

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 circulated in its field.

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

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, APRIL 15, 1898.



STAND BY THE FLAG!

Absolutely Senseless Hair-Splitting.

To the lay mind there does not appear to be enough practical difference between the resolution passed by the house and that reported by the foreign relations committee of the senate to warrant the prolonged discussion and ridiculous haggling which are threatened.

The other asserts that "the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent; and it is the duty of the United States to demand and the government of the United States does hereby demand that the government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters."

Let us compare the two. Is their effect different? Can a "stable and independent" government be established in Cuba "by the free action of the people thereof" while Spanish force remains in Cuba to restrain such free action? Can such a government be "independent" while hampered by Spain? Can presidential intervention "at once" be carried into effect without necessarily resulting in the ejection of Spain? If there is any meaning in the English language or any force in the logic of recognized facts, answer must be made in the negative.

But, say the extreme partisans of the senate resolution: "If you intervene in the first instance to stop the war, you must use force chiefly against the insurgents. Spain having already suspended hostilities." Granting this, are the insurgents going to resist an intervention which specifically and unequivocally guarantees the accomplishment of the sole purpose for which they have taken up arms against Spain—namely, the establishment in Cuba, "by the free action of the people thereof, of a stable and independent government of their own?"

Mr. Bryan will receive a respectful welcome in Scranton. He is an exceptional man who is well worth seeing and hearing. Whether he will win over any votes or not is another question.

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utterly without cause or provocation that if attempted, which is not supposed as a question of fact, it would deserve to be overpowered. The American people have determined that Cuba shall be free and independent; that they shall freely establish a stable government of their own.

The senate should adopt the house resolution speedily and get in line with the imperious will of the people.

The Republicans of the Fourth legislative district have shown good judgment in according a unanimous nomination to Hon. John F. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds is not only a popular candidate whose chances of election are excellent, but he is moreover a well-informed, trustworthy and efficient representative who did splendid work during his first term and will do still better work when re-elected.

The Philippine Islands.

Nothing in the way of Spanish cruelty or misrule can hereafter be considered surprising but the Independent contains a description, by Dean C. Worcester, of the University of Michigan, of Spain's practices in the Philip-

An United Country.

"Whether we have war in a few days or a few years this fact has been demonstrated—that the North and South are standing shoulder to shoulder for the rights of American citizens, whether in Cuba or anywhere else on the face of the globe. This demonstration, I say again, is happy in the fact that it shows that from the lakes to the gulf, and from ocean to ocean, we are all true citizens of a common country, and all committed and pledged to the maintenance of its glory, integrity and honor.

And, my friends, should trouble come, the only rivalry between all sections of our country should be as to which state would carry the flag farthest."—From General Fitzhugh Lee's Speech from the Shoreham Balcony in Washington Tuesday Night.

pine islands which contributes to the moral force of this government's contention that the Spanish flag must disappear from American territory.

These islands, 600 in number, are inhabited by 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 people, largely natives of Malay extraction. Says Mr. Worcester: "Extreme poverty is the rule among the civilized natives, and its cause is found in the heavy burden of taxation imposed upon them by their Spanish masters. Every person over 18 years of age is required to procure annually a credible personal or document of identification, the charge for which varies from \$1.50 to \$2.50 according to the means of the applicant. Should these sums seem insignificant it must be remembered that the average native has little or no opportunity to work for hire; that if he does succeed in securing employment his wages are often not more than 5 cents per day, and that he is usually unable to dispose of his farm products for cash, being compelled to exchange them for other commodities. In addition to this personal tax there is a tax on cocoon trees, a tax on beasts of burden, a tax for keeping a shop, a tax on mills or oil presses, a tax on weights and measures, a tax on cock fighting, and so on to the end of the chapter. At every turn the poor native finds himself face to face with the dire necessity of paying tribute; and he frequently spends his life in an ineffectual effort to meet the obligations thus imposed. Delinquent taxpayers are treated with the utmost severity. The first step is usually to strip them to the waist, tie them to a bench or post, and beat them unmercifully. I have seen women subjected to this treatment. If this does not suffice imprisonment follows, while pressure is brought to bear on relatives and friends. Should none of these methods prove effective deportation follows, with confiscation of property and the leaving of women and children to shift for themselves. I once saw forty-four men deported from Sanlúcar because they owed taxes varying in amount from two to forty dollars. I was informed that they would be allowed to return to their families, if they could find them, after working out the amount of their several debts. The wages allowed them were to be six cents per day. Board was to be furnished them at a cost of five cents per day, and they were to clothe and shelter themselves! In other words, their sentence amounted to deportation for life."

In the Philippines, as in Cuba, official position means simply a license to steal. It is said that Weyler in three years accumulated \$2,000,000 while governor general of these islands on a salary of \$100,000 a year. The natives, as in Cuba, have been stripped of the chance to make effective resistance. They are not permitted to carry firearms. The discovery by a Spanish official that a native has secreted a gun means the native's deportation if not his summary execution. This is not government but slavery; and it is to be hoped that ere the United States finishes with Spain in Cuba circumstances may make possible the liberation of the Philippines also. The Philippines are incapable of self-government, but they ought to be put under the protection of some power which is fitted to govern.

It will redound to General Lee's credit that he does not wish to pose in any way as a hero. His status in the diplomatic service would render this indiscreet, but irrespective of that modesty is more becoming. The people appreciate his services fully and there is no need to demonstrate this further. Besides more serious business demands both his and the public's attention.

Senator Caffrey should not form the opinion that he is a big enough man to block the will of the American people.

Efforts at dress reform through the medium of bicycle styles are not likely to prove very fruitful. The fact that the ordinary woman looks like a fright

in a bicycle suit when off the wheel will discourage ambitious women who may lean to short skirts and leggings. Women generally are not anxious to adopt costumes that make them look hideous even to follow the teachings of the strong-minded of their sex, and it is probable that for some time to come the ladies who insist on appearing on foot in bicycle uniform will be regarded as "odd."

C. Fred Wright, candidate for congress to succeed Mr. Codding, of the Fifteenth district, is making a lively canvass for the honor, and seems to have an excellent chance to capture the prize. Mr. Wright is a Susquehanna banker and brother of the late Hon. Myron R. Wright. He has for years been identified with Susquehanna county politics, and though still a young man, is thoroughly acquainted with the workings of the party in the Fifteenth district.

Many readers will doubtless observe that there has been considerable faking on the part of some one in the bulletin board service about the city recently, false and sensational reports having evidently been put out for the purpose of creating excitement. The Tribune bul-

CONDUCTIVE TO HARMONY.

From the Olympian Record. Hon. William Connell has publicly declared himself as a candidate for the nomination of governor before the state convention of Republicans. Mr. Connell is the strongest man that can be presented from northeastern Pennsylvania, and we believe him to be eminently qualified to be governor of our state. He is a truly representative man, and his fervent patriotism and executive ability highly commend him to the attention of the party in the state. He also free from partisan rancor which has lately marred such havoc in the ranks of the party, and his nomination would undoubtedly restore harmony and secure victory in the next election. Our congressmen should get the undivided support of the district he represents, and a united front from his own county would be a power not to be despised by the convention and the best commendation of the merits of the gentleman these delegates choose to honor.

Each organization of state militia signifying a willingness to become a part of the National Guard of the United States, must before acceptance of the same, be inspected by an officer detailed by the president for the purpose. Should any state refuse to organize its proportion quota within two years after the passage of this act it will work an abandonment of its rights to appoint the officers of its militia as members of the National Guard. The same, and the president may so order, complete the organization under the authority conferred by this act, and the National Guard, so organized, shall be considered as exclusively United States troops, in the same manner as made and provided for the regular army. This branch of the National Guard shall be exempt from the draft of the officers and men of the active National Guard shall be exempt from draft during their term of enlistment, and any men who have served five years and have been discharged from the service, shall be exempt from liability to draft until all other able-bodied men within their respective states or territories shall have been drafted.

From the Toronto Globe. The splendid reception given to General Lee by the people of Washington is a picturesque development of the situation. The veteran of the civil war has done his work in Cuba well, and the Americans have for once been well served by a public official. The nephew of General R. E. Lee, himself a distinguished officer in the ranks of the "Lost Cause," Fitzhugh Lee's visit to Washington was most significant of the healing of the breach between North and South. In the Washington from which the American flag flies, the army against which he fought, the old Confederate fighter was given a bouquet wrapped in a Confederate flag. Graceful in itself, the token was a symbol of the unity which has wrought between North and South.

From the Washington Star. The destruction of the Maine may not be recognized as an assignable cause behind the present state of the proof concerning that tragedy. But the incident is of a character to render firm as steel the ties that bind between the two governments whose criminal negligence permitted the disaster whose cruel treachery committed the crime shall depart at once from this hemisphere.

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essions and citizens. Likewise an attack of the continental powers on the United States would, if successful, stop every citizen of his rights to think, speak and write what he likes. A monarchy would take the place of the republic and royalty would array itself in fine purple at the expense of the people. It would not be a limited monarchy like England, it must be remembered, but an absolute monarchy like Russia. The latter would cross the Atlantic and attempt to Russinize "the land of the free."

"The coming of the Slav" is a phrase that strikes terror of the heart. If he should overrun England it would not be so long before he would cross the Atlantic and attempt to Russinize "the land of the free."

MR. CONNELL'S MILITIA BILL.

From a Washington Dispatch. Representative William Connell, of Scranton, has just introduced an important bill in the United States house of representatives, which provides for reorganizing, arming, equipping and disciplining a portion of the militia, and to be called the National Guard of the United States. The bill is numbered 728, and empowers the president of the United States to organize an army out of the state militia, to consist of 200,000 men, apportioned equally between the several states according to their ratio of present enrolled militia liable to military duty, and to prescribe the system of drill, discipline and instruction by which the new organization shall be governed.

The period of enlistment is fixed at three years, and while it retains its identity as a state organization it is nevertheless subject to the orders of the president of the United States in case of war, insurrection or invasion for the period of six months during each term of enlistment. The president, under the provisions of the bill in question, may, at his convenience, mobilize the guard of the several states for the purpose of instruction, inspection, parades, maneuvers, reviews, etc., for a period not exceeding twenty days in each year. When this is done the compensation and allowances per diem to the officers are to be the same as that of officers of like rank in the regular army. The enlisted men are paid as follows: Non-commissioned officers of the general staff, \$3.50 per day; non-commissioned officers of the regimental staff, \$3.00 per day; first sergeants, \$2.50 per day; sergeants, \$2.00 per day; corporals, \$1.75 per day; privates, \$1.50 per day. All expenses for carrying out the provisions of the bill are to be paid out of the national treasury.

Each organization of state militia signifying a willingness to become a part of the National Guard of the United States, must before acceptance of the same, be inspected by an officer detailed by the president for the purpose. Should any state refuse to organize its proportion quota within two years after the passage of this act it will work an abandonment of its rights to appoint the officers of its militia as members of the National Guard. The same, and the president may so order, complete the organization under the authority conferred by this act, and the National Guard, so organized, shall be considered as exclusively United States troops, in the same manner as made and provided for the regular army. This branch of the National Guard shall be exempt from the draft of the officers and men of the active National Guard shall be exempt from draft during their term of enlistment, and any men who have served five years and have been discharged from the service, shall be exempt from liability to draft until all other able-bodied men within their respective states or territories shall have been drafted.

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Spring of '98.

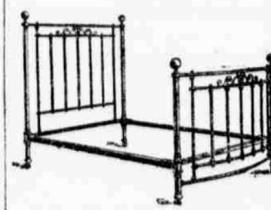
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For instance, an attempt to isolate and humiliate England by the other continental powers, should call for services in its behalf. For, if successful, it would mean a blow at the will of the freemen and a distinct gain for militarism and despotism. If Russia and Germany and France together attacked England it would destroy the rights of the individual and place the "soldier" far above the Judge, the learned pro-

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