

The Scranton Tribune. Published Daily, except Sunday, by the Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Centre Street, Scranton, Pa. ESTABLISHED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER. TEN PAGES. SCRANTON, JANUARY 31, 1898. REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For School Director. Three Years—PETER NEULIS, Eleventh ward. Three Years—D. I. PHILLIPS, Fifth ward. Two Years—E. D. FELLOWS, Fourth ward. Two Years—F. S. GODFREY, Eighth ward. One Year—P. S. BARKER, Seventeenth ward. One Year—ELIAS R. EVANS, Eleventh ward. Election Day, February 15.

Why do the police permit hawkeyes to hang their goods in the vestibules of city churches just as the congregations are emerging on Sunday mornings from divine worship? Is this the good city government that Chief Kelling tells us about?

An Interesting Conjecture. Guesses abound as to the plan which President McKinley has prepared for the solution of the Cuban problem, but which has not yet been made public. An interesting one was embodied in the report, current last week, that the present administration had determined to adopt with certain modifications the plan of the preceding administration, which contemplated a reciprocity treaty with Spain, including in its preamble a pledge by Spain to maintain in Cuba a liberal autonomous form of government. This it was argued by Mr. Olney, would commit Spain to such an extent that the United States might with propriety hold her to the contract in case the grant of autonomy, once made and accepted, should afterward be to any important extent nullified or abridged.

The advocates of the Cleveland-Olney plan expected, in case Spain consented, to bring the insurgents around to an endorsement of such a programme by plainly notifying them that if they did not accept autonomy with an American guarantee they could, so far as this government was concerned, go to the devil. The Cuban ministry, then in power, not only did not consent but politely invited Messrs. Cleveland and Olney to go where they were willing to send the insurgents. Now, however, a new ministry is at the Spanish helm, one which has made many concessions to American sentiment, and the report is that President McKinley thinks he can, under present circumstances, do what Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olney under those conditions could not. The story goes that he will urge the proffer by Spain of a plan of autonomy sufficiently liberal in details to overcome reasonable objections to this mode of compromise; and that he will rely upon honest persuasion to effect the insurgents' assent.

It is probable that this idea has been in the president's mind. His actions to date are consistent with such a purpose. If he could name the conditions and insure the permanent sufficiency of the American guarantee, autonomy on the proposed basis would undoubtedly prove the most pacific and advantageous solution possible. But suppose that after Spain should yield so much, the insurgents would not yield at all. Could the president find it in his heart to blame them after all that they have endured in tyranny, outrage and suffering at the hands of Spain? Or, blaming them, would he undertake to use force on them or do as Olney threatened, tell them to go to the "hew"?" Would he not, after their refusal—which we regard as almost certain—still be bound in the interests of liberty and humanity to try to get Spain to let go her odious and repugnant hold on Cuba?

Gomez's reply to Blanco's offered bribe comes pretty near to being a knockout blow. And how contemptible it makes Spain appear!

Hawaii Pro and Con. Before the Commercial club, of Chicago, on Saturday night Professor Von Holst, of the Chicago university, delivered an argument against the annexation of Hawaii which, although weak, was no doubt the best that he could do. His points, whittled down, were as follows:

(1) That Hawaii would be a source of weakness instead of strength to us in time of war, necessitating a larger navy and forcing us to meet the enemy out at sea in place of hiding from him behind our mainland coast fortifications. Such a condition is invariably productive of weak appointments, dictated rather by politics than by merit; of timidity and a certain trucking to popular prejudice by the chief executive; and, most dangerous of all, of a demoralized state among subordinates in office, who, recognizing the symptoms of ambition in their chief, at once feel commissioned to work desperately for his re-election, expecting thus also to prolong their own term of public employment.

Most of the poetry and sentiment surrounding the dead is removed by the increased popularity of cremation, but that mode of disposition also removes the dread of being hawked about London as a "mummy lot 204" a few thousand years hence.

ally and unconsciously search the map for remaining islands to be bought or swiped. Even if this were true, there would not be accessible outlying territory enough left to justify the making of so much fuss. Cuba, Porto Rico and perhaps a few smaller islands in their vicinity would be the most that we could hope to get, even though we should contract the land-hunger that our Mugwump friends hold up as the great danger. But what reason is there for this fear? Absolutely none whatever.

Hawaii we need; Hawaii offers itself to us without the asking; Hawaii, although made up of a mixed population involving some risks to successful administration, is already republican and American in the form and spirit of its government and in the personnel of its dominating inhabitants. Nothing of consequence in this world is devoid of risks. But shall we let a few hazards, mostly temporary and minor, scare us away from the fulfillment if a plan of the broadest American statesmanship which would put in our hands for all future time the key to that ocean which destiny has plainly chosen as the coming theater of the world's greatest movements?

Review Dr. Von Holst's points, then compare them with the sentiments of the speech of Charles Emory Smith, which we reproduce on this page. Do they not become pitiable in the comparison?

On Wednesday at the House in Philadelphia there will, it is announced, be a conference of representative Republicans from the different counties in the commonwealth for the purpose of choosing a candidate to make a fight against William A. Stone for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. With the convention only four months distant, and Stone, by grace of Andrews, Elkin, et al., in possession of most of the party machinery, it is none too soon for Republicans opposed to the tactics back of Stone to get down to serious business if they expect to fight Stone in convention, which would be the main thing to do.

The Presidential Term. The resolution introduced in congress by Representative Fitzgerald of Massachusetts, extending the presidential term to six years and making presidents heretofore ineligible to re-election stands little show of adoption. Its author holds a Democratic and the present executive a Republican, consideration of it will naturally follow party lines and it will be put to sleep expeditiously in a committee-room pigeon-hole.

Nevertheless it embodies in our judgment a wise policy and one which will some time prevail in this country. The argument for a six-year instead of a four-year presidential term includes a number of points, chief of which is that the change would involve a 50 per cent. economy in the wear and tear of presidential campaigns. As it is now, the country hardly gets habituated to one condition until another is thrust upon it in consequence of the growing fickleness of the multitude. Counting the congressional elections, every other year is a campaign year, which means that nearly half the time of business is subject to disturbance and public administration to the artificiality and posing for effect by which the party leader prepares himself for the ordeal of going again before the people. The ferment of demagogism, in other words, leaves the whole lump; and often the statesman who would be honest and candid and sincere is convicted by painful experience of the inexpediency of such a course, and quietly surrenders to the demands of politics, hoping all the while that at some future time circumstances will so shape themselves as to enable him to be independent—a hope which is rarely fulfilled.

From these premises it follows as a logical conclusion that the president of the United States should be ineligible to immediate re-election. We would not make his ineligibility permanent, but we would certainly put it out of his ability to use the enormous power and influence of his position in a more or less concealed attempt to shape matters toward his own re-nomination. The temptation to do this is believed to be beyond the strength of the average president to resist. It probably is not a temptation arising from selfish motives wholly; often it takes the form of a sincere belief that the continuation of a given line of helpful public policy requires the continuation in office of the administration which originated that policy. When such is the fact we have the most dangerous form of executive ambition, an ambition not consciously selfish yet willing to use the opportunities of the presidential office to prop up a personal tenure. Such a condition is invariably productive of weak appointments, dictated rather by politics than by merit; of timidity and a certain trucking to popular prejudice by the chief executive; and, most dangerous of all, of a demoralized state among subordinates in office, who, recognizing the symptoms of ambition in their chief, at once feel commissioned to work desperately for his re-election, expecting thus also to prolong their own term of public employment.

Six years of a disappointing president might scotch the popular patience, but it would probably prove an instructive object lesson.

Henry E. Howland, in his speech at the manufacturers' banquet, advanced the thought that too much legislation is enlarging our morality as a nation; that we are endeavoring to regulate to the extent that every thing is now termed a crime, from being shaved on Sunday, or permitting mill operatives to work more than eight hours a day whether they would or not, to committing murder. His opinion that this "morbidity" of law-making is too great a burden and vexation to humanity, contains more than a grain of sense and the possibility that it may endanger the true estimate of the relation between evils, or between crime and the mere outgrowth of in-

dividual belief, is worth serious consideration by the people and the organizations that are so eager to legislate on all earthly matters.

Timely notice is given by E. J. Gibson that before a reciprocity treaty with Spain for Cuba could lower the American duty on sugar, it would have to receive the consent of both branches of congress. Could this consent be obtained in a kind of left-handed partnership with Spain in that country's obnoxious rule in Cuba? We guess not.

Effective Primary Reform. An interesting primary election bill has just passed the Illinois senate. It is intended to be mandatory in counties having 100,000 or more population, but in smaller counties its operation is optional. Once adopted in any county, however, it applies to every city, village or incorporated town in that county and to every political party polling 10 per cent. or more of the total vote in its community.

The bill puts primary election laws under stringent control but retains the delegate system. The political party desiring to hold a primary election must, at least fifteen days before such election, file with the board of election commissioners through its regular chairman or executive committee a call or application in writing which shall set forth the name of the party, the address of the headquarters of the central committee or managing committee, the day on which the primary election is to be held, the name, place and time of every convention for the nomination of candidates, the description of each of the various primary election districts, together with the names of three persons for clerks for each primary district, and the names and addresses of delegates for each primary district to each convention. The call shall also contain the name of some newspaper recommended for the publication of the notice of such primary election. The expense of conducting the primary election shall be paid by the county, village, city or incorporated town respectively, including the salaries of judges, registry books and poll books, return sheets, stationery supplies, polling places and such other expenses as may be necessary. Every legal voter shall be allowed to vote at a primary, provided he is a member of the political party or organization holding such primary election. The ballots have to fulfill certain requirements and provision is made for the preservation of ballots challenged or found defective. Each set of delegates is entitled to have one challenger present.

The Illinois bill is most noticeable in its penalties. For example: "The judges of election shall be fined \$1,000 each if the ballot boxes are not kept constantly in public view during the progress of the election. Every register or which in this act constitutes an offense shall, upon conviction thereof, be adjudged guilty of a felony and shall be punished for each and every such offense by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years. Any judge of election who shall willfully exclude any vote shall be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than one nor more than two years. Any person who votes with a certain party at such a primary election when he knows he is not qualified to vote shall be deemed guilty of a felony and be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than two nor more than five years."

This measure is so carefully drawn that it would no doubt be adequate to the emergency if thoroughly enforced. It goes as far as a statute can go. Moreover, in theory, it accords with the principles of our government by retaining the representative feature. Some want candidates to be nominated directly by a popular vote; but a community which, when it can, will not elect trustworthy delegates is hardly to be expected to show any better results when doing its own nominating at first hand. Besides, it is ordinarily fair to assume that a convention's deliberation is preferable to a mob's. That is the principle on which this government rests.

After all is said, however, the old truth still sticks out, which is that until the voter is fit to use his suffrage, merely changing the system of elections will not materially or permanently improve the results.

Congressman Loud, the California misfit whom accident has put at the head of the house postal committee, recently called a delegation of Brooklyn business men "a pack of damned asses," because they wanted to offer a protest against the proposed cut in the postal service in their city. It was this same Loud who in debate the other day as good as called Postmaster General Gary a liar. If Speaker Reed wants to show his power to advantage, let him reduce Loud to the proportions of a mite.

PROSPEROUS MINING COMPANY. Editor of the Tribune—Sir: I have recently received the annual report of the De Beers Diamond Mining Company, Kimberley, South Africa, which, notwithstanding all the political and racial fermentations of the last year, shows a most satisfactory state of things. The nominal capital of this company is \$4,950,000. The market value of diamonds last year was the highest since 1887. The diamonds produced during the year realized the enormous sum of \$2,722,068. The total output of the company during the last twelve months was 4,551,576 carats of diamonds. The average value per carat in a trifle over 21 shillings. The average yield per lot is about 52 carats, and the average value per carat is a shade over 26 shillings.

The dividends paid to shareholders were 40 per cent; they amounted to \$1,575,582. Diamonds on hand at the time the report was issued amounted to 428,764 diamonds in the blue ground stock at close to two million and half pounds sterling at the present market price of diamonds. As a very large proportion of the inhabitants of this town and neighborhood appear to be considerably interested in mines and mining operations, this must be my apology for troubling you with these few dry, but glittering, facts and figures concerning an industry that has enriched hundreds and adorned thousands. James Hughes, Late of Kimberley, South Africa.

Our Country Nigh an Ampler Growth

From a Speech by Hon. Charles Emory Smith, Recently Delivered Before the Manufacturers' Association.

THE PART half century in our country has been the age of internal upbuilding; we approach now the age of external activity. For fifty years and more the genius and energy of men have been unlocking the occult and mysterious forces of nature and appropriating them to the uses of the inherent resources and embryonic possessions of the nations. It has been the era of steam and railroads and electric light. The industrial revolutions of this fruitful period are the marvel of history. In the fifty years from 1849 to 1899 the population of Europe increased 50 per cent. (to 260,000,000), but its manufactures augmented 200 per cent. (from \$5,500,000,000 a year to \$15,000,000,000). Within the same time the population of the United States increased 100 per cent. (from 12,000,000 to 24,000,000), but the mighty tide of its manufactures expanded eightfold, from \$500,000,000 to over \$4,000,000,000. This stupendous amplification of production under modern appliances has outstripped the wildest dreams of imagination. It has harnessed the Niagara and the high winds of the world, a wizard's wand, touched the secret springs of the arcanæ of light and energy and force. It has multiplied wealth, comfort and luxury. It has exalted the humanities and reined and beautified civilization itself. A greatly increased capacity of consumption has followed the material advance, but it has not kept pace with the magnified power of production, and the economic problem of the world today is the distribution of the surplus.

Under this stress the great nations of Europe are struggling for empire and trade. They are reclaiming the whole world for new fields of conquest, colony and commerce. They have seized Africa, plucked the most fertile lands of the tropics, and are hovering in the air with their wings and sharpened beaks over the Atlantic and the Pacific. Who doubts that their rude claws would already have fastened on Central and South America for the United States and the talismanic charm of the Monroe doctrine—a doctrine which draws around this continent a protective shield and proclaims "the awful circle of the solemn church" which Richelieu drew around the ward of France? In this stupendous rivalry for empire, where our great republic is the public stake? Are we to stand with folded hands and let the prizes slip? We cannot enter upon aggression and conquest, but we must not permit our territorial aggrandizement. But we shall not renounce the right of commercial aspiration, and we shall let the whole world know that we are not afraid of the triumphs of friendly intercourse and reciprocal trade!

If we still lag behind in some of the elements of commercial power, if our keels do not yet plow every sea and our flag is not yet unfurled in every port, nevertheless, the greater our opportunities, the more majestic our destiny, what potentialities of achievement beckon us onward! Our position is supreme. Our country is the pivot of the world. The westward west, "westward the course of empire takes its way," and in its progressive march our republic—"Time's noblest offspring"—stands at the culminating point where the advancing tide of western power meets the reflux wave of eastern antiquity. It arches and dominates the globe. Its eastern shore stretches over three thousand miles along the Atlantic. Its western shore—with its outlet, soon to be, at fair Hawaii—faces the Pacific Ocean. The Orient is to be the theater of a new and splendid commerce. With the isthmian canal constructed and under our undisputed control, a century, within the two oceans, practically giving us a continuous coast line and cutting in half the commercial routes of the western world, we shall hold the key of its trading trade and be the master force in all its broad influences and policy.

With this commanding position and opportunity what are our resources and present achievements? What are the elements of power with which we engage in the world's rivalry? The astounding record sounds like a rhapsody. The American people grow one-fifth of the world's wheat, seven-eighths of its cotton and its iron and steel. We export one-fifth of its wool and one-half of its metals. We do two-fifths of its mining in value and hold nearly one-fourth of its iron and steel. We have one-third more railway mileage than all Europe, and with only one-fifth of Europe's population we furnish as much railway mileage as all its broad influences and policy. We earn every year nearly as much as Great Britain, Germany, Austria and Italy put together. We manufacture one-third of the commodities of the world, and in thirty years, so rapid is our advance, the aggregate growth of our resources has been more than the doubling of England, France and Germany combined. Though the youngest of all nations, with a flag but little over a century old, we possess one-sixth of all the wealth of the world. In the treasures of our domain and in the brain and brawn of our people we have boundless resources of power and progress, and with these magnificent strides we can measure the sweep of our supremacy in another hundred years!

Our greatness heretofore has been within ourselves. The field of foreign commerce is the only material realm we have developed. The time has not come for the outward look. We had far less need of it than other nations. The commerce of the world is more than one-third of the value of her chief occupations while the commerce of the United States represents less than one-tenth of the total. The exchange amount to nearly thirty times the whole volume of our foreign commerce, and they aggregate more than six times all the imports of all the nations of the world. What wonder that with this matchless market at home we have been negligent in looking abroad? But in the progress of our material greatness the time has now come for the fruition of these mighty resources beyond our borders. It is a triumphant vindication of our motto that we have first created and established our American industries, that then it has given them unchallenged sovereignty within our own coast domain, that now it has fortified and equipped them to enter into the world's arduous competition. And so, with all the superiority of our position, with one arm outstretched to the east and the other to the west, with all the advantage of being the only great industrial power that is self-sustaining, we must create upon the career of commercial extension.

What are the requisites in this lofty national enterprise? The first is that our people should have a just and true conception of the majestic destiny of the republic and a just understanding of the practical methods of realization. High and noble as the national ideal is, it is a panoply of gold in hand. Trade follows the flag the world around, and it is for statesmanship to carry forward the flag, to create upon the pathway of progress, to bid in dignified national assertion, in commanding moral power and in direct material intercourse. We have come to a point in our national development where we must decide whether we shall accept and move on to the plain opportunities before us or whether we shall renounce all ambition of winning away. Shall we turn our backs on the opening vistas of enlarged influence and shall ourselves up within ourselves, or shall we manufacture and resolutely face outward and onward? For one let me be counted among those who believe that our republic has a noble and not yet fulfilled mission of humane achievement and commercial ascendancy among the

nations of the earth, and that it is pardoned folly and fatuity which would paley her purpose and cripple her arm just as in the fullness of time the vision of greatness dawns before her!

A QUESTION OF GOOD MANNERS.

From the New York Sun. This question, touching the obligations of polite consideration in a street car, is submitted to us by the young man, apparently, who himself was subjected to the very great natural temptation he describes: "To the Editor of the Sun—Sir: Ladies enter a street car, every seat of which is taken, and stand about equally near to a gentleman who is seated, reading. One of the ladies is of middle age; one is young but plain; the third is young and pretty; all are well and robust. Is any rule or principle violated if he tenders his seat in preference to the young and attractive lady instead of either of the others?"

The question whether a man is obliged in courtesy to give up his seat in a public conveyance to a standing woman is, doubtless, a cause of much distress to many masculine minds. Must a man in due consideration for mere feminine weakness, or from simple civility, always prefer the comfort of women above his own selfish inclinations? Formerly American men felt very generally that such was their strict obligation, and still at the south and in some other parts of this country it is almost universally held that a man, though even there with exceptions as to circumstances which tend to confuse the subject and to destroy the "rule or principle" about which correspondence asks. Men who have bought desirable seats in theaters, for instance, do not give them up to women less conveniently placed, and they do not tender their seats to a colored woman under any circumstances.

If a man gets a seat in a car he has an unquestionable right to occupy it against all comers, for he has paid for it. If a woman enters after the seats are filled, she indicates her readiness to make the journey without a seat, or to take her chances of getting one without imposing on the mere politeness of a stranger. This, however, does not prevent the run of American street cars for women, or less uncomfortable, somewhat ashamed of themselves, if they remain seated while women are standing in front of them. They can't help it.

Of course, no absolute obligation rests on a man to give up his seat to a woman simply because she is a woman. He may be in less need of rest than she. He may be in a hurry to meet an important engagement, while she could as well have waited for another and an uncrowded car. He may contend that it is the business of the railroad company to look out for its own passengers, not his. Reason may give him an abundance of sound excuses for not yielding to the conventional consideration for women. He may do not so well his accusing conscience. It is a question which every man must settle for himself, and he is not properly subject to condemnation which ever way he decides. He is at liberty to do as he chooses without violating any moral or social law or absolute principle. It rests also with the woman to accept or decline the courtesy of a stranger, and if in taste she refuses to put herself under obligation to him for it she has good reason on her side.

Our correspondent, however, does not raise that broad question, for the particular experience related by him is apart from the matter of mere courtesy. What he asks is simply if he would have been justified in obeying his inclinations by giving his seat to the young and pretty woman of the party, instead of the middle-aged woman or the plain woman. Under the presence of unselfishness would he have been excusable for seeking to gratify his selfish preference? Obviously not; all moral merit in the act would have been lost by such a surrender. It would have been an impertinence in him also to have made such a discrimination, which would properly have been resented by the pretty girl. Properly would have dictated to her to give way to the eldest of the three, thus rebuking our friend deservedly for presuming to exhibit his preference for her, a total stranger to him. At any rate, if he was disposed to surrender his seat, he should have left the three women to decide for themselves which should take it.

The whole turns on a question of good manners, and in themselves good manners are a social obligation. They are in social life what the flowers of the field and all other natural beauties are in the inanimate world. They make existence tolerable, and their preservation is necessary to keep society from degenerating into a bear garden. Their basis, of course, is regard for the little rights and the comfort of others in the intercourse and associations of life. Hence men who go even to an extreme beyond the strictly reasonable requirements of civility in their treatment of women in public conveyances are worthy of condemnation. They are taking a direction which is in itself right.

Branches of good manners, neglect of the formal requirements of civility in public places and in business intercourse, are frequent in the occurrence that a manifestation of old-fashioned formal courtesy affords a welcome relief by showing that there still remains in society the favor which keeps it from becoming the scene of a rough-and-tumble struggle for advantage in all things, great and small.

HE WOULD. During the revolution, a little American privateer stole up to an English line of battle ship in a fog, mistaking her for an East India merchant, and ordered her to strike. When the seventy-four ran out her guns and threatened to blow her bony assant out of the water, the Yankee skipper stopped at the gangway and, taking off his hat, said politely: "Oh, very well, sir; if you won't surrender, I will."

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