the Scranton Tribune

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TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, MARCH 16, 1898.

A few more statements like that made in the senate by ex-Scorptary Proctor will so impress Americans with the odiousness of Spanish rule in Cuba that they will not care a snap of the finger bow soon war shall come provided that it will enable them to clean Spain out.

Print Their Names.

Mr. Gibson, the exceptionally reliable Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, makes the deliberate assertion that an influence is at work in the house of representatives, not among the majority of members, but among the leaders, to embarrass the president in the pending emergency. We presem in his words some of the principal points in this indictment:

The army and the navy are both very had's in need of reorganization. The navni personnel bill is a matter of extreme importance, but all efforts of the president and Secretary Long to secure the passage of the bill through the house seems likely to fail. It was introduced at the beginning of the session and referred to the Naval committee, where it was pigeon-holed. It would involve an increase of expenditures of something like \$600,000 a year but it would give the navy the officers and engineers that are absolutely needed to man the ships already owner by the government.

The militia force of the United States, so far as its equipment is concerned, is almost half a century behind the age. In one state thirteen kinds of guns are used by the militia. Be cause of this failure to equip the militia with uniforms and modern guns, the greater part of it would be ineffective in case of war, and when the men were finally equipped with guns they would have to use rifles with which they were entirely unfamiliar. Year after year this matter has been brought to the attention of congress by the War de partment and at each congress bills have been introduced and generally reported to the house to remedy this state of affairs. Still, through the opposition of certain leaders in the interest of 'economy,' nothing has ever

"The army organization is in the same untiquated condition. For many years congress has been urged by the War department to pass a measure that would give the army an organzation like that of the Euro ernments. As long ago as the Fifty first congress a bill passed both house on the subject and failed in conference committee because the chairman of the house conference committee could not get recognition near the end of the ses-Figh to secure the adoption by the house of the conference report. The measure has hung along in congress #ver since, and now, with a possible war in sight, Secretary Alger, General Miles and the other responsible officlais are extremely anxious for this legislation. The president has urged it tipon the leaders of the house, and today Chairman Hull, of the Military committee, introduced a new bill of the subject, which has been so modifled that the president is in hopes that it will pass. But Mr. Hull can get no promise of consideration of his measure, and it is very doubtful if it is even taken up in the house at this session.

The need of dry docks is notorious. It has been urged upon congress for years, and yet, if certain leaders could have had their way, the house naval committee would possibly not have done anything on the subject. Mr. Boutelle was so put out because the majority of the committee refused to follow his leadership on this matter that he left the committee room when the vote was taken deciding in favor of constructing new docks, and also when it was decided to construct torpedo boats and 'destroyers,'

"These," adds Mr. Gibson, very impressively, "are the reasons why the country is unprepared, for war. It is wholly the fault of congress. The leaders on both sides in recent years, Democrats as well as Republicans, have been at fault. The great majority in both house and senate have been ready to vote the necessary legislation to put the country in a condition of defense but they have been held back by leaders whose plea was that of economya plea the country now realizes was very short-sighted. Instead of providing the vessels needed for the defense of the country the navy department is now put to the necessity of purchasing inferior vessels at high prices in foreign markets. The torpedo boats and torpedo-boat desiroyers-vessels that are not expensive-have not been provided, and as a result the administration is now forced to purchase tugs and yachts and turn them into torpedo boats. So far as the 'destroyers' are concerned the nation is absolutely without a single efficient vessel of that kind. Unless public opinion is brought severely to bear on congress it is by no means certain that this shortsighted 'economy' will be abandoned even at this late day."

If Mr. Gibson or any one else will give to the country the names of the men who are chiefly responsible for this stupid obstructiveness we will warrant that they will not get the chance to repeat their mistake.

Tradition tells of people who have been possessed of such pronounced thievish proclivities that they would iteal a red hot stove; but New Brunswisk. N. J. seems to be the abode of the most phenomenal thievery on record. Not long ago a brick house in

Recently a New Brunswick man was arrested for stealing a locomotive. while a previous offense of the same ound anchor. Yet there are some Philadelphia papers which would try persuade the public that thievery cians in the Republican party of the tate of Pennsylvania.

The court ruled wisely in refusing the application of Edward J. Walsh for a cholesaler's license next to the First Presbyterian church. It is but fair to Mr. Waish to say that the opposition massed against this application was in o sense personal. It gives us pleasure o add, voluntarily, that Mr. Walsh is is worthy a man as is engaged in the quor business, and one on personal grounds much more deserving of a cense than many who now hold licenses. Yet if he were to be permitted to becate a liquor store next to a church it would be simply impossible to deny the same consideration to others, and the result in time would be that many churches would be literally surrounded by such places. If it ! good policy to make a rule that licenses shall not be granted within, say, 200 feet of a church or a school it is certainly good policy to enforce that rule impartially. When Mr. Walsh finds a location not open to this objection his petition will not only be unopposed but will be cordially supported by all who believe in liquor licenses at all.

Ripe for Action.

All who have read the full text of the report made to the senate by ex-Secretary Proctor concerning the con ditions observed by him in Cuba must realize that while it is a most carefully repressed statement of facts and observations, offered without comment or suggestion, it is also a terrible in dictment of the past course of the American government. We defy any man to read this sober and unemotional record, with its convincing at fighting Cuban patriots should have been recognized at least one year ago Our indifference then was mistaken, but its prolongation now would be The Proposition of

The entire native population of the island, says Senator Proctor, outnumbering the Spaniards five to one, is in avowed or secret sympathy with the insurrection. It tacks arms and strength to make its sympathy immediately triumphant, but the sympathy exists. The aspiration for freedom is there. It has survived the awful carpeakable misrule. It has grown with the blood shed by Spain and with the indescribable sufferings of the reconentradoes. It now aligns race against race. Cuban against Spaniard, in relentless antagonism and it will continue this alignment until the most fertile of islands shall be converted into a ruin unless meanwhile the United States lifts its voice in Cuba's

First and greatest, to notify Spain to get out. On this subject there need be no mincing of words. The time for have reached at last the stage of the game which demands the firm will and the resolute arm. Spain must be subtracted from the Western hemisphere. The United States as the primal republic of the new world, whose flat is law, must superintend the subtraction The method which will attain this end in the briefest possible time is the

What is our governments's duty?

A war in such a cause would exait this nation. But war or peace, Spain

Concurrently with this, the president should recognize the independence of the Cuban republic. Recognition of belligerency would have sufficed a year Now we should go to the limit Cuba has paid the blood-fee of freedom. She should not again be cheated of her due because of the American element which cries for peace at any

The Maine disaster, infamous as it was if shown to have been designed, is after all by contrast only incidental. The great heart of free America, beating in unison with the spirit of its founders, goes out to this abused neighboring people struggling to be free and, irrespective of the Maine, its message bids them hope. Rescue is nearer than they think. The time power on earth can withhold America's

A young woman of Philadelphia Miss Coffman, seems to have solved the difficult problem of truancy, at least to her own satisfaction, and with a success which all the might of blue uniforms and brass buttons was powerless to attain. Miss Coffman is the Greece.

that vicinity dissappeared entirely, no newly installed teacher of the school trace of purloiner or house remaining. for truants and neglected children. There was one boy in Fishbone alley who could not be corraited by the truant officers, having eluded them person had been the theft of a 200 despite their most violent efforts to gather him in, while he was also the avowed leader of other naughty boys who, minus his control, would become s exclusively confined to certain poli- useful members of society. Miss Coffman started out to find this slippery youngster the other morning and pursued him with commendable perseverance into a house up the stairs and finally through a trap door to the roof where she collared him and returned triumphant to the schoolroom. It is just possible that the school boards in various cities will discover that a mistake has been made and that confirmed truancy is a case to be handted only by women.

> The Philadelphia Inquirer doesn't want all of Pennsylvania's guardsmen sent at one time to whip Spain, because that, it fears, would leave the commonwealth defenceless. Our contemporary forgets the existence of Prother Dunning's white-winged Invincibles.

The Sun wants congress to give the word for the construction of twenty new battle-ships or ten battle-ships and one hundred torpedo boats. The Sun evidently has a chip on its should

legislature are men who will be worth something after the senatorial election shall be over, By "worth something" we don't refer to cash.

Hope springs eternal in the breast of President Dole, of Hawali,

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope D:awn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 2.34 a. m., for Saturday March 19, 1898.

A child born on this day will be of the opinion that the contemplated war with spain will be as quiet and orderly as one of Jimmy Judge's draw fights.

The "Hub" character witnesses all took the woods yesterday. If some of the school controllers were asked to diffuse a little eloquence in the way of introducing speakers, the objec-tion to university extension in the high chool might be overcome.

It begins to look as though Lincle John maker will furnish all the war that we will have this year.

Up to the hour of going to Press the board of seven has been unable to lasso Johnny McNamara.

Cuban Intervention

A FTER three years of warfare the FTER three years of warfare the situation in Cuba resolves itself thus: Spain cannot put down the rebellion; Spain will not grant independence; the Cubans cannot expei the Spainards, and will not yield to them. Therefore, it is argued, the United States ought to intervene. Spain is an independent state. Lawrence, in his "Principles of International Law", the latest ciples of international Law," the latest authoritative work on the subject in the English language, and one that is consulted constantly these days by the dartment of state, defines independence is "the right of a state to manage all its Bullairs. whether external or internal, vithout interference from other states, is long as it respects the corresponding right possessed by each fully-sovereig member of the family of nictions." Who his is true, as a principle, it happen sometimes that another state or group of states interferes with proceedings of an independent state "to compel it to do something which, if left to itself, it would not do, or refrain from doing something which, if left to itself, it would not do." This usually happens when such state is engaged in an internal turmoit or an external conflict. Lawrence says: interference of this kind is called inter

Lawrence continues: "The essence of intervention is force, or the inreal of force, in case the dictates of the interven-ng power are disregarded." The general policy of the United States is non-inter-cention. Yet, like all general rules, it is subject to exceptions. The most notable these exceptions was when France of these exceptions was when France, under Napoleon III, by force of arms attempted to set up a monarchical form of government under Maximilian against the wishes of the Mexican people. The United States interfered, and by threat of force compelled the Franch emperor to withdraw his troops from Mexico. The result of the downfall and death of Maxmilian, followed by the establishment of the Mexican republic on more secure foundations than ever. This was a true instance of intervention, and was a spice did vindication of the Menros doctrir The grounds upon which the Unit States might intervene in Spanish-Cuban

t. Humanity. The interests of its own citizens protection of its own citizens rom a threatening danger.

Although destitute of technical legality under the ordinary rules of international law as at present written, the first of the grounds upon which the United States might intervene in Cuba is one that ap-peals to the moral sentiment of mankind, nd under exceptional circumstances is morally justifiable. The power which in-tervence on this ground must undertake such intervention with a single eye to the bject in view and without ulterior con-iderations of self-interest and ambition it is to be justified at the bar of na ions. It must be kept in mind that inter-actional law does not lay down the prinple that cruelty on the part of a gov ument renders it liable to be deprived f its freedom of action, nor does it im-ose upon states the obligations of precenting either ordinary barbarity on the part of its neighbors or that special kind of inhumanity which takes the form of eligious persecution.

Lawrence says: "An intervention to out a stop to barbarous and abominable cruelty is a high act of policy above and beyond the domain of law.' It is desti-tute of technical legality, but it may be morally right and even praiseworthy to thigh degree." The question the United States is called upon to decide for itself s whether of not it is justified in intertering in Spanish-Cuban affairs on the broad ground of humanity. Fortunately we are not without a precedent, created by three of the principal European pow-ers. The case in point is that of the interference of Great Britain, France and Russia on behalf of the Greeks in 1827 and the following years. "The contest be-tweeen them and their Turkish oppressors had gone on for years," says Law rence, "and had been marked through out by the most horrible barbarities. I seemed as if it would end in the exter mination of the whole Greek race." Thi description of the Greeian struggle fo independence from the Turkish yoke needs only a change of words, "Turk-ish" to "Spanish" and "Greek race" to "Cuban people," faithfully and accurately to describe the Cuban situation today. The result of the intervention was the establishment of the present kingdom of Greece. The result of intervention by

the United States in Cuba will be the es-

The intervention of the powers named in behalf of Greece was based on three grounds: First, in order to comply with the request of one of the parties; secondly, on the grounds of humanity in order to stay the effusion of blood; thirdly, in order to put a stop to piracy and anarchy. These grounds, like those on which the United States may base its right to intervene in Cuba, were technically illegal under the rules of international law but they were morally right. tional law; but they were morally right Speaking of this event Sir W. Harcourt an Englishman of standing among writers en Englishman of standing among writers on international law, in his celebrated "Historicus" letters, says: "The emancipation of Greece was a high act of policy, above and beyond the domain of law. As an act of policy it may have been and was justifiable; but it was not the less a hostile act, which, if she dared, Turkey might properly have resented by war. It follows from this precedent that, so far as international have is converged, the inis international law is concerned, the servention of the United States on bel of the Cubans will be a high act of no above and beyond the domain of law, in act of policy it may be and will be ; inable. Spain, of course, may resen

An effect of the intervention of Great Britain, France and Russia on behalf of the Grecks is that it esteps them from objecting to the intervention of the United States on behalf of the Cubans, even if they were so inclined, while it will have a restrairing effect upon other Luropean states which, if they did not formally approve intervention in the case of Greece certainly took no steps to preof Greece, certainly took no steps to pre-cent that intervention and afterward acpulesced in the result.

There have been other and later i great powers, such as that in 1800, when they intervened to put a stop to the per-secution and massacre of Christians in the district of Mount Lebanon. Great Britain, by her intervention in Egypt, a province of Turkey, which has been car-ried on with armed force ever since 182. What Pennsylvania needs in her next ried on with armed force ever since 1882, admits that the interests of a state and its people are good grounds for interference by one state in the internal concerns of another state. The principal grounds of her intervention in Egypt and her armed occupation of that country are found in her interests in the Suez canal and in those of her people in Egyptian bonds. The justification of the policy of intervention because of the interests of the intervening state and its people be-ing thus found in Great Britain's course regarding Egypt, it only remains to point out the fact that the interests of the United States and its people require the cessation of the struggle in Cuba which is devastating the Island, ruining its in-dustries, and destroying its population. Trade with the Island is at a practical standstill, and American property is involved in the ruin. This covers the secinds justification for such interference is uban affairs defined by Lawrence as in-

The third ground is different from hose cited in the books. Cuba is the those cited in the books. Cuba is the home of yellow fever, a disease which has again and again scourged, the people of the United States. Our own experience has taught us that this dread disease can be prevented by proper sanitary precautions. Sanitation is an unknown science to the Spanish. The conditions for a fearful outbreak of yelow fever, the worst over known to marking are rine in Cuba ever known to mankind, are ripe in Cuba, Once started, it will be beyond our pow-ers to prevent its transfer to our shores. ers to prevent its framefer to our shores, only six hours away, and its spread to the interior. Standing alone this would perhaps not be sufficient, even morally, certainly not legally under international law to instify intervention; yet undoubtedly it adds weight to the other two grounds, just as piracy and anarchy added weight to the first two reasons for the intervention of Great Britain, France and Russia on behalf of the Greeks.

Concluding his remarks on the general ubject of intervention and non-interven-ion Lawrence says: "Neither selfish isotion Lawrence says: "Neither selfish iso-lation nor undignified remonstrance is the proper attitude for honorable and self-respecting states. They should intervene very sparingly, and only on the clearest grounds of justice and necessity; but when they do intervene they should make clear to all concerned that their voice carried out." In these words the United States finds its course in the past ap-proved and its pathway for the future dazed out.

SHERIFF MARTIN'S ACQUITTAL. From the New York Independent.

The acquittal of Sheriff Martin for the merder of strikers at Latitmer. Pa., is a simple triumph of justice. We are not sorry that an indictment was brought sorry that an indictment was brought against him and that he was pai on trial for this alleged crime, although we have believed from the first that he was only acting in pursuance of his daty as the chief peace officer of Luzerne county. It is undoubtedly a hard thing for a man who does a painful duty faithfully to be arraigned for it as though he were a criminal. Nevertheless, the circumcriminal. Nevertheless, the circum-stances surrounding the event were such that there might have been some doubt In the minds of impartial men as to whether he was justified in what he did. No such doubt is now possible. The trial has been a long one. The note judge who presided gave wide latitude to the prosecution, and a great number of withesses were examined. All that can be known about the shooting is made known by the testimony of over a hundred witnesses. The jury which heard it all agreed upon a verdict of acquittal without besitation. and the sheriff is a free man.

The result of the trial important as it is to Sheriff Martin, is far more important in the influence it must have over oth repeace offices. I a sheriff in the simple corsuit of duty, using the best judgment he has, comes into collision with a mob that will not obey his orders, and in which men are killed and wounded, may be convicted of murder, the effect would be to give rioting pretty nearly free course. No sheriff over whom the danger of indictment of murder might hang would be likely to perform his duty with very great fidelity in preventing or suppressing riot. He knows perfectly well that when he faces a mob he takes him life in his hands and runs the same risk of being shot and killed as a soldier does in battle. If, in addition to this, he is also liable to be tried as a murderer his office would be one of extraordinary risk.

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