the Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, JULY 30, 1897.

The chances are that the governor's veto message on the expense account of the legislature's jaunt to New York will have no warmer indorser than squeich the outrage in its incipiency but was voted down.

Civil Service Reform.

no removal from any position subject to competitive examination within the charges filed with the head of the decorrected the very evil which has nexation will be removed." heretofore tended to make hypocritical the entire civil service system. The previous absence or virtual neglect of such a rule has so facilitated evasions of the spirit of civil service reform as less contempt. A strict enforcement of the new order will not only lift from the shoulders of federal officials in responsible position a lead of pressure hitherto brought to bear by clamerers for office, thus giving them added time to devote to their more important duties, but it will also establish merit and merit alone as the determining factor in the equation of public service, and insure that public money paid in the form of salaries to emplayes in that service shall go to compensate actual and efficient work. The American people are ready to

subscribe most heartily to genuine civil service reform, but they would sooner a thousand times over have back the old-fashioned spoils system, naked and unadorned, than a mongrel humbug system which, while wearing the sically rank and foul. No man has the dollar of government money used to pay salaries in the government service should not hire precisely as capable and efficient work as the dollar of private money paid in a private shop, factory or store, and on precisely same conditions. But there are service reform should not be worn simply to hide the defects of the spoils duct the competitive tests of applicants for a civil service rating surrendered their functions to the department boss and blindly approved the ratings he chose.

The Republican party is pledged to stand by civil service reform, and that means the real thing. President Mc-Kinley, as a man of his word, is pledge, in which effort he will have the public's support. If from the whited sepulcher that Grover Cleveland left behind him as an earnest of his sincerity as a civil service reformer the screened stench and whitewashed foulness can be expelled and the place made fit for honorable abode, well and good, and great will be the eclat to the man and the party accomplishing the cleansing. Otherwise, the alternative will be to tear the whole thing open and let in the light.

In Governor Hastings' opinion the precedent which permits state legislators to spend public funds in useless pleasure trips is "more honored in the breach than in the observance." should say so.

Nothing to Stand On.

The Washington Star, which has prominently and intelligently championed the annexation of Hawaii, disposes most completely of the latest protest by Japan to the consummation of that proposed annexation.

"In protesting against a surrender of independence by the Hawaiian government, Japan," says the Star, "uses arguments which completely ignore the existence of that independence. Hawaii is a treaty power, recognized as such by the whole world, possessing all the rights which pertain to an independent government. Japan, while holding fast to alleged rights under her treaty with the Hawaiian government, protests to the United States against annexation in terms and on grounds which in effect deny any independent powers in Hawaii and obliterate that government entirely from the calculation. The Japanese theory seems to be that the Hawaiian government exists and must continue to exist, whether it wishes to live or not, in order to give irrevocable treaty rights to Japan,

"For instance, in the latest communication on the subject, Japan protests that in the event of annexation 'the application of United States customs laws to Hawaii would check the further development of Japanese trade.' But Hawaii without waiting for annexation could if she so desired adopt the customs laws of the United States and apply them to Japanese trade and all other trade without overstepping her power. Japan's protest against a that these laws are not to be changed whose skin is white. at all without the consent of Japan. That nation intends to alter her own customs laws in 1899 and to increase largely duties upon imports. She would view as a piece of impudence

that power's trade. What would be sauce for Japan is sauce for Hawaii. Japan further protests against the

extension of the naturalization and navigation laws of the United States ly unmindful of the fact that the shape those laws shall take is today a matter exclusively in the discretion of the Hawaiian government, and that intererence by Japan in such domestic legislation of Hawaii would be meddleome, impertinent and unwarrantable.

"The only reasonable suggestion made by Japan in her protest is to the effect that Hawaii, alleged to be liable to her in damages for personal injury, should not be permitted to go out of existence in a fashion to work an abatement of Japan's cause of action In the court of international arbitration. If Hawall is wrong in her construction of the treaty and laws involved Representative Coray, who tried to in the immigration controversy and has unjustifiably inflicted pecuniary damage upon Japan, she is not to be permitted to escape from indemnifying the injured party by hiding under the cloak In issuing an order to the effect that of Uncle Sam. But this petty dispute will doubtless be arbitrated and out of the way before the senate votes on classified civil service shall be made Hawaiian annexation at the next sesexcept for just cause and upon written sion. And when this liability, what ever it may be, something or nothing partment or other appointing officer, according to the view of the arbitrator, of which charge the accused must have has been assumed by the United States full notice with an opportunity to the last vestige of reasonable foundamake defense, President McKinley has tion for Japan's interference with an-

The trouble with Japan is that she is new in the business,

Will the Mugwumps who have been accusing President McKinley of reto bring the whole thing into more or creancy to civil service reform now have the manliness to apologize?

Justice Due the Negro.

The National Protective association f colored men, an organization aiming both to uplift the negro individually and to secure for him his lawful rights, has addressed to President McKinley a petition in which are set forth several seemingly just grievances. Passing over the subject of lynchings, from which the negro race in the south suffers incalculable injustice, but which are very largely beyond remedy from federal sources, and in prevention of which the association recommends personal education of the black man, punishment of the practitioners of lynch law, and indemnification of the families of victims of lynchings, the gaudy plumage of "reform" is intrin- petition proceeds to enumerate certain things which in its opinion the federal yet advanced a tenable reason why government can and ought to do, in order to give vitality to the last three amendments of the federal constitution and set the negro on an actual legal equality with the white. For example, the affranchisement of

the negro and his investiture with the full panoply of citizenship carried with ample reasons why the livery of civil it his legal qualification and privilege to testify in court and have such testimony duly considered; to serve as system carried to its worst phases in a juror, grand or petit, in state and the confidence that the average citi- federal courts; to vote in state and zen will not "catch on." No meaner federal elections and have his vote prostitution of a virtuous principle was counted as cast; and to hold office, ever practiced than when President elective and appointive. All these Cleveland first filled the unclassified rights and privileges were, as the petioffices full of favorite henchmen and tion sets forth, the absolutely necesthen threw over them the mantle of sary means for the negro's protection, an executive order; nor has duplicity in view of the prejudices existing scored a more contemptible triumph against his freedom and citizenship. than when examiners supposed to con- But the petition asserts that in effect, in many places, all of these rights privileges and immunities are denied, If the negro testifies in court, the jury is packed with whites and his race is weighed against him, no negroes being allowed to serve as jurors. This discrimination is in direct violation of an act of congress, but as the petitioners say to the president, neither United honestly trying to carry out that States grand juries, district judges nor marshals pay any attention whatever to the law on the subject. The president is urged to cause this law to be enforced, inasmuch as its non-enforcement opens the way to limitless confusion, ill-feeling and outrage.

Continuing the petitioners remark: "The violation of our rights and privieges as voters, in certain states and parts of states, especially South Carolina and Mississippi, and the almost total disfranchisement practiced against us, is well known to your excellency. and we have only to call your attention to the Republican party's platform declaration of 1896 on this subject to suggest to you that we confidently look to a Republican president and congress to enforce, by proper legislation, the intent and command of the fourteenth amendment; namely, either to see that all citizens of the United States, who are bona-fide citizens of the respective states, be allowed to vote and have their votes counted as cast, or immediately legislate to reduce such representation in congress. Mr. President, as the Republican party, with whom the negro has practically cast his fortunes, declares in favor of all citizens of the United States freely excreising the elective franchise, we take it that neither can your excellency nor the Republican congress take sides with such states that pretend, by an assumption of power, to require an educational and tax-paying qualification as a prerequisite to the voting privilege, especially when enforced against but one race, and when its only purpose of curtailing the negro vote is openly declared by those in authority in such states, even by their highest courts, as in Mississippl."

These demands-for though couched in the language of supplication they are really and rightfully imperativeare just, and the Republican party must heed them. It took the negro from slavery and gave him the papers of citizenship. Whether such action was performed with judicious care and deliberation or not is not now the point; it was performed and it cannot be canceled. Consequently the party which did this deed must accept the consequences. If there is strength in government or potency in the plea of acknowledged rights as an independent justice, the citizen whose skin is black must be sustained in his claim to the change in the Hawaiian customs laws actual possession and enjoyment of through annexation involves the claim rights nowhere denied to the citizen

The Hartford Courant calls for the addition of two words to the dictionary, "fathead" and "it" as a noun. A "fathead" is defined as a large pompous the suggestion of same other power person, who makes up by solemn stuthat she could not alter these laws, be- pidity for lack of intelligence. An "it"

physically as not to be entitled to the personal pronoun. There was recently in the presidential chair a man who in the opinion of some persons-Dr. Dana, for example,-fits the definition to Hawaii through annexation, equal- of a "fathead." Where in public life is the "It"?

> possibilities of municipal government in the Canadian city would open many Yan-kee eyes, and then declares that the af-fairs of the municipality are "conducted with approximate honesty and reflect the est opinion of the people governed. our opinion "approximate honesty" is the kind of honesty prevalent among default-ing bank cashiers and others of similar lik. We are sorry to learn from The Tribune that such a questionable virtue reflects the best opinion of the Canadian

copic.-Buffalo News. We said "approximate" honesty because we had been taught to believe that the perfect citizen is a resident neither of Canada nor the United

namel and for painting on glass and

is being ground down to where he can bardly make his former 100 per cent. Progress Made

A brewers' trust is as rational as

As bearing directly upon the subject treated in an editorial on this page yes-terday, the following information ex-tracted from a Washington letter in the Providence Journal is timely and inter-esting: Our stendy progress towards the rank of a strong naval power is known of all men. Our ability to raise a prac-tically invincible army is denied by none. third fact, less notorious, is that we are rapidly making our scaboard cities invul-nerable. For several years the War de-partment has been at work upon a plan which contemplates the adequate de-fence of twenty-eight of the most im-portant cities on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The liberality of congress during he last two years in appropriating some 55,000,000 for coast fortifications has enbled the work of erecting coast deforces to proceed very rapidly. As re-zards the construction of emplacements for gun and mortar batteries, and the intallation of ordnance therein, the work much further advanced than is gen-

During the last year the War department has awarded contracts for the contruction of the defences for two-thirds of the places comprised in the system of coast defence, and at each of these work s now progressing steadily. Should con-cress continue to respond to our needs in this direction as liberally as it has in he past, it is safe to assume that five cars hence our scaboard will be fairly safe from successful attack from any naval force that can be martialled

The scheme of defence may be roughly divided into two classifications. One applies to such ports as San Francisco and New York, where the channel is so wide that it is impracticable to blockade it with torpedoes and submarine mines. The other has to do with ports to which the approaches are narrow and where the channel can be effectually blockaded by explosives strategically distributed, In the former case reliance for repelling attack must be placed chiefly upon guns of the highest power and efficiency. In the latter the fertifications on shore are supported by submerged torpedoes and

The great guns that are being provided for coast defence purposes are among the most powerful engines of de-struction ever devised by man. Most fornidable among them is the mighty pneumatic dynamite gun, which hurls its hiss-ing projectile three miles through the air with such force that the most heavily armored battleship afloat, if fairly struck, would be shattered like an egg shell. These guns are brought into service only, however, where the port must rely for its protection solely upon land de-fences. Three of these dynamite gurs are already installed, two at San Francisco and one at New York,

A very good idea of the system of coast defence which is being carried out in the case of all our seaboard cities may be obtained from a description of the defences of Washington, which are further advanced than those of any other of our leading cities. The capital is even now afer from successful sea attack than any of the others, and within the brief space of two months will be in a position to hold at bay the most formidable fleet that could ascend the Potomac river. Work is progressing rapidly, not be-cause any immediate danger is feared, but because the government of the progression of but because the guns and emplacements being ready, the authorities believe that the work of completing the defence might as well be carried along with dis-patch. On the Fort Washington side of the river three great 19-inch guns are low installed, ready for action, while emements for the remaining suns of battery on that side of the river are early ready for the guns, two of which will be in position before the warm sea-con closes. This will form the main bat-ery on the Maryland shore, from which o fire would be directed on any foe at-upting to pass up the river to attack capital. Just beneath this powerful battery is a mining casement protecting the delicate electrical apparatus to con-trol the mines and torpedoes that are in diness for planting on a few hours' notice. This empiacement is masked, and its locality known to few but the miliary authorities. Across from Fort Washington, and one mile further down the stream, work is going on at Fort Sherian, where three guns are to be mounted Emplacements are being constructed by a Baltimore firm under contract to finish them early next year, by which time the neavy guns for installation there will be delivered by the Watervielt Argenal.

These two mammoth defences would give a good account of any attacking fleet, and even should a few vessels suc-cessfully run the dreadful gauntlet of guns and torpedoes, they would be power-less to proceed within striking distance of Alexandria and Washington unless they drew less than twenty feet of water. which is the extreme depth of the chan-nel from just north of the forts to the city docks. This shallowness of the river is of itself a safeguard to the capital from naval attack, and as there is com-paratively little commerce here, or demand for a deeper channel, congress is not expected to grant authority to in-crease its depth and thus place the Capitol and the White House in further dan-ger of bombardment from the piers off Alexandria, if once the forts were sub-dued. Major Shaler, the chief assistant to the ordinance head of the army, is an officer who does not question the capacity of Washington's defences adequately to protect the city, no matter how numerous or powerful the fleet that may be sent against them.

The new century will be but a few The new century will be but a few years old when our whole long seaboard will, it is believed, be almost as impregnable from sea attack as Washington is now. On the coast of the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico, every important city will have its system of powerful defences. At Portland and Mobile, at Boston, Newport, Providence, New York, Norfolk, Charleston and on to Galveston, and at San Francisco and Puget Sound on the shores of the Pacific, garrisons will stand ready night and day for instant service, with forces of destruction at their command which will shake the resolution of the mightlest powers of the sea, no matter how great their squage of a resulting interference with is a person so feeble intellectually and account nor how just their cause.

THE GOVERNOR'S REASONS.

In Tuesday's Tribune appeared an in-terview with City Solicitor Torrey, in which he expressed surprise that Gov-ernor Hastings had veteed the Spear municipal act without making his objec-tions known to the state committee of city is the "it"?

The recent American Epworth league convention in Toronto has collisted the Scranton Tribune. It says that the possibilities of municipal government in the Canadian city would open many Yankee eyes, and then declares that the affairs of the municipality are "conducted in reference to the bill."

in reference to the bill:

"It is very voluminous and contains many provisions that would improve the existing laws relating to cities of the third class and it is with regret that by reason of several of its provisions, which seem to me objectionable, I am constrained to withhold my approval." Continuing, separate sections are taken up seriatim and the governor points out therein a reason for his action. In section therein a reason for his action. In section 8, "which gives power to cities of the third class to construct, own, maintain and operate electrical subways, either in whole or part, from the general revenues of the city, etc.," there is included a clause which every late rower to fee Our curiosity is gratified. Zaffer, writes a correspondent, is "a blue pigment made by roasting cobalt ore with silica. It is used for making spannel and for particle of the collection of the clause, the granula and for particle of the collection of the clause, the granula and for particle of the clause, the governor "reasonable or particle of the clause, the governor "reasonable or particle of the clause, the governor "reasonable or particle or lause which gives the city power to regovernor "regards as an unfair and un-reasonable exercise of power."

Clause 9, section 8, deals with "the power to purchase water works and borrow money and issue bonds, if necessary, to pay the cost thereof." The menace in this clause is being ground down to where he can hardly make his former 100 per cent.

money and issue bonds, if necessary, to pay the cost thereof." The menace in this clause is its feature to state anything about the voting of the people for an increase of debt and, bestles, the clause seems to ignore the constitutional provision in regard to an increase of the debt

above 2 per cent, of the assessed valua-tion of a city's property.

The governor thinks that clause 13, of The governor thinks that clause 13, of section 2, which gives councils creative power in regard to "any office, board of officers, or department," is objectionable. It is not an improvement upon existing laws and the creative power should remain vested in an act of assembly.

Again, objection is filed to the amendment which causes an omission of the statutory limitation of six years, wherein in National Defense

statutory limitation of six years, wherein tatutory limitation of six years, wherein lewers are appointed in a case where property or materials" have been "en-ered upon, taken, or appropriated" for ertain improvements. If this is done in order that there may be no limit to the right of the appointment of viewers then he governor thinks it is objectionable

Where section 45 of the bill amends sec ion 39 of Article XV, of the act of 1889 in egard to the assessments upon properties or municipal improvements, by omitting he clause which provides for a means of redress by the assessed property owner, the governor fails to see a reason for it and regards the existing laws as a galutary provision.

A further amendment of section 39, of Article XV of the act of 1889 Hes in the provision made for a new method of asities of the third class an opportunity to collect assessments for improvements which have been made during a term of eight years previous to the passage of the new act. Upon this the governor is explicit and considers that the approval of this section would allow property to be assessed which belonged to be owners. be assesed which belonged to new owners who had no idea of such a possibility. Continuing further he says: "The evident urpose of this provision is to cure mis-ikes and correct the carelessness of pub-cofficials, but it ought not to be done at te expense of property owners, who had either voice nor power in making the approvements. There are a number of dnor provisions in the bill of an objec-onable character, but those already disussed furnish sufficient reason for withcolding my approval."

CHAPTER ONE OF M'KINLEY.

The period between the inauguration of President McKinley and his departure m Washington for a vacation after the chapter one of his administration's history. This is a distinct period of trial and rement, and it is worth while to see what the record is. Between the time when Major McKinley took hold and the time when he lots go temporarily for rest these things, among others, have hap

I. The tariff question has been removed from politics. The pledge of the party which nominated McKinley that it would give the country a squarely protective tariff as a settlement of the question, and thus give the country rest, has been hon stly redeemed.

II. The administration during these five nonths has organized for four years. president has met and sustained the tre mendous strain consequent upon the legit-imate competition for office. He has nade most of the principal appointments n a manner generally satisfactory t noted especially about this, he has pre served harmonious relations with the members of his party in both houses of ongress, and has made, perhaps, as few nemies outside as any president ever during the corresponding period. III. The administration has definitely ommitted itself to the American police f Hawaiian annexation, and is proceed ng vigorously and in good faith to re-move that question also from polities, IV. Mr. McKinley has succeeded in wining for his administration and for himself the respect and good will of a vast majority of his fellow citizens. His peronality attracts instead of repelling; and the very start, friendly and favoring con litions of public sentiment, hard to de ine precisely but likely to be of immense value all through his term.

Is there anything on the other side of the account? Yes, there are some things of minor importance, which it is neces sary to mention in any impartial exhibit:

I. He has shown some lack of delicacy
in the appointment of near relatives of is own to office, and in the repayment of surely personal obligations at the cost of e government's service.

II. To some extent he has manifested a disposition to follow the example of his edecessor in the misuse of public prot rty for private convenience or economy Fortunately, this has not gone far yet and perhaps it will go no further.

III. He has groped and wabbled on the question of currency reform, so called. From an initial error of judgment and a hasty, ill-considered atterance on the subect, he has proceeded with uncertain

tal rest and physical recuperation to the Hon. William McKinley, jr. On the whole, he has nobly carned his August vacation.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 2.28 a. m., for Friday, July 29, 1897.

(6) 800 A child born on this day will not worry er probabilities of an immediate water

The pride that man takes in the literary or musical accomplishments of his wife usually sinks to insignificance when compared to the internal satisfaction afforded by a well-cooked dinner, Wilkes-Barre has no citizen who has just returned from Klondike with a pock-etful of gold, but the ball club will be

ome in a few days. Mr. McKinley is evidently desirous of ascertaining whether or no the civil ser-vice reform is loaded. If the season lasts the Scranton base

place for the wind up. Ajacchus' Advice.

ball club will doubtless reach the usual

Do not wait for "times 'to 'pick up Hustle, and pick up something yourself.



SEASON

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