

The Scranton Tribune

By The Tribune Publishing Company. WILLIAM CONNELL, President. 248 York Representatives. FRANK S. GRAY CO. Room 45, Tribune Building, New York City.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: Daily, 50 cents a month. Weekly, \$1.00 a year. LITHEATED AT THE PHOTOGRAPH AT SCRANTON, PA., AN SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, JULY 7, 1897.

How can the Pennsylvania Democracy confine its fall campaign to state issues, and on state issues what promises of betterment can it make which will be worth the paper on which they are printed?

A Diagnosis and a Cure.

That was an awful indictment which President Draper, of the University of Illinois, drew of American government when, in his address to the graduating class at the University of Michigan, he said: "Reverence for the law is the essence of good citizenship and the security of the state; and respect for the law is breaking down. It is breaking down because legislative action is governed by caprice and by unworthy combinations and attended by tumult and uproar. It is breaking down because the enactments are so numerous and so involved that few can comprehend them. It is breaking down because the laws are not evenly and speedily administered. The feeling is coming to be common that the law is on sale; that any one with keeness and experience and money can procure the enactment of almost any proposition into law at the hands of the municipal, county, state and federal legislatures, and that the interests of the people are safer when these bodies are not in session, and the feeling is likewise common that any one with keeness and money can indefinitely delay or entirely overturn the expressed purpose of the written law. The logical sequence is that citizens do not stand equal before the law; and that mere sharpness, rather than right or substantial worth, is the touchstone of success."

Is this statement of the situation true or false? If we consult the records of the recent legislative session at Harrisburg we find "caprice," "unworthy combinations," "tumult" and "uproar." We also find strong presumptive proof of the assertion that legislation, if not always on sale, can at least very often be expedited by the hextroious use of money. Next, the work of congress lends color to President Draper's arraignment, especially when we perceive that after months of delay so costly as virtually to decide in many cases in favor of the bankruptcy of individual business men when promptness in action would have spared them this humiliation, the senate has practically adopted an emergency tariff bill virtually as it came from the house. The case for President Draper strengthens when we examine closely the work of our municipal councils—see the wholesale grants of invaluable public franchises given in fee simple to the corporation with the most effective lobby, watch the handling of the men who have rulls and note the apparent helplessness in point of restraining power of the members, few but plucky, who stand for righteousness and the public weal. Directly for law is shown when nominations for office go to confirmed law-breakers and when the principal business of the civil courts appears to be taken up with the manoeuvres of expert attorneys to circumvent justice. In fact, to any man who has the courage of his eyesight President Draper's case is easily established; but it is not so clear what the remedy is.

Perhaps, after all, it is to be found in the admonition of Dr. Burroughs, another western college president, to drop the problem-studying fad and centralize on character-building. Cannot the News-Dealer understand that it is against the ordinance to ride a bicycle on the sidewalk in this city? To ask for an enforcement of the law is not an attack on wheeling.

The Right Way to Go it.

If the English government were to accede to Ambassador Hay's petition for the release of Mrs. Florence Maybrick, the American woman under sentence of life imprisonment for the murder of her husband by poison, upon the broad ground of international good will, it would no more than balance the pardoning account between the nations. On a number of occasions the government at Washington has released prisoners duly convicted in our courts, upon the request of Great Britain, not upon the claim that they had been falsely convicted, but as an act of courtesy to a friendly power.

One notable case of this kind occurred in 1838, when Alexander McLeod, a Canadian, was released in New York by order of the governor of that state, after he had been indicted for burning the steamer Caroline, in American waters. It was during the time of the insurrectionary movement in Canada, and the Caroline was suspected of filibustering; but the seizure of that ship and its destruction by fire by a party of loyal Canadians headed by McLeod constituted a crime under the statutes for which McLeod, who was captured, could have been severely punished. On this occasion Great Britain did not ask for his release as a favor, but pursued her usual tactics of bullying and blustering, and the graciousness of the American action in giving him up despite the insolent tone of the English foreign office is therefore the more conspicuous and creditable.

It must be confessed that until this time American sympathizers with Mrs. Maybrick have pursued an injudicious and unfortunate policy. They have proceeded upon the assumption that her conviction was an act of spite, without a scintilla of warrant in the evidence, and have asked the British government, in the granting of a pardon, to endorse this self-justifying claim. We must confess that in view of information developed since the

trial Mrs. Maybrick's innocence now appears clear; but it is equally clear that by the manner in which her friends have assailed the British courts, they have made it next to impossible for the British government to order her release. To do so would involve a gulping down of British pride compared with which, from an English standpoint, one woman's fate, though she be innocent as claimed—and on this point, we must remember there was more reasonable doubt at the time of her conviction than there is now—is of slight consequence.

By putting the appeal for Mrs. Maybrick upon no other ground than that her pardon, irrespective of the question of guilt, would constitute an act of courtesy to the American people who, through their ambassador, have officially requested it, the McKinley administration has united tact with shrewdness, and has in all probability opened the one way by which this unfortunate woman can escape from her living tomb.

The doctors of the world will gather next month at Moscow, the ancient capital of Russia, to attend the twelfth international congress of medicine. Russia may be an illiberal country in many respects, but it is worthy of note that it was the only country in Europe which offered to transport the visiting disciples of Aesculapius free of charge over the railroads within its borders. Some of the countries gave half-fare rates, and Germany refused to make any reduction, but Russia gave the doctors carte blanc and is preparing to entertain them like kings. The Russian way of doing things has its pleasant aspects.

One Extremist's Complaint.

The professor of political economy at the University of Chicago is J. Laurence Laughlin. Last year J. Laurence threw himself with such ardor into the cause of sound money and the gold standard that at a comparatively early period in the campaign he was forced to take a rest. He married and went to Europe. It was reported upon his return from that vacation journey that he had regained the pristine freshness of health and manner which had theretofore been his normal condition; but the article which he supplies to the current Forum belies this report. It exhibits J. Laurence in a bilious mood and reasonably excites anxiety for his future.

The subject of the Chicago professor's contribution to the contemporary dolor is, "The McKinley Administration and Prosperity;" and its burden is that the aforesaid administration, by declining to do as the Chicago professor and certain other strident Mugwumps advise, is retarding instead of hastening prosperity's return. J. Laurence is aggrieved, deeply aggrieved, over two things. He is filled with pain at the spectacle of the Republican party trying to pass a tariff bill for the protection of American industry; and the spirit which he fairly writhes when he thinks that McKinley, William McKinley, the man for whom he wrote so many gold-monometallic articles a year ago, has hesitated to strike down the greenbacks and has actually had the effrontery to send a commission to Europe in the interest of international bimetallicism. Help silver! Laurence would sooner aid Old Nick himself. "To the battle with all bimetallicists" would be his cry, if he had the power; the very mischief will be to pay if we don't soon kill them off.

But let us dip into the professor's own rhetoric. It is offered as his belief that "a moderate tariff bill, so adjusted as to provide speedy revenues followed by a speedy adjournment of congress would, no doubt, have given the country—even though suspicious of the monetary situation—great encouragement to undertake important enterprises. Instead of this what was the country given? A tariff of exaggeration, a tariff of scandals, a tariff of barbarisms, a tariff whose extreme provisions have been so thoroughly advertised throughout the length and breadth of the land that counter agitation for a reform of customs duties is seen to be quite inevitable a part of the future." If it were worth while, one might pause to ask Professor Laughlin to what sentiment among the people he ascribes the nomination at St. Louis of Major McKinley—whether to a popular preference for the "revenue only" style of tariff. But it is not worth while. Such deference as he has to the cause of free trade is too touching to be disturbed.

We come now to the second item in the Chicago economist's bill of complaint—the indisposition of the Republican leaders to brand as false the innumerable declarations of the party in favor of international bimetallicism. "It may not be a pleasant thing to say," observes the professor, "but never before—at least in this generation—has there been such widespread loss of confidence in the honor and integrity of our public servants in congress. One almost hesitates to put into words the frequent admissions of thoughtful men that national legislation is today bargained for, if not actually bought and sold. So far has suspicion gone, that it is even hinted about, as matter of common report, that while the president himself may not have made election promises, yet his agents have engaged for him, in the form of a tariff bill, to allow numerous interests to recoup themselves from the country for advances made to secure the nomination and election of their candidate. The audacity, the unblinking 'grab,' displayed in Washington gives color to such reports; else why should such legislation be given its strange prominence over monetary reform? And why should the president have allowed himself to open the special session of congress with a message in which there was not one word in regard to monetary legislation—the main question of the campaign? Why is it seemingly admitted in Washington that it is Utopian to talk of a bill retiring greenbacks?"

So intent is the Chicago writer upon aspersing our public officials that he overlooks two very reasonable and obvious answers to his questions. Monetary legislation was not the main question of the campaign; and talk of retiring the greenbacks is Utopian at present because there aren't votes enough in either branch of congress to do the retiring. Why should the

president run his head against a brick wall?

It is announced that the improvement of the common schools will be the principal theme of the National Educational association now in session at Milwaukee. It is the most important educational problem of the time. Give us good common schools and it won't make so much difference how the colleges are.

The latest from Cuba is to the effect that General Garcia, the most competent military leader among the insurgents, is preparing to gratify Weyler's alleged desire for a battle pitched in the open. Let us hope Cuba will score a Saratoga, if not a Yorktown.

The ambition of the new Librarian of congress is to make Uncle Sam's book collection the finest in the world and to attract valuable donations and benefactors from private sources. John Russell Young is the man to realize this aim.

One peculiar feature of the soft coal strike is that many of the operators welcome it, since it spares them the necessity of operating at a loss. When such is the condition what prospect can the strikers see for success?

It is a peculiar fact that the class which wanted a few years ago to tax incomes so as to hit the rich now object most strenuously to the proposed tax on stocks and bonds. Why this change of tune?

From the Fourth of July returns throughout the country it appears that for once the weather clerk did vastly more execution than the firecracker man.

Gossip at the Capital

Special Correspondence of the Tribune.

Washington, July 6. While, with possibly one or two exceptions, every member of the present delegation in congress from Pennsylvania will be before his normal condition, but the chances are that there will be a good many new faces in the next house from that state. Beginning with the two representatives-at-large there is a possibility of both Mr. Grow and Mr. Davenport being left at home. The former was first chosen a member-at-large at a special election held on February 29, 1894, to fill a vacancy caused by the death of General William Lutz by the then unheeded majority of 188,294, over his Democratic opponent, James Denton Hancock. At the following general election in November, 1894, he was re-elected by the tremendous majority over all of 246,862. Two years later Mr. Davenport was elected to the enormous size of 277,446. As for Mr. Davenport, the other member-at-large, if he is re-nominated it is believed by some that it will not be without considerable opposition.

General Bingham, of the First district, who is serving his ninth term, will have no opposition for renomination, and with 20,000 natural Republican majority back of him, he will likely serve in congress as long as he desires. The First district could have no better representative than General Bingham. It is said that Mr. Adams, of the Second district, will have a rival for the nomination next year. His opponent may be Major John M. Carson, the well known Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger. Mr. Carson is a resident of the Second district, and has many warm and influential friends in Philadelphia who would be highly pleased to see him in congress. He is a man of fine physique and goes without saying that Mr. McAleer will have opposition in his own as well as in the Republican party, with the chances more against him for the nomination than election. It is understood that Mr. Young, of the Fourth district, will have to defeat his predecessor, and then only expects to return to congress. Mr. Young has made an excellent representative so far and will improve with age. Mr. Harmer, of the Fifth district, will be willing to quit congress for the gubernatorial office.

Ex-Congressman Jack Robinson will, in all probability, oppose Mr. Butler in the Sixth district. Mr. Wanger, of the Seventh district, who is serving his third term, may have a strong competitor for an ambitious Bucks county statesman. In all probability Mr. Kirkpatrick will be renominated by his party in the Eighth district, but not the Democratic party against his re-election as that district is naturally Democratic, and only defeated last year by 229 votes, which was due to a fairly low and unpopular majority of his opponent, Mr. Ernestout, of the Ninth district, will likely succeed himself, as Berks county, under the two term rule, is entitled to the Democratic nomination next year. Mr. Brostus, so far as known, will have no opposition in the Tenth district.

Mr. Williams, of the Twelfth, will likely have a smooth road to a renomination, as his district is now a solidly Republican one, there will be no trouble about his re-election. If Mr. Brumm, of the Thirteenth, can capture a renomination he has to row and in congress. His name is James B. Reilly, the present marshal of the eastern district. He is the only man who has ever been able to defeat Mr. Brumm, and then only occasionally. As this is his first term Mr. Olmsted, of the Fourteenth district, will no doubt be renominated, and with over 20,000 Republican majority back of him his re-election is reasonably certain. Mr. Codding, of the Fifteenth, may have to defeat State Senator Hardenbergh, of Wayne, if he wants to come back to congress. It is a good many years since Wayne county has had a member of congress, and if Mr. Hardenbergh is not nominated for auditor general next year he may cross swords with Mr. Codding for the congressional nomination. Hardenbergh is one of Senator Quay's closest friends in Northern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Packer, of the Sixteenth, will likely have a rough road to a renomination. It is very seldom that that district ever gives a member a second term. It did break the rule in the case of Representative Hopkins, who served in the Fifty-second and Fifty-third congresses. His successor, Mr. Leonard, was only given one term. It is a solid Republican district. Mr. Kulp is the first Republican to represent the Seventeenth district for many years. He is now serving his second term. The chances are that he will be re-elected. Mr. Ashton seems to have a firm grip on the Eighteenth district, and if he does not enter the gubernatorial race next year he will in all probability come back to congress without much trouble. Mr. Bruner, of the Nineteenth, will have to "lay low" ex-Congressman Beltzhoover if he wants a renomination, and it is doubtful if he can knock out the irrepressible litte ex-member from Cumberland. Mr. Hicks is probably serving his last term from the Twentieth district, and it was only with the aid of the state Republican committee that he pulled through. He is now serving his third term. His Republican opponent will likely be J. E. Throp, of Bedford. Mr. Robbins, of the Twenty-first, will have no trouble in being re-elected, if he can secure a renomination. The nomination, however, is more than likely to go to one of the other counties of the district—possibly Indiana.

Mr. Dalseil, of course, will have no opposition for renomination in the Twenty-second district. Mr. W. B. Rice, if he is not nominated for governor, will be his own successor for the Twenty-

second. From present indications Mr. Ashton will have considerable difficulty in capturing another nomination in the Twenty-fourth. Fayette county will have a candidate and so will that northern Allegheny county which is in his district. There will be a free-for-all fight for the nomination in the Twenty-fifth. Mr. Showalter, the present member from that district, will be a candidate, but he will be lucky if he succeeds in being renominated. Mr. Sturtevant, of the Twenty-sixth, will not be a walkover for another nomination. Crawford county will likely put up a candidate against him. Some say it will be State Senator Andrews. If Joe Sibley is not the Democratic candidate for governor he may again enter the congressional race in that district. Mr. C. W. Stone will have no trouble in coming back to congress from the Twenty-seventh if he decides not to enter the gubernatorial race. Mr. Arnold may not be a candidate for renomination in the Twenty-eighth if his gubernatorial boom, started a few weeks ago, shows as much life next summer as it does now. Then, the Republican nomination in that district next year means a hard fight at the general election.

THE LEGISLATURE OF 1897.

From the Philadelphia Press. The final adjournment of the legislature will bring a deep sense of relief throughout the state, and doubtless inside of the legislative hall as well as outside. The session has been long, ugly, wearisome and mostly barren. The legislature was slow in getting down to work, due in part to the senatorial fight and the destruction of the capitol. This dilatoriness at the beginning unduly prolonged the session; but during the last few weeks there has been much diligence, and, with all its faults, the work is rounded up in better shape than was promised some days ago.

The impression created through the state has been decidedly unfavorable—more favorable, probably, than a final review of the actual results and the previous comparisons would justify. Whatever there has been of wrong has been remedied by the session. The search lights have been turned on at every point with an electric glare that revealed every spot. All the peccadilloes and jobs that in former sessions have remained concealed because there was no Diogenes hunting with his lamp have this year been relentlessly uncovered. The factional fight growing out of the senatorial contest, and while both sides watching each other. Every art was tried to disguise the jobs, generally in vain, for as soon as a head popped up on one side there was somebody on the other ready to hit it. Some of the wrongs were killed, and some were not; but the continued vigilance kept up a continued glow of colored and white, and while the results of the warfare were various the effects of the impression were continuous.

Thus the factional division, while it engendered strife and scandal, exposed wrongs and did good. Sometimes the result of the warfare was confusion—no leadership, no harmony of councils, a Donnybrook Fair with a shillelagh in every hand. Out of it came not much legislation, but the defeat of considerable bad legislation. The house was a law unto itself—wild, uncertain, capricious, with a good deal of good material running loose and wild. The "seventy-six" were often an effective brake on scaly schemes—not always. In the most of good impulses, and for the most part they loved the work of hunting snakes. They carry a good many rattles as trophies. Sometimes some of them get drawn into the holes themselves, and the state is far better off today for their organization, and it owes them a vote of thanks. Nor would it be fair to condemn the senate as a lump. There were good men among them who meant to do their duty, but it is a hard thing when the battalion in on the march not to keep the senate from no means as independent as the house, and did not keep in the traces and rear up in the air like the colts. It was docile, but in plodding along under the whip it had an eye to the main chance.

The record of the legislature is mixed. Under the leadership of the governor it settled the question of the new capitol in the wisest manner and averted a great opportunity of jobbery. There was an amount of economy in expenses because there were a great many nest-eggs of investigation. Most of them were added, and in the end, after a good deal of amusing scenery, the outcome was not as bad as it threatened to be ten days ago. The so-called "reform" bills were short-lived. Two of them, after being mutilated beyond recognition, were nominally defeated and indecently buried. The other two were left as mangled monuments of perverse pretence. The worst monstrosity of the session was the Becker three-fifths bill which would destroy the reform charter of Philadelphia. Many members of the senate voted against their own judgment, but under that complaisant spirit which goes along with the established leadership. But we confidently look to the governor to veto this bill and save the city from its ravishment.

Among the valuable and commendable acts secured are the Hamilton good roads bill, the forestry legislation and the libel law, which in future years will probably most distinctly benefit the session. The final and precise outcome of the vigorous and varying struggle over revenue and appropriations can better be judged when the results can be more accurately measured. The revenue bill involves a system of graded licenses, and it is believed that a sufficient income is now assured to meet the necessary demands, and the appropriations have yet to pass the scrutiny of the governor, and it is safe to say that they will be brought within the limits of the revenue, so that there will be no deficit. He will also have much other legislation to review, and when he gets through the summing up will be short of much of his territory.

TWO INKY WAYS.

There was a man who advertised But once—a single time. In spot obscure placed he his ad And paid for it a dime.

And just because it didn't bring Him customers by score, "All advertising is a fake" He said, or, rather, swore.

He seemed to think one hammer tap Would drive a nail clear in: That from a bit of ink he'd thread A weaver tents could spin.

If he this reasoning bright applied To advertising, he'd be right: Would claim one little bite would feed Ten men a century.

Some day, though, he will learn that to Make advertising pay He'll have to add ads to his ad, And advertise each day. E. G. Townsend, in the Sun.

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