

The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

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

New York Office: 150 Nassau St., S. S. VREHLAND, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

TEN PAGES. SCRANTON, MARCH 29, 1898.



Great as is the power of the president of the United States it should be understood at once that it will be impossible for him to co-operate with Spain in any scheme to continue the Spanish flag in Cuba.

Cuban Freedom or War! In the presence of such grave facts as are judiciously marshaled in the president's message, the Maine court of inquiry report and the accompanying transcript of testimony, the country may well emulate the conservatism of congress, which first of all took time to think.

The verdict is not unexpected but the testimony presents some features which may well be described as significant. The chagrin of the Havana officials when they learned from Consul General Lee that the Maine was coming; their refusal to accept General Lee's disclaimer of an ulterior motive in that vessel's reputedly friendly visit; their endeavor to have the visit delayed, and finally the mooring of the Maine to a buoy not previously used for such a purpose—all these things, viewed in the light of the subsequent tragedy, combine to inspire serious thinking.

There is one thing and one thing only which will be acceptable to the American people as full compensation for this frightful wrong. The liberation of Cuba will stay the avenging hand. As martyrs to Cuban liberty the loss of our brave seamen could be viewed, not without sorrow, but with some abatement of bitterness. Such a death would greatly ennoble them and cement for generations the sympathy and friendship between our own and the Cuban republic. This is the nation's demanded indemnity. This or war.

We are not satisfied that Colonel Hitchcock is correct in the position outlined by him in yesterday's Tribune with reference to the president's power to call out the National Guard directly for military duty at any point within the United States. We cannot disabuse our mind of the idea that he already has that power, as is claimed by the United States War Department. This, however, is a belief rather than a positive conviction. We profess no technical knowledge on the subject. But the mere fact that so important a point remains in serious dispute gives ample reason for the enactment by congress of a law which will clearly define the status of the guard; and the draft of the bill proposed by Colonel Hitchcock seems to fit the necessities of the situation very carefully.

Patriotism Made Practical. We print in another place a blank enlistment pledge which requires a few words of explanation. This blank will be printed this week in every city in the United States, and it is hoped that it will be properly filled out and signed by at least two million able-bodied American citizens of fighting age. It has the indorsement of the war and navy department at Washington, and is being circulated directly under the auspices of Lieutenant General Schofield, Major Generals Howard, McCook, Stickers, Chamberlain, Ames and Longstreet, and Brigadier Generals Wood, Wilcox, Wilson and Pierson.

The idea is to establish a National Volunteer Reserve, which, as William D.H. Washington, of the American Institute of Civics, who is one of the prime movers in the enterprise, says, "would be a tremendous expression of confidence, power and loyalty on the part of the people to the nation impossible to be misunderstood at home or abroad," and which, he thinks, "would have a greater moral effect than the purchase of half a dozen men of war or the expenditure of millions for national defence." The organization of the National Volunteer Reserve is not intended as a alarm or to arouse an unnecessary military spirit. On the contrary it is the firm belief of the experienced gentlemen connected with the movement that it will be a peace rather than war measure, and that the people could be spoken to by the authorities and enlisted as if thus bound together and

could be better controlled than at present when they are scattered and entirely independent citizens. The relative strength of the armies of the world on both a peace and war footing is thus given by the United States war department:

Table with columns: Country, Total Peace Footing, War Footing. Rows include Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Turkey, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Greece, Sweden and Norway, Japan, Mexico, Chile, Great Britain, United States.

"Familiar with the ratings of their own and adjoining nations the people of Europe," writes Brleader General Pierson, "judge the United States a comparison, and our army of 25,000 men and reserve or militia of about 100,000, occasions on their part a feeling towards us of contempt and superiority. This applies to Spain today, and if we have war it will be largely owing to it. Were it understood today among the masses in Spain that the United States had not alone an army as above given, but also an enlisted reserve force of several millions of men, there would be no war. I think the plan to establish a National Reserve for reasons given a measure to insure peace, not war; but if war must be, then a measure to shorten its duration."

Let every patriotic American citizen fill out this blank and forward it all elsewhere directed. If there is no war with Spain no harm will have been done; if, however, war ensues, the blank will tend to greatly facilitate the work of national defence.

Of course the National Guard of Pennsylvania will respond if called for. That has never been in doubt for an instant.

"Independence or Death." In view of the suggestion emanating from the Spanish minister at Washington that the United States give Spain another chance to snare the Cuban independence in an autonomy scheme, this time not so palpably insincere as was the first one, it may not be out of place to remember what the head of the Cuban revolutionary movement in this country, Delegate Tomas Estrada Palma, said on this subject in an appeal to the American people issued on March 17, with this very suggestion in view.

"From the first," the appeal says, "our motto has been 'Independence or Death.' We are now more firmly than ever determined to carry out our programme. As we will not accept, we will not even discuss, proposals of autonomy. After three years of the most sanguinary, barbarous and uncivilized warfare of modern times, carried on by Spain, we are stronger than ever. It is for us to say what will satisfy us, not for others. I cannot think that the American people have forgotten the principle laid down in their own Declaration of Independence, nor can I believe that any true American can be found who would advise us to forsake the ideal of republican government, for the monarchical, even in its most liberal form."

"There is no way to compel the Cubans to accept autonomy, except by force of arms. We have fought three years, not against Spain alone, but against the whole world; not a helping hand was extended to us, no country gave us equal rights with Spain. Nevertheless, we never faltered. We always appreciated the fact, that the sympathy of the American people was with us. Spain has proven impotent to compel us by force to accept autonomy. She now desires the aid of the United States, to compel us to accept. I cannot believe that the American government would ever lend itself to the most treacherous and blood-stained monarchy of history, for such a purpose. Should such prove to be the case, however, I declare, in the name of the Cuban people in arms, that force alone can compel our submission."

"We, who have seen hundreds of thousands of our race and families exterminated by slow starvation, by a cowardly decree of the most inhuman commander of sanguinary Spain, will fight against anything but independence, no matter who opposes us. If, unfortunately, this incredible proposal be carried into effect, and American bayonets are arrayed against us in our struggle for freedom and in aid of the Spanish monarchy, we will fight on, sadly, but determined, and let history judge whether the vanquished had not a purer ideal of free institutions than the victors. In such case we will be exterminated, but future generations will again take up our flag and our aspirations, and Cuba will yet be free."

It may be that the president of the United States, rather than go to war, would be willing to see this brave resolve of an abused but still heroic people undermined by Spanish diplomacy, although we doubt it. The more probable supposition is that he recognizes the hopelessness of Spain's latest move and is willing to permit it to be tried simply in order that Spain may have no further excuse for trying to keep her flag afloat over Cuba. Be that, however, as it may, the judgment of the country is that Spain's time is up; that she is entitled to no further grace.

Independence for Cuba, and that without price or reservation, should be America's compensation for the treachery to the Maine. The American people will accept no smaller reparation for the destruction of the Maine than Cuba made absolutely free. Home and Foreign Wages. Some interesting comparisons between labor conditions in this country and Europe are drawn in a report to our state department by Hon. James T. Dubois, of Haliestad, now serving as consul-general at St. Gall, Switzerland. We employ the excellent summary of this report which has been made by the Syracuse Post. Mr. Dubois takes the case of the carpenter—a laborer in a city of 30,000 in

habitant as his first example, and shows that whereas the American earns \$2.7 a day, and averaging for a year \$108, can easily support his family by his own efforts and save a surplus, the European earning 50 cents a day can get for his labor not more than \$230 a year, and must spend \$231 for the support of his family. In other words, they must help him win a living. It is not much of a living at that, so an American carpenter would be likely to say. Meat is seldom seen on the table of the European workman, and while the American can live with comparative comfort in a suburban six room house which rents for \$8 or \$10 a month, the European is likely to be found managing in three rooms in the third floor in the densely populated part of the city.

The locomotive fireman in Europe and America is next considered. Mr. Dubois says that in this country the locomotive fireman gets \$60 a month, or about \$550 a year, at the lowest estimate. Our Syracuse contemporary is inclined to think that his figures in this instance may be somewhat exaggerated. The report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in New York state in 1896 gave the averages of wages in 1891 to 1895 inclusive. The wages ran from \$1.35 a day to \$2.17, a considerable lower average than Mr. Dubois assumes. But according to Pennsylvania standards we think Mr. Dubois' figures are about right. He has taken as his average earnings of the European fireman \$23 a month, or \$276 a year, and he believes that if the American fireman exercised the self-denial and thrift that the European fireman does all the American firemen, instead of about one-third of them, could own their own homes. He is confident that on the continent not one-twelfth of the firemen live in their own homes.

"Whenever it is stated," says Mr. Dubois, "that the wages in Europe are small, but the cost of living is proportionately small, it should not be forgotten that while the cost of living among the workmen of Europe is proportionately smaller than among the toilers in the United States the manner of living is also immeasurably poorer, not only in housing, clothing and food, but in all conditions." In other words, the American workman who behaves himself, improves his opportunities and saves money has a better lot and larger prospect than the workman of any other country. We guess this will not be seriously disputed.

Again we hear talk that the case of the Maine will be referred to arbitration. It will be when we are ready as a government to recognize in plotted assassination a debatable offence and to brand the members of our own court of inquiry as unworthy of trust.

What Has Been Done to Prepare for War

General Boynton in the Sun. AS THIS country now knows, the president has not only announced and promised honorable peace, but has not for an instant relaxed the vigorous preparations for war. Previous to the emergency appropriation this work went forward without general knowledge of its intense activity and extended character. Since the day that congress authorized the complete preparation that money would make possible, the work of the war and navy departments has been on a war footing. If hostilities occur, there will be no hour days in either the last two weeks have been. As a result, the whole Eastern coast has cause for satisfaction and relief. The most important harbors where an enemy could successfully strike or do any permanent damage. The work accomplished has been marvelous both in extent and effectiveness. But for the experience of the last war, and the intelligence which those who served through it brought to the pending difficulties and problems with which the president found himself face to face, the many and most important results attained could not have been secured. As matters now stand, before any outbreak of hostilities is possible, the country is so well prepared that an enemy could not secure against any of the ordinary contingencies of war.

Beyond garrisoning the harbors in force, the present expectation is that hostile movements will be confined for some months to come to the sea. There is no intention, in any event, to let the American troops be the ravages of yellow fever. The president is very emphatic upon this branch of the subject. Among the countless offers of services of the fleet which he has received, there have come declarations from colored veterans that all the soldiers needed for operations in Cuba could be promptly recruited from negroes who are immune to the disease of yellow fever. This is but one indication of the universal character of the offers which are received from the South. In the opinion of military men, the only way out that there is a very practical side to this suggestion. As to the South at large, it is not too much to say that offers enough have been made to that section to start a war with Spain, without regard to its proportions. If the North did not send a man, if that fantastic "revolt" of the Spanish press occurs in the South, it will be an uprising against the president for not allowing that section to precipitate itself in mass upon Spain.

It is interesting to know how our veteran naval officers talk of the probable results of engaging the Spanish navy—that is, what the cool-headed ones believe about it—the men who have too keen an appreciation of what such a contest will be to speak either lightly or boastfully about it. To some of our officers, the absolute confidence in our fleet, and the belief that with some unavoidable, and probably serious loss to ourselves, the navy of Spain will be destroyed. Much reliance is placed by our officers upon the fact that for nearly a year past the crews of our best ships have been under constant drill at sea. Officers and men are accustomed to the evolutions of the fleet, the handling of heavy guns, and to all the movements on board which belong to action, except the fighting itself.

The present intention in regard to infantry forces, if it becomes necessary to employ more than the regular army can supply under the present law, is to employ it to accept service from the National Guard before calling for volunteers. This force has been sounded in all the states. The responses have been of the most satisfactory character. Organized and fairly drilled bodies are ready to take the field on short notice in sufficient numbers to meet all probable requirements. In fact, more have offered than can be supplied with modern arms for some time to come. Measures to remedy this lack are being pushed with vigor. The only chance for veterans finding early opportunity to serve seems to be in a purpose to have all new troops organized and instructed for field service by officers of wide experience in the last war.

In this work, if it becomes necessary to undertake it, Union and Confederate officers will be comrades. The present week will witness the greatest possible activity at every harbor on the coast, at all points where war material is manufactured or distributed, and in the training of coast defences. The underlying throughout army and navy circles resolves itself into the one command, "Forward!" No backward step is possible on our part. The advance is not necessarily to war, but every one admits that the chances of peace are small.

THE RIGHT OF WAY.

From the Philadelphia Ledger. A citizen of Montreal, Canada, has written to the Herald of that city a rather pathetic letter, of which the following paragraph is a part: "As your custom is at present, every time I stop upon a crossing, I feel that I am walking on forbidden ground, and that if I reach the other side in safety it is due either to my good luck or to the interposition of a wise and all powerful Providence. The law says that the pedestrian has the right of way on a public street or crossing, and if run down and injured by a vehicle, the owner of such shall be liable for heavy damages. If a foot passenger, in attempting to cross the street at any other place, meets with injury, he has no recourse, but does so at his own risk."

The reckless and careless bicyclist rider is in evidence everywhere, and probably nowhere so much as in Philadelphia. The courts have decided that bicyclists are, in the meaning of the law, "vehicles," with all the rights and privileges conceded to other kinds of vehicles and subject to the same proper restrictions. But the riders of bicycles appear to think that they have rights and privileges granted to the owners of no other kind of vehicle, and this view is accepted by the police, who do not restrain them.

The drivers of all vehicles, as well as the motormen on the street cars, almost invariably slow down at the street crossings, and if they do not, strict regulations were to presume upon their "right of way" to freely cross the streets at intersections, under the belief that their right would be respected, the safety of life would be appalling, and the surgical wards of our hospitals would be crowded with patients. It is only the rider of the bicycle who, as a rule, does not abate a fraction of his usually dangerous speed at the crossings. He pushes ahead without regard to the life or limbs of the pedestrian, thus ignoring the pedestrian's "right of way," which is, so far as the bicycle rider is concerned, a purely legal fiction. The police do not interfere with him, and the citizen foot crosses an intersection at the risk of being run down and mangled or done to death.

As the bicycling season is now opening, and as the numerous clubs of cyclists are making their massed runs, often rendering the crossings little better than death traps, it is evident that the police should be instructed to compel bicyclists to respect the pedestrian's right of way, to oblige them to slow down at the intersections and to forbid massed processions of bicyclists, which are a dangerous and law, for the reason they are dangerous to public safety.

SENATOR PROCTOR'S SPEECH.

From the Washington Star. Senator Proctor contributed a striking example of how strong and effective simplicity is as a mold for the preparation of a public speech. There was no bid or applause. There was no straining after effect. The art of the orator and the vocabulary of the rhetorician were alike shunned. In a style as bold as Dean Swift's, and with the same directness of style and unpretendingness of that of Mr. Lincoln at Gettysburg, Mr. Proctor described the greatest horror of the age at length, and held his listeners spellbound to the end. He has exercised an injurious influence on many of our most capable speakers. In the eagerness and excitement of campaigning they have yielded to the temptations of exaggeration, until the simpler forms of public address have somewhat gone out of fashion. The fashion has come to be, on the stump and elsewhere, to marshal adjectives of great force, spread the wings of fancy to their fullest reach, and soar away. Mr. Proctor's is, in every way, the finer style. It takes no thought of the turn of a phrase, nor any account of adjectives. It is clear because simple, and convincing because sound and conservative. Its effects are all natural, and therefore the strongest and most enduring that can be produced.

TAUGHT BY EXPERIENCE.

From the Philadelphia Times. These hasty war preparations will doubtless cost a pretty penny, for armies and navies are expensive luxuries, and armies and navies hastily summoned into active service are doubly expensive. The expenditures and preparations now going forward under the threat of speedy war are only those, however, which should have been made long ago, in the interests of peace. We are simply doing under stress now what we should have done when no cloud of war obscured the national interest, and our immediate commercial interests and our double stretch of poorly fortified seacoast we should have a modern navy ready for active service on the shortest notice.

A GROWING BOOM.

From the Philadelphia Times. The three delegates to the Republican state convention from Butler county were not instructed by the county convention, but the action of Congressmen C. W. Stone, of Warren, have informed him that he will get the votes of all three in the state convention. The boom of the Warren congressman seems to be growing one, and it is quite young yet. There is no telling to what proportions it may swell before convention time.

Baby Carriages

Just received a carload of Carriage and Go-Carts. A large variety of styles and prices. If you intend to buy the baby a carriage you can surely please you.

THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO. 422 Lackawanna Avenue.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

AS NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 3d, WILL BE PALM SUNDAY, we will present each and every lady visitor at our store Saturday April 2d, with a Real Florida Palm Bud. By calling through the week you will see all the aisles of our store trimmed with these beautiful Palms which makes one think that they are in the balmy clime of Florida.

In Our Muslin Underwear Dept. (SECOND FLOOR.)

We are showing the most complete lines of Ladies' and Misses' Wash Shirt Waists in Madras, Chambrays, Silk Striped and Plaid French Gingham and Percales from 47 cents up. Also Ladies' Silk Waists and Skirts in all the new shades and plaids at very low prices.

We have placed in stock within the last week in our Cloak and Suit Department a great many novelties in Suits, Jackets, Capes and Children's Reefers. It will be to your advantage to see them before purchasing elsewhere.

Don't forget when buying your Kid Gloves for Easter that we are the leading Glove House in the city. We carry the most complete line and largest assortment in Hook, Button and Clasp Gloves at the lowest prices.

Our Dress Goods and Silk Departments are overflowing with all the new and stylish goods. We have added more help in these departments so that you will be waited upon without delay.

Special this week in all departments.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies.

ALWAYS BUSY.



Spring of '98.

WE MAKE A SPECIALTY OF FOOT CLOTHING. WE FITTINGLY FIT THE FEET. THAT IS OUR BUSINESS, SHOES, SHOES, FOUR FLOORS, AND NOTHING BUT SHOES.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies, 114 AND 116 WYOMING AVENUE.

HILL & CONNELL

121 N. Washington Ave.



BRASS BEDSTEDS.

In buying a brass Bedstead, be sure that you get the best. Our brass Bedsteads are all made with seamless brass tubing and frame work is all of steel. They cost no more than many bedsteads made of the open seamess tubing. Every bedstead is highly finished. A laquered under a peculiar method, long ever having been produced to equal it. Our new Spring Patterns are now on exhibition.

Hill & Connell At 121

North Washington Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE.

Bargain Day

WE HAVE BARGAINS Every Day

LET US CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO A FEW OF OUR BARGAINS: Planchet Tea and Coffee Pots with Copper Bottoms.....1.50 Henric Potato Mashers.....1.00 White Metal Teaspoons.....1.00 set White Metal Tablespoons.....20c set White Metal Forks.....1.00 set Tin Dairy Pans, 6 to 12 qt.....4c each

KEEP YOUR EYE ON OUR WINDOWS FOR BARGAINS. FOOT & SHEAR CO., 110 N. WASHINGTON AVE.

SPRING CLOTHING

in endless variety is arriving daily. It is of the "Boyle & Mucklow grade," which is sufficient guarantee of its style and quality. Before making your spring purchases we would be pleased to show you our line. Everybody buys at the same price.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW,

416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

FINLEY'S

Lewis, Reilly & Davies, 114 AND 116 WYOMING AVENUE.

Notions and Dress Trimmings

A glimpse at our "Notion Department" these days reveals a wealth of "Jewels" that almost suggests the idea of our being in the business. Yet we carry nothing in stock but what the constant change in fashions suggest, and trade demands, or that is not strictly within the lines of a "First Class Dry Goods establishment."

We pride ourselves on this seasons display of fine Jeweled Goods, comprising Belts, Slides, Girdles, Buckles, Etc.

either mounted or otherwise. We also show the most comprehensive line of FINE DRESS TRIMMINGS and ORNAMENTS to be found anywhere, in Jewel, Pearl, Cut Steel and Jet.

Spangle and all over Nets. Drapery Nets in chenille dot and spangle. Choice line of "Hand Made" Gimpure and Jet Fronts in new blouse effects.

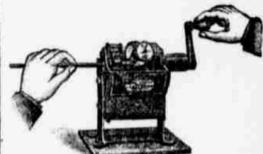
Elegant new line of fine fringed Sashes and Ties, in plaids, roman and Bayadere stripes, and an endless assortment of plain and fancy string Ties.

We cordially invite you to our opening this week of the above lines.

510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE

W. T. SMITH

SIX DAYS' TRIAL



Planetary Pencil Pointer

If it breaks a point bring it back.

Now in general use in the public schools, city hall and court house offices, and many private business places in the city.

YOURS for a price saved in time and the time wasted in old fashioned chipping.

REYNOLDS BROTHERS,

STATIONERS, ENGRAVERS, HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING, 139 Wyoming Avenue.

HENRY BELIN, JR.,

General Agent for the Wyoming District

DUPONT'S POWDER.

Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Shovel and the Repanno Chemical Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES.

Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Rooms 212, 213 and 214 Commonwealth Building, Scranton.

AGENCIES: THOS. FORB, JOHN B. SMITH & SON, W. E. MULLIGAN, Pittston, Plymouth, Wilkes-Barre

MT. PLEASANT COAL

AT RETAIL. Coal of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city, at the lowest price.

Orders received at the office, first floor, Commonwealth building, room No. 5; telephone No. 284 or at the mine, telephone No. 272, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine. W.M. T. SMITH