

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, APRIL 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 rule we cannot except.

It Gets the Best.

With this issue The Tribune ceases to receive the telegraphic news service of the United Press and beginning with its Monday issue it will be served by the greatest news association ever organized, the Associated Press, with which this journal on March 31 signed a ninety-year contract.

The Tribune was the first paper in Northeastern Pennsylvania to sign a contract for this superior news service, and when certain other improvements now being arranged for shall have been completed, the advantages of this step will, we trust, become apparent to all of our readers.

The Associated Press is the legitimate outgrowth of various unsuccessful attempts to collect news in the wrong way. While other news agencies have been operated for profit, and have been at times susceptible to improper influences, the Associated Press is organized on a mutual basis. Each paper which is a member has a voice in the management and a vote at the annual election of officers; the rights of one member are equal to the rights of any other, and the assessment is based upon equity, the purpose being not to reap dividends or facilitate stock jobbing, but to collect the news.

The Washington office of the Associated Press, which is presided over with signal ability and effectiveness by that veteran in journalism, General H. V. Boynton, more than \$100,000 is expended annually for news; and an even larger outlay is directed from the New York office. For cable news the annual expenditure is enormous, reaching close to a million dollars. The miles of wire under lease by the Associated Press would send a single wire nearly fifty times around the earth.

The Railway Problem.

A few fundamental facts need to be kept in mind by congressmen and others interested in the Supreme court's decision declaring railway combinations illegal. They are: (1) It is not to the advantage of the public that the business of the railways should be made unprofitable.

Hawaii.

A resolution having been introduced in congress providing for the annexation of Hawaii to the United States, and commissioners from Hawaii being now in Washington for the purpose of concluding such an arrangement, it becomes pertinent to consider whether we want Hawaii.

The Hawaiian Islands lie in the North Pacific at the convergent point in the principle ocean routes to the Orient. Honolulu, their capital, being 2,100 miles from San Francisco; 2,510 miles from Auckland, New Zealand; 4,484 miles from Sydney, New South Wales; 3,410 miles from Yokohama, Japan, and 4,392 miles from Hong Kong, China.

The islands possess belts of arable land of exceeding fertility, the principal agricultural products being sugar, coffee and rice, and there is fine grazing territory and sheep raising and cattle growing are developing industries.

The exports of the islands, which in 1875 were valued at \$1,800,000, last year amounted to \$5,400,000, the growth having occurred chiefly under the stimulus of American enterprise. But this

growth cannot long continue unless there is an assurance of stability in the government of the islands. Says ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster:

In the changed relations existing in the Pacific Ocean, it is plain to the observant statesman that Hawaii cannot much longer maintain itself as an independent nation. Aside from the temptation which it offers to the nations contending for supremacy in the Pacific, it possesses within itself the elements which threaten the loss of its independence.

Gossip of the Capital

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Washington, April 2.—Now that the tariff bill has been gotten through the house the interest of members of that body is centered upon Speaker Reed's committee appointments. His list of appointments is the object of the extra session is the passage of a protective tariff bill which will also furnish the government with sufficient revenue to meet its expenses.

Pennsylvania in the last congress had as good committee representation as any other state. The members of the committee were not re-elected, and for that reason many changes will necessarily be made. John Dalsell, who has served with distinction on the committee, and has declared to his close friends that unless the senate shows a disposition to prolong its deliberations on the tariff bill, he will refrain from naming the committee until the closing days of the session.

Adams, who is Pennsylvania's diplomat in the house, is down on Reed's slate for reappointment to a place on the committee on foreign affairs. Hitt, of Illinois, has been chairman of that committee with General Draper, of Massachusetts, the second member and Adams the third.

Ermentrout, of the Berke-Lehigh district, one of the three Democrats in the delegation, will, it is thought, take the place of Woomer on the military affairs committee. Hinks was on the committee on public buildings and grounds in the last congress, but as Reed shut out all of the bills which that committee reported favorably, including the one appropriating \$100,000 for a public building in Hink's own town, Altoona, the Blair county statesman is looking around for a new field in which to exploit his talents.

There will be an interesting contest for "dark" Robinson's place on the committee on naval affairs. His successor, Barber, and James Hankin Young have both applied to Reed for the appointment and each is using every influence at his command to secure it. Barber, who was elected as "gold" Democrat and who is elected by himself, also wants to go on that committee. As there were no Republicans on the committee in the last congress, one Republican and one Democrat, McAleer will likely make the landing. His cause is strengthened from the fact that he was a member of that committee in the Fifty-third congress.

Representative Conell is talked of for a place on the committee on mines and currency. Morgan B. Williams, of the Luzerne district, wants a place on the committee on public buildings and grounds, and Olmsted, of Harrisburg, would like to be a member of the committee on railroads and canals. Robbins, of the Westmoreland district, Sturtevant, of Erie, and Benner, of Gettysburg, have not expressed their preferences. "Farmer" Kulp, of the Columbia-Northumberland district, who is a member of the committee on public lands in the Fifty-fourth congress, wants to be transferred to the committee on agriculture. Stable, a Pennsylvania representative on the committee on naval affairs, has been elected and Kulp will likely get his place. Mahon will probably be reappointed chairman of the committee on war claims. He is much interested in the Border Raid claims which have been pending in congress since the

war, and which come before that committee.

Formerly he again be chairman of the committee on library and will also be a member of the committee on District of Columbia. Wagner will likely stay on the committee and investigate and foreign commerce, and Brown will get another term as chairman of the committee on the subject of Kirgiz, of the Northampton district, has expressed a desire for a place on the judiciary committee. Galusha A. Grow will remain at the head of the committee on education, and East

Verport, of Erie, the other congressman-at-large, will likely be placed on the committee on postoffices and postroads. E. C. Cunningham, Phillips, of the Berke-Lehigh district, who is here, expects to be re-elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman Davidson. He was not a candidate for re-election last fall, but as President Cleveland refused to sign his later commission bill he is anxious for another term so that he can again get that measure through and have it become a law. That was his hobby in the last congress and he is ready and willing to quit official life as soon as his net measure becomes part of the law.

There will likely be a great many surprises when Speaker Reed announces his committee appointments. The Republicans await with great interest the list in the last campaign and who occupied positions on important committees in the last house will likely be punished for disloyalty to the Republican platform.

TAKE A LOOK AT VENUS.

From Storms and Storms. Venus, the bright shining star in the golden west, will be within one degree of the new moon, on Sunday evening, April 4th, and will present a beautiful sight, to all those who are fortunate enough to be where clouds do not obstruct their vision. This will be your last opportunity, for on the 5th Venus will sink out of sight, and will not appear again for some weeks; when she does she will be seen in the east instead of the west. Where does she go, and how does she get to the east without us seeing her?

ARISE!

For an empty sepulcher. But a grave, where Christ had lain, Brave men went forth to war, And the flower of the earth was slain.

Now the bones of the great knights dwell, In that strange and tragical land, Long locked in the stony hill, And blown with the desert sand.

But the barbarous infidel Turk Lives on, with his terrible sword, And again at his deadly work, He slays the sons of the Lord.

By steel and fire and shame The mothers and daughters die; And oh! that we feel no blame, When to heaven and us they cry!

We are safe, far over the sea, In the wide abundance of peace; The children play on at our knee, And the songs of our maids never cease.

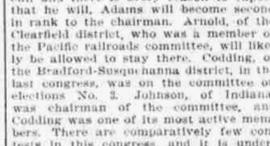
With Saladin the brave We fought with might and main, 'Twas for an empty grave we slain! Now, the children of Christ are slain!

While gay on the pulsing tides, With guns in battle array, Our great White Squadron rides, And idles the living day.

Rise! knights of the old crusade, Knit bone to bone again, For there is none to aid, While the children of Christ are slain!—Louise Palmer Smith, in the New York Independent.

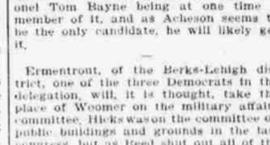
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BEIDLER, THE BOOKMAN, 437 Spruce Street, The Rotunda, Board of Trade Building, Base Ball Grounds, 1897, Spalding and Reac

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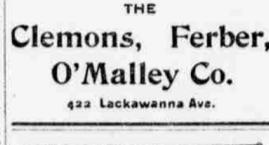
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