

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 3, 1899.

The bill which has been introduced at Harrisburg authorizing a larger employment of convict labor within prisons, but providing against unfair competition with free labor, should be adopted promptly.

A Pleasant Outlook.

Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, since his return from Chicago, where he made an address to the League of Railroad Telegraphers and Employers, has given utterance in unqualified terms to the impressions he received on this visit.

One of their leaders told him the situation in the following words: "We railroad men have been thinking the matter over. This organization is not like the one I have led. We realize that railroad management in this country today is far different from what it used to be when a single man owned a road and ran it to get what he could out of it or a crowd of speculative schemers got hold of a road to do what they wanted with it."

Thinking Americans have had little doubt of the friendship of the home government of Germany in spite of the strained relations between commanders at Manila at the opening of the Spanish-American war.

Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke, pastor of the Brick Presbyterian church of New York, seems to be about as much in demand these days as even the most popular of preachers could desire.

Mr. James Bryce, in the current number of the Century, gives a detailed description of British experience in the government of colonies.

He believes colonies are scarcely in themselves a blessing, but are good and bad as they are used, and that everything depends on the nature of the colony itself and on the way in which it is managed.

How are the social relations of the whites with the native or colored race to be adjusted? Is intermarriage to be permitted or forbidden? Is social intercourse to be encouraged or repressed? Are both races to be alike admissible to the same kinds of public functions? May both alike move freely about where they will? How are the religions of the natives to be treated? Are they to receive the same recognition that Christianity does? Where they sanction immoral or offensive customs, are these to be tolerated? How far may the principle of religious liberty be invoked on behalf of sects or castes, though primarily religious, are to the eye of civilized man actually or possibly noxious? And how far are Christian missionaries or the zealots of any one native faith, where there are several, to be allowed the same full freedom of action which might properly be allowed in England or France?

Mr. Bryce mentions a number of other matters that may produce trouble. Among these is the disposal and management of land, the revenue questions, educational plans and the adjustment of equitable laws. The same difficulties arise in the military

department and particularly in tropical countries where there are not enough white men to form an army and where a native militia is a menace.

In most of the tropical colonies of England the home methods of self-government have been rejected as unsuitable. The British safeguard has been found in the creation of a special colonial service and an experienced colonial office, the latter in London.

With respect to the Philippines this writer says that England would probably proceed to select for a governor the best man she could find among persons of Indian or colonial experience. She would give him wide powers with a large salary, and would assign to him a staff of capable officers.

In one respect, at least, Mr. Bryce should be sustained and that is in his advice to "go softly, go warily," and make a thorough investigation in order to ascertain the facts.

The resignation of Sagasta illustrates anew that there is a limit to human endurance. Sagasta did not finish at the baptism of fire during the war, but the present baptism of wind from the Spanish heroes who were so quiet a few months ago, is more than he can stand.

Hobson's ten-number advancement for extraordinary heroism might have been even greater but for his equally extraordinary subsequent asininity.

The newspapers are beginning to print the portrait of Mrs. Kipling. She is not an ill, however, as the pictures would indicate.

TWO POEMS BY KIPLING.

The Coastwise Lights. Our brows are bound with splendor and the weed is on our necks; Our joints are brittle with us by the swinging, smoking stacks.

Through the endless summer evenings, on the line of the coast, Through the yellowing channel, when the siren hoots and roars— By day the dipping house-flag and by night the rocket and flare— As the sheep that graze behind us so we know them where they hail.

We greet the clippers wing-and-wing that race the Southern wind; We warn the crawling cargo-tanks of Bremen, Leeds, and Hull; To coast and haul our equal lamp at peril of the sea— The white wall-sided warships or the whalers of Dundee!

Come up, come in from Eastward, from the guard-ports of the Morn! Boat us, boat us from Southern, O glimpse of the Horn! Swift shuttles of an Empire's boom that weave us main to main.

Go, get you gone up-channel with the sea-crust on your plates; Go, get you into London with the burden of your freights! Haste, for they talk of Empire there, and say, if any speak.

The Answer. A rose, in letters on the garden path, Came to the rose the answer of the Lord; His writ was— "What is that?"

Because a sudden wind at twilight's hush Had snatched her stem aloft of all the kind, And God, who hears both sun-dried dust and sin, Had pity, whispering to that luckless one, "Sister, in that hour you say you did not weep."

And the rose answered, "In that fell hour A voice said, 'Father, wherefore fall the flowers?' For in the very grasses are still."

Then softly as a rain-mist on the sward, Came to the rose the answer of the Lord; "Sister, before we smote the dark in twain, Ere yet the stars saw one another plain, Time, Tide and Snare, We bound you to the task."

That thou shouldst fall, and such an one should ask, Whomst thou didst wither, flower, all content, Died as he die whose days are innocent; While he who questioned why the flower fell, Caught hold of God and saved his soul from hell.

President's Power Between Sessions.

SOME PEOPLE in Washington are giving themselves needless anxiety about the president's right to maintain order in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines after the expiration of the present congress.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, in commemoration of its tenth anniversary under the present management, yesterday distributed a handsome sixteen-page illustrated supplement giving views in half-tones of all the departments of the paper and portraits of the principal workers.

General Gomez may be a testy old gentleman in his personal mannerisms but he is showing a great deal of timely common sense in his exposition of the general policy of reconciliation and unity in Cuba.

A bill to appropriate \$4,000,000 to cover the cost of completing the present barn-like new capitol has been introduced at Harrisburg, which would make the cost of the whole structure, with furnishings, about \$5,000,000.

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Secretary Alger is wise in postponing his visit to Cuba until General Gomez is through responding to envoies.

Agoncillo, who has just been shipwrecked at sea, should profit by the omen and hereafter be good.

There are those who imagine that Cuba will occupy a position radically different from that of Porto Rico and the Philippines after the ratification of the peace treaty shall have been exchanged.

So far as Cuba is concerned, the evacuation of the new congress in extra session would be utterly superfluous. The congress which is to expire by limitation on March 4 made an exhaustive announcement of the national policy with regard to that particular island when, less than a year ago, it passed the joint resolution declaring it to be our inflexible intention to give Cuba independence.

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