

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 15, 1898.

The next mayor of Scranton should be a man having practical acquaintance with municipal affairs, knowing the city's needs and the present faults in its government, and daring to stand by his convictions. The next mayor should be a mayor in fact as well as in name.

Immigration.
In his annual report to the secretary of the treasury Commissioner General of Immigration T. V. Powderly makes a number of valuable recommendations, probably the most important being that each arriving immigrant, when admitted to the United States, should be provided with a landing certificate, setting forth the name, age, sex, birthplace of the immigrant, the vessel to which allegiance is due, the port from which the vessel sailed, the name of the vessel, the line it belongs to, the port it arrives at and the date of landing. The immigrant should be instructed, by means of a circular, to retain the certificate for presentation when applying for naturalization papers. A record of the facts stated in the said circular, as to each immigrant, to be known as an immigrant directory, should be kept for each fiscal year by the bureau of immigration. An act of congress, authorizing such a course of procedure and requiring of the alien presenting himself for naturalization to produce such a certificate as a duplicate from the immigrant directory, would, Mr. Powderly argues, facilitate the work of the courts, and go far toward preventing the issuance of fraudulent naturalization papers in future.

Last year's immigration was 229,269, a decrease of 1,347, compared with the preceding year. Of the whole number 135,777 were males and 93,524 females; 19,727 came into the United States through Canada. During the year 3,639 were deported, and of this number there were 32 insane, 1 idiot, 2,261 paupers or persons likely to become a public charge, 258 diseased persons, 2 convicts, 79 assisted immigrants and 77 contract laborers. 799 were returned within one year over 14 years of age, 1,418 could not write, 43,657 could neither read nor write, 27,698 over 20 years of age had \$20 or over, and 94,293 had less than \$20. The total amount of money shown by immigrants during the year was \$3,532,077, but the actual amount brought over was probably greatly in excess of this amount. Of the whole number of arrivals, 58,613 came from Italy, 27,221 from Russia, 25,128 from Ireland, 17,111 from Germany, 16,659 from Hungary, 12,429 from Galicia and Bukovina, 12,429 from England, 12,388 from Sweden and 9,877 from Poland. Of the total number of stowaway passengers arrived during the year, 51 were actors, 29 artists, 153 clergymen, 12 editors, 43 engravers, 27 lawyers, 223 musicians, 81 physicians, 134 sculptors, 288 teachers, 47 accountants, 1,469 bakers, 1,632 barbers, 1,152 blacksmiths, 159 brewers, 1,974 butchers, 2,994 carpenters and joiners, 706 dressmakers, 2,625 mariners, 1,371 maids, 1,694 miners, 511 painters, 972 seamstresses, 3,229 shoemakers, 3,236 tailors, 1,182 weavers, 5 bankers, 826 cooks, 16,243 farmers, 1,188 grocers, 52,233 laborers, 4,492 merchants and 24,655 servants. These figures, however, the report states, are not to be relied upon as indicating the pursuit they will follow in this country.

In character last year's immigration was much the best of that admitted in recent years, a fact reflecting creditably upon the vigilance and fidelity of Mr. Powderly's work. But it is obvious that we do not now need and cannot hereafter conveniently accept so large an annual influx from foreign lands without detriment to home interests; hence the demand for further restriction should not cease.

Army Needs.
There men whose recommendations deserve consideration have within a fortnight gone on record in favor of an increased regular army. Major General O. O. Howard, retired, thinks that our permanent military force should be at least 62,000 strong; Adjutant General Corbin argues for an advance, although he mentions no limit; and, finally, the major general commanding renews his suggestion that the regular army be organized on the basis of one soldier to each 1,000 of population.

"For several years," says General Miles, "I have urged the importance of the government's adopting a standard of strength for its military forces that should be commensurate with the interests of the government in its growth and development, and proportionate to its population and wealth. Spasmodic vibration from a weak and ineffective army to one of gigantic proportions does not seem to be best for the welfare and safety of the nation, and I think it more judicious for the government to fix a certain percentage of trained military men in proportion to the population. The army would thereby have a more healthy growth as the nation develops. In fact, this system, if once adopted, would be as practicable for one hundred years as for a single decade. The art of war was never so much an exact science as at the present time. The appliances used in modern warfare are constantly changing, and are steadily increasing in effective force; so that it is of the utmost importance that the government should have the most skilled and efficient forces practicable. I therefore renew my former recommendation that the government authorize enlistments in the army at the rate of one soldier to every 1,000 of the population."

General Miles also recommends that congress authorize an auxiliary force of native troops to be officered prin-

cipally by United States officers, for service in Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines, not to exceed two soldiers to every 1,000 of the population of those islands. "This," says he, "would give the United States a most valuable auxiliary force. It would pacify the native elements of the islands, and would be in the interests of economy and good government. This force could be used in a way similar to the mounted police in Canada and the British troops in Egypt and India." General Miles has the support of Generals Howard and Corbin in this matter, also; and it presents the additional recommendation of opening the door to a speedy release of our volunteer troops from garrison service in our new possessions.

In giving consent to these changes congress will not "plunge the nation into militarism" nor "create a standing menace to the perpetuity of republican institutions" but will simply show its ability to learn a lesson from experience.

The Reading person who accepted a legislative nomination on the Swallow ticket with 4,500 written pledges of support and polled only 1,333 votes can now affirm with emphasis the doctrine of human depravity.

The Chicago Way.
While certain long-winded theorists in the east are proclaiming monotonously their despair of the republic if expansion takes place, the enterprising merchants of Chicago are already holding meetings to consider how to get their share or more of the trade of our new island dependencies. A notable discussion covering this practical question was held last week before the Merchants Club of the Windy City, and the addresses delivered upon that occasion are worthy of widespread notice.

The first speaker, Stuyvesant Fish, had not originally favored expansion but now that it is assured he thought the thing to do was to pitch in and make it a success. To this end, merchants should study the peculiarities of the new markets and prepare to meet them. "A semi-annual traveling salesman, with trunks of samples, will not divert trade from its present channels. Warehouses, sample-rooms, liberal credits, a desire to please, and an honesty of purpose to provide the best in each particular line can alone accomplish the desired end." The government, too, must help. It must cut the Nicaragua canal and vote liberal subsidies for a revived American merchant marine.

On the latter topic Mr. Fish said: "The value of our foreign commerce the last year was \$1,847,000,000, of which 91 per cent, or \$1,689,000,000 was paid out for transportation. This of itself is sufficient to equip and maintain a large industry and employ thousands of idle hands. It is more than double the amounts of the dividends of all the railroads in the United States. Were we to provide a merchant marine sufficient to transport the whole or a large part of this business, from what we know of the laws of trade, we would be safe in expecting that the competition which it would beget with existing carriers would reduce carrying charges by as much as 10 per cent. Here would be a saving in the transportation of last year's commerce alone of \$160,000,000, a sum sufficient, if given in subsidies or subventions, to induce private enterprise to establish steamship lines all over the world. Yet it is not too far-fetched to say that we are losing that amount each year, aside from the great loss incident to the embargo placed upon our trade and industries. If one-sixth of the amount were given annually toward the maintenance of a merchant marine we would develop a foreign commerce that would be a marvel of the age; we would grow in greatness and prosperity at home, and as a nation attain a dignity abroad which no wars, however successful, could give."

Another speaker was William E. Curtis, the Washington correspondent. After alluding to the blunders redeemed by the glorious heroism of the Spanish American war he went on: "We are now about to pass another national responsibility in a direction where we have no experience whatever. The great store-houses of human experience furnish plenty of examples for us to imitate from the days of Julius Caesar down, but I presume we will continue to do things in our own way. We will doubtless make plenty of mistakes, and cause plenty of scandals and fight over them in congress, in the newspapers and at the polls, while the rest of the world stares at us, but there has never been an emergency in this land without a man to meet it, and as President McKinley says, with that sweet optimism which preserves him from so much anxiety, 'Some time and somehow everything will come out right.' I am not antagonistic to public improvements, with discriminating duties in favor of our peculiar products. Their exports will be admitted to the United States under terms that will protect our labor and capital against unreasonable competition, and competing industries from injury.

"The productive capacity of the Philippines can easily be advanced from twenty to a hundred millions by the introduction of scientific methods and the labor-saving machinery you can furnish them, and their imports will increase in a corresponding degree. We can teach the people to wear clothing and shoes and hats, and furnish them the material. We can teach them the white bread habit, the blessing

of corn bread, pork and beans and codfish—which the scientists say are the most healthful and nutritious of all foods. We can teach them to read and write, and sell them books and stationery; inspire them with a love of the beautiful and sell them pictures and pianos, and we can coin our silver into money for their use. That is what we call civilization, the change from barbarism to breeches, from birch bark to books, from palm leaves to shingles."

"It is asserted that the productive capacity of human hands is doubled every four years by the invention of labor-saving machinery. During the last fifty years the population of Chicago has multiplied sixty-seven times. The output of your factories has multiplied 116 times. The increase in the volume of agricultural products is even more amazing. What are you going to do with your products in the middle of the next century? You must make less and sell more, and where will you sell it? On the doorsteps and in the households of your competitors in the old world? In South America, where the population is only six times that of the Philippine islands? Or will you enter the uncultivated fields that face our Pacific coast, where a thousand million consumers abide, and where we can make our own terms? We live too much in the present. We plan and build for the day alone, but thoughtful eyes must see our national horizon extending and in the perspective of the coming century perceive the great republic assuming its rightful place and wielding its proper power in the universe."

We prefer the Chicago to the wump way of looking at these things. Two years ago Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, Washington, Oregon, California and Utah gave 268,841 net plurality against the Republican ticket; this year the net Republican plurality in these thirteen states is 11,874, a total change of 271,708 votes, or the conversion of nearly 19 per cent. of the total voting population of those states. All of which goes to emphasize the everlasting truth of Lincoln's remark that you can't fool all the people all the time.

Attempts are being made to show that Charles W. Stone's defeat in the Twenty-seventh congressional district was the work of treachery. A likelihood supposition is that it was the work of a majority of voters who preferred Joe Sibley.

In the elections of 1898 nineteen states returned Democratic, Populist or silver-vote pluralities aggregating 486,000 and twenty-five states went Republican with 735,000 aggregate plurality. Not so bad for an off year.

People in the United States should not expect too much from the Cubans on the start. It is evident that the Cuban army already contains elements that would be known in the North as "reformers."

The war is practically over, but it will probably take the patent medicine companies all winter to cure the generals in the daily papers.

The fortitude with which this country bears up under the news that Senator Stewart will not be re-elected is most encouraging.

If Colonel Bryan had political lock-jaw before election he is likely now to experience a permanent paralysis of labial power.

The manner in which the Democratic press pitched into Speaker Reed is an acknowledgment of the certainty of his re-election.

Gideon Marsh is probably sorry by this time that he responded to Mr. Wanamaker's plaintive request to return.

It is hard to distinguish the published face of a football player from that of a Philippine insurgent these days.

Investors in Keely motor stock will be apt to regard Nikola Tesla's aerial electricity with suspicion.

Before all of the army reports are in it looks as though Sylvester Sevier would be vindicated.

Beginning a New Era of Prosperity.

USUALLY dry and uninteresting, the statistics of foreign trade are now what might be called eloquent. Each month tells a story of expanding commerce, added wealth to the nation, increased employment to laboring capital and greater prosperity and comfort to the people in general. For the nine months ending Sept. 30, as compared with the corresponding months of 1897, there was an increase of \$25,000,000 in exports and a decrease of \$12,000,000 in imports, a net gain in the balance in our favor of \$13,000,000, or at the rate of \$316,000,000 for the year. This increased gain for one year exceeds in value the entire foreign trade of the United States for any year preceding 1856. The total of the imports and exports for the calendar year will be over three times greater in value than for any year before the war, and in quantities five times greater.

All parts of the country are sharing in this increase, but particularly the Middle States and the West. And yet the nation is just entering its period of greatest activity and prosperity. The cloud that has hung over the land because of the attack on our sound money system and the protective tariff was only partly removed by the election of President McKinley. But the election last week of a congress Republican in both branches has dispelled the shadow and sound money and a protective tariff are assured for many years to come. This means a more rapid industrial growth, which will be accelerated when the questions growing out of the war are settled, and trade opened on permanent lines with the nation's new possessions. It takes considerable time to recover fully from the blight of Democratic rule and Democratic attacks on sound money and a protective tariff, but the trade statistics show that the nation is now rapidly recovering and soon will be on the high tide of prosperity where it was when the Democratic party succeeded in the elections in 1892 and brought reverses which proved a calamity greater in cost than the Civil war.

One thing more in the way of legislation is very much needed to increase the nation's prosperity, and that is the restoration of our merchant marine to the foreign trade. This can only be done by applying to that trade the same system of protection that has brought such glorious results in our coastwise shipping and domestic industries. This enormous growth of trade and population since the war has been due to a protective tariff. The one important industry not protected is that of shipping engaged in the foreign trade. It has declined steadily, as any other industry open to free competition would have done. There was no tin plate industry in the United States until it was given protection. Steel rails, wire nails, silk and numerous other industries have been built up in the same way. But our shipowners engaged in the foreign trade have been left to contend with the worst kind of foreign competition, and, of course, they have succumbed. The result is that the nation is paying hundreds of millions of dollars every year to foreigners to carry our goods. When this is stopped and the United States has its fair share of that trade with the consequent new markets that it will bring, we may expect the greatest prosperity the nation has ever known. We should not be content until that point has been reached.

ELECTIONS SHOULD ELECT.
From the Philadelphia Times.
Our legislature in its studied efforts to hinder independent voting, among other incongruities and unintelligible provisions inserted in the amendments appearing in the name of any candidate for a particular office on more than one column of the official ballot. This desperate attempt to interfere with the right of citizens to enjoy a free ballot, was declared by the courts to be against public policy and inoperative.

In obedience to the decision of the courts a number of the ballots voted at the last election had the name of one candidate on several of the columns of the Philadelphia ballot. The fusion tickets in Blair, Huntington, Chester and Adams counties contained the names of the same candidates for the legislature in the Democratic and Independent columns, and in Lackawanna and Monticomey counties the names of the same candidates printed in two or more columns.

There is no pretense that the fusion legislative ticket was not honestly elected by the people of Chester county, and by a majority so decided that all should bow to it. Nor is it disputed that Judges Gunter and Wood received very large pluralities or majorities in their respective counties. There is no allegation of fraud to affect the result. None claim that the people were in any way deceived, or that there can be any objection to these successful candidates receiving their counties excepting the naked technicality, already overruled by the courts, that the name of the candidate could not appear on two columns of the official ballot.

Any man who would thus attempt to crawl into a public office on an exploded technicality against the unaltered expression of the popular will, would certainly find it difficult to convince his neighbors that he has any fair appreciation of common sense. Such work would be worthy only of the unscrupulous political hewer, and there is certainly no self-respecting citizen who would thus expose himself to open shame. Elections should elect.

UNPARALLELED.
From General Miles' Report.
It is gratifying to record that during the war with Spain not a single defeat has been met, and not a prisoner, color, gun or rifle has been captured by the enemy. In this respect the war has been most remarkable, and, perhaps, unparalleled.

It is his easier to borrow trouble than to return it.
Ajacchus' Advice.
In the coming municipal campaign it will be well for candidates to possess an eligible conscience.

THANKSGIVING—1898.
Praise and thanks for freedom's conquest! Praise and thanks for peace restored; For the myrtle on the altar; for the wreath beside the sword; For the silent, shining cannon; for the hand-clasp and the vow; For the long-haired roll of heroes—for the martyr's love-kiss'd brow; And I thank Thee, God, I thank Thee, for the dear ones, mine and all, Who've come back with shouts and chaplets to the festive board and hall. Oh, the hand-grasp and the heart-clang and the mother's "blessed dear." And the joy around the hearthstone in the fullness of the year.
—James Buckham in Leslie's Weekly.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

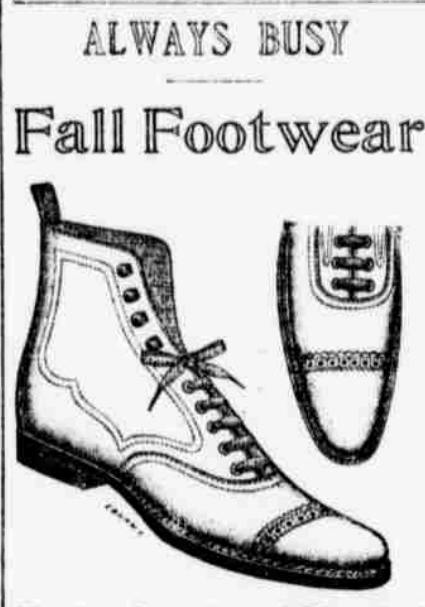
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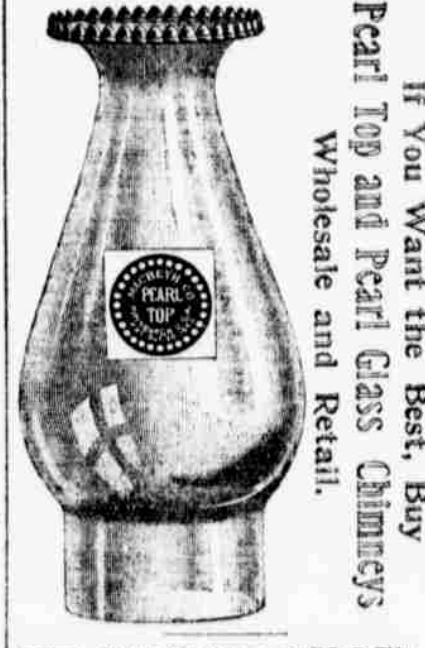
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WOLF & WENZEL,
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