

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, DECEMBER 11, 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, regardless of individual preferences, is not The Tribune thoroughly justified in calling itself "the only Republican daily in Lackawanna county?"

The collection of June 16 as the time and the city of St. Louis as the place of the next national convention is in the nature of a surprise, since party sentiment has distinctly favored a late convention with Chicago as its site.

Senator Cameron's Successor. It has already been intimated that while Senator Cameron's letter is explicit enough in its statement of the senator's intention to retire, circumstances might be so shaped in his behalf by the compact organization which exists among his friends as to render it possible for him, a year hence, to come to a different decision.

This view of the senator's letter is suspicious, and in the case of any other man would also be insulting. But Mr. Cameron has only himself to blame for the present hesitancy with which many Republicans accept as candid his communication to Senator McCarroll, for had he not resorted to deceit at the time of his last re-election his written word would to-day pass current in better and more complimentary favor.

The year which will intervene before the legislature can act in this matter will be simple time for the consideration of candidates. The people and the press of the state will doubtless see that such a discussion shall not want. It is important that the commonwealth should gain a representation in the senate which will not humiliate or misrepresent it. The junior senator being distinctly an organizer of political forces and a worker along quiet lines, it would seem to be desirable that his new colleague should be an effective public speaker and a well-versed student of public questions.

David A. Wells says the country is menaced by barbarians. David should not be too hard on the Democrats, now that they are down.

The Proper Reply. Our man's guess is as good as another's, so long as neither knows the truth. We may therefore take a degree of interest in Correspondent Curtis' guess that Lord Salisbury's reply to Secretary Olney's Venezuelan letter maintains that the United States has no right to interfere in a dispute between Great Britain and another nation so long as her own interests are not involved or her peace and prosperity endangered.

dents which gives us the right of intervention where we have nothing at stake. Thirdly, her majesty's ministers would like to know who intrusted the government of the United States with a protectorate over the western hemisphere or authorized her to assume to forbid any government in the world to enlarge its territory or extend its jurisdiction either upon the American continent or elsewhere.

Of course this is merely a guess. It may be accurate and it may not. Mr. Curtis says he has fairly good authority for believing that the above is substantially the tenor of the British government's argument. Whether this information is correct or not will not be known to a certainty until the president comes back to Washington from his Southern duck-hunting trip.

Representative Lisenring thinks that for harmony's sake Luzerne county Republicans ought to yoke him, a Hastings man, up with Editor Hart, a Quay man, and send them both as delegates to the national convention.

Perhaps Grover hunts ducks to get his marksmanship up, in case his words come to the worst.

Inordinate Burial Costs. The introduction by Senator Peffer yesterday of a bill to regulate public funerals gives special interest to some facts which he lately compiled from the federal records.

From this compilation it appears that the whole number of deaths of senators while in office, from the beginning of the government to the present time, is 107, while the number of deaths of representatives is very much larger. We quote now from a recent Washington letter in the Sun: The total number of senators whose funeral expenses were provided for out of the contingent fund of the senate is 75, at an aggregate cost of \$100,234.80, or an average of \$1,337.18.

Three cases, those of Thomas J. Rusk of Texas, who died on July 29, 1856; Andrew P. Butler of South Carolina, who died May 25, 1857; and James Bell of New Hampshire, who died May 26, 1857, cost the government but \$4.50 each. This is the smallest amount charged to the account of the death of senators.

Senator Cullom's earnest, straightforward and unequivocal enunciation in favor of the Monroe doctrine in all its amplitude will probably be decided on the other side as simply a flurry of jingoism. But on the side it will be received as representing the true American patriotism, all wool and an honest yard wide.

placed on the amount which may be expended, a time may come when the cost of congressional funerals will be out of all proportion. In this contention the senator is decidedly in the right. There does not seem to be any sense in the expenditure of \$21,000 of public money over the funeral of a several times millionaire like the late Mr. Hearst, who in all his career as a senator probably never did \$21,000 worth of public service.

An Interesting Report. The state bureau of industrial statistics has collected some decidedly interesting figures concerning manufacturing in Pennsylvania in 1894 as compared with the years 1892 and 1893. They relate to the number of persons employed, the amount of wages paid and the value of the product.

Another marked decline is in the value of the product. In most cases the work of production has been conducted at a loss. Another result of the continued decline is a deterioration in the quality of the products. Every manufacturer is desirous of manufacturing as cheaply as possible, and has sought in every way to lessen the cost of production.

With respect to the relative depression of the industries, the report shows that that of the iron industry was the greatest. Though the rates of wages were reduced in 1894, the decline in the prices and the diminution in the quantity produced left the manufacturers, probably, in worse condition at the end of the year.

Philadelphia Times: "The retirement of Senator Cameron means the absolute end of the Cameron dynasty in Pennsylvania. It is a leadership without an heir apparent or the hope of succession. The retirement of Cameron will have little effect upon Pennsylvania's beyond disarming some of the most blatant opponents of Senator Quay, who have sought to accomplish their purpose by being him with seeking the election of Cameron to another term in the senate.

Now that an active effort is being made by representative citizens to secure a complete paid fire protective service in this city, definite results may soon be expected. The need of a paid fire department has long been manifest; but the trouble has been that no general movement has been made in its behalf.

The tribute paid yesterday by our esteemed contemporary, the Truth, to the senatorial candidacy of Colonel L. A. Watrous was an eloquent but a merited one. From all accounts, our distinguished fellow townsman today stands first in the race for the succession to Cameron.

It is a noticeable fact that the name of Thomas Francis Bayard does not appear in the list of possibilities for the Democratic presidential nomination. Mr. Bayard is no longer regarded as a good enough American to satisfy even the average southern Democrat. Nevertheless it is said he will return to the United States when the Cleveland administration goes out.

He had placed himself wholly out of harmony with the Republican sentiment of Pennsylvania. He had not only ceased to represent his constituency upon the most vital economic questions of the day but had openly and strenuously antagonized their cherished convictions and vital interests. Mr. Cameron's retirement and the approach of the period for legislative nominations will precipitate a disarrangement of the succession and active movements in the various directions.

Following is the exact text of Senator Cameron's letter: United States Senate, Washington, D. C., Dec. 10, 1895. My Dear Senator:—I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th. You will remember that in a conversation at my home in Harrisburg just before the election of the senator I told you as well as many other friends that under no circumstances would I take any candidate for re-election.

Senator Quay: "The announcement is no surprise to me. I have for some time understood that Mr. Cameron would be a candidate for re-election to the senate, but I have felt it proper that he should make the announcement at his own time and in his own way. Personally, I wish to say that I will sincerely regret losing the association of Mr. Cameron in the senate. He has served his country and his country well."

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Philadelphia Inquirer: "Philadelphia is entitled to the vacancy, but unless there is a unity of purpose, which just now does not seem altogether probable because of the multiplicity of candidates, the country will again secure the office. In that event it might be well to keep an eye upon ex-Lieutenant Governor Watrous of Scranton, as the senator's successor."

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could everywhere would be glad to see Mr. Ingalls return to his former seat in the senate. He is, at all events, a man of brains who is able to extract the attention of the country when great questions are under discussion.

The Lancaster News seems to think that "the churches and schools, the nurseries of learning and piety," ought to take hold of the Wauwanesau boom for United States senator. If Mr. Wauwanesau depends upon those institutions he will never reach the senate.

It is announced that there will be a contest over the office of short judge in Schuylkill county. At the election last month the Democratic candidate for judge was defeated by a small majority.

Senator Sherman does not care how he is to be elected. The harsh criticisms it has received have run the senator's receipts up to \$125,000 and the demand still continues. He has never struck anything that paid quite as well.

It is surprising how large a number of Cameron's friends knew years ago that he would not be a candidate for another term. That was one of the best-kept secrets we ever heard of in Pennsylvania politics.

Tom Reed's Answer. Wellman, in the Times-Herald: "When the San Francisco committee approached Tom Reed and asked him what his convention preferences were Mr. Reed drew himself up an inch or two, smiled pleasantly and remarked: 'I am a democrat upon which the general principles require me to maintain a persistent, a dignified and a diplomatic silence. But, confidentially, gentlemen, I am convinced that the committee become eagerly expectant, but, confidentially, I don't mind telling you that I don't care a continental where the convention is held.'"

Chicago Times-Herald: "Proposals of marriage by telephone are now vogue. Before so very long we will have the electric divorce court."

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