

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 3, 1897.

To insure publication in this paper, volunteered communications of a controversial character MUST BE SIGNED FOR PUBLICATION BY THE WRITER'S TRUE NAME. To this law we cannot hereafter make exception.

Grover's Farewell Veto.

The immigration bill, in its final form, did not fully coincide with our ideas of what was wisest and best. The literary test impressed us as being too easy and it was open to further objection on the ground that it took absolutely no account of the candidate's character. The provision granting admission to illiterate wives was a needless bit of deference to a misguided sentiment, and, finally, the prohibition of border immigration for purposes of daily toil, while fully within our principle as a matter of strictly defensible theoretical grounds, was still open to question on the score of expediency.

The mere threat of it has already created much ill will for us in Canada, and has doubtless retarded the natural drift toward annexation-making in total a somewhat costly price to pay for the prospective luxury of shutting out a few thousand industrious men who have the poor judgment to own allegiance to her majesty, the queen.

But these defects are hardly sufficient to justify a veto. The sentiment in favor of a more careful sifting of immigration is well-nigh unanimous among Americans of discernment, and it is a sentiment resting on the solidest basis of wisdom and necessity. An examination of the records of the immigration bureau shows that the Lodge bill, notwithstanding its minor faults, which could be righted after an experimental test, would, if it had been in operation during the past four years, have caused the exclusion of more than half of those immigrants who, since their arrival in this country, have for some reason or other proved highly objectionable. Its good effects, in other words, would far outweigh its bad, and the bad effects could easily be remedied by subsequent amendments.

Therefore the executive's veto appears injudicious and harmful. There remains for consideration the final point that the president in this use of the veto power has done violence to the best traditions of his office. The veto power was placed in the president's hands as a public safeguard against notoriously vicious, ignorant or slipshod legislation by congress, but never was it intended by the framers of the constitution that the president should arbitrarily thrust his individual opinions ahead of the carefully considered judgment of the law-making branch. The veto was to be a resource in rare emergency, not a club to beat the congress into acquiescence with the executive's personal notions. In the present instance a mature enactment, made after prolonged consideration and in manifest accord, as to its main tenor, with public opinion, is negated in the dying hours of a disgraced administration.

It seems, out of presidential solemnity, to look like a new order of things is at hand. In thirty months the Wilson tariff law has caused a total deficit of \$11,129,173, or at the aggregate rate of \$14,000 a day. In thirty months the McKinley tariff law produced a surplus of \$25,508,615. Here, in a nutshell, is the secret of tomorrow's change of administration.

A Brave and Efficient Officer.

No doubt there is some sense of disappointment among various members of the Fifty-fourth congress at the fact that the intrepid speaker of that congress, Hon. Thomas B. Reed, has been deemed in opposition to all private bills involving the larger non-urgent expenditures of the public funds. This would be natural, but it will die away. None of it will be left to embarrass the organization of the Fifty-fifth congress.

Under our form of government the speaker of the lower house of congress is much more than the servant of the members of that house. He is virtually the custodian of the people's interests and their safeguard against unwise legislation. In his way he is the most influential officer of the federal government; very truly might it be said of him that he is "the power behind the throne."

A great and prudent speaker is worth more to this country, in actual fact if not in appearance, than president and cabinet combined. The powers of the latter are great in foreign affairs and in office bestowal; but they have to do with his bidding in matters of domestic administration, for he controls the machinery which makes the laws that they must execute, and moreover has his hand on the lever which frees or shuts off their cash supply.

Some time ago there was a competition for the Republican presidential nomination and the representatives of that party voted to keep Mr. Reed where he is. Superficially this may have had the appearance of an undervaluation of his worth; practically it was the greatest possible compliment. Any one of a dozen distinguished Republicans could perform satisfactorily the duties of the presidency, but in the history of this generation there has been only one other speaker fit to compare with Thomas B. Reed, and he is dead.

As the members of the expiring congress disperse to their several homes, let them amuse and instruct themselves by figuring out how this hard-up, deficit-cursed government could possibly have borne the burdens of their extravagance had Speaker Reed "let down the bars." Let them picture in his mind's eye the reception which would have awaited them among their constituents, had they been permitted to shove their gam bit deeper into debt, on the top of his sad experience with Hon. Grover Cleveland. The contemplation of these contingencies will tend to cool their plume and put them into a mood

to appreciate what they owe to Mr. Reed. He has been cruel only to the kind. Don't make any mistake about the identity of the speaker of the next congress. Among Republicans only one name will be mentioned for that position, and if the country could vote upon it his election would be unanimous.

Secretary Olney is a lucky man that his tenure of office comes to an end as soon, otherwise he could probably be made to understand the meaning of the word "impeachment."

The Facts in the Case.

The publication of the official correspondence received by the state department from Consul General Lee relative to American citizens arrested in Cuba shows that every material statement recently printed concerning the strained relations between General Lee and Secretary Olney was literally true. General Lee did demand to be backed up by the government at Washington under threat of resignation and did ask to be informed of the location of our war vessels and whether they would be ordered to Havana "at once if necessary." Following are two of General Lee's messages:

Feb. 20.—Charles Scott, a citizen of the United States, arrested at Regia, No. 400 Havana 24 hours. Cannot stand another Ruiz murder and have demanded his release.

Feb. 23.—Scott released from incarceral confinement on demand for four days solitary confinement in cell five feet by eleven; damp; water on bottom of cell. Not allowed anything to sleep on or chair. Discharges of the body removed once in five days. Was charged with having Cuban postage stamps in the house. Scott says went always twelve hours without water; once two days.

General Julio Sanguilly, now in this country, says: "I had the pleasure of a long talk with General Lee before leaving Havana. He said after thoroughly understanding the matter he had made up his mind to demand the freedom of every American now a prisoner in Cuba without just cause, but that he must have warships to back up his demands. He had made his intentions known to Olney, he said, and had sent his resignation to go into effect if the request was not granted. As a matter of courtesy, he was waiting now for the new administration and would tell it the same thing. If not supported he would return at once, go before the senate and tell them all and show how he felt it was that nothing had been done."

The state department does not make public its replies to General Lee, but we have a fair means of guessing at their tenor in the talk of hangers-on at Washington, about "Lee's impetuosity," his "ambition to be again governor of Virginia," etc. It is enough to know that Lee stood for his countrymen's rights and for his country's honor; and that his stand was so firm that the Democratic secretary of state was forced to like a pluck-pocket in the hope of hushing the matter up. This correspondence shows that Fitzhugh Lee is the right man at Havana. We do not doubt that he will be kept there, while affairs are critical, and, after tomorrow, supported in his protection of American interests; if need be by the entire military and naval force of the United States.

It is to be regretted that this congress should have failed to pass the Torrey bankruptcy and the Loud postal reform bills. For their negligence in these particulars there can be offered no sufficient excuse.

Manifest Destiny.

The Canadian department of agriculture estimates the population of Canada at 5,125,436, which is probably padded. In 1891 the official census gave a population of 4,822,679. Here is an ostensible increase of 6 per cent. in 6 years, or about 1 per cent. a year. In the same period the population of the United States increased, according to the Statistical Abstract, from 64,902,000 to 71,263,000, or at the rate of nearly 2 per cent. per annum.

Canada's growth in the past six years has been mainly in Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest territories, and has been induced by the remarkable natural advantages offered by those regions to prospective settlers. But if a Toronto correspondent of the Sun is to be believed, there are indications even in Manitoba of a retrograde movement. The land sales of the Canadian Pacific railway in 1895 were \$199,280, and the cancelled contracts for land sales were \$280,286. The railway company has over 17,000,000 acres of the best lands in the fertile belt between Winnipeg and the eastern base of the Rocky mountains, all within twenty-four miles of its line. Its lands are offered at low prices on credit at a low rate of interest. It will be observed that more sales were cancelled than were made in 1895, and this is certainly significant.

This correspondent professes to see trouble ahead for the dominion in the confessed failure of its latest reciprocity overture to the United States. He says: Americans may wonder why the Canadian producers are so urgent in their demand for free access to the American market, but a simple statement of the barley trade will make the reason clear. Prior to the enactment of the McKinley tariff the duty upon barley entering our market was 10 cents per bushel, and we sent you 9,456,964 bushels in 1887, 9,570,728 in 1888, 9,948,217 in 1889, and 9,929,901 in 1890. Under the McKinley tariff the duty was raised to 20 cents per bushel, and in 1894 we sent you 367,466 bushels. Under the Wilson tariff the duty was reduced to 15 cents a bushel, and in 1895 we sent you 1,708,370 bushels. If the consumer paid the duty, we should have continued to send you large amounts of barley, as it is one of the most profitable crops which our farmers can raise, but as the Canadian farmer was compelled to lose the duty he was obliged to cease producing it. If you reduce the duty to 10 cents a bushel again, we shall send you 10,000,000 bushels annually; if you remove the duty, we shall send you 25,000,000 bushels annually. This statement, I think, fairly illustrates the importance of free access to the American market for the natural products of Canada. When Canadians are convinced that there is no prospect or hope of obtaining reciprocity, tens of thousands will emigrate to the United States.

The Laurier administration will of course conceal its chagrin behind a lot of bombastic talk in favor of imperial federation, but no trade advantages which Great Britain can offer will be fit to hold a candle to the advantages that would accrue to Canadians from

annexation to the United States. A great many Canadians are stubborn on this point and don't like to see the truth, but the merciless logic of events is forcing it upon their recognition. In other words, manifest destiny is gradually unfolding.

Over 10,000 bills and 3,000 resolutions were introduced in the Fifty-fourth congress, and not one in a hundred has passed. In fact, the record made by this congress outside of routine measures, has not been up to the mark. From sheer inertia in the senate the congress has been a disappointment.

The action of the trustees of the Newark public library in ordering the exclusion of the New York World and Journal from their reading room points the way to an effective rebuke of indigent and corrupt journalism. The public, after all, is journalism's editor-in-chief.

The contemplated consolidation of the Syracuse Post and Standard will not take place. The deal has fallen through by reason of the Standard's chief owner having at the last moment flunked. Now watch Congressman Belden do a turn in war paint.

According to the Madrid press America is a nation of mere adventurers and tradesmen. This is true. We don't have bull fights and we do have justice. But what matters it to us what the people of Madrid think?

On Thursday next Pennsylvania will conclude a thirty years' war between the friends and the opponents of the Cameron dynasty. Upon whose head will the next blow of popular prejudice and misconception fall?

Says "Tanna Jim" Wilson, the new secretary of agriculture: "I did not come to Washington to talk." Would there were more like him!

Members of the new congress will get no mileage allowance for the extra session. But just now the walking is especially good.

AN AMERICAN SHAME.

From the Philadelphia Press. The Havana correspondent of the London Times cables to that journal these words: "There is much concern in the classes on the fact that the United States government makes no strong efforts to secure protection for the lives and property of American citizens in this remote island. The statement of a partisan and it is not made for effect in this country. It is the testimony of a foreign observer, and indicates an impression which is reasonable where. Whether just or unjust it exists, and it has not grown up without cause. The idea is widespread that the American government is remiss in its duty toward its own, and that it can be trifled with where other powerful governments would not be so fully respected and promptly heeded."

Unfortunately there is too much justification for this feeling. It has been generated by actual experience, and by a practical demonstration of the different manner in which different governments deal with their own citizens. In the case of two missionaries were arrested in Turkey and subjected to imprisonment and indignities. When arrested in the United States, it turned out that one of them was born in Canada and was still a British subject. When the fact was developed he was immediately released, but though months have elapsed, his American colleague still remains under arrest at Constantinople. The same may be said of England, and England with the other great European powers rules at Constantinople, while America is remiss in its duty toward its own citizens in Turkey. It is true that there is a difference of relation in Cuba as in Turkey. British subjects are not there to excite the suspicions and enmities of the Mohammedan authorities, and American citizens are not taking out their own island papers and returning to their own British homes, and they are taking out American papers. But while that fact may explain much it does not justify anything of remissness in defending their rights under law and treaty. The truth remains that there is a universal impression, which finds voice in the dispatch to the London Times, that the United States government does not secure protection for the lives and property of American citizens. This feeling has been greatly deepened, and has been largely created by the present administration's passive toleration of wrongs upon Americans in Cuba; and however conservative we may be on the question of interference in the affairs of other nations, it is clearly understood that American citizenship will carry full, firm and fearless American protection.

A MUCH-NEEDED REFORM.

From the Times-Herald. To restore favorable trade relations with other countries and thus secure wider markets for our products the new president must come out with a patriotic and loyal diplomatic and consular service. Upon the sagacity and enterprise of an intelligent consular service in particular must come our knowledge of matters affecting commercial, industrial, financial and agricultural interests that may be made available by the vast producing interests of this country. In view of the close relationship which the consular service will sustain to the new administration, the bill to reorganize this department of the government which has been favorably reported by the committee on foreign affairs of the house, is certain to attract unusual attention. It is a bill of great importance, and it will go into the next house with a status that is certain to command serious consideration.

By the first section the president is authorized to appoint a commission to assist him in the reorganization of the consular service to be composed of two senators, two representatives, and one officer of the department of state. The bill provides for a new classification of consular service, and it is certain that the commission will be composed of men of the highest and broadest attainments who will be attracted into the service, not for purposes of adventure, travel or relaxation from business, but with the ambition to make a creditable career in a most honorable position. The necessity for a more intelligent and patriotic service in the consular posts has been urged upon congress for years. But these representations have been ignored until the politicians have come to regard the consular positions as rewards for party leaders, who are anxious to thrust their names into the list for fitness or qualification, many of them

possessing not the slightest conception of the nature of the important duties devolving upon them.

In the classification proposed the salaries of consuls general of the first class will be raised to \$5,000; consuls general of the second class, \$3,500; consuls of the first class, \$2,500; consuls of the second class, \$2,000. The salaries for vice-consuls are also increased. All fees, both official and unofficial, received by any officer of the consular service are to be accounted for and turned into the treasury of the United States. No person below the age of 21 or above the age of 50 will be admitted to the consular service, and two-thirds of the incumbents are to be gradually recalled within three years and tested as to fitness and qualification by consular examinations. Many of the useless and unimportant consular posts are to be abandoned. The service will also be made more economical by the reorganization of the consular service directly under the supervision and authority of the consuls general.

These provisions, together with the plan for gradual promotion of the more efficient consuls, under the protection of civil service regulations, will give the United States a consular service equal to that of Great Britain, which is the model consular service of the world. Under such a law the consular service of the United States administration could be reorganized with sole reference to the intelligent, aggressive and business-like advancement of American interests abroad. It would be a remodeled service the consular positions would cease to be health resorts for those who are old and worn out in party servitude, and who claim fitness not because of their fitness for them but as deserved sinecures for the sake of their declining years.

OUR UNJUST LIBEL LAWS.

From the Philadelphia Times. The editors and publishers of Pennsylvania ask that the libel laws of the state shall be revised as follows: 1. That criminal libel actions for libel shall be brought only in a single jurisdiction in the state against the same publisher, editor or writer for the same publication, and that the editors and publishers of the state upon equality with every other citizen.

2. That criminal actions shall be sustained for malicious and defamatory publications against the writer, the person or persons who dictated the writing, the person or persons who directed the publication, and the innocent and excessive influence of any newspaper who shall refuse to give the name of the author of any alleged libel. This would punish the guilty, protect the innocent, and exercise a most wholesome influence upon newspaper correspondents, reporters, etc., who have now no legal responsibility for the abuse of their trust. Editors and publishers are the only people in Pennsylvania who may be placed in the criminal dock, convicted, fined and imprisoned for a crime, when entirely guiltless of criminal act or purpose. No such monstrous perversion of justice is known in any other criminal case.

3. That under all circumstances the defendant in a libel case may rebut the presumption of malice. It can be done in a murder case, but not in a libel case, as the laws of our state hold that any publication which is a criminal offense must be accepted as malicious if untrue, however innocently published. 4. That punishment for maliciously published libels shall be in the criminal courts, as other crimes are punished, and that damages in civil actions for libel cases shall be limited to the actual injury resulting from the libel, as having been suffered by the plaintiff. Punitive damages are imposed as a punishment in addition to restitution for the injury, and in no case should the double punishment of fine and imprisonment in criminal prosecutions and punitive damages afterward in the same case be inflicted.

BASHFULNESS CURED.

From the Philadelphia Ledger. The majority of the recorded legislative opinions on the subject of providing for the construction of the new capitol seems to trend naturally toward increased taxation on corporations. The majority appears to be always trending in that direction, as for some irreparable reason, corporations appear to be invariably regarded by the average legislative mind as the natural prey of the tax collector. A corporate body is simply an aggregation of individuals or interest; are the property of the mass of citizens who already under other provisions of the revenue laws are fully taxed. The proposal of so many members of the assembly to increase corporation tax instead of the other proposed just economy, or to deny the improper demands of institutions which annually appeal to the legislature for state aid to which they have no equitable claim, is not of a kind to commend itself to popular confidence or favor. The aggregate of the appropriations to institutions which would not receive it would be sufficient in five years to pay for a capitol which would be a national dignity and wealth of the commonwealth.

HOW TO GET A NEW CAPITOL.

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TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN.

By the use of my new local anesthetic, No. 125, sleep-producing agent. It is simply applied to the gums and the tooth extracted without a particle of pain. All other dental operations performed positively without pain.

TEETH & FULL SET.

WARRANTED 5 YEARS. These are the same teeth other dentists charge from \$15 to \$25 set for.

TEETH WITHOUT PLATES.

Gold and Porcelain Crowns; Gold, Silver and Cement Fillings; at one-half the usual cost. Examination free. Open evenings 7 to 9 o'clock 5 to 11 a. m.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacelus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrologic cast: 2:16 a. m., for Wednesday, March 5, 1897.

A child born on this day will be surprised to find out what a good world he has stumbled into.

Musical and literary ability are valuable features of education for fair women. The well-prepared symposium of breakfast and onions often more thoroughly appeals to man's sensibilities.

The individual who has never been tempted to say unkind things about his neighbors' pet animals is too young to keep Lent.

In a few weeks hence the story and a half farm house will become a "villa" for the reception of summer boarders.

Breakfast Chat. He—I say, there's some difference between President Cleveland and March.

She—Is that so? What is it? He—Why, you see, March came in like a lamb and Mr. Cleveland goes out like a lamb.

GOLDSMITH'S BAZAAR. LADIES' TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES AND SEPARATE SKIRTS. This department is one of the most important in our establishment, because ready-made garments are continually growing in demand, on account of both style and economy. A perfect fit is always guaranteed, and special garments are made to order whenever desired.

Ladies' Suits ranging from 32 to 42 bust, are always in stock, and Misses' from 6 to 16 years. Loose and tight fitting garments for house and street wear, made up from cloths of every description, arriving daily, and your inspection is earnestly solicited.

Every garment that we offer for sale is closely examined to see that it is well made and strictly up-to-date. We will not handle any ill-shaped, poorly-made or shoddy garments. Our Cloak and Suit business has been built up by selling reliable garments at reliable prices and on these lines we will continue to work.

We are now showing a special lot of Ladies' Tailor-made Cheviot Serge Costumes, both jacket and skirt, silk lined throughout at \$9.98

A special lot of Ladies' Black Brocaded Silk Skirts, very full, rustle lining, velvet faced, and perfect hanging, at \$6.98

Ladies' Mottled Check Tailor-made Skirts at \$1.98.

E. ROBINSON'S SONS' Lager Beer Brewery. Manufacturers of the Celebrated PILSENER LAGER BEER. CAPACITY—100,000 Barrels Per Annum.

McKINLEY AND CUBA.

From the Philadelphia Stockholder. The hope of the great majority of Americans is that the policy of President McKinley in connection with Cuba will be radically different from that which has characterized the present Administration. There has been no time any wish that the Government should take precipitate action, but the belief now widely obtains that the personal rights and property of American citizens in Cuba are largely ignored by the Spanish authorities, and that the latter should be dealt with in accordance with the acts testified to and supported by people entitled to absolute confidence.

BASHFULNESS CURED.

Bashful man, Timid maid, Lonesome road, Who's afraid? Startled night, Balmey air, Man and girl, Young and fair, Horse and cart, Tight and snug, Girl on drive, Little bird, Beat-up hearts, Oh, what bliss! Stilled scream, Little kiss, Home at last, Dark as yet, One more hug, money for me, Bashful man's Perfect cure! Timid maid, Let him stare, Let him stare, —Says Fry, in the Sun.

TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN.

By the use of my new local anesthetic, No. 125, sleep-producing agent. It is simply applied to the gums and the tooth extracted without a particle of pain. All other dental operations performed positively without pain.

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There is Always a Demand for goods at a reasonable price that will GIVE SATISFACTION. We have just received a new line of JAPANESE JARDINIERS at Moderate Prices. THE Clemons, Ferber, O'Malley Co. 422 Lackawanna Ave.

Reynolds Bros. Stationers and Engravers. HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING.

If Expense Is No Object Why Not Have the Best? HERE THEY ARE: HUMBERS \$115 UNIONS \$100. For a Limited Period Subject THE "SUNLIGHT." Gives a brilliant mellow light not a HASTY LIGHT, all objects appear naturally. The mantle last twice as long as any other. It gives three times as much light and consumes only half the gas used by ordinary gas burners.

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Diamonds, Fine Jewelry, Watches, Silverware, Silver Novelties, Rich Cut Glass, Clocks, Fine Leather Goods, Opera Glasses.

When you see our Net Prices you will ask for No Discount. All Are Welcome.

WOLF & WENZEL, 531 Linden, Opp. Court House.

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I Can't Think, 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.

Reynolds Bros. Stationers and Engravers. HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING.

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