the Scranton Tribune

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ANTERED AT THE POSTOPPICE AT SCRANTON, PA. AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER. SCRANTON, DECEMBER 22, 1896.

Every local admirer of good music s under obligations to the management of this evening's concert at the Frothingham theater. The two artists who have been secured for this occasion, Martinus Sieveking, the planist and David Bispham, the baritone, rank among the very foremost in the world and their presence in Scranton as soloists in one programme is an event worthy of commemoration by means of an overflowing attendance.

Mr. Olney's High Horse.

The question whether it is within the prerogative of the executive or the legislative branch of our government to recognize the independence of a foreign people is one concerning which tion. there is a sufficiently animated difference of expert opinion to warrant common minds in preserving a discreet silence until the matter is settled. If one were, however, to accept as decisive the preponderance of the reputations of the respective authorities who are at present arguing this point, it would seem that the senate committee on foreign affairs, including such ripe and experienced statesmen as Senators Sherman, Cullom, Davis, Lodge Frye, Cameron and Morgan, might reasonably prevail as against a former sheriff of Erie county, N Yo and a corporation lawyer whose home was until recently in Boston,

There is, however, another phase o the controversy which appears to overshadow this point in immediate interest if not in ultimate importance. It is stated in the inquiry whether it was ever intended by the founders of our government that the president should be invested with power to ignore and virtually to defy an expression of national policy made by an overwhelming majority of congress. The Cameron independence resolution has not, of course, yet received such an indorsement from congress; but that it is likely to receive one clearly appears from the tenor of Secretary Olney's remarkable deliverance on Saturday last. In that statement, after arbitrarily declaring the power of recognition to be exclusively an executive prerogative, he went on to say;

"The operation and effect of the proposed resolution, therefore, even if passed by both houses of congress by a two-thirds vote, are perfectly plain. It may raise expectations in some quar ters which can never be realized. It may inflame popular passions, both in put in peril lives and property of American citizens who are resident and traveling abroad, and will cercainly obstruct and perhaps defeat the best efforts of this government to afexcept in these ways and unless the drews. The masses of the party wish advice embodied in the resolution shall it abundant success. lead the executive to revise conclusion already reached and officially declared the resolution will be without effect and will leave unaltered the attitude of this government toward the two contending parties in Cuba."

In the face of this challenge, flung down by a man who four years ago was unheard of beyond the limits of his county or his ward, before senators who have grown gray in the public service of their country and whose names are known the world over as those of eminent authorities on constitutional law, we take it that the senate cannot in self respect do otherwise than to pass the Cameron resolution by a substantially unanimous vote. Nor in this connection do we regard as worthy of consideration the suggestion that a prompt performance of this obvious duty would be calculated to embarrass or offend the incoming executive. The president-elect, we imagine, would be the last American to hold that our government should suspend its functions pending his installation in office or that a carefully considered deliverance by the legislative branch of that government should merit no attention other than contempt by the executive branch.

From whatever standpoint the Olney declaration is viewed, it insults the spirit of our institutions and savors of a dogmatism and a dictatorialism on the part of the present executive that cannot be too earnestly condemned If its effect ended with the retirement of the Cleveland administration three months hence, it might be endured in patience upon the philosophic reflection that it would soon be over. Unfortunately it has established a precedent that will be mischievous for all future time unless congress shall recall the executive to his proper sphere of duty by a resolute application of the legislative lash.

The report is current that European powers are not satisfied with the attitude of American sentiment toward Cuba. This, if true, is too bad; but it can hardly be said to be due to our

What the Precedents Teach.

The Philadelphia Press has performed a useful service at this time in citing the precedents which shed light on Secretary Olney's sweeping claim in behalf of the executive prerogative. While these precedents furnish some argument both ways, their main tenor. as the Press observes, is against Mr. Olney's claim. We give below the

Press' abstract of them: During the struggle of the Spanish American colonies for independence President Monroe sent commissioners to examine and report upon the situation; but he did this for his own information under authority which is not disputed. Henry Clay, however, made a proposal in the house to send a regular minister to the 'United Provinces of Rio de la Plata, this formally recognizing the independence of that colony. That was in 1818, and then Clay stood for the initiative by congress. The proposition was defeated. Three years later in 1821 he took up the Three years later in 1821 he took up the fight again for the Spanish-Americans, and offered a resolution declaring that the house "will give its constitutional support to the president of the United States whenever he may deem it expedient to the gad-fly. The gad-fly they have not, the United S ates has been a governmental lie for a little more than a hundred years.

This reminds one of the fable of the whenever he may deem it expedient to the gad-fly. The gad-fly Spain's. And in support of what? A pol-

recognize the sovereignty and independrecognize the sovereignty and independ-ence of any of the said provinces." Here the initiative was apparently conceded to the president, but it may be claimed that it was only as a matter of expediency be-cause he was in a better position to act that the advisory relation of congress was asserted. When in 1822 the independence of the provinces was indisputably established and President Monroe felt that it ought to be recognized he did not assert or assume exclusive jurisdiction but sen a special message to congress in which he submitted the proposal, set forth the rea-sons for it and asked for the concurrence of congress. If he did not abnegate his own right, he conceded and sought the participation of the legislative branch.

The later authorities point in the same lirection. The report of Mr. Clay as hairman of the committee on foreign relations in 1836 has been cited by Senato lations in 1836 has been cited by Senator Davis. In that report he showed that the independence of Texas might be recognized in either of several ways, one of which was the enactment of a law regulating commercial intercourse with the new republic. His proposition seems self-evident on its mere statement and has never been successfully contested. When the house of representatives resolved that the house of representatives resolved that the expediency of recognizing Texan in-dependence should be left to the discretion of congress, President Jackson con curred in this view, and waived any dis-cussion of his strict constitutional right. As a matter of fact the independence of Texas was recognized by resolution of congress, approved by the president, pre-cisely as is proposed in the Cuban resolu-

"Any misconception on this subject, adds the Press. "grows out of a failure to distinguish between general diplo matic functions and the exercise of the highest sovereignty. The president appoints and receives ambassadors; he recognizes changes in governments; he makes treaties subject to ratification by the senate; he conducts the general foreign relations of the government But when it comes to the question of recognizing the independence of a people who are in revolt against their old rulers and who are alming to establish a new nation a higher power is involved. Congress may leave it to the discretion of the president if it chooses But, on the other hand, if congress chooses to assert its voice, its author ity cannot well be disputed. The war making power rests solely with con gress. The president can bring us to the brink of war, but congress alone can declare it. The recognition of the Independence of struggling insurgents might plainly and inevitably involve war, and it would be a strange contravention of reason to claim that the sole war-making power had no voice in an act which might directly, entail war. Mr. Olney is right in deprecating hasty action, but he is wrong in claiming exclusive authority for the president." The whole case is covered in fev

words by Senator Sherman when he says: "There is no foundation for the statement that congress may not, if it will, recognize the independence of a new nation, nor do I think Mr. Olney contests it, but he thinks the matte ought to come from the president. If however, congress should pass a resolution and the president should veto it. it can be passed by a two-thirds vote of each house, and would become a law which the president must respect and obey." It remains to be seen whether this country and elsewhere, may thus Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olney can "run" this whole government against its will.

It is asserted with some show of accuracy that a formidable combination of state senators has been formed to ford such citizens due protection. But, sit down on Senator William H. An-

"The Republic of Cuba

On Sept. 18, 1895, the revolting Cubans, by a unanimous vote of their representatives assembled, adopted a states, but is hampered in every way by the horde of Spanish officials who fatten constitution vesting the supreme power of the revolution in a government council consisting of a president and four secretaries-a secretary of foreign four secretaries—a secretary of foreign affairs, one of war, one of finances and one of the interior.

he expects to a business of \$10,000 a year, and by unexpected good luck does more, an official drops down on him and charges one of the interior.

The island is divided into the following states: Oriente, Camaguey. Las Villas, Habana and Occidente, each of which is divided into as many districts as there were under the Spanish divisable. If a farmer has a calf or a donkey or a goat added to his flock he must report it at once to the assessor or lose the animal and his liberty, so rigid is the assessment law. The island is divided into the folion. The treasury is in charge of a secretary, who has under him a superintendent of finance in each state, and under this a delegate of the treasury in each district, and under this the necessary sub-delegate. The commissary department, the workshops, the citizens, police, are under the secretary of the interior, who has a civil governor in each state. Immediately under the governor there is a lieutenant governor of each district, and this one has under him the inspectors of the director of the treasury gets \$18,560, workshops, coasts and communications, weyler gets \$16,500 and his assistant gets and the prefects, sub-prefects, and the postmasters of the district, employing the foreman and the workmen of the shops for the best service, as well as the employes of the prefectures and sub-prefectures and the mounted mail ers-on. Government clerks get from \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year, and worst of all poor little carriers.

It is true that this government lacks stability, as all new governments do; Madrid. and that the machinery for executing its commands is greatly hampered by the exigencies of war. Very often the military arm is supreme, as it was more than once during our own revolution. But the civil organization nevertheless exists; it is ready to make its influence felt as soon as opportunity will permit; and it is much more a de facto government than were those of the South American republics which President Monroe recognized in 1812. We concede that the Cubans have no fortified seaport and no navy; drain America as Cuba has been drained and we should have none, either. But it would be a hypercritical type of sympathy for the victims of intolerable oppression which would let a seaport or two separate friends.

It is evident that Mr. Olney's plume

needs clipping.

With Reference to Canada. The ablest Liberal organ in Canada, the Toronto Globe, solemnly warns us, in the emphasis of triple leads, that unless we admit Canadian exports into our markets upon favorable terms, Canada will refuse to trade with us, and will ship all her products to Great Britain. We needn't think, it implies that we can force Canada into our Union by refusing to let her have the benefit of our markets until she does come in. "Experience," adds the Globe. must surely have convinced our neighbor that that policy is mistaken Wherever commercial pressure has been put upon us the effect has been

lofty language to lay down terms for the ox's surrender; but all the while the ox didn't know it was there. "We do not," continues the Globe, "expect

the American people to consider our interests, and if they believe that a policy of protection against Canadian products, unmodified by reciprocity, is the best policy for the United States, we have no right to complain, no matter We can lay before them, without any loss of self-respect, a business proposition; deal with us and we will deal with you; admit a list of Canadian products free and we will admit a list of American products free. If the come to an end without any ill-will on either side; we shall know that we have nothing to expect in that quarter

have hanging round your necks like a ple and their singleness of purpose against grown tired of the struggle to maintain an imitation England in America. are continually moving southward into the United States; and instead of our needing to force you into annexation, it is simply a question of time when you yourselves will find it necessary to ask for the privilege of allying your political fortunes with those of the more vigorous States, in the hope that the alliance will save you from utter dissolution. We agree most cordially in the proposition that there is no call for ill-feeling in the premises. You may go your way and we will go ours. But never for an instant fall into the delusion that because the United States doesn't see the commercial wisdom of exchanging a 70,-000,000 people's market for a 5,000,000 one it has any wish to coerce the smaller population into any course of conduct distasteful to it.

After the 4th day of next March li s believed we will have a president who will not need an official apologist in the United States senate.

WHY CUBAN'S REBEL.

From the Detroit Tribune.

From the Detroit Tribune.

Not long ago Colonel Deland, statistician of Michigan, nearly took the breath away from his constituents by showing that during the past four years the total appropriations made within the state for all purposes, local and general, was a little over \$77,000,000, or \$19,250,000 a year. Michigan contains an area of 58,915 square miles, and has a population of nearly 2,500,000 people, by whom this money is produced. When a comparison is made with the appropriation which is drained out of Cuba every year, a better appreciation may be had of the situation. In the years 1879 and 1880, Spain assessed the island, which with all its little dependencies measures but 47,278 square miles, \$46,000,000 a year, but three years ago the resources of the resources. a year, but three years ago the resources appropriation was reduced to \$26,000,000. the horde of Spanish officials who fatten off the country. A man cannot go into business without procuring a license from these officials. He must pay in propor-tion to the business he expects to do. If him with fraud. To escape prosecution

Cuba must pay a yearly salary of \$50,00 to the governor-general sent over from Spain, but that is only half his pay. He must be furnished with a palace in Havana, and his living, and that of all his numerous followers comes out of the pub-lic fund. He also if furnished a country estate, a stable of horses, carriages, ser-vants, etc. And in addition to all these he has fat perquisites for so-called secret expenses. His annual stipend is worth twice what the president of the United States receives and it is a mark of royal favor to appoint a decayed grandee to this trust and thus build up his fortune. \$15,000 a year. The president of the Au diencia, or auditor-general, gets a like amount and fat salaries are allowed the governor of Havana and all the city officials, besides the generals and army of Cuba is compelled to put up \$96,700 a year for the colonial minister who lives in

A more rotten government has never existed, for the officials not only plunder the natives by blackmailing schemes and fee systems, but years ago the vaults of the national depository were robbed of 36,500,000, although it requires three ficials to gain access through the locks. During the ten years' war, false youchers and stuffed provisions bills robbed the Cuban treasury of \$22,711,000, and during the ban treasury of \$22,11,000, and during the same period by means of false warrants the board of public debts stole \$12,000,000 more. As a result of this system the pub-lic debt of Cuba is now about \$300,000,000, or more than \$10 per capita. In 1890 the exports of Cuba were worth \$50,000,000, of which \$8,121,000 went to Spain and \$58,570,00 which \$8,21,990 went to Spain and associations came to the United States. The Island of Cuba is, therefore, in one sense, a commercial dependency of the United States while it in turn acts as the chief support of the Madrid government. It belongs to North America by geographical association and its commending position at the tion, and its commanding position at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico makes it par ticularly desirable for possession by the United States.

THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

From the Washington Star. Several things of importance are to b borne in mind in considering the resolu-tion which the senate committee on for-eign relations will report for adoption recognizing the independence of Cuba. Foreign powers especially should be care-

ful to take note.

(1) The resolution is not a declaration of war. Congress does not proceed in that way to declare war. The act proposed is strictly in line with American precedents and strictly in line with the almost unani mous sentiment of the American people It grows out of no land-grabbing or fli-bustering spirit, but distinctly out of the plain dictates of good order and the hu-manities. No civilized power should tolerate the existence of a slaughter pen for human beings at its very door. Men have a right not only to life but to liberty. If

erched on the ox's back and began in icy which has goaded the Cubans to revol and has for its object now their resubju-gation or extermination. Cuba abhors Spain, and with every reason. Long the victim of galling oppression, she now sees but two paths before her; independence, or slavery. Naturally she seeks inde-pendence. Naturally also she turns to the United States, her neighbor and friend, for recognition. If Spain can afford war with the United States on that issue, and challenges it, the United States can also af-

(3) Local politics in the United States has how high they put the tariff, nor have we any right to assume that the policy is the result of unfriendliness. We want no favors from the United States.

We can lay before them, without any tive on this score. Here are the mea: John Sherman, Ohio: W. P. Frye, Maine; C. K. Davis, Minnesota; J. D. Cameron. Pennsylvania; S. M. Cullom, Illinois; H. C. Lodge, Massachusetts; J. T. Morgan, Alabama; George Gray, Delaware; David Turple, Indiana; J. W. Daniel, Virginia, Americans can see no profit in such and R. Q. Mills, Texas. Cuban Independence an arrangement the negotiations can

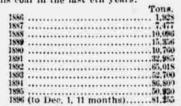
and we shall be free to direct our at-declares war against the United States and we shall be free to direct our attention elsewhere. In a word, all we ask of them is to treat us as they treat the other occupants of this continent; let them maintain a Chinese wall for commercial reasons if they think fit, but not in the foolish hope of forcing us into annexation."

Dear Globe, the idea of forcing you into annexation has never, so far as into annexation has never, so far as support of his principles. The old hand into annexation has never, so far as our knowledge extends, entered one rational American mind. If we read the statistics correctly, you Canadians millstone something like \$60 per capita of national debt; your sturdlest people. Union soldier and ex-Confederate soldier. are as one in support of the Stars and Stripes and all that it stands for. War is not the aim of the American peopie. But if war comes, as the result of an act which they consider just and fully justifled, then they will meet it.

A DUTY ON HARD COAL.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

J. W. Harrison, of San Francisco, has written to congress presenting some statistics showing the immediate need of placing a duty on anthracite coal. Some weeks ago the Inquirer called attention to the fact that anthracite coal from Swan-sea, Wales, was being imported at San Francisco in steadily increasing quantities. The following table will show th rapidity of the growth of importation of this coal in the last etn years:



From Mr. Harrison's letter it appear that contracts were made in 1895 for the delivery of Swansea anthracite at Sar Francisco, at \$4.75 to \$4.80 per long ton The Pennsylvania miners cannot com-pete against these figures and there does not appear to be any reason why Swanse; anthracite should not shortly make its ap pearance in the markets of New York and

Boston. From 1862 to 1864 the duty on anthracite coal was 60 cents per ton. From 1864 to 1870 it was 40 cents. Since 1870 there has been no duty. The anthracite fields of Swansea, Canada, Mexico and China have been developed since the last mentioned date. The absence of a duty on anthra cite is robbing the government of the duty of 40 cents per ton on imported bi-tuminous coal, since the latter is being driven out of the western coast marke

by the Swansea anthracite.

The subject is one which the miners of Pennsylvania should press upon the at-tention of their representatives in congress. The place to guard against the loss of their markets is in the tariff law to b passed by the first McKinley congress. Hefore another congress can meet it is altogether possible that in the absence of duty on anthracite the eastern coast markets may witness considerable impor tations of foreign anthracite.

ONLY TWO.

"There have been a number of political parties developed of late years," remarked the young man. "Yes," replied Senator Sorghum. great many unfamiliar names for organiz-ations have been brought to attention. But after all, there are only two great political parties. You mean the Democrats and the Reblicans?" "No, sir. I mean the office-seekers and

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the office-holders."-Washington Star.

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