

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MAY 25, 1898.



REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

Legislative. First District—JOHN R. FARR.

Richard Harding Davis, who wouldn't take an ornamental staff appointment for which he knew he wasn't fitted, is going to enlist as a private volunteer.

Yet Time to Avert Trouble.

Eight days prior to the day set for the assembling of the Republican state convention there is a feeling among an increasing number of citizens friendly or unfriendly to Senator Quay that, in his capacity as the recognized director of the Republican party organization in Pennsylvania, he will yet take steps to avert the unwelcome consequences which he and they foresee will follow the forcing upon the ticket of the Hon. William A. Stone.

Let it be understood that we speak this necessary truth in no spirit of vindictive antagonism to either Senator Quay or Colonel Stone. Both are gentlemen for whom we entertain personally the kindest feelings. But facts in politics are much more important than feelings, and it is a fact, which any citizen can easily verify, that among the men who usually vote the Republican ticket there is a deep and widening undercurrent of opposition to Colonel Stone's candidacy.

The foolish criticism of President McKinley for appointing sons of their daddies to ornamental staff positions in the army continues. It overlooks the fact that for each of those sons thrown to greatness the government in one way or another gets repaid many fold, and it also takes no account of the humanitarian circumstance that daddy-boys thus placed are taken out of temptation and mischief.

It is understood from a Canadian friend of Polo, and it is plausible, that Spain's whole play, so far as Cuba is concerned, is to delay American invasion until we have wasted a lot of money, the Cubans themselves have been decimated, and the island made a waste place, whereupon Blanco will abandon it.

The ambassador of a European power at Washington informs William E. Curtis that under no circumstances will Russia, France and Germany permit the United States to keep the Philippine islands. It looks as if they might have to.

The "Dewey cocktail" is the latest popular beverage that has been invented to cheer the thirsty New Yorker. In color the "Dewey cocktail" is purple, but it produces a blood red sensation and makes the investigator feel like tackling the entire Spanish navy single-handed.

For general business the second company cannot constitutionally be deprived of the right to do business by the imposition of terms vastly more exacting and onerous than are the terms enjoyed by the original corporation. It would seem that the Lackawanna Telephone company, which with 800 subscribers on five-year contracts, wants to get the use of the streets of Scranton so as to lease telephones and telephone service at one-half the rates now charged by the best branch of the American Bell Telephone company.

Force Is the Best Persuader. It is interesting to note a gradual change in the tone of the trade press concerning the announced purpose of the individual coal operators to force from the coal carrying railroads fairer treatment of anthracite.

There is under way in the anthracite coal regions an organized movement which, while in its earlier development it may evoke sarcastic references to the "three tallers of Towley street," may yet take on proportions of such magnitude as will command for its very serious consideration. The business interests of the anthracite counties are forming associations to demand, as they express it, not charity, but a fair deal in the treatment accorded those regions by the railroads.

The race from which we are sprung is a race that for thousands of years has done the adventurous and outdoor tasks of the world. The English have been explorers, colonizers, conquerors of continents, founders of states. We ourselves every generation since we came to America, have had great practical enterprises to engage us—the fighting with Indians, the clearing of the western land, the independence, the construction of a government, the extension of our territory, the pushing backward of the frontier, the development of the continent.

Our contemporary is assured that more than discussion will be effected by the proposed new railroad. It will bring down the tolls—not because the present railroads have sense enough to see that ruination of the anthracite trade means eventually loss to them, also, but because under the stress of actual competition they will have to yield. There is no persuader so sure as force.

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Prof. Green, of Trenton, N. J., refused to allow the Cuban flag to be raised in his school house and states that there is no occasion for war with Spain. Some one ought to present the professor with a "Remember the Maine" button.

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Come to think of it, it is a trifle severe to hold the French nation responsible for the blatant babble of a lot of Paris newspaper men. Suppose the United States should be held accountable for the talk of the New York Journal.

Few intelligent citizens will mourn the demise under United States Supreme court administration of Pen-

vania's back-number anti-oleomargarine law. That law was a relic of commercial barbarism.

By virtue of his share in the prizes of war captured by his fleet Admiral Sampson is \$37,000 richer than he was a few weeks ago. Let him show his gratitude by sinking Cervera.

Those Americans who are proclaiming the opinion that the United States isn't capable of governing colonies wouldn't like to hear foreigners say that.

There is evidently a ringing in the ears of the citizens of Port de Paix.

Problems Certain to Follow the War

From the Atlantic Monthly. THE problems that seem likely to follow the war are graver than those that have led up to it; and if the too late to ask whether we entered into it without sufficient deliberation, it is not too soon to make sure of every step that we now take. The inspiring unanimity of the people in following their leaders, and the confidence and strength as it ever was under any form of government; and this popular acquiescence in war puts a new responsibility on those leaders, and may give our institutions and our people themselves to a new test.

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ONE MONTH OF WAR.

From the Buffalo Express. The war with Spain had been in progress one month. In this time the country has learned much. Some of our previous opinions regarding ourselves have been confirmed. In other matters we have had surprises. The war so far may be summarized as follows: (1) A daring, skillful assault on the Spanish squadron on the other side of the world, in which the enemy was annihilated; (2) A series of skirmishes along the Cuban coast, marked by audacity on the part of the Americans, but without important result; (3) The arrival of the Spanish flying squadron in the West Indies, and the efforts of our slower ships to find it; (4)

The slow preparation of an army for a descent upon Cuba, which is the great stake of this war; (5) The successful avoidance of complications with foreign countries, only one of which, Great Britain, is unmistakably our friend.

One of the things which we have proved is the fact that our American sailors retain their old efficiency. Our earlier wars made us expert marksmen in the use of cash, skill and marksmanship. The only fleet engagement we have had has approved this expectation, and even the little Cuban skirmishes have certified to the same thing. The war has shown us where the navy is weak, and some of our previous opinions have been upset. Torpedo boats are not proved as terrible as we thought. Dewey made short work of those which attacked him at Manila. We have heard much about monitors; but the events of the last few days have proved that monitors are useful in a very limited field, and good as they are in that field, out of it they are an encumbrance and a help. On the other hand, experience has proved that we need more armored cruisers of high speed. We could, undoubtedly, handle the Spanish fleet, but we should be prepared to hunt the fast Spanish cruisers with our coast-line battleships and heavy monitors like hunting cavalry with drags.

Foreign complications are an element of large possibility in every war, since belligerents are inevitably surrounded so closely with neutrals whose interests and sympathies are always contending. After the experience of our civil war, when delicate and dangerous questions were so continually provoked, we may well be anxious to organize our ability at the headquarters of the guard in most of the states. Even more deplorable is the evident game of cross purposes which has been going on at Washington. This country will perhaps never reduce its military administration to the machine-like efficiency of Prussia; but in the regular army, at least, there should be no confusion and things should be smoothed—as an example to the national guard, if nothing more.

The most discreditable feature of the war is the slowness with which the preparations to relieve Admiral Dewey have advanced. The British, naturally proclaimed themselves on April 25; and it was known then that this left Dewey without a base in the east. He sailed from Manila, China, for Manila on April 27; he won the battle of Manila on May 1, and we knew of his result May 2. It is three weeks today since he fought, and nearly four since Dewey cut loose to find a new foothold for his fleet. The cruiser Charleston, with the first installment of supplies for him, sailed from California only Saturday. Uncle Sam deserves to be called a slowpoke. If for the sake of the Philippines is justified at all, it is justified by this delay.

The war altogether has knocked out of our heads any mistaken idea of coping in a minute with any first-class military power on the other side of the Atlantic. We may well rejoice that we did not get into a fight with Great Britain over Venezuela, and that only poor little seventh-rate Spain is our present antagonist. Uncle Sam can fight at need, after getting well prepared, but he is not a professional warrior, ready to fight at the drop of the hat.

OUR GREATEST VICTORY.

From the Atlantic Monthly. The removal of the scandal of Spain's control of its last American colony is as just and merciful as it is pathetic—a necessary act of surgery for the health of civilization. Of the two disastrous scandals of modern misgovernment, the one which lay within our correction will no longer deface the world. But when his hand is removed, let us make sure that we stop for the old world's troubles are not our troubles, nor its tasks our tasks, and we should not become sharers in its jealousies and entanglements. The chief benefit of the war is the equalization of opportunity and in well-being depends on democratic institutions, of which, we, under God, are yet, in spite of all our shortcomings, the chief beneficiaries and custodians. Our greatest victory will not be over Spain, but over ourselves—to show once more that even in its righteous wrath the republic has virtue of self-restraint.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajnechus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological Cast: 4:01 a. m., for Wednesday, May 25, 1898.

A child born on this day will be undecided whether the Spanish war or the circulation war news is the most important in the afternoon papers.

The Spanish-American war in some respects is medicinal in effect. It's good for the Cramps.

Breakfast Chat. T met a man from Pike county last night. Are you sure? I think so. He had never heard of Admiral Dewey.

CHINA and CROCKERY

In Carload Lots. We have just received another bulk car load of White and Decorated China and Porcelains, and can now show you the latest designs and decorations in Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets at prices that can only be made when goods are bought in large quantities and direct from the manufacturer.

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