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SCRANTON, APRIL 8, 1897.

Governor Hastings took the only tenable position open to him when he renominated State Superintendent of Instruction Schaeffer, and the state senate yesterday acted with wisdom in immediately confirming the appointment.

The Spring Elections.
Great aid is naturally made by the Democratic press over the large string of Popocratic victories scored in the recent municipal elections.

It pays to be frank. The Republicans, in the colloquial language of politics, undoubtedly got "swiped," and that badly. But the episode is to be accounted for without giving any color to the theory that the country is undergoing a revolution in political sentiment.

The most casual glance over the political records will show that the party which wins a presidential election and gets busied with the pursuit of appointive offices invariably suffers reverses at the next ensuing local elections.

The appointment of Theodore Roosevelt to the assistant secretaryship of the navy puts in the federal service at an important post a man who has never failed in any position of trust, and who has unusual equipment, including high character, indomitable energy and practical ideas.

Quay at Harrisburg.
Senator Quay by his visit to Harrisburg and the views on state legislation which he has made known there discloses anew his sagacity and practical grasp on affairs.

(1) The passage of the reform legislation to which the Republicans of Pennsylvania stand pledged in two state platforms. This includes the prevention, so far as is feasible by law, of the bleeding for political purposes of office-holders; the extension of civil service principles over all public employes in subordinate positions; the requirement of public pay for public franchises and the strengthening of the legal safeguards about the whole machinery of politics.

(2) The enactment into law of a provision providing that state balances on deposit shall draw public interest.

(3) The erection of a new capitol in accordance with the economical plans prepared by Governor Hastings.

(4) The enactment of a direct inheritance tax for the replenishment of the state's wasted revenues; and

(5) An early adjournment.

It is difficult to see how the most captious factional antagonist of Colonel Quay can have the hardihood to oppose these measures. They fit public sentiment precisely, and if the legislature will take the senator's advice in the premises and stop its fruitless waste of time, it may yet earn the good will of its constituency.

The bill to create a useless mining department with fat salaries has passed the senate and may reach the governor, but if it does he will have a splendid chance to teach the legislature a practical lesson in economy.

Easily Understood.
A business-like and sensible view of the present condition of the government's finances is taken in the Home Magazine by Marcus A. Miller. "If a man in business," he says, "were to borrow all his capital on demand, keeping a certain amount as a reserve, and had to publish how he stood with the world each day in the morning papers, and some bright morning his reserve was shown depleted, how long would it be before he would find all his demand paper staring him in the face over his counter? This has practically been our system of finance, only worse, during the last administration, because sufficient revenue was not provided. When things were rolling in faster than out, nobody thought of gold; one kind of money was as good as another. But when it showed up the other way in the treasury report, then there was a 'run on the bank.'"

tion of his idea of the cure as of the disease. To correct the foregoing situation "let the government," he says, "provide sufficient revenue for all emergencies, retire all demand notes, issuing in their place time bonds. Let these be handled through national banks, as a basis for circulation, allowing them to issue bank notes. The national bank note has never been a menace to our treasury nor has it even been talked of during all our gold and silver war. Make the issue, under the direction of the government, liberal and, if possible under the constitution, make every dollar legal tender. Have no distinction between any money in use except subsidiary coins and the larger denominations. Then scatter the useless and idle \$100,000,000 of gold reserve now in the United States treasury among the American people, and thus wipe the silver question from off the state. Let the treasury department assume its natural function of collecting and disbursing government revenues and expenses. Then let congress turn its attention to our merchant marine and provide suitable inducements for capital to pick up that almost forgotten industry. We now pay, to the owners of foreign vessels, over \$100,000,000 transportation charges each year. Why not do that work under the American flag?"

One objection which this plan of currency reform would encounter is that it contemplates the giving to the banks of a dangerous control over the business activities of the people through the centralization in their hands of the entire note-issuing power. We doubt if such a proposition could win at a popular election. This objection would be obliterated if in place of time bonds for bank purposes the British Walker idea of a gold bond to be convertible at postoffice into a legal tender national certificate were substituted. There is little doubt that currency reform will eventually be worked out along these lines.

It is true that young Carter Harrison, who beat all the other candidates combined for mayor of Chicago, ran a platform declaring, among several other things, for free silver; but the mayor of Chicago did not have much to do with the currency question.

An Issue of Growing Moment.
The argument of Senator Elkins in the senate on Monday in favor of discriminating duties on imports shipped in foreign-owned vessels was a thoroughly prepared and impressive discussion of this question, and we recommend that all who take interest in the subject send to him for a copy of it. The address was listened to with close attention by an assemblage of the brightest minds in Washington and seems from all accounts to have made a profound impression.

"Under a proper policy of encouragement to American shipping," said he, "the United States, with its 8,000 miles of coastline, its navigable rivers and lake coast, fine harbors, variety of climate, productive capacity, rapidly increasing population, its position on the globe—Asia on one side with 600,000,000 and Europe on the other side with 400,000,000 of people—should be the leading commercial and maritime power of the world. This would be the proud position of the United States today had protection to American interests on the sea granted by the founders of the government in the early legislation of congress been continued. No nation has ever been truly great or an important factor in the affairs of the world unless it has been great on the sea. The United States cannot reach its full growth and measure of progress until its shipping and commerce is relatively equal to its industries on land. The United States pays \$200,000 every day, or nearly \$5 per capita per annum, to foreign shipowners for carrying what its people sell and buy. This enormous sum or most of it should be saved to the people and the country, and would be under a proper policy of aid to shipping."

In reply to the argument that a 10 per cent. discriminating duty would provoke retaliation from other nations, Senator Elkins pointed out that from England alone would retaliation be damaging, and that if England were to retaliate she would simply increase the cost of her necessary food imports. It is worthy of remembrance that every possible form of retaliation was tried when we imposed discriminating duties before, but it did not stop the growth of our merchant marine or prevent the spread of our foreign trade. The discriminating duty of 10 per cent. proposed in the Elkins bill is defended as the one effective method of stimulating American ship-building. In subsidies we cannot compete with England, which can offer \$2 to our \$1. Free ships would also continue England in the scale of advantage. But the sharp prod of a discriminating duty would force foreign exporters to the United States to ship their merchandise in Yankee bottoms, and with this demand once established, our own ship yards would speedily do the rest.

This is rightfully coming into prominence as one of the vital issues of the hour, and it is gratifying to see the Republican party fortified on impregnable ground.

The new Democracy can be forgiven, perhaps for eschewing socks, as in the case of Jerry Simpson, linen collar, as in the personage of Richard Park Bland, and spike-tailed coats, a la Joe Kelley; but for the sake of morals we trust that the disrobing will proceed no further.

While Mr. Bryan was rejoicing over the Democratic victory in Chicago he must have overlooked the fact that his home city of Lincoln, Neb., on the same day elected a Republican mayor. Perhaps, though, he doesn't count that.

One virtue of the McKinley administration thus far is that it proves a man can become president without incurring ossification of the heart.

It is very well to poke fun at Billy Bryan, but don't forget that politically he is still a dangerous quantity.

massacre, rapine, robbery and arson are desolating this Armenia at our doors, and there is no prospect of improvement and amelioration." Morally speaking, if this be true, whose is the blame?

There is no reason why the United States should not grow all its own sugar by the beet process. Other countries do, and what they have done we certainly can do, if we try.

Perhaps Pennsylvania, after all, is destined to fare better at the patronage table than might have been supposed when the first course was being served.

The point at which the whole scheme of centralization must defer itself until humanity improves seems to have been reached by Europe in its treatment of Greece.

The fact that Colonel Chris Magee has left nearly a week slip by without hurrying forth a bold deed seems strange, very strange.

Davy Martin's surrender of the crown was made with fairly good grace, but somehow it didn't look wholly spontaneous.

Gossip at the Capital

Special to The Scranton Tribune.
Washington, April 7.—R. A. Penrose, who is a candidate for governor of Arizona, declares that he has been misquoted in some newspapers, and mainly because of his relationship to Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania. The allegation that Mr. Penrose is a resident of the Territory is not true. He has resided in Arizona for five years, and has large property interests there.

Mr. Penrose became a candidate for the governorship under the solicitation of many of the leading men of the territory, and has greater and more potential support than any candidate for the place. He was averse to become a candidate for the reason that he apprehended his candidature would be charged to his brother, Senator Penrose, with annoying embarrassment to both. But his Arizona friends insisted upon presenting his name to the voters and it is not only a mistake but an injustice to Mr. Penrose to assume that he is the candidate of one or both of the Pennsylvania senators. That he has the friendship and support of both, being a native of Philadelphia and well known in that community, is quite natural, but he is not depending upon the support of Pennsylvania or any other outside influence with the president. He has the support of every member of the territorial legislature, of the appointment, and several of the most influential and substantial men of the territory are here working in his interest.

Both in the quality and quantity of local support Mr. Penrose is far in advance of his competitors.
Young Mr. Bailey's refusal to go to President McKinley's dinner to the ways and means committee because he would not swear a solemn oath is not only a mistake but an injustice to Mr. Penrose to assume that he is the candidate of one or both of the Pennsylvania senators. That he has the friendship and support of both, being a native of Philadelphia and well known in that community, is quite natural, but he is not depending upon the support of Pennsylvania or any other outside influence with the president. He has the support of every member of the territorial legislature, of the appointment, and several of the most influential and substantial men of the territory are here working in his interest.

"Say, Cousins, did you ever have the seeth?"
The young statesman from Iowa thought he was done for. He saw that everyone was getting ready to laugh at him. He blushed to the roots of his hair, but he did not lose his head. A happy thought came to him just in the nick of time.

"Well, if I did," he retorted, "it wasn't the presidential tick."

The laugh was on Reed. The big speaker's sides shook with merriment at his own expense. Reed likes a man who can hit back sharply, and from that moment he and Cousins have been fast friends.

This story is told on Senator Hanna: One day last week an excessively modest man made his way into the senator's room. He wanted an office, but he was not bold about it. In fact he was very timid and apologetic. He made all manner of excuses, but there.

"That's enough of that," said Mr. Hanna; "don't apologize. I don't like to hear you talk that way. There is nothing for you to apologize for. You are an American citizen, a good Republican, and last year you worked hard for the ticket. Hold up your head like a man and ask for what you want."

contents betokening discrimination and enterprise in the magazine's editorial control.

Godley's initial article, this month, is a paper on beautiful women, with numerous portraits in evidence. Inasmuch as all mankind are interested in this theme, the editor's tact stands vindicated. Another feature of consequence is a paper on the Daily station company, with portraits of Miss Helian and her colleagues.

Very curious in outward garb and unexpectedly interesting internally is the Easter Clock-Book, a "decent" magazine that is almost good enough to know better. There are essays by Maurice Thompson and George W. Cable; poems by John Kendrick Bangs, Edgar Poe and Clinton Scoussell; drawings in various styles on various themes by various artists and three or four short stories well worth reading. In fact, if the same children of the mind were put in the clothes of conventionality, the great American public would tumble over itself to do them honor. But the periodical that is unconventional is like the woman alleged to be "fast"—interesting, piquant and saucy, perhaps, but not desirable for permanent acquaintance.

The Philosopher of East Aurora takes in his Philistine a philosopher's license in expatiating upon whatever enters his mind; and so, this month, he tells us his views of a portion of the Sacred Scriptures. His views are not, however, our views, we hereby brand him infidel and call upon the faithful to rise up and mob him.

That youngster would be full indeed whom the April St. Nicholas would not please. There is a little of everything in it and that little is in each case good. We tried it on our boy and know whereof we speak.

GIVEN 'EM BETTER PAY.

From the New York Sun.
Let us continue no longer to send abroad most of our money in the form of international dignity, at the same time bidding them either to disgrace their government by shabby diving or to put their hands deep into their own pockets in order to maintain suitable establishments. The ambassadors should have not less than \$5,000 a year where they least have \$12,500; not less than \$12,500 where they now have \$2,000; and at least in London, Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg our diplomatic representatives should fly the flag of their country over decent residences which are the property of the American nation.

ABLE TO SEE A JOKE.

From the Montrose Democrat.
The Scranton Tribune is among our most entertaining and pleasing exchanges. While uncompromising in its Republicanism it is, nevertheless, not bound in its bias and is able to see a joke, even though it be directed in a mild manner at its party. Some of its Philadelphia Republican cousins ought to take pointers from it.

ARTISTIC PRINTING.

Some decidedly original and unique blotters are received from the Thurston Print, located at 97 1/2 Exchange street, Portland, Me. This establishment, by the way, is one of the few printing shops in this country which knows how to do "artistic" printing in a manner commensurate with the name.

AN IRRITATING PHRASE.

His manner showed dejection and he talked of many a pain. He'd just come home from Washington; he'd found out where he stood. That's why he strove to whip the drug store clerk, with might and main. Who innocently offered "something equally as good."

—Washington Star.

ALTERATION SALE.

Sweeping reduction in all lines to save moving stock, on account of extensive alterations on our first and second floors. Now is the time to buy.
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We find other lines of goods crowding us so much that it is necessary to give them more room. Therefore, have decided that the Carpets must go.
We have about \$20,000 worth of Carpets, Oil Cloths and Mattings on hand, all new and choice stock and every yard must be sold off as soon as possible. This Great Closing Out Sale comes just in the nick of time, when carpets and other Floor coverings are needed. Besides, the new Tariff bill before Congress will nearly double the price of these goods. So now is your time to come here and save big money.
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