

The Scranton Tribune

Daily and Weekly. No Sunday Edition. Published at Scranton, Pa., by The Tribune Publishing Company, New York Office, Tribune Building, Frank S. Gray, Manager.

E. P. KINGSBURY, Prop. and Gen'l. Man. E. H. RIPLEY, Sec'y and Treas. L. V. S. RICHARD, Editor. W. W. DAVIS, Business Manager. W. W. YOUNG, Adv. Man.

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

Printers' Ink, the recognized journal for advertisers, rates The Scranton Tribune as the best advertising medium in Northeastern Pennsylvania. "Printers' Ink" knows.

THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Issued Every Saturday, contains Twelve Handsome Pages, with an Abundance of News, Fiction, and Miscellaneous. For Those Who Cannot Take THE DAILY TRIBUNE, the Weekly is Recommended as the Best Bargain Going. Only 15 Cents, in Advance.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 23, 1895. REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION. Headquarters Republican state committee, 1231 Walnut street. Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 12, 1895.

The Republicans of Pennsylvania, by their duly chosen representatives, will meet in state convention, Thursday, April 23, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m., in the Opera House, city of Harrisburg, for the purpose of nominating two candidates for representatives at large in congress and thirty-two candidates for presidential electors, selecting eight delegates at large to the Republican national convention, and transacting such other business as may be presented.

Attest: M. R. Quay, Chairman. Jere B. Rex, W. R. Andrews, Secretaries.

Representation in this convention will be the same as in the last state convention.

Some curious facts in an interesting councilmanic matter are presented on another page. They indicate a disposition on the part of the Democratic members of the judiciary committee of common council to "stand together" under circumstances which clearly warrant an investigation. Doubtless this will be made.

City Primaries and Convention.

The action of the Republican city committee in calling the spring primaries for Jan. 4 and the convention for Jan. 7 will prove generally satisfactory. By one week from next Saturday the holiday festivities and cares will have passed into history and there will have been three whole days for uninterrupted buttonholing—a period which will no doubt be thoroughly improved.

As to the outcome of these primaries, The Tribune sees no reason to modify its previous prophecy. It will support the nominees of the Republican city convention, whichever ticket wins; but it has no apprehension that the opposition to Messrs. Ripple, Williams and Widmayer will elect more than a small fraction of the delegates who will make up that convention.

Rising to the Emergency.

The promptness with which the popular branch of congress, under the direction of Speaker Reed, has, at the expense of its own convenience, prepared a policy of action in response to the president's special request for financial relief will prove deeply gratifying to the whole country, which had begun to fear that the present speaker had succumbed to the dangerous theory of congressional inactivity.

The refusal of the board of pardons to recommend the pardoning of the defaulting treasurer Bardsley, of Philadelphia, is heartily commended by the press throughout the state. Bardsley deserves the punishment meted out to him, but it is not likely he will be required to serve out the full term of fifteen years to which he was sentenced and of which he has now served only four years. Persistent effort will secure his release some time.

Utter Consequences.

One of the very probable consequences of the recent diplomatic correspondence concerning the Monroe doctrine is the formation of a pan-American political alliance. Overtures to such an end have, it is said, already been made. "The proposal under consideration," writes Walter Wellman in one of his incomparable Washington letters to the Chicago Times-Herald, "is the formation of a pan-American arbitration board, to sit permanently and have cognizance of all boundary and other disputes arising between the republics of this hemisphere. It is believed actual developments in this direction will come in a few days. The plan under consideration is for the assembling in Washington of an international congress to arrange the details. It is well understood that this arrangement, if perfected, means much more than a mere method of settling boundary and other disputes. Its true significance is an alliance for political purposes between all the Republican states of the hemisphere, under the leadership of this country. In this way the Monroe doctrine is already bearing fruit. The weaker American powers in whose defense secondarily, because in our defense primarily, we have issued a note of defiance to Great Britain, are at this unexpectedly early date preparing to cluster themselves about the chief American power."

practical work. The Republican majority has begun well and has thus far earned public approval. Let it hold and strengthen the favor thus won.

War Talk.

During the past few days there has been a vast amount of war talk in congress and among all classes of people in this country. All this, of course, is the result of the furor caused by the president's special message to congress, asserting with so much emphasis, the determination of our government to maintain the Monroe doctrine, in letter and spirit, with reference to the claims of Great Britain in Venezuela. There has been an outburst of patriotic enthusiasm, and the country feels better in consequence. There may be those who really believe that there is a prospect of war between the United States and Great Britain. There are those who would hail with satisfaction a rupture of the peaceful relations that have been existing between the two great nations. There are some who believe that a collision would be desirable. But the thoughtful American will see no prospect of war, although such an event is always possible even among the most peacefully inclined nations.

The position taken by President Cleveland and sustained by the action of congress, will necessitate a backing down either by Great Britain or the administration at Washington, but at this time we are very far from the conditions that must precede war. Great Britain will not precipitate an overt act. That country, well prepared as she always is for war, with her magnificent army and great navy, nevertheless cannot afford to enter into a conflict with the United States. Much as Great Britain may desire to add a goodly slice to her possessions in South America, her statesmen realize that a war with the United States would be attended with perilous complications among her other possessions. She might lose her North American possessions, Russia might take a hand and cause trouble in her eastern possessions, Ireland might make a fresh break for independence. In short, Great Britain, powerful as she is on land and water, cannot afford to engage in a war with the United States.

While it is not to be apprehended that there will be war, nevertheless good results will come to this country in consequence of the flurry created by President Cleveland taking so firm a stand. The British press and statesmen have indulged in a vast amount of sneering at the Monroe doctrine, asserting that the principle embodied in the deliverance of President Monroe has not been recognized as part of the international law, and has no application to the question at issue between Great Britain and Venezuela. Before that question is settled and finally adjusted the government of Great Britain will be compelled to recognize the Monroe doctrine or relinquish her pretensions to Venezuelan territory. The only alternative would be to defy the government at Washington, and that would be equivalent to a declaration of war. This country would not permit President Cleveland to retreat from the position he has taken. The American people believe as firmly in the principle embodied in the Monroe doctrine as they do in the constitution itself. Their interpretation of that doctrine is identical with that contained in the president's message to congress. The people would heartily sustain the president and congress even to the extent of war in defense of that principle.

But the present war talk, in and out of congress, is premature. There is no probability of a conflict. Neither Great Britain nor the United States desires a war; but Great Britain must recognize the validity of the Monroe doctrine, and we predict that this will be the outcome of the present strained relations. This incident, whatever the final outcome, will have one other salutary result; it will go far to convince the government and people of the United States of the necessity of being better prepared for the exigencies of war with a powerful foreign country. We need better coast defenses, and we need to have on hand the arms and munitions to properly equip a large volunteer army at the shortest notice.

The inward cars of the Scranton Traction company in many cases come down grade on Adams avenue at the rate of twenty, twenty-five and even thirty miles an hour. It is a wonder that nobody has yet been killed in consequence of this outrageous speed. What is the city going to do about it?

COMMENT OF THE PRESS.

In Case of War. Philadelphia Record: "A war with Great Britain would be no holiday affair. It would be a death grapple. Nevertheless, we believe it would end in the practical triumph of this country. Strong as England is at sea, her naval power seriously crippled. Her commercial flag would disappear from the seas; Canada would almost certainly be lost to her, and the continent of a long war would be apt to endanger her possession of Ireland, Egypt and India. Once let the United States put forth all their strength—once set in motion the adventurous spirit of this people—and no enterprise would seem too daring nor too distant, and no cooperation of war too hazardous, to deter them from the undertaking. Of course, we should receive hard blows in return. We should expect losses and reverses. Our seacoast cities would, no doubt, be damaged; but unless we really overestimate the strength and resources of this country, a war with England would be likely to end with the result we have above indicated. At the same time, we should deprecate a war between the two countries; and we trust that on both sides all honorable means will be employed to avert it."

Words of True Patriotism.

New York Times: "No American who has a soul within him capable of rising above immediate considerations of the markets will waver for an instant in his loyalty to the United States. The congress in the position they have taken in respect to the Venezuelan boundary, it is well to remember that there are some disasters worse than war, worse than commercial loss, and that a prevailing manifestation of the spirit of which we have seen a few shameful examples since the publication of the president's message would constitute a deeper national disgrace than defeat on land and sea."

One of the Possibilities.

Washington Post: "It may also be necessary to support a commission to treat with the New York Evening Post."

Not Probable.

Washington Post: "There is not the least bit of danger of J. Bull becoming so angry as to send us back our 'hellgrasses.'"

United States. They are reported to be willing to go very far in this direction, with the avowed purpose of diverting trade from Europe to the United States. They would make this country their greatest purchasing mart, and also their greatest market. In order to do this they are willing to give the United States advantages through tariff differentials which no other power is to enjoy. This plan is not so well developed as the proposal for a political alliance by means of a national board of arbitration, but the times are ripe for it and the diplomatists with whom Mr. Wellman has talked do not doubt that a vigorous initiative by the United States would meet with quick response from a majority, if not all, of the remaining republics of the two continents. And thus, to use the correspondent's suggestive phrase, "statesmanship in the United States is presented with an opportunity which Mr. Blaine would have been overjoyed to embrace."

There is a third circumstance among the possibilities which Mr. Wellman discerns in connection with the Venezuelan affair. It will excite widespread dissent from those who, following the teachings of British economists, have lately been converted to the belief that the only possible safe basis of a currency system is gold, of which England and English influences now control the visible supply, but it is nevertheless a possibility to be thought of. It is brief to say that the first effect of an Anglo-American war would be suspension of gold payments by the United States, which would mean a revolution in which Great Britain would be the chief sufferer. It would mean the scaling of private debts not payable expressly in gold. It would mean the United States upon a silver basis. It would mean an enhancement of apparent values of everything in this country, and "boom" times such as we have not seen since the war. If this were followed by a pan-American union, politically and commercially, it might, says Mr. Wellman, "mean the diversion not only of commerce from European to strictly American channels, but the ejection of London from her proud post of titling-master of the world's trade. New York might succeed London as the exchange center for all commerce in the western hemisphere. Instead of issuing bills on London calling for pounds sterling, American balances could be settled through New York with bills calling for dollars on a silver basis."

It has been held by some of our ablest statesmen that the truly American political whole with the United States holding the leading position; to trade, one republic with another, using a currency based upon the most stable and abundant precious metal, which in the Western hemisphere is silver; and to maintain toward the monarchies of Europe a position of thorough political independence. Such a dream may never be realized; or if realized might prove grossly deceptive; but it nevertheless is a dream of the fulfillment of which contemporary events appear to be somewhat prophetic.

If Presidents Grant, Garfield or Harrison had sent to congress such a message as President Cleveland's on the Venezuelan question, asserting the determination of our government to maintain the Monroe doctrine, no surprise would have been occasioned, because such a message would have been expected from either of them, or, in fact, from any Republican president. President Cleveland gave the country a surprise because this particular deliverance is not at all in accord with the general policy of his administration. The surprise was great because nothing of the kind had been looked for. It is all the more gratifying on that account.

The fact is that both Yale and Harvard universities appear to be inclined to champion the cause of England as against that of their own country. Is the higher education a failure?

Letting Wall street, England and the Rothschilds dictate our financial policy sounds plausible enough in the "sound money" organs; but there are times when it has its disadvantages.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS.

In Case of War. Philadelphia Record: "A war with Great Britain would be no holiday affair. It would be a death grapple. Nevertheless, we believe it would end in the practical triumph of this country. Strong as England is at sea, her naval power seriously crippled. Her commercial flag would disappear from the seas; Canada would almost certainly be lost to her, and the continent of a long war would be apt to endanger her possession of Ireland, Egypt and India. Once let the United States put forth all their strength—once set in motion the adventurous spirit of this people—and no enterprise would seem too daring nor too distant, and no cooperation of war too hazardous, to deter them from the undertaking. Of course, we should receive hard blows in return. We should expect losses and reverses. Our seacoast cities would, no doubt, be damaged; but unless we really overestimate the strength and resources of this country, a war with England would be likely to end with the result we have above indicated. At the same time, we should deprecate a war between the two countries; and we trust that on both sides all honorable means will be employed to avert it."

hard blows in return. We should expect losses and reverses. Our seacoast cities would, no doubt, be damaged; but unless we really overestimate the strength and resources of this country, a war with England would be likely to end with the result we have above indicated. At the same time, we should deprecate a war between the two countries; and we trust that on both sides all honorable means will be employed to avert it."

Philadelphia Record: "Some very respectable and conservative gentlemen in New York whose patriotism is colored by the price of India or the fluctuations of the Stock Exchange get themselves in a state of mind whenever they consider the possible consequences of the president's audacious assertion of American ideas as to the management of affairs on the American continent. Their fears and tremors have no perceptible effect in shaking the determination of all parties to back up the administration; but they serve to bring into relief and solidity and strength of patriotic feeling."

Words of True Patriotism. New York Times: "No American who has a soul within him capable of rising above immediate considerations of the markets will waver for an instant in his loyalty to the United States. The congress in the position they have taken in respect to the Venezuelan boundary, it is well to remember that there are some disasters worse than war, worse than commercial loss, and that a prevailing manifestation of the spirit of which we have seen a few shameful examples since the publication of the president's message would constitute a deeper national disgrace than defeat on land and sea."

A Toast to Canada! New York Sun: "Let us hope, however, that Canada will never be brought to either physical or sentimental suffering by the price of India or the fluctuations of the Bazaar. When the Stars and Striped Banner is raised there, may it be run up over the government buildings at Ottawa by the cheering Canadians themselves, and not as a symbol of conquest and subjugation by victorious soldiers of the great American republic."

Don't Get Excited. Philadelphia Times: "There is no reasonable likelihood of a war with England. The only way that American securities can be made to command the respect of the money centers of the world is by this government respecting itself and asserting its majesty when the occasion demands it. President Cleveland has done this and nothing more. Don't get pale-stricken."

He Ought to Do It. Philadelphia Bulletin: "It would certainly be a great stroke of policy if Governor Cleveland were to call Benjamin Harrison to the head of his Venezuelan commission."

One of the Possibilities. Washington Post: "It may also be necessary to support a commission to treat with the New York Evening Post."

Not Probable. Washington Post: "There is not the least bit of danger of J. Bull becoming so angry as to send us back our 'hellgrasses.'"

Christmas Presents.

HILL & CONNELL, 131 AND 133 N. WASHINGTON AVE.

BASKETS

BASKETS BASKETS BASKETS

BASKETS

HILL & CONNELL'S 131 AND 133 N. WASHINGTON AVE.

CHRISTMAS

If you are thinking of buying a dinner set for Christmas we have a large selection in the following makes: Haviland & Co. Chas. Field Haviland. R. Deltmeves & Co. L. Sazarat & Co. All Limoge French China. Carlsbad China (German). Onondago China (American). Maddox Porcelain. Wedgwood Porcelain. Farnival Porcelain. Powell & Bishop Porcelain. All English ware, porcelain and W. G. sets. Our leader 100 pieces at \$5.00. LEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO., (LIMITED) 422 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. Open Evenings.

GOLDSMITH'S BAZAAR.

Great Clearing Sale Of

HOLIDAY GOODS

At Slaughter Prices

FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS

Every street car stops in front of the store to let passengers off and on.

HOLIDAY GOODS

Is now ready for inspection. We have all of Prang's beautiful line of calendars and booklets in water colors, as well as the lines of all the leading publishers.

Celluloid and Leather Goods, Family and Teachers' Bibles, Episcopal Hymnals and Prayer Books, Catholic Prayer Books, Gold Pens, Silver and Gold Pencils.

REYNOLDS BROS.

Stationers and Engravers, 317 LACKAWANNA AVE.

OVERCOATS.

Fine selection of Ready-Made Clothing; also Clothes made to order at the lowest prices. Perfect fit guaranteed at

B. LEHMAN & CO'S

in LACKAWANNA AVENUE, Corner Franklin.



Self-Pouring Tea and Coffee Pot

FOOTE & SHEAR CO. 119 WASHINGTON AVENUE.

WEBER PIANOS

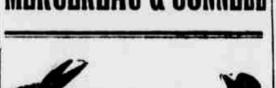
GUERNSEY BROTHERS, 224 1/2

OPEN EVENINGS.

PREPARED FOR THE RUSH

WATCHES, CLOCKS DIAMONDS AND FINE JEWELRY, STERLING SILVER WARES AND NOVELTIES, CUT GLASS, ART PORCELAINS, BANQUET LAMPS, ETC.

MERCEREAU & CONNELL



Hold Still!

And get your picture took with one of them er pocket Kodaks from

FLOREY'S.

They will take the picture of a candidate for a city office, cars and all. So your ears will get in all right, too.

CONRAD'S

WALKING STICKS AND SILK UMBRELLAS

OYSTERS

PIERCE'S MARKET, PENN AVE

WELSBACH LIGHT



Consumes three (3) feet of gas per hour and gives an efficiency of sixty (60) candles.

HUNT & CONNELL CO.,



DON'T WAIT TOO LONG.

EDWIN C. BURT & CO'S LADIES' FINE SHOES.

The Lackawanna Store Association (LIMITED) CORNER LACKA. AND JEFFERSON AVES.

PENNSYLVANIA ROOFING CO.,

326 Washington Ave., SCRANTON, PA. TELEPHONE 555.

HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

Fine Trunks, Bags and Dress Suit Cases WINSLOW ICE SKATES Pocket Books, Card Cases Bill and Leather Books Purse, Bill Rolls, etc.

G. W. FRITZ

410 Lackawanna Ave.

INTERNATIONAL LARGE TYPE BIBLES

IN OUR WINDOW FOR A FEW DAYS.



PRICES WAY DOWN

Beidleman the Bookman, 437 Spruce Street. Opp The Commonwealth