The Scranton Tribune 1887 was taking place, the increase in

ANTERED AS THE POSTOPPION AT COMASTRUE PAL AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCHANTON, DECEMBER 18, 1897.

An early state convention would suit all concerned, especially as there may be need or some little interval aftercards for harmonizing and cooling off.

An interesting Contest.

Those who read in yesterday's Tribune the very interesting report of the Interstate Commerce commission or who buye in other ways followed the course of the struggle between this commission and the courts over the question of its right to exercise the prover intended to be put in its hands ley the framers of the act on which is resets, do not need to be inid that the time time involved is of the unrost importance to every American citizen. Stripped of all false vestments it presents for public consideration and action the question, "Shall the railroads or the people be supreme in this coun-

The rallreads have suffeced much majort condemnation and it is no more than fair to cay that their managers have to a large extent been forced intothe settings of opposition which they or maintain roward an enforcement all the letters of the interstate comthere art. Regarded by shippers, here is, politicians and others as law ful turgets for all kinds of attack and guellation, they have been compelled in no of the interests entrusted to to very buy been so emisculated by reteressive court decisions, not a few of which have seggested hidden influcore that teday, but for the Supremeenem's antispeoling decision; the rathroads would hold every point in the game and the public would be euchered. Four decision stunned them by its unexpectedness, but they some railled and nce now making the floresst drive of the generation upon congress for an act to legalize peeling without limita-The vailconds have the benefit of a

compact organization, skilled agents and unlimited ammunition and they will carry their point unless the people shall bestir themselves. They do not want to do away with the interstate commuter commission; so long as they can keep it in a condition of powerbissposs it serves as a convenient butfer against Populistic discontent. But they are evidently determined that the commission shall be reduced to the proportions of a mere ornament, and if the public shall by indifference permit this object to be accomplished they need not complain if the railroads. shall hereafter celebrate their triumph by tightening the thumbserews.

Carl Schurz at the cost of the possible les of the Cleveland extension disruption of the Republican parts ?

Some Striking Statistics.

A recent letter from Baltimore to the New York Sun contained facts and figures of almost startling significance relating to the growth of the manufacturing industry in the South. For

"In 1880 the South had 180 cotton mills, with a capital of \$21,900,000, These mills had 667,000 spindles and increased, according to the census report, to 254 mills with \$61,100,000 capital, 1,712,000 spindles and 39,000 fooms, Since 1890 this business has more than doubled, and at present the South has about 490 mills, representing an investment of nearly \$125,000,000, and having 4.100,000 spindles and 115,000 looms. That there is no danger of overdoing the cotton manufacturing business of the South may be seen from the fact that there are in the world about 85,vast industry the United States have a little more than one-afth in capital only about one-fifth of the total number of spindles, or 17,000,000, notwithstanding the fact that the South produces more than 60 per cent, of the world's cotton group

"For 160 years," the letter continues, "the South has been raising the cotto Europe, and permitting the manuinto the finished product. Of all the oppose it. vast wealth of material with which the South has been so abundantly blessed. there is no other element, not even or wealth creation for this section. The didate for governor, \$200,000,000 a year which the cotton crop brings to the South would be trebled If it could be manufactured at home. In the last twenty years the cocton fore they have reached the consumor is a prize worth contending for.

termination to capture that line. The service "reform" it takes a pull to get world's needs are growing. Increasing a place. wealth of the masses increases the remultements per capita of cotton goods. The extension of civilization into the finish for corton goods. Civilization's in cotton consumption. This increase must zo on congrantly, and the 9,000, and bale eros, must be exceeded before in the number of spindles in Southern lingly and in return soften some of that

mills from 667,000 in 1880 to 4,000,000 in the rest of the country was from 9,-980,000 to 15,000,000, the gain in the South being about 500 per cent, and in the whole country outside of the South about 30 per cent. In 1880 the South an one-fifteenth of the number of pindles in the country; now it has

enrly one-fourth of the number." These figures are significant; but they are not likely to be welcomed anyhere more heartify than in the North, The industrialization of the South means its salvation; its salvation means the country's amalgamation and that in turn means the unquestioned perpetuity of popular government.

It is currently reported that Senator Quay is using his influence to prevent a Republican bolt in Philadelphia this spring. If this is true it is to his redit. It requires no special gift of prophery to foresee that the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninetyeight is going to be a tempestuous and and non-Christianization of her home a glosmy year for bolters.

The Civil Service.

Major Carson, the well-informed Weshington correspondent of the Philelelphia Ledger, telegraphs to his

The demand for modification of the regulations by which the civil service was extended by President Cleveland is so carnest and persistent on the part of Republican senators and representatives that it is expected President McKinley will be forced to revoke the orders is most during the last year of Mr. Cleveland's term by which the civil service was extended over nearly every office that was not included prior to the issuance of the orders in question. There is a well founded report to the effect that live Republican senators informed the president today that unless these orders were speedily revoked the Republican party would be thrown into a state of general demoralization, and that its ful-Republican senators and repres the process of the interests entrusted to the process of the radio of the section vocation of the orders under which chiefs of bureaus chief clerks private seeks fartes, the employes of the government printing office, bureau of engraving and printing office bureau of engraving and printing, skilled laborers, etc., was absolutely demanded in the interest of the Republican party, and that unless the revocation was made it would be fully to expect that the Republicans could maintain their domination in congress or be successful in the next presidential election. This course vs urged upon the president to save the Republicans from being confronted with a measure it congress to repeal or radically modify the being confronted with a measure in con-gress to repeal or radically modify inc law. What influence this demand of the Republican budges will have upon the president remains to be seen, but in the secret councils of the Republicans the belief prevails that he will yield to the demor, and strike from the classified service the several classes of officials and employes referred to.

How true this is we do not know, out it will take at least the revocation of the Cleveland blanker extension orders to reconcile the Republican majority in congress to the present civil service law, and maybe more. Those orders, it will be remembered, were issued by Mr. Cleveland just before he retired from office, and were for the express purpose of fastening in fat ettimes a lot of personal or party pets who has recently climbed in over the prestrate bodies of decapitated Repuls-Is it wholly to the credit of President | licans, many of them Union veterans, McKinley that his attitude as a civil against whose efficiency no syllable ervice reformer gains the praises of was whispered. Among the benchetarwere dozens, yes, hundreds of ex-Confesterates; and while if these men had won over Union veterans in free and fair competition on the basis of merit solely there would be no cause for complaint, the fact that the Union veterans were fired out bodily to make room for Hoke Smith's contingent of rebel brigadiers and other upheaved relies of the Lost Cause constitutes in intolerable ontrage. William McKinley may be able to stand it, but the Republican 11,000 booms. By 1890 the number had party cannot; and it can be set down as a settled fact that these 'hog' or-

ders will have to go. that matter out of the way, there may be an inclination among the conservative element in the party to let the civil service issue drop for the present. For some reasons this advice appears wise. It is an unfortunate truth that the Republican party stands so committed in its platform to civil sertice reform that the popular interpretation placed upon this plank would re-000,000 spindles, representing an invest- ceive a shock if the work of reforming ment of about \$2,000,000,000, and of this the sastalled "reform" ware prosecuted too vigoreasly. A better plan would be a enlighter public opinion as to the invested, or more than \$400,000,000, and evil requires of the civil service law as at present understood and enforced in the government service, and rely upon the public's sense of fair play to apply in due time the necessary remeav. In the meantime, there need be no hesitancy whatever in demanding of the president that he undo the wile ton, shipping it to New England and work of his predecessor. That is a demand so clearly and consplenously just tacturers to grow rich by turning it that to fair-minded man will care to

The Hon. Robert Emory - Patrison may be a candidate for governor next from, could to cotton in its possibilities | year, but he will not again be the can-

From July 1, 1890, to June 30, 1891, the civil service commission examined 212.-051 applicants, of whom 125,713 passed. crops of the South have sold for an 31,538 were appointed to places, eligaugregate of about \$6,500,000,000. Her jide lists during that time containing the names of 115,497 applicants. Durtheir value has increased to \$18,000, ing the year 1896-97, 24,063 persons free our or \$20,000,000,000. This enormous bassed the examinations, and 3,308 business, creating wealth wherever es- were given places, or about one of tablished, is the prize for which the every eight persons passing were so-Youth has now begun to contend." It provided. In 1895-96 about one of every four who passed were given places. In The letter continues: "Starting with- 1899-91 nearly half of those who passed out capital and without experience, the secured appointments, while in 1891-92 South has already practically monopo- one-third of the number passing were lized the coarse cotton trade, and is so provided for. Thus it appears that purbing into finer goods with the de- even under the sacred shield of civil

President McKinley has exhibited his habitual tact in designating the newsdark places of the world opens new paper correspondents at Washington as among the sets to be recognized by Insolvance is measured by the increase | vitations to formal social functions at the white house this winter. They, not ese than congressmen, Juriets and dipomatists, are controlling factors in the many years by crops of 10,000,000 and I problem of government, and as such then 11,000,000 and then 12,000,000, as fairly deserve formal attention. The the world's ever-increasing require- personal significance of such recogniments shall demand. With this growth, thou may not be much, but its signifiand even more rapidly than this, will came to the journalistic profession is the cotton-manufacturing interests of great. It is to be hoped that the fourth the South develop. While the increase estate will wear its new honors becom-

intemperateness of criticism and censure which is today its greatest single

While under the lake navigation scason this year 65 seamen lost their lives in the line of duty on some one of the great lakes, it is an encouraging circumstance that of the millions of passengers carried on those lakes in 1897 not one perished because of shipwreck or accident. This record certainly speaks well for the care with which the business if passenger transportation by boat is managed on the inland

The annual report of the American Board of Foreign Missions shows that there was collected last year by that organization for the conversion of the heathen a total fund of \$642,781.07, of which Pennsylvania contributed \$3.-25.22. If a statement could be obtained of Pennsylvania's yearty expenditures occasioned by the depravity and non-Christianization of her home The annual report of the American

The Monticello, New York, preacher the beat his wife because she endeavored to drive a favorite cat out of the house, and who is now languishing in fail as the consequence of his little diversion, seems twisted in his mind with regard to pets.

Senator Wellington's criminal libel out against the Baltimore American has been thrown out by the grand jury. Wellington will donotless follow as soon as the people can get at him.

Public Life Not Black as Painted.

General H. V. Boynton in the Sun-

HE COMMENTS in various places by newspapers of a settal coet-upon the assembling of congress incomerable patriotic so cetica in the land, there is another needed whose special province chall be to inculcate speaking well of the government and the great body of descrying and patriotic public men of all grades who administer it. An observation of thirty years in Washington, not counting two years spont in earnest effort to learn how to observe, justifies the statement that administrations, senators and representa-tives, department officers, in short, government workers of every grade and without regard to party, are, in large majority, in very large majority indeed. somest and faithful men. It is not in-ended by this statement to imply that there have not been dishonest men in the public service or that they have been entirely eliminated. But it is intended to declare a belief, founded on long and close observation, with at least fair op-portunities of arriving at the truth, that honest and earnest purpose to faithfully discharge public duty is the rule, and the opposite the rare exception. yer, a contrary belief is undoubtedly growing in the country. The moment congress meets a certain portion of the press begins to inculcate the belief among readers that this body is venul and the public service in general corrupt aress uniformly proceeds upon the theory that the opposing party is dishonest in all its ways. views of this sort has taken deep root in the land. It is spreading fast, and every-where choking the good seed of patriotic enfedence in our institutions and our

Public life has been steadily growing ourer and stronger, until today more worthy of the nation than at any time since war established us as a na-tion. No reader of the daily press needs to be fold that the public business is more honestly conducted than private susiness the country over, The cations and breaches of trust which are unpleasantly frequent in the press reports are seldom those of government ofdevelops in this service. The annual reports of the pay department and internal revenue service, for example, year after year for a long period, have shown clear sheets of millions collected and disbursed without the dishonest loss of a dollar. Those who know the departments and their methods of business are aware that, in the main, the work of the public is efficiently and promptly performed. The delays which do occur are oftener due to failure on the part of those interested o conform to the established system of government business than to all other causes. The current estimates of public men and the management of public af-fairs as they pour in upon Washington mon the threshold of every congress are in essence a species of anarchistle as-sault upon government. Their tendency is undermine government by destroying pidence in public servants. This licens as become a national evil. Truthful critcism, as severe and crushing as the facts warrant, is a proper function and loty of the press. This is one thing. Wholesale denunciations of public men and the management of public affairs. or, worse yet, the insidious assumption n everyday writing that corruption is he rule and honesty the exception, are very different things. Technical treason consists in taking up arms to overthrow government. But there is a moral treaon of more dangerous and despicable sort in daily taking up the writer's pen a poison the minds of the country against its public servants. Anarchists openly proclaim their desire to overthrow These pernicious writers overnment. proclaim general corruption are dangerous and damaging to the public interests than the most blatant Amerchists, because their work strikes at the every foundations upon which government rests. These writers, and the journals and journalism which they represent, are among the worst enemies of the country and deserve to be put under the ban by every patriotic clif-

Another serious and most unpatriotle, ecause utterly erroneous, charge, which greets every congress, is that this branch of the government is constantly deterioating in ability, and that the congresses of these later days rank for below those of earlier periods when the giants of debats and oratory lived. The aposities of our liberty must always stand in our history as a class by themselves and unapproachulde. These men who organized the revolution, prepares and declared in-dependence, and finally, in mighty neats nd with mighty blows, forged constitutional republican government, have a history of their own with which that of days cannot be compared. But with the succeeding period, commonly designated as that of Clay and Webster and Calboun, with their associates, the ongresses of recent years and of the present are by no means cast into the shade. It may be said without incurring the charge of iconoclasm that in many respects, that vaunted period was the day of the stage coach and the ox cart in congressional life compared with the press and crush and rush of these eminently practical and more active times. The stenographer, the telegraph and the enecial correspondent, in combination, set

up in sight of all speakers and known by all to be rushing their unrevised words to every part of the land, have killed oratory and forced the ablest to reading speeches. The days of congressional oratory have passed—those old convenient, plodding days, when, after extempore speaking, there was time to rest a day or two and further time to revise the proofs of the old Intelligeners, and then a week or more of stage-coach and then a week or more of stage-co. and then a week or more of stage-couch distribution before the country was even informed that a great man had made a great speech. Now when the whole country listens to the words as spoken, even men of the first ability must of necessity be careful, lest an ill-advised phrase arouse national and simultaneous criticism, and, to eite an example of such happenings, the infortunate speaker be brought to ask, "Where am I at."

penditures occasioned by the depravity and non-Christianization of her home heatinen it would be still more interesting.

Chairman Quigg, of the New York county Republican committee, has offered to concede every point demanded in the interest of harmony by the socialled Republican faction that recently supported Seth Low, but the leaders of that faction refuse to be placated unless they are made absolute bosses of the situation. We would see them hanged first.

Sovetiment's immense service, do more work than half the committees of both houses performed in the old days. To those who have occasion to observe this vast labor the wonder is, not that the great bills for carrying on the government do not appear till late in the seesion, but that they are ever driven through even approximately on time. The labors of these committees are herefulean. There is the same computative increase in the work of all leading committees—Finance, Ways and Means, Judiciary, Military, Navat Militia, Commerce, Foreign Relations, Foreign Mariors, and so on through nearly the work of all leading committees—Finance, Ways and Means, Judiciary, Military, Navat Militia, Commerce, Foreign Relations, Foreign Mariors, and so on through nearly the work of all leading committees—Finance, Ways and Means, Judiciary, Military, Navat Militia, Commerce, Foreign Relations, Foreign Mariors, and so on through nearly the work of all leading committees—Finance, Ways and Means, Judiciary, Military, Navat Militia, Commerce, Foreign Relations, Foreign Mariors, and so on through nearly the work of all leading committees. bership and the public business have ap-proached the unwieldy stage, the busi-ness of legislation has been in greater and greater degree performed by com-mittees. To meet this necessity of the work all of them have been increased in work all of them have been increased in numbers, and their reports and views now earry a weight which generally controls on the floor. This fact, that so much of the floor This fact, that so much of the hard and continuous work of congress is done out of sight of the public, has much to do with the prevailable opinion that a body, the majority of whose members are constantly and faithfully at work, does little beyond what appears in the talk of the daily sessions. The single reflection that the population has increased fourfold since Webster's day, and a thought of the empire of states that has grown up beyond the Mississippi, beyond the furtherest horizon of those days, will suggest the vast expansion of the public business and the corresponding harcase of congressional work.

These alive and distinctly practical days have practical men by the score in each house who are equal to the tasks impon the assembling of concress suggest that, notwithst inding the immerable patriotic solution in the results accomplished, and in work of great variety and value to the nation, are not a whit behind their predecessors of the earlier day. Not only is congress, as a body, one that every patriot should speak well of, but the excellence of the public service in all its branches may properly excite na-tional pride. The fact that there may be unworthy members, and that some public servants are untrue to their trusts, calls for the exposure of the individual and does not justify sweeping and demoralizing criticism of the public service. In these directions particle newspapers and patriotic correspondents have important work to do.

A COAL BEAL.

The following joke from the Chicago News is referred to the short-weight coal dealers: Purchaser-"Did your boss weigh that load of coal on ambuscade scales?"

Driver—"What's ambuscade scales?"

Purchaser-"Those that lie in weight."

A SLEEPY LITTLE SCHOOL.

A funny old professor kept a school for Httle boys. And he'd comp with them in playtime, and he wouldn't mind the noise; While in his little schoolroom, with it head against the wall, Was a bed of such proportions it was big enough for all.

"It's for tired little pupils." he explained; "for you will find How very wrong indeed it is to force i budding mind; Whenever one grows sleepy and he can't hold up his head, make him lay his primer down and send him off to bed!

'And sometimes it will happen on a warm and pleasant day, When the little birds upon the trees go tootallocral lay.
When wideawake and studious it's difficult to keep, One by one they'll get a-nodding till the

whole class is asleep! Then before they're all in dreamland and their funny snores begin. close the shutters softly so the sun

light can't come in. After which I put the schoolbooks in their order on the shelf. And, with nothing else to do, I take little nap myself?" -Malcolm Douglass

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Booklets and calendars from 1c to 39 cents. Juvenile books, paper and linen, from 5 cents to 25 cents. Lathrop's Annual and Pansy Books, 37c and 63c. Glove, handkerchief and necktie boxes from 25c to \$3.00.

Work boxes, shaving cases, manicure sets and toilet sets, from 25

Children's silver mugs, and knife fork and spoon sets from 15 cents to \$1.49. Celluloid work boxes, glove and handkerchief sets, brush cases, pin boxes and necktie cases, from 10c to 98 cents.

Beautiful large medallions-St. Cecilia, Ruth, Madonna, and many others, at 25 cents. Bisque figures, Dresden night lamps. Venetian glass vases, from 23 cents to 98 cents. Vaseline jars, in aluminum and sterling silver, from 17 cents to 59 cents.

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It is a frank confession-we purchased a great stock of holiday books the finest of the best, but they have

not kept pace with the rest of the stock in our store. In truth they have not sold as quick ly as we expected, Stationery, gold pens with pearl holders; articles in brass, gold and silver; dressing cases, manicure and toilet sets, etc., are simply melting away

from us. But books. BOOKS

are a drudge. We want no hold-overs. RESULT:

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