## the Scranton Tribune

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AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AI SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

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SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 19, 1895.

Once upon a time John B. Daniels, of Taylor, was a candidate for the legislature. Two hundred dollars was the amount of the blood money exactedborrowed money of course. Daniels was sold out. Who did it?

### An Admirable Record.

'Accompanying a seven-column sketch by Colonel Henry Hall, of the Indiana ex-president, the Pittsburg Times prints this suggestive editorial paragraph: "Ex-President Harrison is no longer merely the grandson of the old general. He is recognized as one of the ablest men that ever sat in the presidential chair. The topsy-turvey condition of public affairs and the ruinous state of business under the present administration contrasts sharply with the prosperity that characterized the four years of Harrison, and help materially to

as fair a light as does any other living statesman. What the Times says of him is literally and completely true, and the bitterest opponent of Harrison's renomination is forced to concede as much. Whatever the future may hold trine's popularity. for him.General Harrison's past at least is secure. His administration will be remembered in history as the cleanest one in a stirring and eventful quarter

The Tribune is pleased to note the recent evidences of increasing prosperity supplied by the Sunday News. Under the control of Colonel Fitzsimmons, the News is invariably interesting, aggressive and chivalrous. May its shadov continue to expand.

### Our Defenceless Coasts.

Like most military men, General Schoneld is an enthusiastic champion coast defences. He realizes in the first place that billions of dollars' worth of property is today exposed to the fire of a foreign fleet should war bring one to our shores; and that the work of fortifying this property is so slow and laborious that it cannot safely be deferred until the necessity itself arises. Asked the other day how much it would cost to put the coasts of our country in the proper shape he replied: "No more than is squandered every year on rivers and harbors Enough money is wasted every year on these congressional grabs and jobs to maintain a complete system of defenses throughout the country."

The general, in the interview from which we quote-it appeared in Sunday's Cleveland World-dismisses the fears of those who have dreaded the appearance of a hostile fleet in the great lakes by saying that the government at Washington has already provided a secret system of lake port defenses which he believes will be adequate to any probable emergency. But he does believe in a larger and better navy, although not a navy as large as England's. Unlike England, we "need never fear invasion because the moment a hostile force landed on our shores we could surround it with a million men and virtually annihilate the army. There is also a plea about England needing her great navy to protect her scattered possessions, but I doubt very much if, in the event of trouble, she would try to hold them, a least by force of arms; she might have other means of retaining possession. Were the United States in the possession of such a navy as I think she ought to have, however, England would be very loath to have trouble with us, for fear of injury to her merchant marine. Our armored cruisers, 'commerce destroy-ers,' I call them, are capable of fearful havoc and would, I believe, prove very

"Then there is another benefit, and

farther,' and our command would be respected. Again, in a case such as the recent Venezuela dispute, we could say with dignity that in accord with the doctrines contained in the constitution of the states such things should be so and so, and there would be a submission to our wishes, without question instead of the weak, vacillating policy which now compels us to submit to the negotiations and investigations of another power, instituted possibly in the hope of securing some advantage."

It is something unusual for a general in the army to be so generous in recognition of naval needs; but in General Schofield's talk there is an abundance of sound sense. Republican statesmanship, in the near future, will have not only to repair the revenues and pay off the Democratic debts, but also to continue the upbuilding of the navy and begin the fortification of our coasts, with the ultimate object in view of making this country the foremost naion on the earth.

Whitneys' repugnance to presidential nonorstcould probably be overcome if there were a ghost of a chance for him to be elected."

The Ferment of the Times.

The appearance of Thomas Hardy's newest novel in book form under the title "Jude the Obscure"-which, in modified form, ran as a serial in Harper's under the title "Hearts Insurgent" -adds another to the list of great men who, apparently turned awry by fin de influences, have recently espoused, in theory at least, the doctrine of free love and of the superfluity and unimportance of marriage. Mr. Hardy is perhaps the greatest living writer of sustained English fiction, if we except Hall Caine; and it has more than a passing significance that in the period of his intellectual maturity he should employ his striking talents in an attempt to bring the institution of marriage into contempt. His story was bad enough in its expurgated magazine form: in the bold unreserve of its present shape it is little less than a literary iniquity. The adage used to have it that a lit-

tle learning was a dangerous thing. The peril of today appears rather to be in an overplus of culture which has sent men's minds to seed and left their

It will, we suspect, surprise nobody to

ference of Chicago is this time unimportant, and it is reasonable to suppose that each of the various candidates

would have a fair following. After all, Chicago is the great convention city; and its selection would be sure to give general satisfaction.

The crime of which George Windisch. of Pittston, has just been convicted in the Luzerne courts was one of the most brutal and revolting on record. Murder in any form is bad enough; but when it takes the form of beating the victim's brains out and afterward mutilating her body with nearly two-score hatchet thrusts, there is presented a peculiarly horrible study in criminology. If Windisch be not insane he must be badly diseased; and in either case the community will no doubt feel safer when he is subtracted from it.

The president selected for the time of issuing his order placing a batch of the fourth-class postoffices under civil service rules the week of the election which extinguishes his party's hope of regaining power. This may not mean that Mr. Cleveland wants to foist a lot of Democratic officeholders on the next administration, but is has a suspicious look. The Democratic idea of the value of civil service reform is invariably the strongest when civil service reform promises to keep Demo-

Mr. Wellman's intimation that Mr. Cleveland has the cordial esteem of the English ministry, which would like to see him renominated and re-elected, will certainly augment his popularity

A trolley car transfer ticket in Philaone which can never be conferred until we have an adequate coast defense and navy, and that is the imparting of powers and dignity to our diplomatic relations with other nations. We would then be in a position to say to any fortism government. Thus far and no and the public are up in arms, and the

probabilities are that the stock waterers will one day hear something drop.

"Grover Cleveland," writes a corre spondent of the Washington Post, "Is scheduled to thunder down the ages as the one president who accepted the annihilation of the party that elected him as a vindication of his own statesmanship. It is as if a doctor were to point to the graves of his patients as the supreme tokens of his professional skill."

The three steps by which Mr. Cleveland hopes to stride toward a third term are, if Washington advices may be believed, first, the unreserved acceptance by England of the Monroe doctrine; second, the acceptance by Spain of American mediation in Cuba: and lastly the annexation of Hawall. When he achieves these results we shall feel at liberty to consider his case.

### COMMENT OF THE PRESS.

The Decline of Bayard.

Washington Post: "Mr. Bayard has been getting worse steadily, and by perfectly logical and symmetrical stages. The first symptom that aroused real solicitude concerning him was his now famous utterance. In which he lauded the civilization of Lookon in such extravagant terms of praise, where he spoke of the sweetness and softness and ethereal mildness of the English character; where he declared that he had not heard a coarse exclamation or witnessed a brutal spectacle in the two years of his residence in England; when he mourned, by inference, over the moral inferiority of his own people and wept, by suggestion, because of their comparative rudeness and barbarism. Then came his remarkable speech to the authorities and leading citizens of the town of York, we think—in which he said with emphasis and definition what he had before only insignated as to the lower morality, not to say the degradation of Americans; where he referred to them as 'an unruly and a violent people,' and gave his audience to understand that only a ruler of despotic temper and colossal mould could keep them to a semblance of civilization and continence. And now comes his latest utterance—touching the elections of last week—wherein he gives way to violent denunciation of the American people, condemns their wickedness and brutality and savage disregard of decency in retiring the party of free trade, and returning to the party of greet that at the legislation is immedial publications daily gloat over the Democratic tariff legislation is immedial proposed that that legislation is immedial publications daily gloat over the Democratic tariff legislation is immedial proposed that that legislation The Decline of Bayard

of Hartison, and help materially to make conspicuous the wise and careful course that the predecessor of Mr. Cleveland pursued. A comparison of the four years of Hartison and the two years of Cleveland is about all that need be said at any time in behalf of Gen. Harrison. If the Republican convention of next summer shall pick Benjal pick Benjal years of Leveland is about all that need be said at any time in behalf of Gen. Harrison as the nominee, the country as well as the party will accept the result of a degenerate hullabaloo aginst the builty say will be a question whether ignorance the result with satisfaction, for the period during which he directed the destines of the Nation was four of the brightest years in its history."

It is, of course, uncertain whether General Harrison shall be thus favorenext years in its history."

It is, of course, uncertain whether General Harrison shall be thus favorenext years in its history."

It is, of course, uncertain whether the would be renominated with something like a rush. This actitude to the work of the production of the Chiesano Times-Herald. The production of the

The Third Term Ambition.

It will, we suspect, surprise nobody to learn that the London Times' American correspondent, George W. Smalley, does not approve of the Monroe doctrine. But it will, if anything, add to the doctrine's popularity.

Does It Mean Chicago?

Considerable stress is laid, and no doubt deservedly, upon the fact that Joseph H Manley, ex-Chairman of the Republican National committee, has written to a friend in Chicago asking in to engage thirty rooms for the Republican National convention. The inference, of course, is that Chicago will be the successful bidder for the convention, and this looks very probable. The disastrous experiences of the last convention argue heavily against the selection of an untried site; and while Pittsburg might prove equal to the emergency of entertaining a convention in proper style, Chicago is sure to. Another fact in Chicago's manifest favor is that Chicago is this time unimportant, and it is reasonable to suppose

New Trials in Criminal Cases.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "There is a growing feeling that society would be benefitted, and the cause of justice promoted, if motions for new trials in criminal cases were entirely prohibited. It is a notorious fact that in ninety-nine instances out of a hundred such motions are made upon frivolous grounds and for the purpose of preventing the enforcement of the laws. There is no reason to believe that errors justifying new trials are committed except at rare intervals; but in almost every case of conviction a motion for a new trial is immediately entered, and it must be acknowledged that the courts are far too willing to grant them, as a matter of habit rather than because there are good reasons for such action. The theory of the jury system is that the verdict of twelve honest and disinterested men, after a full hearing of the evidence and arguments on both sides, is as apt to be right as can be expected; and this theory is antagonized and practically repudiated every time a new trial is granted. It is conceivable, of course, that there are cases now and then in which gross errors entitle the accused parties to new trials; but the exceptions are very few to the rule that jury verdicts are correct and ought to stand." New Trials in Criminal Cases.

Will Soon Take a Brace St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "Ex-Senator Edmunds states the truth bluntly when he says that 'the trouble with us and our foreign policy is that we stand still while sur competitors are at work;' but we will get a move on us in that respect as soon as we unload the present administration."

A Western View. Chicago Times-Herald: "It may be true that Mr. Quay did not assist the Democratic bosses in their fight this year, but any attempt at dictation in the next national convention would be of material assistance to them next year."

Corbett's Shrewd Conclusion. Chicago Times-Herald: "Mr. Corbett undoubtedly came to the conclusion that it was much better to resign the cham-pionship than to have it punched out of

THE SINS OF THE CENTURY. Philadelphia Builetin: Nordau's rather empirical diagnosis of the tendencies of the day having occupied journalists and reviews for a year, the pulpit is now addressing fixelf to the so-called degeneracy of the races. The clergy, like the reviewers, accept the superficial synopsis of tendencies Nordau sets forth as a conclusive proof that the world is going to the bad; that vice, first an incident, sporadic in its manifestation and shoormal in its phenomena-is now an Irremediable disease, and the world, or its races, is

man infirmities embalmed in the codes of

As besits the Levite, the pulpit is more definite in charges, more specific in enumerating the sins of the century than the discursive essayists. As a matter of fact, the first signal of the contribuersy came from the rector of Trinity church. New York, some years ago, when he accused American women of depravity and American men of insidelity, not only in breaking the commandments, but accepting false standards of duty in business and public life. The tale, at its utmost, is told in Buckle's "History of Civilization." It is found in ample terms in the earliest literatures known to scholarship. Deuteronomy and Ecclesiartes prefigure it in the jurisprudence of the Mosaic dispensation. A comparizon of all races in oil epochs will show that the people at the close of this century are no more degenerate than the people of any century since the race began.

There may be more sin now, since there are more people to sin; there may be more refinement of vice, with more conspicuous results—because. In this age, there is no such thing as privacy. What men do row, all men know. In other days mystery enwrapped the individual, shrouded high rank and took no concern of the obscure. Hence it is easy to saddle this century with depraylites hitherto burled in the recesses of secrecy. Actual experience with our fellow-men reveals a higher ideal of social, marital, civic duty than the world ever dreamed in days that may be supposed unregenerate. Contrast the turple ever dreamed in days that may be sup-posed unregenerate. Contrast the turpl-tude of society, the murderous rapine of rank and caste, the lawlessness of the powerful in other agos as compared with the orderly processes of justice main-tained in any civil state. It is possible that the church function may have lost some of the austerity which formerly dis-tinguished the devotee from the Laudice-an.

But as for lessening its manifestations, faith by no means diminishes—particulariy the faith that impels men to believe well of each other. The obvious fact that stands out in all the coil and swelter of confusion, in which our mortal doings and destinies are wrapped, is the need the social organism finds in keeping faith with itself. Never were men more docile to the teachings of right for right's sake, never more amenable to the humane insincts that uphold the social compact. Never were the christianized races more susceptible to the generous sympathies, the were the christianized races more sus-ceptible to the generous sympathies, the kindly emotions that constitute the eternal basis of race solidarity. To the clear see-ing and right doing the world is not worse; but very much better than the records show it ever to have been.

### A THANKSGIVING SONG.

It's comin' 'long—Thanksgivin', with its pleasures and its joys—
An' we're all a-lookin' forward to the meetin' with the boys;
An' Sue will come from college, an' Jimmy won't forget,
An' we'll all feel mighty thankful that we're all a-livin' yet!

turkey's been a-spreadin" of his feathers—fat an fine, his "gobble, gobble, gobble" seems a-darin' us to dine; the verdict's been ag'in him, an his execution's set, he makes us feel right happy that we're all a-livin' yet!

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