

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 14, 1898.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For School Director. Three Years—PETER NEULS, 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—F. S. BARKER, Seventeenth ward. One Year—ELIAS E. EVANS, Fifteenth ward. Election Day, February 15.

The election of the Republican ticket tomorrow will insure a school board of which Scranton will have every subsequent reason to feel proud.

Peace Within Sight.

One of the most significant pieces of information relating to Cuba published in several months was the New York Tribune's announcement yesterday of a meeting of the Radical wing of the Autonomist party in Havana, attended by three members of the present autonomous cabinet and approved by the council, at which it was resolved that the "colony government" should formally submit the following propositions to the insurgents:

- First—The volunteers will be dissolved and a Cuban militia formed. Second—The insurgent colonels and generals will be recognized. Third—Cuba will be called upon to pay only \$100,000,000 out of the \$200,000,000 indebtedness due for both wars. Fourth—Cuba will pay \$2,000,000 a year for the Crown. Fifth—Cuba will make her own treaties without interference by the Madrid government. Sixth—Spanish products will have only a 10 per cent. margin of protection over similar products from other countries. Seventh—No exiles or deportations will be made, even in war time, to Spain, Africa, or to penal settlements elsewhere. Eighth—Death sentences for rebellion shall be abolished. Ninth—Military law cannot be ordered by the captain general without the assent of both the house and the senate if those bodies are in session, or without the assent of a majority of the cabinet if they are not in session. Tenth—The Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba shall always be a native Cuban. Eleventh—The actual insurgent party shall have three seats in the first cabinet. Twelfth—An armistice of fifteen days will be granted for the discussion of the terms of peace.

It will be perceived this concludes to the Cuban revolutionists every material point for which they have contended, except the outright recognition of the Cuban republic. Our New York contemporary's information is that this proposition has been accepted by all but three or four members of the Autonomist party. Whether it has also the assent of Spain, is not disclosed, but Spain would doubtless be very glad to let go of Cuba on these terms if she could get from the insurgents so favorable an opportunity. Unfortunately for the consummation of this hope, the insurgent leaders have ratified a solemn pledge that nothing but independence shall dissuade them from their present course. Having shown their ability to wear Spain out it is unlikely that they will now compromise on any basis short of the complete freedom to which they aspire.

If that prove true that the colonial government of Cuba has made or is about to make such a proffer to the insurgents the government of the United States will naturally be justified in awaiting the insurgents' reply. If that reply shall be acceptance our duty will then be limited to securing adequate protection for American commercial interests in Cuba. But if the reply of the insurgents shall be a flat rejection then it seems to us that the administration at Washington should intervene immediately, along the following lines:

- (1) Recognition of the Cuban republic. (2) Intercession with that republic for payment to Spain of \$100,000,000 indefinitely conditional upon Spain's withdrawal from Cuba and recognition of Cuban independence. (3) An agreement with Spain guaranteeing the payment of this indemnity. (4) An agreement with the Cuban republic giving to us the right, in view of our large commercial interests in Cuba and in return for our endorsement of the republic's debt to Spain, to assist in the reorganization of affairs in that island, to the end that order may be more rapidly brought out of the present chaos.

We believe that something like this will be the outcome in Cuba and that it will not be long delayed.

No office in the list is more important, powers and results considered, than school director. Vote for no man for this office whom you don't think capable.

"Business Equality."

For one reason or another the Republicans of Pennsylvania have not made it their practice in recent years to regard with especial seriousness the political postures of their former field-marshal, Hon. Thomas V. Cooper, of Delaware. Yet Mr. Cooper, fair play for him, is one of the clearest-visioned politicians of his day, who has made the history of politics a life study and who may be laughed at by the unthinking and still be all there. Thus in his latest exploit as a trust-smashing candidate for governor, while his immediate purpose may be one of a dissonant effect on the argument for "business equality," which is the shibboleth of his campaign, will be to fix that subject more firmly than ever in the public mind, and in a measure re-open the vexing problem of the corporations, the combines and the trusts. Mr. Cooper's idea, so far as he has yet outlined it, is as follows, using his own words:

It is a profound conviction with me, one growing with years and observation, that the condition of the state and country invites a struggle for a new equality, such a struggle as the Republican party best knows how to conduct, with freedom from dangerous prejudices and practices, and with no thought but for the public welfare. I refer to the need of all our business people, and this includes all who work with hand or brain, for a form of equality which shall place each and all who desire it upon the same footing as corporations touching

capital and credit. I would give to each even one legally capable of conducting business the one right which makes corporations safe and attractive—the right of limited liability upon capital invested in business, which, if honestly lost, is all that is lost, and the man and his family saved for future enterprises. Give to all in business equal opportunities before the law, and it will give the merchants, manufacturers, farmers, artisans and even the professions a safer lease on business life and prosperity.

Proceeding to elaborate this thought Mr. Cooper adds:

What makes life insurance popular and valuable? The knowledge that the amount thus invested is guarded by law from attachment for debts. What makes corporate stocks sell? The knowledge that we can participate in a business without entailing loss that the stock itself in the event of disaster. What influence is deterring our mercantile, manufacturing and farming classes? That which pushes them forever out when they fail, and competition with those better protected makes failures all too frequent. A failure of the individual strips him of all unless he protects himself through fraud, and an ever-pressing inequality excuses the fraud in many minds. The corporation is free, the trust debt is free and forever unknown, the individual is hunted down to the last cent. Wound a merchant, and the wound is fatal, his business life is done; wound the owner of stock and you strike that alone; his energies and investments go on.

What can a governor do to set aright these existing inequalities? Mr. Cooper replies:

He can recommend a proper enabling act conveying to all who desire limited liability, and asking that it be guarded by such restrictions as will improve rather than impair business credit, just as liberal limited co-partnership acts have improved credit in England, and there he can control more than half the business transacted. The act should be guarded as good corporate acts are guarded, it should require a local exorsary annual statement, filed in proper city or county offices, showing capital invested, liabilities, etc., all open to the business world. Every local newspaper, letter and other head and the large business directories, would give a synopsis of these statements, and business transactions would everywhere be facilitated. A governor could require his attorney general to prosecute dangerous trusts under the common law; he could discover them through the secretary of internal affairs, the insurance and banking commissioners. The public sentiment which would nominate and elect such a governor would control the legislature, and win half of the inevitable battle with syndicates and trusts.

Undeniable as it is that much of the aid which has in late years been made against the growing tendency of capital to consolidate, massing tremendous power into the hands of the few and leaving the many almost defenseless against imposition and extortion, has been raised ignorantly and with no well-defined conception of an efficacious remedy, yet it is equally undeniable that the tendency must sooner or later be subjected to legal safeguarding and restraint. When the individual business man, through no fault of his own, is threatened with extinction by the giant forces of a great combine of rivals operating behind the privileges and immunities of a charter, we have presented a situation in our mercantile life which is essentially unwholesome, nor is it the part of wisdom for the masses to sit back and await in patience the gory conclusion of the unequal combat. There must be some adjustment of the law which will protect the weak instead of conferring new and dangerous strength upon the already strong. Otherwise it will have eventually to be admitted that democracy or equality before the law has ceased to characterize the government of the United States and from the decadence of it may safely be predicted dire results in the nation's future.

The proposition advanced by Mr. Cooper is one that has often been outlined in the public's desire. It ought at least to vitalize the contemporary discussion of this theme.

An Encouraging Sign.

One somewhat significant consequence of the introduction in the Ohio legislature recently of a bill to establish a system of compulsory medical examination for couples desiring to wed has been the disposition upon the part of many commentators to consider the subject seriously. We have been accustomed to see propositions of this kind received contemptuously or with ridicule by most persons save those whom the mass of mankind denigrate "cranks"; and it therefore is noteworthy that on this occasion there are a goodly number of apparently rational human beings not connected with the medical profession or otherwise biased who deem it worth while to express their opinions upon the subject with earnestness and dignity.

It is very true that some of the worst fitted candidates for the responsibilities of the parental relation are men and, less frequently, women who could easily pass muster with regard solely to their bodily health. Defects of disposition and mind and temperament are less readily ascertained than is the kind of defects against which the Ohio legislator's bill is chiefly aimed. But if a starting point is ever to be taken by society in the protection of itself from the multiplying evils arising from abuse of its most important relations it will need to be the one which it has already expressed in reference to another great evil; viz, the provision for a quarantine at ports of immigration of persons afflicted with dangerous diseases.

So long as society tolerates the condition in which it finds itself today, that is to say, a condition which on the one hand makes light of martial infidelity in the man, with all that that implies, and, on the other, leaves the depraved, the diseased and the outcast free to perpetuate and increase their species in kind, the problem of vice and crime in all its sickening bearings will continue to loom up before it, getting steadily worse instead of better. It may be, and probably is, true that the best way to get at this cancer on the body politic is not through legislation; but at all events it is something to know that the subject is receiving for almost the first time in recent years a certain measure of intelligent public consideration. It has too long been held under the screen of a mischievous modesty that strains at gnats while swallowing camels.

In anticipation of annexation Honolulu is filling up with Yankee immigrants obeying Horace Greeley's ad-

vice, and all the portents point to a boom. Perhaps this is inevitable, but we advise the substantial citizens of Hawaii to go slow in the matter of booms if they would escape from getting tangled up in the recoil.

Last year the Methodist Book concern on a total business done of \$2,600,000 made a profit of \$231,000. As the book business goes this is decidedly a good showing, but it is far from complimentary to the American people's taste that the average percentage of profits of American breweries in the same year was nearly twice as large.

The Cuban junta in New York has received its first consignment of cigars made under the authority of the Cuban republic. A liberal distribution of these among the authorities at Washington would doubtless soon evoke a recognition of Cuban belligerence and a call for ambulances.

In a test case the Supreme court of the district of Columbia has just held that none but the subscriber for a telephone has the right to use his telephone if the telephone company makes objection to a larger use. It will soon be in order to revise the adage that "talk is cheap."

According to Captain Mahan the power which gets Hawaii first gets a cinch on the control of the North Pacific for all time to come. Then let congress hasten to close the pending deal, since useless delay would simply cast suspicion on its own intelligence.

The lines entitled "Plant Trees," recently credited on this page to Secretary of Agriculture J. Sterling Morton, the originator of Arbor Day, were not written by him. Their author, we now learn, is Mr. Henry Abbey, of Kingston, N. Y.

Gossip again asserts that President Sloane, of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, is soon to retire. Inasmuch as he is not immortal this story will necessarily be verified some time, but in the meantime the liars ought to give him a rest.

It is some consolation to know that the London Spectator frankly recognizes the moral right of the United States government to serve a writ of ejectment on Spanish occupation of Cuba.

Ex-Chairman Cooper evidently wants Governor Pinette to understand that there are other trust-smashers in the push.

The need of a little good manhood in France is becoming painfully evident as the Zola trial progresses.

The successor of de Lome will earn his salary.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological Chart: 123 a. m., for Monday, February 14, 1898.

A child born on this day will notice that men who occupy front seats in a theater generally prefer the rear pews in church.

This is the season of the year when the average tenant begins to realize the meanness of his landlord.

Valentines sent to Editor Lynett should be free from gold-leaf embellishments.

It is believed that the gentlemen pictured on the first page of yesterday's Free Press are much less dangerous than they look.

Dingley Bill Is Vindicating Itself

Washington, Feb. 13. SOMETHING was said in this correspondence a short time ago of the Dingley law as the English revenue production. It was shown that the receipts of the treasury department have rapidly increased since the new law went into effect, and are now reaching almost a million dollars a day, which average sum, when fully realized, will be sufficient to meet the running expenses of the government. There is another feature of the workings of the new law which is equally gratifying and interesting, that is, it was insisted by its opponents in congress that a high rate of protection would be disadvantageous to our foreign trade. The assertion was made over and over again in the debates in congress that a high rate of protection must result in disadvantageous trade relations abroad. Foreign countries, encouraged by this assertion on the part of Democratic members of congress, showed in a series of protests against the Dingley bill much more numerous and threatening than had ever been known before in the consideration of a tariff measure.

Now let us see whether the threats which were jointly made by the Democrats in congress and the people who cooperated with them abroad in their attempt to prevent the adoption of the protective system have been carried out. The new law has been six months in operation. The detailed figures relative to five months of international commerce since it went into effect have been made public by the treasury department and they show a very gratifying condition of our foreign trade during that period. The show that the assertion that the adoption of the Dingley bill would affect our trade disadvantageously were not well founded. Our foreign sales of American products of farm, factory and mine have been much greater in the first five months' operation of the new law than they were in the corresponding months of the Wilson law in 1897. Our sales abroad during the five months in question under the Dingley law have been nearly fifty million dollars in excess of those of the corresponding months of last year under the Wilson law. "Oh," says the objector; "this is due to the unusual demand abroad for American grain, brought about by the shortage in crops in other parts of the world. What was really done by the opponents of the bill was that the adoption of the protective system would have benefited our foreign markets against our manufacturers."

Let us see about this assertion. The figures of the treasury department show that in the five months in question the exportation of manufactured articles has been greater than the exportation of manufactured articles during the corresponding months of 1896 under the Wilson law. The total exportations of our manufactured articles during the five months from August 1 to December 31 were \$112,029,500, which was considerably in excess of the total of the exportations of manufactured articles in the corresponding months of the preceding year.

Another especially important and interesting fact which is shown by these recent figures relating to our commerce since the new law went into effect is that practically all of the countries which made protests against the Dingley bill during its discussion, and by implication at least indicated that its enactment

would adversely affect our trade, have bought more from us since it went into effect than they did in the corresponding months of the preceding year. Take Germany, for instance, whose ambassador filed numerous and elaborate protests against sundry features of the Dingley bill during its pendency; her purchases from us in the five months since the act went into effect are fifteen per cent. greater than in the corresponding months of last year, being \$29,513,964 against \$25,324 in the corresponding months of 1896 under the Wilson law. The Japanese minister filed, it will be remembered, an elaborate protest against certain features of the bill, yet it will be seen by the table which is given below that Japanese importations since the act went into effect have increased nearly fifteen per cent. over those of the corresponding months of the preceding year under the Wilson law. The Swiss minister filed sundry elaborate protests, yet our sales to him more than increased as great as in the corresponding months of the preceding year under the Wilson law. Austria-Hungary, which was the first country to make formal protest, has increased her purchases fifty per cent. The Belgian minister also sent in no less than three communications on this subject addressed to the secretary of state calling pointed attention to the fact that he was doing so by orders of his government, yet Belgium has bought of us since the new law went into effect over fifty per cent. more than she did in the corresponding months of the preceding year under the low tariff rates of the Wilson law.

The following table compares our sales under the new law with those in corresponding months of the preceding year under the Wilson law to all fourteen of the countries which offered protests against the bill during its pendency, in view of its consideration. It will be seen that in all except three unimportant countries our exports increased and that the total value of our exports to fourteen countries in question is \$42,217,918.

EXPORTATIONS FROM UNITED STATES. Table with columns for 1896, 1897, and sub-columns for Aug 1 to Dec 31. Rows include United Kingdom and Canada, Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Japan, China, Denmark, Argentina, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Greece, Switzerland, and Totals.

PARENTHESIS AND BRACKET.

From the New York Sun. This cry of a soul puzzled by parenthesis comes to us from Syracuse. I was taught that parentheses and brackets are not interchangeable, that what is included between ( ) is a part of the story, and that what is included between [ ] is not. In newspaper work men use brackets to inclose a word of explanation to the printer or the editor. Should not brackets be used exclusively for explanation to the editor, or even to the reader, when that explanation is not a part of the story; and is not this distinction between [ ] and ( ) peculiar to our language? I and because in books and in magazines articles written by men presumed to know the English language, I have found the two used interchangeably.

There is no natural distinction of use between the parenthesis and the bracket. They are different forms of the same thing. They are twins. The parenthesis is a curved bracket, the bracket a rectangular parenthesis. Neither is excessive; by beautiful, but you are entitled to make your choice if you want to. Various printers and editors make the distinction mentioned by the Syracusean, but it is a purely artificial and arbitrary distinction, a matter of individual taste or use. The dash seems likely to drive out the parenthesis. At least it is not so ugly as that bow-legged old rascal.

Our advice to the Syracusean and to the rest of mankind is to avoid parenthetical writing. Go straight ahead whenever you can. When an explanatory word or phrase has to be intercalated, use brackets, if you like, or parentheses, if you like. The printer will do as he pleases. He will follow the rule of his office. Some typographical law there must be, but it is mainly founded on inertia. The printer will do as he pleases. He will follow the rule of his office. Some typographical law there must be, but it is mainly founded on inertia. The printer will do as he pleases. He will follow the rule of his office.

A CONCRETE ILLUSTRATION.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. It isn't often that the benefit of good roads and the expensiveness of bad roads of the government. There is one case, but we find in the Louisville Courier-Journal, credited to Mr. Charles E. Ashburne, Jr., the following statement, which has been demonstrated in a matter of personal observation and knowledge by him: A machine weighing 16,000 pounds was drawn four miles on the Brock turnpike, a macadamized road. It required four mules (4,000 pounds to a mule), and one and one-half hours of time at a cost of 15 cents per mule per hour, or a total cost for four miles of 90 cents. After traveling four miles on macadamized turnpike the route lay a little less than 2,000 feet on a dirt road. To travel this 2,000 feet was necessary to use ten of the best mules and seven men; and with this force it took nine hours to complete the journey. The cost, \$18.00, at which rate four miles would have cost \$206.00; or, in other words, \$205.15 is absolutely thrown away for want of a macadam road. A macadam road, such as would be demonstrated in this enormous outlay, would cost \$100 per mile for every foot of width; that is, a 12-foot road, \$1,200 per mile; a 16-foot road, \$1,600 per mile, etc. The above example considered the cost of good and bad roads respectively for a single haul of one vehicle only. Multiply that by the hundreds and thousands of vehicles continually made over the roads mentioned, and our readers can form some idea of the evil of bad roads.

Haviland China...

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IF YOU WANT A CHINA DINNER SET NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY WE ARE TAKING ACCOUNT OF STOCK AND WANT TO CLOSE OUT THESE FOUR LINES BEFORE FEBRUARY 1.

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The choice collection of Plaids, Serges, Whip Cords, Vigoreaux, Bayadenes, Ottoman and Iridescent Silk and Wool Mixtures, Pierola Crepons, which we have just placed on sale are worthy of your attention and your inspection is solicited.

GOLDSMITH BROS. & COMPANY.

We Place on Sale Today Five Hundred Pairs of Boys' School Shoes at 50c a pair.

The Very Best Clothing Manufactured

Is the only kind we have; you can buy it as low as you would have to pay for the ordinary.

Call and see what we are offering.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW, 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

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FINLEY'S SIX DAYS' TRIAL

Annual Linen Sale

Opens today and will continue for Ten Days.

No need to say that the values we will offer during this sale will be more convincing than ever that we are in a position to offer "High Class" Table Linens, Napkins, Doilies, etc., at prices that defy competition.

The few numbers quoted here, are only an index to the special prices which will apply to all qualities in stock. (During this sale only, from our 25c. number to the finest "Double Satin Damask" at \$2.75.

16 PIECES fine German "Silver Bleach" Damask, 58 in. wide; regular 50c. Sale Price, 35c.

10 PIECES 64 in. wide; regular 75c. quality Sale Price, 54c.

10 PIECES Cream Belfast Damask, 72 in. wide; regular 75c. quality Sale Price, 58c.

8 PIECES 72 in. wide; regular \$1.00 quality Sale Price, 75c.

6 PIECES 72 in. Bleached; regular \$1.00 quality Sale Price, 75c.

Table Napkins to match all our finer quality Damasks.

25 DOZEN German "Silver Bleach" Napkins, 5-8 size; regular \$1.25 quality Sale Price, \$1.10.

25 DOZEN 5-8 size; regular \$2.00 quality Sale Price, \$1.75.

3-4 size, Full Bleached Damask; regular \$2.25 quality Sale Price, \$1.85.

All four numbers in proportion. Special prices on Towels (For this sale).

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