Weekly

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, JUNE 5, 1897.

If no news is good news, newspaper readers these days ought all to be

That Telephone Ordinance.

It is difficult to understand why se lect council should have declined on Thursday, night to accept Mr. Sanderson's amendment to the Roche conduit franchise ordinance. In its original form the ordinance gave to the Central Pennsylvania Telephone company an unlimited free permission to use any street, either for overhead or conduit wires, and made no specification that where condults are laid, the overhead wires shall come down. Mr. Sanderson's amendment almed simply to bind the Telephone company to the terms of the verbal representations made by it; namely, that where conduits were laid it would at once take all its overhead wires down. The defeat of this amendment puts the city literally at the telephone company's mercy.

It may be asked why would the Central Pennsylvania Telephone company go to the trouble of laying conduits and then not use them? But this question misses the point that under the terms of the Roche measure the telephone people could at pleasure bury their main cables and yet maintain, on the same street, a network of separate overhead wires. Thus the advantages expected by the public from the conduit system would be lost, and the only practical effect of the ordinance would be to add a new public gratuity to the telephone corporation and put It out of the power of the people of Scranton at any future time to abolish the overhead wire nuisance. When to this valuable gift select council adds the right to tear up any of our streets at the telephone company's will, it concludes a bargain in which the telephone company gets all the advantage, and the common people of the city, as is usual in such matters, get-left.

To the four selectmen who resisted this unfair measure, Messrs, Sanderson, Lansing, Thomas and Robinson the community owes its thanks. They were not successful, but they were

If Mr. Roosevelt doesn't look out, he will win the honor of the Mugwumps' unanimous disapproval.

The Righteous Way.

The point is made by Senor Quesada, of the Cuban delegation at Washington, that a formal recognition by the United States of the independence of Cuba would necessarily end the war He holds that if Cuba were recognized by us as an independent nation, then Spain, in continuing her effort to subjugate it, would come under that principle in the Monroe doctrine which pledges this government to resist forcible foreign encroachments upon the free territory of the American hemisphere, and we should have to warn her

The contention is ingenious and in a measure true; but when the United States gets ready to take action in the matter of Cuba it will do well to rest its policy upon a broader basis than a technicality. To proceed on the lines suggested above would be to cheapen the moral force of our activity. Not every humane citizen of Europe recognizes the binding force of the Monroe doctrine; but there is no well-informed European who would not yield willing assent to our right to intervene in Cuba for the purpose of stopping intolerable inhumanity. The Monroe doctrine has yet to be established in some quarters, but in no quarter outside of Turkey and Spain does it need to be argued that a great power like the United States should lift its voice, and, if necessary, its hand in protest against a situation in a near by island that has reduced thousands of innocent men, women and children to the most pittable extremes of homelessness, destitution and wretchedness. The fact that this suffering has been the wanton workmanship of Spain, and that it has been produced in contravention of all established rules of civilized warfare, presents a clear and unchallengeable reason why our protest should be addressed to the Spaniards rather than to the insurgent Cubans; and why, if Spain would deny a hearing to it, wo should proceed to force one.

The letter of Mr. Pepper, which we reprinted yesterday, gives an idea of what Mr. Calhoun has seen in Cuba and supplies a hint concerning the nature of his report. We believe we are within bounds in saying that the conservative opinion of the country will now sustain the president in any action which in his judgment shall offer the promise of relieving this barbarous crisis in Cuba, even to the point, should other means fail, of that stern method concerning the success of which there is no possible doubt.

who slanders a senator cannot be deall the appearance of truth.

An Untenable Decision.

selves. Once their decision is reached, it becomes a question whether the federal government has any right under the constitution to interfere with the will of the majority in the affected state. We have never been able to believe that the United States Supreme court decision in the Iowa original package case was not wrong in principle and faise to the spirit of the constitution. It will be remembered that that decision held that the prohibitory law in Iowa could not stop the sale in Iowa of liquor imported by interstate commerce in original packages. That Iowa had perhaps technically no right to prevent the importation of liquorthat is, to hold up trains at the state line and search them for contraband merchandise-may be conceded in view of clause 3 of the eighth section of Article 1 of the constitution; but that, once that imported liquor became stationary on Iowa soil, it was not within the power of the citizens of Iowa to forbid its sale if they so chose is a proposition to which not even the able logicians of the United States Supreme

The South Carolina case presents the same issue with this difference, that since the Iowa decision congress leas enacted that liquor is not necessarily a legitimate article of interstate commerce but is subject to local law. Whether this enactment of congress is constitutional or not, it would seem to cover the South Carolina as well as the Iowa case, and unless the Supreme court shall set it aside; it will doubtless occasion a reversal of Judge Simonton's decision. On its merits, the proposition seems impregnable that the interstate commerce clause in the constifution was not intended to enable one state to force among the people of another state an article of commercial which the citizens of the second state regard as so fraught with peril to them that they deem it wise either to prehibit or stringently to regulate the sale of it within their own borders. If we sanction such a construction of the constitution, do we not violate justice and invite tyranny?

court or their champions have convert-

The decision of a Jersey justice that bicycle riding for pleasure on Sunday is illegal will probably have the enthusiastic approval of the liverymen.

Are Americans Degenerating?

In the course of a tonic essay in the Chap-Bock John Burroughs mentions that he recently asked a man who had been for over thirty years a professor in one of our large colleges for women if he noticed any describable difference in the character of the girls today, who came under his influence, from those of twenty or more years ago. The reply "He reluctantly confessed," says Mr. Burrough's, "that there was an appreciable difference,difference in carnestness; the girls of today were less serious and earnest than those of a decade or more ago, More of them were sent to college; fewer of them sent themselves."

It is the essayist's belief that this same difference can be seen in the colleges for men. He accounts for it by citing the fact that the leisure lasses are increasing, and by affirmto the production of great men. "The production of great men," he asserts 'requires a certain heroic fiber in the mmunity, a certain degree of plain living; and if not of high thinking, then of serious and worthy aspiration. The chances of a great man being born in this country were probably vastly greater fifty or seventy-five years ago than at present, notwithstanding so many more children are brought into the world. The farther we get from primitive and ploneer conditions, from the direct struggle with elemental forces, the less, it seems, are our chances of producing a great character. A certain isolation, a throwing back of men upon themselves, a deepening and strengthening of the basic human qualities, seems necessary,"

This opinion is so widely prevalent that it is hazardous to venture a contradiction; nevertheless we make bold to challenge it. The great characters pioneer times were great because there were few of them and those few had the field to themselves. From the dull background of untamed nature they stood forth as much by reagon of contrast as because of phenomenal intrinsic superiority. Today, every other man, almost, among the multiplying millions, is an entered competitor in the race for distinction and it requires qualities of an extraordinary kind to project one individual high above the steadily advancing average level. It is true that modified ocial conditions have altered the forms of human endeavor; but it remains to be proved that they have eased the struggle. Daniel Boone could shoot Indians and tread the trackless intricacies of the forest; yet Daniel today would, we suspect, have need of all his old-time keenness, nerve and sagacity if entered, for example, as a rival to the Goulds, the Pierpont Morgans and the Sages on Wall street.

Let us follow this argument of Mr. Burroughs out to its logical conclusion. If in fifty or seventy-five years the United States have lost the power to produce great men; if in that brief time earnestness, vigor, "the herole fiber," have diminished among the young to such an extent as he appears to believe, then it would be fair to deduce the proposition that this deterioration must continue. We cannot restore the wilderness. We cannot recall The correspondent at Washington primitive conditions. If those conditions were essential to the production fended; but he is not worse than the of greatness, and if those conditions senator whose actions give the slander have disappeared irrevocably, then it is clear that the hope for greatness in future is to be increasingly futile. How does this hypothesis tally with the his-We doubt if the decision of Judge tory of other lands? How does it cor-

William Morris among the poets, and in fact the host of eminent names that might be cited in almost every direction of human aspiration and endeavor offer corroboration of Mr. Burrough's theory?

We opine not. His is a common notion and in fits of despondency we sometimes incline to believe it true; but calm and intelligent examination must always overmaster it. The American people are not degenerating. Their average in conscience, character and qualification for required struggles is as high today as it ever was, and we believe higher than at any prior moment.

When a man like Weyler begins to fall into disfavor at headquarters, the descent is speedy. In his case it bids fair to be vastly accelerated by the revelations of disgruntled subordinates. Already one prominent lieutenant has fled from Cuba and preferred written charges against Weyler. There will no doubt be others

Gossip at the Capital

Washington, June 4.
Special Correspondence of The Tribune
The coming Ohio Democratic State convention, at Columbus, on June 30th, promises to be of more than usual inter-est, from the fact that the leaders of that party confidently expect to carry the Buckeye state next fail. The fight in Ohio will not center on state offices. It will be made in the legislative dis-tricts, with a view of electing a Demo-cratic successor to Senator Mark Hanna. The Republicans will also very likely make the fight on the same lines, as it is more important to both parties at large to capture a United States senator than to control the local offices of that state. It will be a battle royal. The opposing candidates for senator will be Mr. Hanna on the Republican side, and John R. McLean, editor and proprietor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, on the Demo-cratic side. Both have announced them-selves candidates, and their respective selves candidates, and their respective parties have practically endorsed them for that position. It matters little who will be the candidate for governor, and other state offices on either side. They will only be a secondary consideration, Ohio Republicans and Democrats in Washington do not depy the fact that they intend to trade off their candidates for state offices to help pull through the for state offices to help pull through the egislative candidates.

Both of the senatorial candidates are well equipped with the sinews of war. They are both rich, as well as ambitious, and a campaign of liberal disbursement is a foregone conclusion. This is particularly true as to McLean. He has already spent many thousands of dollars in his effort to capture the state organization, which he now seems to control without dispute. In the last campaign McLean played the Bryan and free silver end of the game, and won the organization away from Brice, who leaned to-wards gold. There is no disputing the fact that there is a strong silver sentiment among the Democrats of Chio. The gold or sound money wing of the Democratic party in t'at state is so insignificant that it requires a strong microscope to see it. On the other hand, the Ohio Republicans seem to be just as solid for honest money as the Democrats of the state are for cheap money. Therefore, the fight for United States senator in the Buckeye state will be contested on sound money and free silver lines,

Probably no state campaign in the hisory of this country, will be more stubbornly contested or watched with more interest, from a national standpoint, than the one which will take place in Ohio next fall. Both parties will enter the fight full of hope, and will contest every fuch of ground most bitterly. The only hing McLean has to recommend him to his part is his money. He is a notor-lously corrupt politician. He has done more to corrupt the politics of Ohlo than any other dozen men in or out of the state. He was driven out of the state state. He was driven out of the state several years ago for ballot box stuffing, and it is only very recently that he has been able to return to the place of his birth without fear of being arrested. Even now he is practically an exile. He has lived in Wastington for many years, where he owns much valuable property. where he owns much valuable property In addition to being a large real estat owner in Washington, McLean is th president of the Washington Gas Light company, one of the greatest monopolles in the District of Columbia, He is also a heavy stockholder in most of the street railways operated in this city. The re-spectable members of the Democratic party are opposed to McLean for senstor. because they feel that his selection will bring discredit upon the party. A prom-inent Ohio Democrat said today that he would much prefer to see Mark Hanna or any other decent Republican in the senate than McLean. Men of his character, he said, bring discredit upon any

It is understood that William J. Bryan, the late free sliver candidate for president, is anxious to see McLean win the cvote much time in the campaign next fall. It is his intention to make a com-plete tour of the state in the interess of McLean. Bryan will advocate the sacri-Deing of every candidate for state office to help McLean carry the legislative districts. In doing this he will simply be fulfilling 2 promise made McLean that in return for the latter's financial support in the last presidential campaign he would lend his voice and moral in-fluence in Ohio this year. Thus, it is evident that even Brayn, the "champion of the downtrodden people," is not above the influence of the " money power."

New Jersey has never furinshed a presi-ent. The nearest it came to that honor, prior to the election of Mr. Hobart to the vice-presidency, was in having or of its candidates-Samuel L. Southard rst in line of succession, and two others -Jonathan Dayton and William Penning ton-who, as speakers of the house, were third in line. When Samuel L. South ard was president, pro tempore, of the senate, in 1841-42, the law directed that in case of the death, resignation, or in-ability of both president and vice-presi-dent of the United States, the president of the senate, or, if there is none, then the speaker of the house of representa-tives for the time being, shall act as president until the disability is removed or a president is elected. Mr. Southard was next in the order of succession President Harrison having died and Vice President Tyler having become president. A further fact about New Jersey is that the state has not been favored in the matter of cabitet offices, there hav-ing been only four cabinet ministers-Samuel L. Southard, secretary of the navy, 1823-25; Mahlon Dickerson, secre-tary of the navy, 1833-37; George M. Rob-eson, secretary of the navy, 1869-77; and Frederick T. Freylinghuysen, secretary of state, 1881-85.

Scuator Jones, of Arkansas, chairman f the Democratic National committee We doubt if the decision of Judge Simonten in the South Carolina liquor case, that the dispensary laws of South Carolina, vesting in that state a monopoly of the liquor traffic, cannot operate to invalidate the private importation and sale in South Carolina of liquor in original packages, will be sustained when it goes upon appeal before the United States Supreme court.

The idea of a state monopoly of the sale of an article in common use is generally open to serious objection; but it is obviously a matter for the citizens

sider his company a trust, but the "other fellows," whose business it is ruining, know better. It makes all the difference in the world whose ox is gored.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.

Philadelphia Press: "President McKin-ley's ringing words at the Hourse ban-quet were spoken to his immediate audience, but they were addressed to the whole country. The president was never in better form and never appeared to better advantage. In its oratorical effect his speech was electric and inspiring, His clear, resonant voice which penetrated every part of the great hall, his earnest feeling which struck the chord of sin-cerity and sympathy, his crisp, pithy, epigrammatic sentences which rang out like pistoj shots, all carried his great au-dience by storm. Though the fire and fervor of the magnetic orator are lack-ing in the reading, yet the stirring words will produce much the same effect wherever they are read as upon those by whom they were heard. They constitute a manly appeal to the patience, the pa-triotism and the reason of the country. The president knows and feels the dis-tress which has prevailed. He under-stands the impatience at the delay in tress which has prevailed. He understands the impatience at the delay in the return of good times. But he asks for fair play. He does not so much plead for it as demand it in the name of truth and justice. His sentences are as clear cut as a cameo, and each one of them condenses a philosophy. 'Resuscitation will not be promoted by recrimination.' The distress of the present will not be relieved by distrust of the future.' 'A patriot makes a better citizen than a not be relieved by distrust of the future.' 'A patriot makes a better citizen than a pessimist.' 'A tariff law half made is of no practical use except to indicate that in a little while a whole tariff law will its done.' These sentences go to the heart of the matter. New activity must come from new conditions. The new conditions are being made by new legislation and we cannot expect the fruits until the seed is sown and ripened. The president has compressed the whole situation into words that breathe and thoughts that burn and they will be thoughts that burn and they will be heard and heeded throughout the land."

Philadelphia Times: "The mere politi-tian may carp and criticise, but the diseassionate American citizen who de sires only the advancement and prosper-ity of the republic, will heartly com-mend the patriotic utterances of the resident during his late visit to Phila-

M'KINLEY AND WANAMAKER.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin. McKinley's speech was brief, but he has seldom spoken better. He was more than ordinarily earnest, Laying aside the cigar at which he had been puffing and compelled for the moment to look into the flood of electric light that had been turned upon his white, strong face as upon a star at the climax of a play holding the center of the stage, he at once commanded silence. His voice was shriller than usual in its clear, tenor-like quality, and penetrated easily into every part of the hall. It rang out like a trumpet and aroused a tremendous out-burst of applause when he declared that "a patriot makes a better citizen than a pessimist;" that better times are near at hand, and that "resuscitation will not be promoted by recrimination." He wanted the men of Philadelphia particularly to note that the distress of the present will not be relieved by a distrust of the future, and that they must "keep steady heads and clear hearts."

It was the most emphatic declaration that the president has yet made in public since his inauguration on this subject, and it seems to some as if he were especially anxious to give it a local significance. A few feet from him John Wanamaker had a seat. Three weeks ago at the same time as McKinley's first visit, the Wana-maker speech to the business men of Philadelphia, with its gloomy forebodings of the feature and its prophecy of a political cataclysm if something were not soon done at Washington, had caused the flutter of a sensation. "We have got to be patient," said the president last night; "we will yet triumph through wise and beneficient legislation." It was a and beneficient legislation." It was a genrality, but it signified plainly that the president did not mean to go away from Philadelphia without leaving behind with its business men an antidote to the speech in which Wanamaker had sounded the alarm bells and which the chief Popocrat organs have been quoting with delight.



Weather and Other Predictions for the Coming Week.

Sunday, June 6.-Whit Sunday, Weather fair. A child born on this day will be unfortunate and will have little regard for the truth. An unlucky day, Monday, June 7.—Whit Monday, Weath-er fair. A child born on this day will be well-conducted and fond of pleasure Court, marry and ask favors in the

morning. Tuesday, June 8.—Mars an evening star, Weather fine. A child born today should go into business for itself, as it will always be sharp and clever. Seek em-ployment and travel in the afternoon. Wednesday, June 2.—Jupiter an even-ing star, Weather fine. A child born on this day will have a quiet life. Doubt-

ful day for business.

Thursday, June 10.—Sun in conjunction with Neptune, Weather fair. A child born on this day will be fortunate and rise rapidly in life. Push business in the orning.

Friday, June 11.—Saturn an evening star, Weather warm. A child born on this day will be untidy and careless, but rather fortunate. Avoid females in the Saturday, June 12 .- Sun quintile to Jupiter. Weather warm. A child born on this day will be restless and fond of drink. Sell; evil yor all else.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 3.27 a. m., for Saturday, June 5, 1897,

A child born on this day will notice that prosperity is often the greatest magnifying glass that can be focussed upon man's natural meanness

According to newspapers, patent med-icine does not seem to have effect upon any but big men these days, The Wilkes-Barre base ball club is now prepared to defend its claims to eighth place against all comers. Parties who hastily "throw down the gauntlet' are sometimes compelled to pick up a very soft lambs' ficece mitten.

Grass widows can generally make hay at any season of the year. Ajacchus' Advice. Do not take too much stock in the powers of the bicycle girl. The possessor of a century run medal will often faint at the sight of a broom and dustpan.



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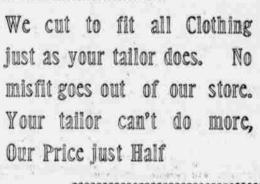
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