

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, APRIL 11, 1899.

Upon no ground of party regularity can the Republican absence from last night's joint meeting of councils excuse their conduct.

An Eloquent Justification.

The response of the administration to the hisses of the Boston anti-imperialists may be read in and between the lines of the speech of the postmaster general delivered at Chicago last night and printed in another column.

The administration holds that it has thus far acted logically and in the only manner left open to it by duty and honor.

The attack of the insurgent natives upon our military police force, however deplorable, had to be met and the only way to meet it was to put the insurgents down.

But the postmaster general goes further than to set forth the administration's justification for steps already taken.

Admiral Dewey is fortunate in this era of president-makers to have many miles of deep sea between him and ambitious political promoters.

Wanted—A Man.

The attention of the people of Pennsylvania is called to the condition of affairs indicated in the following extract from a news letter sent out from Harrisburg under date of April 9:

Failure to complete the capital would not necessarily generate poignant sorrow outside of Harrisburg and the narrow circle of expectant contractors.

The state of Pennsylvania gives to education more money than it can afford to give in view of the just claims of other proper objects of state aid.

inunities to keep up current expenses, much less to keep pace with the growth in the number of unfortunate...

There probably isn't a legislator in Harrisburg who doesn't know that the school fund is too large, under these undeniable circumstances.

The injustice of the old principle which gives the commonwealth in criminal trials an overwhelming advantage in the right of peremptory challenges was clearly shown yesterday in the selection of the jury which is trying Senator Quay.

Practical Christianity.

At a time when too many religious denominations are dissipating their energies in disputing over the subtleties of the so-called higher criticism or arguing about with theological or sectarian chips on their shoulders, seeking whom they may devour, it is due to the Protestant Episcopal church in America to say that it has devoted very little time to this kind of controversy and very much time to the institution and development of practical charities and works of broad benevolence.

In our own community it has carried practical religion into the every day lives of a multitude of people representing all classes and stations; and its organization of parish work comes very near to being ideal.

There is a suspicion that the tales regarding the failure of the wheat crop may have been invented for the purpose of enticing the few remaining wary lambs of Wall street into the shearing pen.

That Armor Plate Muddle.

Specifications have been prepared by the navy department for the 24,000 tons of armor plate needed in the construction of the six new battleships authorized by the Fifty-fifth congress.

The senators responsible for the cut in the authorized price claim that \$400 a ton is too much to pay for armor plate and that if the United States is going to use much plate it had better build a factory of its own.

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There are no three men in congress more unfit to judge of such matters. No manufacturer of iron or steel or anything else would give two cents for the opinion of either of them on any matter of business, and yet they have such confidence in their own wisdom and ability that they would be willing to undertake the management of the celestial system with the same assurance that they discussed the cost of armor plate.

It is to be hoped that during the time thus wasted we shall not have sudden need of additional battleships, for if we should, the matter of \$50 or \$100 a ton in the price of a few thousand tons of armor plate would be a small item in the scale.

If Thomas Jefferson could return and get within hearing of some of the excited demonstrators of his principles he would probably look to the woods.

American Duty Will Never Be Shirke.

From an Address Delivered at Chicago Last Night by Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith.

THE WAR of the past year has been full of revelations of nobleness as well as success. Never before did a triumphant nation send the living soldiers of its vanquished foe back to their homes at its own cost.

This is a suggestive hour. It links up the past, the present and the future. Yesterday was the 34th anniversary of Appomattox. Tomorrow will be the first anniversary of the president's memorable message on Cuba.

The obligations and the mandate of that national duty cannot be disputed. Two weeks ago I stood under the sunny sky of Cuba. I saw some of the villages of palm-thatched huts where under the cruel order of concentration, thousands of helpless Cubans were herded, like sheep for the slaughter.

The president holds these islands in trust for the American people until they can determine the future. He will give them good government. He has sent, and will send the best men, to die of disease and starvation.

For one I am content to go to the progressive and patriotic American Best Bicycle Built

citiable sequence, the irresistible conclusion of the first decision? Less or different we might have done and plunged into mistake and disaster.

As we have gone on conclusions come, doubts have disappeared, results have vindicated, and discussions have been reduced to mere questions. A year ago we were discussing war, and events brought an undivided front.

That question the American people will answer, and it may well be that as the discussion goes on and events move forward the doubts and uncertainties will clear up, as they have cleared up in every preceding chapter of the advancing story.

Nor are they deceived by any hollow fiction or any irrelevant maxim. They are not foolish enough to suppose that a single day has either lifted the victims of four hundred years of oppression and barbarism into Washington and Polivars or degraded the descendants of the real Washington and his compeers into reproductions of George the Third and Lord North.

It is not strange that a people shut up for centuries in the darkness of slavery and ignorance should falter, stagger and be uncertain, when they suddenly step out into the fullness of light and liberty.

The founding of the Republic is our story. We are there with the promise of peace and progress, of trade and commerce, of enlightenment and prosperity, and does any man doubt that American influence will be beneficial and elevating?

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people with the question and leave it in their hands. Their instincts and their genius will settle it. We cannot undo the past. The responsibilities remain with the achievements and the stories.

Fifty sets of Roger Bros.' plated teaspoons that we bought from Weichel Bros. have soiled wrappers, that's why they are marked to 50c the set of six.

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We are Showing This Week a great variety of elegant goods in Spring Serges, Checks and Plaids.

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The following FIVE numbers in Fast Black Hosiery, are offered at tempting prices for Just One Week.

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Ladies' Extra Quality, "Full Regular," made expressly for us and stamped with name. Warranted Hermsdorf dye. 25c a pair.

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