the Scranton Tribune

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Mr. Olney's case simply points anew to the perils of a head swelled by a lit-

tle brief authority.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 24, 1896.

The Problem of the Trusts.

In a number of places the suggestion by the president in his recent message that the several states provide supplebearing fruit at least in a vigorous and ways and means. There are localities, of course,-and these chiefly Populistic -where this discussion is in the form of a passionate and indiscriminate assault on all forms of accumulated wealth. Participants in such a crusade are not unlike those savage tribes that cure their sick by process of asked what he thought of Olney's rulsummary assassination. But because ing on the Cameron resolution he rethey go to illogical and dangerous ex- | Plied: tremes is not a reason why intelligent public sentiment should hesitate to attempt to remedy an admitted economic evil along common sense lines. As one commentator on this subject-Mr. Hen-Wollman-pertinently remarks. "What we want to stop is not the growth of wealth but the growth of wealth by illicit and inequitable

It is out of the power of legislators. as it would also be contrary to wisdom, to stop the co-operation of capital working under laws of partnership or incorporation. No rational man who gives heed to the truths about him would wish to see society turned back to the period of individualism. Civilization is co-operation; it is only in a state of savagery that there can be a complete realization of the principle of "every man for himself, and perdition seize the hindmost." The largest single combination that we have in this country today, and perhaps the largest in the world-the Pennsylvania railroad is an example of intelligently directed co-operation without which American civilization would be inconceivably poorer. There is always reassurance against an excess of commercial combinations in the natural law which ordains that when the field is overcrowded the weaker ones must go to the wall. But there are some things that can

be and ought to be done by legislation for the protection of consumers and the public generally. The law which gives life to corporations can with reason interpose against overcapitalization. It enn call for a fair appraisal of actual investment and decree that capital stock shall not exceed that amount. It can indict for conspiracy any officer of a trust who can be proved to have caused an artificial increase in the prices of public necessities. It can puneral words, it can say that the men at Harrisburg. who ask the state for charters giving them certain public privileges must of these charters is an unfit subject for public scrutiny, and if necessary, public regulation. It need not be feared that in such regulation the wealthy combinations would get the worst of it. There is nothing in the record of existing governments to show that capital cannot upon the whole take care of itself.

fater be enacted into law, and when enacted must be enforced. The will of the people points unerringly in this direction. There will be many practical difficulties in the way; and it is possible that roguery will prove sharp enough to get at least partly around the most skilfully devised plans which can be laid for the public's protection; but this must be the general tendency of law-making and law-enforcement and there must be sincerity in its working out. Demagoguism will always exist, but it cannot indefinitely nor even enlightenment of the American people. til it is solved on the side of right.

These generalizations must sooner or

During all this war talk it must strike the country as singular that It has not been treated to a series of staccato peace shricks from the president in the country to wish in any way to of Harvard.

Secretary Carlisle's Report.

The press of more important matters tary Carlisle made public on Monday; yet it even now merits some comment. Cere respect not only of Republicans revenues of the government from all litical organizations. This need not be sources have been \$409,475,408, and the considered as open to the slightest expenditures \$434.678,654, which leaves doubt. a deficit for the year ended June 30, 1896, of \$25,203,245. The total estimated alent to saying, as some Republicans revenues for the year ending next June appear inclined to think in relation to are \$407,793,120; the estimated expenses the Cuban problem, that the people \$472,293,120, leaving an estimated de- wish all progressive processes of govficit for that year of \$64,500,000. For ernment to be suspended until March 1898 the secretary estimates that the 4. The assertion of the Philadelphia present revenue laws, if continued, Press, for example, that "we are now would produce a deficit of \$45,718,970. in an interregnum which counsels de-Mr. Carlisle attributes these deficits to lay in taking a new departure," is fairthe hard times, but the common sense by open to flat challenge. For every of the people attributes them more practical intent and purpose the govlargely to the bad tariff law now in ernment, and especially the legislaoperation. The report is a strong ar- tive branch, which more accurately gument for an extra session of con- than any other at present reflects the gress and a prompt revision of the tar- will of the people, is as thoroughly iff along protective lines.

The secretary makes an elaborate but familiar plea for the retirement of the hence; and in the immediate subject of greenback and bolsters this up by controversy-the recognition of Cucharging to that inoffensive form of ban independence-it is clear that to money all the ills which the treasury defer action until after McKinley shall has to bear. It is not worth while to have been inaugurated would be to follow him thrugh this special plead- subject an already over-afflicted peoing. The average intelligence of the ple to cruel chances of further sufferpeople already perceives the danger ing which prompt action would in all in a contraction of the currency by the probability avert. withdrawal of our national paper issue, That the president-elect should preand is by no means disposed to assume for to enter office with what might be from hand to mouth. It spent nearly all new interest obligations in order that called a "clean slate" is both natural its money in a most economical way for that issue may be retired. A good and creditable; but it is another propoportective tariff will so buttress the sition to assert that his preference to the shores of Cuba. It is understood

endless chain will cease an end.

In his plea for greater economy in performance of it later on. congressional appropriations the secretary will be cordially sustained, always providing that economy shall be interpreted to mean a cutting down of non-essentials and a liberal devotion The real needs of a growing nation deficits caused by a bungling system of revenue legislation.

weary of footing the inordinate exdecided to give each of them a salarymental legislation against trusts is the upper chamber and \$300 a year apiece to the members of common counin the main wholesome discussion of |cil. The experiment will bear watching, but we fear the money spent on salarles will for all practical purposes simply be wasted.

Altgeld Once flore.

Governor Altgeld of Illinois has not been chastened by adversity. When

a Cuba, sugar plantations, tobacco plantations and so forth. So long as our gov-ernment does not recognize the Cubans or extend to them belligerent rights these men can collect large sams of money from the Spanish government for any damage which may be done to their property dan ing the war; therefore, they are opposed to any action by our government, and they have all along been and are flow very lose to the president and his secretary and, if you have watched the career of these two men during this administration you notice they have simply been regitrans, that is they simply registered the will of concentrated wealth in every case and upon all occasions. To their minds it is a piece of impertinence for any man who is not at the head of a trust to have opinions on any subject. This being so, Mr. Olney is not to be blanned for show-ing impatience and then contempt for men who talk about liberty, humanity and patriotism. Was it not the Standard Oil and other great trusts that three times nominated and twice elected Mr. Cleve-land president? I like to see men stand by their friends, and am therefore forced o commend the secretary and the presi lent in their present stand regarding

There would probably be less sting in this criticism if it did not have some measure of truth in it.

The Washington Post is mean enough to suggest the need of a literacy test for admission to congress. Why not a thinking test?

Good Roads the Cheapest.

As supplementary to very instructive address of General Roy Stone before the board of trade last Monday evening, a pamphlet prepared by Professor John Hamilton, deputy secretary of agriculture, and published by the commonwealth, comes opportunely to hand. It is entitled "Good Roads for Pennsylvania" and it covers in detail the whole subject of road-making and road-resh as well as fine for arbitrary restric- pair. Copies of it may be had upon aption of labor. In other and more gen- plication to the agricultural department

Professor Hamilton points out that there are over \$0,000 miles of roads in and cities, and not including the turnpike roads under corporate control. For the year ending with May, 1895, these reads cost the farmers of Pennsylvania the enormous sum of \$3,898,573.96, or at the rate of \$48.73 per mile for every year. No wonder General Stone is willing to pledge himseif to find experienced roadmakers who will agree to do all this work, produce roads four times better than the present ones (and then they would not necessarily be things to brag of) and pocket \$25,000 annually as a profit.

The great hindrance to road reform, after all, is the question of expense, Once let it clearly be demonstrated that good roads are the cheapest, and the battle will be won,

The repeated talk of a bolt in the senatorial caucus at Harrisburg preceeds mainly from Wanamaker sources for long prevail against the growing and has an obvious purpose. But there will be no bolt; at all events none At its depth this agitation against worth mentioning. The support which abuses of special privilege is a moral will nominate Penrose in caucus will problem, and it has passed into an axi- elect him by a clear majority in the om that in a democracy like our own legislature, even though every man in no moral problem is ever put aside un- the Wanamaker camp shall absent himself. Just put this away for future reference.

Unfair to McKinley.

The Tribune would be the last paper put needless embarrassment in the pathway of the president-elect. We do not believe that there is any Republican in the United States who would has kept us from giving earlier atten- wish to do this. Major McKinley will ion to the annual report which Secre- come to his new office supported by the amplest confidence and the most sin- with us. At its outset we are informed that the but also of most members of other po-

> But when this is said it is not equivbound to do its whole duty now as it will be obligated to do it four months

that over the will of an overwhelming ma- who have plenty of money to hire sples reserve dry and then the whole trouble jority of his fellow-citizens. We think about which Messrs. Cleveland and better of him than to believe that he Carlisle make so much ado will be at desires congress to shirk its duty in order that he may officially guide its

The Chicago Journal is defiantly pugnacious. "War," it boldly affirms. "would unite this people. It would chase away the vapors of discontent. It would exalt patriotism. It would burn away the cancerous tissues of anarchy that threaten to extend deeper into the body politic. It would scarify, but it would heal. In the end we should be a holiday picnic and a good thing for business, were to become really can. of public funds to essential purposes. It would exalt patriotism. It would must not be crippled in order to avoid archy that threaten to extend deeper be better off. War would stimulate art, The city of Boston, having grown poetry, music, manufactures, commerce, trade, civilization. We should come pense accounts of its councilmen, has through it rejuvenated and rehabilitated." According to this view it would \$1,500 a year apiece to the members of be to the interest of the United States to be employed in a perpetual scrap. The Journal's assertions have a good deal of truth in them, but they badly need qualifying.

Says the Rochester Post-Express, journal by no means given to careless utterances concerning public men: "From all that is known of Mr. Penrose, there is no doubt that if successful he will represent the Keystone state worthly and well, in the federal senate." We can assure our contemporary that it is right, and that Senaimply standing by their friends, as usual, for Penrose will speedily rank among There are in New York some very wealths the ablest younger members of the men, who have great property interests national senate. national senate.

> The foreign press credits our minister at Madrid with intimating to Spain that the United States may yet help her to subjugate Cuba. We guess this

Just a Word or Two of Casual Mention

so sorely tempted to hire a good, able ais feelings as on occasions when, after ome crime is committed, he runs afour of one of those small calibre individuals who seem to have the ability everywhere to fasten themselves on the department entrusted with the preservation of peac and hunting down of criminals. Thes nodern Hawkshaws usually think the criminal is quite as stupid as they are After a burglary, robbery or murder is committed, and the newsgatherer is search of particulars ferrets out the of-ficer in charge of the case, or his su-perior, he is frequently besought not to orint anything about it, Why? If the alprit reads in the public prints of the rime he knows that it has been discovcred and he immediately proceeds to do a disappearance act, That's what the Sherlock Holmes will tell you. Could anything be more idiotic or senseless. When a man is mixed up in a burglary or obbery he knows to a certainty that within a few hours the authorities will be at work on the case and if his tracks are not fairly well concealed he puts as much pace as he can between himself and the cene of his crime. He does not wait to be newspaper aunouncements. To a gue that he will not become alarmed unti reads the public prints is to say that is even less bright than the man who is trying to capture him. If the crimina was suspected and there was hope of cap-turing him by withholding his name, it would be reasonable and entirely proper to do so, but as Rudyard Kipling would say, that's another story.

We do not know what the actual at-

ert was; but at a rough guess we should say that there were not more than 600 persons in the theater, if there were that many. In other words, out of a populaion in Scranton and contributory territory of more than 200,000 it appears that only about 600 auditors could be mustered hear what without any doubt wa the finest concert of its kind ever given in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Either of these artists could singly, in any large city possessed of an educated taste for nusic, command an attendance equal to the capacity of the auditorium, not sim-ply for one concert, but for many in sucession. It is therefore far from creditgether could here attract less than the average attendance at a sparring match or a dog fight.

Among the modest Scrantonians posessing true genius may be mentioned Harry Thorne, stage manager at Davis' theater, who is not only a clever panto-minist, but has also displayed great ingenuity in arranging surprising stage tricks that delight young and old. The Christmas pantomime which is being proluced at Davis' theater this week, and which is one of the most amusing ever seen in Scranton, is the creation of Mr. Thorne's active brain and furnishes am-ple evidence of his originality. Propriefor Davis has shown rare judgment in the entire season, as his efforts have in past contributed much to the pleasurable entertainments given at this popular house, "Little Boy Blue," Mr. Thorne's pantomime, by the way, should delight the children at Davis' theater for a month hence at least.

Several applicants for naturalization apers came before Judge H. M. Edwards vesterday and they were subjected to a very rigid examination as to their knowl edge of our forms of government and the nanner in which it is conducted "Where do they make laws for Penn-sylvania?" asked the judge of one of the

candidates. "In Scranton," promptly came the answer, with the assurance that it was absolutely correct. "Well, we think we make laws up h occasionally," said the judge softly, as if communing with himself, "but the trou-

ble is the Supreme court won't agree As for the applicant, he will have to brush up a little and try his luck at

-0-Giovanni Coggiano yesterday registered as a student at law, after passing a high-ly successful examination before Attor-neys Joseph O'Brien, R. A. Zimmerman and E. C. Newcombe, the local examining board, Mr. Coggiano is the first Italianborn Scrantonian to take up the legal pro fession. He was, until recently ployed as an architect by the Carluccis He is a graduate from a college in Na ples, and since his coming to this cour try has diligently applied himself to the mastery of an English education. That he has succeeded is testified to by the ex-amining board, which reports that his showing in the examination was excep-

HOW TO HELP CUBA.

tionally good.

Walter Wellman in the Times-Herald. The Cuban junta in America is hard pressed for ready money. How they have managed to work along on their slender receipts, contributed almost entirely the Cuban cigarmakers of the Florida towns and the small Cuban colony in New York, is the mystery to most per-sons at all familiar with their affairs. The cigarmakers given 10 per cent. of their gross earnings every week, and is must be a great hardship for some of them to part with so much of their income Various reports of large contributions to the cause of Cuba by wealthy Ameri-cans have been in circulation from time to time, but I am assured there is no truth in any of them. The junta has lived gold reserve that the much-abused should necessarily take precedence here that even the Spanish authorities

to keep track of whatever is done by the unta, admit that the money raised by the eigarmakers is honestly and effec

The junta needs financial encourage-ment, and needs it very badly. If the people of the United States who sympathize with the Cuban cause wish to de something that will be effective and imely in the direction of their sympa thies, let them subscribe money. Enlist-ments are of no avail. They serve only for business, were to become really gen erous and practical for a moment, they would go down into their pockets for a small contribution to the Cuban treasury

THE FAMILIAR STORY.

From the Harrisburg Patriot (Dem.) It is not unlikely that whichever was the senatorial fight goes Senator Quay will be undone. The election of Penrose would simply put a younger Quay as his colleague and a vigorous young one who would make the Quay name more odious than ever two years hence. The defeat of Penrose would at once put in the field a new force in Pennsylvania politics which would overturn Quayism before two years have passed. Either way he looks Mr. Quay must see retirement for himself.

LIKE A WOMAN.

"Oh, dear!" sighed the lady seal, look-ing out from the tank at the crowd, "How

I wish I could be a woman and could wear

one of those lovely linen waists, instead of this fur!"-Indianapolis Journal. CHRISTMAS EVE. Outside my window whirls the icy storm, And heats upon its panes with fingers

white:

stands.

Within, my open fire burns bright and And sends throughout the room its rud-

Low on the hearth my good grimalkin lies. His supple, glossy limbs outstretched along; Now gently sleeps with softly closes

eyes, Now half awakened purrs his eyen-song. Near to the fire, touched by its gentle A silent, welcome friend, my armchair

Its cushioned depths invite me to its And promise rest for weary head and

Within its depths mine eyes unheeded And comes to me a vision wondrous

Such sights and sounds no wakeful hours As then my resting, dreaming senses

Keep sleepless, faithful watch o'er resting sheep; hear them chant the Psalmist's sweet refrain That Israel's God will sure his promise

Then quick the air is full of heav'nly And radiant light illumines all the ground, While angel voices sweet the strain pro-

And angel faces shine in glory round see the shepherds' faces pale with fear Then glow with joy and glad surprise for then 'Glory to God!" from angel lips they

And then the light marks out a shining way, And swift the shepherds are the path

I long to go: Oh, laggard feet, why stay? Alas! the vision fades, and I awake Within, the smold'ring fire is burning

Without, the whirl and beat of storn have ceased. still can hear the angels' peaceful

And know the vision bath my peace in -Frank E. Brown in the Outlook

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 1.11 a, m., for Thursday Dec. 24, 1896.

o\$ ∵ 🕾 A child born on this day will notice that the gifts of Santa Claus are generally best appreciated where they are most sparingly distributed.

When Uncle John Wanamaker sings "Peace on earth and good will towards men," it is not to be taken for granted that he is referring to Senator Penrose.

It is probable that persons in this section of the state who are constantly discovering gold mines could be benefited by a season at the "gold cure."

There is no question that the Scranton school board could furnish material that would go quite a way towards stocking the proposed Nay Aug museum. Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olney exhibit ambition to become the national "Box and Cox" show.

It is now in order for the goose bon prophet to arise and say, "I told you so." Snowflakes. elements should satisfy

The fellows who were braying In days gone by, with saddened eye: "We ought ter hev some sleighing!



Even Santa Claus would do it, if he had to tussle with the shirts that some men wear.

Be a sensible little Santa Claus. Buy your husband something that he really needs. For instance, a half-dozen good shirts, and a really pretty tie, instead of the monstrootty he wears. Zero prices.

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