

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, APRIL 27, 1897.

Secretary Sherman, it is said, wants Hawaii to be annexed as a county of California. Wouldn't that be a case of a tail big enough one day to wag the dog?

The Death Penalty.

Representative Jeffrey of Chester county, who has introduced a bill abolishing capital punishment, has collected the opinions of a majority of the judges of Pennsylvania upon the subject, and the preponderance of their opinions is distinctly favorable to the change.

As Chairman Dingley points out, not one of the speakers at the Reform club dinner who were so free to attack the McKinley administration for wanting to enact a new revenue bill...

Few Changes Needed.

In the general discussion which is now in progress touching the need of modification in the rules of the senate it is noteworthy that the best thought of the country calls for few and conservative changes, and does not by any means endorse the more radical demand for arbitrary closure.

It was undoubtedly the idea of the founders that the senate should become the safety valve on the legislative machine...

Colonel John Hay has made his start as ambassador to Great Britain and up to date he has not said a tear.

Mr. Olney Talks.

On the evening of the 22nd inst. the bar association of Boston gave a dinner in honor of the home-coming of Richard Olney. The occasion was characterized by the presence of many distinguished men, and at its conclusion the guest of the evening made an interesting speech.

Gossip at the Capital

Washington, April 26.—The death of Representative William Steele Holman, of Indiana, better known as "the great money" and "the watchdog of the treasury," removed from public life a very noted character.

AN IMPOTENT DETERRENT.

From the Birmingham Leader. The barbarism of the capital punishment law, coupled with its impotence as a deterrent of murderous crime, pleads strongly for its abolition.

REWARD.

Fate served me meanly! but I looked at that name which I had written was the cup I quaffed.

this subject. Where experts differ so radically in opinion cannot be expected to agree; but we are minded to add one final quotation as expressing succinctly our own views. Says Judge Purdy of Wayne: "Putting a person to death judicially is a revolting and brutal proceeding, which can be justified, if at all, only upon the hypothesis that human life is thereby safer, and I have serious doubts whether the death penalty has any deterrent effect upon persons who are murderously inclined."

In this connection it is worthy of note that the number of executions in Pennsylvania is growing smaller as the law stands. There were twenty-five hangings in this state during the second term of Governor Pattison. Four each took place in 1891 and 1892; nine in 1893, and seven in 1894.

As Chairman Dingley points out, not one of the speakers at the Reform club dinner who were so free to attack the McKinley administration for wanting to enact a new revenue bill remembered to mention that for four years previous, the government had run in the hole to an average extent of \$50,000,000 annually.

It is evident from the newspaper comments throughout the country that Mr. Cleveland's Reform club speech has fallen flat.

Judge Day, it is announced, will not go to Cuba, but the president will send a commissioner "equally as good."

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, April 26.—The death of Representative William Steele Holman, of Indiana, better known as "the great money" and "the watchdog of the treasury," removed from public life a very noted character.

Being born and brought up in the primitive surroundings of a new country Mr. Holman inherited a strong love of democratic simplicity which he carried with him throughout his public career.

Mr. Holman died in his thirty-first year of congressional life. Mr. Kelley of Pennsylvania, who earned the sobriquet of "Big Iron" by reason of his devotion to the iron and steel manufacturing industry of Pennsylvania, died during his twenty-ninth year of active service, although he had, like Mr. Holman, been elected for another term, as he would have also rounded out thirty-two years of service had he lived to complete the term for which he had been elected.

Mr. Holman was a member of congress, in active service, longer than any other man, living or dead.

Then the senator added, thoughtfully, and most reverently, "after more than thirty years of public service he retired as well off as when he entered congress."

It is related by an Indiana resident in Washington that when Representative Kelley died, and again when Mr. O'Neill passed away, Judge Holman called on Senator Turpie and imparted to him a foreboding of his own early demise.

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man, living or dead. Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri, served for thirty years in the senate, but even this period was exceeded by a few weeks by the service of Mr. Holman.

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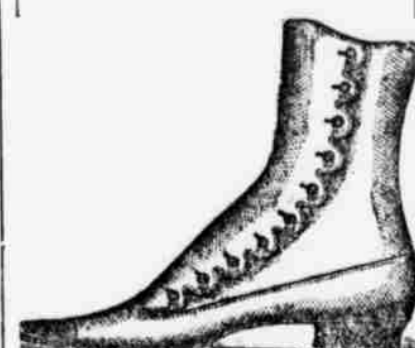
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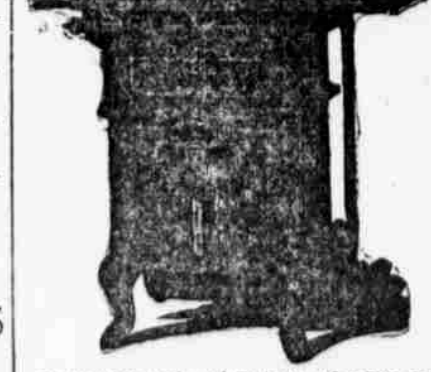
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