

The Scranton Tribune

Published at Scranton, Pa., by The Tribune Publishing Company.

The Tribune receives over a special wire leading into its office the complete report of the Associated Press, the greatest news collecting organization in the world.

Scranton, April 9, 1897.

Senator Hale denies that he is the agent of Spain. Of course he is not that, because an agent works for pay.

Stand by the Platform. Senator Quay is correct in the view that the people of Pennsylvania desire the Republican pledges of reform to be redeemed in legislation, fully, fairly and in good faith.

The language of the state platform is clear and specific. As penned by the senator, it offers itself as a model of lucid composition no less than as an accurate interpretation of the best civic aspiration of the time.

"We earnestly insist upon a form of civil service which will prevent the enslavement of public officers and employes and the compelling of those appointed to preserve the peace to confine themselves to their duties, which will insure absolute freedom and fairness in bestowing state and county and municipal contracts, and will punish any form of favoritism in granting them; which will forbid the grant of exclusive franchises to deal in public necessities, comforts, conveniences and sanitary requirements; and will insure the recognition of ability and fidelity to the country ever foremost, when accompanied by ability and fitness.

"We demand that public office shall be for public benefit, and its term in subordinate positions shall be during good behavior. No public employe or officer should be permitted to influence primaries or elections, nor upon any pretense be assessed upon his salary, and all unnecessary positions and salaries should be abolished and expenditures and taxation reduced. There should be uniform valuation of property for public purposes, corporations enjoying public privileges should pay for them, and schools should be divorced from politics and kept absolutely free from political influence and control.

To defeat legislation framed to fulfill these pledges would involve the present assembly in a charge of insincerity and dishonest purpose that could not be refuted. Republican doctrine, indorsed by two state conventions, cannot be ignored by a Republican legislature without incurring consequences too serious to be disregarded. It would be culpable in any element among the majority at Harrisburg to shirk this responsibility, but it would be doubly perilous and inexorable for the friends of Senator Quay to do so and thus verify the predictions of his enemies that his reform plank was nothing but humbug.

"Face front to duty" should be the cry at Harrisburg. Too long has duty been tabooed.

Says Brother Bryan: "Elections do not settle questions. Experience does." Wouldn't it be well to wait for a fair application of this test to the Dingley bill?

Recognize Cuban Belligerency. Why should not congress adopt the Morgan resolution in reference to the Cuban insurrection? That instrument reads:

Resolved, By the senate and house of representatives, that a condition of public war exists between the government of Spain and the government proclaimed and for some time maintained by force of arms by the people of Cuba, and that the United States of America shall maintain a strict neutrality between the contending powers, according to each all the rights of belligerents in the ports and territory of the United States.

It will be noticed that this resolution commits this government to no aggressive policy whatever but simply recognizes by law a condition already known to exist in fact. The effect of its passage would be to absolve the United States authorities from the unpleasant necessity of doing police duty in Spain's behalf and free our citizens to forward such arms and munitions of war to the insurgent forces as their sympathies might dictate. The one disadvantage which such a policy would entail is nominal rather than actual; it would release Spain from the legal obligation to compensate Americans for property sacrificed during the Cuban war. We call this merely a nominal disadvantage for the reason that indemnification from Spain is entirely out of the question as it is. The right to claim indemnity from Spain is now our's by force of law, but it is one thing to present a claim to a bankrupt treasury and quite another thing to get it paid.

The representation is made that this resolution has no chance to pass the house, not because a large majority of the members of that body do not favor it most heartily, but because it is counter to the opinions of Speaker Reed. This is a common accusation nowadays, but we doubt if it is founded on truth. Whatever his personal ideas may be as to the probability of Cuba gaining her freedom, the speaker is surely too good an American to entertain any sympathy for Spain or to wish to oppose a personal opinion arbitrarily against the will of the body over whose deliberations he presides. Having cleared the calendar of the tariff bill the way is now open for the house to receive such a resolution and to pass upon it as its

Judgment may determine; and if ever a time were opportune for the granting of belligerent rights to the intrepid insurgents of Cuba that time is now.

The selection by the Wyoming conference of Rev. J. B. Sweet as its secretary offers a slight evidence of the esteem in which this earnest and amiable clergyman is held by his brethren of the cloth. It also puts a compliment where it is thoroughly deserved.

Speaker Reed and His Critics. Boiled down, Speaker Reed's reply to the kickers in the house is: "If you don't like my style, appeal." Of course his actual words are more diplomatic than this. The language which he employs is moderated to a softer tone; but that is its substance, and it is a sensible view to take, too.

Replying to Jerry Simpson the speaker on Wednesday said: "The chair is sorry to see that any gentleman in the house has lent himself to the suggestions which are sometimes made outside of the house with regard to the power of the occupant of the chair. It is a power that is given to him by the house for its purposes, and its purposes alone, not for any selfish purpose, nor for him to carry out any personal desires or designs of his own, but to carry out the wishes of the house as he understands them, after a faithful and conscientious examination of the subject."

It is a power that is given to him by the house for its purposes, and its purposes alone, not for any selfish purpose, nor for him to carry out any personal desires or designs of his own, but to carry out the wishes of the house as he understands them, after a faithful and conscientious examination of the subject."

In theory it is pleasant to contemplate the possibility of assembling a body of nearly 400 men representing different parties, sections, interests and ecclesiastical, capable of moving smoothly, without leadership and on the most insensible lines of voluntary concert, to a desirable end. In a perfect democracy, where the representatives of the people are all constructed on the millennial plan, such a congress could easily be elected, and once elected, would perpetuate itself, under merely nominal presiding control, a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

But such a possibility in this fawful world, and especially in view of the conditions now presented in American politics, belongs rather to the domain of iridescent dreams than within the province of expected or probable achievements. Wherever there is progress worthy of the name there must be direction, and that direction is likelihood to be effective when it is resolute and definite in aim. We can readily see how in the hands of a dishonest man these vast powers appertaining to the speakership might be wrested to uses of intolerable infamy and injustice.

But such a risk, inevitable where majorities govern, is an economical price to pay for the unquestionable advantages of discipline, system and progress in legislation.

It has become the custom for the champions of one branch of congress to claim for that branch a monopoly of merit and to foist upon the other chamber an unearned increment of faultiness. It is possible that Senator Hoar, when attacking the present speakership, fell into this unfairness. The words of Mr. Reed, as quoted above, present a sufficient answer; but if further vindication were desirable it could be cited in the obvious satisfaction of the country with the tenor of his sway.

As between chaos and absolutism, the latter is always preferable; but in the case of Speaker Reed, what critic could czar rule is simply the strength of a brain and a will that would dominate at any time in any company.

The Railway Age professes to see in its perspective 17,500 miles of contemplated new railway in the United States which will soon need ties and rails. We trust that this rosate forecast has substantial foundation. We could name a place where its realization would be most welcome.

Governor Pingree refuses to recognize defeat. But it is inevitable that he must sooner or later make its acquaintance, and now is a good time to get ready. He may learn something from adversity if he looks it full in the face.

It is some consolation to observe that if Pennsylvania didn't get a representation in the cabinet nor among the ambassadors, she is beginning to figure prominently in the distribution of the et cetera.

The Illinois legislature, in evincing a disposition to abolish department stores, no doubt reflects the unrest of the average small store owner; but where can the law draw a fair line?

It is noticed that while the architects of the Palmer and Buckner ticket are most exactly clamoring for office they are looking on in a manner that tells its own sad story.

It is a sad sight to witness so many patriots not simply willing but anxious to get into our "ill-paid" consular service.

A knave cannot escape under the present libel law; he can only squirm and twist and create unnecessary trouble.

We see no alternative for the late Mr. Corbett but to go into training for a base ball umpire's position.

One way for some wheelmen to popularize good roads is not to assume to own them.

THE IRONY OF FATE. He had fought in many a battle and escaped without a wound. He had met stampeded cattle and had bravely held his ground. He had hunted in Montana and been snowbound on the plain. And he'd sojourned in Havana when the plague was raving Cain.

He had crossed the stormy ocean many times without mishap. He'd recovered from a potion fixed up by a jealous Jap.

He had been a reckless rover from the moment of his birth. And had traveled almost over every portion of the earth.

He encountered every danger that you've ever read about; He had been a Texas ranger and a rebel. But the moral, if there's any, in this humble little tale, Is that he died from stepping on an ancient rusty nail.

—Cleveland Leader.

Gossip at the Capital

Washington, April 8.—When Thomas C. Platt resigned his seat in the United States senate because President Garfield refused to allow his colleague, the late Roscoe Conkling and himself to control all the federal patronage in New York, he learned a lesson in practical politics which he has never forgotten. In those days both he and Conkling believed in the narrow policy of either coming or running. When they discovered that they could not rule Mr. Garfield and his secretary of state, the late James G. Blaine, they resolved to ruin both of them politically. They set their first effort to ruin Garfield and Blaine, however, proved disastrous to themselves, as everybody at all familiar with political history knows. They then showed their contempt for President Garfield and his administration the two New York senators resigned their seats in the upper branch of the senate. They then proceeded to the legislature of their state for re-election and a vindication of their course. This is where they overestimated their power in New York politics. Instead of being re-elected without opposition, as they had confidently hoped to be, they were defeated. Garfield and Blaine were not so easily satisfied. They remained in the senate until the next session, and Platt soon dropped into political oblivion for a time.

Four years later, however, when Blaine was the Republican nominee for president they had their revenge. Political history tells us that if it had not been for Messrs. Conkling and Platt the "Magnetic Man from Maine" would have been elected president instead of the "Man of Destiny from Buffalo." Conkling never afterwards took any active interest in politics. He remained in the senate until the next session, and Platt soon dropped into political oblivion for a time.

The real drift is therefore a question of the future and not of the present. The manifestations of the moment have no lasting significance. They are only the expression of an ephemeral impulse, and whether they shall continue will depend upon whether the uncertain conditions continue. Aside from this demonstration of impatience, there is the natural oscillation which almost invariably follows a sweeping triumph. The people fought out the battle on the great national issues. They averted threatening dangers and already suggested the policy of the future. There is nothing whatever to sustain such a claim, and, on the contrary, it is opposed to reason. The real explanation is continued restiveness under arbitrary, business conditions and freedom in local affairs, and the real lesson is to complete as speedily as possible the legislation which will restore confidence and prosperity and to frown upon the arbitrary and arrogant machine domination which excites popular resentment.

Shrewd. "Doctor," said the sick man, who is painfully shrewd, "I haven't a dollar to leave to posterity; not a square inch of real estate nor a scrap of personal property." "I don't quite see how that concerns me," "I dunno that it does in particular. One I would hope I'd well right soon so's to hustle around and earn money to pay your bill."—Washington Star.

During the Harrison administration, when ex-Senator Warner Miller and Mr. Platt were fighting each other for supremacy in New York, an agreement was reached by which the federal patronage of the navy, to be divided between these rival leaders. As fast, however, as the appointments were made it was discovered that they were all made to the credit of Mr. Miller. Finally, the latter became very much annoyed and irritated over the glory and the patronage which seemed to be escaping him. Upon one day he found that the agreement had been scrupulously observed, but that Mr. Platt, when he learned that a Miller man was to be appointed, at once added his own name, and to him went the credit. If Miller had been as smart as Platt he would have added his name to the applications filed by his opponent's friends. He, too, would have shared in all the glory.

The selection of Theodore Roosevelt to be assistant secretary of the navy may be a very wise one as far as getting the duties of the office is concerned, but if he does not kick up a rumpus in that department before he has been there three months it will be a great disappointment to the people who know him best. Mr. Roosevelt, when a civil service commissioner in New York, established a reputation as a trouble maker. He is a man who will not permit things about him to run smoothly. He is not only lacking in diplomacy, but is found to have had his hair not changed his disposition he will involve the department in no end of snarls. When he was a member of the civil service commission he was never happier than when engaged in a quarrel of some kind. He had not been a member of that commission very long when he got into a row with President Harrison. The man who had appointed him, it was over a postmaster somewhere in the west who had violated the civil service law in some slight manner. Mr. Roosevelt, upon his mind, that he must have that official's scalp, and recommended his immediate removal. The postmaster had only a short time previously been appointed by President Harrison. He was a good Republican besides being a man of splendid business qualifications, and the president did not want to remove him for such a trivial cause. Commissioner Roosevelt, when asked to withdraw his recommendation of removal, said to the president:

"Why, what do I care about the politics of an officeholder? This man has violated the civil service law and he must be removed."

President Harrison remonstrated with Mr. Roosevelt, but it was not until after their official as well as their personal relations were severely strained, and columns had been written and published in the newspapers, that the latter withdrew his recommendation of removal. It turned out that the postmaster had not willfully violated the civil service law, and he afterwards proved to be a most efficient official.

President McKinley and Secretary Long do not know what trouble there may be in store for them with Mr. Roosevelt in the important position of assistant secretary of the navy. Let us hope, for their sake at least, that his disposition to meet trouble more than half way has changed.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Briarot has ruled that all applicants for offices of the fourth-class must have the endorsement of a majority of the patrons of the offices to which they aspire as well as the backing of the member of congress of the district in which they are located. Nearly 90,000 applications for office have been received at the postoffice department since the change of administration. This number, however, is said to be considerably less than in the same length of time four years ago. All the papers have been recorded and classified, and the cases made up to date. At the interior department, however, the applications for presidential positions have been recorded.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS. From the Philadelphia Press. It is as easy to exaggerate as it is to underrate the importance of the western municipal elections. It would be a mistake either to magnify their significance or to be indifferent to their indications. They are not without their suggestions, but they do not import a broad and sweeping political reaction, as is claimed in some quarters. If the opponents of Republicanism can derive any comfort from them they are welcome to it. Republicans themselves will regard them with no serious apprehension for they signify only

momentary eddies rather than a settled current.

The result in Chicago has no broad political meaning. It indicates chiefly only local dissatisfaction or the caprice of a dis-jointed and mercurial people. It was a protest against a local machine. It was also something of mere personal impulse and of disposition among a foreign and heterogeneous people towards free and loose municipal rule. Broad national issues played very little part. That battle was fought in November and, having been settled, the people felt free to follow their own bent in local affairs. Very much the same thing is true of the elections in other cities. It is not so much a reaction from last November as it is a relaxation from the severe national strain and a go-as-you-please spirit in city administration.

It is doubtless true that the disappointment at the delay in the return of good times contributed to the general success of the opposition. This disappointment was in fact, and is not an unimportant element of the American voter is shown in its unreasoning expression. Men are weary of the long depression and paralytic stagnation of the nation. They do not expect the fruits of the election to come at once. They did not stop to consider that prosperity will return, not because of this election but because of the policies to which the election opened the way, and that these policies are embodied in legislation and administration and will not be nullified by the election of a sick man cannot long from his bed of illness and at once begin to run, and their impatience finds expression in this ebullition. But it is not alarming because it is only transient and due to temporary causes. If good times come with the completion of the legislation now being perfected the present disappointment will vanish and there will be a reaction from the so-called reaction.

The real drift is therefore a question of the future and not of the present. The manifestations of the moment have no lasting significance. They are only the expression of an ephemeral impulse, and whether they shall continue will depend upon whether the uncertain conditions continue. Aside from this demonstration of impatience, there is the natural oscillation which almost invariably follows a sweeping triumph. The people fought out the battle on the great national issues. They averted threatening dangers and already suggested the policy of the future. There is nothing whatever to sustain such a claim, and, on the contrary, it is opposed to reason. The real explanation is continued restiveness under arbitrary, business conditions and freedom in local affairs, and the real lesson is to complete as speedily as possible the legislation which will restore confidence and prosperity and to frown upon the arbitrary and arrogant machine domination which excites popular resentment.

Shrewd. "Doctor," said the sick man, who is painfully shrewd, "I haven't a dollar to leave to posterity; not a square inch of real estate nor a scrap of personal property." "I don't quite see how that concerns me," "I dunno that it does in particular. One I would hope I'd well right soon so's to hustle around and earn money to pay your bill."—Washington Star.

During the Harrison administration, when ex-Senator Warner Miller and Mr. Platt were fighting each other for supremacy in New York, an agreement was reached by which the federal patronage of the navy, to be divided between these rival leaders. As fast, however, as the appointments were made it was discovered that they were all made to the credit of Mr. Miller. Finally, the latter became very much annoyed and irritated over the glory and the patronage which seemed to be escaping him. Upon one day he found that the agreement had been scrupulously observed, but that Mr. Platt, when he learned that a Miller man was to be appointed, at once added his own name, and to him went the credit. If Miller had been as smart as Platt he would have added his name to the applications filed by his opponent's friends. He, too, would have shared in all the glory.

The selection of Theodore Roosevelt to be assistant secretary of the navy may be a very wise one as far as getting the duties of the office is concerned, but if he does not kick up a rumpus in that department before he has been there three months it will be a great disappointment to the people who know him best. Mr. Roosevelt, when a civil service commissioner in New York, established a reputation as a trouble maker. He is a man who will not permit things about him to run smoothly. He is not only lacking in diplomacy, but is found to have had his hair not changed his disposition he will involve the department in no end of snarls. When he was a member of the civil service commission he was never happier than when engaged in a quarrel of some kind. He had not been a member of that commission very long when he got into a row with President Harrison. The man who had appointed him, it was over a postmaster somewhere in the west who had violated the civil service law in some slight manner. Mr. Roosevelt, upon his mind, that he must have that official's scalp, and recommended his immediate removal. The postmaster had only a short time previously been appointed by President Harrison. He was a good Republican besides being a man of splendid business qualifications, and the president did not want to remove him for such a trivial cause. Commissioner Roosevelt, when asked to withdraw his recommendation of removal, said to the president:

"Why, what do I care about the politics of an officeholder? This man has violated the civil service law and he must be removed."

President Harrison remonstrated with Mr. Roosevelt, but it was not until after their official as well as their personal relations were severely strained, and columns had been written and published in the newspapers, that the latter withdrew his recommendation of removal. It turned out that the postmaster had not willfully violated the civil service law, and he afterwards proved to be a most efficient official.

President McKinley and Secretary Long do not know what trouble there may be in store for them with Mr. Roosevelt in the important position of assistant secretary of the navy. Let us hope, for their sake at least, that his disposition to meet trouble more than half way has changed.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Briarot has ruled that all applicants for offices of the fourth-class must have the endorsement of a majority of the patrons of the offices to which they aspire as well as the backing of the member of congress of the district in which they are located. Nearly 90,000 applications for office have been received at the postoffice department since the change of administration. This number, however, is said to be considerably less than in the same length of time four years ago. All the papers have been recorded and classified, and the cases made up to date. At the interior department, however, the applications for presidential positions have been recorded.

THE RECENT ELECTIONS. From the Philadelphia Press. It is as easy to exaggerate as it is to underrate the importance of the western municipal elections. It would be a mistake either to magnify their significance or to be indifferent to their indications. They are not without their suggestions, but they do not import a broad and sweeping political reaction, as is claimed in some quarters. If the opponents of Republicanism can derive any comfort from them they are welcome to it. Republicans themselves will regard them with no serious apprehension for they signify only

GOLDSMITH'S BAZAAR.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

WE ARE GOING OUT OF THE CARPET BUSINESS

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.

As soon as the Carpet stock has been disposed of, our Curtain and Drapery Department will be greatly enlarged and continued on a more extensive scale than ever before.

Thanking the public for the generous patronage bestowed upon Carpet Department during its existence, and promising to reward our patrons by supplying their present wants in this line while the stock lasts at a saving to them of from 25 to 50 per cent.

We remain your obedient servants, GOLDSMITH BROS. & CO.

Awnings of Every Description

We are fully equipped to execute orders for Awnings for Hotels, Public Buildings, and Private Residences in the best and most workmanship manner. The new Awnings upon the Board of Trade Building were made and put up by us, and which are a specimen of our work in the Awning line.

THE "BARKER" BICYCLE

Built Like a "Barker" Scale. Price, \$75.00.

MANUFACTURED BY S. G. BARKER & SON, Scranton, Pa.

SALESROOM: Board of Trade Building, Linden Street, Court House Square.

W. E. BITTENBENDER, WILLIS A. KEMMERER, Bicycle Managers.

A. BITTENBENDER, J. M. KEMMERER.

Bittenbender & Co., WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN WAGONMAKERS' AND BLACKSMITHS' SUPPLIES.

HEADQUARTERS FOR Merchant Iron and Steel

126 and 128 Franklin Avenue

Largest Store and Warerooms in This City.

38120 SQUARE FEET.

Table listing various bicycle parts and their prices, including Store Room, First Story Front, Carriage and Shelf Hardware, 40x70 feet, 2800; Cellar Front, Springs, Axles, Circles, Turnbuckles, Scales and Boxes, 40x90 feet, 2600; Second Floor Front, Shafts, Poles, Whipple Trees and New Bicycle Storage, 40x70 feet, 2800; Third Floor Front, Wagon Wheels, all sizes and qualities, 40x70 feet, 2800; Fourth Floor, Front, Platforms and Blacksmith Tools, Anvils, Belows, Vices, Upsetters, Benders, Etc., 40x70 ft., 2800.

REYNOLDS BROS., 139 Wyoming Avenue, HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING.

THE LACKAWANNA WHEEL CO.

High Grade Bicycles

Lackawanna, = = \$100 Black Diamond, = = \$60 and 80

Nickel-Plating and Enameling a specialty. Nothing but expert workmen at our factory, and the very best material used.

FACTORY: 1216 AND 1218 N. WASHINGTON AVE. REPAIR WORK A SPECIALTY.