peacefully and scientifically, without threat to commerce or widespread disturbance of values. There will be no call for clamorous oratory nor need of impassioned rhetoric. The problem, from the moment of the assembling of the next congress forward, will be one to be solved by calm, cool and efficient Republican statesmanship, working not on the stump nor in the public press, but in the tranquility of the legislative committee room.

The idea that the American people are in need of another furious thrashing of the mildewed straw of campaign tariff discussion is erroneous; and the notion that they will tolerate it is absurd. One element in the Democratic party, thinking to curry favor with Mr. Cleveland, is busy predicting that Secretary Olney will be as lukewarm in his foreign policy as his predecessor was. Another element, presumably imagining that Grover has undergone a change of heart, strenuously asserts the reverse. Time alone can determine which forecast is accurate; but there is no division of opinion among virile Americans as to what kind of a policy is needed in the state department.

Certain advocates of gold monometallism prematurely imagine that because the cause of the silver extremists appears to be on the wane, the treasury looters of London and New York are likely to have an easy victory. They overlook the fact that bimetallicism is and has been the creed of every political party which has ever attained permanent prominence in the United States. The defeat of one extreme action does not by any means imply the acceptance of the other.

fed his free silver utterances very much, and this is regarded as a bid for eastern support. The Harrisburg Patriot wants to debate the Tribune's self-evident proposition that the state today is getting better service in the executive department than it received under Pattison. Very well. We submit as the first installment of our evidence the Patriot's own files. It has said meaner things about Pattison than we would hope to say, if we tried all summer. Yesterday this paper said: "The worst thing against William Collins Whitney's presidential boom is that William Collins wears eye-glasses. No Democrat can be nominated for president without eye-glasses." We now desire to add that no Democrat can be elected who does not wear eye-glasses.

By persons friendly to Senator Quay it is reported that District Attorney Graham and Hamilton Diston have broken with David Martin and Senator Porter because of a dispute over certain Philadelphia municipal legislation. The breach is declared to be serious.

The Ohio delegation to the Cleveland league convention will, it is announced, support Goodnow, of Minneapolis, for president, in return for his support last year of Cleveland's effort to secure the Cleveland convention.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce reports 75 Democrats, 24 Republicans and 7 Populists for free coinage; 30 Democrats and 200 Republicans against it. Senator Sherman will not be able to be present at next week's Cleveland convention, but he has written a letter expressing his high opinion of the league's work.

State Chairman Wright says the Democrats of Pennsylvania will try next fall to reduce the senatorial plurality somewhat. It is well to be modest.

The rumored Fellows-Scranton combination is denied by friends of the ex-mayor.

WISDOM AND OTHERWISE.

When does advertising pay? When the darkness follows day, When the winter precedes spring, When the song birds learn to sing, When the deaf no longer hear, When the anxious lover weeps, When the chickens feathers wear, When the sailor learns to swear, When the shiftless go in debt, When the running streams are wet, When the tramp for leisure years, When the ice no longer burns, When the business man is wise—There's the time to advertise.—Kansas City Journal.

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