

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, AUGUST 13, 1897. If the Cubans are trying to kill or capture Weyler they are making a mistake. He is rapidly winning their fight for their right where he is.

Farm Settlements.

We reprint elsewhere an instructive editorial from the Philadelphia Times, in which the distinguished editor of that paper, Colonel McClure, paraphrases the proverbial advice of Greeley into: "Go South, young man." Colonel McClure took that advice himself thirty-odd years ago and afterward was one of the first to learn that the war had ended. His statement of the case of the new South as an inviting home for the surplus urban labor of the North cannot be improved upon. It is true and it is timely, and the suggestion which he makes merits the thoughtful consideration of every thoughtful citizen.

It has been calculated that forty per cent. of the adult male inhabitants of our principal cities are either without employment or else are earning their livelihood surrounded by circumstances which, in any sensible view, should cause them to welcome the wider freedom of rural life. We do not know how accurate this estimate is; naturally in such a direction absolute accuracy is impossible. But it certainly is true that the city is inordinately overcrowded and that this overcrowding, by crushing down the weaker ones and stifling and stunting child life, is the one serious sociological problem of the hour.

The Popocrat may be defined these days as a calamity howler out of a job. A number of interesting figures appear in the latest government bulletin of statistics relating to immigration, and they gain in interest when we reflect that it is a Scantonian who is now supervising the enforcement of the immigration laws.

When the Republican orators promised dollar wheat if McKinley was elected some farmers thought they were joking. But dollar wheat is coming, and so are the other good things promised last fall. Nothing is so convincing as experience.

Mr. Reed on Reed.

A defense of Thomas B. Reed by Mr. Reed himself is the interesting feature of the Illustrated American of this week. Although the speaker's central theme is the Dingley tariff bill and his main purpose to state the reasons why he believes its enactment will prove advantageous to the country, he takes occasion, in passing, to answer his critics, who just now appear to be neither few nor quiet.

This salient and explicit explanation will not suffice to still factious criticism by those who consider it their duty to object to everything done by the leaders of the opposite party; but it will end the discussion so far as the mass of the people is concerned. We cannot dismiss this hasty note on the speaker's instructive paper without appending his epigrammatic crystallization of the protective doctrine. It is a truth to be enshrined in the memory. He says: "We have learned at least one lesson worth all the suffering, and that is that the great problem is not prices, but the employment of all our people. There is but one standard of real prosperity, and that is the whole nation at work."

We cannot see that it should in any wise affect the main question whether Chairman Sweeney of the Vice and Immorality committee of common council has or has not a personal motive for seeking the suppression of the pool rooms, gambling places and other unlawful resorts. The fact that the law says these places should be closed is ample warrant for closing them, and it is all the warrant

which those invested with authority in this city should require. On with the crusade, therefore, and let the band play.

Secretary Atherton, of the Board of Trade, is right, as usual, in his contention that if the United States government intends to build a plant for the manufacture of its armor plate, Scranton is the proper site. We have little expectation that such a plant will be built; but it will do no harm to have Scranton's advantages put on record in the navy department, for present edification no less than future reference.

Taking Time by the Forelock.

The publication of the complete text of Judge Jackson's temporary injunction restraining Eugene V. Debs and others from entering upon the property of the Monongah Coal and Coke company for the purpose of inducing the employees of the company to quit work, has caused a frank retraction of most of the criticisms which had been elicited by the earlier version of that injunction that had been widely published. Only one journal of repute that comes under our notice refuses to modify its first verdict of condemnation. The Springfield Republican contends that inasmuch as Judge Jackson's order was chiefly intended to enforce the common law against trespass it was not properly a duty of a federal judge sitting in equity, and therefore amounts to a pernicious misuse of the power of injunction.

This contention is ably disposed of by the Philadelphia Ledger which says: "The company, under primary law, might have ejected all trespassers from its property by force, after notice to the trespassers to withdraw, but this might have led to a collision which would have warranted the governor in calling out the military to restore order. It is infinitely better to appeal to the courts to define the right of assembly than to create a situation perilous to the public order. The supreme court of the United States declared in the Debs habeas corpus case, and with great force and aptness: 'Grant that any public nuisance may be forcibly abated, either at the instance of the authorities or by any individuals suffering private damages therefrom, the existence of this right of forcible abatement is not inconsistent with, nor does it destroy the right of appeal in an orderly way to the courts for a judicial determination and an exercise of their powers by a writ of injunction and otherwise to accomplish the same result.' Compared with the expulsion of trespassers from the company's property by the exercise of force with its incidental public peril, the issuance of an injunction in the West Virginia case was an orderly, prudent and humane method of settlement."

This view of the matter may not satisfy Mr. Debs, for he makes a living out of not being satisfied, but it satisfies common sense. It is a poor time to lock the stable door after the horse has been stolen.

Immigration.

The number of arrivals from all countries, during the last fiscal year was 230,522, a decrease as compared with the previous year of 112,435. The lightest immigration of any previous year was in 1895, when the number from all countries was 279,948. The year of heaviest immigration was the first of the period beginning with 1882, when arrivals numbered 788,892. During the entire period of federal supervision 7,322,016 have entered the United States, or an average per annum of almost 500,000.

In point of distribution the past year's immigration is noteworthy. Italy furnished the greatest number, 54,481, a decrease of 8,629 from the previous year. Since 1882 there has been a large and steady decrease in German immigration. In 1882 229,639 entered the United States from that country, while in 1896 only 22,533 arrived. It will be seen that the number of German immigrants during the first year of government supervision exceeded the immigration from all countries during the last year. Immigration from Austria-Hungary decreased from 55,163 in 1896 to 20,631 in 1897. The decrease from other countries is as follows: England, 19,492 in 1896 to 9,974 in 1897; Sweden, 21,127 to 12,144; Norway, 8,155 to 5,842. Even the Irish have ceased to find as much attraction in this country as in former years. Last year the number of Irish who came over was 40,262. This year the total drops to 28,421. A curious fact in regard to the immigration of the Irish is that the number of females largely exceeds the males. In 1896 there were 17,625 men and 22,637 women. This year there were 11,549 males and 16,872 females. This is so of all other nationalities. Last year the total number of males was 212,466; females, 130,801. This year the number of males was 125,107; females, 95,725.

If there is any class of immigrants for whom Americans feel almost sufficiently sorry to open the bars a trifle, it is made up of those who flee to this country to avoid persecution in their own. America is the refuge for the victims of foreign tyranny in an idea not yet eliminated from the American mind. It is interesting, therefore, to note that this year shows an increase, as compared with last, of nearly twelve per cent. in the immigration from Armenia; but a decrease of nearly 50 per

cent. from Cuba and a drop in the influx of Russian Jews from 45,137 to 22,750. But the lesson taught by these various figures is that with returning prosperity in the United States there will come a large and serious revival of immigration unless congress shall take action in time to avert it. We have ample welcome for all who can bring to this country qualities and attainments calculated to add to its welfare; but in common prudence the line must be drawn on all who cannot.

It is to be feared that the Georgia woman who in a lecture before the agricultural society of that state recommended "a thousand lynchings a week if necessary to protect woman's dearest possession from human beasts" has not grasped the fact that violence in requital for assaults has utterly failed to prevent other assaults. The human who is already bestial cannot be improved by being goaded until he becomes more bestial than before.

Those Democratic conventions in Pennsylvania which declare openly and above board for free riot and free silver are entitled to credit for exhibiting the courage of their convictions; and the advice of the party leaders and party organs who want the Democracy to gag itself on national issues and conduct a state campaign on false pretences merits the contempt it is receiving.

The Philadelphia Times is pretty good Democratic authority, and it may be worth while for its Scanton namesake to preserve for reference the Philadelphia Journal's admission that "bad as were the Republicans in the last legislature, the Democrats were no better."

Paraphrasing Shakespeare, now is the rainy season of Spain's discontent Cuba's glorious summer by the sword of Gomez. The end is drawing near.

Fortune Beckons Toward the South

There is reasonable prospect that labor will be much more generally employed during the coming fall than in the past. Within the last several years, but the fact remains that when our industrial channels shall have been manned up to the line of normal prosperity, there must be many scores of thousands without permanent employment and thereby unable to earn a comfortable livelihood for themselves and their families. What shall be done with this surplus labor? There is but one practical solution of the problem. The young men of this country have left the farms to enter the mills, shops and other skilled industries until all the industrial circles outside of the farms have been crowded to the limit. That even in the most prosperous times there cannot be employment for all. This leaves but one resource, and that is the farm. When a man acquires land at prices within his ability to pay for it by his labor, he and his family are absolutely free from want, and most of them not only can live well, but with care and economy can save something each year.

The great mistake of the industrial classes, especially during the last score of years, has been in seeking the West in which to settle. In the improved sections of the West, where the land is fertile, transportation, lands are much higher than they are in the great agricultural regions of the South, where there is the most genial climate and reasonably accessible markets for all the surplus products of the farm. There is a wide field in the South for all our surplus labor that is willing to go to the farm for independence and comfortable living, and many years ago we earnestly urged the tide of emigrants to turn from the West to the South as offering by far the best opportunities for prosperity. There are few of our people who know that Alabama is the richest state of the union. Its wealth far surpasses that of California or Colorado with all their gold and silver. It has as fine wheat and corn lands as can be found in Lancaster county, it has the richest cotton belt of the South; it has 5,000 square miles of virgin timber, and as many square miles of almost virgin coal; it has natural highways into the very heart of its wealth, and has as genial a climate as can be found on the continent. It is rapidly developing the resources of the forest and mines, and yet its lands are cheap; cheaper than in the West and vastly more productive.

Not alone in Alabama are these great advantages offered to our surplus labor. In Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia like opportunities are offered for the small farmer who needs little or no capital beyond honest industry to acquire a home and to live in plenty from his own labor. These advantages have been renounced in their desire to themselves by not presenting thoroughly and aggressively the great advantages they have to offer to those who are dependent upon their labor for their livelihood, and who often are sufferers from enforced idleness in the North. The southern states, with their cheap and fertile farms and their genial climate should draw a million of the surplus population of the North to enjoy their better lot and to give them the next year, and it can be done if they shall make intelligently organized and systematic efforts to accomplish it. There are some for the breadless in the south with less and better regulated labor than in any other section of the country today, and they are ready to receive a million of our surplus labor. It is a matter of time before a million of our surplus labor will be employed in the South, and thousands of sturdy men in the North who have been suffering for want of labor and bread.

WILD SOCIAL STATISTICS.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch. A specimen of reckless assertion, used to extend the socialist doctrines that some persons are preaching in connection with the miners' strike, was presented in one of the speeches at the meeting night before last. This was the statement that there are "two and a half million of babies" in the factories and five million men begging for a chance to slave." If that assertion were true it would show a deplorable state of affairs. It therefore pertains to inquire what foundation there is for it.

The United States census shows us that the proportion of children, both male and female, from 8 to 15, which is the age at which child labor is possible, is 28 per cent. of the total population, and shows that the rural population, of which there can be practically no child labor in the factories is 41,000,000. The urban population of 18,000,000 has therefore 5,000,000 children of the age when child labor is possible. The assertion consequently that there are "two and a half million" of babies in the factories and five million men begging for a chance to slave" is of similar quality. It is certain that none of these five millions are among the 18,000,000 engaged in agriculture, for that figure has been all summer begging for men to come and

work. Nor can this idle mass be among five millions engaged in professional, domestic or personal service. It therefore follows that the assertion is that of the 5,000,000 engaged in trade and transportation and manufacturing and mechanical industries in 1890, 5,000,000 or nearly 60 per cent., are now out of employment. The assertion is plainly the product of a wild imagination. Industrial statistics show that the largest number of men thrown out of employment at the period of greatest depression was 20 per cent., or a maximum of 1,600,000. The total number of persons employed in nearly 400 representative establishments of Pennsylvania was only 7 per cent. less than in 1892, or about half a million on the entire industrial total. At present it is a well-established fact that more men are employed than before the panic.

The justice and desirability of securing better wages for the miners is beyond dispute. But if the meetings in support of the movement are to be used for the preaching of socialistic doctrine, should not the statements made there be governed by a little respect for the facts?

IN DEFENSE OF NOISE.

From the Times-Herald. A well-known English medical man writing in a recent number of the Lancet indignantly takes up the defense of noise. Crying children, he says, should not be suppressed. Crying should be restrained within limits, but there can be no doubt that in generally physiological, not only favoring the proper expansion of the lungs and accelerating the circulation, but also the effects of pain and relieving nerve tension." He quotes a German scientist to prove that many diseases or after life may "take their origin in the practice of mothers to stop their infants from screaming by soothing them to sleep in their arms." Children should be allowed to chatter, sing and shout, as well as weep.

Nor does this doctor stop at children. He advises adults to laugh, shout and talk. He tells of the value to women of "a good cry." "The profuse flow of tears lessens blood pressure within the cranium; the voluminous discharge of nerve energy relieves nerve tension; the sobbing movements of respiration influence in a very decided and doubtless beneficial way the circulation, while the widespread contraction of the muscle system has probably also a good effect." Nay, he goes further and justifies swearing. "Shouting and gesticulation which accompany an outburst of passion act physiologically by relieving nerve tension; swearing may not be without its physiological justification; passionate outbursts are generally succeeded by a period of good behavior and, it may be, improved health. Shouting favors the development of the lungs and accelerates the circulation of blood and lymph."

He even contends that much "hollering" is conducive to longevity? We have no doubt of this. On no other theory can we account for the persistent presence of politicians and agitators. Mr. Bryan and Mr. Debs are the only survivors. Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan. They will talk away all their own life, whether they are able to cure the body politic or not. But is it possible to understand how the health of the individual citizen might improve at the expense of the community. It is better for a small-pox patient to be treated at home, but it is better for his family and his neighbors that he be removed to a distant point. A public man may live as long as his speeches—or longer—but what of the victims of his oratory? In this case we ought to consider the virtuous average. Some of us must be silent part of the time, and the amount of harm inflicted on the nerves through the ears is not offset by isolated cases of "noise cure."

This physician is leading his patients into a trap. They may feel better for "hollering," but they are running headlong into a violent death at the hands of the underminded. The constant effort of making too much noise in this world is that one passes before his time to the "silent majority."

RAILROADS OF THE WORLD.

From the Buffalo Express. The Railroad Gazette gives a very interesting summary of a compilation of facts and statistics regarding the railroads of the world made by the Archiv der Eisenbahnen, published by the Prussian ministry of public works. The German periodical is considered to have excellent facilities for obtaining the most reliable statistics upon the subject of railroads. In this case it gives a most latest presentation cover the year 1896 and show especially the changes which have taken place since 1891. The extent to which railroads have grown in the year 1896 and the relative gains made by the great sub-divisions of the world are shown in the following table:

Table with 2 columns: Miles, 1896, 1891. Rows: Europe (156,284 to 141,662), Asia (26,499 to 24,222), Africa (8,119 to 6,232), America (229,722 to 212,774), Australia (18,883 to 12,722). Total: 453,553 to 350,143.

The world's railroads in 1896 reached the length of 483,954 miles—more than seventeen times the length of the equator, and in the four years since 1891 they had grown nearly one-tenth, by the length of 38,810 miles. But this has been a period notable for decline in the construction in this country, which, in the period under consideration built only 11,110 miles. The percentage of increase in Europe was greater than in America, which as not happened before in a long time. America, however, has more miles of railroad than all the rest of the world together.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Anacbus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrologic Cast: 11:15 a. m., for Friday, August 13, 1897.

A child born on this day will notice that the editorial silver cargo of the Scranton Times is lighter than aluminum lately. The Gunn family of Susquehanna county will hold a reunion in September. Unless the Gums are too heavily loaded, it will doubtless be a pleasant affair.

George Washington never told a lie. But then George never had to sell sewing machines "on easy terms" or write special articles for a living.

Burgess Durgan is now losing sleep for fear that some one will tamper with the nickel-in-the-slot nominating machine.

Breakfast Chat. I hear that the highest pain is from nature. Yes. He pains so far from it that no one would ever recognize the subject.

A SUMMER DESIRE.

There are some who look forward to riches and fame. As they turn to a day-dream's delight; Each longs for a hand that will ring with his name. As men tell how he scaled fortune's height. A few wistful eyes see a homestead and rest. With ambition no longer alert, But I sigh for that season, luxurious and best. When a man may wear starch in his shirt. The negligee garment serves but to remind. How useless our slight efforts are. To avoid all the woes that beset human-kind. When Sirius threatens afar. So, sing of your violets and daisies who. My muse shall her powers exert. For the days when the frost comes to whiten the hill. When a man may wear starch in his shirt. —Washington Star.

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