the Scranton Tribune

at Screaton, Pa., by The Tribun

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will convene today will do all that is seriously required of it if it shall pass the necessary appropriation bills, wind up the deferred business of the last

For Reform in Politics.

session and adjourn.

In view of the nearness of the next legislature it is timely to recall the resolutions adopted last year by the Republicans of Pennsylvania in state convention assembled, upon motion of

Senator Quay: We decry the growing use of money in politics, and corporate control of legisla-tures, municipal councils, political primaries and elections, and favor the enact-ment of legislation and the enforcement of laws to correct such abuses. We earnof laws to correct such abuses. We eather eatly insist upon a form of civil service which will prevent the enslavement of public officers and employes and the com-pelling of those appointed to preserve the peace to confine themselves to their duties; which will insure absolute freedon and fairness in bestowing state and county and municipal contracts, and will punish any form of favoritism in grant-ing them; which will forbid the grant of exclusive favorities. of exclusive franchises to deal in public necessities, comforts, conveyances and sanitary requirements; and will insure the recognition of ability and fidelity in recognition of ability and fidelity in the public service, keeping service to the country ever forement, when accompanied by ability and fitness. We demand that public office shall be for public benefit and its term in subordinate positions shall be during good behavior. No public employe or officer shall be permitted to influence primaries or elections nor upon any pretence be assessed upon his sainty. be assessed upon his and all unnecessary positions and salaries should be abolished, and expenditures and taxation reduced. There should be uniform valuation of property for public pur-poses, corporations enjoying public privileges should pay for them, and schools should be divorced from politics and kept absolutely free from political influence

By adopting these resolutions in August, 1895, and by reaffirming them this year, the Republican party in this state has committed itself to the entire programme of reforms outlined in them and must keep its faith. It does not matter-at least it should not matterin this connection whether the resolutions were drafted in a spirit of sincerity or not; they have ceased to be individual property, they are now party creed and doctrine, and party honor demands that they be honestly, impartially and effectually enforced.

Two measures have been drafted for presentation to the legislature embodying some of the purposes of the Quay resolutions. The one establishing the civil service of the state, of the cities, and of counties having more than 150,-000 population upon a merit basis has been formally approved by the party in state convention and also meets with the favor of the Pennsylvania Civil Service Reform association. Its provisions may be summarized as follows:

Section 1 provides that the governor, with the consent of the senate, shall appoint three salaried commissioners, who shall constitute the civil service commission. Not more than two of said coms shall be members of the same political party, and the term of one commissioner shall expire each year. Sec-tion 2 provides that the commission shall classify the public employes; and excepts elective offices and some others from the operation of the act. It also directs that rules and regulations shall be prepared by the commission subject to the appro-val of the governor. Section 4 provides for open, competitive, practical examinatigns of applicants, and requires appoint-ing officers to select in each case from the three graded highest as the result of such examinations. It also directs that when-ever practicable vacancies shall be filled by promotions based upon merit, and that when other qualifications are equal preference shall be given to veterans. It further provides for certain noncompetitive examinations, and regulates examinations of laborers. Section 5 directs that public notice shall be given of rules and examinations. Sections 7 and 8 provide for sal-aries for the examiners and other employes of the commission, and for its being furnished with offices, etc. Section 9 directs that complete records shall be kept and be open to inspection. Section 10 gives to the commission the necessary powers for supervising the enforcement of the act. Section 13 forbids solicitation on behalf of applicants. Section 16 forbids absolute removals except for some cause which shall be put in writing, and shall be neither political nor religious. Sections 17, 18 and 19 prohibit political assessments and the use of corrupt invence. Section 20 provides penalties for violations of the

The other measure aims to prevent corrupt practices at general and primary elections, to limit the expenses of candidates and political committees and to provide penalties and remedies for its violation. It has evidently been outlined with great care, for it fills twelve printed pages and leaves no visible loophole. It first defines as guilty of bribery at public or primary elec-

Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself, or by any other per-son on his behalf, give, lend or agree to give or lend, or shall offer, promise, or promise to procure or endeavor to procure any money or valuable consideration to or for any voter, or to or for any per-son on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any voter to vote or refrain from voting, or shall do any such act as aforesaid on account of such voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election. Also every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself or by any other person on his behalf, give or procure, or agree to give or procure, or offer, pomise, or promise to procure or endeavor to procure any office, place or employment, public or private, to or for any voter, or to or for or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce such voter to vote or refrain from voting, or shall do any such act as afore-said on account of any voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election, Also every person who shall, directly or indirectly by himself, or by any other person on his behalf, make any such gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement or agreement, as aforegald, to or for any person, in order to induce such person to procure or endeavor to procure the elec-tion of any person to a public office, or the vote of any voter at any election. Also every person who shall, upon or in conve-quence of any such gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement, or agreement, procure or engage, promise or endeavor to procure the election of any person to a public of-fice or the vote of any voter at any elec-tion. Also every person who shall com-mit any of the acts hereinbefore referred to in order to secure a nomination for office, either for himself or for any other person, by any political party; and lastly, every person who shall advance or pay, or cause to be paid, any money to or for the use of any other person with the intent

cause to be paid, any money to be expended, wholly or in part, in bribery at any

Upon conviction the man found guilty of any of the foregoing misdeeds is to be subject to imprisonment for not less than two months nor more than five years; and for every such offense he shall also forfeit the sum of \$500, with cost of suit, to the person instituting the prosecution; "provided always that the foregoing enactment shall not extend to any reasonble sums paid or agreed to be paid in or about any election for printing and actua traveling expenses, for dissemination of information to the public, for political meetings, demonstrations and conventions, for the employment of watchers at elections to the number provided by law, or on account of any bonafide legal expense incurred at or concern ing any election." All such legitimate expenses, with names and dates, must, however, be published under oath, un-

der severe penalties. Section 2 of this act makes guilty of bribery and subject to imprisonment from one month to a year the man convicted of receiving any kind of bribe for his own vote or for the vote of another but exempts the recipient who takes the bribe in order to secure the conviction of the briber. Section 3 punishes by \$25 fine any candidate convicted of paying or promising to pay for meat, drink or entertainment for another or others, with a view to influencing votes. Section 4 gives from a month to a year in fall to the man convicted of tampering with voters in any way-such as by threats, intimidation or fraud. Section 5 provides strigent penalties for personation of voters and repeating; section 6 restricts legitimate expenses per candidate to \$100 for the first 5,000 voters or less, plus \$2 for each additional 100 voters up to 25,000, \$1 for every hundred above 25,000 and up to 50,000 and 50 cents per hundred above 50,000; and sections 7-23 inclusive relate to methods for securing a thorough enforcement of the foregoing provisions.

The two acts are worthy of careful and detailed study. Copies of each may be had on application to the Civil Service Reform Association of Pennsylvania, at 108 South Fourth street, Phil-

Mr. Pollock, the Philadelphia business man who is booming John Wanamaker, admits that he insulted Senator Quay at Erie, but thinks Quay shouldn't mind it. Pollock is evidently a goed man for the honorable John to

Restrict Immigration.

The Immigration Restriction league, which is working for the passage by congress of the Lodge literary test, is taking pains to rectify the impression left by many newspapers since election that the so-called foreign vote is what saved the cause of sound money. It does not dispute that the German, French, Welsh, Scotch and Scandinavian vote was very generally cast for McKinley, nor does it deny that the record of these citizens by adoption on the questions lately at issue compares favorably with the record of the native American class. It merely desires to direct public thought to a proper discrimination between desirable and undesirable classes of immigration to the end that the time be excluded.

The Lodge bill, it may be pertinent to note, especially in view of the fact that it has right of way in the senate this week, aims to accomplish not the exclusion of foreigners generally, but only of those who are ignorant alike of their own language, of an occupation and of the standards of living and character which distinguish the American people. Its provisions were recently explained in The Tribune, but lest that explanation may have been overlooked, we repeat it herewith. The bill excludes from entrance to the country all persons above 14 years of ago who cannot read or write one language but excepts all aged persons not so able to read or write who are parents or grandparents of an admissible immigrant, and allows them to accompany or be sent for by the qualified immigrant. It proposes a test which Mr. Lodge thinks most practicable and efficient in excluding fraud. It gives the following directions to inspectors:

For the purpose of testing the ability

of the immigrant to read and write, the inspection officers shall be furnished with copies of the constitution of the United States printed on numbered uniform pasteoard slips, each containing five lines of said constitution in the various languages of the immigrants. These slips shall be kept in boxes made for the purpose and so constructed us to conceal the slips from view, each box to contain slips of but one language, and the immigrant may designate the language in which he prefers the test shall be made. Each immigrant shall be required to draw one of said slips from the box, and read, and afterward write out in full view of the immigration officers, the five lines printed thereon. Each slip shall be rebox shall be shaken up by an inspection officer before another drawing is made. No immigrant falling to read or write out the slip thus drawn by him shall be admitted, and he shall be returned to the country from which he came at the expense of the steamship or railroad com-pany which brought him. The inspection officers shall keep in each box at all times a full number of the printed pasteboard thrown open its books. The Pennsylslips, and in the case of each excluded vania committee could do the same but immigrant shall keep a certified memorandum of the number of slips which the immigrant falled to read or copy out in writing.

It is clear that such a measure would operate advantageously in the case of all immigrants whose admission to this ganizations will urge the enactment by country would add to the country's se- the Canadian parliament of legislation curity. Indeed, if any fault is to be which will prevent Americans from found with it it is that it proposes too working in Canada. We guess such a simple a test. American citizenship law would do small harm compared ought to be valued sufficiently high by with one returning the compliment. American legislation to make it an incentive for careful preparation on the part of those in other lands who would enjoy its privileges. There is nothing narrow or bigoted about such a proposition. It is the obvious common sense of the matter. The necessity for a literary test is indicated by the fact that whereas, in 1889, nearly nine-tenths of our immigrants were able to read and to subject the Philadelphia Inquirer to write at least one language, today a the painful necessity of having to third are illiterate, and the tide of unceding, is steadily growing.

No other fraternal ceremonial of which we know represents a more fit- shillings and guineas to buy Ambassa ting form of tribute to the dead than dor Bayard a Christmas wesent. This that such money, or any part thereof, shall be expended in bribery at any election, or who shall knowingly pay, or bers of this influential and growing ordiscrimination. the Elks' annual Lodge of Sorrow. The is very nice-for Bayard. But it is gathering, once each year, of the mem- rather a weak testimonial to English

quence, poetry, song and prayer their ense of loss for departed brothers coupled with their sense of that hop? of immortality which is inherent in each human breast and which alone reconciles the living to the dead, is so clearly an occasion for sympathetic interest that we make no excuse for describing it elsewhere in detail.

Our Duty and Spain's Peril with Reference to Cuba.

The Washington Post is a journal which has been a consistent and aggressive friend of Cuba, but it presents from official sources a forecast of the probable consequences of American recognition of Cuban belligerency which tends to shake one's confidence in the wisdom of such a step.

The Spanish government, it points out, now insists that peace reigns in Cuba, in the sense that no constituted government exists in opposition to the sovereignty of Spain. The logical sequel of this position is that no blockade can be declared of Cuban ports, American property must be protected on the island by the exercise of the police powers of Spain, American citizens must be tried for alleged offenses by the civil tribunals, and American merchant vessels cannot be interfered with unless they are actually engaged in the landing of munitions of war for the purpose of treasonable attempts against Spanish sovereignty. Our position, the Post contends, would change for the worse under international law in all these particulars the moment we saw fit to recognize that a state of war existed in Cuba, and that the government of Spain was no longer responsible for the maintenance of peace and order in the island.

Spain would acquire, under the law American vessels on the high seas for ontraband of war. Spanish gunboats yould be justified in hovering about the port of New York, and every other American port, and in ordering every some hot-headed naval officer of the United States, "The rule regarding settled in the courts of international law. The Spanish government would tion, because they would contribute to keep the insurgent forces in the field. It would 'go against the grain' so acutely with many American merchant captains to heave to at the mandate of a Spanish gunboat that it is feared that some of them might refuse to do so and invoke a broadside from the Spanish guns. Such an event would so inflame public feeling in both countries that the utmost spirit of forbearance by the two governments would hardly avert war."

We cannot disguise the fact that such consequences as these would be more serious than most thoughtful American: would care to incur save as a last re of the state department at Washington is said to be that Spain has agreed to end the rebellion within the present dry season-that is to say, before next July-or recognize the right of the United States to view the uprising as one coming within the legal purview of belligerency. If this be true, our present course is, and the course of the next administration will be, to wait a reasonable time, and then, if things be not better, to act in defense of imperilled American interests.

Under an act of the legislature passed wo years ago it is possible to raise n this county by special tax for road improvement a sum not exceeding \$60,-000 per annum. If there is a popular demand for such a levy and expenditure, and it reaches their notice by personal interview, letter or petition, the present board of commissioners will no doubt gladly start the legal machinery in operation. There cannot artists. be two opinions as to the need of good roads in Lackawanna county, but we are not sanguine that the public is yet prepared to put its hand into its pocket and lay down the requisite price.

When Mr. Cleveland on Saturday was introduced for the first time to Mark Hanna, we wonder if he did not intuitively regret the turn of fate which took from him at a critical moment the Democratic Hanna, Daniel Manning-a loss from which he can truthfully date his own political de-

There is very little doubt among those whose business calls them freturned to the box immediately after the quently among the local courts that test is finished, and the contents of the quently among the local courts that proper authorities to ascertain whether Haviland & Co., among the lost arts, it would be an inquiry productive of good results.

The Wisconsin state Republican committee has audited its accounts and there would be little to show. It handled less money this year than during any prior presidential year since the Republican party was founded.

It is announced that Toronto labor or-

Mr. Claveland's message consists, it is said, of 18,000 words, of which probably more than 15,000 are in review of department reports. If Major McKinley wants an easy re-election, let him set the example of boiling presidential messages down.

It is clearly unkind in Senator Quay choose on the senatorial Issue between desirable immigration, instead of re- a heavy advertiser and a personal chum.

The London public is subscribing

dust a Word or Two of Casual Mention GOLDSMITH'S

yet he is not blind to certain difficulties in the way of its complete realization the way of its complete realization. The question 'What will become of Scranton after her coal gives out?' does not bother me a bit," said he in the course of a casual conversation the other day. "It is ual conversation the other day. "It is the history of American cities that their transition from pioneer to varied and diversified industries is accomplished almost imperceptibly. Syracuse, for instance, was reared on salt; Rochester on flour and Buffalo on her lake water, yet today salt evaporation is only an incident of Syracuse's commerce, flour-grinding of Roch. esster's and Buffalo, in addition to its lake traffic, has become the larg-est railroad center in the east. When it comes time for Scranton to fall back on other industries besides rail-making and coal-mining, I dare say she will fin I the new industries ready at hand; that is, if one objection can be overcome in the meantime. It is a fact that in comparison with many competitive places the prices asked here for factory sites are prices asked here for factory sites are high—in some cases disastrously high. I know of at least four manufacturing en-terprises that within a relatively brief pe-riod have been deflected elsewhere by just this one factor. There is too much unoccupied land in Scranton under the control of manufacts that hold it at a fance control of agencies that hold it at a fancy figure and yet fall to pay taxes in pro-

The annual meeting of the steel rall pool in New York on the 19th is of greater interest to Scranton than most persons magine, since it will have not a little to do with determining the course of indus-try next year in the local mills and fur naces of the Luckawanna fron and Stee company. There is talk of the price of rails dropping from \$28 to \$26 a ton. Of course the Lackawanna people would pre-fer \$28 to \$26, but even at \$26 they can keep the wolf from the door if successful in securing a good percentage of the or-ders. With President Walter Scranton looking after that part of it and General Manager Wehrum seeing that no point is lost in the filling of the orders, from ore f nations, the right of search of all bank to finished rails, the local concern ought certainly to fare as well as theaverage plant, and perhaps a shade better.

"This is a specimen of what we receive almost daily," remarked Assistant Post-master Osthaus to a Tribune man the American port, and in ordering every other day, as he showed the contents of vessel which left the harbor to heave a letter just opened without revealing the to and be searched for contraband ar- signature. The letter read: "Postmaster ticles. The question what constituted me the name of an attorney who is a good liar?" "How will you answer that?" the Spanish officers should go in their was asked. "I do not know," said the search would be likely to arouse friction with American captains and per-lam afraid that none can be found in the haps even provoke the interference of

A Hyde Park husband has devised a what constitutes contraband of war hts." says the Post, "never been fully breath when he came in late, to see if he had been indulging in the bottle. It is his custom now to provide himself with an ounce or so of cologne and to swallow a undoubtedly insist in the present case portion of it when he gets within a block that provisions came within the definiafter being out with the boys.

The University of Pennsylvania desired to honor a clergyman of Pittsburg by the name of Fiddle with the degree of doctor of divinity, and a letter of notification to that effect was sent to him. He declined to accept it and gave as his reason that he did not want to be known as the Rev. Mr. Fiddle, D. D.

Kirk LaShelle and Arthur Clark, pro prietors and managers of "The Wizard of the Nile," are both newspaper men and have known in past what it is to receive the "cold hand." Much of the success o this operatic venture has doubtless bee ue to the journalistic experience of the affable managers.

EMINENTLY FITTING.

the Times-Herald. It is eminently fitting that when th

GREAT REWARD.

From the Times-Herald. Another folding-bed fatality is reported Fame and fortune await the inventive genius who comes to the relief of flatwellers with a boller-iron nightshirt.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 3.15 a. m., for Monday

Dec. 7, 1896. (a) (a) A child born on this day will learn from history that the annual Sunday School Christmas tree boom began yesterday. It isn't so much the fear of results of in vestigation that makes the average offi-cial flinch as it is the prospect of having one's picture drawn by some of the local

Billy Bryan is determined to have re enge on his enemies. He has written : The man who never opens his mouth

without putting his foot in it of course has small feet. Aincehus' Advice. Be sure that the enemy is not choking with bottled mirth which will explode

later if you feel like laughing last.

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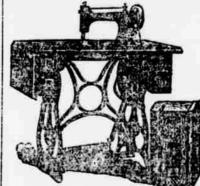
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