

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 20, 1899.

By carrying the Blair county primaries, although Blair has hitherto been an anti-Quay stronghold, the man from Beaver again illustrates how dead he is.

At Jekyll Island.

The simultaneous presence at Jekyll Island, Georgia, of President McKinley, Vice President Hobart, Speaker Reed, Senator Hanna, Judge Day and several other notable Republicans has given rise to the theory that an important political conference is to be held.

For many reasons a frank conference between these recognized leaders of the Republican party would be desirable. It would be especially so, it seems to us, in the case of the president of the United States and the speaker of the house of representatives.

There has been talk of Republican opposition to Mr. Reed's re-election to the speakership. It is mostly talk. Some Republican members of congress have unpleasant recollections of Mr. Reed's use of the powers of his office in a manner contrary to their personal inclinations.

The most impressive lesson taught by the Windsor hotel fire is that it pays to keep life and property well insured. Much of the other moralizing on this theme is pointless.

Banks and Check Charges.

Hereafter the banks belonging to the New York Clearing House association will charge one-tenth of one per cent. for the collection of all checks from Pennsylvania and other states in the Middle States group.

The step is part of a general convention among banks that they are underpaid for their services. The Chicago banks have agreed to levy a charge of \$1 a month on all accounts less than \$200.

The rotten beef served to our soldiers in trench and camp was a logical and under the conditions an inevitable result of the rotten army staff system which intelligent military men have been trying vainly for years to get congress to abolish.

In view of the generous earnings of the banks in Scranton and especially in view of the readiness of local enterprises under existing conditions it is doubtful whether a local charge for the collection of checks would be acquiesced in by local depositors without

earnest protest, if it were contemplated. We do not believe that it would be good business policy and therefore doubt if it will ever be tried.

There is a constitutional question as to whether the queen regent of Spain has the right to ratify a treaty involving the alienation of territory before it has received the approval of the cortes.

The Beef Inquiry.

The court of inquiry appointed by the president to sift the charges that during the war with Spain the American army in Cuba and Porto Rico was supplied with rotten meat has practically completed its hearing of testimony.

We reprint elsewhere an editorial from the Chicago Record summarizing briefly the facts brought out during the court's sittings in that city. The Record is an independent newspaper which would not indulge in unfair treatment of the great meat-packing industry whose headquarters are located in its city.

Additional evidence on the subject of army beef proves that it will be safer in future to let troops take chances on unpretentious canned hash.

Aguaquito, it is reported, has become discouraged. His deduction is justifiable in view of the antecedent circumstances.

Unless she can furnish more peaches in future, Delaware is not entitled to more than one senator.

Let us hope that the Oregon will not again have to be put to a test of her fit condition.

next congress shall lance the cancer to its core.

The story from Gibraltar of an exchange of salutes between the United States cruiser Raleigh, returning from Manila, and Admiral Camara's flagship, the Emperor Carlos V, is rich with the suggestion of romance.

A bill to double the fees of the insurance commissioner, which already amount to between \$8,000 and \$10,000 a year, has been introduced at Harrisburg.

The American people will cordially concur in Admiral Dewey's opinion that the Philippine campaign should be brief and decisive.

If it shall be confirmed that the carelessly tossed match which started the Windsor hotel holocaust had been used to light a cigarette, the awful example will be complete.

Current weather variations emphasize the asininity of the man who established April 1 as moving day.

When interest in a man's private affairs extends beyond the stop-columns of the Sunday newspapers he can say claim to greatness.

Some men have not ambition enough to throw open the door to good luck. The revival of base ball this season will doubtless open the market for a good many "finds" that will turn out on the diamond to be on the embalmbed beef order.

Information is invariably something that we think should be applied to the other fellow.

It is always safe to wager that the enthusiastic advocate of a curfew law was tough in the days of his youth.

The elements seem to prove that the advance weather indicator has slipped a cog.

It you are interested in promoting trade, cover the sealing-wax market in Wilkes-Barre.

Oh, the drum! Intonation in thy drum Monotony of utterance that strikes the spirit dumb.

There's a part Of the art Of thy music-thriving heart That thrills a something in us that awakens with a start.

And in rhyme With the chime Goes marching on to glory of the melody sublime.

And the guest Of the feast, 'Tis that rolling roils of rest Is a patriotic spirit as a Continental dressed;

And his eyes Wear the guise Of a purpose pure and wise; As the love of them is lifted to a something in the skies.

There are deep Hushes creep 'O'er the pulses as they leap, And the murmur, fainter growing, on the silence 'neath the sleep;

Then, with sound As the thunderings resound, Come thy mad reverberations in a three that shakes the ground.

And a cry Flung on high Like the flag it flutters by, Wings rapturously upward till it nestles in the sky.

Oh, the drum! There is some Intonation in thy drum Monotony of utterance that strikes the spirit dumb.

As we hear Through the clear And unclouded atmosphere The palpitating syllables roll in upon the ear!

There's a part Of the art Of thy music-thriving heart That thrills a something in us that awakens with a start.

And in rhyme With the chime Goes marching on to glory of the melody sublime.

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The dullest, staid-way form of narrative verse is still in vogue.

Little Orphant Annie. Little Orphant Annie's come to our house to stay. An' wash the cups an' saucers up, an' brush the crumbs away.

An' she took the chickens off the porch, an' dust the hearth, an' sweep. An' make the fire, an' bake the bread, an' earn her board-an' keep.

An' all her father's children, when the supper things is done, We set around the kitchen fire an' has the mostest fun.

An' the gobbie-uns 'll gitt you If you blood-an' watch Out! One't they was a little boy wouldn't say his prayers—

An' little Orphant Annie says, when the blaze is blue, An' the lampwick sputters, an' the wind goes woo-oo!

An' the little Orphant Annie says, when the moon is gray, An' the little Orphant Annie says, when the moon is gray.

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THE BEEF INQUIRY.

From the Chicago Record. The disclosures made through the investigations of the army board during its sessions in Chicago hold out the prospect that at last the government and the public are getting at the truth of the matter.

The court came to Chicago with a view to looking into the methods employed in canning and shipping beef under the government contracts. The information actually secured covers much more than this.

But this is not all. If the commissary department made its original contracts unscrupulously it was also lax in finding a means of getting the beef promptly to its destination.

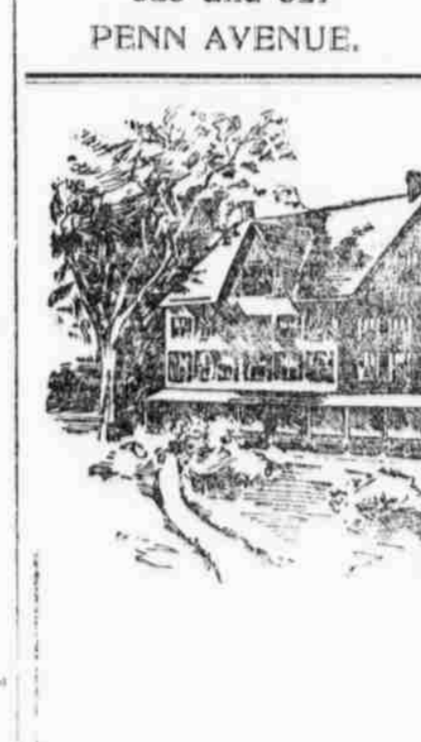
The evidence thus far secured seems to indicate that the commissary department for which the administrative branch of the war department has been responsible, it serves to sustain the previous charges to the effect that the contracts for the beef were unwisely made in the first place.

From the Utica Press (Ind.). Jerry Simpson is back in Kansas. He is out of congress and says he will never go there any more.

From the Kansas City Journal (Rep.). The Democratic platform next year is to consist of free silver and anti-expansion.

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