

The Scranton Tribune Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cent a Month. ESTABLISHED AT SCRANTON, PA. BY ERIC-CLAUDE MAIL MATTER. SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 7, 1898. REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

- For School Directors. Three Years—PETER NEULS, Eleventh ward. Three Years—D. I. PHILLIPS, Fifth ward. Two Years—E. D. FELLOWS, Fourth ward. Two Years—E. S. GEDFREY, Eighth ward. One Year—F. S. BARKER, Seventeenth ward. One Year—ELIAS E. EVANS, Fifteenth ward. Election Day, February 15.

We are informed that from Saturday's performance in Music Hall the unspeakable fifth which had up to that time been Fenegysy's chief stock in trade was carefully eliminated, doubtless in anticipation of a visit by the police. We take pleasure in noting this slight victory for reform. But so long as Music Hall shall remain in the control of a man who boasts that want is what Scranton theater goes, and that who is willing to traffic in sin, refraining only while scared, it will be necessary for the authorities to keep their eyes open. We notice with satisfaction the fact that the Federkranz has taken steps to bring its tent to time. As we suspected, it had been decided as to the quality of the performances given by him.

The Possibility of War. The London correspondent of the New York Sun, Mr. H. R. Chamberlain, a well-equipped journalist of the first rank, with conservative tendencies, has recently made a study of political conditions in Spain and his deductions are not encouraging. The danger of war between Spain and the United States impresses him as real and not far distant. Sagasta and some of his broad-minded colleagues are doing what they can to avert it, but unless they can conquer the inevitable in Cuba and thus mollify their countrymen's inordinant pride Mr. Chamberlain believes that war will be declared by Spain upon us and the awful consequences thereof deliberately invited within a few months at farthest.

The reasons which he assigns for this belief are numerous, being mostly familiar to the American reading public. But in specifying some of them he presents illuminating details. He tells of the almost incredible ignorance and patience of the Spanish peasant class, who are lied on all sides by their unscrupulous governors and who are now for the first time beginning to murmur; but he also adds that it is from this very class, whom a new war would injure most, that the danger of a war forced with the United States chiefly proceeds. The bulk of Spain's conscripted recruits for the Cuban service has been drawn from this class. Adds Mr. Chamberlain: "Hundreds of boys and young men who went out sturdy, robust specimens of early manhood have come back in the hospital ships pitiful, hopeless wrecks of humanity whom their friends and families are often unable to recognize when they reappear at their homes. Thousands more have perished miserably in Cuban battlefields. It is the inviolated returned soldier who is the chief propaganda agent of hatred of the United States in Spain. It could not well be otherwise, and he is not in any sense blameworthy. He has been told by his officers all the time he has been in Cuba that it is American aid which has kept the rebellion alive. He has had no reason for disbelieving the stories of his superiors and comrades. Campaigning in Cuba has been a hellish experience for him, and the Yankees are responsible for his sufferings and for those of his comrades who are dead or left behind. His ruined constitution is proof of the horrors he has endured. He tells his story. He is honest and sincere. The people look upon his wasted frame, and they believe him. Why should they do otherwise? And believing him, they share to the full his hatred of the accursed Yankees." This hatred is stronger now than ever before and Mr. Chamberlain thinks that it is growing. It would take very little to set it afire.

It is the opinion of this writer as it is of most students of the subject that Spain has so far exhausted her financial resources as to preclude the extended continuance of an open military campaign in Cuba. In fact he discovers at Madrid that this is practically admitted by the Spanish government, which, however, at the time of his writing—Jan. 29—had great hope that General Blanco would soon bring the chief insurgents into surrendering. That hope has already failed, however, if later advices be true. Indeed there is ample testimony that it and autonomy have for all practical purposes expired together, bringing Spain face front to the final crisis of her sovereignty in Cuba. Can Spain let Cuba go without precipitating a revolution at home? Mr. Chamberlain fears that the only escape from such a consequence will be through a war wilfully provoked with the United States. The present ministry will not invite this evil until forced to, but its overthrow would mean that and its preservation may compel that.

It will be observed that the administration at Washington, while talking a good deal about peace and good will, has taken, it would seem, about every available precaution against a reverse turn of affairs. Our warships are within easy reach of every possible center of danger, and though their officers are now on dress parade, they are also ready, and we suspect willing, for sterner duty.

General Boynton writes to the Sun that "our consuls in Cuba are hearing much annoying talk from the consuls of other nations. It is based upon our position touching the Monroe doctrine. The criticism is that we have made it impossible for European powers to re-leave the horrors which have made Cuba a hell, and, on the other hand, do nothing to end the matter and compel relief. There have also been tauntings, which it is necessary to ad-

mit have point, to the effect that our congress was swift to denounce Turkish savagery in Armenia, but holds its voice over a worse situation within hours' sail of our own shores, and now, with the proximity of our fleets, under our very guns." We don't wonder that foreigners are at a loss to comprehend this anomaly. It is not any too clearly understood by Americans themselves.

If Hawaii is to be annexed it should be squarely, fairly and above-board. If there isn't enough good common sense in the senate to supply a two-thirds majority, this country ought to lose its present incomparable opportunity.

Futile. The discomfiture of the Philadelphia factional opponents of Secretary Martin was completed when on Saturday the court denied their right to place an "anti-Martin" column on the official ballot. The resort to that title was a symptom of childishness hardly worthy of grown men. It betrayed so clearly the factional pique which has for several years disrupted the Republican party in its chief Pennsylvania stronghold that chief Pennsylvania strongholds that among disinterested observers many who have no particular fondness for Mr. Martin will be glad as a matter of fair play that it has been checked. With the withdrawal of their candidate, Mr. Newmyer, the factionists should have stopped their guerrilla warfare and won credit for party regularity. Now they get neither that credit nor recognition of any kind.

We make mention of this incident because it affords a conspicuous illustration of the fatuity of factional warfare arising chiefly from individual pique. The fight on Martin was at no time a fight embodying essentially different principles of political management. It was not a revolt of outraged popular opinion but rather a manufactured bolt by leaders who envied Mr. Martin his power but lacked the strength to overthrow him in open combat. Politics of this kind can have no good consequence to the party. It is simply a form of suicide to those who engage in it. It has proved futile in Philadelphia. It is likely to prove equally futile in the state at large if the same animus shall govern in the larger struggle. Resentment, jealousy, a thirst for revenge is not a broad enough foundation for a successful political revolution in this day of abounding popular common sense.

Mr. Wanamaker may ache to down Senator Quay as some of the opponents of the Philadelphia leader have lately ached to down Secretary Martin; but a battle fed by grudges is handicapped from its inception.

The good wishes of every intelligent American accompany Miss Clara Barton on her errand of mercy to Cuba. May she soon get the assertive help of the American government.

Germany and Our Exports. The inclination of the average American, when he hears that anything American has not received its due in Europe, is to execute at once a full-blooded war dance. This tendency is indicative of a wholesome national spirit and it deserves a good deal of respect; but usually it is the wiser plan to defer the war dance until there is an official verification of the alleged facts.

This talk about the fierce restrictions which Prussia has imposed or is about to impose upon the importation of American fruits, plants and horses is somewhat vague as yet. Nobody seems to know exactly what the terms of the restrictions are or the reasons which have impelled them. In due time the facts will be made known and then it will be possible to arrive at a rational opinion concerning them.

Four years ago we sent to Germany less than \$80,000 worth of horses; last year the value exceeded \$800,000. The fruit exports have grown even more rapidly although we have not at hand the actual figures. The reason given for the barring of American horses is that they communicate the influenza to German horses. Our fresh fruits are said to contain a dangerous parasite, which, if admitted into Prussia, would work great damage to native agricultural interests. American plants are excluded for a similar reason. But these reasons are not the official ones. We cannot act until we know the official position of the Prussian government on these premises.

That these exclusion orders are conceived in a spirit of retaliation against the Dingley bill is wholly probable. Under her treaties, however, Germany could not specifically exclude American exports from her ports, except for cause, and if cause has been manufactured we shall have the right to protest, plus also the final right to retaliate in kind. The facts will soon appear and if they shall warrant the president in using the power of reprisal conferred upon him by congress, it will not take a very large bacillus of German exported wares to bring it to the minds of the authorities at Berlin that it is a poor game at which two cannot play.

Since it takes two cabinet departments in times of peace to look after interests primarily connected with war, it is not asking much to urge the creation of at least one cabinet department of commerce and industry.

An Important Problem. In an interview with a representative of the Pittsburgh Dispatch, upon a subject of growing interest in Pennsylvania—the multiplication of minor court costs and the general inefficiency of our petty court system—Attorney General McCormick recently presented some ideas which are worthy of reproduction. The duties of justices of the peace, as originally understood and practiced, have, he pointed out, in modern times been almost wholly lost sight of. The office was an honorable one, and in our early history, and still earlier in England, was one of dignity and importance. The justice was the conservator of the peace in his neighborhood. He felt it to be his duty to prevent litigation, both civil and criminal, to the end that good order should be maintained within his jurisdiction. Today, as Mr. McCormick remarked, the office of justice of the peace and alderman, in a great majority of instances, is held by men who too often

erally because it is to their pecuniary advantage so to do. "For the most trifling offense," he continued, "the defendant is required to give bail for his appearance to answer at the court of quarter sessions of the county. The large percentage of these cases that the grand jury feel bound to ignore, notwithstanding the fact that they have only the expert evidence of the commonwealth before them, proves conclusively that far too many justices of the peace and aldermen are using their power for their own benefit. Inexcusable hardship frequently comes to those that are arrested, in loss of time, cost of money, payment of counsel fees, and what is even worse, the embittering of neighbor against neighbor and the destruction of the peace and good order of the locality."

This is the evil, or a part of it—an evil known of all men. But the proper cure is another question. The attorney general thinks that a partial remedy at least would be afforded by a radical reduction in the number of justices and aldermen. He would actually make it illegal for these officials to act as collecting agents. On this point he says: "They advertise and receive accounts and notes for collection, they notify the debtor, demand payment, and when payment is refused, perhaps because of the debtor having a good defense, suit is brought by the same justice or alderman before himself in the name of the creditor for whom he is acting as agent, and the necessary result is a judgment in favor of the plaintiff, because, in effect, the plaintiff, by his agent, is sitting as judge in his own case. There should be some way of breaking up this pernicious practice. The courts have declared it unlawful whenever it has come before them, and I have no doubt always will do so, but it should be made highly penal for any justice or alderman to sit in judgment in a case in which he himself is practically the party, or at least in which he has an interest so far as his commissions are concerned."

These suggestions are worthy of serious attention. Action taken with the judicial system now in vogue is growing so rapidly that it will be the part of wisdom for students of the law to move toward an intelligent remedy rather than wait until impatient clamor forces perhaps a reckless one.

In this great struggle it is for patriotic and sincere Republicans who stand above faction and who are profoundly concerned for the unity, harmony and stability of the political system of the incalculable national interests before us, to consider what this exigency demands—Philadelphia Press.

The reference here is to the coming struggle between the Wanamaker and the Quay influences in Pennsylvania politics. If the fight shall get too black, the exigency will demand patriotic and sincere Republicans the disciplining of both.

To keep something which has been lost by another after the first owner has advertised his loss amounts to larceny according to Judge Pinetier, of Philadelphia. But an exception must be allowed in the matter of political power.

It cannot be doubted that the powerful moral forces of the Republican party of Pennsylvania would warmly support Mr. Wanamaker's candidacy for governor—Philadelphia Ledger.

They might if they hadn't already taken his true measure.

Figures Showing Our Navy's Cost

Washington Letter in the Sun. IN VIEW of the large increase in the navy of late years, involving a great sum of money for new construction, there is a general impression that here has been a corresponding large increase of the cost of maintaining the service, and that the new vessels, in proportion to their value, are far more expensive than the old type. Even the average naval officer is inclined to believe that the modern ships require more merely to keep in commission than the wooden craft, whereas the figures compiled by the navy department of the annual expenses, including the cost of repairs, crew, stores, pay and coal, show that the new navy does not cost the government so very much more than the old and considerably less if the strength and fighting efficiency of the new ships of the fleet seven years ago. In 1890 the displacement of cruising vessels in commission of the whole year was 47,671 tons. The cost per ton for crew was \$22 and total cost per ton \$83. Seven years later the cruising displacement had jumped to thirty-one times as much, the cost per ton for crew was \$31, and the total cost per ton had risen to \$122. It is to be noted, therefore, that the pay of crews of the new ships is nearly a constant proportion of total cost, being 25 per cent. of it in 1890 and 24 per cent. in 1897.

An increase of 257 per cent. in cruising displacement, with only 71 per cent. increase in pay of crews, and 78 per cent. in total cost, would indicate that the new navy is a matter of fact the real increase has been less than these figures would seem to indicate. The proportion of the pay of the navy was \$7,250,000 in 1890, and only \$8,109,572 seven years later, with the enormous increase in the fighting complement. In 1890 there were 18,000 men on the pay of the navy, and in 1897 there were 25,000 men, and the cost of the navy was increased but 11 1/2 per cent. The figures of the experts show that in 1890 there were but three ships attached to the home fleet, of which one was a new vessel, the total representing a tonnage of but \$20,529. Seven years later there were twelve vessels on the station, all modern ships, with a tonnage of 66,336, manned by 25,000 men, and costing to maintain in service for one year \$2,671,836. Three-fourths of the vessels had a greater tonnage than the combined four had seven years previous on the same station.

European station the four new vessels comprising what was known as the white squadron, the four original Roach cruisers, were on temporary duty. These ships represented a displacement of 12,310 tons and 55 officers and 1,075 men, and cost to maintain half a million. This month there are four cruisers on the station, with a tonnage of 12,310 tons, 55 officers, 1,294 men, and costing to maintain about \$31,000. On the South Atlantic station the navy supported the old Richmond and the dilapidated Tallapoosa, with a total tonnage of 2,350, and at a cost annually of about \$35,000. Now it has the same number of ships, manned with double the tonnage, and costing only about \$100,000 more a year to keep there.

A recapitulation shows that the total displacement of the navy has advanced from 4,671 tons in 1890 to 136,530 tons in 1897; that the number of officers required to man the ships has advanced in the same period from 5,131 to 9,211. The pay of the crews in 1890 was \$2,654,250, and in 1897 it had advanced to \$2,307,552. The total cost of maintaining the whole navy seven years ago was \$7,250,000. The \$2,654,250, the experts hold that these figures show that the fighting strength has been more than trebled, the tonnage nearly quadrupled, and the cost of keeping the service in commission has advanced only a little more than one-third.

Equally Pertinent Here. From the Philadelphia Press. The great sober mass of the community has very little sympathy either with the reformer or the wicked man, who talk much about their discoveries of wickedness, or that other and opposite view, which some are called by the evil disposed, deprecates investigation and objects to any revelations of iniquity. Evil exists in every city. Some honest demands of wicked men. This is no reason for either accepting these evils as inevitable or parading any "revelations." The one thing needed is steady, relentless, unremittent enforcement of the law.

The community wants this. It will always support and approve it. If men, clergymen or others, have any talking to do about the breaches of law and of social decency they have discovered, instead of talking in a hall but the grand jury—not a pulpit but the witness box. Once a month the doors of the grand jury room are open to the public, and all are invited to attend. In that place, talk these counts. It means business. Elsewhere talk about these things is also a fault. It shows the presence of corruption. It does not aid its cure. What the community wants is not revelation but disinfection.

For let no one forget that the great currents of an American community are sound, healthy and pure, tending to purify and not to pollute. Each generation and each decade sees changes for the better. Any courageous men who have evidence—not talk—about evils will have better than an enlightened public sentiment and a vigorous public determination to purify the city and see that it steadily grows better. Any earnest, honest effort to do this, backed by evidence, followed by indictments and succeeded by conviction will receive a support which will override any possible resistance. The law is clear. Public opinion is unmistakable. The courts are ready to do their duty. The whole community is at hand with its moral support. But not for mere talk, not for vague charges, not for assertions that things are very bad and awful things can be seen by hunting for them.

Evidence, indictments and convictions are demanded if true reform is to be accomplished. If these are not secured the real estate of the city will be worse than the first. If they are another step will be taken in the upward way toward the better. The law is clear. Public opinion is unmistakable. The courts are ready to do their duty. The whole community is at hand with its moral support. But not for mere talk, not for vague charges, not for assertions that things are very bad and awful things can be seen by hunting for them.

A SUGGESTION. Editor of the Tribune—Sir: Among the first to offer sympathy after their fire was the Young Women's Christian association through their president and general secretary, tendering the use of their rooms and their assistance.

This was very natural as their work is similar and they have always worked in harmony, feeling that they were in no way competing, but mutually helpful. It has been suggested by gentlemen interested in both associations that this should be an excellent time to provide both with suitable, permanent quarters. It will be remembered that over a year ago the Young Women's Christian association started a building fund by the Woman's Paper. The effort to complete that fund and build was delayed because it was felt that the Home for the Friendless, which had already begun, should first be installed in its new quarters. But now while a general canvass is to be made for a Christian association building fund, it is suggested that the Young Men's and Young Women's associations the permanent and commodious home they need.

Whether one location can be used by both organizations, each to have its own special departments, and also some that can be used conjointly, is a question for further consideration and later decision. But it is the feeling of some of our best citizens that as much should be done for the one as the other, and that many will assist more readily knowing that both are remembered. This suggestion is simply given to the interested public and to the bodies in management by some sincere friends of the work for young people in our city who have had attention called to the matter by some who are able and willing to help. Yours truly, A Contributor to Both Associations, Scranton, Feb. 5.

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UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS of the Great Muslin Underwear Sale. Unreserved selling in unlimited quantities are our orders to salespeople, but we do and always shall reserve to ourselves the privilege of offering to the public only meritorious, well-made garments, it matters not how low we make the price. A cheaply made-up garment at a cheap price, is always dear at any price—we do not sell that kind. Note our prices, examine our stock and then draw your own conclusion in comparison with some undergarments you may find elsewhere:

- Night Gowns, of fair muslin, 19 cents
- Night Gowns, neatly trimmed, yoke backed, 39 cents
- Empire Gowns, with tucks and embroidered yokes, 49 cents
- Empire Gowns, with tucks and embroidery trimmed and sailor collars, 59 cents
- Special attention is called to all of the finer gowns from 98c upwards. They are simply unequalled.
- Skirts with tucks and embroidered ruffles, 39 cents
- Umbrella Skirts, with several tucks and wide embroidery ruffle, 59 cents
- Umbrella Skirts of finer qualities and richer laces and embroideries, from 85c to \$4.98
- Children's Drawers, with tucks, 8 cents and upwards
- Ladies' Drawers, wide hem, and cluster of three tucks, 15 cents
- Ladies' Drawers, with three tucks and embroidery ruffle, 25 cents
- Ladies' Umbrella Drawers, cluster of tucks and wide embroidery, 39 cents
- Ladies' Umbrella Drawers, with lace edge and insertions and linen ruffle, 49 cents
- 100 dozen Corset Covers, of good muslin, well made and perfect fitting, 7 cents
- 85 dozen Cambric Corset Covers, V-shaped, ready to trim, 12 1/2 cents
- Cambric Corset Covers, V-shaped, trimmed with embroidery, 15 cents
- 100 dozen various styles of Cambric and Muslin Corset Covers, V-neck, high and square neck, trimmed with neat embroidery, at 25c and 29c, which beat the world.
- Several very fine numbers of French Corset Covers from 39 cents to \$2.49
- 50 dozen Infants' Slips at 25 cents
- 100 styles of Children's Slips and Short Dresses, varying from 49 cents to \$4.98

We lay special claim toward these particular lines.



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Every department throughout the store represented. This space permits us to enumerate a few articles only, which are but instances of the

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10 PIECES All Wool Cheviots, good value at 30 and 35c per yard. Sale Price, 19c

CASE Best Domestic Dress Gingham, every day value 8c. Sale Price, 5c

CASE Best Quality Seersucker, every day value 10c. Sale Price, 7c

ONE CASE Ladies' Seamless Hose, double sole and heel, extra value at 19c a pair. Sale Price, 12 1/2c

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