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SCRANTON, APRIL 9, 1896. The Tribuno 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, 1886, at 10 o'clock a, m., in the operanouse, city of Harrisburg, for the purpose of adminating two candidates for the purpose of adminating two candidates for the purpose of adminating two candidates for the congress and pose of adminating two constress 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. Rex. W. R. Andrews, Secretaries.

The story that John Bull had secretly pledged Spain to keep Uncle Sam from , interfering with Cuba shows that the silly season has set in early this year.

The Drift Towards Harrison.

Had General Harrison been a shrewd and cunning politician, bent on turning every event to his own benefit, instead of a dignified, conscientious and model citizen pursuing in private life the same even and upright way that he uniformly pursued when president. he could not have fixed the date of his wedding more opportunely. It has come at the very time when the clashing of the interests of seeking aspirants for the political honor which he only a few months ago voluntarily set aside has prepared the minds of many Republicans to turn with some measure of ers interested in that kind of reading eagerness to the one solution at St. Louis which would concededly obviate to readers specially interested in them. factionalism, allay party and sectional In this period we do not recall that we irritation and present to the people as have had, all told, more than a dozen the nominee for president a man concerning whose honesty, ability, high or that it has been the means, so far as principle and experience they are thor- we know, of gaining for the paper one oughly assured. It is not clear that new subscriber. On the other hand, an General Harrisen would wish to be equal space given to sensations or called, even by unanimous draft, back to the position from which he was reflect itself in increased sales of paignorantly and most ungraciously eject- pers. Upon this point no publisher is ed by the now well-repented idiocy of uncertain. 1892; but we are by no means alone in the belief that circumstances are shaping themselves so as to make more than possible his nomination at St. Louis.

Says the Washington Post, a very keen observer of events political, and a journal which has exceptional facilities for estimating at an early moment the drift of public sentiment: "Of course, it is more than possible that, between this and the 7th of June, the whole situation may be transformed. But, meanwhile, the thoughtful men of the party are considering the chances carefully, and there can be no doubt that they are considering Harrison among them. And, after all, the country, while it might easily do much worse, can hardly do much better than with Harrison. He is at least not an experiment. We know him as a firm. patriotic wise and high-minded chief magistrate. He is not magnetic, he has none of the demagogue's cheap art. There is nothing about him to generate enthusiasm. He is cold, reserved. sometimes even brusque. But there is a scrength in the man, a self-reliant. self-contained force that impresses and reassures every intelligent person with whom he comes in contact. Instinctively men feel that the country's dignity and honor are safe in his hands; that he will wink at no evil, tolerate no affront, condone no shortcoming in any quarter. He is a sound lawyer, an upright citizen, a kind neighbor, and a faithful friend. He is not a humbug, a hypocrite, a poseur. He is what he seems to be-a straightforward, rather evitable features of political life. As una trative personality, puritanical in his ideas and his practices, but pure of life and thought and passionately devoted to his country and his flag. Furthermore, he is a man of simple habits, of domestic tastes, democratic in all his ways, not exalted above his fellow men but glad and proud to stand upon their unpretending level. The people have implicit confidence in his

pacities." It has been said that if Major McKinley were the nominee his own name would be the party platform. With reference to the single doctrine of protection this is clearly true. But the name of Benjamin Harrison, if in any shift of politics it should be replaced by imperious party demand at the Republican masthead, would not only be a platform for protection fully equalling in significance the name of Mc-Kinley, but elso a platform of safe. clean and demonstrated all-round Americanism, such as the party has had but once since the days of Abraham Lincoln; a platform which would, in anticipation, unite the brilliant

judgment, his integrity, and his pa-

triotism. Even when he does what

they do not like, they believe in the

honesty of his motives and accept the

act with unabated satisfaction. They

have seen him at home, on the battle-

field, in congress, and in the executive

chair, and they give their faith and

their esteem in every one of those ca-

substantial traits of an intellect not given to Blaine's caprices. To be sure, the renomination of General Harrison can come, with honor, only in one way -by the free and unforced voice of the whole party, speaking with practical unanimity through its national convention, after the avowed candidates shall have failed, after a fair chance, to secure a majority of delegates. Yet such an outcome is not only possible; it is, in our judgment, daily verging toward the probable.

During the first full year of the Mc-Kinley law, our exports experienced a gain of \$146,000,000. During the same period under the Wilson law, the gain was only \$363,733 over the previous year. Figures tell the story.

The Mission of the Press.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Bulletin-one of these volunteers of the pen who add variety to the life of newspaper editors by furnishing comment and advice gratis-writes to that excellent journal, which already is perhaps somewhat overshooting the intellectual level of the great bulk of readers of daily newspapers, asking it to make larger provision for the wants of that class of readers who are deeply interested in literary matters. The argument he makes in support of this claim is ingenious, if not wholly convincing. He says: "All daily papers devote pages every

week to sporting topics, because a large portion of the public care a great deal about such subjects, but the space devoted to literature and kindred topics is disproportionately meagre. A paper like the Bulletin appeals to an intelligent class of readers. Thousands of them are deeply interested in what is occurring in the world of thought. Thousands of them think the appearance of a great book a more important event than the tragle death of a vulgar and disreputable woman, and care more to learn what the poets and novelists, the historians, the scientists and philosophers are doing than they do to be enlightened in regard to the achievements of the base ball players, the bicyclists and the race horses. Of course, a great paper must gratify many diverse tastes, but is it not true that the tastes of the intellectual and cultured classes are largely neglected by most papers?"

This correspondent, we fear, judges the public's tastes by his own. He likes to read book reviews, and therefore imagines that Tom. Dick and Harry share the same eagerness. But do they? One can judge only by what one knows through personal experience. During the past two years, The Tribune has tried the experiment of devoting from one-half a column to seven columns weekly to book reviews and literary gossip generally. This department has not been as well done as it should have been, although it perhaps has been as satisfactory to readas the other departments have been commendations for that experiment. sports each week would quite quickly

We mention this in no spirit of discouragement, for the literary corner will be maintained, just the same, as well as time and space will permit. We mention it merely to give emphasis to our conjecture that the Philadelphia Bulletin's correspondent is somewhat mistaken in his premises. What he says concerning the superiority in interest of the appearance of a great book bringing knowledge or pleasure to unnumbered thousands of human beings over the scandalous death of some disreputable woman whose only legacy to society is an awful example, ought to be true, and it is to the shame of the American people that, with free schools and free churches everywhere inviting to a higher level of education and culture, it is not true. The plain fact, nevertheless, is that out of ten average buyers of newspapers eight want sensation, and by reason of that want are likely, nine times in ten, to get it For newspapers are not endowed against the loss of subscribers and advertisers; and even if they were all models of elevated taste they would be powerless for good unless the people read them.

The story is renewed that Congressman Leisenring of Luzerne is not to have smooth sailing for a renomination. The names of ex-Senator Williams and Colonel W. J. Harvey are mentioned as possible opponents, we do not know with what authority. The charge against Leisenring is ingratitude to friends. This is one of the into the basis of the present charge we know nothing, but we are rendy to predict that Mr. Leisenring will have very little difficulty in securing a re-

Adopt the Metric System.

Since 1840, when it was authoritatively adopted by France, the metric system of weights and measures has won its way into recognition by every important civilized nation with only three exceptions-England, Russia and the United States. A bill is today before congress to legitimatize the metric system in this country on and after Jan.

1, 1901, and it should pass. The reasons for it are many; the one reason against it is unimportant. It is argued that the change would prove confusing, which no doubt would for a time be true. But as a recompense we should have the consolation of emihent company in the confusion; we should reduce the total number of our measuring terms by nearly fifty per cent.; and most important of all, we should be in vastly better condition to bid successfully for larger trade relations with the sister republics of Latin-America, which without exception are

in significance the name of Mcley, but also a platform of safe.
In and demonstrated all-round ericanism, such as the party has but once since the days of Abrain Lincoln; a platform which would, anticipation, unite the brilliant comacy of Blaine with the solid and.

The wulgar fashion, set by Richard Mansfeld, of abusing an audience because it happens to be limited in numbers, has been adopted by Robert Mantell, who assured the people of St. Louis that he supposed he would "have to take his company to Europe before it would be considered good enough for the American public to patronize." We cannot speak for Mr. Mantell's company, which we have not had the artistic enjoyment of inspect-

The world-at-large is getting together. Under these circumstances it would be foolish for the United States to persist in its adherence to a standard of weights and coinage which would only tend to complicate and impede our growing international trade.

The Carlisle declination is interpreted by his friends to have a string to it. But it will probably not become necessary for him to pull that string.

Resorting to an Old Trick.

The Philadelphia Record is the one Democratic newspaper coming in our mails that has the hardihood to credit the Wilson bill with being a better revenue producer than the McKinley bill. It reaches this conclusion by comparing the receipts during the last nineteen months of the latter law with the receipts during the first nineteen months of the Wilson law, and showing they were \$32,500,000 less.

It does not, however, supplement its figures by explaining that during the last nineteen months of the McKinley law imports were held back by foreign dealers in the expectation that the American tariff would be lowered by the Democrats. This dammed-up volume of imports was let loose as soon as the Wilson law took effect, which accounts for the momentarily greater revenue under that law. The spurt however, soon subsided. Under the McKinley law, the revenue was so palpable that the Democratic press constantly worried about the surplus. Under the Wilson law, after the first rush of belated imports was over, the only sure result achieved was an equally conspicuous deficit, which is admitted by Carlisle's own figures.

We would not take the trouble to correct a misrepresentation so patent as is the Record's were it not that the Democrats, in desperation, seem to be slowly drifting to a renewal of the tacties of statistical jugglery and falsification employed by them, with rare success, in 1890 and 1892. It is worth while reminding a fooled public not to put additional confidence in their twotime deceivers.

The Rochester Post-Express, in anticipation that McKinley will be the Republican nominee, wants the Democrats to put up Wilson and have the tariff question settled once for all. There is no doubt that this would be the logic of the situation, if Democracy paid any attention to logic.

What Benjamin Harrison lacks in ability to excite hurrah-boy enthusiasm of the torch-light-and-cannoncracker order, he probably makes up in ability to command the level-headed appreciation of men who think.

BELLIGERENCY AND WAR.

From the Philadelphia Press. Sundry Spanish papers are inclined to treat the grant of belligerent rights to the Cuban insurrection by the United States as a fit ground for war. The Spanish government has a right-as has every

ish government has a right—as has every nation—to make that or any other ast a costs beili, an occasion for a declaration of war, but it would be an occasion and not a cause. Precedent is overwhelming that the recognition of a belligerent condition as existing is not a ground for war. It was not so held by Spain when England recognized the belligerency of her colonies at the opening of the century. This country did not even characterize the proclamations giving belligerent rights at the opening of our own civil war as "unfriendly acts." Spain was one of the first and earliest powers to issue such a proclamation and did so while every organ of Spanish opinion was expressing gan of Spanish opinion was e:

proclamation and did so while every organ of Spanish opinion was expressing sympathy with the south. With Spain and with all the other powers our position was that the facts did not warrant these proclamations; but we never claimed that they gave us the right to break off diplomatic relations or threaten war.

The entire theory of belligerency precludes this. The proclamation in which a state of war, public or civil, is recognized as existing is never addressed to other nations. It is not for them. It does not alter their status in the struggle crout of it. It has nothing to do with either just to the belligerent condition as far as their mutual relations are concerned. If the combatants were on one side or the other traitors, traitors they remain, if both combatants refuse to recognize the laws of civilized warfare, or one does so—as is the case with Spain—a recognition of belligerency does not alter this. In war it is a fundamental principle that the only judges and the last and supreme judges of the way in which the war shall be conducted are the two combatants, except and in so far as they trench on the rights of third parties. It is the essence of war that laws and regulations cease, except as one combatant or the other regards them. If the "rules of war" are broken. that laws and regulations cease, except as one combatant or the other regards them. If the "rules of war" are broken, other nations have but three grounds of intervention: First, their right to act anywhere on their own discretion as guardians of civilization; second, their indefeasible right to act if they deem their individual interests menaced, and, third, their mutual and general right to proffer "friendly offices," subject to the equal right to reject them.

The theory of the recognition of belligerent rights rests on the fact that a The theory of the recognition of belligerent rights rests on the fact that a neutral government notes a state of war existing and warms its own subjects not to take part in it or be drawn into it in any way whatever. Instead of relaxing American precautions against shipments of expeditions, the departure of vessels or the extension of aid to either combatant; it increases these precautions. As long as there is only a mob and bandits in Cuba the United States authorities may be ignorant, but when the government itself sees war there and proclaims the fact the United States is ubject to all the specific responsibilities of a neutral. If, for instance, an armed vessel or one ready to become one left our ports and attacked Spanish commerce, the United States would be responsible for every dollar of damage done, unless able to prove affirmatively that all reasonable precautions had been taken to prevent the escape. In addition, when a belligerent condition is declared by us, Spanish cruisers would have a right to search our merchantmen on the high seas, if reasonable ground for suspicion existed in regard to them and the search was properly conducted.

For Spain under these circumstances and conditions to make the proclamation and injunction of strict neutrality by the United States a ground for war would be ridiculous. Recognition of Cuban independence would be another matter. Recognition of a belliserent condition carries no threat of war, but is instead a pledge of neutrality. Since it is an act which affects and determines executive policy, it rests with the president, and must rest with the president, and must rest with the president, to decide when and how the recognition of belligerent conditions and a pledge of neutrality shall be made. The express opinion of congress has its weight and must be regarded, but the time and method of passing on the facts which constitute a condition of war and require a warning to the citizens of the United States that absolute neutrality must be observed are subjects for executive action through diplomatic channels, if, indeed, Spain is looking for a quarrel and prefers—as several English newspapers, among others the conservative London Economist, ever—to lose Cuba by war with the United States rather than by insurrection, one excuse is as good as another, but this country cannot nermit war with the United States rather than of insurrection, one excuse is as good as another, but this country cannot permit such a spirit or attitude to affect its discharge of neutral obligations by recognizing the presence of war, if war exists.

THE PEOPLE'S SIDE.

From the Chicago Times-Herald.

ing this season, but we do not doubt that a few years of study and prayer in Europe or any other equally desirable place of retirement would be of material advantake to Mr. Mantell. It is the great American privilege to amuse one's self as one sees fit, and to spend one's money as he may desire. The gooner the Mansfields and the Mantells discover this great fundamental truth the sooner they will take what the gods provide and be thankful.

A LAND OF POSSIBILITIES.

From the Chicago Times-Herald. When a young man with a prospective fortune of \$10,000 600 is tangied up as to his affections with a young woman worth \$50,000,000, the circumstance becomes one of national interest. It seems a pity that a little of that good Whitney and Vanderbill money chould not get into a family a little of that good Whitney and Vander-bilt money should not get into a family where it is needed, but 'tis the way of the world, and wealth comorts with wealth. Young Mr. Whitney is a very decent sort of fellow, as young men of his type go, and Miss Vanderbilt is as likely to set the Hudson river on fire as any of the Vanderbilt heiresses. There is at least the satisfaction of knowing that the \$50,000,000 will remain in America, and will be an object lesson for poor and indus-trious youth of the possibilities of the great American republic.

THE CENSUS OF 1802.

From the New York Recorder. According to a calculation made by El-mer L. Corthell, the well-known engi-neer of the Tehmantenec railroad in Mex-ico, the census of 1920 will show the lead-ing cities of the world possessed of the following populations:

Population.

Greater London.... Greater New York.

Doubtful. Chollie—I had a fevah once and for three weeks I positively didn't know anything. K!ttle—That was dreadful, but don't you think you'll ever get over it?—life.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacobus. The Tribunc Astrologer.
Astrolabe cost: 1.18 a. m., for Thursday,
April 9, 1895.

of a It will be apparent to a child born on this day that there was a "keep off the grass" vein/of loneliners in the Republi-can's armless-waman picture of the char-tic ball

It does not seem possible that even the milk of human kindness will induce Mr. Hedford to become chief of Scranton po-

Politicians who display the greatest activity in stringing the fish are generally absent at bait-digging time. Indifferent, indeed, is the local Demo-cratic politician who can discuss the mu-nicipal patronage situation without whis-kers in this voice.

Ajacchus' Advice. Major Penman and Solicitor Torrey will do well not to collide with "the greatest show on earth" if they wish to retain the respect of the small boy.

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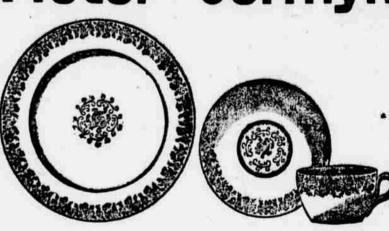
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