

The Scranton Tribune

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The fact that Senator Quay, without deigning to enter a defense, was acquitted on the prosecution's own evidence shows how little save bluff there was in the case against him.

Senator Quay's Vindication.

The verdict of acquittal, returned by the jury in the Quay case yesterday morning, was the only possible verdict consistent with the evidence. That evidence showed from start to finish the manipulations of political malice seeking to conduct a political fight through perversion of the machinery of the courts. In indignation and vindictive in every phase, and yet so well that the plot had been laid and timed that not until the legislature had adjourned could Quay's friends get the facts fairly before a jury.

Under these circumstances the senator's appointment by the governor is natural and necessary. It averts the cost of a fruitless special session and transfers to an impartial outside tribunal the decision upon Quay's eligibility to admission to the senate. The senate, it is true, has decided in recent cases wherein the power of gubernatorial appointment was used after legislative failure to elect that such appointment was constitutionally invalid. But on prior occasions it had decided just the opposite, so that the matter is merely one of majority opinion and subject at any time to reversal or modification.

In no case yet passed upon by the senate were the circumstances attending the legislative failure to elect parallel to those in this case. Here was a senatorial candidate duly endorsed in regular caucus by an overwhelming majority of the legislators of his party faith, yet deprived of an election through the machinations of a vindictive minority not only practicing perfidy in politics but also trumping up a criminal accusation and holding it over the candidate's head in the hope of securing him into a surrender. Surely if ever the sovereign power of the American senate should be put forth to battle malicious persecution and avert a gross conspiracy against justice it should be put forth in the case of Matthew Stanley Quay, the still unbent and incomparable leader of Pennsylvania's stalwart Republicanism.

It is once more time for Hon. John Wanamaker to say something.

The City's Debt to the Firemen.

In May, lasting from the 5th to the 27th days inclusive, the firemen of Scranton will hold a fair in the Armory, for the purpose of raising a \$10,000 entertainment fund to be used during the State Firemen's convention in this city, Oct. 3-7. The coming of this convention to Scranton will be of enormous advantage to Scranton, advertising its hospitality, its enterprise and its manifold advantages throughout the length and breadth of the commonwealth. The city owes it to itself, as well as to its firemen, to entertain the firemen of Pennsylvania properly and to send them home with happy recollections of the Electric city.

The occurrences of Thursday in the Board of Trade building and on Lackawanna avenue illustrated vividly the community's indebtedness to the volunteer fire department. The Board of Trade fire showed its promptness in responding to the signal of danger. The Lackawanna avenue fire showed its fearlessness in the face of danger and the splendid efficiency with which it does its work despite difficult obstacles. There were volunteer as well as paid firemen on Thursday evening who took as imminent risks to life as were ever taken on any battle field and who fought as bravely against the furious flames as soldiers ever fought under an enemy's guns. For this magnificent heroism and practical service the volunteers received not one cent of pay and lost, we are informed, more than \$400 worth of personal clothing into the bargain. Had it not been for their superb efforts the property loss would have been not \$70,000 or thereabouts, but five, perhaps ten times that sum, with possibly loss of life in addition.

The community should begin to realize what it owes to the volunteer firemen. It is a shame and a disgrace that the city does not pay for this service directly by reorganizing the department on a liberal regular basis. There is, we believe, no other city of Scranton's magnitude in the world which compels most of its firemen to do such hazardous yet necessary duty as this without paying them for time and work. The question of a paid department must be kept before the people until it is answered by them equitably and in the spirit of practical enterprise.

In the meantime, the Firemen's Fair opens a way to the immediate manifestation of the community's sense of obligation to the volunteer service. We are informed by the general manager of the fair, Mr. C. B. Macquibey, that it is the intention of the firemen to ask the merchants and large property owners of the city to present to the fair management articles of value which can be disposed of during the fair by auction or otherwise. Every fireman in the city is to have credentials authorizing him to call upon business men and contributions will be conveyed to the Armory without charge for cartage. Individual residents of the city, whether owning business places or not, would perform a graceful act if they should also contribute, by check or otherwise, to the fair's success. The volunteer firemen are not asking pay for their services, although they would be

amply entitled to do that; they simply want to raise enough money through their forthcoming fair to give suitable welcome and show appropriate hospitality to their guests of next October and the ambition is one which should have the public's fullest sympathy and most generous co-operation.

In commemoration of its fifteenth birthday, our esteemed contemporary, the Truth, yesterday published a handsome twelve-page edition, giving a most interesting review of the progress of Scranton during the period of the Truth's existence. In calling attention to this latest feat of a neighbor's long-recognized enterprise it gives us great pleasure to be able to point to the Truth as representing in itself one of the best of visible evidences of local progress and prosperity. May its birthdays ever be thus happy.

Unfair to Prospective Guests.

The acceptance by the postmaster general and the conditional acceptance by the president of the United States of an invitation to visit Scranton during the convention here of the National Letter Carriers' association, taken in conjunction with the fact that during that convention thousands of visitors of less distinguished note will be here from all parts of the United States, suggest the inquiry whether this notable visitation is to be made to ride or parade over our abominable, pot-holed asphalted streets. Unless these streets shall be repaired in the meantime, the impression which they will make upon the visitors on that occasion will be sufficient to counteract much of the favor excited by Scranton's hospitality, be that as generous it may.

Next October, the firemen of Pennsylvania are to convene in Scranton. They will not only come here in person but they will probably bring here some of the equipment used at home. To the good fireman his company's engine, hose truck or hook and ladder wagon is an object of near and dear solicitude. To compel the visiting fire companies to parade over the principal streets of Scranton in their present disintegrated and dangerous condition would be inhumane; but to compel them to risk the safety of any of their fire-fighting apparatus upon these streets would be to insult them in a place of peculiar susceptibility. The visiting firemen would be justified in declining to parade over Franklin, Penn., Wyoming, Washington and Adams avenues or over Spruce and Linden streets if by October next these streets should not have been put into usable condition.

The people of Scranton may be indifferent to their own welfare. They may be willing to wear out good horse-drawn fire apparatus on pavements which would disgrace a village in the backwoods. They may be willing to risk limb and life upon potholes, gutters and obstructions in their principal business thoroughfares. That concerns themselves alone. They can stand it if they choose to or fall down by reason of it if they cannot drive or ride. But they ought to be ashamed to exhibit such obvious evidences of municipal carelessness to persons whom they have induced to be their guests without first explaining the risks of a visit to this ill-managed city.

Bryan on an Income Tax.

Mr. Bryan's assertion in arguing for an income tax, that "this country can place its citizens before an enemy's guns but cannot put its finger on accumulated wealth," does not bear examination. The country has only once put its citizens before an enemy's guns since the Revolutionary war, that is, by conscription or draft, and then any man could get off who could hire a substitute. The draft process was an act of supreme necessity, in obedience to the highest law known to mankind, the law of self-preservation. Does Mr. Bryan mean to say that in a similar crisis the government of the United States could not put its finger on accumulated wealth? It has done this. Every military seizure of private property during the civil war was a putting of the government's finger on accumulated wealth. That afterwards, when the stress was over, men thus forcibly dispossessed were, so far as possible, compensated does not change the fact that seizure of property in time of extraordinary crisis, was effected by the government's military agents, time and time again.

The government in such critical times has powers without limit. It has them and uses them, constitution or no constitution, law or no law, just as a drowning man grabs at a floating board without waiting for the written consent of the owner of the board. Necessity, national as well as personal, knows no law. But this does not excuse the violation of property rights by the government in time of peace and plenty, when it should be the government's highest aim to deal fairly with every citizen, white or black, rich or poor. The income tax hits at a special class. It says to the man of means, "You must not only pay taxes on your real estate, taxes on your business or occupation and the various other taxes levied upon all men in due proportion, but you must also pay a special tax, not paid by other men, for the privilege of succeeding. We are going to tax success. We are going to hold up thrift and enterprise, the same as the burglar or highwayman does, only instead of rendering ourselves liable to be sent to jail if caught, we are going to do this under

the forms of law and outvote you if you kick."

This is the essence of the Bryan scheme of a graded income tax. It is Jack Cade over again; the ethics of medieval England borrowed for imitation in the most enlightened period of American history. All Bryan's verbal cleverness cannot cover up the essential unrighteousness of the plan.

From present indications a milk war up in the vicinity of Montreal may cause a revival of the butter-making industry at home. The farmers of that section believe that the man who feeds the cow should have some show in the division of profits, hence they have organized and refuse to sign the iron-clad contracts furnished by the milk buyers this year. The shippers have given the milk producers until April 25th to consider the matter. If they do not sign by that time interesting developments are promised.

It takes all kinds of occupations to run the world, but the average man who was once a boy himself would prefer to engage in almost any business rather than drag truant young America to school these bright spring time days.

This is the season of the year that new designs in oil stoves begin to tempt Providence.

The Retirement of Thomas B. Reed.

From the New York Sun. MR. THOMAS B. REED, lately of Maine, will not be sixty until October. The boyish look has not gone from his big face, and, what is more, his soul is really as fresh as April violets, although he sometimes takes pleasure in trying to give a contrary impression. The batteries in which nature stored for him at the start an uncommon stock of vitality show no signs of depletion, much less of exhaustion. He is physically and intellectually capable either of rounding off a career which has already put him among the best of successful Americans of this century, or of beginning and achieving a new career, in new relations and with new aspirations; as capable of the latter enterprise, we confidently believe, as he was when he left Bowdoin college about forty years ago with a reputation well-earned and personally cherished for hopelessness laziness.

An individual so interesting as the statesman who has just now exiled himself voluntarily from politics will continue to be an interesting object and subject to the public imagination in one of the vast office buildings at the lower end of Manhattan island. Office boys and mahogany railings will not entirely exclude Counselor Reed from public observation. We shall know what he is doing and how he is prospering, and the steel beam from time to time that he is saying: yet it is none the less true that by his sudden retirement from the conspicuous isolation of high public office into the whirl and confusion of the metropolitan system and the comparative obscurity of a professional life, Mr. Reed, though happily yet living, invites remarks somewhat in the obituary spirit.

Mr. Reed was not the speaker of the house of representatives when he decided to quit. He acted as a speaker seven weeks ago, when the Fifty-fifth congress expired. Technically he was merely a member of the Fifty-sixth congress from the First district of Maine, but was sure to be chosen a speaker next December, provided he had no other objection. The office which he is about to relinquish, therefore, is that described by himself very recently as the most important and desirable in the nation, barring the presidency alone. Historical precedents for a renunciation of this magnitude are by no means so numerous as to render the transaction commonplace. Deans and deans are ordinarily the only agents powerful enough to compel the surrender which Mr. Reed has made of his own accord.

Three different explanations of his retirement have been current, and it may not be impertinent to consider them all in a friendly way. The first theory regards Mr. Reed as a thoroughly acclimated man, disappointed by his failure in 1896 to attain the goal of American statesmanship's legitimate ambition, unable to perceive in the immediate future or within the limit of his natural expectation of life any prospect of brighter skies, out of sorts with the controlling element in his own party, and disgusted with public life because he sees nothing further in it for himself. What a gloomy picture this would be if it were true! What a dismal ending to a career check full of triumphs and fun! We reflect unobtrusively, inasmuch as we know that the Hon. Thomas B. Reed is a philosopher, and a philosopher of his own particular school never lays himself down in the dust of the highway and howls while his rivals go struggling cheerily on.

The second explanation is more respectful to Mr. Reed. It represents him as painfully conscious that his views concerning the larger questions now identified with Republican policy, such as expansion in general, and the maintenance of the American flag over remote territory which the flag now covers, are so hopelessly at variance with the prevailing sentiment of the party that his presence at a post of high responsibility and power is anomalous. He cannot alter or modify his attitude, for his opinions were too conscientiously formed, and have been too sincerely entertained and positively avowed in his magazine writings and elsewhere to admit of subordination now. He cannot remain in the speaker's chair in consequence as a more obstructionist, either with justice to his party or with comfort for himself. He has, therefore, decided that if the empire cannot wait, he, Reed, can and will stand aside for the present at least. This theory is a very complimentary one to the statesman from Maine, for it assumes on his part a manly adherence to principle and conviction, and an ability to rise superior to the allurements of high public station and official power.

The third explanation is that Mr. Reed is influenced by no political considerations whatever, but simply has

made up his mind that the time has come, in justice to his family and himself, to devote his energies to the accumulation of that fortune which is easily within the reach of his uncommon abilities. The circumstance that the speaker is not yet a rich man is to his honor. Beseet for years with opportunities for sudden increments of fortune, unearned or earned only at the cost of self-respect, he has chosen to remain a comparatively poor man. Now, in his sixtieth year, he is going to work with the energy of a youngster to make his pile; and good luck to him!

Any one of these theories of Mr. Reed's retirement from public life is sufficient to account for the decision on his part which has been received by the people with some surprise and many expressions of regret. Again, more than one of the three explanations may be partially true. Mr. Reed was reported yesterday as declining to discuss the subject on the ground that he had "no interest in the public." The sentiment is certainly not reciprocated. The public has always had a great interest in Mr. Reed ever since his picturesque individuality emerged from the common crowd as a national, genial, dictatorial, obstinate as a mule and yet as kind as an old negro mammy, always ready to sacrifice a material advantage for the sake of an epigram, aiming shafts of sarcasm right and left, saying "no" with harsh emphasis often when his heart felt "yes," the most eminent of speakers has gone straight on in his own course, through sunshine and storm, making friends of the very men whom he ran into and upset. Perhaps no other aggressive American statesman ever provoked so much personal opposition and at the same time netted so few real enemies.

SENATE OF THE 56TH CONGRESS

- ALABAMA. 1901 John T. Morgan ..... D. 1902 Edmund Butler ..... D. ARKANSAS. 1901 James H. Berry ..... D. 1902 James K. Jones ..... D. CALIFORNIA. 1901 George C. Perkins ..... R. 1902 Vacancy. COLORADO. 1901 Edward O. Wolcott ..... R. 1902 Henry M. Teller ..... S. R. CONNECTICUT. 1901 Orville H. Platt ..... R. 1902 Joseph R. Hawley ..... R. DELAWARE. 1901 Richard R. Kenney ..... D. 1902 Vacancy. FLORIDA. 1901 Stephen R. Mallory ..... D. 1902 James P. Taliaferro ..... D. GEORGIA. 1901 Augustus O. Bacon ..... D. 1902 Alex. S. Clay ..... D. ILLINOIS. 1901 George L. Shoup ..... R. 1902 Henry Holtzfeld ..... R. IOWA. 1901 Shelby M. Cullom ..... R. 1902 William E. Dorrance ..... R. INDIANA. 1901 C. W. Fairbanks ..... R. 1902 A. J. Beveridge ..... R. IOWA. 1901 John H. Gear ..... R. 1902 William B. Ewing ..... R. KANSAS. 1901 Lucien Baker ..... R. 1902 William A. Harris ..... R. KENTUCKY. 1901 William Lindsey ..... D. 1902 William J. Deboe ..... R. LOUISIANA. 1901 Donaldson Caffery ..... D. 1902 Samuel D. McEnery ..... D. MAINE. 1901 William P. Frye ..... R. 1902 Eugene Hale ..... R. MARYLAND. 1901 George L. Wellington ..... R. 1902 Louis E. McComas ..... R. MASSACHUSETTS. 1901 George F. Hoar ..... R. 1902 Henry Cabot Lodge ..... R. MICHIGAN. 1901 James McMillan ..... R. 1902 Julius C. Burdette ..... R. MINNESOTA. 1901 Knute Nelson ..... R. 1902 Cushman K. Davis ..... R. MISSISSIPPI. 1901 W. W. Sullivan ..... D. 1902 H. D. Moffat ..... D. MISSOURI. 1901 George G. Vest ..... D. 1902 Francis M. Cockrell ..... D. MONTANA. 1901 Thomas H. Carter ..... R. 1902 William A. Clark ..... D. NEBRASKA. 1901 John M. Thurston ..... R. 1902 Monroe L. Hayward ..... R. NEVADA. 1901 John P. Jones ..... S. R. 1902 William M. Stewart ..... S. R. NEW HAMPSHIRE. 1901 William E. Chandler ..... R. 1902 Jacob H. Gallinger ..... R. NEW JERSEY. 1901 William J. Sewell ..... R. 1902 John Kean ..... R. NEW YORK. 1901 Thomas C. Platt ..... R. 1902 Chauncey M. Depue ..... R. NORTH CAROLINA. 1901 Marlon Butler ..... R. 1902 Jeter C. Fritchard ..... R. NORTH DAKOTA. 1901 H. C. Hensburgh ..... R. 1902 P. J. McHugh ..... R. OHIO. 1901 Joseph E. Foraker ..... R. 1902 Marcus A. Hanna ..... R. OREGON. 1901 George W. McBride ..... R. 1902 Joseph Simon ..... R. PENNSYLVANIA. 1901 Boies Penrose ..... R. 1902 Temporary appointment. RHODE ISLAND. 1901 George F. Wadsworth ..... R. 1902 Nelson W. Aldrich ..... R. SOUTH CAROLINA. 1901 Benjamin F. Timpan ..... D. 1902 John L. McLaurin ..... D. SOUTH DAKOTA. 1901 Richard E. Fourness ..... S. R. 1902 James H. Kyle ..... S. R. TENNESSEE. 1901 Thomas B. Taylor ..... D. 1902 William B. Bates ..... D. TEXAS. 1901 Horace Clinton ..... D. 1902 C. A. Culberson ..... D. UTAH. 1901 Joseph I. Rawlinson ..... D. 1902 Vacancy. VERMONT. 1901 Jonathan Ross ..... R. 1902 Redfield Proctor ..... R. VIRGINIA. 1901 Thomas S. Carter ..... D. 1902 John W. Daniel ..... D. WASHINGTON. 1901 George Turner ..... R. 1902 Addison G. Foster ..... R. WEST VIRGINIA. 1901 Stephen R. Ebbins ..... R. 1902 Nathan B. Scott ..... R. WISCONSIN. 1901 John C. Spooner ..... R. 1902 Joseph H. Quaker ..... R. WYOMING. 1901 Francis E. Warren ..... R. 1902 Clarence D. Clark ..... R.

SUMMARY. Republicans ..... 31 Democrats ..... 29 Silver Republicans ..... 4 Populists ..... 4 Independents ..... 1 Vacancies ..... 1 Temporary appointments ..... 1 Total ..... 69

ICONOCLASM.

From the New York Sun. The Massachusetts senate is laying a rash hand upon the sacred language of the law, and would prune it of some of that ordered luxuriance of expression which is one of its charms. Thus, for the time-honored "give, grant, bargain, sell and convey," the iconoclasts would substitute the patry and bloodless "grant"; for "convey, remise, release and forever quit claim" a miserable naked "release" or "quit claim." Is this a fair way of treating the majesty of the law? Shall the good old curled periwig be plucked off and the bare poll exposed to grinning buyers? We suspect that a large part of the force of law and of the public respect for it is due to the magical and billing repetitions and surpluses in it, to the immemorial droning of old duty conveyances still boring but impressing the mind. Why simplify a business which generations of worthy and ingenious gentlemen have devoted themselves to making complex? Why brush out the cobwebs and whitewash the old worm-eaten woodwork? Besides, law is a luxury, and the man who buys it is entitled to his money's worth without the loss of a single "hereinbefore." And there is no doubt that everybody feels secretly in his soul that a legal document is more binding if it is well stuffed with synonyms and seems to leave no cranny open to chance. But since paper and printed forms took the place of parchment and good clerical scribbling, the temptation to meddle with the wealth of legal language has been too great.

Wealth and Happiness. Wealth does not bring happiness, perhaps; nevertheless, when fashion decrees a waist that buttons down the back, it is the rich woman who may hire a maid, while the poor woman has to call in neighbors.—Detroit Journal.

An Adage Disproved. "The organization of trusts at the present time disproves an old adage," said the snake editor to the horse editor. "What adage is that?" "Two of a trade can't agree."—Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.

REXFORD'S. April 21. We may be mistaken, but we believe we have the most complete line of Belt and Collar Buckles in Scranton; we know we have the newest. Sterling silver in French grey and rose gold finishes. At our way of pricing they are not expensive. Sterling Buckles \$1.50 to \$5.00. REXFORD CO. 132 Wyoming Avenue.

Spring Stationery. Come in and ask to see our Wedgewood Blue, Oriental Rose, MADRAS LINEN. The most beautiful shades ever displayed in stationery. All Sizes in Stock. We have the usual complete line of Office Supplies. Reynold's Bros. STATIONERS and ENGRAVERS, Hotel Jermyn Building.

Garden Tools, Poultry Netting, Screen Doors, Window Screens, Refrigerators. GUNSTER & FORSYTH, 325 and 327 PENN AVENUE.

A well-known clergyman, of Boston, says of RIPANS Tabules "I have used them with so much satisfaction that I now keep them always at hand, and they are the only remedy I do use except by a physician's prescription. They are all they claim to be."

We are Showing This week a great variety of elegant goods in Spring Serges, Checks and Plaids. You will find the prices like the goods—right. W. J. DAVIS, 213 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa.

ALWAYS BUSY SHOE STORES. LEWIS, REILLY & DAVIES. FINE HAND-SEWED SHOES FOR LADIES. 114 & 116 WYOMING AVE.

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The Hunt & Connell Co. Heating, Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Electric Light Wiring, Gas an Electric Fixtures, Builders Hardware. #34 Lackawanna Avenue. HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER. Blasting, Hauling, Sporting, Smokers and the Republics Chemicals Company. HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Early Fuse, Caps and Explosives. Room 401 Connel Building, Scranton. AGENTS: THEOP. FORB, JOHN H. SMITH & SON, W. E. MULLIGAN, Milton Fly month, Wilkes-Barre.

FINLEY'S Foulard Silks, Wash Silks, Summer Silks. The perfection of printing and designing in Foulard Silks for 1899, shows a marked improvement over the past two seasons and we take special pride in calling your attention to our "unsurpassed" assortment of the Finest Goods and Best Styles Obtainable.

The leading things are black and blue grounds, with neat designs in white, heliotrope, blue, etc. Black and blue grounds with Persian effects, also in white grounds, with delicate printing of heliotrope, new blue, etc. Our prices are 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25. Wash silks, that wash and retain their lustre, and colors are shown in a large variety of choice patterns. Prices range from 45c to 75c. Elegant line of Japanese Wash Silks and Summer Silks, in plaids, corded checks and stripes. Fast colors and a large selection. Best goods made. Only 45c. Fast Black Wash Silks, Habutai, and Waterproof Silks in the new "unspottable" finish, at less than present market prices.

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