

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, SEPTEMBER 26, 1893.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

For Judges of the Superior Court: CHARLES E. RICE, of Luzerne. E. N. WILLIAMS, of Lackawanna. HOWARD J. REEDER, of Northampton. JAMES A. BEAVER, of Centre. JOHN J. WICKHAM, of Beaver. GEORGE B. ORLANDY, of Huntington.

REPUBLICAN COUNTY TICKET.

For Coroner. SAMUEL P. LONGSTREET, M. D., of Scranton. For Surveyor. EDWARD A. BARTL, of Scranton. Election day, Nov. 5.

Governor Hastings' re-appointment of Dairy and Food Commissioner Wells sets at rest an ill rumor which reflected no credit on its author. The governor is not a winner in politics.

Getting Ready for Battle.

The harmony and enthusiasm which prevail in the Republican ranks in this county were conspicuously in evidence at yesterday's conference of the county candidates and chairman of the recent convention; and the character of the nine men selected to co-operate with the officers of the county committee as an executive committee having immediate charge of the details of the campaign at once assures public confidence.

There are many reasons why Lackawanna county should this year give the Republican state and county ticket an especially strong support. The presence of Judge Willard, a home candidate, on the state ticket, thus assuring to the varied legal interests of the county adequate representation upon the new superior court bench and bringing sessions of that tribunal to Scranton, is one. The fact that this battle is a pathway-blazer to the larger contest of 1896, which will determine national policy, home and foreign, for years to come, is another. The admitted fitness of the local candidates for the offices to which they aspire, is a third; and a fourth may be cited in Lackawanna's joint obligation to Governor Hastings and State Chairman Quay, both of whom rightfully expect to see part differences harmonized by a routing off-year plurality.

The general danger of a light vote ought not to, and probably will not prevail in Lackawanna. No incentive save uncertainty of the result is lacking to bring every voter to the polls this fall, there to ballot anew for honesty in state and county government, and indirectly for the return of protection and prosperity.

The frequency with which third term rumors are denied at Washington begins to arouse the suspicion that they are being circulated for effect.

An Unwelcome Prediction.

That this is an age of condensation does not require proof. The redundant sermon is scoffed; the flatulent editorial is tabooed; and even the spell-binder has to hold it down or talk to melting crowds. But a Chicago chemist, Dr. George Plumb, goes rather far in front of the procession when he declares that the essential food elements of a 1,200-pound steer can be gotten into an ordinary pill box. One of his tablets the size of a pea makes, it is said, a large bowl of soup. A ration case of his planning, which weighed eight ounces, contained the following supply: Three tablets concentrated soups, equal to three quarts; four tablets beef, equal to six pounds; one tablet milk, equal to one pint; two tablets wheat grits, equal to two pounds; one tablet egg food, equal to twelve eggs.

From the standpoint of science, all this may be true, upon the principle that a pinch of dynamite equals in destructive force a regiment of soldiers. But for practical purposes, the squeezing of an ox into a pillbox is fraught with deterrent possibilities. Its successful achievement would proclaim the doom of the boarding house, negative the millions now invested in hotels and transform the whole economy of industry and commerce. This, it is easy to see, would not do. The compressive movement must stop. Occupations depend upon it.

The shrinkage of victuals has gone quite as far in the modern restaurant as there is any necessity for.

As an abstract principle the anti-third-term rule may be unwise; but as applied to Grover Cleveland it is an overwhelming success.

Our Government and Cuba.

Apparently authentic Washington advices declare, upon authority, that the administration has no intention of recognizing the belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents, as such an act would almost amount to a declaration of war with Spain, and a matter of such importance should be left to the determination of congress. There will be congressional action or expression of

congressional opinion very soon after the congress convenes. The president will call attention to the Cuban situation in his annual message. The suggestion by Senator Sherman of a congressional committee of inquiry, to visit Cuba and report accurately as to the condition of things there, meets with general favor, but the Washington Star suspects that this might lead to some movement by England in Spain's behalf. "England," the Star adds, "values her West India possessions very highly, and treats them well in the way of their government. But would she relish having a republic set up next door to them—a Cuban republic? Would she be likely to hold them in their present quiet and uncomplaining condition very long after that? May she not produce a sort of Monroe doctrine of her own, and announce that she will not view with complacency the setting up of a republican form of government so close to her interests in the West Indies? And if she should, what would Mr. Bayard be instructed to say? What could he find in his diplomatic heart to say?"

It is important, however, that any action by England would be sufficient to deter a Republican congress from the performance of its duty toward Cuba. Nor is the policy of non-intervention advocated by Colonel W. A. Stone, of this state, in accord with public sentiment. It is well that party lines have not been drawn in this affair, for thus intelligent sympathizers with the victims of Spanish oppression, whether Democrats or Republicans, are left free to stand together in advocacy of government recognition of the Cuban insurgents. But should there be an attempt to turn the subject into a party issue, Republicans cannot afford to occupy the attitude of foes to liberty.

Another Methodist conference has just voted to admit women delegates, thus showing that gratitude and wisdom yet predominate in the churches. America in the East. One of the interesting vistas of speculation recently opened to students of current events by reason of the war between China and Japan concerns America's future influence in the east. The Tribune recently printed a resume of trade statistics showing how, although we buy more of Japan than any other nation, we also sell to Japan less than to any other. New light is shed on this phase of the question by Crosby S. Noyes, the observant editor of the Washington Star, who has just returned from a third visit to the land of the mikado. In the course of some published reflections and deductions apropos of this visit Mr. Noyes says:

America ought to take a very important part in our people and government would do well to take up the important question of extending our trade and influence in the east on the basis of the Pacific, which is our natural and commercial highway. As long as we pursue our present subject humiliating policy of crippling American interests in the Pacific, instead of helping them, as we have done notably in Hawaii and Samoa, there is not much to be expected. About all the good we are likely to take in the Pacific is to play second fiddle to England as we have done at Hawaii.

It is to be hoped, however, that we shall make a stand somewhere, and that the demand of England that she shall have a dominating voice in the Nicaragua canal, even if we build it, will not be allowed to stop the construction of that work. A visit to Japan which the immense importance of that canal to American commerce. For instance, Japan uses a large amount of American cotton—\$10,000,000 worth or more annually—but it is all or almost all sent from England, and goes all the way round by the Suez canal to Yokohama; whereby America loses the trade of that route. When the Nicaragua canal is built all this will be changed, and cotton will go through by the route from New York to Yokohama without transshipment and one-third of the distance required by the Suez route. This is one consideration of the work.

It is humiliating that we have to cross the Pacific whether from San Francisco or Vancouver under the British flag. We ought to have a fleet of first-class American steamers, added by mail routes, as the British steamer does, to make the trip from San Francisco or Puget Sound to Yokohama in ten days, and then to come back to us the freight and passenger traffic that is now being diverted to the Canadian Pacific line. We ought to push on the construction of the Nicaraguan canal. We ought to promptly avail ourselves of our treaty privilege before it lapses of establishing a naval station at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, and we ought to hold on to our footing in Samoa and every other point in the Pacific that will soon be needed to protect and extend the vast commerce that will spring up in the west and the Asiatic Pacific if we improve our opportunities.

These are the views of an American of large culture and long familiarity with the ways and means of politics, national and international. They are corroborated by nearly every other American traveler to the orient, and by most, if not all, the men who have represented our government in China and Japan. That we are neglecting our opportunities through sheer lack of persistence and fixity of purpose in the Washington state department is the well-nigh unanimous verdict—a fact which the more singular inasmuch as among the Japanese Americans are special favorites, and the American flag is held in exceptional esteem. Such a condition is already anomalous; in the years to come, with their vastly multiplied facilities of trade and travel it will, if persisted in, be actually disgraceful.

At this particular writing it is the simple truth to say that presidential politics have a slightly western look. Make it a Profession. One of the reforms to which the Republican party should pledge itself is the elevation of our consular and diplomatic service to a par with that of countries like England, France and Russia. The United States is rapidly nearing a point in its rapid development where it will be forced, in defense of its American commercial interests as well as in obedience to national self-respect, to play more than a passive part in the game of international statecraft. It could not, if it would escape from this necessity. Every day brings us nearer to the inevitable period when our republic will be as influential a power among the great powers as England or Russia is now; and if we would preserve the dignity of American institutions in foreign eyes, we should qualify for that task men of greater fitness and experience than the illiterate ward worker in the city or the swashbuckling editor of the country party organ, upon whom we now draw when we want new representatives at foreign courts.

The forward step taken by President Cleveland in removing from the now-potent grasp of the spoils-men all consular positions paying between \$1,000 and \$2,500 annual salary, although fairly open to the suspicion of having been dictated by partisan expediency in the wish to retain present appointees when the administration shall have changed, is nevertheless to be commended. It is a right action, whose results, in a course of time, ought to be of real benefit to the country. The rules for the selection of diplomatic recruits under this order are doubtless crude. There is probably large margin for the machinations of the spoilsmen, whereby incompetency may be gilded into apparent acceptability, thanks to partisan indorsement. But the main tenor of the innovation is in the right direction. It points to, if it does not fully achieve, improvement; and the path thus marked will yet be followed to better realizations.

What is needed is simply the opening to young men of diplomatic careers, under circumstances which will encourage honest and studious preparation, and discourage ignorance or imposture. These circumstances prevail in the army and in the navy. They offer to every honest recruit in either branch of the military service the possibility of winning shoulderstraps by meritorious conduct, and do not neutralize this incentive by yielding preference to ignorance with a "pull." When the foreign service of the American government, from ambassadors to legation secretaries, shall be established upon a permanent basis that, without reference to party, will duly reward capability when displayed, and will not put into each servant's cup the poison of political uncertainty, we will as a nation be prepared to enter the game of diplomacy upon terms of approximate equality with our chief competitors.

The Washington Post is unfortunate in its remark that Mr. Cleveland "proposes to make the state department a kindergarten for diplomacy." As we understand Mr. Cleveland's purpose, he simply desires to have the American consular service reward merit and repress ignorance. If it takes kindergarten methods to make consuls fit for their work, then the quicker they get to infant school the better.

If the discovery that cancer is communicable by personal contact will have a tendency to discourage the sickly kissing habit among girls, a gratified public will gladly take the other risks. The parent who visits the public schools and co-operates with the teacher is the parent whose children succeed in life. Spain's bombastic talk about "dutchering the Cuban rebels" has something of a Chinese flavor. It is noticed that Grover doesn't waive the right to pick the nominee, if he cannot make it himself. The Syracuse harmony gathering appears to have been a love feast with daggers at the sleeve.

great deal is in a man who can from plain surroundings feel the presidency of the land to be not beneath him. Apparently abashed by the silence which greeted his recent shriek for "some good southern man," the esteemed Washington Post is apparently now convinced that the Democrats will have to go west for its presidential candidate. Does it want Morrison?

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COMMENT OF THE PRESS. How to Reduce Crime. Chicago Times-Herald: "Not more drastic penalties but greater efficiency in the apprehension of the criminals is required. We have commented on the grossly ineffectual police force of this city, which must prevent the extension of the death penalty to crimes against property. While not disposed to advocate the abolition of hanging, we must admit that the certainty of the activity of the hangman in certain states in the Union has not had a marked effect in increasing public respectability. Michigan, Maine and Wisconsin, which have abolished capital punishment, are among the most law-abiding in the Union. On the other hand, observe the states where hanging is prescribed for other crimes than capital offenses. Capital punishment is provided in Louisiana for murder, rape, assault with intent to kill, administering poison, arson and burglary; in Iowa and North Carolina for murder, rape, arson and burglary; in Alabama for murder, rape, arson and burglary; in Georgia for murder, rape, mayhem and arson; in Missouri for murder, perjury, rape and train robbery; in Virginia, West Virginia, South Carolina and Mississippi for murder, rape and arson; in Florida, Kentucky, Ohio and California for murder and arson; in California for murder and train robbery. The moral is obvious. Capital punishment by itself is of no great value."

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Muchos' Advice. Bear in mind that this is a good year to let the office seek the man, especially if you are a Democrat. It begins to look as though it will be necessary for some one to provide the Wade-Finn-for-treasurer boom with a palm leaf fan.

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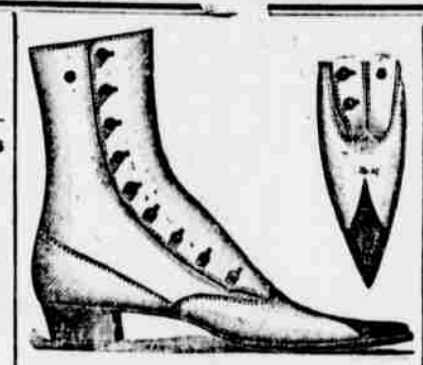
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