

The Scranton Tribune

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TEN PAGES. SCRANTON, APRIL 23, 1897.

Expect another fine sixteen-page Tribune tomorrow, suitable for Saturday night and Sunday reading; another bright letter by Miss Kaiser describing among other things the marked dramatic success of John T. Watkins; a special Washington letter showing to what extent the United States is interested commercially in the war between Turkey and Greece; a budget of news and gossip from old Gwalla; the best woman's page; the best serial story; the latest social, religious, musical and dramatic news and personal information; a department of book reviews, and instructive miscellany all superadded to the regular news and editorial features and handsomely illustrated. Sixteen neat pages, but only 2 cents. Order extra copies in advance.

Barbaric Street Sweeping. The condition of the streets of Scranton in this dusty, windy weather is simply disgraceful. There is no other way of describing it. And to make it worse, men with brooms are kept at work ostensibly sweeping the dry dust into heaps, but really putting it in to the nostrils of pedestrians and into the stores and homes near by.

It is strange that the taxpayers of this city will quietly submit to such offensive misgovernment. There is no earthly reason why under the present rate of assessment enough money should not be secured for city purposes to provide, among other things, for a systematic, intelligent and effective cleaning of the streets, after the manner in which streets are cleaned in many other cities where the taxes levied are lower than they are here.

We venture to say that the public will avail with interest the announcement by Mayor Bailey of Street Commissioner Kinsey's successor. If he is the right kind of a man, it will pay the taxpayers of Scranton to organize for the purpose of helping him along in his inevitable wrestles with councils.

President McKinley's Opportunity. The McKinley administration very early in its history has an opportunity to prove to the people of what stuff it is made. The issue presented in the claims of the two American sailors, Richaelu and Bolton, for indemnity from Spain for unwarranted imprisonment is as plain as a pikestaff, and the public will watch with vigilance its further progress.

These two sailors were shipwrecked on the coast of Cuba Feb. 16, 1894, having left Port Au Prince to fish for green turtles. They were seized by Spanish officials and thrust into prison at Santiago de Cuba. No charge was preferred against them and none has since been brought to the end of three weeks they were released. The great wrong of these men was a flagrant violation of treaty stipulations, which provide for the hospitable reception of American citizens driven upon Spanish territory under stress of weather.

The Spanish argument is that these men had no chance papers and that therefore the Spanish officials suspected them of being filibusters. But it is impossible to permit Spanish suspicions to supersede specific treaty conditions. In default of proof that the two sailors lied concerning their cause of shipwreck, this government is bound, in honor to support their claims by every resource at command. It is intolerable that American citizenship may anywhere be subject to such outrage as appears on the face of this case, least of all at the hands of a nation which has given us so many other causes for grief and contempt.

We do not know what course the administration at Washington has chosen to pursue in this matter; but we do know what our policy if in President McKinley's place. We should notify Spain that in this indemnity we were not paid within twenty-four hours, orders would be given to every warship in our navy to proceed to the nearest Spanish port and collect it. It is high time that a summary stop were put to the Spanish habit of using suspicion of Americans as if it were evidence of evil doing.

The selection of Harold M. Sewall, of Maine, son of Mr. Bryan's running mate, but himself of sound political faith, for the Honolulu mission will be accepted by the country as fortunate. Mr. Sewall has had experience in this direction. He was our consul

general at Samoa when the great storm occurred that sent the Yankee warships on the rocks; and in that as well as in other emergencies he displayed energy, pluck and spirit. As America's representative at Hawaii he will stand for America and the flag, and we doubt not will yet witness Hawaii's permanent attachment to the Union.

If Weyler tries to carry the war into America, it is just possible that Americans may have something more to say.

Two Interesting Articles. Two highly interesting articles are to appear in the May Forum. One, entitled "The Autocrat of Congress," and treating of the almost absolute power over legislation possessed by the speaker of the house of representatives, is by Henry L. West, the political editor of the Washington Post, and one of the most graphic writers in American journalism. The other, by Charles R. Miller, editor of the New York Times, will reply to Senator Hoar's defense of the senate, and will put into the best possible English the strongest possible objections to the senate as at present constituted.

We shall await the coming of Mr. West's article the more impatiently because of a recent conversation had with him upon the subjects treated in it. For nearly a score of years Mr. West has been identified with journalism at the national capital in connections which have afforded him an unusually clear and thorough insight into the workings of congress. It is a significant fact that so far from having been led by this experience to concur in the popular extolment of the house of representatives at the expense of the senate, he is utterly hostile to the theory that an abridgement of the right of debate in the senate would be wise. The senate, as now constituted, he regards as the only safeguard which we have against the unreasoning impatience or passion of the mob; and the house, in his judgment, is censurable for its willing and the individual whom it chooses to preside over it.

If his article pursues the tenor of his conversation with us, it will attack, not any particular speaker as an individual, but rather the system which renders it possible for any speaker, by the aid of a friendly committee on rules, to shape even down to details the entire policy of what is traditionally known as the popular branch of congress. Against this criticism may be offered the point that increasing membership and greatly increasing conflicts of factional and sectional interests require, if symmetrical legislation characterized by reasonable expedition be desired, the interposition of a single guiding hand, it may also be noted that the drift in government, local, county and state, is away from power scattered among many hands and toward power centralized in few hands, yet with those few answerable to the people.

But we anticipate. Before debating Mr. West's arguments let us first give him the privilege of stating them. We wonder what proportion of American newspaper readers know or care anything about the jaw-breaking geographical details of the Turco-Grecian war.

The Business Outlook. The latest weekly financial letter issued by the Monetary Trust, an investment institution of New York city, presents nearly a hundred interviews with the foremost commercial and financial leaders of the metropolis as to the conditions noted by them in business; and almost without exception they report signs of improvement. The tenor of the interviews is not enthusiastic. If it were, we should suspect it was assumed. But the prevailing impression seems to be that business has turned the corner and is now gradually climbing upward. This is the feeling in New York, the business pulse of the country, and we do not see any reason to dispute its accuracy. Very encouraging in this connection is the news which comes from Washington that the Dingley bill will be reported from the senate finance committee not later than one week hence, and that in all probability it will be enacted into law in time to take effect July 1. Much as we are disposed to prize the principle of thoroughness in legislation, the conditions now prevalent are such that it were far wiser to pass an imperfect tariff measure offering substantial relief immediately, and wait until later to make such minor corrections as experience would necessitate, than to occupy valuable time in pushing through not absolutely essential at this time.

The people have voted for the measure now before the senate; that is, they have endorsed its principle and have expressed a preference for it over the scheme of relief embodied in Bryanism, and they are entitled to have their way. The sooner they shall have it the sooner will they feel that general case which is the necessary condition of economic recovery.

It is unlikely that the Civil Service commission will fulfill its threat to make trouble for Public Printer Palmer because he declines to carry a lot of Democratic deadwood. The commission understands too well the temper of congress.

The Amended Raines Law. The amended Raines law as signed by Governor Black is of interest in Pennsylvania in view of the fact that, as yet unsuccessful, which have been made to have that novel excise experiment reproduced in this commonwealth. For this reason we reproduce below a summary of its provisions taken from the New York Sun: All clubs in which liquor is distributed must pay the same tax as hotels and saloons. They are not subject to visitation by excise inspectors, except on the direction of the excise commissioner. They may distribute liquor to their members at any time, provided they were incorporated prior to March 23, 1886, the date when the original liquor tax law was signed. Clubs organized since that time will not be permitted to distribute liquors on Sundays, election days, or between the hours of 1 and 5 o'clock in the morning.

Hotels, within the meaning of the law, are such as have at least ten bedrooms for guests above the basement floor. These must be separated by partitions not less than three inches thick, which must extend from floor to ceiling. Independent access to every room must be provided from a hallway. Every room must have at least eighty square feet of floor space and 600 cubic feet of air space. A window must be provided for every room. The hotel dining room must contain at least 200 square feet of floor surface, and have accommodations for at least twenty diners. The bar may not be in the dining room. Guests of hotels are defined to be persons who hire rooms at regular rates not merely to be served with drinks, or such as resort to the hotel for meals at the regular hours when meals are served.

The French lunch has been revived. Beer bottles will have to pay a tax of \$100 for every delivery wagon they employ. The pharmacist's tax has been reduced to \$5 in the city, and \$5 in the country towns. Dry goods and grocery storekeepers may not sell liquor except in a room which has no entrance from the main store. A dealer in liquors who knowingly employs in his business a man who has been convicted of a felony is guilty of a misdemeanor. Liquors may not be sold to a minor to be used by another. Permits to sell liquor all night at balls and entertainments may be obtained for the mayor of cities of the first class for \$5 a night. Any citizen may secure an injunction to restrain the illegal sale of liquor. The license fee extends from \$200 in the small towns up to \$500 a year in the large cities.

The essential merit of the Raines law is that it gives every man who can supply the license fee the right to sell liquor and then holds him accountable for the manner in which he sells it. With reasonable fairness and thoroughness in its enforcement the law ought to be a distinct advance upon prior attempts at state regulation of the drink traffic. The fidelity to civil service reform of the Standard Republican, one of the original Mugwump organs, will not be questioned; yet even it is moved to say, in its Washington correspondence, that "there are many friends of the reform who believe that President Cleveland went at least rather fast in providing for competitive examinations of such officials as the supervising architect of the treasury and the chief of the bureau of engraving and printing. It is not unlikely that these places will be made excepted places." When a Mugwump paper will admit thus much, it is safe to conclude that Grover's pace must have been fast.

Gossip at the Capital. Special Correspondence of The Tribune. Washington, April 22.—The recent death of Representative Seth Miliken, of Maine, which has directed attention to the high quality of Maine's representation in congress, the reason for which is to be found in the continuance, term after term, of the Maine members, suggests also a glance at the standing of certain other congressional delegations. Very few of the northern or eastern states have followed the example of Maine in this matter. By the time that a member from the north secures a position of national prominence he is retired and his successor in turn starts from the foot of the legislative ladder. The south, on the contrary, has always been an "old factor" in the national arena, and its members always had a habit in the past of continuing their representatives in office. Complaint is always made at every Democratic congress that all the important chairmanships are held by southern men. The charge is generally true, but it is no fault or favoritism of the speaker. It simply happens that southern men have been longer on the committees, and therefore nearer the top when their party comes into power.

For the last four or five years, however, the north has broken away somewhat from this line of policy. It has more now in congress than almost any other section. But for the past four or five years the north has been politically restless, and has begun to vent its discontent on those who represent it in congress, not by changing its representatives so rapidly. Maine stands today as an illustration of this. Philadelphia is the only great city in the country which keeps its member in congress as long as it can. It has done so for a long time, and it is not likely to change its policy. Philadelphia gets more profitable legislation through than any of its sister cities. Every man should have two terms to develop, and if he shows an aptitude for growing in that period, it may be well to make a change. But the districts which have been represented are those which have been represented the longest by one man.

Mr. Miliken's death will precipitate a spirited contest in the Third Maine district. An election will probably mean long service in the lower house, as the state follows the policy of keeping its senators and representatives in congress until their death or voluntary retirement. It is pretty safe to conjecture that Mr. Miliken's successor will be Edwin C. Burleigh, of Augusta, Me., although there are circumstances that may lead to his being sidetracked. Mr. Burleigh has served several years in the senate, and it was at the close of his gubernatorial service that he tried to push Mr. Miliken out of his seat in congress. Hon. Joseph Manley, secretary of the National Republican committee, resides also in Augusta. In former years Mr. Manley has been talked of frequently as congressional timber, and he may conclude to become a candidate for the special election which will be held in the district.

Representative James Hamilton Lewis of Washington, who was sworn in as a Populist member about two weeks ago, has not only achieved a memo as being the best dressed man in congress, but threatened to reach the statesmanship stage as early as did Representative Barrett, of Massachusetts. The latter, it will be remembered, had scarcely learned the way from the floor of the house to his committee room when he offered a resolution to impeach President Cleveland, thereby gaining some cheap notoriety. Mr. Lewis' first official act was the introduction of a bill the other day to prevent the departure of the recently appointed monetary commission. In defense of this bill Mr. Lewis says: "My design is to prevent the useless and unnecessary expense of the \$100,000 to be spent for this foreign excursion. Did not Senator Wolcott, upon his return from abroad, whether he went there or not, say that we could only have an international agreement provided England consented? England, now, through her lord of the treasury, and voiced by her official government journal, at once notifies us that while inclined to dine hospitably these commissioners, she will not co-operate with them. Germany refuses to accept them as guests, and Japan, forced by England, from whom she has lately borrowed \$1,000,000,000, to go upon a gold basis, in order that the bonds may be payable in gold, declines to do so. Austria refuses, and Russia will not negotiate, pending her confusions in Tur-

key and Greece, and Spain, a borrower of a war debt of \$200,000,000, made payable in gold, is helpless. So with whom are we to negotiate? Have we not had enough of this international playfulness? We have had practically four of these commissions. They have each wasted an average of two years, or eight years' time. Each averaged \$11,000 expense. With printing and circulating reports they have in round numbers cost us \$200,000, and the only decision ever reached was to have another conference. We were in an infinitely better situation during these preceding years for negotiation than now. We were not so much in debt to those to whom we are truckling. Here we have a monthly expenditure in excess of \$500,000 this fiscal year. The only provision made to meet it leaves us contended by its auditors \$200,000,000 a year in debt, and with \$1,500,000,000 all payable in gold, increasing daily on the roller and revolver, we are going to add another \$100,000,000 to the debt, and possibly a further confidence in the 'dollar' of the next congressional election. Let the admirers of the gold standard and possibly a further confidence in the 'dollar' of the next congressional election. Let the admirers of the gold standard and possibly a further confidence in the 'dollar' of the next congressional election. Let the admirers of the gold standard and possibly a further confidence in the 'dollar' of the next congressional election.

The Republicans are sure of one Democratic vote, at least, for their tariff bill. Senator McEnery, of Louisiana, will vote for it. He would have voted for the Dingley bill just as it came from the house, and he will vote for it in the senate, no matter whether the finance committee raises or lowers the rates. Governor McEnery is a Democrat of the protection school—a Radical Democrat if they used to call them, in the days when tariff reform was a new issue, and now it could be too high for him. He came to the senate under peculiar auspices, Senator Blanchard, it will be remembered, sought his support, and in return he had soon developed enough strength to make it doubtful whether any Democrat could be returned at all. In the structure the leading Democrats entered into an arrangement with the sugar planters who are the controlling factor in Louisiana. They were increased because of Blanchard's action on the tariff bill and the bounty, by which McEnery was to be supported if he would accept the senatorial nomination. He was not elected, however, of the state, it was something of a sacrifice for him to come to the senate, but he nevertheless accepted, and as soon as his decision was made his election followed like a flash. Governor McEnery is also a silver man, but he will not vote for a silver rider to the tariff bill. When the silver question comes up as an independent question, he will be found on the side of free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1.

There is an interesting fight in progress for the vacancy on the finance committee of the senate, which will grow more and more lively as the chances for committee reorganization increase. Senator Platt, of New York, and Senator Sewell, of New Jersey, are both moving heaven and earth to be appointed. It would not be all strange if Senator Burrows, of Michigan, should be selected as a compromise. Mr. Burrows was one of the members of the ways and means committee that framed the McKinley bill, and is one of the best authorities on the tariff and financial affairs in the senate.

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 2:11 a. m., for Friday, April 23, 1897.

A child born on this day will vote for his favorite ball club with a Tribune coupon. It will be noticed that the Cuban war closed on the opening of hostilities in the east. The date of Uncle Joseph Church's proposed municipal holiday has not been fixed. Funny men say that it is easy to become a pickpocket when once you get your hands in.

Rhymes of Spring. The summer solstice draweth near; We watch the oyster disappear. Our grief at this can find no balm Save in the opening of the clam. In special novelties and staple wearers our stock was never more complete or attractive than at the present moment. In fine English Tweeds, Covert Cloths, etc., which are in daily demand, we can show you every color or combination that is desirable, and at the right price.

Choice line of Black and Colored Dress Gowns and Drap de Moscovie Cloth, the very latest for fine tailor-made garments. In Silk and Wool Novelties, Wool Grenadines and Etamines, our stock is the most complete this side of New York city, and every suit EXCLUSIVE. Elegant line of Silk Grenadines in black and colors. These goods have been one of the most active sellers in the department this season and are getting scarce.

See Dress Goods window for another special drive in 25 and 40 cuttings. Strictly all wool. The immense trade done on these two lines would clearly indicate that there's nothing to beat them.

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DRESS GOODS.

Importers are beginning to close out their surplus stock, consequently we are every day buying finest imported Novelties to sell far below opening season prices, which, together with reductions in our own great stock, keep attractions constant.

- 25-CENT Silk French and Wool Mixtures, our Spring Shades of Grey and Tan, to which the interwoven colored threads give a delicate tint of Pink or Blue. A great bargain. AT 35 CENTS TO \$1.00—New Spring Broadcloths of extra qualities, full assortment of all the fashionable shades, 50 to 54 inches wide. AT 39 CENTS—A wonderful line of Fancy Wool Checks, in fancy weaves and colorings, medium shades, none of which were made to sell for less than fifty. Also street shades in Storm and Summer Serges, 44 inches wide. AT 50 CENTS—40 inch Figured Novelties, solid colors, Fine French All Wool Debeiges, Summer weight Coverts. Novelty stripes and checks, worth 75 and 85 cents. AT 49 CENTS—50 inch All Wool Vigognes, goods that cost 80 cents to import. AT 75 CENTS—Crepon Cheviots, light weight fabrics in solid colorings of light tan, grey and green; earlier sold at 85 cents. AT 98 CENTS—Very fine light weight Silk and Wool Novelties, Moire effect over dotted hair-lines, blue, green, tan and grey, worth \$1.50.

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Choice line of Black and Colored Dress Gowns and Drap de Moscovie Cloth, the very latest for fine tailor-made garments.

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We Place on sale this week Six Hundred Pairs of LADIES' CLOTH TOP BUTION SHOES, in all the various widths and sizes, common sense too, with patent leather tip.

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To the Ladies

Do you know the advantages of using gas for fuel? Do you know that gas is cheaper than coal? Do you know you can bake quicker and better with gas than you can with coal? Do you know meat broiled by gas is better than any other kind of broiling? Our line of gas stoves and ranges is complete. We will be pleased to show them to you and explain their many advantages over the coal stove.

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China, Glassware, Eric-a-Brac, Lamps, Silverware and Household Goods, Cheap.

Economical housekeepers will do well to attend this sale. Two 15-foot Black Walnut Counters and 120 feet of good Shelving for sale cheap.

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