

The Scranton Tribune

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All the prophets agree in predicting an extra session. Let it come. There is plenty of work for one.

The Pirate in Business.

Monday's pronouncement by the court of this county in the matter of the attachment proceedings growing out of the Driesen failure, besides passing upon some phases of the act of 1889 not heretofore judicially interpreted, struck a vigorous blow at an evil which is assuming grave proportions. It is the practice of defrauding foreign creditors, and is carried on to an extent the average layman little dreams of. One direct effect is the serious injury to the credit of the city in some of the large markets of the country, and as a result great injury is worked to men who are ambitious to embark in business in a legitimate way.

The vigorous language of the court in speaking of the piratical business methods recently brought to its attention will have a good effect. It will be notice to business parasites that the eye of justice is upon them, and that they cannot hope to carry their plans to a successful conclusion unless they keep well within the pale of the law. When a failure occurs it will not do to juggle with facts and accounts and then endeavor to leech the whole proceedings with testimony prepared for that purpose. On that point the language of the court is commendably clear and decisive.

In no state has any branch of the law attained perfection, but it is the universal complaint in the business world, east, west, north and south, that the laws for the punishment of men who in business transactions rob as boldly and deliberately as does the highwayman who lies in wait for his victim, are entirely inadequate. Highway robbery is one of the gravest crimes on the criminal calendar and one of the most severely punished. Business highway robbery, owing to the defective condition of our laws, never rises above false pretenses and in only about one case in a hundred is it possible to hold the robber even that trivial charge.

With this as the condition of affairs it is gratifying to see the courts take a stand that may prevent the highwayman from walking smugly out of court with a quasi-legal seal of approval on his business methods while the stolen dollars bulge from his pockets.

The silversmiths now propose to prosecute among the business men. To all the comfort they can get they will be welcome.

Why?

The Wilkes-Barre Record, in well-forgotten innocence, observes:

Why should the combining of the county members to elect the speaker be regarded as a "snub" at Quay or a "snub" to Hastings? There are 15 so-called "country members" and 20 Philadelphia members. We fail to see any logical reason why the 15 should not unite, if they can, to elect one of their own number as their presiding officer; nor do we see why they should elect a member of the Philadelphia party. He is entitled to an equality with other Quay, Hastings, or any other recognized party leader. The "country" candidates for the speakership have all expressed the hope that the United States senatorship question should not enter into the speakership contest, and that is right. Mr. Quay is said to desire the election of Mr. Boyer to the speakership. That is his right. He is entitled to his choice the same as any other Republican. Possibly Governor Hastings also favors Mr. Boyer, and he too is entitled to a preference if he has one. But neither the senator nor the governor is justified in regarding as a personal and political enemy every Republican member of the legislature who may prefer a different candidate than Mr. Boyer for the speakership.

Concerning the right of country members or city members or groups of both to combine at pleasure for any purpose within their reach there cannot of course be two opinions. That right exists and is not abridged. The next point to consider is whether it is always prudent and expedient to utilize such a right. In the present case, ex-Speaker Boyer was put forward as a candidate for another term as speaker, not because he is a "city" member-elect, but because he is by all odds the ablest and most experienced parliamentarian in the house and because moreover he is in thorough sympathy with Senator Quay's programme of reform legislation. He was in the field in his own name and right long before the present or, perhaps we should say recent, "combine" was formed. The latter was instigated directly by factional enemies of Senator Quay—by men who are showing gratitude to him for past kindnesses by plotting night and day to destroy him. Their cry of country against city is an old story cry with nothing in it, and it is used now as it has been used before, solely to accomplish a factional purpose. The men who are manipulating this movement—the city chaps who don't appear on the surface—are enemies both to Quay and Hastings and these two eminent Republicans would not be human did they not recognize this fact and take steps looking to their own protection.

We make this explanation, not for the Record's sake, for it knows the facts as well as we do and is simply posing for effect; but to enlighten any of our readers who may not have understood the exact purport of the organized antagonism to Boyer. It is a blow at the present leadership of the party in Pennsylvania lacking only strength to accomplish its utter annihilation. Those who favor that leadership are mindful of the victories it has accomplished naturally stand by Boyer.

"We do not doubt," remarks Colonel McClure apropos of the intention of the Wanamaker and Penrose forces to fight for the United States senatorship in part by petitions, "that half a dozen canvassers in this city could obtain in a single day 1,000 names to a petition recommending that Mr. Wanamaker, Mr. Penrose, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Young or Mr. Widener should be executed on the gibbet and then drawn and quartered." That is true almost everywhere. The petition as a political sign board is most unreliable.

Civil Service Bounds.

It is reported that President Cleveland is considering the advisability of placing fourth-class postmasters on the civil service list. He has the power to do so if he deems it advisable, and a strong effort is being made by present holders of those offices to induce him to use that power, thereby entrenching them against future dismissal. The fact that the present executive has extended the civil service law over clerks, letter-carriers and miscellaneous employees of first and second class is taken as ground for the prediction that he will not leave his administration's fourth-class appointments to the uncertain mercies of a Republican regime.

There is no doubt that from the standpoint of the Republican congressmen-elect it would simplify matters were Mr. Cleveland to fulfill this intention. Patronage to congressmen is a source of weakness instead of strength. Every man named for a postoffice means a dozen men offended and prepared at the earliest opportunity to take summary revenge. The putting of fourth-class offices on the civil service list would do away with nine-tenths of the patronage worryments of each member-elect of the Fifty-fifth congress and leave him free to strengthen himself among his constituents by the performance of more serious and more generally acceptable public service than the parceling out of spoils.

But on other grounds we fear that the proposed move is impracticable. It would carry with it in fairness and logic the necessity eventually of applying the same rules to the selection of first and second class postmasters, and to this few thoughtful citizens would assent. The head of a large postoffice is an executive official who ought to be in sympathy with the policies of the administration in power and directly responsible to that administration for the carrying out within his area of responsibility of its ideas and its will. To make his office one of life tenure would be to encourage the swelling of his head far beyond the bounds of prudence or public comfort. The application of civil service rules should stop at the line which divides skilled labor, working under direction, from executive brain and managerial responsibility.

It is interesting to note that the Magee forces in Allegheny and elsewhere are lining up for Wanamaker and against Boyer.

The Popular Vote.

Approximately complete returns from every state in the union relative to the recent presidential election indicate the following popular vote, which is official so far as the two leading candidates are concerned:

Table with 4 columns: State, McKinley, Bryan, Total. Lists states from Alabama to Wyoming with corresponding vote counts.

The total vote cast is 13,579,923, approximately, including about 100,000 prohibition votes and 50,000 Bryan and Watson votes. McKinley's plurality is 82,364, which is the largest on record. In 1860 Lincoln had 491,195; in 1864 he had 497,342; in 1868 Grant had 205,456; and in 1872, 762,991; in 1876 Tilden had 256,925 although Hayes was elected; in 1880 Garfield had 7,018; in 1884 Cleveland had 62,638; in 1888 he had 98,017 although Harrison was elected, and in 1892 he had 398,810.

We do not see the logic of the suggestion that General Harrison, having once been president, could not with propriety become a cabinet adviser to another president of the same political faith. We think it would be a magnificent object lesson in propriety were he to do just that very thing.

Electricity from Coal.

Some time ago reference was made in The Tribune to the Jacques process of generating electricity directly from coal without the intermediary use of steam. The man who solved this long-perplexing problem, Dr. William W. Jacques, of Boston, has in the December issue of Harper's magazine an interesting paper descriptive of his experiments and of the conclusions thus far reached.

From this we learn that the apparatus first used was very simple. A platinum crucible was partially filled with common potash, kept liquid by suspension over a gas flame. A lump of coke was hung in the potash by a platinum wire. Into the molten potash a stream of air was blown through a tube. The wire holding the coke was the negative pole, and a second wire attached to the crucible was the positive pole of the generator. The oxygen of the air combined with the carbon, the production of heat was prevented by the liquid; a conducting path was afforded in which a current of electricity was developed; the two wires were attached to a small electric

motor, which moved in proportion to the current of air blown into the liquid. Defining an "electrolytic carrier" as a liquid which allows atoms of oxygen and a current of electricity to pass through it, Dr. Jacques says: "Stated scientifically, my discovery is that if the oxygen of the air be caused to combine with carbon, not directly as in combustion, but through an intervening electrolytic carrier, the stored-up energy of the carbon may be converted directly into electrical energy, and not into heat. Stated crudely, my invention consists in generating electricity by causing the oxygen of the air to combine with coal beneath the level of a suitable liquid."

Dr. Jacques does not claim that this invention has yet been brought to a point where it is commercially available, though he thinks that he has made substantial progress and believes that the object can be attained. If his belief is justified, there is, of course, as the New York Times points out, "nothing less than a revolution impending more important in its ultimate effects than the discovery of steam power and the invention of the steam engine. Electricity is already not only a motive power, but a source of heat and light. It is now produced, according to Dr. Jacques, at an average waste of 97.4 per cent., and by the use of only 2.6 per cent. of the energy theoretically obtainable from coal, though the maximum results are at least three times as good as this. Dr. Jacques' two-horse-power apparatus, he says, saves 22 per cent. That is an enormous gain. Imagine the value of the coal supply of the world multiplied by four, taking the best results now got, or by 12, taking the average; then imagine even that gain doubled! It makes Aladdin's lamp pale in its intellectual glow."

And think, too, of its possible bearing on the coal trade!

Dingley, of Maine, is the latest sure tip for secretary of the treasury. Dingley would be a prudent, cautious, experienced and thoroughly honest financier. His appointment would command general respect.

Judge Goff, of West Virginia, is believed by many to be the owner of the hat which, after March 4, will sit on the brow of the next attorney-general; and a good one he'd be, too.

Walter Wellman says that Mark Hanna would prefer the navy to the treasury portfolio. Mark, it will be remembered, is something of a skipper himself.

Just a Word or Two of Casual Mention

Scranton possesses a clean young man of good parents who with a few others has been suspended from Princeton until after the holidays. He is a sophomore and participated in a prank against a party of freshmen. The prank consisted in a foot ball outfit one evening and lay in wait for seven freshmen who were returning from an evening gathering of a religious nature. The freshmen were outnumbered and were hustled to a secluded spot where in their clean dress and neat attire they were forced to play foot ball. The result was rather disastrous to the freshmen's garments. The faculty heard of it and decided upon summary punishment of the offenders, for having, while generally based at Princeton, is almost a crime if practiced upon students going to or returning from any gathering of a religious nature. The faculty was baffled in its search but the seniors did a little successful detective work. Through them the names of the guilty sophs became known to the faculty, and the suspension resulted.

"Oh, just one kiss!" he fondly cried, "One kiss I crave from thee, But grant it, and the heavenly gates Will stand ajar for me."

She raised her ruby lips to his, But they are feet today, The foot took only one, and so She ordered him away.

Rev. John Griffin, of the West Side, is preparing for the press a book on "The Welsh Pilgrim Fathers of Pennsylvania," on which subject he delivered two lectures in St. David's hall last spring. Mr. Griffin was until recently temporary pastor of the Summer Avenue Presbyterian church. When asked by a Tribune reporter yesterday whether he planned to return to his native land, he said that his present intention was to remain in this city. The preparation of his book is now engaging the greater part of his time and attention.

"What you need is a warmer climate," Mr. Grumpey, said the doctor in his most persuasive tone. "I guess you'll get there all right enough" was the unambiguous response.—Detroit Free Press.

Manager John D. Misher, of the Misher-Burkholder circuit of theaters, is a firm believer in a six-year presidential term. He writes on the subject to the Philadelphia Times: "We have experienced with much relief a longer term for the mayor of our city and for the less frequent renewal of state legislatures. For the nation, less political agitation would be an incalculable advantage. I would like to hear common sense reasons why the term should continue to have this political and financial turmoil every four years. I am associated with eleven theaters in Eastern Pennsylvania, and my experience with leading theatrical managers throughout the country is such that I believe the receipts this fall, on account of politics, parades, meetings, etc., for amusement were but a shadow of what they would have been had the election not been held. If their candidate is elected, and as there are always half a dozen or more applicants for each position, and as the two sides cannot both win, it can readily be imagined the disappointment of a great number of men and women. Those people would be employed or seeking employment if it were not for the state going election. They live on credit, bolster up on the hope of securing some appointment, and when the decision comes against them they are distraught and disappointed. More people have been made indolent through association with politics than through any other channel. I feel assured that a change in the term of the president of the United States, with its adjuncts, would be a great blessing to the American people." Mr. Misher is right.

For face was her fortune, you know, And hither is her cup, For her face is all gone, and now She has to have it chucked up.

Next Monday night the Scranton whist club will spend one dozen of its expert players to Emilia to do battle at duplicate whist with twelve representatives of the Century club of that place. The match is attracting considerable attention.

"I hear, sir, that you called me fat-headed." "Dear me, how odd! I should do get misapprehended! If I said anything of the sort at all, I must have said

that you were broad-minded."—Indiana Journal.

Congressman-elect Morgan E. Williams, of Louisiana, has had upon an interesting solution of the patronage problem. He tells applicants for postoffices without any equivocation just whom he intends to recommend for appointment, and tells them at once. Thereby he gives the disappointed ones time in which to cool off and spare them a great deal of superfluous energy.

Hugh Jennings, of Avoca, the crack-jack shortstop who with five other members of the Baltimore base ball club is believed to have been the cause of Harry Merrill, of the Wilkes-Barre Record, denying that his party went over as a candidate in the ship's hold. He adds: "Our trip so far has been a most enjoyable one. We spent three days in Liverpool and ten days in London, visiting all the places of interest in and around both cities. I met in London, House of Parliament, the Tower of London, British Museum and Gullie Hall were places of unusual interest to us. London is a wonderful city, but outside of the historical places, I care not where it can come, for rain, fog and muddy streets London, in my opinion, comes first; and I realize now why the expression comes from 'It's raining in London.'"

The legislative members-elect from Luzerne county have been put by newspaper gossip into a doze of different combinations on the speakership and senatorial questions, but we have authority for saying that only one of the five is yet committed to any one party. The others are presently foreclosed. As it happens, but two ex-presidents have been returned to public life. John Quincy Adams represented a Massachusetts district in congress for nearly twenty years, after leaving the presidential chair, and died at the post of duty, and Andrew Johnson had just been elected to the senate, when his sudden death came to him suddenly. Van Buren, Fillmore and Cleveland were presidential candidates after intervals of retirement, and Cleveland was elected, the single instance of a return to the presidency, save in immediate succession. Other ex-presidents have led private lives, some of them, indeed, like John Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Jackson, not without large influence upon the currents of political thought and action, but without official place. General Harrison should feel at liberty to accept an invitation to enter President McKinley's cabinet. He is still in the full vigor of his faculties, and not yet advanced in age. It is sincerely to be hoped that he may see his way clearly to re-entering the public service.

HARRISON AND THE CABINET.

There has been much speculation as to what ought to be done with our ex-presidents. Pensions have been proposed, as well as life sonarships. The latter seem entirely fitting that one who has been at the head of the greatest nation of the earth should be remanded to retirement and his country should be permanently foreclosed. As it happens, but two ex-presidents have been returned to public life. John Quincy Adams represented a Massachusetts district in congress for nearly twenty years, after leaving the presidential chair, and died at the post of duty, and Andrew Johnson had just been elected to the senate, when his sudden death came to him suddenly. Van Buren, Fillmore and Cleveland were presidential candidates after intervals of retirement, and Cleveland was elected, the single instance of a return to the presidency, save in immediate succession. Other ex-presidents have led private lives, some of them, indeed, like John Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Jackson, not without large influence upon the currents of political thought and action, but without official place. General Harrison should feel at liberty to accept an invitation to enter President McKinley's cabinet. He is still in the full vigor of his faculties, and not yet advanced in age. It is sincerely to be hoped that he may see his way clearly to re-entering the public service.

LET THE MONEY FLY!

The way to get good times is to make them. McKinley is elected, sure enough. It seems quite possible that a sound money majority has also been secured in the United States senate. The future looks bright. But don't wait for the inauguration of McKinley to inaugurate prosperity. "One may cry 'hokey,' 'hokey,' all day," says the Turkish proverb, "without bringing sweetness to the mouth." Prophecy betterment doesn't bring it. But the man who pays his small bills sets the wheels turning. Nothing now stands in the way of business but inertia. Give the cart a push. A dollar is still a dollar in the United States. It pays better to use it than to hoard it. Therefore, let the money fly. Let it earn its keep. Whoever uses a small debt, is able to pay it, and doesn't pay it, is a lame, a mawkish and an obstructionist. The man who pays is like a running spring which constantly gives what it gets for the world's refreshment. The cheerful payer should take his place alongside the cheerful giver. Let it be a deserving in the estimation of his kind and his Creator.

SOUNDLY AMERICAN.

If the admission of Hawaii to our Union becomes a feature of the administration of Mr. McKinley, it will be a peaceful annexation. With the securing of a proper revenue for the country, the construction of the isthmus canal, as soon as a plan is agreed upon by the government's engineers, will be no longer a grievous burden to carry. The securing of the island of St. Thomas as a coaling station promises well for the confidence of the foreign powers. The Cuban platform, as sound, straight, and American, and on them, as on its home-made money planks, the new administration can stand with the confident expectation of peace and prosperity for the country.

ASKING TOO MUCH.

There are some things which Mr. Cleveland can never do for Spain. He cannot follow out a suggestion once made by the speaker to aid in the suppression of the Cuban insurrection. He cannot call upon the insurgents to lay down their arms, as Spain has thought he should. He cannot, it would seem, prevent wholly the shipment of arms to Cuba. He cannot expel from this country the Cuban patriots who reside here. He does not possess the power to stem the tide of American sympathy for Cuba. Spain asks too much from this administration when she asks Mr. Cleveland to do such things.

DISPROVE.

From the Cleveland Leader. That old superstition about the impossibility of beating the candidate who is nominated at Chicago has also been smashed.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxchus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 2:12 a. m., for Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1896.

A child born on this day will notice that in local journalism one way is liable to be found another, by way of explanation. There is no reason why the editor of the Sunday World would not make a good candidate for the office of street commissioner.

The political situation to the average Democrat looks like a Janko piano keyboard. The voice of the people will probably become decidedly husky before it succeeds in attracting the attention of Mayor Bailey to office again.

Seek not to make the humble feel. Additionally perplexed; For by a move of fortune's wheel It may be your turn next.

LOVE IN POLITICS.

Laura ran for office; Love hath many arts—"Now," cried he, "for monarchy, And Laura—queen of hearts."

But the people clamored At so strange a thing; All the world enamored Cried: "A king! a king!"

Candidates—a hundred "Thousand through the way! Till the mad skies thundered At the stormy day.

Then Love plucked a blossom From a plot of spring, Plunged it on her forehead, And she kissed him king! —Stanton, in Times-Herald.

GOLDSMITH'S G.B. BAZAAR. COLORED DRESS GOODS.

If you have got Dress Goods to buy, it would seem almost imperative that you should take advantage of this offering. Couldn't touch them a month ago at anything like these prices.

There'll be busy buying and you ought to be among the buyers. Our 150 styles of this Season's Novelties, which ranged from 39 to 75 cents per yard, many of which are now on display in our big window,

Your Choice for a Full Dress Pattern, \$2.98.

November Cloak Selling.

We planned early for the biggest garment business in our history and we are getting it, too. We are now in shape for a few days' phenomenal selling, many of them at two-thirds October prices. To hesitate is to lose the Best Cloak Chance of the season:

- Children's Garments, 4-12 years, \$1.49 upwards.
Ladies' Capes, from 98c
Ladies' Jackets, from \$3.98
Ladies' Fur Collarettes, from \$4.98

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