# the Scranton Tribune

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To insure publication in this paper. volunteered communications of a con-troversial character MUST BE SIGNED FOR PUBLICATION by the writer's true name. To this just rule we cannot hereafter make exception.

### To Simplify Tax Collection.

Attention was recently given in our news columns to the bill drawn by City Solicitor Torrey and introduced at Harrisburg by Senator Vaughan providing for the creation, in third class cities, of the elective office of receiver States government against American of taxes, and centralizing the payment of city, county, school and poor taxes petitors is manifest. so that one visit by the taxpayer to the city hall would suffice to wipe out his entire yearly tax debt. As it is now, collector, another kind to another colgen with constable's fees.

about 30 per cent, of the present cost of collection. If the Torrey bill were of preventing their doing so." now in operation in Scranton it is esand county more than \$4,000 a year,

But of course the passage of this measure at Harrisburg would involve the sacrifice of a number of offices, and on this account it is being opposed. Its enactment would do away with ward and poor collectors and it would interfere somewhat with the present lusclousness of the city treasurership. Those officials who are jeoparded financially by the bill are active in opposition to it, while the great mass of citizens, whom it would benefit, are apparently passive and apathetic. This being true, the bill will probably fall at Harrisburg unless the public promptly bestirs itself.

According to William E. Curtis, the Dingley bill is "not popular in Washington." Maybe he means London.

### Need of a New Cabinet Officer

ecutive to create a new cabinet department of commerce and manufacture renders pertinent a consideration of the arguments for this step presented in arguments for this step presented in the libel has been actually published, if Lincolniana in which all future historities the last annual report of the president published in a public journal, or in case and biographers must find their of the National Association of Manufacturers. It is there pointed out that the United States is almost alone among the progressive nations in failing to provide a distinct governmental department whose function it is to promote the interests of commerce and industry.

To prove this it is necessary to note that England has her board of trade, which exercises a powerful influence Great Britain and whose president is a cabinet officer. German has a minister of commerce, who receives a salary of \$9,000 per annum. France recognizes the interests of trade through tria has a minister of commerce and ria has a minister of commerce and national economy. Hungary has a minister of industry and commerce, Russia created nine years ago a special This amended bill would be admirable. Russia created nine years ago a special This amended bill would be admirable are ahead of us on this point.

among the people against the creation of a publisher to be deemed innocent of of citizens drafted for jury service, and of new offices, but this must be dis- a criminal charge until proved guilty? pelled in the present instance when the No other-defendant in a criminal action client. pelled in the present instance when the No other defendant in a criminal action client. The laws of all the states give a natural growth of the public business is regarded by the law as guilty ab persons charged with crime all the acis duly considered, and thought is given initio. Wherefore, then, even the to the magnitude of the importance of semblance of a discrimination? promoting by federal means the ex-tension of our commerce and the devel-provement upon the present law, but it provement upon the present law, but it think, is a policy calculated to foster secretaryship is already necessary, and vanta will not rest content. it will grow in usefulness as the years bring increase in the volume of our in-

After the episode at Carson City, Uncle Sam certainly owes an apology

### to Spain. Entirely Too Generous.

The Republican club of the city of New York, of which Secretary of the beavily on the agricultural sections of Interior Cornelius N. Bliss is president. and which includes in its membership some of the foremost citizens of the metropolis, has unanimously adopted a resolution declaring it to be the duty of the federal government to abrogate abled, without payment of taxes to this | ahead with its retaliation. country, to underbid American railways for freight traffic shipped from state to embodied the clearest review of the Things indeed are different now. "Canadian question" that we have yet

the years 1892, 1893 and 1894, sixty per Canadian railways was freight consigned from an American point to another American point via Canada. It is thus shown that the bonding privilege is worth to the railroads of the dominion not less, on the average, than \$20,-000,000 a year. The chief beneficiary of this privilege, the Canadian Pacific, is by charter exempt from taxation for all time to come upon its roadbed, rolling stock, telegraph lines, warehouses and steamboat lines. It was built by the British government as a measure of military necessity; It could scarcely survive the cancellation of the bonding privilege, and yet the New York Central, a road wholly within the United States, owned by Americans, operated by Americans and distributing all its profits in this country, is forced along with other American roads, to compete with the Canadian Pacific, and more-

over is taxed per annum on an average

And the worst part of the whole: Canada gives nothing in return. one kind of tax has to be paid to one Colonel Denison points out: "The Canadian government does not allow an lector, and so on until the puzzled citi- American fishing vessel to land a cargo zen needs to possess the acuteness of of fish caught outside of the three-mile a Philadelphia lawyer to know when limit at a Canadian port and ship the his annual tax dues are satisfied. The same in bond through Canada to the measure also fixes the time when taxes United States, neither does it allow must be paid and requires due adver- American fishing vessels to buy bait or tisement to be made, so that opportun- supplies at a Canadian port. The obity is not given to soak the honest citi- jest of this unfriendly action is to compel American vessels fishing in the Gulf Pennsylvania is, we believe, the only civilized state yet adhering to the annoying and wasteful system of divided tax collection. It does not seem as if a single argument could be brought could land their fish at a Canadian port against the proposition outlined above, and buy supplies and bait, they could for in addition to its convenience it go directly back to the fishing grounds would result also in the saving of and therefore increase their catch, and these regulations are for the purpose

The fact is, we have been entirely too timated that it would save for the city generous in our legislative treatment of Canadian interests, and have carried and it certainly would save much pro- philanthropy to an extreme. This is a fanity and vexation of spirit. This good time to withdraw some of our noneconomy would grow with the city's required favors and prepare to foster wrote editorials on social topics and made the growth of industry on the southern side of the border line which separates Canada from the United States.

> A contemporary excitedly calls the attention of congressmen to "crueity in association with President Lincoln at Cuba," but what they are now dreading the most critical period of our country's is cruelty in the white house,

libel bill lately introduced at the in-stance of the Pennsylvania Editorial association, with the following pra-association, with the following praassociation, with the following provision stricken out:

Malice shall be proved in criminal actions as other criminal charges are proved, without legal presumption of guilt. No conviction shall be had in any prosecution for libel where the fact shall be established to the satisfaction proved, without legal presumption of guilt. No conviction shall be had in any prosecution for libel where the fact shall be established to the satisfaction of the court and jury that such publication was not maliciously made, but was published with good motives for justifi-

The bill as amended now reads: Actions for libel, civil or criminal, may

be instituted in only one county in which of a written libel in one county where It has been made public. Criminal actions for libel shall be maintained for any maliciously false publication, or for a malicious publication not proper for public information relating to a private individual, against the writer, the editor or olisher who knowingly permitted such ublication, or against any editor or put lisher who refuses to divulge the name of the author of the libel. Any person thus publishing a criminal libel shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine not upon the commerce and industries of exceeding \$5,000 or undergo punishment not exceeding twelve months, or both, at the discretion of the court, In any civil action the plea of justification shall be accepted as adequate when it is pleaded by the defendant that the publication is substantially true in every material respect, and if such a plea is aca minister of commerce. Belgium has cepted to the satisfaction of the court and a minister of industry and labor. Aus-jury there shall be no recovery. The plea rendering it possible to secure intelligent tria has a minister of commerce and

this amended bill would be admirable such a case that is fixed beyond the imperial cabinet, having four sections. If it contained a specific definition of power of change, "If the facts are as one of which is devoted to agriculture what it means by "a malicious publica- stated in the papers, or by common ru- and manufacture. The Netherlands has tion." Past rulings show that unless accused is guilty." But his mind is in a a minister of public works and com-this is clearly defined in the language receptive condition, and if the evidence theree. Spain has a minister of agri-of the statute, the trial judge will be sulture and commerce and public likely to construc it according to his sonable doubt, he is ready to acquit. works. Portugal has a minister of pub- own notions, and in few counties will lic works, industry and commerce. the interpretation be uniform. Why decided according to the evidence presented finds place in its federal should not a charge of malice, since in sented to the jury. The more intelligent council for a minister of agriculture the law malice in libel is held to the lurar, the greater his capacity to and industry. Italy has a minister of be a crime be required to be and industry. Italy has a minister of he a crime, he required to he industry and commerce. Persia has a proved as would be required of minister of commerce. Even the South any other criminal charge? Why heard An innocent defendant has less to fear from intelligence than from ignor-American republies, or most of them, should any doubt be cast by the anne and stolldity in the jury box. It is the guilty man-almost invariably—whose A certain prejudice appears to exist state like Pennsylvania upon the right counsel tries to sift out the better class

opment of means and highways of do- is not justice. Until it gets that, in mestic and foreign trade. The new full measure, the press of Pennsyl-

A law to permit national banks to establish branches in small communities where the volume of business is insufficient to sustain an independent bank would, in the opinion of many experts, be a desirable step toward prosperous business conditions. It is the lack of banking facilities rather than the lack of money which weighs

the South and West.

The Canadian minister of finance. Mr. Fielding, intimates that if the Dingley bill raises the duty on bituminous coal, Canada will retaliate with what is known as the bonding privilege, a duty on anthracite. The government under which Canadian railways are en- at Ottawa had better prepare to go

state by the way of Canada. This ac- the state department will not hereaftion was taken upon the strength of a ter withhold from congress news and report by Colonel C. H. Denison which correspondence relating to Cuba.

according to official statistics covering wump kick because McKinley deeni, of the total tonnage moved by the involuntary manifestation of ir-

the Nicaragua canal shall be built at | 2

The Hon. William L. Wilson in the role of tariff bill critic ought to realize, one would think, that the curtain on economic burlesque has been rung

### HAY AS A JOURNALIST.

\$1000 a mile. The essential unfairness Major Handy, in the Times-Herald. of such a discrimination by the United Twenty-four years ago I had the honor of serving on the same editorial staff with John Hay. It was the editorial staff interests and in favor of foreign comof the New York Tribune as it stood im-mediately after Whitelaw Reid's succes-And the worst part of the whole sion to Horace Greeley as the editor-in-business is that for this valuable favor chief of that great newspaper, We Juni-Canada gives nothing in return. As ors—I was the youngest editorial writer—
were very proud of that staff, and of Hay
more than of anybody else. Yet he was
only one of a galaxy of stars revolving
around Reid. John R. G. Hassard was
the managing editor, musical critic and
most polished of editorial writers. His
fame survives with the profession, if not
with the public. Isaac H. Bromley was
the political satirist, and the best of his
kind, although Charles D. Congdon, then
advanced in years, and only an occasional
contributor, was a prime favorite with contributof, was a prime favorite with old Tribune readers. Charles H. Hunt wrote the financial editorials, William yet tired of roaming, William F. Shanks was the city editor, with the brillian: was the city editor, with the brillian;
Arthur Bowers as his assistant, W. C.
Wyckoff was the editorial writer on scientific topics. Noah Brooks was the night editor, and I. N. Ford, now London correspondent of the Tribune, the day editor, George W. Smalley, the London correspondent of those days, was wearing the fresh laurels won by his war correspondence. Z. L. White, E. V. Smalley and H. ence. Z. L. White, E. V. Smalley and H. J. Ramsdell were the Washington correspondents. Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis

Hay's equipment for journalistic work was unsurpassed. His collegiate education and wide reading were supplemented by four years at the white house in close history. Then he went abroad and repre-The New Libel Law.

The judiciary general committee of the house of representatives at Harrisburg has decided to report the new house of representatives at Harrisburg has decided to report the new house of representatives at Harrisburg has decided to report the new house of making over the map of Europe. Thus the best channels to knowledge of men and affairs of both constitutions. most Americans have not had more than Malice shall be proved in criminal aclife. It was primarily due to his mar-riage and the necessity growing out of the death of his father-in-law for his assumat its regular session, next winter, will in all probability be asked by the executive to create a new capturet depart. literary work, and in particular by the labor of writing in collaboration with Colonel Nicolay the monumental "Life of Lincoln," which was published a few years ago, and is the great repository of ans and biographers must find their source of supply. He has a beautiful home in Washington, is a frequent resident of Cleveland, and is at home in all of the great capitals of the world. With Hay as ambassador and Harry White 2s secretary of legation, the American embassy in London cannot fall to be once more an object of pride to all Americans,

# BRAINS IN THE JURY BOX.

From the Washington Post.

As a sample of the wisest and most progressive legislation that the winter has produced in any part of the country, we select an act passed by the solons of North Dakota. It is a law providing that no person shall be disqualified as juryman because of having expressed o formed an opinion founded on newspaper reports or rumors. This act will improve the character of juries in that state by

The law requires that a case shall b vantages that are consistent with the safety of society. To permit the lawyers to shut out the reading men, and fill the crime and create disrespect for the courts and other costly instrumentalities for the dispensation of justice.

# CHARLEMAGNE TOWER.

W. E. Curtis, in Chleago Record. Charlemagne Tower, who has been presented by the Pennsylvania delegation for a diplomatic appointment, is a good deal more of a man than was originally sup posed-a student, scholar, traveler and author. While his manners were acquired by foreign travel and would not be popu-lar in a mining camp, and his garments are well made of the finest texture, he is and to be anything but a flude. He is about 45 years of age, a graduate of Le-high university, and a practical engineer and chemist. After be left college he spent several years on the Northern Pa citic railroad superintending the work of construction. Since then he has followed his natural inclinations for historical re-search, and he has been able to afford that luxury, for his father and mother who were of the bluest Philadelphia blood left him a fortune of \$10,000,000. During It is announced upon authority that his time abroad, not as a tourist, but as the state department will not hereaftory in several universities upon the continent, and has spent much time in Spain and France. He speaks all the modern languages fluently, and has searched the principal libraries of Europe for historical material. He is the author of severa The Mugwump would not be a Mug-In this report it is pointed out that wump if he were satisfied. The Mug-fayette, which is described as a classic

clines to abandon protection is simply the involuntary manifestation of it-resistible habit.

Your Uncle John Sherman's head is surely level when he contends that if the Nieurona count of health is the Nieurona count of health is surely level when he contends that if society man, and has never sough scial distinction. Nor has he ever sough all, it must be built by and under the control of the United States.

an office or taken part in politics except within the last year or two, when he became interested in the municipal reforms in Philadelphia.

# INGALLS ON PUGILISM.

rom an Interview in 1891, Prize fighting, in my opinion, is brutal, down.

Mr. Depew now understands how it feels when a railway president turns down an applicant for a pass.

There is some recompense for the disconsolate. Champion Fitzsimmons canonic believe in Darwin's reversion to ancestral types.' A prize fight is a pitiful, a pathetic exhibition. No full-hearted man could endure the sight of a prize fight. His soul would revoit at the sufferings of one or both of the men. The thud of piton root blows, the bruised and blackened features, the paller of brute determined. piston rod blows, the bruised and black-ened features, the pallor of brute deter-mination, and the blood, the eventual piteous, dazed expression on the face of one of the men, seeing his poor tinsel girdle slipping away from him, the calm, victous, concentrated, thumbs down in-tensity of the spectators—what man, not directly reincarnated, according to the Buddhistle doctrine, from a blood thirsty Roman of the bloodlest days of the em-Roman of the bloodiest days of the em pire, could endure all this? I maintain that no finished man can strike another man in the face with his fist, unless in the very heat and fury of passion, with out grieving for the man he strikes. How, then, could any man of average sensibility take pleasure in witnessing men's advancement along the paths of peace. The disarmament of the world shall never occur until prize fighting has

### A JOYLESS VICTORY.

Two of the smallest men in the city were standing at the curbstone waiting for a car. Their conversation had been about the traditional feminine tendency to extravagance and the difficulty they had in keeping their domestic expenditures down to what they considered to ceasonable limit There they are, now!" exclaimed one

Who: "Our wives. And I'll bet they've bee: nopping! "They seem to be talking very earnstly about spending something."
"I'll bet I can tell what my wife i

talking about. "Are you a mind reader?"
"No. But I can make a guess on that object. I'll bet you a dinner I can, any

iow." "I'll take it." "All right. She's talking about spend-ing money. We'll go up behind them and overhear what they are saying, to prove They crossed the street, and the origin

ator of the idea smiled knowingly as his wife opened her purse and peered into it. "My dear," she said to her companon, "have you any change?"
"Yes; a little."
"Well, would you mind lending me onny to buy a postal card?"
"Certainly, if 1 have one. Oh, yes

"Thank you ever so much, I have ents, but I hate to use it. A nickel al ways seems to go so fast after you one reak it." The man who offered the wager had won it, but for some reason he didn'seem proud.—Washington Star.

What We Are Going to Do Ourselves A general officer rode up to Grant's ten and urgently expressed his fear that Le might throw his army between the Ray dan and our forces and cut off their con munications. General Grant replied wi rusual vigor: "I hearing what Lee is going to do. Some of you always seem to think he is denly going to turn a double somersault, and land in our rear and on both our flanks at the same time. Go back to your command and try to think what we are going to do ourselves instead of what Lee is going to do." The moral is close at hand. A bit of honest reflection may show us that we are making the sam mistake in our wilderness warfare. It is easy to spend our time and energy in ascertaining and emphasizing what the enemy may do or is doing. But it is far better to "think what we are going to do ourselves," and do it. Our present, everyday duty is usually plain enough, although commonplace or hard Let us fight it out on that line, even i it takes all summer. The autumn wil arely come in its own time, and we shall reap, if we faint not.-Congregationalist.

### The Growing Chasm Between the Rich and the Poor.

Socialism, communism, all the "isma are not only no remedy, but would ag-gravate the evil. All of these lack the fundamental sanction of justice—the giv-ing to every one of what is rightfully his-and that sanction is a positive be lief in God, in His revelation to man, Without a recognition of this sanction men may clamor until their throats are dry; they may agitate and frame theories may march in processions, organize unions and societies, pass laws agains trusts and monopolies, storm and fume march in processions, organiz they will die and the evil will go on and borne upon their children and th hildren's children. Revive Christianity not in name merely, but in reality, amon our people, and then, though there wi still be rich and poor, the chasm will be so wide and will be easily passed nose who try with proper training, vil-minded man who is envious ut coess of his neighbor-a discontent verliterent from that now under di-ton - tatholic Standard and Times.

# TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus The Tribune Astrologer. strolabe cast: 1.38 a. m., for Friday March 19, 1897.

200 A child born on this day will notice that t takes a long time for the fellows who ight with their jaws to settle the Corbett-Fitzsimmons affair. The present state legislature evidently

roposes to chase all rumors to the earth. usiness or no business. Mr. Gladstone talks as though he had een reading American newspapers all hi Phil Rinsland could make money today

n the lecture platform in the Lackawan na valley. A large amount of sporting blood in this vicinity has recently turned to vine

Ajacchus' Advice. Don't bet unless you have a sure thing and then it's just as well to "hedge."

# THE PRIZE FIGHT.

Took a good long while to do it, But at last they met. Seemed almost beyond believing When the day was set. But upon the scene of wonders Now the sun bas riz; Stopped their passin' resolutions; Settled down to biz.

There are others who might profit By the lesson taught.
Even though these men seem doin'
What they hadn't ought.
Many a person would be better
Far than what he is Ef he'd stop his resolutin' An' git down to biz.

-Washington Star

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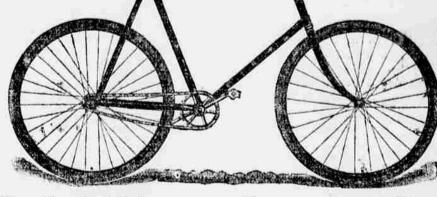
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