

The Scranton Tribune

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Mr. Horn appears to be both horns of the Democratic dilemma.

Rich and Poor.

The chief of the federal bureau of statistics, Carroll D. Wright, contributes to the August Atlantic an instructive paper in answer to the question, Are the rich growing richer and the poor poorer? In 1870, he points out, 32.43 per cent. of the population of the United States were wage-earners; in 1880, 34.67 per cent. and in 1890, 36.31 per cent.

But an even harder ran to the economic calamity howlers is administered by Judge Willey, of Orange, N. J., in a recent demonstration that the so-called colossal fortunes of our time—the holdings of such men and families as Rockefeller, the Astors and the Vanderbilts—bear decidedly a smaller ratio to the total wealth of the country than was borne by the so-called big fortunes of fifty or a hundred years ago to the total wealth of the country at that time.

The Toronto Globe has planted itself at last on ground which Americans can respect. Speaking in reference to the Dingley bill and various hot-headed propositions by Canadians for retaliation the Globe, addressing Canadian readers, now says:

The Proper Idea.

We ought to have a distinct and permanent policy of our own, and it ought not to be shifted to meet the caprices of foreign legislators. That policy ought to be framed with the view neither of "baiting" our neighbors nor of endeavoring to obtain their good-will; but of preserving our own forest wealth, building up the Canadian industries of which forestry is the basis, and providing employment for Canadian labor.

This is as good a statement of the Protection doctrine as any American could want, and when it shall voice the policy of the neighbor to our north, there will be increased esteem for her on the southern side of her border. It is the belief of the administration now in power in the United States that its chief duty should be to conserve the welfare of the people who pay taxes for its support.

Take, for example, the case of tin plate. Prior to the enactment of the McKinley bill we imported all our tin plate from Wales. It would have suited Wales had we continued this arrangement, and it would have made friends for us there and in England had we done so.

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The apparatus was modern, and one or two of the corporations had separate mains laid by concerns that had gone out of existence, and thus were enabled to sell gas at the lowest rates possible. Their failure was as complete as that of the promoters of the twenty-two independent fuel gas plants, the reason of the withholding of patronage being the same in each case—the fuel gas had less than half the heating capacity of the illuminating gas, and therefore, it was necessary to burn twice the amount.

These consumers in these cities who would not take the fuel gas but who used the superior illuminating gas for fuel, would afford to ignore the difference in cost between coal and gas on account of the greater convenience of the latter. They constitute a small minority of the total population and really involve a very slight menace to the coal trade.

They say," says Rev. Russell H. Conwell, who has been to Cuba, "that we should advocate peace, but we can't advocate peace with the devil, and there can be peace only when justice prevails and equity is the law of the land. There can be no peace until Cuba is free and every man at liberty to worship God under his own vine and fig tree." Does any American dissent from this doctrine?

John L. Sullivan, the ex-pugilist, is an independent candidate for mayor of Boston on the platform that the police of that city should be made to do their duty. Mr. Sullivan can exhibit himself as an awful example of past police dereliction.

From a Republican standpoint we object to this cruel crusade against Mr. Harrity. The Philadelphian is one of Pennsylvania Republicanism's most efficient allies.

There is one thing the soft coal operators cannot do. They cannot get out an injunction forbidding the public to sympathize with the strikers.

The Harrisburg platform should plant itself squarely on the rock of candor and speak the party mind without fear or favor.

America's Growing Financial Power.

"Holland" in Philadelphia Press. Beneath the excitement and energy which are caused by the advancing wave of prices in the exchanges and which have been the stimulating influence in every mercantile house in this city and in every city of the United States there is a sentiment which daily increases in strength, and which becomes more and more a conviction rather than a hope.

The immediate indication of temperate financial independence in the majority is the certainty that, as far as Europe and Great Britain may, those nations will be unable to prevent the importation of gold into the United States in greater amounts and perhaps with greater swiftness than it was exported during the perilous years of Mr. Cleveland's administration. Some estimate the amount which must come to be as great as \$100,000,000.

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our growth and resources, inconsiderable. Many of our people have fallen greatly, thus indicating a vast increase of capital. The rate is almost as low as that which prevails in Great Britain and the standard rate seems to have been fixed for the best grade of municipal and railway securities at 3 1/2 per cent. while capital such as in enormous quantities was obtained for the great changes in business buildings, which have been going on in New York, has been easily secured at 4 per cent. or a little less. It is hard to find any intelligent and experienced financier or practical manager of our railway systems who will not declare, with the ring of sincerity in his tones, that the dishonorable and extravagant methods of railway management which brought discredit and bankruptcy on so many systems have been ended. For the present, at least, it is believed that every important system in the United States is being managed in accordance with the most approved and economical business methods. Beside the actual capital of the United States has increased proportionately since 1870 more rapidly than the population. The other day the superintendent of the banking department of New York reported that in New York state alone the savings of the workmen and women had been converted into \$80,000,000 of available capital, and other reports and fairly accurate estimates show that nearly \$2,000,000,000 of capital, or almost double the amount reported in 1870, are at the service of the American people. This development is increasing many millions every year, so that today we have a vastly greater amount of capital representing the accumulated savings of the people than was the case in 1870.

There might be reported by way of illustrative argument, a number of important experiences tending to establish just reasons for the conviction that the United States is entering upon an era which will give it financial independence. Hundreds of millions of entirely new capital have been created since 1870. Mr. Edson said recently that the capital created by the development of electricity for lighting, a development which was largely due to the energy of American capitalists and scientists, was, according to the best estimate, about \$200,000,000, and it is probable that other capital created for the development of electric power for motive power is more. Much of this is clean American capital, developed here and maintained here, and it is not the kind of capital which is inquisitive and demoralizing as some of their earlier speculative and political methods were. However, nevertheless, without aid from England or Europe, it is an appreciable importance in comparison with that received from the United States created capital or with amounting to many hundred millions which do not exist in 1870.

These reports are the briefest and most general synopsis of conversations which have been had with business men and bankers here who have had great experience, and who are of conservative, perhaps of cautious, inclination. They are merely interested in the whirl of excitement that the stock exchange and the market are creating, and are not, as some operators, looking upon those scenes as preliminary evidences of more material prosperity than any stock exchange can give. They believe that the United States, as one of them expressed it, is just entering upon "seven fat years," meaning by that of course an era of great prosperity. They believe that in that time Europe will learn that the United States now possesses capital enough for all its purposes and that its currency will be absolutely safe. They believe that there will be vast investments of European capital here, but they will be permanent and that, in the end, they will have no controlling influence upon American financial conditions.

WHEELS OF 1898.

From the New York Sun. Views of bicycles of next year's model are numerous. In 1897 the price attracted the attention of the public, but in 1898 the money question will be subordinate. Cyclists look upon the \$100 bicycle as a goal. The standard price will be somewhat higher, between \$75 and \$100. Chainless wheels will surely be prominent next spring, promising to put the greasy chain wheels completely out of use. Tubing tires will be about the same as it is now. Gears of high, low and medium size will be on the market for choice, but during this season the liking for high gears has developed greatly, probably as the result of the greater strength which practice has brought to the average leg.

The radical genius, who is being heard from, asserts that the 1898 bicycle will be operated by either the arms or legs. This sounds more cranky than interesting. The wheel's most vulnerable point, its tire, is being studied and experimented with, with ardent desire for its improvement and with no little hope. It must be possible to put into rubber some element that would lessen its spilling on wet pavements, and it seems absurd that wheels destined to pass over jagged roads should be left so puncturable. A less puncturable tire, and it seems absurd that wheels will remain full indefinitely is greatly needed.

In spite of the promise of 1898, however, owners of ancient wheels need not worry. A good bicycle today will be good next year.

KEEP 'EM OUT.

From the Rochester Herald. No man can knowingly join a band of anarchists without being a criminal in purpose as a criminal in purpose is a criminal in fact in the eyes of the law. Our immigration act excludes paupers, contract laborers and criminals. Commissioner Woodford has a clear and authorized by competent legal opinion to class anarchists as criminals, and to exclude them as such from American territory.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 4:08 a. m., for Tuesday, August 24, 1897.

A child born on this day will observe favorable symptoms in Mr. Duggan's willingness to sponge his name off the Democratic slate. Some of our aspirants for office are evidently expected to prove a veritable "Horn Plenty" during the coming campaign.

Yukon News.

From the Klondike Gold Bug: A condensed milk festival will be held at Conroy's cabin Monday night. Baked milk, 63 a plate. All who have \$2 are welcome. The joke is on Ike Woodward. Ike picked up a pall of coal from Panther and threw it at Woodward so hard that it splashed his fire with the stuff but it would not burn. On examination it proved to be gold ore. Ike has pounded out \$12,000 from the pall full and still complains of feeling chilly.

News has been received at the sanatorium of the "Bug" that a certain raw-boned renegade over at Windy Loch is dissatisfied with our style of working the editorial claim, and has gone so far as to make threats against the editor. We have made a note of the matter, and will be glad to make a note of it in the future. We have obituaries written in advance that will just fit his case. Jason March, of Coyote Corners, no longer sits in the games of freeze-out at Slater's Pavilion. Jason held five aces one night and attempted to scoop the pot against Colonel Sam Bloodgood, who only held four. The fire company turned out in a body to his funeral and were both present at the funeral. Jason was buried the following which we cheerfully publish: The countenance of Jason March will never be placed among our great ones. For Jason went out with a lurch while watering his stock of aces.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

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We have sold hundreds no better this season at \$1.50.

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BOYLE & MUCKLOW 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. A Fit of the Blues. Our Summer Clothing is all cleaned up, except a few Blue Serge Suits. It will pay you to call and see them and Try One.

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FOOTE & SHEAR CO. HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER.

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