

The Scranton Tribune

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Report credits Mark Hanna with the assertion that Pennsylvania will not get a cabinet position. If it doesn't, it will not be for lack of deserving.

The Death of Maceo.

The importance of the news from Havana concerning the manner in which General Maceo, the commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, met his death can hardly be overestimated.

Spanish history lends abundant plausibility to this latest chapter of horrors, yet even Spanish authority is entitled to be considered innocent of a crime so foul and unprovoked.

"We shall not spend one dollar dishonestly," says Rudolph Blankenburg in behalf of the Wanamaker forces. He couldn't make Frank Willing Leach or Leach's man Van Valkenberg believe that.

The Gauntlet Thrown Down.

After enduring in silence for many months the attempts of his political opponents to poison the public mind by false representations of his private character, Senator Boies Penrose has at last concluded that patience has ceased to be a virtue.

It has been known for some time that a branch of the Wanamaker senatorial organization has been flooding the clergyman and leading church members of the state with letters and circulars charging Senator Penrose with being an atheist, a drunkard and a debauchee.

Mr. Penrose may or may not be elected United States senator. Charges of this character, shrewdly spread broadcast by factional opponents on the eve of the last majority convention in Philadelphia, caused his defeat for that office, although soon afterward, when the facts became known, there was a retraction in public sentiment, typified by the election of Crowe for sheriff over Ashbridge, the candidate of Penrose's enemies, and by the written endorsement of Penrose's senatorial candidacy by a majority of the representatives of Philadelphia county in the state legislature.

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would very likely necessitate increased costs in the Supreme court. The act creating the Superior court may require amendment in certain details, but the next legislature will hardly make so great a mistake as to undertake its repeal.

The recent declaration before the Pennsylvania grange of David Lubin, the California economist, in favor of free trade or government bounties on agricultural exports has afforded the free trade press a great deal of gloe. We do not, however, see wherein Mr. Lubin's opinion is of such great consequence. Intelligent farmers know that under systematic and well-ordered protection the home consumption of farm produce is sufficient to give them a fine market provided they adapt their crops to that market.

When a few weeks ago, Judge Edwards, specially presiding in Luzerne county, ruled that ex-banker F. V. Rockafellow could not be multiply tried and convicted on charges involving virtually identical facts, a howl arose in the Wilkes-Barre press. We did not at that time take notice of it, because the opinion in full had not been placed on file. Now that it is accessible to public scrutiny we take occasion to remark that it is good common sense, and predict that it will, upon review, stand also as good law.

The act of assembly under which the defendant is indicted reads as follows: "Any banker, broker or officer of any trust or savings institution, national, state or private bank, who shall take and receive money from a depositor, with the knowledge that he, they or the bank at the time involved, shall be guilty of embezzlement and shall be punished by a fine in double the amount so received and imprisoned from one to three years in the penitentiary."

The sinking of the German steamship Sallere off the northwestern coast of Spain, with the immediate sacrifice of 215 lives, forms a tragedy of the sea fit for any poet's pen. And yet, when one reflects upon the many millions of men who are daily carried by ship in safety the wonder is that such terrible mishaps are so few.

The latest target of the health reformers is the night lunch wagon, which they claim spreads disease. Is there anything which doesn't?

Maceo died a martyr to liberty; and his death will weaken Spain.

Just a Word or Two of Casual Mention

Seldom has the city of Scranton enjoyed the distinction of welcoming so distinguished and eminent a visitor as the young and talented Parisian, M. Pierre Claudio Jannet, who spent the early part of last week in our city.

M. Jannet has been in this country several months and during that time has been privileged to witness the progress of a presidential campaign, and to note the methods by which campaigns are conducted in this republic.

The subjects on which M. Jannet gathered information were the trade union movement in its early days, and its legitimate work as contrasted with the wild and visionary schemes of after-day socialists.

A LIVING ISSUE.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Business men have got the same rights in politics as farmers or workmen. By reason of their greater opportunities they have the greater responsibility to cast their influence on the side of integrity, disinterestedly and for equal justice.

This is an especially plain issue in Pennsylvania, because the Republican platform of this state for the past two years has enunciated a creed, which, honestly maintained, will throw the state on the side of the laboring man and the ruling of politics by the pecuniary motive.

excluded, not quite 25 per cent. The question is asked, can this country accommodate 25,000 to 300,000 immigrants each year, in addition to its natural increase in native population, even upon the assumption that these new comers can read five lines of print in at least one language?

In the opinion of the Detroit Tribune, "unless an immigration bill shuts off this stream utterly, it cannot operate to relieve the situation. Indeed, it does not change the condition in the slightest except with regard to the most menial forms of labor. It does not in the slightest degree serve to protect any class of our skilled and intelligent workmen from the competition of the new immigrants. The diggers of the streets and ditches are the only persons benefited. The class who cannot read and write are to be kept out, and unskilled labor will find itself some time in the future in great feather.

A sentiment like the foregoing twenty or even ten years ago would have damned its sponsor beyond hope of leech or caesock. Now, while it may not win complete concurrence, it has a sufficient support to be considered not only safe but respectable. The times indeed are moving. Our own opinion is that the Lodge bill might easily go further without committing wrong or making a mistake.

"The mine owners in Lackawanna county, who have to carry on their business with the aid of shotguns, will no doubt soon reach the conclusion," says the Philadelphia Record, "that cheap labor is the dearest." We guess the shotgun contingent is a small one in these parts. And if we remember correctly, even Philadelphia had not long ago a street car strike.

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ARE WE DETERIORATING.

From the Times-Herald. The Century Magazine for December, in its "Topics of the Time," asks the question: "Are Our Lawmakers Deteriorating?" It discusses it briefly and concludes that they are, and that we do not now see in our state legislatures the class of men that were there fifty years ago.

Near the close of their lives John Jay and Gouverneur Morris were one day conversing about the second continental congress, which adopted the declaration of independence. "What a set of rascals they were," said Morris, and Jay did not dissent. They did not mean to include in this remark Franklin and Jefferson, and the Adamses and other historic persons, but those who were more obscure and were always on the look-out for fat army contracts or had an itching palm in other ways. Legislators represent their constituents, as a rule, both mentally and morally, but it cannot be successfully contended that the American people are not on a higher mental and moral plane than they were fifty or a hundred years ago.

"Mabel has a lot of sense," "How does she show herself?" "She never permits herself to appear more intelligent than the man who is talking to her."—Chicago Record.

THE MUSE'S BAD SPELL.

There was a young woman in Gloucester, Whose father thought he had loosed her; In a crowd one day She wandered away, But he presently ran after her.

There once was a crabbed old colonel Whose temper was simply infernal, And the editor said: "When told he was dead: 'At last I've good news for my journal!'"

There was a young lady in Worcester Engaged to a stily young foraster; One night at the house She said: "Nix come arouse!" And he doesn't go there as he used to.

There once was a fellow named Cholmondeley, Who loved a young maiden quite colmondeley, But he fell in a fright, And bit his tongue off one night, And now he makes love to her colmondeley. —Times-Herald.

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BEIDLEMAN, THE BOOKMAN 437 Spruce Street.

of a farce is discovered. If men, represented as agents of a senatorial candidate, can acquire senatorial votes by methods which copy the mercantile methods almost to the degree of making out a bill of sale.

The question always remains: What are you going to do about it? One thing that can be done about it is that before the senatorial election every allegation of these methods shall have such an investigation as will let in the light of day on every dark transaction. Another thing that can be done about it is that if any election is secured under the suspicion of such means the United States senate shall open it up to the national scorn and contempt. Finally, what is the public duty in the matter? The people must keep watch and work down every man concerned in such transactions for public reprobation in the future. It is only because popular neglect has permitted a half toleration in the past that such things are possible now.

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