

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, JANUARY 17, 1896.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For Mayor—E. H. RIPLEY. For Treasurer—DANIEL WILLIAMS. For Controller—F. J. WIDMAYER. For Assessors—CHARLES FOWLER, CHRIST FICKES, WILLIAM DAWSON. Election Day, Feb. 18.

Scranton's welcome to Colonel Henry Waterson is not because of his politics, which deserve reprobation, nor on account of his economic views, which in the main are warped and twisted. It welcomes him first, because he is a man of unique individuality and commanding genius; and secondly, because in welcoming him it extends the hand of brotherhood and amity to the vast section, once in arms but now in blossom, of which he has long been the eloquent spokesman and the clear-sighted and magnanimous champion.

Government by Syndicate.

The disbanding of the bond syndicate marks what it is hoped will be the end, so far as these United States are concerned, of government by syndicates. When, several years ago, that amiable novelist, Frank R. Stockton, wrote a story called "The Great War Syndicate," which purported to describe a period when the burdens of international fighting were assumed by giant corporations for a consideration, thus freeing into the arts of peace the millions of men now held, at great expense, in liability to military service, many thought it simply a clever writer's dream.

It remained for the second Democratic administration of the present generation to give, in a time of profound peace, color to this flight of a novelist's vivid imagination. That administration, to be sure, did not hire a syndicate to do its shooting and killing; but it did what, under the circumstances, was quite as audacious: It hired a group of Wall Street and London bankers to take temporary control of its finances, which under its own bungling management, had gone well-nigh to smash. If it had been patriotism which had prompted these bankers to volunteer their brains and their gold in an hour of national crisis, the case would have been quite different. But it was not that. It was the boldest and most brazen cupidity that instigated in smaller fields makes the highwayman and the usurer; and it went to work at its task only after it had wrung such terms from the government as a free and prosperous people were never before in all history forced to submit to, in a time of general calm.

This syndicate fulfilled its contract and got its pay. The usufruct was a rich one. Seldom has a speculation terminated more favorably for the speculators. No wonder that after the contract had ended, it hung around the White House, looking for a second job. But in the meantime the sentiment of the plain people had found thought and voice. From every section its word was to one effect: to the effect that that folly should cease. The whole amount of a long story, reduced to a few words, is that the president, with all his egotism, all his obstinacy, all his prided indifference to public opinion, did not dare to renew the contract. He knew that to do so might mean, not simply execration, but also impeachment; that the patience of a deceived people had at last reached its inevitable limit when it would tolerate no new aggressions.

Hence the announcement that the bond syndicate has been dissolved. If it should appear at any stage of the balloting at the St. Louis convention that McKinley's candidacy had become hopeless and he himself should release his friends from further obligations to him, look out for Joseph Benson Foraker. This contingency is at least a possibility.

The United States Senate.

As the United States senate is now constituted there is little if any prospect of tariff or revenue legislation by congress at its present session. A number of western senators, among them Teller, of Colorado; Jones and Stewart, of Nevada; and Dubois, of Idaho, have given notice to the Republicans that they will oppose any revenue bill that does not provide for free silver coinage. The Republicans will not and consistently cannot yield to such a demand. The Democrats, who should in all reason stand with the large body of Republicans in their effort to enact legislation for an increase of the revenues of the treasury, oppose any measure that increases the duty on any class of imports. Thus, with the Democratic senators opposing all increase of tariff and the silver extremists antagonizing all bills that do not provide for free silver coinage, the senate is in a condition of deadlock from which there is no hope of relief.

The treasury does not receive enough revenues to meet the current expenses

of the government from month to month, the gold reserve is constantly on the decline, and the only course left for the administration to pursue is to issue bonds—in other words, to borrow large sums of money to maintain the national credit. This is the condition of affairs today and there is no prospect of a change in the near future. President Cleveland exercises no influence whatever with the senators of his own party. In some respects, and to some extent, the financial policy of the administration is in accord with that of the Republicans. This is true at least so far as concerns the silver question. The Republican house has promptly passed a law, sufficiently increasing the revenues of the treasury to enable it to meet the current expenses of the government. This bill does not meet the approval of President Cleveland because it is not in the line of free trade. The administration prefers to issue bonds and increase the national debt rather than consent to revenue legislation that increases the duty on imports. The silver extremists in the senate are not opposed to measures that savor of protection, but they take advantage of the situation by demanding that free silver coinage shall be provided for as the price of their support of any revenue bill.

The president and the Democratic senators and the silver extremists in the senate are thus all antagonizing relief legislation, although they are actuated by different reasons. Unfortunately the president and his secretary of the treasury, while loudly clamoring for necessary legislation for the relief of the financial distress of the government, are withholding their support from the only policy of relief that is possible under existing conditions. The Republicans alone are ready and anxious to enact relief measures, but are helpless in the senate, unless aided by a small number of Democratic senators. The president understands this, but is either unable or unwilling to exert any influence over senators of his own party to induce them to forego mere partisanship; and for once manifest a spirit of patriotic devotion to the interests of the country.

The senate today stands as an obstacle and an obstruction to the enactment of legislation of the most vital importance to the nation. Senators representing petty states like Nevada and Idaho are actually blocking the wheels of the national government, and preventing the legislation that would tend to re-invigorate the vast industries of twenty-five or thirty great commonwealths with their millions of inhabitants. Between the Democratic free traders and the free silver extremists in the senate working together with insane zeal to prevent the adoption of a statesmanlike and patriotic revenue and financial policy the bonded debt of the nation must continue to increase.

After March 4, 1897, there will in all human probability be a Republican majority in the United States senate, but it is not certain that even then it will be possible to adopt a thoroughly Republican policy, inasmuch as there will still remain in the senate a number of so-called Republicans who are utterly at variance with the policy of that party. The Republican senators look in vain to the Democrats for aid in carrying through measures that would place the treasury in a condition of solvency and restore the fallen prosperity of the country. Even the Republican party cannot perform impossibilities. Affairs cannot be righted until Democracy and Populism combined are reduced to a hopeless minority in the senate.

The Wilkes-Barre Record has been compelled by the growth of its business to contract for a new Hoe perfecting press capable of printing 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, or 16 page papers at the average speed of 20,000 copies per hour. The Record has fairly earned this success, and thoroughly deserved it.

Balfour's Manchester Speech.

Of all the recent indications that a marked reaction has begun in English public sentiment with reference to President Cleveland's Venezuelan message, the most significant is that embodied in the speech delivered at Manchester, Wednesday night, by Arthur J. Balfour, the First Lord of the Treasury. Mr. Balfour, it should be remembered, is not only Lord Salisbury's most welcome and intimate official adviser, he is also the one young Conservative whom prophets have almost unanimously chosen as the likeliest successor of the present premier in the leadership of the dominant English party. His words, therefore, have weight not merely as personal but also as party and as official expressions.

In his Manchester speech Mr. Balfour asserted that the British government had heartily concurred in the Monroe doctrine seventy years ago, and he believed that if they were to ransack England from end to end, search the most private documents in the foreign office since then, examine the ministers and the ordinary public, or even the lunatics, it would be impossible to find a single individual who ever desired to see what would be called a forward policy adopted by Great Britain either in North or South America. Mr. Balfour referred at length and eloquently to the horrors of a war between England and America. "To me," he said, "that is a terrible, distressing, and a horrible point of view. I will never believe that any large section of the American nation will permanently adopt such a view. We may be dreamers and idealists, but the time must come when some statesmen of authority, more fortunate even than President Monroe, will lay down the doctrine that between the English-speaking peoples war is impossible, and that any one endangering the peace will have committed a crime against civilization. May no English statesman or English party ever have the responsibility of that crime heavy upon their souls."

The repudiation by Mr. Balfour of a "forward policy" on the American hemisphere, when ratified by the British government, will end present differences. Let England prove that her advancing of outposts on disputed South American soil is not a "forward" move, but simply an assertion of lawfully established rights, and the intervention of this government will immediately cease. The way to prove this

is to lay sufficient evidence before a court of arbitration. That is all President Cleveland asks for.

The Wilkes-Barre Times questions the truth of the Tribune's statement that Mr. Hart, of Pittston, is Senator Quay's expressed choice for national delegate from Luzerne. We took that information from the Times' own columns. In an interview which it printed with County Treasurer Reed; but we have since had it confirmed from the senator's own lips. It is none of our funeral; we merely state the facts.

Caricature of the Front.

One of the best of recent cartoons was printed in Wednesday's Chicago Times-Herald. It represents a cloaked skeleton labeled "The Sultan" standing on a strip of ground dotted with human skulls, waving back a white-robed angel of "Charity." Almost as good an idea was embodied in the same enterprising journal's cartoon the day previous. In that picture, John Bull sits immersed in the perusal of papers bearing on Transvaal, Ashantee and Venezuela, while in a row to his front and rear sit Emperor William, President Faure of France, Uncle Sam whitening a stick called the Monroe doctrine and the czar of Russia choking with laughter—all with their backs turned to a window through which the Sultan is seen beating a helpless woman named Armenia. Each of these gentlemen has in his eye-occupation, permitted a paper labeled "The Armenian Question" to fall under his feet.

The aptness of these two conceptions of the caricaturist does not need a diagram to bring it home to the most unreflective reader. Both pictures convey to the mind at a glance a meaning which, if properly expressed in words, would require columns of type. Apart from their intrinsic strength and cleverness, they serve to indicate one of the comparatively new but most forcible re-inforcements of modern journalism—a re-inforcement well described by Joseph Medill the other day when, in accepting the presidency of the Chicago Press club he said:

The press presents to all the people the immense variety of actions and phases of human conduct which make up our daily lives, embracing every event and the doing and saying, grave and gay, of the earth, including political, scientific, religious, benevolent, malevolent, progressive and retrogressive actions of mankind. After the bright intellects of the profession have spread these things out in the vernacular columns of the press, who sketches and satirizes and pictures and writes object-intensifying thoughts. Sometimes I take up a paper, and seeing a picture or a cartoon, or something of that kind, I am instantly aware that it illustrates a whole volume of actions as represented in words. It is one of the great instruments of the present adding to its vigor and power and value to society.

Let us hope that the keen lash of the caricaturist will goad the Christian nations to the performance of a duty which more dignified methods of exhortation appear as yet to have failed sufficiently to emphasize.

One paper announces "upon unquestionable authority," that Grover Cleveland will positively not be a candidate for renomination; and another, on the same day, assures its readers from trustworthy information, that he will. Those to whom the question is of any special interest can pay their pennies and take their choice.

Events are demonstrating that the Republican leaders in Washington made the mistake of their lives when without a trustworthy majority to back them up, they consented to organize the senate. The act has brought the party as yet nothing but confusion.

In these days when national delegates in this state are being instructed for Reed, McKinley and Quay, it seems to be forgotten, does it not, that Pennsylvania has a candidate in the person of Daniel H. Hastings?

Whatever else may be true of him, it is only fair to President Kruger to state that he was not born in Mauch Chunk.

It looks now as if the correspondence of the German emperor needed a first-class managing editor.

The holding back of returns seems to be known to Philadelphians also.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

Tribune Bureau, 515 Fourteenth Washington, Jan. 16. Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, the eminent divine, has got himself into a bit of a predicament. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church of this city. In December last Rev. Dr. Talmage accepted the pastorship of the above church, of which Rev. Dr. Sutherland was justly the evening pastor, and a Rev. Mr. Allen the morning services were simply attended, and in the evening hundreds of persons have been turned away for lack of room to accommodate the great crowds who wanted to hear Talmage. A large number of the congregation, some time ago, requested the trustees to call Talmage to preach two instead of one sermon each Sunday. Rev. Dr. Allen naturally objected to being displaced, and declined to accept a monetary offer to resign. He has a few followers who are ready to withdraw from the First Presbyterian church in case he is forced to resign. Affairs are therefore in a complicated condition at present, with little prospect of satisfactory settlement. It is rumored that Talmage, who has been absent from the city since Monday, is in New Orleans negotiating with a wealthy congregation in that city. It is said that he is ready to resign his pastorate of the First church in this city as soon as he can locate elsewhere. Religious circles are very much disturbed over the state of affairs existing in the First Presbyterian church. There is no telling what the result will be.

The long drawn out debate on the pension bill now before the house is one of Speaker Reed's tricks to kill time, and also to give the new members an opportunity to air their views and test their tongue capacity. It is stated in a previous letter this is going to be a "Do Nothing Congress." The bill now under discussion, if it becomes law, will give names to the already long list of pensioners.

The war spirit is being revived in the old soldiers as well as their sons. Congressman Charles W. Stone yesterday received a telegram from Elisha K. Kane of Mount Juliet, Pa., urging the United States to declare war on Turkey and offering to raise a company to take up arms against that country. Mr. Kane is a son of General Kane, the old commander of the famous Bucktail regiment which distinguished itself in the late rebellion.

Congressman Scranton was at the capital today renewing his acquaintance with his colleagues.

An original pension has been granted to Jacob Sims, of Dorrance, Luzerne county. Sims lost a son in the late war.

Senator Quay will return to Washington on Jan. 25.

National Chairman Hurdley says he doesn't know whether President Cleveland will be a candidate.

Hurdley doesn't know. He won't even know what struck him after his next state convention.

Congressman-at-Large Huff has the reputation of being the most regular at the sessions of the house.

THE EDITORIAL'S FUTURE.

Rochester Post-Express. Certain journalists, and these of the counting room, rather than of the sanctum, hold that the editorial is becoming less and less important, as the news is becoming more and more engrossing, and maintain that, in a few years, the editorial will disappear entirely. We do not believe that, because we believe that the editorial utterance of the press gives it character, and character is an essential to a newspaper as it is to a man. The editorial is to endure, and it is to improve, just as rapidly as knowledge advances. We are not unaware of the fact that journalism is a business, as well as an educator; and that sometimes, possibly too often, the one leans to the neglect of the other; but it is a fact also that the journals which, in the past, have been distinguished by the breadth of vision, the keenest intellectual force, the deepest reverence for the virtues, the most uncompromising opposition to vice and corruption, are the journals of greatest circulation, as well as of greatest influence. There are, of course, exceptions to this statement, but upon the whole, it is true. To sell a paper its conductors must make a paper. It is the best, not the poorest, paper that sells. There must be both ability and industry in its make up. The conscientious editor may feel assured that his mission is not ended.

AN EXCELLENT CHANGE.

From the Carbonate Herald. One of the greatest misfortunes that has lately attracted public attention heretofore was the destruction of the Home for the Friendless, by fire, on Saturday last at Scranton. It is especially sad that such a calamity should occur during the winter of mid-winter when much more is required by the dependent one than there is during the other portions of the year when climatic conditions are not so severe. This season of the year alone taxes the resources of the charities of the city. It is especially sad, because of the unusual draughts on their exchequers to meet current expenses. Here is an excellent opportunity for the charitable inclined people of Scranton, and of the whole valley for that matter, to support a worthy institution, and at the same time exercise one of the most exalted and God-like privileges in the whole life of a Christian. It should be a small matter, indeed, for the wealthy citizens of our sister city to contribute in thousand-dollar sums the amount necessary to rebuild and equip such a charity, and to do it at once, too. While speaking on this subject I am reminded of the kindly offer of the Home of the Good Shepherd, St. Patrick's orphanage and St. Joseph's Foundling home by extending shelter to those that have been temporarily deprived of a home by the destruction of the Home for the Friendless. This is an eloquent manifestation of "the one touch of nature that makes all the world kin," and it is well worth noting in these turbulent days of religious intolerance.

How Tastes Differ.

From the Washington Star. The manner in which tastes differ is shown by the fact that the Sultan would rather be an object of contempt than an object of charity.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxochs, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 3:18 a. m., for Friday, Jan. 17, 1896.

It will be apparent to a child born on this day that Mr. Withers is destined to remain on the outskirts of prominence for some time yet.

There seems no question as to the sincerity of brother Michael O'Toole, but it is feared that his whiskers are too short for success as a reformer.

As General Gomez and his band have captured about everything else in sight, there seems no reason why they should not also Havana soon.

Some of the men at locksmiths, but he seldom smiles at soggy bread.

Ajaxochs' Advice. If you want to ascertain whether or not you have a right to be put in jail, make an examination of conscience with the aid of Chief Simpson's report.

If you desire a quiet life in politics, let the office seek you.

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