

The Scranton Tribune

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If the legislature shall exhibit responsiveness to the influence of association, perhaps it will be wise to adopt Grace church as its permanent home.

High Time to Intervene.

The Cuban situation seems to be nearing a crisis. Rev. Russell H. Conwell of Philadelphia, who recently spent some time in Havana, whether he went with letters of introduction that unlocked many hidden sources of information, reports upon his return that every native of Cuba is in sympathy with the insurrection; that many of the Spanish officers regard the pacification of the island by force as impossible, and are disgusted with the "hop-skip-and-jump" nature of the service to which they have been assigned, and that the opinion of the best authority resident on the island is that the only way by which the ruling power can be stopped is for Spain frankly to give up, withdraw its soldiers and its officers, and let the Cubans govern or misgovern themselves.

On the heels of this intelligence we have a promulgation of Spain's scheme of proposed reforms for Cuba, and it serves merely to aggravate the anti-Spanish feeling. The nub of this scheme is that it proposes to invest in a Council of Administration of 35 members, 21 elective and the rest appointed by the crown or by the corporations that is, interior improvements—while the Cortes will continue to vote the budgets. In 1894 less than \$747,000, or not 4 per cent, of the Cuban revenues, were diverted to interior improvements. It is likely that the Cubans will lay down their arms after two years of successful war to accept a project of reform which promises them only a nominal 3 per cent. of home rule? We say "nominal," because even the 21 elective members of the proposed Council of Administration are more likely to be Spaniards than Cubans. The 15 appointive members are sure to be, it would need but three Spaniards among the 21 elective members to give Spain the whip hand; and it is an interesting fact in this connection that only five per cent. of the native population of Cuba is permitted to vote; while the Spaniards, though forming less than 19 per cent. of the island's population, are in the majority when it comes to voting.

Thus it will be seen that the much talked of overture of Spain to Cuba is in fact no concession at all. There is a pretense of concession, but the more one studies it the flimsier it appears. One cannot wonder that Senor Diaz Albertini, the secretary of the Cuban delegation at Washington, when asked whether the suggested compromise would be acceptable to his people, should make reply: "Why should we compromise? We could get nothing worth having, absolutely nothing. The island is loaded with debt. Even if there is any honesty or sincerity in Spain's proposals, and we know there is none, life in Cuba would become such a burden that the island would soon lose half its population. Do you suppose a million and a half of people could pay the interest and establish a sinking fund for a debt of \$600,000,000? It would impoverish the land. There would be nothing left after the tax gatherer had concluded his work. This is the size of the debt that would be saddled upon poor Cuba by Spain if the war were brought to an end to-day. Our people will never put their necks under such a yoke. Spain may prepare as many so-called reform schemes as she likes—our leaders will have nothing to do with them in any shape or form."

But there remains for consideration one or two other points. Spain is spending \$10,000,000 a month on Cuba in her fruitless war to subjugate the insurgents, and this drain is sapping her very vitals. The Cubans have five times as many men in arms now as they had a generation ago when they prolonged the struggle for ten years. Spain cannot starve them out; she cannot get at them to make one decisive battle, and she cannot baffle them by propositions of bogus reform. On every hand it is admitted that Spanish government in Cuba is according to all the rules of civilization a failure. Her moral right to rule Cuba has long since been forfeited. Spain, by prolonging the war, will simply make greater her ultimate loss; but what is more important from an American standpoint, she will also decree to inevitable destruction the \$50,000,000 of American capital invested in Cuba, subject to continual outrage and peril many hundreds of American citizens who have business or relatives in Cuba; rob us of profitable trade opportunities and maintain almost within sight of our southeastern coast line a veritable hell to disturb our peace and shock our sensibilities.

Has not the time come for this government to intervene? That civil service "reform," when worked out in detail, often runs to seed, is notorious. In a recent examination in Brooklyn the applicants for \$1,200 clerkships were asked to name the vice presidents of the United States in order and the period of their service, to name all the bays between Maine and Florida, to name states included in the territory sold by France to the United States, and other questions. "Not only as remote as possible from the duties they would perform if appointed, but

which," says one commentator, "it is likely that even the learned librarian of congress would not be able to answer off hand." It is their insistence upon such fol-de-rol as this that brings so many professional civil service reformers into contempt. To the broad principle that hired men should be qualified to earn their pay objection from any quarter is, of course, impossible.

The University of Pennsylvania.

The report of Charles C. Harrison, provost of the University of Pennsylvania, for the period from June 9, 1894, to September 1, 1896, has been issued. It shows remarkable progress on the part of this institution of learning. The donations made to the university since June, 1894, aggregate \$944,600, exclusive of upward of \$115,000 contributed for the hospital department. During the same period there was an increase of 11 in the teaching force and of 224 in the number of students. There are now 2,622 students and 251 instructors.

The university hospital has been enlarged by the Agnew memorial wing, the maternity hospital, and the Pepper clinical laboratory. To the dental faculty has been added a chair of oral surgery. The dental school now has students from twenty-four foreign countries as well as from all parts of the United States. In the law department of the university the number of students has increased during the last ten years from 129 to 418. The Flower alumnus has been added to the equipment of the scientific department and is supplied with every modern aid to astronomical research. A botanic garden has been established. The report of the librarian shows that during the last two years the university acquired more than 25,000 bound volumes and 15,000 unbound volumes and pamphlets. The total number of bound volumes in the general and special libraries of this institution amounts to 128,761. There are 50,000 unbound volumes and pamphlets. New dormitories and a club house have been added and numerous minor conveniences for pupils arranged.

In short, the past two and one-half years of general depression and relaxation of effort, have, so far as "Old Penn" has been concerned, been years of steady progress, materially and intellectually. It would exhaust our space to make detailed mention of all or even part of the specific contributions which this energetic institution has made to human knowledge or to do scanty justice to the influence which it has in countless ways exerted for good upon the life and thought of the community of which it is the educational center. But we may in conclusion say that it fully merits the most generous treatment both from state and citizens, for to both it is returning with rich interest many times the value it has received.

The Chicago board of trade has become so disgusted with faulty administration of the interstate commerce law that it wants that whole measure repealed. The Chicago board of trade would take a rest, cool off, and then cite its grievances and work for specific amendments. The law as a whole is all right, and public opinion demands that it be made stronger instead of weaker.

The Secret of a Failure.

If we may believe published reports that bear facial appearance of authenticity, President Cleveland's own regret in connection with the rapidly approaching end of his public career is that he should have been so generally misunderstood. "The president," Bishop Walker is quoted as having lately said after an interview with Mr. Cleveland, "has labored since his return to the white house faithfully to carry out the responsibilities he assumed when he took the oath of office. He feels that everything that he has done has been with an eye single to the welfare of the people, and yet he does not fail to perceive that his purposes are misconstrued, his acts severely criticized and a sort of tacit antagonism, at least, to him and his administration has been established in congress, and especially between members of the Democratic party. This has given him great pain, and while he believes that the future will make clear the sincerity and steadfastness of his purposes, yet he realizes that now he is more greatly criticized than supported." Adds "Holland" to this quotation: "It is almost a pathetic picture which those who have seen the president recently paint of him in his solitude, his disappointments, his anxiety for the future and his keen sorrow that so many of his fellow citizens should have been willing to be influenced by revengeful politicians to view him in an unfavorable light, and to regard his administration as distinguished not by its successes but by its failures."

In reading this we are at once reminded of a significant passage in an article which Speaker Reed, who more nearly than any other man now in public life, presents characteristics not dissimilar to many possessed by Mr. Cleveland, recently wrote for the Youth's Companion. He was writing about congress, but he might well have said the presidency in mind when he said: "All legislative bodies suffer in public estimation because of the persistent criticism to which they are obliged to submit without any chance or opportunity of reply. Hence the popular idea of such bodies is much lower than is just. A representative body has to do the best it can to reconcile with the terms of its proposed action all the prejudices of the whole people, and to take into account their wrong views as well as their right views. Hence it is that individual members seldom are able to vote anything more than that modification of their own ideas which it is possible to exact. Of course, this falls far short of the freedom of an editorial, or a sermon, or the speech of a reformer."

If true of a congress where responsibility is divided among 350 men, how much more true are Mr. Reed's remarks when applied directly to the central executive head of the nation, upon whom 50,000,000 citizens feel at all times free to pass judgment for every real or fancied evil in public affairs? How has Mr. Cleveland recognized the "prejudices" or what he assumed to be the "prejudices of the whole people?" How has he sought to meet congress and its constituents half way? In each and every case with a homily or a

bludgeon. Either he posed before them as a superior being possessed of knowledge and virtue unknown to them, or else he contemptuously ignored them altogether and set about to force his own ideas through, regardless of consequences. In the one manner he conducted his memorable campaign for "tariff reform;" in the other he dealt with Hawaii and Cuba. At times he combined the roles of reformer and tyrant, as during his battle to maintain the financial credit of the government, but at no time has he sought the personal affection of the people, as Lincoln had it, and Blaine, and McKinley has it now.

That history, viewing only main results and not always mindful of connecting impulses, will give Mr. Cleveland a high place is very probable; yet in every instance his achievements have been negative. He has prevented innovation; he has resisted the forces of change; he has given no trace. What a record he might have made had he kept on a level with the people!

Our Altoona namesake objects to the payment by Blair county of fees to the Barring & McSweeney detective agency. That agency, since the Tillard disclosures, is evidently one of its tender spots.

Recent Medical Progress.

Several days ago announcement was made of the receipt at St. Luke's hospital, New York, for experimental use, of a small quantity of serum expected to cure absolutely consumption in its earlier stages. The serum is the discovery of Professor Maragliano, of Genoa, Italy, and is obtained from the blood of horses that have been inoculated with the tuberculous germ in small quantity. The effect of this inoculation when continued for several months is said to be to produce in the blood of the horse some quality of resistance to the disease which can be means of the horse serum be communicated to the human patient. The treatment at St. Luke's hospital of the two patients who have been chosen as subjects of this new "cure" will occupy several months; but among many physicians there is great hopefulness as to the result.

Another very interesting piece of news comes from Frankfort, Germany, and is to the effect that a cure has at last been discovered for tetanus, or "lock jaw." This disease, as nearly all persons know, is an exceedingly painful and hitherto nearly always fatal form of blood poisoning believed by physicians to be caused by the introduction into the system of a minute organism which arises from the ground, as does the germ of malaria. Two eminent German scientists, Dr. von Behring and Professor Knorr, lately set out to find a means of exterminating these "microbes." They followed the same general plan which has been followed by makers of diphtheria and tuberculosis anti-toxin, and now claim to have met with entire success. Record is made of a number of remarkable cures of acute tetanus under conditions that a few years ago would almost surely have produced swift death; and that, these might be something substantial in these claims is indicated in the fact that the German government has taken charge of the preparation of this remedy and is preparing to place it within reach of bacteriologists generally.

These two examples of recent medical progress by no means exhaust the list. As a matter of fact, there is no form of physical or mental human ill against which a vigilant corps of medical scientists is not directing its experimental batteries with a view to reducing the terrors of disease. There has arisen, too, among laymen new interest in public health and sanitation, a fact shown very conspicuously in the enlarged recent activities of boards of health, directed especially against the spitting evil and against unwholesome workshops and tenements. These activities betoken a general agitation in favor of more healthful conditions, and though at times these various movements offer inspiration to ridicule, their general tenor is unquestionably beneficial.

A few days ago Mr. Gage, the secretary-elect of the treasury, was heralded as a single taxer, a Mugwump, a free trader and an economic lah-de-da; and now we are told he is a spiritualist. It will evidently not be the fakir's fault if he does not find his new field of experience exciting.

A recent canvass of the judges of Philadelphia did not disclose one who favored the present plan of distributing liquor licenses. If there is a judge in Pennsylvania who cherishes his prerogative as a license peddler he has not yet located him.

Of course it was certain to be said, sooner or later, that the capitol fire was the work of Quayism; but now that this theory has been exploited, we are glad it comes from no higher authority than Col. Sam Hudson and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The view which Judge Harding takes of the forestry question is that if railway companies were compelled to quench the sparks from their locomotives, nature would do the rest. In other words, make them burn anthracite coal!

If by threatening a removal of the capitol the legislature can scare the ossified inhabitants of Harrisburg into providing an adequate fire department, well and good. Otherwise the talk of a new capitol is simply a waste of breath.

On rainy days, when news is slow and "copy" scarce, the Washington correspondents fall back on the old story of a Republican combine to depose Speaker Reed. It fills space, but it takes gross liberties with the truth.

George C. Gardner writes a letter to the Sun calculated to establish that the last Ohio president was a liar. This may or may not be true, but the next one in either case will be a big improvement.

where things are done in a world full of conflicts and opposing opinions, results fall short of the ideal best." Criticism would be fairer if it were more frequently to bear this truth in mind.

It is noticed as the plums drop at Canton that the president-elect is exhibiting a very wholesome keenness of gratitude and a memory which does not forget his friends.

The Carbonade Leader seems to think that the way to boost Carbonade is to smack whenever possible at Scranton. Such a policy will prove to be a mistake.

The Nicaragua canal bill is reported dead for this session, and if the truth be known there would be few mourners.

The Cubans, we trust, are too old to be again taken in by Spain's "reform" green goods.

STATE LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

Representative Ely, of Wayne county by reason of his resolution, introduced several days ago at Harrisburg, re-appropriating the property of a deceased and Westatah woman, has brought on a storm of indignant protest on the part of the women of Pennsylvania, and if what the Pittsburgh Dispatch says be true, will soon find himself beset with adverse gales in the shape of petitions and resolutions. Its New Citizenship club of Pittsburgh has taken the matter up and will not only send a numerous memorial remonstrance to Harrisburg, but may also employ attorneys and protest against the enactment of the bill. The bill provides that where such intestate shall leave a widow and issue, the widow shall be entitled to a life interest in all real estate and to an equal share, with child or children, of the personal estate. If there be no issue surviving, the widow shall be entitled to life interest in all real estate and to an equal share, with child or children, of the personal estate. The objection to be urged by the New Citizenship club against the measure is that it would leave the widow and child in a worse position than do the present laws. If the intestate husband and father's estate be in realty the widow would be in a much more unfavorable state than now, and if in personal property the widow would be the sufferer.

It is thought that Speaker Boyer and President McCarroll will announce the committee to investigate the office of the treasurer and auditor-general when the general assembly meets tonight. The legislature has authorized the employment of a geographer for the committee, and this is the most important expense that will be entailed. The investigation will be conducted in Harrisburg. All the parties to the investigation will do all in my power to facilitate the work of the committee. The matter has been talked about so much that I think it is only just to state that the geographer should be selected from the closest scrutiny. Auditor-General Mylin talks in the same strain. There is no doubt whatever but that they will be elected to the committee on March 15. If this is to be done they will have to get down to work at once.

Another act for the protection of motorists has been introduced, and it is, if anything, more stringent than anything heretofore attempted in this line. It provides that every electric street car other than a trolley car shall be attached to motor cars, shall be provided during the months of November, December, January, February and March, of each year, at the expense of the contractor, with a window of glass or other material, which shall fully and completely protect the driver or motorist from wind and rain. The second section directs that any person, agent or officer of any association or corporation violating the provisions of the act shall be liable to a fine of not more than \$10 for each day each car belonging to and used by any such person, association or corporation is directed or permitted to remain unprovided with the screen required and it is made the duty of the prosecutor to institute the necessary proceedings to enforce the provisions of the act.

Says the New York Sun: "The greatest piece of good fortune which has come to Harvard university now for many years is the loss of Professor Penrose, recently elected senator of the United States. The Harvard man has never been noted for the aggressive power that makes success in the world more appreciable. During the unfortunate Mugwumpism of the late President Cleveland, as expressed by its president and other representatives, has been calculated to make public life repulsive and to emasculate all that might be effective for usefulness in it. Mr. Penrose, who has been a conspicuous target for Mugwump abuse, and who has been the subject of a long and insupportable barrier to public distinction outside of Massachusetts. He is an honor to the university, which cannot fall to be of high material value to it."

For the past day or two it has been rumored around Harrisburg that if the governor is not asked to enter McKinley's cabinet he will be tendered the ambassadorship to London, which carries with it a salary of \$75,000 a year, opens fine social opportunities and is regarded a diplomatic honor second only to the London embassy. However, it has not so much as lifted his little finger in the matter. He is not an applicant for any position, but if he were he would be a matter of course, Pennsylvania the executive will be the person to whom the distinction will fall.

At a meeting of the members of the board of trade and prominent citizens of Harrisburg Saturday night, there was a lengthy discussion over the proposition to recommend a paid fire department to prevent the removal of the capitol. While the fire department was not condemned, it was the general opinion that the fire system is antiquated and a resolution creating a committee on fire to urge councils to adopt a paid fire department was passed.

Governor Hastings has not expressed nor will he express his opinion on the removal of the capitol to Philadelphia. The governor considers the matter should come before the legislature it would be indelicate and out of all reason to say anything in regard to the proposition.

It is announced authoritatively that the following will be some of the members of the committee to investigate the state treasury and auditor-general's departments: Senators Snyder (chairman), James G. Mitchell and C. J. Brown, of Philadelphia; Representatives Marshall, Keyser, Lytle and Kerr, of York, the latter a Democrat.

The board of charities, recognizing the immediate needs for temporary homes for the thousands of needy in Philadelphia, has determined to present to the legislature a bill to incorporate all the almshouses in Philadelphia county under its control, and thus enable it to give aid to those now dependent upon the charity of individuals.

Another "farmers' combine" in the legislature is threatened by the grangers.

GOLDSMITH'S G.B. BAZAAR.

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running off the track could not create any greater havoc or consternation than the

QUARTER-PRICE CLOAK SALE

that we will hold during the first three days of this week-- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Every Ladies' and Misses' Jacket upon our racks and tables, about 300 in number, your choice,

\$2.98.

Many of these garments are of the very best, silk lined throughout, and formerly sold at \$12.00 to \$15.00. Those that come first will be served best and those that come last will get three and four times the worth of their money.

Our Great Sale of 2,000 dozen Ladies', Misses' and Children's Underwear now in motion. Every garment on sale is the most convincing argument of their sterling goodness and excellent value.

E. ROBINSON'S SONS' Lager Beer Brewery.

Manufacturers of the Celebrated PILSNER LAGER BEER, CAPACITY—100,000 Barrels Per Annum.

ENLARGE THE CABINET. SHOULD GET A GUN.

From the Times-Herald. On the 6th of March, 1896, in the first vote of the present congress, Senator Frye introduced a bill in the senate entitled "A bill to establish the department of commerce and manufactures." This department is intended to have general jurisdiction over the foreign and internal commerce of the United States and all matters relating to the manufacturing interests of the country, and the promotion of the same at home and abroad. A number of bureaus now in the treasury department is transferred to such a navigation, steamboat inspection, lighthouse board, life saving service, coast survey and statistics. The consular bureau of the department of state is also likewise subject to its jurisdiction, except where consular officers are required to act in a diplomatic capacity.

The necessity for a department of this character has long been manifest, but no direct effort has been made to establish it. Mr. Frye's bill has been suffered to repose in quietude in the bosom of the senate committee on commerce, and it is altogether likely that it will never be awakened to any successful purpose in the last hours of a dying congress. But it should be given a good start in the next congress, so that it can get through the senate at an early day, giving sufficient time for it to pass the house before the term ends.

There ought not to be any great opposition to this measure. It has the endorsement of the National Business League, of the National Board of Trade, of the national congress of farmers and of other business organizations, and is felt to be essential to the material interests of the whole country. All the great commercial nations have such departments, and in Great Britain it is called the Board of Trade, and it has jurisdiction over harbors, mercantile marine, commerce and navigation, railways and dockeries. In France the department is called the ministry of commerce and industry, having substantially the same scope as our proposed department. The department of commerce and industry would be an excellent designation for this new department, but the title is not so essential as the thing.

We trust that public opinion will be so awakened on this subject that congress will be compelled to adopt the measure without unnecessary delay.

HOW PLATT KEEPS UP.

From the Wayne Independent. The six rules observed by T. C. Platt to obtain his political prestige are as follows: 1. Perseverance—he never leaves off playing politics except when asleep. 2. Ability to choose subordinates upon whose fealty he can depend. 3. Sincerity to his followers and the fact that he keeps all promises. 4. The fact that he has never appeared to be trying to make money out of politics. 5. The fact that he can lay aside a grievance if he thinks it will be a good thing for the organization. 6. A talent for organization which extends to every county organization in the state.

THE SENSIBLE VIEW.

From the Providence Register. Connolly & Walker, the popular dry goods dealers, have decided to do no more advertising on fences or street programmes, but will upon all this money allotted for that purpose in legitimate newspaper advertising. They claim that it has taken them five years and cost them several hundred dollars to find out that only newspaper advertising pays.

A SCRAP OF INFORMATION.

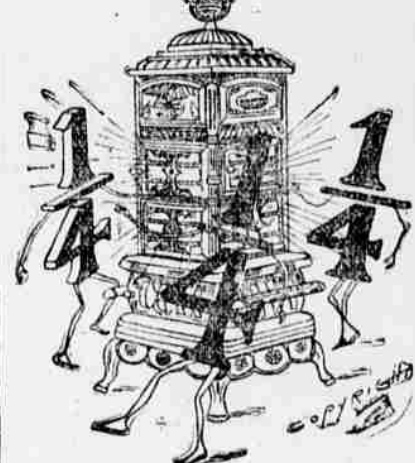
From the Washington Post. It would seem that under the amended statutes of Nevada, the taking of testimony in Colonel Smith's Hudson's contested election case might be pulled off there.

PRISONER OF ZENDA

Anthony Hope's Fascinating Romance. Just issued by the Same Author. Phroso.

BEIDLEMAN, THE BOOKMAN

437 Spruce Street. Opposite The Commonwealth.



TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaelous The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 1:12 a. m., for Monday, Feb. 8, 1897. A child born on this day will notice that the backbone of winter still exhibits considerable vitality. If capital punishment would only (by the aid of an intelligent jury) punish occasionally, the system might be more of a success. The hungry man usually makes the best humorist. He has unlimited opportunity to realize that life is a joke. Blumarez is tired of life. This should be a warning to young politicians generally. Ajaelous' Advice. If you have a grudge against the world, do not commit suicide—write articles for the Scranton Sunday newspapers.

HOT QUARTERS. You must have. You must keep those children warm. Don't risk their young lives on cold floors, in cold rooms. Very few quarters by heaters now. We are closing them out. You make your own price so long as you don't get below cost. We must have the room they take.

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Strictly New Laid Eggs, near by, 25c Fresh Eggs, Jersey Stock, 22c Good Storage Eggs, 16c to 18c

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no matter how hard I try, of a better place to buy my office and business stationery, blank books, type-writer's supplies, etc., than at Reynolds Bros. They have a large stock in every line to choose from, and you never can beat them on price on the down scale; and we also carry in stock a complete line of draughtsmen's supplies.

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