

The Scranton Tribune

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The Weekly Tribune, issued every Saturday, contains twelve business pages, with an Abstract of News, Fiction, and Well-Edited Miscellany. For those who cannot take the Daily Tribune, the Weekly is recommended as the best bargain obtainable. Only \$1 a Year, in Advance.

Our Tribune is for Sale Daily at the D. L. and W. Station at Hoboken.



SCRANTON, MARCH 10, 1896.

The Tribune is the only Republican daily in Lackawanna County.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

To the Republican electors of Pennsylvania. 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 representative-at-large in congress and thirty-two candidates for presidential electors, the selection of eight delegates-at-large to the Republican national convention, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

By order of the state committee: M. S. QUAY, Chairman. Jere B. Ross, W. R. Anderson, Secretaries.

The charge is now brought against McKinley that he opposed reciprocity.

A Wall from Wall Street.

There is a wealth of instructive satire in a letter from "Wall Street" which appears in the Philadelphia Times. It is a protest of the "business interests" of the country against the efforts of congress to help the people of Cuba. "We are known to the world," the writer observes, "as a hard-working, commercial people, with a better knowledge of making money than warring nations; our time and attention being given to increasing commerce and our individual bank accounts. Why should we do that which would interfere with our business prospects, and do much to undo the reputation we have gained as 'money-makers'?"

Continuing, the writer says:

Let the Spaniards act in the most outrageous manner they desire in Cuba. Surely the Cubans are their own children and we should not meddle with their family affairs. They have had the reputation for some hundreds of years of being inhuman in the treatment of their colonies and no act of this country can change them. Why, then, should we disturb ourselves? What benefit can it be to this country to attempt to wash the dirty linen of Spain that has been allowed to accumulate in Cuba for two or three centuries? If the Spanish government thinks it to their advantage to put down the rebellion by shooting political prisoners, branding defenseless women and other non-combatants, selling suspects to deadly African colonies and other inhuman and atrocious acts, pray let them do it. It is none of our affair, and we are not answerable for Spain's sins. These ideas would probably not have agreed with the patriotic and humane feelings that were once paramount in this country, but, pray, why place patriotic and humane feelings ahead of our bank accounts? We do not increase our revenues by catering to either of the so-called virtues of the Cuban patriots. reach out their supplicating arms and cry for succor and help from the inhuman cruelties being inflicted upon them, but for the sake of business let them "leave us in peace," for "this is our busy day."

This doesn't sound quite as attractive as do some of the more carefully drawn editorials in the New York Evening Post, the Philadelphia Record and other so-called anti-jingo journals which tremble daily lest the stock market should lose a point through patriotic work at Washington, but that is because it is more honest. It says what the cuckoos only think.

It is generally agreed that Tom Reed is conducting his speakership entirely independent of his presidential boom. This will not hurt him with the people. The people like many men, not dough-faces or trimmers.

Another Railroad Wrecked.

It was not so very long ago, no longer than the hey day of John W. Garrett's administration, when the owner of stock in the Baltimore and Ohio railroad would not have traded his security for a government bond. Now, the road, which then had a cash surplus fund of \$44,000,000, cannot borrow \$100,000 with which to meet current interest charges, and has gone into a receivership, with some talk of making an assessment equal to 40 or 50 cents on the dollar of stock.

This deterioration in the work of less than a score of years, and has come not through any inevitable loss of business by reason of increased competition—for the Baltimore and Ohio is still the great artery of commerce between Chicago and Baltimore that it was in its founder's time—but through careless if not criminal mismanagement. The road has become the plaything of imbeciles and the sport of amateurs. When the younger Garrett took hold, his money riffs and left; and it was not long until the complications began to keep such a new system of book-keeping had to be introduced to conceal them. The sequel, so far as Robert Garrett was concerned, was madness; so far as the great property,

whose management he had inherited was concerned, the sequel is collapse. The shame of this, as of similar instances of railroad looting, is that the heaviest burden will fall upon shoulders least fitted to bear it; that is to say, upon the shoulders of the small stockholders—of widows whose savings are invested in Baltimore and Ohio stock, and of orphans whose inheritances consist of the same kind of securities. These helpless persons, without the means to co-operate in costly schemes for the road's reorganization, have simply been robbed—robbed just as meanly, basely and criminally as if the high-flying looters in the company's headquarters had taken plumbs and held them up to the highwayman's tune of "stand and deliver." If the law cannot bring justice upon the wreckers, it should do so; if not, the public should be informed as to the reason why.

There is said to be a likelihood that Olney will resign because of the president's snub over the Cuban matter. Olney would take with him from public life the brains of the present cabinet.

Why Our Gold Goes Out.

The Chicago Record calls timely attention to a source of gold outgo which is generally overlooked, namely, the sums paid for the transportation of our exports and imports. In 1895 our exports carried by foreign vessels amounted to \$687,535,822 and our imports, similarly carried, to \$580,510,308, a total of \$1,278,046,130, for the transportation of which we paid the foreign ship-owners in gold.

"There is," says the Record, "some slight difference in the estimated amount of these freight charges, the estimates being from 11 to 12 1/2 per cent. of the value of the goods. On bulky raw materials, like wheat and lumber, the freight charges would be considerably in excess of that estimate, while on finished and compact manufactured articles, like watches and cloths, they would be considerably less. An estimate of 10 per cent. gives \$127,804,613 as the sum paid in a single year to foreign ship-owners for the transportation of our imports and exports. This leaves entirely out of consideration the amount paid for land transportation to foreign railroad companies, which was considerable.

"The year 1895 was not an exceptional one. That year 88.8 per cent. of all our imports and exports were carried in foreign bottoms, and in 1894 the percentage was 80.6, which was the smallest since 1856. If it should be contended that the consumer pays the freight and that in reality the American pays only the freight on what he imports we should even in that case pay the foreign vessel-owner an annual charge of \$58,051,030 for import-vessel freight alone. Either of these sums is sufficiently large to speedily consume an entire bond issue of \$50,000,000 or \$100,000,000. The remedy for this unfavorable condition of our commerce is the building up of our merchant marine. We now have 430 steam vessels on the high seas, as against 5,725 belonging to Great Britain and 810 belonging to Germany. We ought to become able to do our own carrying trade."

This covers the entire ground, leaving nothing to be added. We shall not realize our aspirations for an expanded foreign trade until we shall have a sufficient fleet of American merchantmen on the high seas to carry every pound of American-made goods to its foreign destination, and do some extra trading besides.

And now the story goes that David Martin also will run for the state senate. It is well to have the principals themselves in the field. Probably Quay would run, too, if he were not already in a larger senate.

A Negligent Staff.

Notwithstanding the dulcet notes of those who dream that war is a vanished nightmare of the past, there are some old-fashioned folk who continue to believe that it would be good economy if congress should provide liberally for coast defenses, and do so in due season. The Baltimore American is one of the journals which coincides with this latter view. It recognizes that neither modern arms nor ammunition suitable to a proper defence of the jeopardized coast cities of our country can be improvised in the face of danger, but instead require long periods of time for their manufacture. They also cost a great deal of money; but they are indispensable if danger does threaten. When we need them, we need them greatly; and the item of cost is then regarded with disdain. The American says:

made to defend the coast, because it was more politic to extend the public moneys in other ways and make a bogus record of economy." It is possible that the present congress will remain deaf to all entreaties along this line; but when the people choose its successor they should do so intelligently.

"He has got everything for it but a good backbone," is Senator Cullom's terse characterization of Allison's fitness for the presidency. But a backbone is essential. Presumably Mr. Cullom knows where one can be found.

Our Sybaritic Senate.

Senator Chandler is an economist who believes that economy, like charity, should begin at home. The extravagance of the senate is a theme to which he has been giving caustic attention, and some of his conclusions are calculated to make him unpopular with his senatorial confederates.

Not counting the senators themselves, he finds that the total number of senate employees is 25, at a cost per annum of \$12,000. In 1887, the cost of the senate force was only \$11,951, while the necessary work was just as abundant then as now. Taking mileage and incidentals also into account, the net increase in senate expenses in the past nine years has been \$200,968. Mr. Chandler cannot see wherein the legitimate business of the senate has expanded sufficiently to warrant this vast acceleration in expenditures, and is therefore resolved upon an official inquiry.

"It is impossible," says he, in a letter to the two chairmen of senate committees having the subject in charge, "that the public service requires such outlays. The senate wing of the capitol is kept in repair by the architect and guarded by the capitol police. For the comfort within the senate wing of ninety senators, and to enable them to perform their functions, it cannot be possible that 338 officers and employees, at an annual salary of \$460,000, are necessary, and in addition other expenses amounting to \$125,000. There is a fault in some one. I do not know whom; there is extravagance somewhere; I do not pretend to know exactly in what place. But in this crisis of diminishing revenues and hard times for the poor the senate should set an example of retrenchment; and I hope you will cheerfully and efficiently labor under the authority of the senate for the promotion of much-needed economy and reform."

In this hope the country cordially joins the senator from New Hampshire. That was a good point which Senator Cullom made when, speaking of the recent subsidence of the Populist movement which three or four years ago swept many Western Republicans from their feet, he said: "A party man requires to be firmer in the cyclone and not afraid of the squall." Several politicians of note would be better off than they are, if they had never stepped aside from this principle.

WHY ENGLAND WON'T FIGHT.

From the Chicago Record. Outside of her own colonies America furnishes the largest and most profitable market for British merchandise. Of the total imports of Great Britain over 20 per cent. is furnished by the western hemisphere and of her total exports over 20 per cent. is sold there. The following table shows the commerce of Great Britain with the countries that would very likely become involved in any hostilities that might occur with Venezuela.

Imports into Exports from

Mexico	\$17,779,296	\$18,323,823
Central America	1,743,975	3,122,430
Colombia	2,847,909	5,101,429
Venezuela	782,899	2,486,315
Ecuador	1,167,285	1,294,729
Peru	5,254,745	3,949,139
Brazil	42,870,745	20,172,507
Uruguay	1,235,265	7,644,465
Argentina Republic	30,843,129	23,166,573
Haiti and St. Domingo	466,269	1,746,296
Totals	\$99,796,965	\$96,467,450

In addition to this the commerce between Great Britain and the United States amounts annually to over \$600,000,000, three-fourths of which are for raw materials from our farms, which would be greatly missed by her people in case their commerce is interrupted by war. It is known to all students of history that the foreign policy of Great Britain has always been commercial and mercantile. Her aim is to get 6 per cent. on her money has been the motive for that little island, and that the conquest of India and Africa has been not so much for the gratification of ambition as for the purchase of the ports of Manchester and the other textile centers of Great Britain. Any thing that would interfere with this policy would not only be exceedingly unpopular with the entire British empire, but military would be sustained that would fight to lose instead of gain markets.

MR. WATTERSON'S TASK.

Major Handy, in the Times-Herald. Henry Watterson has a speaking tour hard lecturing for the last two or three years, and the result is, they tell me, that he has \$25,000 in bank to his credit. He expects to increase by \$2,000 before the middle of April, when he will sail for Europe, taking his family with him, and stay there a year or more. While abroad he will write a biography of Abraham Lincoln, which will be his magnum opus.

Everybody will rejoice in Watterson's success, for he is the best fellow that ever lived. Only in late years has he been a money-saver; if he had begun earlier he would be a rich man as it is. With a salary of \$15,000 a year from his great newspaper and a snug bank account, the wolf will never cross his mind. He is well qualified to write the biography of Lincoln, for although on the opposite side in the civil war, he knew Lincoln as the friend of his father in boyhood and has studied his character thoroughly and sympathetically. Moreover, Watterson has had more than anybody else to do with bringing the south to see the true character of Lincoln's character. Depend upon it he will write a book that will live.

A NEED OF THE TIMES.

From the Norfolk-Herald. One of the most remarkable omissions in connection with the administration of the United States government for more than a century is the failure to establish a permanent census bureau. Any person of intelligence can perceive the difficulty of obtaining correct results by a census bureau organized temporarily at the time of the census. The enumeration of inhabitants required by the constitution every tenth year. The United States census reports in the past have been notoriously unreliable, and steps should be taken to improve them in this respect. To do this a permanent census office should be established, and the proper legislation forthcoming at the present session of congress, so that the census of 1900 may be prompt, accurate and satisfactory in every respect.

AN INTERESTING BATTLE.

From the Elmira Advertiser. With each passing week the prospect for a lively time at the St. Louis convention grows brighter and brighter. Already there are in the field for the Republican presidential nomination not only the big four—Morton, McKinley, Allison and Reed—to which might now be added a big fifth—Quay—but in addition there are thirteen minor candidates mentioned, representing ten different states. It is evident that a great game of chess is to be played in St. Louis. None of these minor candidates has any idea that the fighting will begin in earnest, but he does have an idea that the leading

candidate and successful candidate will have to make connections with his fighting-ground before his presidential kite can rise.

INSTRUCTIVE FIGURES.

W. E. Curtis, in Chicago Record.

Mr. S. H. Russell, LaCrosse, wants to know the imports and exports during 1894 and the last year under the Harrison administration. As I am receiving so many inquiries on this subject I give the imports and exports of the United States from the first year of the Harrison administration until now:

Fiscal year	Exports	Imports
1889	\$72,461,375	\$75,123,552
1890	85,226,884	79,319,408
1891	85,683,979	84,913,186
1892	1,000,758,118	87,462,532
1893	817,565,194	86,400,922
1894	822,126,372	67,948,622
1895	753,327,839	71,957,879
Six months of 1896	427,981,911	410,760,097

It will be seen from the above statement that the high tide of our export trade was reached in 1892, the year following the negotiation of the reciprocity treaties. In that year the exports of agricultural products alone amounted to \$74,400,842, a sum nearly as large as the total exports for the year after they were revoked.

WHAT THE FIGURES SHOW.

W. E. Curtis, in Chicago Record. A reader asks for a comparative statement of the commerce between the United States and Great Britain before and since the Wilson tariff law went into effect. The imports into the United States from Great Britain during the first eleven months of 1894 were \$37,788,552, and in the corresponding period of 1895 they were \$76,062,091, showing the increase in the amount of merchandise purchased by the people of the United States in England under the reduced rates of duties to be \$38,273,539.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrologic case: 146 a. m. for Tuesday, March 10, 1896.

It will be apparent to a child born on this day that the temporary white frost that has settled on the vintner project will be removed in time. Luzerne citizens who hanged MacKnight, the missing merchant, yesterday, simply returned a compliment. They had, it is alleged, been previously "hung up" by MacKnight. Mrs. Rorer's skill in the preparation and dissemination of "taffy" has been questioned.

Scranton Straw ball broker just now seems to be in the position of a Wall street bull on the eve of a panic.

Ajacchus' Advice. Do not take too much pride in sticking to one idea. Remember that the opinion of a fool can never be altered.

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To see these goods is a revelation.

'TIS MUSIC IN THEIR EARS. THE JINGLE OF THE DOLLAR SAVED.

A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE THE BETTER SHOD FOR OUR

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All good things must have an end though, and our sale is near its close. On Monday, March 23d, we close to make the necessary improvements. Promptness on your part means money saved. It means a \$2.00 Shoe for \$1.38. A \$4.00 Shoe for \$2.48, and similar savings in all kinds of Men's, Women's and Children's Shoes.

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