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SCRANTON, JANUARY 21, 1899.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.
Mayor—JAMES MOIR.
Treasurer—THOMAS R. BROOKS.
Controller—F. J. WIDMAYER.

School Directors—JOHN J. COURIER,
MORRIS CHASE, J. W. SHIRES.
Assessors—GWILYM JONES, PHILIP
RINSLAND, C. S. FOWLER.
Election Day—February 23.

The responsibility for the deadlock at
Harrisburg, which ties up legislation
and creates public suspense, is on those
Republican members who have bolted
the caucus nominees of their party. Let
their constituents take notice.

The Martin Ballot Bill.
The new ballot law introduced by
Senator Martin is the Australian ballot,
with one difference. In Australia the
name of the candidates are grouped
alphabetically under the various
offices. In the Martin bill the first
name under each office is that of the
candidate of the party which polled
the highest vote at the preceding state
election; the second name that of the
candidate of the party which polled
the second highest vote, and so on down.
This gives an arrangement more nearly
in conformity with out political system
and offers a means of identification
for the benefit of voters unable
or unwilling to read. The saving of
space as compared with the present
blanket ballot is in the same and no reas-
onable objection attaches to the change.

This is the form of ballot which com-
mon sense instinctively recommends.
It is what the press and a considerable
body of the people have been demand-
ing for years. It has been opposed
in the past and no doubt it will con-
tinue to be opposed by the dark-lan-
tern type of rooster politician, who
thrives on the intricacy and obscurity
of the election machinery. This type
of politician generally has the inside
track in the state legislatures when the
people in general are indifferent; but
it is a type that cannot prevail when
public opinion is well organized and
assertive. If the present legislature is
to pass the Martin bill, it must be com-
manded to do so by the imperious
voice of the people at large. They
must cause flexible members to know
that they want this thing and that
nothing less will satisfy them. If they
shall do this, ballot reform will occur
in short order. If they shall remain
passive, it will fall that as it has fallen
so many times before.

It is not necessary, in this connec-
tion, to inquire into the motives of
the gentleman who now stands sponsor
for the much-needed public improvement.
He may be actuated less by any broad
desire for the betterment of existing
conditions than by a wish to prevent
certain factional enemies in his local-
ity from repeating the ballot manoeu-
vers by which, in 1886, one of their
number was elected sheriff of Philadel-
phia county over the nominee of the
so-called Martin machine. He this as it
may, it is enough to know that the
present Martin bill is a good bill, which
public opinion overwhelmingly sustains
and which it would be to the credit
and advantage of the present general
assembly to enact into law.

What did those who are calling Col-
onel Stone a partisan governor expect?
That he would give all his appoint-
ments to his enemies?

Army Reorganization.
Now that congress has agreed to hold
eight sessions beginning next Tuesday
until the question of the reorganization
of the regular army is disposed of it
is to be hoped that public opinion will
bring pressure to bear on the represen-
tatives of the people sufficient to cause
them to consider this important subject
thoroughly and arrange, if possible, for
a permanent correction of admitted
and notorious evils in the existing mil-
itary system.

Ordinary laymen are not supposed to
know the details of such correction;
but recent events have taught a major-
ity of them certain general truths. One
of these is that an army cannot suc-
cessfully be managed on the basis of a
lot of autonomous departments re-
sponsible only to the civilian who for
the moment happens to be secretary of
war. The average official life of a sec-
retary of war is four years. In many
cases, perhaps in most of them, he en-
ters office absolutely ignorant of mil-
itary matters and knows very little
more about them when he goes out.
He is coached by the coterie of boot-
lickers who constitute the bulk of the
permanent force at headquarters; they
twist him and turn him to, suit the
various purposes of their own. If they
happen to have a grievance against
certain line officers lacking their op-
portunities or inclinations for courtier-
ship, they manage things so that those
gallant officers have rough sledding; if
they have favorites to push along over
the heads of gray-haired veterans who
have passed their lives serving their
country on the battle lines or on the
plains, means are generally found to
accomplish these ends. The civilian
secretary who is thus worked upon by
the powers behind his throne may be a
man of the most upright intentions,
but from the nature of the office he is
as clay in the hands of the rotters;
by the time he begins to arrive at a
proper comprehension of things his
term of office expires and another ten-
derfoot succeeds him. The army needs
above all things else a permanent mil-
itary head, not a figurehead but a vital
and powerful head, a general actually
commanding.

This military head should have mil-
itary control over every man wearing
the United States military uniform,
subject, of course, to reasonable re-
strictions; and especially should he
have summary jurisdiction over the
executive sub-departments in the war

department, so that he can enforce
promptness, honesty and efficiency in
the furnishing of army supplies. The
spectacle of a commissary general de-
liberately calling the commanding gen-
eral a liar would not then be possible
under any circumstances; nor would
it be possible for the commanding gen-
eral to claim that embalmed beef had
caused the death of many of his sol-
diers. A centralization of authority in
expert military hands would leave no
room for the tossing of accusations
hither and yon, and would relieve from
employment and render useless in fu-
ture extra-judicial commissions of in-
vestigation. The president of the
United States, if things went wrong,
could lay his finger on the responsi-
ble culprit in a minute and say to him,
with effective brevity: "You are ineffi-
cient and therefore are removed."

This is a matter entirely superior to
the question of the army's proper size.
If the army is to be a disjointed, head-
less thing, pulled one way by a con-
ciliated civilian secretary of war and
pulled another way by a vainglorious
major general commanding, it had bet-
ter not be increased beyond its present
limits, and something could be
said in favor of its reduction. Circum-
stances indicate the need of a
larger regular army and especially of a
larger organized federal militia; but
first let congress evolve a plan of per-
fecting the mechanism of the army to
the end that the brave men who offer
to serve their country in distant climes,
facing new and unknown dangers, may
do so with the assurance that so far as
soldiers can be well cared for they will
be well cared for, and that so far as it
is possible to secure system and
smoothness in the management of the
army machine their lives will not be
wasted by the frictions of their jealous
and quarrelsome superiors.

For a man alleged to be in the past
tense, Senator Quay is revealing con-
siderable longevity.

Canned Beef.
We cheerfully give space in another
column to an interesting letter from
Armour & Co., the Chicago beef dress-
ers, replying to recent public criticisms
of canned meats. The letter is temper-
ate in tone and true in its state-
ments of fact. No person of sense
needs to be told that the canned beef
of ordinary commerce is pure, clean
and nutritious. This is a fact estab-
lished by everyday experience; and it
is, moreover, a fact easily proved by
a personal visit to one of the big pack-
ing houses of the west. The cleanli-
ness and care with which all the op-
erations in the preparation for the mar-
ket of dressed or canned meats are
conducted, from the unloading of the
cattle, through the slaughter pens,
dressing rooms and curing or canning
departments, are truly remarkable and
beyond the comprehension of those
who have not made a personal exami-
nation.

As we understand the complaints
which have been made relative to army
meat they do not allege that the meat
was spoiled at the packing houses, but
that it was not fit to eat when placed
before the soldiers. This need not
necessarily imply corruption or fraud
in the purchase or furnishing of army
supplies, although of course it makes
imperative a thorough investigation.
Many hours probably intervened be-
tween the taking of this meat from
the refrigerating ships and the distribu-
tion of it among the soldiers at the
front. In a climate where a tempera-
ture of 110 to 120 degrees in the shade
is not unusual and where rain alternates
with sunshine in astonishing
rapidity it would not require a pro-
longed exposure to spoil the best meat
over packed. The wonder is that any
of it was good after it had weathered
such conditions.

The matter should be probed fear-
lessly and fully, but it is not essential
to justice, on the contrary, it is directly
antagonistic to it, that a great Ameri-
can industry which has become a great
public convenience as well as a great
commercial resource, should be as-
persed wildly or put under undesired
suspicion. All that the public wants or
will stand is fair play.

The freedom with which the Cuban
newspapers are beginning to comment
on American government in Cuba shows
that the Cuban people are "catching
on." Open criticism is better than se-
cret plotting.

Need of Women Judges.
Now drawn on dark days for the
dressmaker. In a number of cases re-
cently tried before civil court justices
women have been absolved from pay-
ing their dressmakers on the decision
that the gowns were misfits. This week
a Jamaica, L. I. plaintiff put on a waist
for the Judge to see for himself that
it was entirely too tight. Of course he
promptly decided that it was and the
customer was directed to refuse pay-
ment of the \$3.07 demanded.

Dress makers have good reason to
feel alarmed at this tendency to get
even, for the average man, even if he
happens to be a Judge, is apt to render
some startling decisions as to the fit
of feminine attire. All a woman needs
to do to state that her gown has been
made too tight and the Judge will im-
mediately incline to that opinion. Men
always believe in the innermost recesses
of their hearts that women invariably
wear almost everything, from shoes to
collars, several sizes too small.

As long as the present custom pre-
vails of having men on the bench any
woman who can bring herself to ad-
mit that her bodice is a trifle snug will
be sure of securing a verdict against
her dressmaker. The only safe solution
is women judges.

Of course the officials at Berlin had
nothing to do with prompting the fresh-
ness of the German consul at Samoa.
They are as guiltless in this case as they
were in the case of Admiral Diedrichs
at Manila. But the measure of their
regret will be taken in the punishment
they administer.

Vineland, N. J., now has a curfew
law, and young citizens under fifteen
years of age if found on the streets
after nine o'clock are liable to fine and
imprisonment. The passage of the or-
dinance by the Vineland council is said
to have been the result of labors on

part of the W. C. T. U. As the at-
tainment of the scale of punishment
is left largely to the discretion of the
mayor of Vineland, who is not in favor
of the ordinance, it is not probable
that the young people of the city will
suffer much inconvenience.

After weeks of deliberation, the Mont-
rose Democrat has finally determined
to favor anti-expansion. The aboli-
tion of party lines on the Philippine
question has been a sore puzzle to the
Democratic rural organs, who have
been unable to find out where they
are. But the Montrose representa-
tive of all that is sorrowful in politics
has evidently decided that in questions
of doubt it is safe to be "agin the ad-
ministration."

If the correspondents at Washing-
ton cannot evolve more plausible news
than that President McKinley has in-
creased to be an expansionist they might
better save good space.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The commissioners of Clearfield county
having recently refused a newspaper in
that county access to the records of their
office legal proceedings are to be in-
stituted to test the law on the point. The
case at issue will, according to the Phi-
ladelphia Press, probably be the first one
that ever became necessary to determine
the rights of citizens so far as their ap-
ply to the commissioners' offices. The
privilege of newspaper publishers to copy
the marriage license record for publica-
tion has been twice before the lower
courts, and once the right to examine
and copy the liquor license records was
passed upon affirmatively by a judge of
the common pleas. The same question
was also made by Judge Audenried, of
Philadelphia, that a citizen had the right
to examine all the records of the com-
missioner. The court in each case refused
the payment of taxes. This jurist said:
"it may now be regarded as settled law
in this country that every corporation or
citizen of a municipality has the right,
on all proper occasions, to inspect and
copy its records, books and documents."
The Supreme court of Pennsylvania, too,
has declared in its opinion that the office
is not the right of the incumbent to
the place, but of the people to the office.
Finally may be quoted the rule laid down
by Judge Dillon in his work on "Municipal
Corporations," viz.: "In this country
the records, public books and by-laws of
municipal corporations are the public
property, and if such corporation should
refuse to give inspection thereof to any
person having an interest therein, a writ
whether he had any special or private
interest or not, a writ mandamus would
lie to command the corporation to
allow such inspection and copies to be
taken."

The New York Sun gives some timely
information in an arithmetical bearing upon
the conversion of the metric system into
familiar terms for our people. "There are,"
says that excellent paper, "how things
more simple than you could ever believe
from square kilometers. A square kilo-
meter is 2.47 acres. Just multiply the
number of square kilometers by the
number of acres in a square mile, and you
have the distance in square miles. For
example, if you have 100 square kilo-
meters, multiply by 2.47 and you have
247 square miles. A kilometer is 2.47
miles. Simply multiply the
total kilometers by .62 and you have
the distance in miles. For example, if
you have 100 kilometers, multiply by
.62 and you have 62 miles. These
results are not exact to the inch,
because the decimals may be extended.
But they are exact enough for purposes
that do not require the most minute
precision, and they illustrate the fact
that it requires very little figuring to
turn other people's expressions for area
and distance into common terms we
better understand."

Senator McLaughlin, of South Carolina,
had a high compliment to President Mc-
Kinley when he recently said: "There
ought to be a law that no one can be a
candidate for president of the United
States until he has served at least one
term in the senate or house of repre-
sentatives, in order that he may know
by experience the troubles and the
hopes and the aspirations, the desires
and the difficulties of the members of
the co-ordinate body. If President Cleveland
had enjoyed the benefit of a congressional
training he would not have made so
many enemies. His lack of experience,
his lack of sympathy, his inability to ap-
preciate the feelings of the members of
congress was the rock upon which he
was wrecked. On the other hand a
large degree of President McKinley's
popularity is due to the fact that he
has been through the congressional mill
and knows how to deal with senators and
representatives. He understands their
difficulties, and in trying to satisfy their
constituents he helps them as much as
he can, and they thoroughly appreciate
it. McKinley has got more friends in
congress than any president we have had
for a long time."

On account of the alleged dissatis-
faction of the committee with General
Miles' course, some of the officials in-
terested have been looking up the laws
defining the status of the major-general
commanding military districts. General
Miles was not appointed to his present
position without the formality of trial by
court martial. He may, however, be re-
lieved from duty and ordered to his home
by direction of the president. He can-
not be ordered to duty elsewhere as
commanding general because it is specifi-
cally provided by law that the headquar-
ters of the army shall remain in Wash-
ington. General Sherman, while serving
as commanding general of the army, had
trouble with Robert T. Lincoln, secretary
of war, and was ordered to St. Louis,
where the headquarters of the army were
established. This contention of the dis-
tinction between Secretary Lincoln and
General Sherman caused congress to enact
the law establishing army headquarters
in Washington permanently.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF FOODS.
Editor of The Tribune—
Sir: A discussion has arisen regarding
meats, both canned and refrigerated, that
have been furnished the United States
government to supply the army and navy
during the late war with Spain. The effect
of this discussion might be produc-
tive of good were conclusions reached af-
ter testimony was presented, but, as soon
generalities are taking the place of
sworn evidence, the trade and commerce
of the country are threatened and the
agricultural interests of the country, es-
pecially, are being seriously imperiled.
Take, for instance, the important article
of canned meats, and how few there are,
even of those who have constantly used
them, who know anything of their actual
nutritive value. Most of the comment
now indulged in during the discussion is
merely a repetition of the generalities in-
ferred as to the scientific data upon
which their value is based. These data
are established so thoroughly that they
are now, and for a long time have been,
placed beyond the realm of doubt and
have reached the position outside even
of discussion. Careful, scientific work in
this country and extensive expert re-
search on the part of European govern-
ments have resulted in authoritative con-
clusions now known to be axiomatic and
unassailable.

The United States government made a
thorough investigation of the subject of
food and the nutritive values during the
years 1890-1895. W. O. Atwater, profes-
sor of chemistry in the Wesleyan
university, Middletown, Conn., secured
several years in this country and in Eu-
rope to this subject and the results of
his work are published by the department
of agriculture at Washington, and are
of standard authority. With European
governments the food problem has demanded
the closest attention. It has been probed
by them with the most thoroughness and
has been laid bare. As Atwater has investi-
gated for the United States, so have Dr.

Koenig, Reubner, Ettinger, Stultzer,
Fassbender and other conscientiously em-
ployed authorities investigated for France,
Germany, Austria and other European
countries. Tests innumerable have been
made in provisioning armies under all
conditions of service—in barracks, during
maneuvering in peace and actual war.
Penal and eleemosynary institutions have
been availed of for these tests and tabu-
lated tests have been for years affirmed
and reaffirmed until their accuracy is
now known to be definitely established.

The charge of inferior nutritive value,
when applied to canned boiled meats,
needs only investigation for its refuta-
tion. Long experience should be sufficient
to establish their superiority, but reasons
for this superiority may be concisely
stated. Animal life requires three classes
of foods—nitrogenous matter in the form
of proteins; carbohydrates as found in
sugar, starch and allied products; phos-
phates and bases known as salts. Meat is
the chief source of nitrogenous matter as
used in daily food. Its chemical analysis
shows it to be composed of water, pro-
teins and fat, and it is beyond question
that the maximum amount of matter in
meat soluble in boiling water is four
pounds in 100. The nutritive part of meat
is albumen and myosin, the basis of
muscle. Neither of these is soluble in
boiling water. Upon immersing meat in
boiling water, the soluble matter is ex-
tracted at the boiling temperature, and
albumen coagulates, causing contraction
that squeezes out the water producing a
shrinkage of 40 per cent. in weight. Less
than two per cent. of this shrinkage is
due to the extraction of matter soluble
in water; 28 per cent. is water removed by
the contraction in cooking. None of the
2 per cent. of solids matters is removed
by cooking is nutriment. The ignorant
charge, therefore, sometimes heard that
meat has had all the nutrition cooked
out is an absurdity. These tests extend
for months under all conditions.
Individuals as well as masses of people
are subjected to them. The armies of
Europe and the regular assemblies of men
in public institutions contribute to the
unassailable accuracy of their results.
And all of this great mass of scientific
testimony proves beyond controversy that
boiled meat, instead of being less nutri-
tious than uncooked fresh meat, is ac-
tually more so, for it is now known that
90 pounds of the former contains as much
nutrition as 100 pounds of the latter.

In canning meat it is necessary that it
be partially cooked before placing it in
the can. This is done, as has been shown,
does not remove any of the nutritive
properties. Even were it a commercial
usage, it would be false economy to add
any of the water in which the meat was
cooked to the contents of the can. Ab-
solutely no value as a nutriment would
be lost in this manner. The cans contain
the maximum amount of nutriment
with the minimum amount
of weight, and this only can be accom-
plished by filling it with nutritious solid
meat. If the can is tight and its con-
tents properly processed, the meat will
be as good years afterward as the day
it is put in. All cans are tested for
faulty processing or for leaks, and but
few escape the vigilance that protection
from bacterial loss demands. And, it may
be added, that containing the small per-
centage of fat in canned meats, the
entire absence of bone, and the well
established fact of their superiority as a
nutriment—great injustices is being done
by ignorant denunciation of this neces-
sary article of food.

Much of the recent criticism of this
class of food has unquestionably been
occasioned by its improper and injudi-
cious use. Lack of knowledge or of fa-
cilities in handling it as an army ration,
are responsible for most, if not all, of
the trouble. The British, French and
German armies have used it for so many
years that they are familiar with proper
cooking methods. Some addition of hot
water may be advantageously used in its
preparation, and the addition of common
seasonings, such as salt and pepper, will
remedy the insipidity that characterizes
all boiled meats when used without them.

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Chicago, Ill.

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At Cost
This is a chance to get a
good lamp for little money.

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Cloaks Going
Regardless of Cost or Price.

We charge you for one-half the material--the other half including mak-
ing and trimmings are thrown in. Every garment must go.

\$5.00 Ladies' and Misses' Jackets.....\$1.98 | \$15.00 Ladies' and Misses' Jackets... 6.98
\$8.00 Ladies' and Misses' Jackets..... 3.98 | \$20.00 Ladies' and Misses' Jackets.... 9.98
\$10.00 Ladies' and Misses' Jackets.... 4.98 | All up-to-date garments.

Gentlemen's Furnishings

Men's heavy grey undershirts, sale price 19c.
Boys' grey shirts and drawers, sale price 17c.
Men's heavy fleeced shirts and drawers, sale price 35c.
Men's natural wool shirts and drawers, sale price 39c.
Men's heavy scarlet wool shirts and drawers, sale price 59 cents.
Black and white working shirts, full size, yoke backs, well made, sale price, 29c.
Extra heavy ribbed working shirts, sale price, 39c.
Men's heavy blue woolen working socks, sale price 14c.
Men's all wool scarlet socks, sale price 14c.
Men's and boys' wool mittens, sale price 10c.
Men's fur top kid gloves, 75c and \$1.00 kinds, sale price 49c.
Men's Astrachan gloves with kid palms, 75c kind, sale price 49c.
All our 50c and 75 men's neckwear, sale price 39c.
Men's undressed kid, fleece lined gloves, \$1.00 kind, sale price 75c.
All 25c neckwear, sale price, 19c.
Boys' sweaters, 75c kind, sale price 59c.

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any other shoes made.

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AGENTS
THOS. FORD,
JOHN B. SMITH & SON
W. L. MULLIGAN
Pittsboro
Wilmington
Wilkes-Barre

SOLILLOQUY.
When the doctor
Looks at
A man of my figure,
He says to himself,
What will do him most good
Will be
To eat less
And
Exercise more.
He knows, however,
That habits of life
When once fixed
Are seldom changed.
Consequently, the doctor,
In my case at least,

Contents himself
With writing a prescription
That gives me relief
Rather quickly,
While my habits remain as they
were.
Of late I have noticed
That my physician,
Instead of the long prescription,
Writes but two words,
And that the remedy I get
Is rather more convenient
And decidedly
More effective.
The two words are

R-I-P-A-N-S TABULES

A new style packet containing TEN DIPONT'S TABULETS in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some
of the drug stores. This is the most convenient and economical form of the medicine. The old style glass bottles
of the medicine contain 100 tablets and can be had for mail by sending forty-eight cents to the DRUGS CHEMICAL
COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York--or a single tablet (TEN TABULETS) will be sent for five cents.