

The Scranton Tribune

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General Gomez asserts that the Cuban insurgents demand independence or death; and the fate of Blanco's bootlegs finds grim emphasis to his claim.

Hawaiian Annexation Made Indispensable by European Aggression.

If there had been needed an object-lesson in European greed of empire and lust of power to awaken the demand for the annexation of Hawaii, that lesson would have been supplied by the vision of the vultures upon coasting China.

Facts About the Civil Service.

An interesting review of the operations of the present civil service is contributed by Colonel Henry Hall in a letter to the Philadelphia Times.

The Hawaiian problem has assumed the condition which requires that we should "fish or cut bait."

Through a mistake the letter of Commander Stevens on the pension question, referred to yesterday, did not appear in that issue.

Greatest Events of the Year.

A collection of opinions from eminent specialists as to the greatest events of 1897 is published by the Chicago Times-Herald and makes interesting reading.

In the direction of religious activity Bishop Potter thinks that the conference of bishops held in Lambeth, England, last June, and attended by 236 of the representative ecclesiastics of the English speaking world, was the most significant event of the year.

The chief social event of the year, according to Mrs. John Shreve, was the Bradley Martin costume ball.

Superintendent Lane of the Chicago public schools regards the proposition to establish a national university at Washington, under the control of the government, and to open it on the anniversary of the death of Washington in December, 1898, as a movement which is commanding the attention of educators of the whole country.

Thomas A. Edison does not recall anything of broad invention this year; but Editor Burr of the Iron Age considers the Edison eye concentrating plant as the greatest industrial achievement of the year.

Colonel Hall asserts that the next move of the radical civil service reformers will be to extend the law to the 96,000 fourth-class postmasters.

of the year; in railroadings the adoption of the compound engine is noted by President Miller of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul; while Professor Burman, concluding the symposium, pronounces the completion of the Yerkes observatory with its unequalled telescope as the foremost scientific fact of the annual record.

A pleasing picture of future travel is drawn by Professor Thomson in the January Forum. This eminent electrician considers that electricity's supremacy over steam is now established.

The Philadelphia Ledger charges that a "combine" of stalwart Republican senators, including Hanna and Quay, has been formed for the purpose of driving Secretary Gage out of the cabinet.

It may be only a coincidence, but the fact that the anti-Hunnaites in Ohio are doing all the boasting induces the suspicion that it is a case of whistling to keep their courage up.

The hopelessness of the autonomy movement in Cuba may be inferred when it is said that even the New York Evening Post is against it.

LOOKING FORWARD.

This Chinese question puts a problem of foreign relations to the United States in a different light from that which it has ever presented before.

This view of the situation is one that looks into the future. In the life of a nation a few generations count for little.

It is the opinion of careful students of the situation that the duty of this government is to participate to the extent of securing in perpetuity such commercial rights and privileges in the Orient as will admit of the indefinite development of our commerce on the Pacific coast.

From the Times-Herald. There is little doubt that one of the first acts of congress after the holidays will be the enactment of an immigration law.

that it will establish a precedent in discrimination. It will be a notification to the world that the United States has finally entered upon a policy of restriction and that it now proposes to interpose federal barriers against undesirable immigrants.

It is urged against the educational test, however, that such a law will operate to the exclusion of a class of honest and industrious workers whose toll is in great demand now than ever before.

That arbitration treaty. From the Washington Post. It is authoritatively stated that no recent negotiations have occurred between Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador, concerning the new arbitration treaty.

Some months ago an intimation was conveyed by the authorities here that a renewal of negotiations on the treaty would be viewed with favor.

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