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A reciprocity arrangement with Canada, to be acceptable to Americans, must provide for a fair exchange of concessions. The markets of Canada, with only 5,000,000 buyers, are not worth to American business men one-half so much as the markets of the United States, with their 70,000,000 buyers, would be worth to the business interests of Canada. We are willing to trade, but the trade must be even.

Senator Platt's Defense.
Senator Platt's statement of the Greater New York fight, a very inadequate summary of which was published in yesterday's Tribune, makes interesting reading. As a defense of the Republican position in that important struggle it suffers, as against every man who approaches the matter judicially and without bias.

The Republican leaders met this morning to discuss the merits of the candidates. They found no fault with the candidate whom the Citizens' Union picked out as the expression of its wishes and ideas. They do not now deny that they then regarded him as precisely the sort of man he has turned out to be, a well-to-do, well-bred, well-educated man, a Republican, but willing at any time to wreck the Republican ship on the rocks of his own ambition. The Republican leaders do not now deny that they were then opposed to the candidacy of Seth Low; but they allowed their opposition to take no definite or irritable form. They simply insisted that the Republican party did have a just and inevitable relation to municipal affairs; that it did have the right to select its own officers and that it must exercise that right; that the views and wishes of its adherents were entitled to consideration, and that there ought to be a union between the Citizens' organization and the Republican party, but that it ought to be an honorable, friendly, equitable union, under the terms of which each should have a voice in choosing candidates and in deciding policies. This was the exact state of things up to the time when the Republican county committee adopted Commissioner Collins' resolution inviting all anti-Tammany organizations into a conference, in order that a day might be fixed when they should all hold their nominating conventions, so that ready conference and harmonious action might be assured. The Citizens' union refused to participate in this conference, frankly assigning as its reason the fact that it was committed to the "go-it-alone" policy. Can any honest man, in the face of that fact, charge the responsibility for disunion upon the Republican party? Does not every honest man know that if that Citizens' union had gone into the proposed conference, united action would have been inevitable? Is it not plain enough that the Republicans could not have broken up a conference which they themselves had organized?

Up to this point Senator Platt keeps calm; but beyond it he shows natural if not altogether polite temper, continuing:

If it be said that notwithstanding all this it was still the duty of the Republican convention to do anything to avoid the unpalatable calamity of the success of Tammany Hall and that it was the part of wisdom to overlook both the incidence of the Citizens' Union and the malice of the Republican factionists who were promoting and encouraging it, the answer is that there is one calamity worse than the success of the Democratic party in the city of New York and that is its success in the state and the nation. Mr. Low, as mayor of Brooklyn, had already defeated one Republican candidate for president. He did it by destroying the public organization not less than by his personal treachery to the candidate. He proposed to create here an absolute despotism, untrammelled by any constraint of party responsibility. None the less, as every one knows, the voters would have held the Republican party directly responsible for his every act. He organized a union which would have disrupted, and it would have gone into the next national campaign leading down with peculiar project, only to find the mayor whom its votes had elected, the author of its misfortunes, himself continuing, as he had some time before, to complete its ruin by the election of a Democratic president. No party should be false to its principles. The fact that Mr. Low was not the man for whom the Republican party could afford to be responsible was shown by his personal conduct, throughout the canvass. It was shown when, after saying that he would not allow himself to become the instrument of disruption, he made himself the leader in the crime of preventing a union. It was shown in his abuse of General Tracy, the man who gave him his first opportunities by generously retiring from the field several years ago and who, after the two nominations had been made, he refused, or his managers refused for him, even to consider the proposition of being jointly with the Republican candidate, and substituting some such man as Secretary Cornelius N. Bliss or ex-Mayor Frederick A. Schwarz, either one of whom could have been made the leader of a united, harmonious, and victorious host. The fact that he is the sort of man who is capable of this enormity is itself complete justification of the Republican party's refusal to have anything to do with him.

In conclusion the senator says: "The Republican defeat in New York city was a local defeat. It had its cause in local controversies. In the state, above the Harlem river, the Republican majorities were all that could be desired. The elections throughout the country proved that Republican principles had lost no art of the strong hold upon the people of which the victory of 1896 gave magnificent evidence. The Republican organization in New York, and in the city of New York, no less than in the country districts, is still powerful, earnest, and devoted. In the menace of another Bryanite campaign, factional controversies will soon be forgotten and Republicans will be Republicans again." But it is evident from Mr. Platt's letter that no quarter will be shown to the prime movers in the Low campaign who used the concealed president of Columbia as a pawn in a game to unhorse Platt. The redoubtable Thomas C. is a fighter of the knock-down and drag-out order. Either he or his foe must be whipped

to a finish. The outlook is for a warm time in Empire state politics, but in this issue at least the sympathies of all straight Republicans will be completely with Senator Platt.

While Jones is busy conciliating his factional antagonists Platt is busy throwing rhetorical vitriol at him. It will be interesting to note the relative efficacy of the two modes of treatment.

The President's Backbone.
The honorable Hannis Taylor, ex-minister to Spain, is credited in an interview, which he disavows, with saying many severe things about the American state department as at present conducted, among them the following:

"At one of the most critical periods in our history we are absolutely without a State department. At the head of our diplomatic affairs is a pitiable old man, so incapable, so recognizedly incapable, that even the most important of diplomatic matters are not so much as referred to him. The chief assistant to the secretary of state, the man upon whose shoulders rest all the weighty problems of our relations with other nations, is a man who knows nothing of our diplomatic history—a man whose executive ability would be overtaxed in the conduct of a cross roads country store; a man who cannot even write good English. Our diplomatic correspondence is a disgrace to us. Our recent letters have been as nearly like state documents as a six-year-old schoolboy's postcards and hangars are like Spencianian semaphores, and we feel the disgrace all the more keenly, it makes us blush all the more readily, when we realize that the Spaniards are just matters in the art of diplomacy and that the Spanish end of the correspondence is a model of the most nearly perfect description. Weak nations invariably develop the best diplomats. President McKinley is a jellyfish. He has no backbone. He possesses the dignity of office, and that is all. He is weak, vacillating, uncertain. He is one thing today and another thing tomorrow. If we wait for the administration to act in the Cuban matter we will wait forever. Our hope lies with congress and with congress alone."

Having repudiated this interview Mr. Taylor escapes such censure as would properly follow an utterance like the foregoing by a man who had until recently been in the diplomatic service of this country. But that any American, even an unprincipled newspaper reporter, should have incentive to publish such words concerning our government is to be regretted, if only on the score of national depravity. Whether true or false, the assertions embodied in this quotation should never have been made. American diplomacy has been much burdened to bear of its own creation without adding to its embarrassment by the use of insulting language from a home source.

As a matter of truth, President McKinley has shown backbone of unexpected proportions. In the Cuban matter he has withstood and apparently still withstands the preponderating sentiment of the country which demands more aggressive sympathy for the righteous cause of the insurgents and less coddling to disreputable Spain. A position which most Americans regard with scant tolerance he has held with consistent firmness in the face of great pressure; and if in the end his course shall be crowned by acceptable results the credit due to him will be of the utmost magnitude.

The receipts of the Yale Athletic association last year were near \$50,000. What Yale's young men received in mind culture has not been computed, but evidently it is of minor interest.

The Kindergarten Movement.
During the last session of our state legislature a kindergarten bill was introduced by Senator Vaughan, and, largely through the efforts of the Free Kindergarten association here and in Pittsburgh its passage was secured. Its provisions local school boards were empowered to appropriate public money from the general fund for educational purposes, for the establishment of kindergartens in connection with public schools; also, where practicable, to cooperate with regularly organized Free Kindergarten associations with the same end in view.

Of the value of the kindergarten as a philanthropic measure specially needed among the foreign population of this valley the public needs not to be convinced, for it has been seen to bring with it truly a new heaven, destined, under right conditions, to lighten the whole lump of society with its teachings of brotherly love, co-operation, law and order by actual practice each day in the kindergarten. Its place as the fundamental step in education has been conceded during the past few years by all enlightened people, and city after city all over the United States has demonstrated its faith in it by the adoption of it as a regular part of the public school system. In our own state Philadelphia has one hundred public kindergartens, Pittsburgh and Allegheny twenty, Scranton none! True, we have recently built and equipped at great expense a beautiful High school building, the necessary outlay in this case being as sufficient reason for delay in establishing public kindergartens. But can we, as an intelligent people, afford to put up buildings so magnificent for the older scholars who are in reality a small percentage of the school population, absorbing at the same time so large a proportion of the very best teaching force and so large a part of the school funds, and neglect the kindergarten which should reach every little child in the city at the very age when his mind is in the most plastic state and when his future is being made or marred?

The Free Kindergarten association of Scranton has asked the privilege of co-operation with the board of control, and with the grant of the use of one of its rooms in any of its school buildings, agrees to carry on a kindergarten, that the value of it as a moral and intellectual force may be demonstrated and a beginning be made. Is it the sentiment of the community that this request be granted?

It is reported that President McKinley will recommend in his message to congress that the greenbacks when redeemed shall only be released in exchange for gold. That would instantly cut the "endless chain" and save all concerned an infinitude of bother.

General Gomez has officially informed President McKinley that the Cuban insurgents want unconditional liberty or nothing. Spain is evidently edging up to the inevitable.

The least worried man of all those directly interested in the Ohio senatorial fight is Mark Hanna. He has met his buffers before.

Electoral Defects.
In the course of an article in the Forum pointing out what he conceives to be serious defects in the present system of electing a president and vice-president ex-Secretary Carlisle is particularly severe in criticizing the method in vogue of choosing presidential electors. Under the constitution the manner of the choice of electors is a matter exclusively for determination by the legislatures of the several states.

There is no check, therefore, upon the wildest divergence in the manner which might be employed by the different states in making this choice.

For example the legislature of Ohio is free at any time to make Ohio's presidential electors appointive by the governor. The legislature of Pennsylvania might with equal impunity place the choosing of the Pennsylvania electors in the power of the senior United States senator from this state. And the legislature of New York could at the same time require the Empire state electors to be chosen by congressional districts save the two electors-at-large, who in such an event would have to be elected as we now elect congressmen-at-large, by a popular vote of the entire state. Carrying the point further, the Indiana legislature could meet in special session to choose Indiana's electors by a majority vote on joint ballot, and Illinois could adopt the method now in general vogue, of a direct election of all the state's electors by popular vote—in other words, in five adjoining states there could be five ways, no two alike, of choosing the men whose votes in the electoral college would determine the succession to the presidency and vice-presidency. And if in Ohio the governor should be a Democrat while the majority of the popular vote was Republican; or if in Pennsylvania the senior United States senator should become a Republican; or if the legislature of Indiana on joint ballot, thanks to a gerrymander, should not differ widely in politics from the majority of the popular vote, the possibility of electing as president and vice-president of the United States men unacceptable to a large majority of the qualified voters would, under the contingency we have imagined, become even larger than now.

Of course these discrepancies have never existed at one time, except in the case of one or two states which have at different times tried the experiment of electing presidential electors by congressional districts. But there is no fundamental law to prevent their existing at any time, insuring inconceivable confusion in the election of a president. We have uniformity now only by common consent. But is the present plan the best plan? Would it not be better if all the states by simultaneous legislative enactment should substitute for the present method of direct vote on state ballots the choice of presidential electors by congressional districts? Then the party which carried congressional would also elect a president of the same political faith and the executive and legislative branches would be certain to be in accord during at least the first half of each administration. It is a proposition worthy at least of academic consideration.

It is reported that the new American consul to Cardiff, D. T. Phillips, has been getting into disfavor at his post of duty by indiscreet talking. If this be true, more's the pity that the appointment did not go to a discreet and thoroughly worthy man like Hon. John T. Williams.

Blanco, it seems, is willing that the Cubans shall carry weapons if they will first obtain his permission. They will obtain that and much more ere spring.

TOLD BY THE STARS.
Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.
Astrologer cast: 1.45 a. m., for Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1897.

A child born on this day will notice that "his" been "robbed" of his money. He will find that greatness often strikes most rapidly than a half-one-down suit in a rain storm.

Charlie Schacht looks as lamb-like as a mutton. He is a man of great ability. When discussing politics, but certain Democrats will learn to their sorrow that a keen scalping-knife rests in his boot-heel just the same.

If it is true that every man exists in a world of his own, some fellows must live in cramped quarters.

The wind has departed from the tire of the bicycle in the present season. The crop of election contests seems to have failed this year.

Ajacchus' Advice.
The man who is afraid of his shadow should invariably keep out of politics and church choirs.

THE CRAZE FOR ATHLETICS.
From the Syracuse Post.

The truth of the matter is that modern college athletics has become a craze. The large institutions like Yale, Harvard, Princeton and University of Pennsylvania spend small fortunes every year in developing athletes to the point of professional fitness for the different contests in which they engage. The average student who is not broad-chested, strong-limbed and in fine physical condition, and is, therefore, in all the best sense of physical training, is not the man who is selected for the foot ball eleven, or the seat in the "narrow" boat, or a position on the ball line. The men who are given the thorough training for these various team positions are the men who least of all need it. Call them "athletes" if you like. They are, in all the best sense of general advantage, should take no college men. The sport should be such that the weak as well as the strong can engage in it. The stimulus and excitement of the athletic field should be distributed through the entire student body and not be enjoyed by the select few who use the critical tests of the coach and the trainer as the fittest men for the various teams. Athletics in the larger university is, therefore, in danger of over-shadowing the real purpose of over-joying men go to college.

A SPLENDID REPORT.
Editor of The Tribune.
Sir—I wish to thank your paper for the splendid report it gave of the fourth anniversary of Dunbar's convulsion of Hepatophorus on Nov. 18, 1 am.
Respectfully yours,
J. S. Quick, chairman of committee.
Dunmore, Nov. 12.

Work Ahead for the Next Congress

From the Philadelphia Press.

Some of the members of congress who have reached Washington express the opinion that the coming session will be a short and unproductive one. It is difficult to see how they can reach that conclusion. It is true that the committee were appointed at the close of the extra session and that the majority of the way, which means a large saving in time. But there are many important questions to be considered, and however expedient the course may be, there is no prospect of preventing the usual waste of time in the senate by dreary speeches of the leading orators. It is written for incompetent senators by persons in their employ.

A number of important foreign questions will come up for early consideration. The resolution passed by the senate at the extra session, recognizing the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents, is now before the house committee on foreign affairs. The president will justify this subject in his message. Justice party in national convention declared that "the government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and order to Cuba, and that the island," Cuba is in a far worse condition now, with 100 persons dying daily of starvation, than it was when the national convention adopted that declaration. Spain's plea of autonomy has been rejected by Senator Giberger and the senate. The president's message has been a snare and a delusion. It is not probable that the house will be influenced by newspaper declarations of friendship on the part of the Spanish ministry. The country is not suing for Spain's friendship, but is asking for something like that. It is asking for protection to our own people and industries, and for something takes place to change the situation between now and the time that the treaty is ratified. The senate Cuban resolution will be passed by the house. But that will not involve war with Spain.

The treaty for the annexation of Hawaii is now before the senate. The majority of the Hawaiian planters have refused to give their consent to the sugar to anti-trust refineries although trust refineries, under a contract that expires on Jan. 1, are now receiving that sugar. This change will make the sugar trust a more bitter opponent of annexation than it has been while trying to force the planters to renew their contracts with the refineries. This will probably cause delay in the ratification of the treaty and may force the passage of a joint resolution, which will require a majority vote only to carry the treaty into effect. There will then be a struggle over the form of government for Hawaii.

At the last session a resolution was passed calling on the president for information as to whether or not Denmark intended to dispose of her islands in the West India Islands. It is understood that congress will be informed that Denmark intends to dispose of her islands in the West India Islands. It is understood that congress will be informed that Denmark intends to dispose of her islands in the West India Islands.

The currency question will occupy a good deal of time in the senate and perhaps in the house. The president, according to a newspaper report, will recommend creating a bureau in the treasury in which notes redeemed in gold will be held until paid out again in exchange for gold. This is a very important change that part of his report already printed, will make much more radical recommendations looking to the retirement of the greenbacks. These recommendations, in connection with the report of Wolcott bimetallic commission, will furnish enough material for speeches in the senate. Already the versatile senator from New Hampshire, Mr. Chandler, has introduced a bill to create a bureau in the treasury to control the next congress, and that Bryan will be elected in 1900, unless "something is done for silver."

The const defense question, the necessity of more men for the navy and more men for the army, the question of a man the new ships and the guns in the new forts, and the armor plate question in particular, will necessarily occupy considerable time. The adjustment of the Central Pacific railroad debt, and other important railroad legislation will meet with serious opposition. The immigration question, the bankruptcy bill and the measure to stop the deficit in the postoffice department by excluding from second class matter beyond the regular sample copies are all questions which will invite debate. In addition to all these the regular appropriation bills there will be the river and harbor bill, which comes up at the long sessions only. The pressure for renewing work on public lands, which work was largely stopped under the Cleveland administration, will be very difficult to restrain to legitimate limits. In that work the senatorially goes far beyond the safety line. If the senate had a rule to close debate on any question the session might close in May, but there is small probability of that under the present senate rules. As the Republicans are not in control of the senate they cannot direct its work or assume for it party responsibility.

WHEN I AM OLD.
Time, thou taskmaster, for each fair boon
Dost claim thy due, and claiming dost
Each young joy.
When thou hast reaped the yellow grain
Of noon,
When thou hast culled the bloom of
Each young joy.
When in the sky Ambition's sun is set,
And thou hast dimmed Hope's watching
Star; too soon
Hast swept with dusk desires and dreams,
Time, yet
Hold back one grace, one dear, enkindling
Power,
For that dense night and that unyielding
Hour
When I am old, Dimin'd or erased;
But, when 'thou dark, frowns dead, I stripped
Of bliss,
With frosty breath on Memory's glass
Conspire,
But this—away—O Time, but this—
The prayerful image of a mother's face.
—Boston Transcript.

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Very Fine Half Bleached Table Damask, 2 yards wide, 50 cents.
Fine Bleached Irish Table Linen, 65 inches wide, 50 cents.
A special 68-inch Bleached Barnsley Damask, 75 cents.
Bleached 3-4 size Napkins, special lots at 90 cents, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 upwards
Fringed Linen Damask Sets, Table Cloth and Napkins, all sizes, from \$2.50 upwards
Hemmed Huck Towels, 10 cents, 12 1/2 cents and 15 cents
Special German Damask Towels, all linen, fancy borders, size 25x52, elsewhere 35 cents; our price 25 cents;

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11-4 Arcadia Blankets ..... \$1.35

Mixed Blankets.

- Borders—Red, Blue, Pink and Lemon.
10-4 Kingston Blankets ..... \$1.75
10-4 Oxford Blankets ..... 1.58
10-4 Welland Blankets ..... 2.25
11-4 Oxford Blankets ..... 2.45
11-4 Welland Blankets ..... 2.75

All-Wool Blankets.

- (Also Crib and Cradle sizes)—Borders—Blue, Pink, Brown, Red and Lemon.
10-4 Tigon Blanket ..... \$3.25
10-4 Hero Blanket ..... 4.00
10-4 Housekeepers' Choice Blanket, 5.50
11-4 Onkiana Blanket ..... 9.85
11-4 Norwood Blanket ..... 5.25
11-4 Nuska Blanket ..... 5.00
12-4 Housekeepers' Choice Blanket, 6.09
12-4 Gold Medal Blanket ..... 6.75
13-4 Gold Medal Blanket ..... 7.50

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