

The Scranton Tribune

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1898.

The public will doubtless agree with General Miles that experiments with embalmed beef should be made upon someone other than the soldiers.

Col. Boies on Army Reorganization.

We gladly surrender space this morning to a most interesting and timely contribution by an eminent fellow-townsmen to the general fund of suggestions concerning the inevitable reorganization of the nation's military forces and methods in the light of the experiences of our latest war.

First, he wants a regular army that shall be 41 in every respect save size, if organized with a minimum of privates but with a maximum of trained officers, an army 15,000 strong could, he thinks, in an emergency speedily be expanded to 50,000 without serious loss of efficiency pending the "whipping in" of the new recruits.

Secondly, Colonel Boies' plan contemplates the organization of a national guard which shall be national in fact; which shall be a genuine national reserve. His arguments for the Hitchcock bill would suffer by abridgement; read them as he gives them.

Colonel Bryan's future undoubtedly depends upon the hatching of a new "jam."

Next Week's Legislative Caucus.

With fair allowance for the unforeseen in politics, there is today every reason to expect that at next week's caucus of the Republican membership of the incoming house of representatives Hon. John R. Parr, of this city, will be nominated for speaker by a large majority if not by acclamation, and that his election will follow in due course.

Upon this result, Mr. Farr, the city of Scranton, Northeastern Pennsylvania and the Commonwealth at large will be open to congratulation. Personally it will be no small triumph for the vigilant and industrious member from the First district, who by accession to the speaker's chair will crown a legislative career of notable activity and usefulness.

The man who celebrated Christmas properly will have no tired feeling in his head today.

The Need of Economy.

A current interview represents the governor-elect, Colonel Stone, as asserting in emphatic terms the need of rigid economy in the appropriation and disbursement of Commonwealth funds.

In the interview just alluded to he is made to say: "The entire revenue of the Commonwealth is approximately \$1,000,000, and of this sum approximately \$7,000,000 is appropriated for public and normal schools, institutions for the feeble-minded, etc."

would result in corresponding benefits, but the bare, blunt fact stares us in the face that to do so or to maintain the present scale the state must do injustice to other important claims."

Whether these words are an accurate representation of the governor-elect's views will appear after the publication of the inaugural address. It is a fact that the present method of apportioning the school fund is open to severe criticism; it probably is true that if the method were revised so that no community could get from the state for educational purposes more than a sum equal to its own collection for school purposes a spirit of self-reliance would be engendered and the state would receive a better return from a smaller distribution of money.

The heroes of the late war have the advantage over the patriots of '76 and '61. There are nowadays more newspapers, magazines and women who are anxious to be kissed.

Advertising.

The remarks of Mr. William H. Campbell, advertising manager for Jonas Long's Sons, last evening at Wilkes-Barre, before the Shoe Dealers' association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, upon the subject of "Advertising," reprinted in full in another column, merit perusal by every reader of The Tribune engaged in trade.

The business built up by the firm with which Mr. Campbell is connected in one year in a new territory which already was experiencing sharp competition is a practical demonstration of the value of intelligently directed advertising. Of course advertising was not the only factor in this quick success; but it was the indispensable foundation.

Advertising, to be successful, must be wisely used. It is less necessary when people are buying freely than when they are not. Just before Christmas everybody shops. After Christmas, the man who advertises the best inducements draws to his establishment what buyers there are, and persuades folks to buy who otherwise would stay at home.

The Remedy.

In the Engineering Magazine Arthur Warren charges that the American warships off Santiago, in the morning before Cervera's ineffectual attempt to escape, and for days previous, were unprepared for a fast run because many of their boilers were uncoupled and the officers on the bridge would not grant the request of the chief engineers to keep all machinery in readiness for forced draught.

An assertion of this nature requires confirmation, but even if true it would not argue inefficiency. The Spanish fleet was destroyed with the loss of only one American sailor. That shows that the precautions taken were adequate. No doubt there was friction between the line and the engineers.

As showing how a strike of oil affects the value of real estate the fact is noted that six months ago, near Parkersburg, W. Va., a farm known as the Drake property was rented for \$20. The man who leased the place lost confidence in the territory before any development was made and offered it to a land speculator for \$140.

NEWS AND COMMENT

One of the queerest railroads in the country is the Nantucket Central, which makes round trips during the summer season between Nantucket and Siasconset. The conductor is also general manager of the road, train dispatcher and division superintendent. The engineer is master mechanic, chief in transportation and overseer of the roadbed.

The inventive genius of the Yankee is not declining. Says the present commissioner of patents, Hon. Charles H. Duell: "Our total number of patents now exceeds 2,000,000. In 1830 there were 280,000 for France, 252,000 for Great Britain, 113,254 for Germany and 129,742 for Belgium.

France, the source of novel vices, has devised a new kind of dissipation, petroleum drinking. Says a San correspondent: "The Frenchman has gone one better or worse, than the Irish drinker of methylated spirits and seeks delight in petroleum. The habit has made considerable progress in Paris already; doctors have already christened it 'Petrolism' and its victims 'petrolistes'.

Rev. W. H. Sloan, agent of the American Baptist Home Mission society, after a canvass of the situation in Porto Rico, says: "I think there will not be the slightest trouble with the United States in occupying a firm foothold in the island within a very short time."

Governor-elect Stone is quoted as saying: "There is not the slightest doubt in my mind of the acquittal and re-election of United States senator M. S. Quay. The obstacles to such a result, being based upon nothing more substantial than the desire of political enemies to wreck personal revenue, will be swept aside and the people of this Commonwealth will be permitted to understand that Mr. Quay is the object of political persecution unparalleled."

England never seems to count the cost in a matter affecting her control of the seas. Four thousand men are engaged today in making Gibraltar one of the greatest coaling stations and depots for the outfitting of warships in the world.

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So many of the Western Union Telegraph company's operators in New York are ill with grip that a large number of the day force had to be kept on duty last night. It is said that a hundred or more operators are ill in that city alone.

Jiminez Castellanos, the last Spanish captain general of Cuba, is the 124th Spaniard to hold that position.

FOLK LORE.

The research into popular beliefs is an absorbing and not a profitless study. Scarcely a day passes that we do not run across some piece of superstition that

dates, in one form or another, from a far antiquity. Salt is spilled at tables, and we jest with our neighbor over the prospect of a quarrel, half believing in the fact, though we may not know that the Romans did the same. A dog howls at night, and we recall the widespread belief that the howling of a dog foretells death, but forget that our early Aryan ancestors assigned to the dog the office of messenger from the world of spirits.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological Cast: 4:08 a. m., for Tuesday, December 27, 1898.

A child born on this day will be of the opinion that it is better to conceal ignorance than to display it. There is something wrong with the woman who does not care to know the price of her Christmas present.

A good many self-made men have been obliged to steal the pattern. Crawford county rules are supposed to give the amateur politician opportunity for a star engagement.

Ajacchus' Advice.

It is better to give than to receive—especially in a prize fight.

A TREASURE.

A clergyman who was interested in every member of his rural flock and who did all he could to promote the happiness of his charge called on a pious farmer who had caused a sonship by preventing the marriage of one of his daughters to a worthy young man.

"Is not the young man worthy and well-to-do?" "Oh, yes," replied the old man, testily. "He is a good man."

LOVE OF COUNTRY.

At evening on the platform stood A hero, revelling in the hour, When he, a kisser stout and good, Might show the world his power. In dreams he saw his line mustache Worn stubbly by the lasses' rash Wins rubbed to his embrace.

At evening men with muscles strong Paused to expostulate in vain. The hero bade them pass along His usual walk in the park. Said he, "You must not interfere With patriotism so sincere As this they now display. Why then do you so cannot know, 'What made the lamb love Mary so?'"

Public opinion failed to teach, His voice he would not hear. And still the echoing shout he hurst: "To arms! They're here! The girl! The girl!" They couldn't stop him. Still he'd reach Across the rail, mid spinster screech And giddy giggling far and near.

GOLDSMITH'S BAZAAR. G. B.

Recipients Of Unexpected Christmas Gifts...

Desiring to return the compliment will find it to their advantage to consult us because this will be the grand closing out week of our entire stock of special holiday goods. You will find a merciless cut on every article. It is against our business policy to carry over any stock of holiday goods. Everything must go at some price, it matters not how great the loss. The largest Christmas trade in our business career enables us to be liberal in dividing this week's sacrifices with our many friends and customers.

ALWAYS BUSY For Christmas Hill & Connell, 121 Washington Avenue, Have an unusual large assortment of Chairs and Rockers of every description Ladies' Desks in all the woods, Parlor Cabinets and Music Cabinets in Mahogany and Veneer-Martin.

Christmas Is Coming So Is Santa Claus His little friends, and big ones too, will be happy in our shoes.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies, Hill & Connell 121 Washington Ave.

When You Are Out looking around for your Christmas Gifts... remember our stock of Fine China, Cut Glass, Bric a Brac, Dinner, Tea, and Toilet Sets. THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO.

Reynolds Bros. STATIONERS and ENGRAVERS, THE HUNT & CONNELL CO. 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE

THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE. FIXTURES FOR THE BATH ROOM Nickel-Plated Soap Cups, Towel Racks, Sponge Cases. We have a nice line of the above goods. FOOTE & SHEAR CO. 119 WASHINGTON AVE. WOLF & WENZEL, 240 Adams Ave, Opp. Court House. Practical Tanners and Plumbers, 410 Lackawanna Avenue

FINLEY'S Holiday Announcement... We are prepared to show a finer assorted stock of

Christmas Goods than on any previous occasion. We make special mention of the following lines, viz.

Real Lace Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, Collars, Jackets and Collarettes, also Laces by the yard. Spanish Lace Fichus and Scarfs. Fine Silk Petticoats. Ladies' and gentlemen's Fine Silk Umbrellas.

Fine Table Linens, Table Sets and fancy Centre Pieces. Fine line of high grade Perfumery, etc. HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for

DUPONT'S POWDER. Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeless and the Reppano Gunpowder Company's HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Explosives. THOS. FORD, JOHN E. SMITH & SON, W. E. MULLIGAN.