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SCRANTON, JANUARY 5, 1899.

The point raised by Colonel Watres in an interview in another column relative to the duration in service of the so-called provisional guard is most important. There would be manifest injustice in putting the officers and trouble and expense which they have incurred only to drop them after a few months' service. Undoubtedly when the old regiments get back there will, as Colonel Watres says, be found means to solve the problem without unfairness to either.

The Senatorial Situation.

As the matter stands, Senator Quay is the regular Republican nominee for United States senator, bearing the indorsement of a clear majority of the Republican membership in the legislature but not having committed to his support by caucus resolution a majority of the whole membership of the legislature. He is the regular nominee; those who shall oppose him on joint bullet will be the bolters. They will challenge the principle that a majority of the membership of a given party is entitled to bind the members of that party; they will, for the moment, cease to be Republicans and will become independents.

A few of the 58 Repumicans who, by reason of illness, caution or conscience were absent from Tuesday evening's caucus would not support Senator Quay on joint ballot if his caucus indorsement had been twice as large. They are fanatics in their dislike of Quay and Quayism but they do not number more than a nozen at most. The remaining two-score or more, as they affirm in their written explanation, "believe in party regularity under normal conditions" and "the use of the party caucus to determine party policies and nominations"; but decline to enter a cancus controlled by Senator Quay, which would bind them to yote for him while indictments against him might remain undecided. The inference is that they would have no objection to going along with the majority for Quay if the Higation against him were out of the way. The statement, it will be noted, does not say that its signers will refuse to vote for Quay on joint ballot. Some of them will. Some probably will not. On this point and on the action of the Supreme court with reference to the Quay apit shall elect him immediately or cause a deadlock.

particular Tuesday's caucus was for all practical purposes a draw. It gives est a structure. Quay the party majority, which had against those of the so-called Quay machine. That Senator Quay, while under indictment for alleged criminal acts, on the contrary marveious strength, the governor pronounces. whole political future upon their becaucus in spite of herculean pressure to get them merely to defer action for a few days, and voted there, man after man, for Quay, the indicted suspect of the bargain counter press.

It is doubtful if any other American in public life could have commanded such a proof of political devotion; and it is impossible to believe that such a man can be sacrificed by the machinations of notorious enemies.

Senator Perkins, of California, who personally is opposed to expansion and would prefer to vote against the peace treaty, has asked the legislature of his state for instructions. This is a proper step. In a representative government the matured will of the majority should prevail. Why don't Senators Hale and Hoar follow this appropriate example?

That Santiago Flare Up.

The misunderstanding which ha arisen in Santiago over the recent executive order requiring the customs collections at that port and at all other Cuban ports to be sent to a central revenue depository in Havana pending their re-distribution among the provinces is prophetic of the many difficulties which American occupation of Cuba will accomplish. As in this case so in most cases will these difficulties be due mainly to inadequate native

comprehension of American intent. The citizens of Santiago oppose send ing the revenue collections to Havana because they say it would stop all internal improvements, deprive 10,000 Cubans of employment, turning them into a perilous charge on the communlty and in other ways be a misfortune so great that rather than submit they would prefer to take up arms. This is natural enough from the Santiago standpoint. The natives of that city have been accustomed to see the revenue collections sent from Santiago port to Havana and there put into a strong box and trans-shipped to Spain. None of the money, under Spanish rule, came back again in payment of local improvements. Hence there Santiago Cubans think we are going to steal their revenues, as our predecessors did.

But they will discover, after a time, that this centralization of revenues is a necessary feature of the centralization of government; that while the municipal revenues of Santiago city are properly and exclusively a local possession, the collections of the port belong to the island and must be entered into the general fund from which improvements throughout the island.

system. Each penny taken will be accounted for, but no single port city will be per'mitted to enrich itself from port collections at the expense of other districts not Exiving so convenient a

source of income. It may be necessary to go slowly in this matter; but the trend of progress must be in the direction of teaching the Cubans how to distinguish between local and federal rights.

It is to be noted that Senator Quay is at his best when the fight is sharp. He has been in such places before.

An Acceptable Decision.

The legislature has made a good beginning in deciding to adjourn in less men of this fine organization to the than four months. In this time it ought to be able to give intelligent consideration to the necessary appropriation bills, put into effect the degree of economy which revenue conditions imperatively demand and enact a fair amount of advisable general legisla-

> There is need of ballot reform along the lines recommended by Secretary Martin and Governor Hastings; there ought to be some kind of legislation designed to lessen the intolerable tax burdens growing out of the hoggishness of shark aldermen, constables and justices of the peace; provision should be made for the employment of convicts in ways that will least compete with free labor; a consolidation of tax receiverships in third-class cities is demanded by strong considerations of diet all kinds of dire calamities for public convenience and economy; and 1899 to get to work. numerous measures affecting particular interests are ready for presentation, some of which will recommend themselves to public favor. The enactment of these measures will not, however, require prolonged time, for the mind of the people concerning them is a!ready made up.

Heretofore a large part of the time of the legislature has been consumed by profitless and often scandalous partisan or factional manaeuvering. This may be attempted during the present session but if so, it should be promptly suppressed. There will be efficient leadership in the present general assembly and the best thing the rank and file can do is to acquiesce in its suggestions. If this shall be done the legislature can adjourn on April 20, leaving behind it a fine record of good work and very few scandals.

The story from Havana that it was Spanish judge, now a fugitive, who plotted the destruction of the Maine requires confirmation. But we ought now to be in pretty good condition to get at the bottom of that crime.

The New Capitol.

Public opinion will very generally agree with Governor Hastings that the capitol building commission has not peal will largely depend the vote which kept faith with the legislature which Quay will get on joint ballot-whether created it or with the people. We may hold what opinions we please as to the sufficiency of a \$550,000 building Thus it will be seen that instead of as the capitol of the second American being a decided victory for anybody in commonwealth; these are strong arguments both for and against so mod-

But the place for the settlement of been conceded to him anyway; and it these differences was in the last leggives to his opponents an additional islature before the bill was passed. fortnight of grace in which to measure There was where the matter of a price should have been discussed fully and decided. For the commission to the intent of the people was to build could get the immediate, direct sup- an elaborate capitol, of which the \$550,port in caucus of 98 Republicans out 000 portion was to be merely the crude of the 167 who are in the legislature, beginning, was to take a liberty exceedor a clear majority of 29, is a fact ing its jurisdiction. Such an assumpwhich does not indicate weakness, but tion invites the spirited criticism which

These 98 Republicans staked their The present legislature should promptly take up this matter and delief in Quay's innocence of criminal cide what further is to be done. It is purpose or intent; they went into possible that public opinion would sanction a reasonable supplementary appropriation intended to put the new monstresity on capitol hill in something like presentable shape. But if such a measure is adopted it must be economical in amount and emphatic in its instructions of finality. The people of Pennsylvania will never submit to have foisted upon them a prolonged new capitol job.

> There is evidently no key to the Philippine situation, but Admiral Dewey doubtless knows how to make

Coming to Their Senses. One by one the opponents of expan-

sion are coming to their senses. The latest is Harper's Weekly, which says: 'After the peace treaty is ratifled, there is only one duty for patriotic citizens. We may intend to keep the Philippines for good and all, and in the end to obtain Cuba. Whether this is to be the end of our efforts or not, the first duty of the United States is to provide good government for our new pssessions, whether the new governments are to be temporary or permanent, and this task will require all the political energy and intelligence of the country. Time devoted to discussion as to whether we had better hand back | Wo the islands after they have been taken by this treaty will be time wasted. Then they will be ours, to be governed by us permanently, or to be returned to the native populations when we are satisfied that these are prepared for in self-government. It will be the duty to sustain the government after the

war was declared." The soundness of his advice is apparent, and also its timeliness. The quesion of the future of our newly acquired territory is very patently a question or the future to determine. Whatever may be the conditions in Cuba, Porto Rico or the Philippines five, ten, twenty or fifty years hence the condition today is that before mankind the United States is responsible for their government, for their education and development and for the preservation in them of order, wise law and common humanity. The task will, indeed, require "all

the performance of the nation's manifest duty.

The Wilkes-Barre Record Almanac for 1898 is one of the most complete of the inland publications. Greater care than ever seems to have been taken in compiling the current Issue, which contains much valuable information coucerning the city of Wilkes-Barre and the enterprising towns of Luzerne county. In addition to the usual matter of statistical nature the book for 1899 contains an interesting record of the war experiences of the Ninth regiment, as well as a complete roll of merabers in the service, which will prove convenient for reference for years to come.

It sounds strange to read in a Havana dispatch that American soldiers have been punished in Cuba for carrying Cuban flags. This seems like discipline made ridiculous.

It is unkind in Spain to remind us that we gave Aguinaldo the chance to get gay. But Spain's own past does not qualify her to say much about other people's mistakes.

General Gomez in a published letter complains that the heel of America is on Cuba's neck. The old gentleman is misinformed. He will live to regret such words.

Perhaps the reason the president doesn't speak in behalf of the peace treaty is because the peace treaty

It is time for astrologers, weather

prophets and others who expect to pre-

speaks for itself. Brother Roberts, of Utah, begins to realize that there are drawbacks even to a national reputation.

If there should be a deadlock in the general assembly, Governor Stone ought to make a good locksmith.

NOTES ON PORTO RICO

Correspondence of the Associated Press. San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 18.-In the matter of cleanliness this city is deceptive. If one comes from other island towns to San Juan, or, better yet, if one comes from the average West Indian port to San Juan, San Juan will at first seem clean in comparison. This because the streets of Porto Rico's capital are for the most part very well paved and are kept actually fairly clean. A compari-son can be made to a shiny, steel fire on a very muddy wagon wheel. The city streets are for the most part clean, but the houses and the numberless in-terior courts and connecting alleyways are indescribably dirty. If you ask what should be done for the sanitation of the city you will very likely be answered "everything." There is no doubt but that the question needs very thorough handling and one can well say that evrything must be done, for nothing to ak of has been done in the past and their own will the people will do nothing today.

San Juan city is built on the western end of a long and narrow island that runs almost due east and west across the nerthern side of San Juan harbor. The notinern side of this island is the highest, being sixty or seventy feet above sea level, and from this ridge the land slopes evenly to the south or harbor side of the island. The harbor is large and has an eastern and western entrance; the western entrance only can be used by ships, the eastern entrance is shallow. But there is a fair current of water through the barbor with each slight raise assume by its subsequent caurse that and fall of the tide. The prevailing winds are from the north.

A noticeable feature of the city streets is that the first floors, in cases where the houses have two stories, are either given over to offices and warehouses, or are inhabited by the poorer classes. Ev-ery one knows that it is healthier to live above the ground floor, consequently all hose who can afford to, do live there, doctor of this city, a man who has tudied the question of the city's health, has declared that in order to make the city stay clean and healthy, these poorer ses, mostly composed of negroes could be driven away to the country This action he considers imperative for the lasting success of any measures to ward city sanitation. As one walks through the streets one catches glimpses of interior courts that seem alive with people; enter these courts and you are impressed with the great number of people who live in small spaces and are deprived of air and light. Americans have wondered how this city could house the 20,000 inhabitants attrib uted to it; a visit to the interiors of the houses would quickly inform them.

In these tenements the sanitary arrangements are practically nil. There are no public lavatories in town and the vast amount of clothes that is weekly washed in this, as in all Central American cities, is done in these houses. Al-leyways, halls and crowded rooms are forever hung with damp clothing; dirty water stands in foul tubs and is emptied into drains that probably do not drain. The houses are crowded with naked children, food is cooked over charcoal fires in any corner and all water comes from underground reservoirs in the yards that eatch the rain from the roofs. All the water. The mal odors from these many enements blow out into the streets and ise to the people who live above. It is almost impossible to find today in San Juan a second story for living purposes under which there do not reside several families with habits such as are here

Whether these people can be driven to country is a question. The negrould prefer to live on eight square feet of dirt in the capital than in the fresh air of the country, and such tenement property is highly profitable to the oner here as elsewhere. You cannot drive the negro to the open fields unless you there provide shelter for him, and even if you told him he must move withn three or six months he would make to effort to find himself quarters elsewhere, . It would be necessary to build or patriots, after the ratification of the treaty, to accept the task imposed upon the United States, as it was their duty would be strongly opposed by the proprty owner. While theoretically this acts practical application will be found difficult. In case it cannot be done, the cleansing of the city must be considered with these people still in their homes. The natural conditions of the town make a good drainage system possible. There is ample fall from all points into the harbor. Whether there is sufficient Whether there is sufficient harbor flow to carry away the matter thus drained has never been determined. If there is not, the eastern entrance might be sufficiently enlarged to bring

> The Spaniards long ago started work on a system of water supply to be brought from the country through aqueducts and this system was very nearly completed when the war came on. In-

are to be paid for under a well-defined | they must face the facis and help in new ones. However this may be, much has already been done toward getting ample and good water to this city, and his matter is of first importance to th

city's health, If the undesirable first floor negro is to stay in town he must first be taught how to live properly and then made to do so. It is not sufficient to post instructions on to be sufficient to be severed to built and until that time all wasning of clothes should be done in proper public lavatories; there must be ample and divides should be done in proper passes, invatories; there must be ample and good water; proper and hygienic living must be severely punished for each infraction of the rules; only thus can they be handled and effectively taught. It will be useless and farcical to attempt to force them to live properly without given them the manne or to do. ing them the means so to do.

The situation can be summed up thus shortly: the city today is overcrowded, there is not sufficient water and what there is is bad, the soil is impregnated and poisoned with the accumulations of years and centuries and there are no san-tary arrangements such as sewers and drains. The question can be handled adically and straight out from the shoultenements will have to be thinned out. Or the matter can be temporized. The cleaning of the city is now in the hands of the city council. Since the American occupation they have been attempting to do something in the matter, but they clearly lack the ability to grasp and han-dle the question. They have no idea as to what a clean city, according to our American ideas, should be. None of them has ever been intimately acquainted with one. At a recent meeting of the council one. At a recent meeting of the cour when this subject came up for discuss one member nompously remarked "Let as show the Americans that we can keep this city clean as well as they can." In-somuch as we have before us the result of several centuries of their effort in his direction the remark appears ridicu

The matter of the sanitation of this city needs American handling. I for a North American to run it. It is the purpose of the present American military authorities to allow the Porto Ricans to administer, within certain limitations, their own affairs. Well and good, but this matter of health, which affects every American resident in the capital, should be energetically administered by an American. It is manifest that a Porto Rican cannot do it as it should be done. should be done.

On the northern ridge of the city of San Juan is a long line of old Spanish fortifications. There are walls many fort hick broken by embrasures for cannor and old sentry boxes. In pictures que rreguarity they stretch along above the breakers from Morro Castle on the west-ern end to the old fortress of San Cristobal on the other. This part of San Juan is most attractive. It is exposed to the persistent trade winds and the ground is the highest in town. It is clearly the best location in the city, but unfortunately it is now occupied by San Juan's worst and dirtiest inhabitants.

The old walls and the broad street behind them lend themselves to a most attractive scheme of city improvement. With grading and leveling there could be built here the most attractive drive way in the West Indies. The old wails would hold it up from the sca, Morro would mark one end, San Cristobal the other, there would be the cool trades to rattle the palm leaves planted to give shade, lights would make it bright at night, the waves would flash white over the rough coral below and sea and aky would give one mass of brilliant, blue color. If such an enterprise were started by the municipality or the state, private enterprise would seize up the tum-ble down barracks that now face the fu-ture driveway and this property would be improved and all would be in keep

THE TALE OF A JUJUBGEE.

Said the High Hote-a-Tote of the Googa-"It is very apparent to me That somewhere back in the forest black

Is a horrible jujubgee."

Indeed it is so " said the Worthy Jo-Je For I saw the thing climbing a tree, And I learned a few things it's important When you hunt for a Jujubgee:

As big as a horse and as spry as a cat 'Tis a terrible thing to behold! With claws like a hawk and wings like It would cause all your blood to run

'And then there's its tail! It's as long as rail,
With a sharp, shining spear on the end; Its head is as big as the head of a whale And its mouth to its ears doth extend "Ob, this herrible, horrible jujubgee!"

Said the High Tote-a-Tote in alarra, 'We must hunt it and kill it, as you Before it does any more harm! 'We'll gather together a host of brave

men And seek it with diligent care, We'll pound it, confound it! and kill it and then Each man in the glory will share." 'It's awfui, I'm sure," sald a gray whis

kered man,
"But I own it's a puzzle to me, And I hope that you will explain if you And describe it more definitely." Til try to do so," said the Worthy Jo-Jo

But it seems it's a cross between a Do-Do And a Porcupus-elephantine. It dwells in a loathsome and dismal der That Snarks and Boojums infest; It feeds on livers of liverymen

"Although it is hard to define;

And a Gook is its constant guest. 'It's as fierce and as cross as a Jabberwock.
And as spry as a Chimpanzee,
It has wings like a bat, and claws like a

And is fully as a tall as a tree." The gray-whiskered man turned pale at the thought,
And trembled most violently.

He said, "if this monster could only be caught, What a glorious thing it would be!" They gathered together a host of brave With pitchforks and axes and guns, And they traveled on foot over mountain

Over rivers and creeks and runs. And at length, way down in a hole in the ground. On the top of a dogwood tree. There sat by himself in a study profound. This crafty old Jujubgee,

and glen-

The High Hote-a-Tote caught the brute by the throat
When it languidly turned up its eyes,
And he said to his men. "As I am a goat. We have taken the thing by surprise!

Then it sloshed its great tail around like a fail.

And made an attempt to escape:
But the Grand Gruesome Gump he hit
it a thump.
That twisted it all out of shape.

They pounced on and fought it, and kicked it and shot it.

And jabbed it and stabbed it to death.

They spurned it and burned it, and cooked it and turned it.

Until they were all out of breath.

And when they were perfectly sure it was dead.

Just as dead as a thing could be.

They looked at its teeth and examined its head.

Is now on sale. Could be and the same and the same are the same as a same and the same are the its head.

And they found 'twas a Chingoaree' -Purxsutawney Spirit.



BAZAAR.

Card of Importance

To buyers of Muslin Underwear

Experience has taught us not to hold our first annual sale of Muslin Garments until the first week in February, because the reputation we have gained in this particular branch of our business has been caused by offering nothing but well made and up-to-date garments at the lowest possible prices, and in order to obtain well made garments it takes time, because our contracts are only made with the best manufacturers who employ nothing but skilled labor and make every garment in their own factories, under one roof and under their personal supervision, equal to and in many respects better than if they were made in your own homes.

The wonderful increase in our sales the past year has proven beyond a doubt that our customers are alive to the aforesaid statement and it has also prompted us to place orders for double the quantity of Underwear ordered any previous season, therefore, when we do hold our Grand February Sale-you will find a stock here larger than that of all other stores combined. All January sales will sink into utter insignificance when compared with our coming February Sale, thus those who wait for it will surely be the gainers. Very Respectfully Yours.

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Nay Aug.

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69c

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Assortment 3 All Fancy Silks ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$2.00. Now \$1.00

Assortment 4

A few choice things in Fancy Brocades, etc., mostly in short lengths of from two to six yards each; were \$2.50 to \$3.50. Clos-

\$1.25

The first three lots are in lengths rauging from four vards to twelve and fifteen yards each, and we unhesitatingly say that, so far as silk values are concerned, this is an opportunity rarely to be met with.

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