

The Scranton Tribune

Published at Scranton, Pa., by The Tribune Publishing Company. Daily and Weekly. No Sunday Edition.

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SCRANTON, DECEMBER 9, 1895.

In view of the deliberate failure of the Scranton Republican to join this paper in a pledge to support the nominees of the next Republican city convention...

From Saturday's Scranton Republican (Ind.-Rep.): "Not a few of Mr. Daniel Williams' friends are wondering how he will take it when he learns that he is to be traded off for anything and everything that is in the political market."

An Inviting Subject. It is very apparent that from whatever starting point one proceeds to a solution of the problem of extending American markets and developing our international trade...

The same point is brought out in another way by Mr. Mendocino, the Brazilian minister to the United States, who in discussing the subject of reciprocity recently said: "Our people in the south are as anxious to buy their supplies where they get them cheapest as the people in the United States are."

Something of course, must be accredited to the higher wages paid in the United States; but in view of the fact that this larger wage payment secures in most industries a proportionally larger efficiency of workmanship and a larger comparative production, it is reasonable to believe that American business men could compete successfully in neutral markets with the business men of any other civilized country...

Mr. Curtis told the vicerey that while his description of the defenses of our coast was undoubtedly true, there would be 1,000,000 men on the Pacific coast to meet the Japanese army and fleet when it arrived there. "That may be so," he interrupted, with some impatience, "but what could they do without guns or fortifications or any other means of defense?"

All this may look absurd to inland Americans, yet, after all, is it not to a large extent true? It certainly will not be denied that the great cities along both our coasts are ill prepared to resist a sudden, dashing onslaught by any foreign foe. Perhaps such an onslaught is not to be expected. At the same time, we ought as a nation to be ready for any and all emergencies; and, now, during peace, is the time to prepare.

Some armor plates made recently at Bethlehem have just been tested by the Russian government and found the best in the world. Carry the news to Lord Salisbury.

Pittsburg of Chicago. It is expected that at tomorrow's meeting the Republican National committee will select the city which will entertain the next national convention. The cities which seriously aspire to this honor are Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis and San Francisco, and their chances of success probably stand in the order of their ranking. Pittsburg has made no aggressive light, and would doubtless win easily if there were complete peace and confidence in the city's ability to provide sufficient hotel accommodations for the vast multitude of delegates and the preliminary sessions of the national convention. However, it is believed that the preliminary sessions will be held in Chicago, however, as the convention is not expected to be held there.

committee to select another meeting place. A great deal of bluster has characterized the candidacy of San Francisco. Boomers of the Pacific coast metropolis have made prodigious offers of both cash and railway concessions. But the fact that the selection of this city would compel nine-tenths of the membership of the next convention to undergo an exceedingly long and tedious journey, and practically preclude the quick transmission of convention news to the east (press telegraph tolls amounting at night to 2 cents and in day time to 3 cents a word) would seem to be sufficient to deter it without reference to the additional argument that it would prevent thousands of good Republicans from attending the convention as spectators.

The choice between St. Louis and Chicago is not difficult to make. Of all American cities Chicago is the most centrally located so far as railway communication goes; and next to New York it has the largest, best and most abundant hotels and the finest convention hall. To send the next convention to Chicago would be to end all doubt as to thorough accommodations and adequate press facilities. Pittsburg might do as well as Chicago; from the standpoint of state wide and geographical nearness to naturally favor Pittsburg. But if there is any serious uncertainty about that city's capabilities, the wise course would be to decide in favor of Chicago, the "old reliable" convention city of the American continent.

If Salisbury is really electioneering for a red hot ultimatum, he ought speedily to be gratified. Give him that and let the minor details be adjusted later.

Our Ill-Guarded Coasts. Correspondent Curtis, in the Chicago Record, is reminded by the recent record of interest in the coast defense problem of a conversation he had last summer, in China, with Li Hung Chang, the Chinese Bismarck. It was just after the drubbing of China by Japan, and Li's Oriental mind, provoked by that disheartening circumstance to unwonted activity, became possessed of the notion that the United States would have intervened in China's behalf but for its fear of Japan. Mr. Curtis tried in several long conversations to rid the great vicerey of this singular hallucination, but to no purpose. For every argument that Mr. Curtis would advance Li Hung Chang had a counter one at his tongue's tip. For example he said:

"Japan has an army of over 200,000 soldiers and the best guns in the world. She has a larger and better fleet of warships than the United States. She has ten times as many torpedo-boats as your government and her sailors know how to use them, while your sailors do not. You have only five ships on the Pacific coast, with a coast line of 3,000 miles to protect, and several populous and wealthy cities that have no defenses whatever. You have no forts at San Francisco that could keep out the weakest gunboat in the navy of Japan and a single ship of the Japanese navy could destroy every city on Puget sound without the slightest difficulty in a week. It would take you six months to get any kind of a fleet around to protect your Pacific coast, and you could not load them with coal enough to keep their fires going during the voyage from New York to San Francisco. Your whole Pacific coast is entirely defenseless, and President Cleveland is very wise in declining to be mixed up in a row with Japan. If Japan should declare war against the United States she could have every soldier in her army and every ship in her navy on your coast within a month. She would take possession of all your cities, your railroads and your gold and silver mines and your manufactures and would hold them until you paid her any amount of indemnity she might ask."

It is said that the Republican National committee will to-morrow call the national convention for next June. This would seem to imply that the men who get pay for political work have more influence than the masses of the party in deciding the question of a long or short campaign. A long campaign next year is not necessary and it is not a serious mistake if they insist upon forcing this issue.

Lord Salisbury will one fine day awaken to the fact that the devotion of the American people to the Monroe doctrine is too deep to permit even Juggling Brits to make sport of it. The president will be supported to the very uttermost in his determination to compel a flat and unqualified recognition by her majesty's government of that doctrine in all its amplitude.

The postmaster general has issued a circular letter solemnly warning subordinates in that department not to try to influence national legislation. It is a pity some do not issue a similar order to the other and more dangerous lobbyists who reside in Washington years throughout.

That intrepid organ of purity and reform, the Elmira Telegram, intimates that certain policemen of this city are on the pay roll of two houses of infamy. The Telegram should name its men and produce its evidence. Accusation by innuendo is not popular just now.

It is the Washington Star's opinion, founded on careful study of the man, that like people who are saddest when they sink, Thomas B. Reed means business most earnestly when he is most jocular. Then we hope that he may at once give way to excessive merriment.

isphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of European power, we have not interfered, and shall not interfere, but with the governments who have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have on great considerations, and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of opposing them or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States.

"Resolved, That in accordance with the doctrine laid down by President Monroe, as stated in the preceding resolutions, the United States declares that it proposes to maintain the principles embodied in that doctrine and will regard any infringement of it or any attempt on the part of any European power to take or acquire new territory on the American continent, whether under the pretense of boundary disputes or otherwise, as an act of hostility to the United States.

"Resolved, That the president be requested to communicate these resolutions to the governments of all nations with whom we have relations of amity and commerce."

The following resolution was introduced by Senator Allen: "Resolved, That it is the sense of the senate that the government of the United States of America should promptly recognize the revolutionists of Cuba, who are now honestly struggling to secure their independence of the Spanish government, as composing an independent nation possessing all the rights thereof according to the laws of nations."

"That all islands in close proximity to the main land of the United States of America should as speedily as possible be treated of purchase be annexed to this government as essential to our safety in times of war and the convenience and necessity of our commerce in times of peace."

"That while the government of the United States should not needlessly or hastily embroil itself with any foreign power and should only resort to extreme measures in cases of absolute necessity, a firmer and more prompt policy on the part of this government in maintaining the rights of American citizens abroad should be introduced and pursued."

Resolutions similar in their general tenor were also introduced by Senators Cullom and Call, the one a Republican; the other a Democrat. It does one good to realize that, whatever may be true as to the state department, the American senate at least is patriotic and fearless. Both of these resolutions should be passed by unanimous votes.

The twelve-page illustrated edition of the Wayne Independent issued on Thanksgiving day by the women of Honesdale deservedly takes high rank among publications of its class. In our opinion it is in mechanical elegance the finest "woman's paper" yet printed anywhere; and the quality of the literary contents is by no means below the average. All in all, this beautiful number reflects uncommon credit, first upon Mr. Benjamin F. Haines, the enterprising editor and proprietor of the Independent, who placed the resources of his well-equipped office at the command of Mrs. James Bush, the editor-in-chief, Mrs. E. A. Brown, the business manager, and the score or more associate editors and contributors who "made" the paper. The beautiful little city of Honesdale may well feel proud of the prominence into which this praiseworthy achievement will bring it.

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for Macfar's Journal. The question was, How should the president communicate with congress? In person, by a minister of state, or by his chamberlain or aide-de-camp? Connected with it was also the query, By what title shall the president be addressed? Some were in favor of calling him "His Highness the President of the United States and Protector of Liberties," and this was seriously debated for a number of days. One irreverent wag having suggested that he be called "His Superfluous Excellency," smiled the laughter that ensued the subject being dropped at the constitutional title, "President of the United States," being adhered to.

Washington himself solved the other question by appearing in person before the senate and house in joint assembly on the morning after the delivery of the King of England's speech from the throne. He began by addressing his fellow citizens of senate and house of representatives, then the part relating to revenue was submitted to the "gentlemen of the house of representatives," and the conclusion was submitted to the "gentlemen of the senate and house of representatives." The president having retired, one or more days were consumed in constructing an answer. When this was formulated both houses proceeded in state to the executive mansion to deliver the reply to the address. All this stately ceremonial seemed consonant with the heroic surroundings of Washington, and no one made any objection until Adams came in, he having continued the practice. An unorthodox and exceedingly democratic Irishman, a representative from Vermont, Matthew Lyon by name, was the first man to object, and upon his first appearance in congress in 1797 asked the honor of excuse him from attending on the ceremony of reply. In great derision the house granted the request, but the next year when the request was renewed, he refused it, seeing that the matter was growing serious.

This led to more or less agitation on the subject, and in 1801, the seat of government having been removed to Washington in the month of Jefferson took advantage of the distance between the white house and the capitol, a roadway not being well established, to send in a message instead of appearing in person to make a speech. He did this with all the more alacrity, because he was one of those men who, when seated, perspire, and he was afraid that his face would be so disfigured by perspiration when standing on his feet finds all his fine arguments flowing out at his knee joints. From that time the written message has been the mode of communication between the executive and legislative branches of the government, and no formal answer has been made by congress. In 1813 the senate endeavored to revive the early practice by requesting the president to attend congress in person on foreign affairs, but Madison refused. Since then no attempt has been made to revive the scenic ostentation and pomp of the first three administrations.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS. Insufficient Evidence. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Dec. 8.—It appears that the charges preferred against certain Scranton policemen by the pastor of the Second Presbyterian church are likely to fall through. The charges were based on the fact that the young men who were supposed to have been guilty of houses of ill repute were taken from the streets by the police. They were young men from all over town and knew the location of dives as well, if not better, than the policemen. One of the informants, in fact, was a frequenter of these resorts, and on one occasion at least was arrested for fighting over a woman in a house of ill repute. That kind of evidence will hardly be sufficient to brand the policemen as procurers. If Rev. Robinson cannot secure stronger evidence it is not easy to see how he can sustain the sweeping charge he has made.

It Looks Like Trickery. New York, Dec. 8.—Lord Cleveland left Washington for a week's duck shooting. He was aware that Lord Salisbury's reply to Secretary Olney's dispatch regarding the arbitration of the Venezuelan boundary dispute would probably be received on the day after his departure. He was also aware that the reply would be a party award by congress and the country. His absence at such a juncture cannot be easily explained, except by supposing that his purpose of initiating a series of tedious delays and inconclusive diplomatic communications, which may be spun out until March, when Mr. Cleveland returns, is the hope that he no longer have congress 'on his hands.'

A Houseful of New Men. Washington Letter in a weekly duck shooting. "Never before," said so many new men come into a congress as now, not even when the first national legislature of the United States met in 1789. There are 24 Republicans, 106 Democrats, 6 Populists and 1 Silvertite, as Mr. Newlands of Nevada, the son-in-law of the late Senator Sharon, calls himself, making a total of 25 members in the present house. These only 17, less than one-half, have been there before. Of the 24 Republicans only 9 have had experience, leaving a balance of 15 untried and almost unknown men among the majority."

Pursued the Wrong Method. Montrose Sentinel: "If Dr. Robinson, of the Second Presbyterian church, at Scranton, knew for months that a policeman of that city was getting a seat on a committee for questionable resorts in that place, he should have informed the mayor, and Chief Inspecter, of the fact, and had the matter looked into, and the officer disciplined."

Not Many, We'll wager. Chicago Times: "It would be an exceedingly interesting addition to statistics if it could be definitely ascertained how many American citizens have read the present's message, paragraph by paragraph from the first line to the last."

Ministerial Prerogative. Archibald Clifton: "Preachers have a large portion, but they have no business to blacken the characters of men, especially police officers, unless they are willing to come forward and give the proof for the statements made."

Wants a Talkless Congress. Chicago Times-Herald: "If the publishers of the Congressional Record understood their business they would offer an attractive prize for the production of a talkless congress."

centration of its activity exclusively within the collection and disbursement of revenue, as required and provided by law. It must also provide a backing of the national wealth and the national honor for a currency system adequate for the needs of the country, conformable for the principles of conservative finance universally accepted, and sufficiently elastic for any conditions likely to arise in trade, industry and commerce. If President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle will submit to the approaching congress a scheme of monetary reform of this nature there is patriotic enough in and out of congress to discuss it on its merits, and there is in the American people that combination of integrity and intelligence that will make its adoption with or without modification certain.

PLEASANTRIES. In Washington. Three statesmen come from Tennessee. Their names are Gibson, Brown, and Anderson. One day last week they went to view the town. They sought a quiet, modest place, where they might loiter long. They found some rooms that suited them; The price was to their mind.

"We'll take these rooms," in chorus, they remarked, and turned to go. "But who are you?" the lady said, "For this I ought to know." "We're congressmen," the three replied. "This was a sad mistake!" "No, sir!" the lady said, with scorn; "No congressmen I'll take!" And she showed them to the door.

Mr. Speaker. This graceful metal hammer at times is not enough, and the speaker took advantage of the distance between the white house and the capitol, a roadway not being well established, to send in a message instead of appearing in person to make a speech. He did this with all the more alacrity, because he was one of those men who, when seated, perspire, and he was afraid that his face would be so disfigured by perspiration when standing on his feet finds all his fine arguments flowing out at his knee joints.

Her Theory. "John," said the wife of the statesman who is not in Washington today, "it's all the fault of the newspapers." "Why?" "If they had done half as much talking about your speeches as they did about your whores, the country would have thought it couldn't get along without you."—Washington Star.

That Horrid Little Brother. Charles—Your eyes always remind me of the sea, Cis. Cis—Because they are so blue? Charles—No. They are so watery.—London Fun.

Both Have Arr. The baker and the actor. Has he within their souls; They both remain a factor in just creating rolls. —Philadelphia Record.

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by A. Jacobs, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 22 Monday, December 8, 1895.

A child born on this day will realize that Dr. Parkhurst will need to hurry up if he expects to arrive in Scranton in time to pose as a novelty. The voices of some of the "boy sopranos" of reform hereabouts are liable to become husky unless peace is declared in the near future. Sensational preaching entitles things up for the newspapers, anyhow.

Individual Horoscopes. [A. Jacobs has undertaken the task of giving advice to a few readers who have enclosed samples of hair and date of birth.] Mary, Green Ridge—Your life is a sad story. It is evident that your mother will not stand over the wash tub all day and allow you to play on the piano. But be hopeful. Keep an eye out for the young man who has a rich pa and all may end well. Sammy, Scranton—It is evident from the color of your hair that you are at present employed as a dry goods clerk. Resign your position by means, Sammie. You are too bashful to successfully sell corsets to the girls.

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