

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 25, 1896.

The Tribune is the only Republican Daily in Lackawanna County.

And so the reason why Mr. Scranton turned the city government over to the Democrats was because he was not bought off! This is a fine confession, truly, to come from a preacher of political "purity" and "reform."

The Trouble in the Salvation Army.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the trouble in the Salvation Army which has resulted in the resignation of General and Mrs. Ballington Booth arose from a lamentable misconception of the American spirit by the commander-in-chief of the parent, or English, organization, and his advisers. In England the army's discipline is exceedingly strict, and implicit obedience is not only demanded but secured.

But the younger Booth, ably guided by his admirable wife, perceived at an early period in his American regency that to attempt to organize an army in America along the lines which had proved successful enough in Great Britain would be to restrict the personnel of the army within limits far too narrow for effective work; and would drive away the very classes whom it was most desirable to enlist.

Yet the disagreement, after all, is typical of a class common in more fields than that of religious activity. It is suggestive of two antithetical human tendencies, everywhere in evidence, one to fit the coat to the man, and the other to fit the man to the coat. We, in this generation, have, for example, seen in Catholic ecclesiastical policy the triumph of the former over the latter tendency, as illustrated in the supremacy of the Archbishop Ireland and Cardinal Gibbons school over the school headed by Archbishop Corrigan.

Is the Republic (Dem.) going to accept the Truth's \$500 challenge, or is it going to rest under the odium of having been self-convicted of lying?

To a "Gold-Bug" Organ.

The Chicago Times-Herald is an able paper which has battled so strenuously against free silver coinage on the economic frontier of this monetary discussion that, like a good many other worthy pioneers, it has become headstrong and illiberal. It has actually worked itself up to the point of conceiving a violent antipathy for silver as a coinage metal, and is apparently ready to club any man who so much as hints at international bimetalism as a desirable future possibility.

It is now training its guns on Speaker Reed, for having suggested another international monetary conference, for the purpose of arriving at such an understanding among the nations favorable to bimetalism as would ultimately force the gold monometallic nations into the bimetallic camp. This suggestion is a year and a half old. Mr. Reed offered it, tentatively, in an article printed at least eighteen months ago in a British Journal of Economics. We are surprised that the Times-Herald had not learned of it earlier and should therefore jump to the foolish conclusion that it is merely a campaign dodge.

If the Times-Herald will take a poll of the world's best thinkers, it will discover that the simple-metallists, whether favoring gold or silver, are in a marked minority as compared with those who believe in a conjunction of the two precious metals by international compact. These bimetallicists are not secondaries. They are not debt-repudiators. They are not cheats. They are men of brains and character who believe, after due study and deliberation that the civilization which restricts its currency base to any one metal takes needless risks with the welfare of the common people, and puts dangerous power into the hands of the professional creditors.

Indications increase that Grover's mantle is to be conferred to Secretary Olney. Well, Quay could beat Olney.

According to Broker Benedict, "Mr.

Cleveland will soon announce that he is not a candidate for re-election. The people, however, without reference to his wishes, have already determined to act on that basis.

The "readerless Tribune." It may please Mr. Scranton to know, never had a larger circulation than it has today; and the total has within a month been swelled by more than 400 names of readers who formerly took the Democratic "Republican," but who now want a live Republican daily.

No Quarter for Traitors.

While The Tribune has no wish to prolong a discussion of the recent Republican defeat in this city, fairness to the party rank and file requires it to expound its reasons for refusing to be bulldozed by the Democratic organ edited by Congressman Scranton. Mr. Scranton complains that he was not accorded a share of the party patronage last fall; and that no committee waited on him to solicit his support for the ticket. He intimates that unless he is bought over, he will in future continue the fight on Republicanism which he waged in the recent city canvass, thereby causing the election of the Democratic ticket.

His statement as to patronage is a deliberate falsehood, and he knew it when he wrote it. Since he became of age he has been a steady pensioner on the Republican party, receiving from it, in salaries, perquisites and enforced contributions, an aggregate sum estimated to exceed \$300,000. Even after he fought Clemens and Thomas, on the ticket which last elected him to congress, he was rewarded for that treachery by half the patronage of the county commissioners' office, and more than half the work in the sheriff's office. His acknowledgment of that recognition took the form of a successful plot to turn the city government over to the Democracy. So much for the patronage issue.

As to the statement that he was not invited to support the Republican ticket, the same can be said of The Tribune. Since this paper was started, no man and no committee has ever had to ask it to do battle for Republican principles. It has not sulked nor hung back in the hope of forcing terms from the Republican candidates. Even when Scranton himself was nominated in '94, it swallowed the pill, bitter as it was, and gave him the best support in its power. It did this through no love of Scranton; through no confidence in his fidelity and through no expectation of receiving a syllable of thanks. It did it because Scranton was the party nominee, representing—however unworthily—Republican national principles; and because The Tribune was then, is now, and proposes in the future to be a loyal, aggressive and uncompromising Republican paper.

Had the question of patronage influenced us, we might easily have declined to support Scranton for congress, since his election meant a direct loss to this paper. But we were not constructed on the J. A. Scranton basis; and when we fall so low as to have to use The Tribune as a club for the battering of backwash out of reluctant party hands, we will sell out and quit the business.

The Tribune hopes to see the Republican party in this city reunited. It realizes that a divided party means Democratic victory. It does not ignore the lessons of one week ago. It counsels conciliation and forgiveness for all who were misled. But it submits for the consideration of the honest Republican masses that such a reconciliation cannot safely be made on the basis of a strengthening of the arm that strikes the knife of assassination into the party's vitals. There can be no security, no true harmony, no lasting unity of purpose and of action so long as men red-handed in the work of party betrayal are permitted to dictate terms of peace and lay down the lines on which conciliation shall be effected.

How many "dollars" worth of "party patronage" does it take to keep Mr. Scranton from jumping his party traces? and is he worth the price?

The Money Cost of War.

Mr. William E. Curtis, the Washington correspondent, contributes to the Chicago Record some figures which emphasize, from an economic standpoint, the need of a speedy realization of that hoped-for millennium when war, and the dread of war, shall be no more. His first compilation is a table showing the expenditures for military and naval purposes during the year 1894 by the various governments of the world. The separate items need not be given; their total is \$1,688,718,400. This, says Mr. Curtis, does not include the hundreds of millions of dollars invested in fortifications, ships of war, arms, ammunition, arsenals, armories, navy yards, military and naval schools and other requirements for defense and the maintenance of armies and navies. Nor does it include the hundreds of millions of dollars that are paid every year as interest upon money that has been borrowed by the civilized governments of the world to carry on war, to supply means of defense and to support armies. Nor does it include the hundreds of millions of treasure that is stored away in the vaults of the fortresses of the European nations, where it is always kept idle, but available for use in the time of military emergency. The amount of coin thus maintained by the government of Russia is supposed to be somewhere between \$50,000,000 and \$100,000,000, while in the casemates in the old fortresses of Spandau in Germany is stored 1,000,000,000 marks in gold, which represents the indemnity paid by France as the price of peace in 1871.

The aggregate bonded indebtedness of the civilized nations of the world in 1894 is figured by Mr. Curtis to be equal in United States gold to \$34,456,574,000, of which \$25,000,000,000 probably represents expenditures in war and investments in war material. Great Britain

alone has a debt of \$5,695,629,000, and supports an army of 717,700 soldiers at a cost of \$90,400,000 a year, besides a navy of 428 ships of war and 3,700 sea-going vessels at a cost of \$41,355,563 a year. The following table shows the cost of wars to England during the last two centuries; and doubtless the cost to the other countries in Europe in that period would represent another equal sum:

Table showing the cost of wars to England during the last two centuries. Includes entries for Spanish war (1729), Seven years war (1756), American revolution (1776), French war (1792), War with Napoleon (1803), American war (1812), Crimean war (1854), conquest of India, Wars with China, Egypt and the Sudan, Other Asiatic wars, and Other African wars.

Finally, there remains to be considered the factor of the value of the labor of over 25,000,000 men now permanently drawn from farms and factories to fill the ranks of the armies and the navies. It is probably fair to estimate the average annual earning capacity of each of these men at \$200, which would give the enormous yearly aggregate loss of \$5,000,000,000. Adding all these figures together, and remembering that this \$5,000,000,000 loss through the non-productiveness of militarism has been sustained by Europe for perhaps three centuries, we should probably not go far astray if we should estimate that war and the war-like spirit since the discovery of America have cost enough money to give to every living man, woman and child in the United States, could the total be distributed, a net cash present of \$25,000.

Can this drain ever be stopped? We confess that that is another question. The uniform lesson of the sexual scandals and tragedies of the past year—from Durant's case down to Scott Jackson's—is that "the wages of sin is death." It is time this lesson were studied by the young.

It is interesting to note that Puglist Corbett, the king-bee in the business, himself admits that prize fights are no longer feasible on American soil. What a relief it would be were the same also true of talking about fights.

The Philadelphia Record hears that Congressman Scranton (Dem.) is to be re-elected. This will probably be news in the Eleventh district.

If an embargo could be laid on James J. Corbett's mouth, the man who should do it could run for president and sweep the field.

It is rather mean in General Maceo to revive so soon after being officially killed by the Spanish press censor at Havana.

UNCLE SAM AS MEDIATOR.

According to Walter Wellman's Washington correspondence in the Chicago Times-Herald, the United States and Great Britain are on the eve of coming to a definite and amicable understanding in regard to the Venezuelan question. Important negotiations of an informal character have been going on between London and Washington during the last ten days, with the result, it is said, that Great Britain is desirous of having the United States act as mediator in settling the difficulty in regard to the so-called Llanos incident, to re-establish diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Venezuela, and with the prime and ultimate object in view of amicably settling the boundary dispute. Administration authorities are intensely pleased over the new and favorable aspect the long-pending controversy has assumed. Arbitration, the authorities in Washington are now convinced, is absolutely assured.

For some time it was thought that some third power other than the United States would have to act as mediator in order to restore diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Venezuela. In fact, the British dispatches from London show that Great Britain was anxious to have the Brazilian government undertake the task of bringing the two countries together. It is also known that the Chilean government was approached on the subject, and when the United States learned that there were obstacles in the way of either of these countries acting in that capacity, efforts were made here in Washington to have the Mexican government assume the role of mediator. A proposition was made to have Mr. Romero, the Mexican minister, go to London for the purpose of using the good offices of his country to restore diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Venezuela. All the countries concerned were sounded on this matter. Obstacles were found in the way of accepting Mexico as a mediator, but the discussion which ensued served a good purpose. It has resulted in a decision by the British foreign office that the United States is after the proper country to act as mediator. The administration is of the same opinion.

Just how far Secretary Olney has gone toward patching up the difficulty about the Llanos incident cannot be definitely ascertained, but it is known that negotiations are now in progress not only in regard to that question, but in connection with the boundary dispute. During the last few days important dispatches have been known to Secretary Olney in conference with Secretary Olney relative to the Venezuelan question. Ambassador Pannofante's call at the state department, it is believed, was for the purpose of being known to Secretary Olney the desire of his government to accept the good offices of the United States. It is not definitely known just how Great Britain and Venezuela are to be brought together, but there is a strong probability that Sir Julian Pannofante and Minister Andrade will, through the efforts of the United States, be directed by the governments respectively concerned to undertake negotiations for a settlement of the question in dispute.

No confirmation can be obtained of the report that other Great Britain or the United States has proposed a joint English and American commission, but there are good grounds for believing that Lord Salisbury has expressed a willingness to submit to an international tribunal of some kind any differences that may be found to exist from the British side of the case as to the boundaries of the Llanos. The final conclusions of the American boundary commission now sitting in Washington.

TEN MONTHS' SHOWING.

From the Textile Record. We have at this writing statistics of imports to this country for only the first ten months of last year. Comparing them with the imports for the corresponding period the year before (under the McKinley tariff) we find that there have been great gains for the European manufacturers.

Table showing imports for ten months, 1894 and 1895. Includes entries for Cotton hosiery, Woolen hosiery, Cotton fabric, Woolen goods, Silk goods, and Shoddy, etc.

American knitters, \$3,463,182. The loss to the wool growers is enormous, and to the woolen manufacturers nearly \$3,000,000. This is what has been done for the textile industry of the United States in ten months by a tariff bill of which its authors declare that domestic industry will benefit by it.

THE SILENT STATESMAN.

Few but Lord Salisbury's intimates know that he is by nature one of the most silent of men; quite a Von Moltke in that respect. Even as a boy at Eton (Vanity Fair records) he was much given to solitary musing through the misty fields, with only an occasional game of "six-penny" cricket. He was not popular generally, except with his own form, for which he did all the work; and was always out by his tutor to construct, which he did so well that no one else had to expect a turn. His taciturnity has stuck to him, and the writer remembers that when at the India office he greatly disappointed some high official who had to see him on some great question. "What do I think of him? Very little. Why, he heard all I had to say, then bowed me out with 'good morning,' and not another word."

CAMERON'S WEAK POINT.

J. Donald Cameron, of Pennsylvania, who is just retiring from the senate, was carefully trained in the art of politics by his father, Lincoln's famous secretary of war. In the days when the clan Cameron ruled Pennsylvania with absolute power one of its faithful henchmen was calling upon Simon Cameron, and in the course of the conversation remarked: "Senator, why is it that Don has never made much of a success of politics? He seems to have talent, and he has the advantage of practice and influence." "Well, Don is a likely fellow," replied the old man, "Don will get on all right. You must remember I started in life with a big advantage over Don." "What was that?" asked the visitor. "Poverty."

OUTSIDE THE BREAST WORKS.

From the Wilkes-Barre Record. The question of the hour is, what will Hon. Joseph A. Scranton gain politically by the defeat of the Republican ticket in Scranton? It is not likely that a Democratic city government will give him a monopoly of the patronage, while a strategic Democratic newspaper like the Times is to the fore. Neither can he expect the support of the Cunniff faction should he lose his political honors in the future. It is more than likely that the Democrats, having used Mr. Scranton and his newspaper to elect their candidates with their own hands, and to bestow whatever favors may be lying about upon men of their own political faith.

OR CLARE PLAYING TRAITORS.

From the Scranton Republican (Dem.). The Republican party of Lackawanna county needs no reorganization. All that is necessary to insure its future success is for certain gentlemen who aspire to leadership to drop their tail-coating methods and act on the square.

HIS PROMPT REPLY.

Visitor—"Tommy, I wish to ask you a few questions." Tommy—"Yes, sir." Visitor—"Give me your sentence. The pupil loves his teacher, what is that?" Tommy—"Sarcasm."

VERY MUCH AFRAID.

"Johnny," said the minister, "I hope your father lives in the fear of the Lord. I guess he does, sir. He never goes out on Sunday without he takes his gun."

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 3:11 a. m., for Tuesday, Feb. 25, 1896.

It will be apparent to a child born on this day that the word "Chamberlain" is a hoodoo for Scranton investors. Now that Thompson Beans has had his say upon causes and results in the recent campaign, business can go on again as usual in the city.

With the Salvation Army in a row and Deacon Scranton busily engaged in congressional duties, Scranton seems in a fair way to have a high old time unrestrained.

Ajaxchus' Advice.

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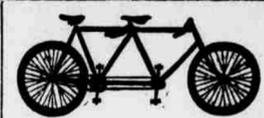
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