

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 indorsement than Representative Coray, who tried to squelch the outrage in his inactivity but was voted down.

Civil Service Reform.

In issuing an order to the effect that no removal from any position subject to competitive examination within the classified civil service, shall be made except for just cause and upon written charges filed with the head of the department or other appointing officer, of which charge the accused must have full notice with an opportunity to make defense, President McKinley has corrected the very evil which he has heretofore tended to make hypocritical the entire civil service system.

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 lumbung system which, while wearing the gaudy plume of "reform" is intrinsically rank and foul.

The Republican party is pledged to stand by civil service reform, and that means the real thing. President McKinley, as a man of his word, is honestly trying to carry out that pledge, in which effort he will have the public's support.

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."

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, while holding fast to alleged rights under her treaty with the Hawaiian Islands, 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 Hartford Courant calls for the addition of two words to the dictionary, "fathad" and "it" as a noun. A "fathad" is defined as a large pompous person, who makes up by solemn stupidity for lack of intelligence.

that power's trade. What would be done for Japan is sauce for Hawaii.

"Japan further protests against the extension of the naturalization and navigation laws of the United States to Hawaii through annexation, equally un mindful of the fact that the shape those laws shall take is today a matter exclusively in the discretion of the Hawaiian government, and that interference by Japan in such domestic legislation of Hawaii would be meddling, impertinent and unwarrantable."

The trouble with Japan is that she is now in the business.

Justice Due the Negro.

The National Protective association of 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 claims.

During the last year the War department has awarded contracts for the construction of the defenses for two-thirds of the places comprised in the system of coast defense, and at each of these points progress steadily.

The great guns that are being provided for coast defense purposes are among the most powerful engines of destruction ever devised by man.

These two mammoth defenses would give a good account of any attacking fleet, and even should a few vessels successfully run the terrific gauntlet of guns and torpedoes, they would be powerless 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 channel from just north of the forts to the city docks.

The new century will be but a few years old when our whole long seaboard will, it is believed, be almost as impenetrable from sea attack as Washington is now.

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THE GOVERNOR'S REASONS.

In Tuesday's Tribune appeared an interview with City Solicitor Torrey, in which he expressed surprise that Governor Hastings had vetoed the Spear municipal act without making his objections known to the state committees of city solicitors.

Class 2, section 8, deals with "the power to purchase water works and borrow money and issue bonds, if necessary, to pay the cost thereof."

Where section 45 of the bill amends section 20 of Article XV, of the act of 1889 in regard to the assessments upon properties for municipal improvements, by omitting the clause which provides for a means of redress by the assessed property owner.

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 honestly redeemed.

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CHAPTER ONE OF MCKINLEY.

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