the Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

New York Office: 150 Nassau St., S. S. VRICELAND, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

Entered at the Postoffice at Scranton. Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends hearing on current topics but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name.

SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 14, 1899.

The argument by Colonel Hitchcock, in another column, in behalf of the the points raised by Secretary Long in ning fight, ought to give and take the running out to sea, as Schley directed, trip him up. the chances are that she would have done even more execution than she did. and done it sooner. Her record of shots landed and received does not purge Schley of disobedience, vacillation and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman,

On Its Last Legs.

THE CAPTURE of Tarlac. Aguinaldo's latest "capital," doubtless denotes the end of organized other words the aggressive, publicresistance to American rule in Luzon, The lordly army of 30.00 smartly of years been growing aweary of the ficered men, with which Aguinaldo de- hare-brained national management of manded to be taken into partnership the Democratic party, with its free with General Merritt at the land cap- trade, free silver, income tax antics reputable tactics of Goebelism, which ture of Manila, and on account of and its silly opposition to expansion, the best Democrats of Kentucky themwhich he expected to be set up on a and but for one thing, which has been gilt throne and reverenced as a new held as a club over their heads, would son of the faithful, having absolute ere this, have broken over into the Redominion over the lives and property of the Filipinos, has in less than five belong. The restraining influence has months of active campaigning by the been their exaggerated fear of negro American army, which, in the interval, | domination; and the necessity, under had to be replaced by the carrying of which they have fancied themselves. men backward and forward over 7,000 for keeping the white vote solidly Demmiles of intervening sea, been reduced | ocratic in order to maintain the whip to the inglorious proportions of vagrant | hand over the black vote, which, none bands, fleeing in abject terror to avoid too fortunately, has been, in most Last February the insolence of

Aguinaldo's strutting lieutenants waxed flerce as they mistook for cowarand stampeding for the mountains in their insane haste to get out of the way when cornered, show the fanaticism of thus carry bloodshed farther than there will the Filipino, insurgent or amigo, entertain the hallucination that the soldier is a soft mark. demptory education of the Tagalogs onward the work will gradually cease to be military in character and will be-

come civil and administrative. For this reason the personal whereabouts of Aguinaldo ceases to have its private secretary and personal effects serve as the nucleus of a new body guard, is quite another. Aguinaldo in hand would be more of an embarrassment than a benefit to Otis. Like Lincoln in the matter of keeping Vallandigham, Otis might better so order his his own best advertisement of the futility of his cause.

enough money should be allowed to the street clean ng department to equip the dust sweepers with a sprinkling cart. If the city is too poor to afford this public subscription.

Mark Hanna.

PECULATION as to whether Senator Hanna's health will permit him to go through the wear and tear of another presidential campaign, especially in view of the fact that he has already enjoyed all the glory appertaining to the position of national chairman and can, if he chooses, step down and out with an unbroken record of extraordinary victories to his credit, turning over the party organization in unequalled shape to his successor in the harness, is in progress both in Wash. ington and throughout the country. It is a literal fact that Senator Hanna is a sick man, and but for the attacks made upon him and the chaldenges which he felt in honor bound to take up, he would teday be in a health resort nursing a most obstinate gase of rheumatism, instead of just coming out of the thick of the hottest

campaign in American history. The retirement of Senator Hanna, should it occur as some of his friends seem to consider probable, would remove from the hurly burly a most interesting character. Caricaturists would languish for a subject and paragraphers would not feel at all like themselves. The Hanna of the public prints, more especially the Hanna aketched by Davenport and from this cue caught up and elaborated by the smaller satirists down the opposition line, depicted as a porcine monster in human guise studded over with dollar marks, has become a familiar personality in pictorial politics and its subtraction would involve a palpable sacthe hour and was enjoyed by none polled in a presidential year would

abused individual himself.

the most exalted ideals of American citizenship, but certainly the wholesome doctrine of going directly after to be got. If we were living in an ideal republic there would be no need of having a Mark Hanna to run our political machine for us, so as to get enough votes of the right kind out to the polls on election day, cast properly and counted correctly. In an ideal world such things would run themseives and all our mundane worries would vanish. But inasmuch as in the country in which we now live there are as they ought to be, including the cruiser Brooklyn does not meet any of giving of ballots to men who have no disturbance, harrowing up the passions conceivable notion what they mean, his letter on Admiral Schley. It sim- but whose vote, however ignorant or ply emphasizes why, in compliment to degraded, counts just as much, when what the Brooklyn did in battle, Schley the count is fair, (and when the count was spared the court martial which is crooked counts oficitime double) his conduct, prior to and subsequently, as does your vote, gentle reader, or so richly deserved. As the fastest ship mine, the need for organization of in the fleet the Brooklyn, in a run- political forces exists and the chief in a manner now unforeseen, the net grievance which the other fellows most blows. Her ability to do this have against Mark Hanna is the fact was not facilitated at Santiago by any- that he does his work as a boss so thing which Schley did. On the con- thoroughly that, in spite of their plots trary, had she closed in instead of and tricks and tackles, they cannot

> It is wise to keep in mind that the just cause is never advantaged by violence. This applies especially to the cause of labor.

The Solid South Quaking.

ANY OF THE best people of the southern states, men of intelligence, enterprisa and active capital; the together with the bush-beating | kind of men who take hold when new operations connected with it, projects are to be put through; in spirited class, have for a number of publican party, where they naturally southern communities, solidly Republi-

What reason is there to believe that the readjustments in home politics indice the American army's unwilling- evitable in consequence of the recent ness to witness a rupture. Today they birth of the expansion issue which is now are tearing through the canebrakes formally adopted as Republican creed, will tend, among other things, in the direction of calling these vigorous and of the misjudged "Americanos." The progressive elements of the southern fight for fight's sake has all been taken | white population into the ranks of the out of them. The poor idiots who have expanded Republican party and thus been fed on ghost stories relative to gradually accomplish the extinction of American cruelty to captives may, sectionalism in our political life, so far as permanent party demarcations are fatalists in their unnecessary fear and concerned? Or, stated in another way. can the younger element which is inis any occasion for it; but never again | troducing into the southern states the quickening influences of industrial developments whereby the whole complexion of that section must soon be necessary foundation step in the re- transformed, long be contented with the moss back political ways and means has now been taken, and from this time | which now dominate the "solid" strongholds of the Democracy; or will inherited prejudices and traditions give way before the compelling demands of business?

In the Chicago Times-Herald, our old former importance. Aguinaldo, the dic- friend, Walter Wellman, in his charactator, about to rush upon Otis and teristically informing manner, goes drive him into the sea, was one char- over this fascinating subject at great acter to the native imagination; Aguin- length, giving not only the fruits of aldo, the whipped fugitive, chased half his own extended observations of way across the island, his baggage. southern conditions, but also presenting the opinions of others who have captured and no force of troops left to given study to the matter; and the conclusion which he reaches is that the south is on the eve of a political breakup which will end for all time the sectionalism for which it more than any other region has for generations been noted. The reason which convinces arrangements as to let the little mes- him of this is that the southern cotton tizo escape; for, at large, he would be manufacturer cannot well look to Republican administrations to find for him a profitable market for the sale of his surplus cloth without sconer or In arranging next year's estimates later falling into political sympathy with the expansion policy of those administrations and therefore voting the Republican ticket. When the South gets something more important luxury the want should be supplied by to occupy its mind than fixing up schemes whereby to deprive the negro of his ballot, the race question will not keep sensible whites out of the Republican column any more than it will put the negro under any responsibility to dodge the Democratic ticket

if his spirit moves him to embrace it. Ex-Minister Barrett, himself a Democrat, says that in the near future Eastern Asia, under the American expansion policy, will supply the market for all the cotton the south can grow and all the wheat which the west can spare from home necessities. If this prediction shall come true the political disintegration of the south will be in-

Admiral Dewey should be given a permit to wear false side-whiskers when on the streets of New York.

A Pertinent Inquiry. OLD COMFORT is extended to Colonel Bryan by his former eulogist, the New York World. That journal of the unterrified now has the frankness to ask:

If the last elections in the several states had been for president, the result would have been this:

Republican Democratic	States. 26 19	Electe
Republican	majority	

Mr. McKinley's electoral majority in 18% was 35, so that the net Republican gain in three years has been 28. In order carry the election next year Mr. Bry-must hold all that the Democrats have carried in the last elections and main 62 more electoral votes. Where are to come from-on the issues upon which the party has now been beaten

The inquiry is a pertinent one, even rifice This Hanna, to be sure, was if we accept the World's figures. But nothing like the real Hanna; but it in our judgment the difference between served to symbolize the prejudices of the vote polled in an off year and that

have been sufficient, had last Tuesday's election been for president of the United States, to have given Major Mark Hanna represents, not perhaps McKinley, as against Colonel Bryan, on present issues, more than 123 majority of the electoral vote. Every what you want, and getting it if it is state carried by McKinley in 1896 would have been kept by him, and in addition he would have carried Colo rado, the one vote lost by him in California in 1896, Kansas, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming, with a good chance of carrying both Montana

and Idaho; that is, 293 electoral votes

certainly and possibly 299. It is possible that the events of the intervening year may throw into Colonel Bryan's pathway accidental aids somethings not yet quite as perfect to his second candidacy. It is conceivable how another widespread labor of the excitable, might, under demagogic manipulation, play a part in the elections of 1900 similar to that played by the Homestead tragedy in the campaign of 1892. Or, there might arise another Burchard; or any one of a number of contingencies might occur, purport of which would be to advance the prospects of the free silve. champion. These are a part of the unavoidable risks of politics where voting is as often guided by passing prejudice or whim as by intelligent and well-reasoned conviction. But they afford an unsubstantial basis for a hopeful campaign, and well may our Democratic

> The recent Republican victory in Buffalo had one result upon which the citizens of that thriving community Mark S. Hubbell as city clerk.

come from?"

If there were the proper amount of morality in Colonel Bryan's politics, he would not stand sponsor for the disselves condemn most severely,

ADMIRAL SCHLEY ONCE MORE.

Editor of The Tribune-Sir: Again following in the wake of the Sun you take another whack at Rear Admiral Schley. Would it not be well to spend some of your surplus energies in charges and Instauations against Schiey make a poor showing in view of the incontrovertible fact that all these things were known by him before he recom-mended Schley for promotion. If they were true what sort of a disciplinarian was he, that he did not court martial Schley? Why does he not court martial him now? Simply because to do so would be self stultification. Are these charges-covertly published, first in a German paper in the west, from which the New York Sun translated and gave it to the public-less stultifying? Long says he is not persecuting Schley. Let us see. Here is an officer whose conduct in the Santlago campaign has been commended first by his superior officer (who had no love for him because he had been jumped over him), and second, by the secretary of the navy who had recommended him for these acts, the latter sends to the senate (was it to prevent his confirmation?) a fairy tale about this officer's disobedience of orders and official misconduct generally, which should have subjected him to court martial and degradation if true; and then follows this, later on, with a rehash of the some thing in what pur-ports to be a private letter to the president which is correctly given to the pubthrough a western German newspaper. If this is not a stabbing in the back-a thrust of the stilletto in the dark, one may wonder what is. It has all the ugly look of persecution.

Now a word about the work of the several ships during the action at Santiago. It is insinuated, if not alleged, by the detractors of Schley, that he tried to get out of the fight, to run away; 'showed his heels to the enemy," etc. Now it appears from the official reports of the navy department that seven-tenths of all the shots that hit the Spanish ships were fired from the Brooklyn and Iowa. There were six American ships in the fight, viz., the Brooklyn, Oregon, Iowa, Indiana, Texas and Gloucester. The report of Captain Crowninshield, of the navy department, showing diagrams of hulls of the enemy's vessels with ry hit marked, and a table showing the hits of each of our ships, is pub lished in the New York Times of April 23, 1899. Of these hits, the calibres show that more than five of the seven-tenths were fired from the guns of the Brooklyn. This gives one-half of all the hits of the shots of calibre of 4-inch and upwards to the Brooklyn. Indeed, it appears that her 5-inch battery did by far the most effective work of all. The Maria Teresa was hit five times; the Oquendo five times; the Vizcaya six times and the Colon four times, with 5-inch projectiles; the latter four shots were all the hits that the Colon received. The following is the total of the hits of our projectiles. c., those of calibre sufficient to damage

					2d bat	
	I-in.	5-in.	8-in.	12-in.	13-in.	tery
Teresa	1	5	3	2	0	25
Oquendo	5	5	3	0	- 0	4
Vizcaya	2	6	4	0	0	1
Colon	or.	4		- 0	· m	-

It thus appears that there were exactforty hits by the heavy battery guns. Of this number the Brooklyn must be credited with twerty, which is the num-ber of five-inch culibre, as she was the only ship armed with a five-inch battery. There were eight four-inch hits, and these must be credited to the Iowa for ie same reason. There were ten hits y eight-inch guns. The Brooklyn, Iowa, Indiana and Oregon were all armed with eight-inch guns. It is fair to assume that the Brooklyn made at least her share of the eight-inch hits, viz., one-fourth, as each of the four ships named had exactly the same number of eight-

This fully justifies the claim made for the Brooklyn that she fired more than ne-half of all the shots of heavy calibre that took effect upon the Spanish ships. The Brooklyn, Iowa and Texas were armed with 12-inch guns and there were two hits from 12-inch guns. If the Oregon and the Indiana be credited with one-fourth of the 8-inch hits, which is all that can possibly be given them, they have a shewing of two and a half hits each. Whilst if the Texas be given one of the 12-inch hits and the lows one, and a fair presumption based upon the prac-tice of her other batteries, would give one at least to the Brooklyn in preference to either-we have the following showing for the Iowa and Brooklyn, viz. snowing for the lowa and Brooklyn, viz.: flowa. Illy blis: Brooklyn, 22½ hits out of the forty. All of which shows that if Brooklyn did "run away." "show her heels to the enemy." etc., she took all the damage the enemy inflicted and gave back more than all the other ships of the fleet commined, and this under the per-sonal command of this reprehensible, disedient and incompetent Winfield Scott Schley, Fortunately these facts will make history, not the puerile stuff the Sun is exploiting. Respectfully,

-F. L. Hitchcock. Scranton, Nov. 13.

SURCHARGING OF THE COMMISSIONERS

THEIR ATTORNEY HAS FILED SPECIFICATIONS OF ERROR.

They Set Forth In Detail That the Surcharges Are Unjust and Unwarranted and That the County Commissioners Faithfully Complied with All of Their Duties to the Taxpayers-Court Made an Order Yesterday Directing That the Case Be Tried in January.

In the matter of the surcharging of the county commissioners with money expended in the rebuilding of the court use, court made an order yesterday directing that an issue be made with the county of Lackawanna as plaintiff and county commissioners Giles Roberts, S. W. Roberts and John Demuth as defendants.

The report of the county auditors is to stand for the plaintiff's statement and the defendants are directed to plead the general issue and file specifications of error particularly within thirty days. It is also ordered that the the case be placed at the head of the first week's list of the January term,

Ex-Judge Knapp, for County Commissioners Giles Roberts, S. W. Robfriends ask themselves, in the language erts and John Demuth yesterday filed of the World, "Where are the votes to the specifications of error to the auditors' report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1897, in which the commissioners were surcharged with over \$16,000.

Each of the individual surcharges to the number of 135 are taken exception to individually and an explancan be congratulated very generally. ation as to how and why the sum sur-It opened the way to the re-election of charged was expended is appended in each case.

In a large number of cases where surcharges were made the explanation is made that the same was a necessary and proper expenditure in the repairs of the county court house. The exceptions taken to a number of the larger surcharges are given below. ABOUT GAS FITTING

Regarding the surcharge of \$838.37 made for gas fittings furnished by Hunt & Connell, the explanation is offered that this did not appear in the specifications because the latter were for plumbing only.

The surcharge of \$574.00 made by the auditors as "difference in costs of twenty-six closets as per specifications satching up the inconsistencies of your and of closets actually furnished at many bureaucrats? Secretary Long's \$22.08 each," is taken exception to. The commissioners say that the closets put in the building were superior and higher priced than the closets execified and that the change was made occause the closets were better and because they could be obtained in less time than the others.

The extra expenditure of \$420 made on account of changes in the specifications for the ceilings of several of the rooms and surcharged by the auditors is explained by stating that these changes were made because thought necessary by the commissioners and the architect.

The expenditure of \$2,250, which was surcharged for "tuck pointing of building as per proposal of E. S. Williams. \$2.250," is explained at some length, promotion, and yet, following both of The commissioners say that while the specifications called for tuck pointing the entire building, that it was deemed building and only on certain points. BIDDERS INSTRUCTED

> They state that all bidders were instructed to this effect before bidding was done and that all bids were made on this basis. The commissioners state that the contractor did all the tuck pointing which under his contract he could be called upon to do and that the surcharge is accordingly improper.

In regard to the expenditure of \$1,-060 surcharged for superintending the erection of the steel roof the commissioners say that it was perfectly proper and was made to procure efficient and scientific inspection of the roof. The auditors surcharged the commissioners \$7,332.18 on the following account:

Bill of James T. Hall & Co\$11,833 18 Expert Jones' estimated cost 4,509 00

The commissioners say that the entire sum of \$11,332.18 was paid to James T. Hall & Co., for fitting up the superior court room, halls and other parts of the building, that the work was faithfully done and the price reasonable and that therefore the surcharge is improper and illegal. The auditors surcharged the commis-

sioners with \$850 on the following bill: James T. Hall & Co .. Expert Jones' estimated cost .

Surcharge The commissioners say that the contract for this work was let to this firm because their bid was the lowest sent in; that the work was properly done

and that the entire sum of \$4,250 was paid out accordingly. IRON ROOF BEAMS. The surcharge of \$320 made for put-

ting in iron roof beams is declared improper because the commissioners say that the same was not included in the new contract with the Berlin Iron Bridge company and was accordingly a proper expenditure.

A surcharge of \$171 made for closets not put in and of \$108 for putting them in are declared improper. Regarding this the commissioners say that the closets were returned to the contractors and credit allowed and that credit was also allowed for the work of putting them in.

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Women's black Cropon Skirts in all the new and stylish patterns; full width, percaline lined, perfect fitting. The regular \$5.50 kind at Women's taller-made Suits of fine quality Venetion and chevi-ots; juckets are lined with sit-taffets; skirts have a fashiomb's

habit back; in otack and all the new shades. Fully worth \$15, very special at \$15.

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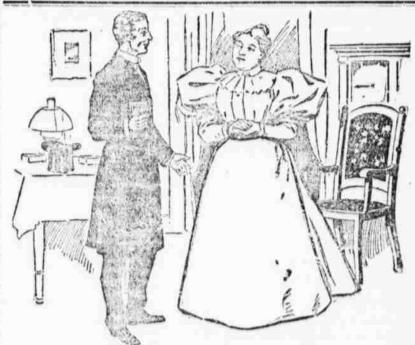
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