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### TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, MAY 25, 1897.

The inference that Wilkes-Barre is somewhat wicked herself is derived not from personal knowledge, but from the News-Dealer's files.

#### Weyler's Venomous Yelp.

The interview had on Friday at Cienfuegos, Cuba, by Oscar Addington with Captain General Weyler may have been accurate or it may have been evolved from the correspondent's inner consciousness, but in either event It expresses what the Spanish commander very probably thought. It tallies so closely with the utterances made on the same day by the prime minister of Spain before the Spanish chamber of deputies that we may not unreasonably accept it as true.

Weyler first charged the senate with jingolsm in passing the Morgan resolution, alleging that its purpose was to embarrass President McKinley and divert the attention of the American people from their "fast-approaching internal crisis," whatever that may mean; and then he continued: "The few scattering bands of Cuban dynamiters, railroad wreckers, horse and cattle thieves, plantation burners and highwaymen now in the field here, who hold no port and possess no seat of civil government, have no right to expect recognition. Such distinction at President McKintey's hands, issued in the face of my own proclamation officially declaring the greater part of the island to be already pacified, would hold the Washington executive up to the ridicule of the European powers and cause a prompt and healthy outburst of sympathy for the Spanish cause, especially from neighboring Old World governments also possessing colonies in the West Indies. In brief, recognition may aid the Cuban Junta in placing a few bonds in the United States, but will at the same time assure the successful issue of our proposed new Spanish loan in Paris, London and Vienna and enable us to carry on the war with renewed vigor."

In that event, it might pertinently be inquired why Spain, through its representatives at Washington, objects so strenuously to the belligerency programme. In fact, this question seemed to present itself to Weyler's own mind. If the interview from which we are quoting be genuine, for he immediately afterward remarked: "Personally, I shall be glad if recognition comes Our position will then be more clearly defined. It will work a virtual abrogation of our special treaty with the United States, place Yankees residing in Cuba in an identical position before the courts with other foreign residents, and I shall be troubled less by the constant complaints and often ridiculous demands from American consuls. It would also relieve the Spanish government of all responsibility for the destruction of foreign property not actually within the line of Spanish defenses and further simplify matters by assuring us the right to board and search American vessels whenever suspected. For once I shall heartily rejoice that the emptiness and hypocrisy of the United States government's oftreiterated professions of friendship shall be finally unmasked. I have always had little confidence in the sin-

cerity of its assertions." A slap like this at his good friends. Cleveland and Olney, was most ungracious. Surely they have earned Weyler's confidence and gratitude if such things can be earned by persistent cooperation. The main interest for us in this interview, however, lies in its sustained conceit. Weyler, like Canovas, undertakes to escape self-evident facts by deliberately shutting his eyes to them. The proof that he has not "pacified" Cuba is supplied by our own consuls, by all visiting observers of the Cuban campaign and most of all. by the continuel presence in Cuba of an enormous military force. A "pacification" which continues only so long as the Spanish army keeps its rifles almed is as much like belligerency as anything can be.

Putting this braggart's yelp beside the equally arrogant talk of Premier Canovas before the deputies, and remembering the tone of the Duke of Tetuan's reply to Secretary Olney's offer of mediation last year, it becomes clear that attempts to coax Spain to let go of Cuba offer absolutely no promise of success; and we have left the fast approaching necessity for a decisive stroke by the American executive, which will end this miserable business forthwith, though it take muskets and war-ships to do it.

When the Democratic senators oppose a tax on beer and favor one on coffee they evidently have an idea in what quarter it pays best to accumu-

#### late a "pull." Conkling, Platt and Garfield.

One of the most interesting magazine contributions in a long time will appear in the June Cosmopolitan from the pen of Thomas B. Connery. Its subject is the Conkling-Garfield tragedy and it will disclose facts concerning that memorable and romantic political episode which are new to the general public. Mr. Connery at the time of Conkling's break with Garfield was in charge of the New York Herald, and before Conkling burned his bridges in the war upon the administration he exacted from Mr. Connery a pledge of the Herald's support. On this account, Mr. Connery was put in possession of the

ability, was weak and pliant under the the Scranton tribune ability, was weak and pliant under the manipulation of strong men like Mr. Blaine; that he made and broke promises with a fatal facility and that, as the ethics of politics goes, his was the first fault in the break with Conkling. On the other hand, the intolerable pomposity, selfishness and arrogance of Senator Conkling are set forth and confirmed by Mr. Connery with such distinctness and wealth of new detail that the reader of today, free from the prejudices which confused judgment at the ime of the row, deems it almost a fit punishment that President Garfield did leceive Conkling and indirectly cause

his retirement from public life. One point in Mr. Connery's paper will attract especial atention. It is an incidental allusion to the relations between Conkling and Platt; and it establishes very conclusively that Mr. Platt, in resigning from the senate simultaneously with his colleague, did not act as a mere "me, too" from a sense of slavish fealty to Conkling, as was the general belief at the time, but because of pledges to which he preferred to remain true though it then ooked as if to do so would cost him his whole political future. The independence of Mr. Platt toward Mr. Conkling was shown shortly afterward, when the latter, having one day grown abusive secause the former ventured to express an opinion different from his own, was pointedly and publicly told by Mr. Platt

o "go to the devil." A perusal of this spirited narrative of the troublous times of the last Ohlo president is instructive to the student of politics by reason of the contrast which can be seen between the mental temperature of those days and the good will which prevails between the present Ohio executive and the leaders. of his party in the senate and house There had been expressions of fear before President McKinley was inaugurated that he might prove a second Garfield in the laxity of his conception of political good faith; but these have since been shown to be utterly without foundation. A more harmonious time has never been known in Washington than exists there today; and for this happy fact we may be not a little indebted to the teachings of history in the Conkling-Garfield incident.

We learn every day or two from our steemed Mugwump friends that Govrnor Black, of New York, has committed political suicide; yet, strange o say, they go right on heaving stones at the corpse.

### A Name to Conjure With.

We fancy there will be practically manimous assent to the proposition hat Consul General Lee should be reained at his present post as long as the Spanish flag shall wave over Moro astle. The fact that in home political he is a Democrat presents no reason for a change under the circumstance: now existing. There should be no parisan politics in the discharge of the duty of protecting American interests in a foreign land; and the superb manner in which General Lee has ful illed this obligation, even in the face of lukewarm support, if not open censure, from the administration which first honored him with the appointment, nerits the generous recognition already given to it by McKinley administra-

tion, and more beside. There would, as the Washington Star very pertinently remarks, "be a certain leserved rebuke to the recent administration, in the honoring thus of an official it desired to dishonor. Had Mr. Olney been permitted to have his way. General Lee would have lost his official head early last winter. Mr. Olney had only anger and contempt for reports which have gince established the reputation of General Lee as a careful observer of important events, and a man worthy of one of the most illustrious names in the history of the United States."

Still another consideration argues for General Lee's retention. The placing of such conspicuous confidence in him by a Republican president who fought against Lee during the civil war would go further than any amount of Memorial day oratory to hasten the reconiliation of the sections and win the old Confederate families of Virginia and other southern states away from their not yet wholly subdued bitterness over Robert E. Lee's defeat. It would offer a token of reunion to the more rigid southern element which could not well be overlooked and which could not by any conceivable means give offence to it. In many sections of the south Lee is still a name to conjure with; and while we would not ask for a misuse of it, yet the existing opportunity to turn it to excellent account for the peace and welfare of the republic is too admirable to be lost.

Fortunately, it looks as if President McKinley has had all of these considerations in mind.

Colonel Watterson strenuously maintains, to the extent of columns in double leads, that he is correct in assuming the existence of a purpose on Mr. Cleveland's part to run for the presidenty in 1900, Well; to keep peace in the family, let us concede so much. Then the question arises, what of it? Is Colonel Watterson afraid that Mr. Cleveland will succeed? Has he so low an estimate of the average memory and intelligence of the American

Mr. Bryan scouts the very idea of a union of the regular Democracy with the Waldorf bolters except upon the terms that the latter shall surrender absolutely and unconditionally to the tune of 16 to 1. It looks very much as if the Grovermaniacs would have to flock by themselves.

When Commissioner of Patents Butterworth remarked the other day that the civil service system had raised polfitical contests above the plane of mere struggles for spoils we suppose he knew what he was talking about. Evidently his eyesight is better than the average.

"Each tariff bill, until set in motion. is an injunction on pusiness activity," says Senator Foraker. All the more reason, then, why the pending one

priation of \$1,000,000 for good roads. The news, we fear, is too good to be

Florida's new senator, Mr. Mallory, is a free silverite, a free trader, an anti-coproration shouter and an allround fire-cater, but we understand that he is still something of an improvement on his predecessor.

From Long Branch comes the first balloon accident story of the season, but it will have no deterrent effect upon the growing army of blue-ribbon idiots who pursue the parachute route to extinction.

## Gossip at the Capital

Washington, May 24. Apparently the tariff discussion in the enate is really here, and has come to tay for no one can guess how long. Reoublicans may agree to refrain from making speeches; Democrats of all shades and olors, Populists and Silver Republicans, may promise they will not obstruct by unnecessary talking; but every one here knows how vain the hope. A senator can more keep from talking than a duck can keep from swimming when there is water in the poultry yard. He knows that the world is waiting to hear from him, and he would not disappoint the dear old world even to save him some months of weary sizziing in the summer sun. The Republicans are really sincere in their present determination to let the others do all the talking, but when they are gonded by those others beyond endurance is they will be in this tariff debate more than in any former one, how shall they be silent in justice to themselves and to

Never before was a tariff bill taken up under circumstances at all similar. One is in no way reminded of the memorable contests when the Democrats were di-vided, and in the house Sam Randall and his followers stood an impregnable forti-fication against the assaults of the free traders. It is just possible the ranks of the Democrats may be broken. There were promifes of support for any kind of strong tariff bill that would give cer-tain southern interests all they demand-ed. But the Republican committee of the senate, while vastly improving the house measure in many respects as a revenueproducing machine, has thrown so much edium over it that the Democrats of the senate, with some assistance from those who are neither Democrats nor Republicans, will practically enact a new bill, and therefore when the final vote comes each side will claim the measure as its own. and the division, if any, will not be parti-

It is predicted by many that after the senate has disposed of the bill an excited and prolonged struggle will occur be-tween the house and senate. These predictions have been made ever since the character of the work of the senate comnittee became known, but they are made with new confidence and force new that the bill is up for discussion. It is certain that the most interesting part of the tariff performance will come when the sen-ate bill goes back to the house and Dingley and his friends can compare the two

This storm between the house and the enate has been gathering for so long, and has had so many preliminary and warning rumblings, that it will not be surprising f it burst in all its fury some few months nence. The waiting of the house in idleormances of the senate will not lessen the force of the gale. The one thing that some leniency on the prospective bill is the fact that it cannot by any possibility e the bill that was framed by the Republican committee. It is a pity that it cannot be a square and open contest be-tween the little circle which made the house bill and that other smaller circle of the senate which made a bill in rooms at the Arlington hotel, from which all visitors were excluded with the exception of some of the principals or agents of the trusts. Then we should have a pretty contest indeed, for it would hinge largely on the right of the senate to deliberately frame a revenue bill of its own, regardless of the provisions of the house bill, under the guise of "amendments." The fiction of the constitution that the house must originate revenue measures was never so apparent as it has been made by the per-formances of the senate in connection with this bill. Never before was a great revenue measure of the house, which was to bring money to the treasury and fame to its creators, so contemptuously thrown aside by the senate. There was no evi-dence before the senate to guide the deliberations of the sub-committee. They asked no evidence. Never for a moment was even a single member of the committee on ways and means asked to enter the uxurious rooms at the hotel, where the two or three senators juggled with figures and received agents of the trusis, for the purpose of explaining why this or that rate was adopted. In every way the framers of the house bill were treated with

the most conspicuous contempt, but mighty forcible denunciations from the members of ways and means. Dingusually the most self-possessed and cautious of men, broke out into interviews carefully critical of the action of the senate sub-committee, and into much boider objurgations in the form of editorial articles in his paper, the Lewiston Journal. A senator who is fond of quoting Republican against Republican, tells me that he has preserved every utterance of Dingley in his paper in relation to the tariff bill after it became known that the form in which it had been sent to the senate had been transformed, and that not a semblance of Dingley and his commit-tee had been left in it. That senator That senator. wishing that nothing shall be lost that is important bearing on the disagreements of the Republicans, and the delightful recegnition of the sugar trust, promises that ne will read the Dingley "editorials" in the senate at the proper moment. This' between the members of the two bodies.

I do not credit most of the stories in regard to the operation of senators through prokers. That is not the way senators olunge who are in the confidence of the trusts. They merely have a standing order with some big man of the trust, who informs him at the proper moment that he has sold or bought a certain number of shares for him. The action of the market in such circumstances is peculiarly enough always favorable to the senator, and the proceeds are judiciously placed to the credit of the senator. That is better than trusting a broker,

## WORK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Whatever prejudice there was against creation of the Superior court must rapidly disappear, if it has not already vanished, in view of the demonstration of usefulness which that tribunal has already been able to make, it has not quite completed its second year, but it has done even more than was expected of it within so brief a time in the way of relieving the Supreme court from that pressure under which it was being

Some figures may be given to show re-sults more decisively. In 1873 the year before the present constitution of the commonwealth went into effect, the numper of appeals entered in the Supreme whole inwardness of the feud, and his narration of it makes a page as readable as the intensest fiction.

The narrative of Mr. Connery confirms the popular impression that General Garfield, despite his great natural roads bill, together with a state appro-

that the cases appealed to it the first six months of its existence hardly afford a fair test. For the full year of 1896, however, the number of appeals entered in the Superior court was 482; at the same time the number entered in the Suprame court was 653. These make a total of 1135, all of which would have gone to the Supreme court had the intermediate tribunal no been established.

It will be seen, therefore, that the busi-ness taken by the Superior court reduces that belonging to the Supreme court to a little less than the amount that tribunal had twenty-four years ago. At the time the Superior court was established vari-ous calculations were made to show what proportion of the business of the Supreme court it would be likely to take. Some of these calculations were higher than the realization and some were much lower. There is every probability that in course of time the number will pretty well reach the highest estimate, and it was never thought to be necessary that it should exceed more than one-half. What has alreally been done has proven a grati-fying relief to litigants, and must serve to make some of the appeals much less costly than was the case when they hung on for years. That was an injustice and an imposition, as well as an expense.

In the little less than two years it has been in existence the Superior court has heard argument in 726 cases, and 562 of these were within the term year just ending. The judges on that bench have made it understood that they intend to keep well up with their work, and they are extwo years' experience the state has ever reason to be entirely satisfied with the force and character,

#### "THE GOOD OLD TIMES."

From the Washington Post, For the benefit of those boys-and their umber is great-who have he habit of believing that there is no o good a chance for a youngster now as here was fifty or a hundred years ago, a Maine newspaper brings to light a document that was written and signed eighty-four years ago. It is the indenture of Stephen Staples, of Sedgewick, binding Blue Hill, in 1813. At that time the ma chine had scarcely begun to supplant the hand of man. The itinerating tailor and shoemaker went their rounds from house to house. The spinning wheel and loom converted the farmer's woel and flax into cloth that was made up in his house into and the carpenter were great factors in rural as well as urban life. There was no lack of trades for boys to learn and live by, but wages were small. The high est skill commanded a dollar a day, and good farm hands were hired for \$10 a nonth and board.

The occupation chosen for Stephen Sta ples was that of the farmer, and he was, therefore, indentured to John Peters, at the age of 15, "to learn the art and mystery of farming," If any reader should be inclued to criticise this "art and mystery" clause, he will do well to make a little inquiry before he fixes his sneer. There was then, and there is now, a deal of "art" in raising crops in New England, except in a few favored localities. Every plowing brought up stones enough to wall the field, and the thin, weak soll, late springs, and early trosts made the maintenance of life on the average New England farm a perpetual mystery. The term of Staples' appren-ticeship was six years—from 15 to 21-a he end of which time he was to receive one hundred dollars in cash, two suits wearing apparel-one suitable for the Lord's day, and one suitable for working lays," and the apprentice was bound to well and faithfully serve and at all time eadily obey; at cards, dice, or any other imony contract, during the said term; averns, all houses or places of gaming se shall not frequent, but in all things and

at all times he shall carry and behave himself as a good and faithful appren-Nowadays a boy of 15, if willing to work faithfully, can get more money and goods in one year than Staples received for six years. Some of the restrains im posed by "these indentures" were un-doubtedly wholesome, but they would not please the youth of these times. In fact, there was very little in the rural life of the first half of this century that would not be repulsive to the young and old of this decade. It was drudgery from early morning till bedtime for both sexes. and facilities for intellectual advance ment were scarce. The rich farmers o that time had less of literature and ar in their houses than are found today in the dwelling of the average farm laborer Machinery has relieved the field and the household workers of most of their oldtime toll. If the discontented ruralists of the present day were compelled, for r single week, to accept the conditions un der which their great-grandparents lived and prospered, they would be cured of their longing for "the good old times."

#### THE DIFFERENCE. Wouter Van Twiller" in the Wilkes

I observe by the Scranton papers that hat city has secured the silk ribbon mil which will employ 300 hands as soon as crected, and when the entire plant is renoved there the number will be increased to 2,000. Levy Brothers, of New York who own this big industry, wanted to locate in Wilkes-Barro and spent several days here trying to secure a site. But they didn't get very much encouragement so they went to Scranton. The board of trade up there met them with open arms. showed them the city, dilated upon its advantages and told the visitors that they would be most happy to have the industry ocate there. Then Congressman William Connell made them a free gift of two acres of land as a site for the new mill, and the of ind as a site for the lew lim, and the thing was done. Thus does Scranton se-cure a valuable addition to its varied in-dustries, one that Wilkes-Barre could have had, if she hadn't dawdled, and hesi-tated and hemmed and hawed and raised

#### objections and tightened her purse strings THE PROMPTER'S CALL.

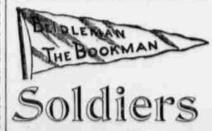
Upon life's mighty stage today I have my little part to play; I have to speak the single line Which is the task the gods assign To me-who craves a higher thing; To play the hero or the king.

At early morning, when I wake I hear the prompter's call, and take My burden up of life again, To smile at grief or gladness feign, An audience of angels, pale And dimly seen, forbids me fail!

And when above the sleeping town Night lets her star-sewn curtain down I sit upon the stage alone And wish the lights and players on! For well I know the tragedy Must be played out by them and me.

I wish that I had played my part; That I could still my throbbing heart-That tireless engine of the breast That madly beats me back from rest, worn-out actor-yet today I have my puny part to play!

-Florence May Alt in Frank Leslie's



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