

The Scranton Tribune

The Tribune's telegraphic news is from three to five hours fresher than that of any Philadelphia or New York paper...

TEN PAGES. SCRANTON, MARCH 17, 1898.

Lieutenant Commander Sobral is correct when he informs his fellow-countrymen in Spain that the United States does not want war...

The attempt of Spain to charge upon the United States the failure of autonomy in Cuba adds to the gravity of the existing situation...

It should not be necessary for the American state department to take any specific notice of this latest bit of Spanish frontery...

Of all the plans which have been considered for the freeing of Cuba it seems to us that this is the best. Recognition of independence would be quickly followed by the accomplishment of independence in fact as well as in name...

This proposition is defensible because it is right. It concedes to the people of Cuba what our forefathers claimed for the united colonies...

Mr. Wainmaker's bolt may not be an unimpaired blessing for the Republican party, but it will at least help the newspapers by enabling them to print some spirited news.

Our New Battleships. There will be launched at Newport News one week from today two new battleships, the Kentucky and the Keokuk...

The ships are 268 feet long and 72 feet 5 inches wide at their widest point. When fully loaded each will displace 12,225 tons of water...

The 8-inch guns are in the upper half of two two-storied turrets, and are sheltered by walls of steel from nine to eleven inches thick...

A band of steel 7 1/2 feet wide and varying in thickness from 4 inches at the stern to 5 1/2 inches amidships...

ships will come from five great boilers board each, which operate two sets of triple expansion engines and turn the twin screws...

When we reflect that of all the great modern war ships now afloat, numbering well into the hundreds, no two have yet been matched against each other in war under circumstances calculated to afford a fair test of their efficiency...

A good reply for President McKinley to make to Premier Sagasta's appeal to him to coax the Cuban insurgents to accept autonomy would be to quote the De Lome letter.

Can Trust the President. There was a time, not many weeks ago, when public opinion would have been adverse to an adjournment of congress in advance of a settlement of the Cuban problem...

But today no such doubt exists. Circumstances have intervened which have effectually removed it. The president's policy is now better understood. The reasons for that caution which seemed like cowardice in him are comprehended...

This being the situation it is clear that congress can adjourn whenever it sees through with its routine business, and can safely remit the further management of the Cuban question to the chief executive...

The Emperor of Austria need not expect that the United States will ask his consent to the doing of its duty in Cuba. The Emperor of Austria should remember that he has troubles of his own.

State Insurance of Labor. The introduction recently at Albany of a Workmen's compensation bill in imitation of the act passed last year by the British parliament, should have thoughtful Americans that a new legislative subject of great interest must to future be reckoned with...

When this measure was first proposed for enactment in England the cry went forth that it was ultra-socialist. But Lord Salisbury, in supporting the bill in the Lords, pointed out that it was not more socialistic than the system then existing...

The one large obstacle in the way of such a law in this country is the fact that its enactment in one state and non-enactment in another would impose upon the industries of the former state a burden which might render it impossible for them to compete successfully with rival establishments not so burdened...

The post office department has declared fraudulent all puzzle publications which offer prizes for the filling in of missing letters. Papers printing these puzzle offers cannot hereafter go through the mails...

never correct, and you never got any price. All you received for your money was a cheap magazine or story paper and some experience...

The city of Chicago has agreed to permit children of the poor, during the coming summer months, to use the city school yards as playgrounds, and a society of women has been formed to provide the necessary apparatus for the youngsters' amusement and to take care of the little ones while at play...

Mr. Wainmaker is likely to be hampered rather than helped by the auxiliaries collected around him. Those among his advisors who are not recognized has-beens must be put into the equally unsubstantial class known as political feather weights...

It is a pleasure to note that England and Japan are still friendly toward us, notwithstanding Mr. White's curt refusal to entertain a triple alliance.

European powers are evidently of the opinion that it would be too expensive to lavish anything but sympathy on Spain just at present.

Astrologers predict that Spain will lose valuable territory in June next. The astrologers are evidently a month or two behind time.

Unless this difficulty with Spain is settled soon the Wilkes-Barre Times will be obliged to purchase a new dress of bold face type.

It seems about time that something was heard from the Delaware peach crop.

Expert Juggling with the Suffrage. From the Philadelphia Press. THE suffrage clause prepared by a committee of the Louisiana constitutional convention does not indicate that that body will make a sincere effort to solve this question...

It does not need any legal skill to see through the jugglery attempted in this clause. The educational requirement is as strict as that in force in any state in the Union...

This, however, does not cover all the means by which it is proposed to dilute the suffrage in Louisiana. The suffrage clause also says that "no male person of foreign birth who shall have been naturalized prior to the adoption of this constitution shall ever be entitled to register and vote in this state by reason of his failure to possess the educational or property qualifications presented by this constitution..."

The Louisiana convention will make a grave mistake if it consents to any such tampering with the suffrage. The plain and simpler the requirements of the voter, it is now admitted that what is known as the "understanding" clause in the Mississippi constitution was a mistake and that a more intelligent requirement would have been better...

AN OBJECT LESSON. From the New York Sun. The progress of Cuban business has afforded a useful lesson touching another matter. The battleship Oregon, one of our four mightiest, built upon the Pacific coast, is now at San Francisco waiting orders to join the fleet in the West Indies...

Germany has just connected her western and eastern coasts by means of a canal south of the peninsula of Denmark. There has been talk of France building another between the Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean, avoiding the passage around Spain and Portugal...

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square miles reaches seven millions and a quarter. No scheme of engineering on the globe equals in importance to the country contemplating it, that of the Nicaragua canal. Doubtless very many people require, to convince them of its wisdom, a lesson so impressive as our pending preparations for war.

Washington Dispatch in the Sun. Three questions pertaining to the calling out of the militia have been a source of controversy for some time and are of special importance to the preparations which are being made for possible war. These have been answered by Lieutenant Colonel George H. Davis, deputy judge advocate general of the army...

1. Does the call of the president necessarily have to be through the governor of the state? 2. In calling out the militia would it be within the powers of the president to designate certain organizations, or would he have to limit himself merely to making a requisition for a certain number of men? 3. In calling out the militia would it be within the powers of the president to designate certain organizations, or would he have to limit himself merely to making a requisition for a certain number of men?

Colonel Davis says, in answer to the first question, that under the practice established by the war department—a practice, however, neither required nor expressly sanctioned by law—an oath of allegiance is essential to the muster in of militia troops, under the act of July 11, 1862...

Answering the second question, Colonel Davis says: "The only authority upon which the calling forth of the militia is that contained in the act of July 11, 1862, which requires that 'within the militia of more than one state be called into the actual service of the United States by the president, he shall appoint them and assign them according to representative population...' On the other hand the act of Feb. 28, 1795, conferred authority upon the president to call for such number of the militia of the state or states most convenient to the place of danger or scene of action as he may deem necessary to repel such invasion or to suppress such rebellion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officer of the militia as he may think proper..."

In regard to the third proposition this explanation is given: "Under the authority conferred by the act of Feb. 28, 1795, the president has the power to create the militia of more than one state in certain organizations for service under the call. If there be no organized militia in the state pointed out by the act of July 11, 1862, as the one from which the militia should be drawn, the power to designate becomes impossible..."

THE LESSON NOT COMPLETED. From the Philadelphia Times. If it be true, as seems to be credibly reported, that witnesses for the defense in the trial of Sheriff Martin and his deputies for the Lattimer tragedy have been dismissed from his labor association and indicted because he testified when summoned by the defense, it must mean that the vindication of the law in the trial of Sheriff Martin and his deputies is not complete...

Sheriff Martin and his deputies were acquitted by a jury of the violence, and under the instructions of a judge who commended the confidence of all who respect integrity and yield obedience to the law. The verdict was a judicial declaration that they were innocent of all violence, whether citizens or aliens, and if other prosecutions and punishments shall be necessary to enforce the lesson of that verdict, they will amply come in time to satisfy the public mind that the law is safe in the hands of the humblest alien himself...

The verdict in the case of Sheriff Martin and his associates is not an exceptional one. It is not a departure in any degree from the established law in this state since its organization, and its lesson will be finished only when it shall be confessed by all that every one who violates the law shall be punished, and that every one who is summoned to testify shall be protected. The one thing that the alien element of Pennsylvania must learn, and learn speedily, is that this is a government of law, and that all must be obedient to its mandates.

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