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When space will permit. The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name; and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to cultorial revision.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, JANUARY 27, 1900.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS.-C. C. Ferber, E. D. Fellows.

The Tribune has received an anonymous letter questioning the claim of our correspondent, "Taylorville Miner," to be a miner; this is as much as to accuse The Tribune of lying when it introduced his series of letters. We repeat that "Taylorville Miner" is an actual miner who has been through every strike he describes.

There Are Limits.

OLONEL BRYAN'S notion of an independent Filipino republic under American protection would involve ten-fold "militarism" and "imperialism" Incident to direct American control of respect? the Philippines. For as it is now, we need only enough soldiers to establish and maintain order among the natives: but if the Aguinaldo type of plotters who would hold the offices in a Filipino republic knew that the United States stood pledged to back them up in anything they might do, they would probably have us involved in war with some other power nine-tenths of the While the European nations would respect our title if we directly readily acknowledge our right to set up a firebrand "independent" government where it would be likely to scatter sparks of trouble among their near-by colonies and dependencies. We had hard work getting the European powers to respect our Monroe doctrine which warned them off our immediate continent. Is it likely that they would permit us to build a diplomatic dead line around a so-called independent government in far off Asia and meekly acquiesce when we told them that this Malay dictatorship must be permitted to do as it pleased? There are limits to international forbearance.

Such support as Roberts got came mostly from the Democrats. They are apparently wedded to every wrong

As to Limiting Inheritances.

HE PRESIDENT of the New York Bar association recently proposed that the state should fix a limit to the value of inheritances, his own idea being that, for four reasons, no man served by giving a man power to transmit more than \$10,000,000; second, the cannot be entrusted as safely to those who inherit the wealth as to those who acquire it by their own exertions. third, no vested right would be infringed and no injustice done to anyone by the proposed legislation; fourth, a great deal can be done for the ameliment of the masses of the people and the enhancement of civilization with the money which would come to the treasury if the state were the heir of the surplus of every man's fortune above \$10,000,000.

As with certain other forms of taxation, which apparently dodge some persons and hit others, the question of erecting a ten million dollar limit to inheritances is one which does not seem to come very close home to the great majority of people. Yet it is of more or less direct interest to all, for should such a limit, or one like it, be fixed, the benefit would accrue to the people in bulk, inasmuch as it would tend to discourage the upbuilding of great family fortunes which are the bane of republics and impel men of large wealth to do as Andrew Carnegle is doing, distribute their surplus while alive to watch over its use. It would not be confiscation, for the right to acquire and hold property does not necessarily imply the right to pequeath it unconditionally. The laws governing the transmission of property which the state can annul or modify tutionality of inheritance taxes have courts, the principle prevailing that while man is entitled to enjoy the fruits of his labor and is not to be dispossessed except as a penalty for some transgression of the public weal, it rests with the community to say on what terms he may give away that which is his, for the community, no less than the giver and the receiver, is a party in interest.

What is the proper limit? Here is cumstances of bequests are seldom an inflexible rule.

Colonel Bryan is right in saying that he is not pleading the cause of the Filipinos. He thinks he is pleading the cause of William Jennings Bryan, but time will show that he is mistaken.

Colonel McClure thinks that the local hold their own factional supremacy ought to be fair with that gentleman and tell him frankly that he has not one chance in a million to be elected that do? To a man of Bryan's clustic as the "hop" which killed the young

election; what he feeds on is notorlety and applause. Let him be the big feature in the Democratic main show and he will not care who may become pres-

Mr. Wanamaker's North American occupied part of its first page in yesterday issue in a black-faced type announcement of how Colonel Bryan had complimented it for its opposition to the McKinley administration's Philippine policy. Colonel Bryan's compliment was shrewdly bestowed. The man who served in Harrison's cabinet is rendering lots of assistance to the Democracy these days:

The Vice I residency.

UR ESTEEMED contemporary, the Wilkes-Barra Record, asks if the leaders of the dominant faction of the Republican party in Pennsylvania are Charles Emory Smith for the vice presidency. We cannot speak for them. They must answer for themselves. Some of them, we know, are, Others, if not ready now, will be when the party sentiment shall demand it. The main question is, Do the Republican people of Pennsylvania want state honored and their party strengthened by the nomination on the presidential of a man possessing the attractive and creditable qualities of the present postmaster general? And if so, are they willing to give expression to their preference in sentiment which the party leaders will appreciate and

The Record intimates that there are Republicans in this state who have been "bitter and releatless enemies" of Mr. Smith. We are not informed on this subject. We should be surprised if it were true. Mr. Smith, in his relations toward the unhappy factional divisions long prevalent in our commonwealth, has always had and has clearly expressed strong and manly opinions; but he has never descended asserted sovereignty they might not so to mud-throwing; he has never played the sneak, the hypocrite or the bearer of false witness; he has invariably retained his dignity, his character and his self respect. Few men who, from environment, personal friendships or a different understanding of questions at issue, may in the past have been differently aligned than the accomplished former editor of the Press, have felt less than a high regard for his courtesy, his candor and his clean and gentlemanly instincts. He may have had opponents, who in the heat of factional strife have given as well as taken energetic blows; but "bitter enemies"? We do not believe it.

It is largely for the reason mentioned by the Record that we so strongly press at this time the suggestion of Mr. Smith's candidacy: namely, in order to give what the Record admits is the dominant and controlling faction ar opportunity to demonstrate, in the so intemperately assailed, that it does have recognition for ability, purity ought to be allowed to hand down more and integrity in public life, and that than \$10,000,000: First, there is at the it is big enough, broad enough and present day no good purpose to be brave enough to extend its hand beyoud the chasm with an overture for what might be the beginning of an great power which great wealth gives honorable reconciliation. In saying this we are not mushy enough to believe that reconciliation with the professional spite venters is either possible or desirable. For them there is but one fate. They must be stamped out. Among the clean and decept Rooration of social conditions, the better- publicans of our state there is, however, a growing weariness at largely professional factional strife and a feeling which resembles hope for a more harmonious political era. If the vice presidential candidacy of Charles Emory Smith would in any manner tend to knit together severed threads, its promotion by the best Republican sentiment of the commonwealth would become a public duty.

> There are indications in the metropolitan press that Mr. Bryan is again becoming addicted to the camera habit.

Opium' Smoking and Morphine. HE WHOLE civilized world is excited over the death of a young girl in Philadelphia from the results of smoking opium and the case is cited as a horrible example of the influence of the heathen Chince over the Christian young woman who would save his soul Too much cannot be said on the rabject and too rigid authority cannot be after death are creations of the state exercised over the foolish young girls who, from a morbid and mistaken idea at pleasure. Attacks upon the consti- of religious duty, become the teachers of the Chinese according to the almost uniformly failed in our higher methods usually adopted. That there is contamination and pollution for the girl is too certain a sequel.

The facts of the case under discussion, however, seem to indicate that the Philadelphia opium victim was not sufferer from the debauching influence of the Chinese as much as from representatives of her own race, Amerwho themselves were opium fiends. There is apparently no certainty that she taught the Chinese in the point of chief difficulty. The cir- Sunday school, as it is denied that she was in any way connected with twice alike; and he would be a daring the church at first named in the reman who should undertake to lay down | ports. The fact remains that she had acquired the habit and knew as much f not more of the methods employed in opium smoking than the companions

of her fatal debauch. To repeat the statement made above it is well to give wide publicity to the case as an awful warning to parents and to over-devotional young girls. But there is another side to the opium Democratic politicians in the east who question on which physicians, clergyare shouting for Bryan in order to un- men and the press are too silent and that is the vast growth of the morphine habit among people of all classes. The little hypotermic needle. the tiny bottle filled with the insidpresident next fall. What good would love drug, is just as easily procure!

opium smoker. It is such a convenient I bleieve, has retrograded anodyne for pain; it brightens the skies so when business and domestic affairs cloud the day: it brings such delightful dreams. One poor, weak young girl dies in an opium joint and horror is felt in the heart of every reader of her pitiful end, but daily and hourly the victims of the morphine habit pass by with no protest and but little warning from those who watch their swift downfall.

The children, the young people, the men and women of society should be adjured not only to turn aside from the temptation of the opium pipe, but also from the danger, no less menacing, of the drug habit in any form.

Montrose is agitating the canning factory enterprise, which cannot fail to be of vast benefit if the project is carried to successful operation. The citizens of the beautiful little town on the hills have expended much energy and money in the past in promoting ready and willing to accept Hon | railroad schemes in order to provide shipping facilities, but seem to have lost heart when on the verge of prosperity. Without industries calculated to interest outside capital, the railroads have proved a curse to the town. If the people of Montrose can be persuaded to make room for the canning factory, the slik mill, or, in fact, any other industry that will furnish a market for the farmer and ready employment for the wage earner, there is no reason why, in time, it should not be one of the most prosperous of county towns in the state.

> The United States circuit court of appeals agrees with the lower court, in the case of Oberlin M. Carter, convicted of swindling the government, that courts martial, so long as they abide by the rules made for their procedure, are not subject to interference or review by the civil courts but have plenary jurisdiction. Carter's friends threaten to appeal to the United States Supreme court, but they might better save their money.

> The recent disaster at Ashley is another argument in favor of shipping explosives in small quantities. A thirty-ton lot of dynamite is not a pleasant cargo to contemplate at any time.

tellane and the editor of Figaro will continue to spurn each other until within shooting distance. Now that the case of Mr. Roberts,

of Utah, has been disposed of, the

country is prepared to hear from Mr.

It is expected that Count Boni Cas-

Roberts, of Africa. As the days go by, Mr. Pettigrew continues to demonstrate how a patri-

otic statesman should not act. How did it happen that the mayor's

grand distribution of verbal bouquets

omitted the city controller?

Occasionally the conversion of a Chinaman is reported; but it seldom

What this country needs is an equalization of its weather.

Another Letter Concerning Water

Sir: The burning question of the hour appears to be the water question. Nothing is more essential to the welfare and progress of any city than an ample supply of the great necessity of life, water, and at a price that would be a blessing to all and a burden to none. The Scranton Gas and Water company have apparently lost this view of the case, and water is metered out to small industries, hotels, etc., at almost prohibitory rates. In fact, there is no burden so heavy as the present water tax. 20 cents per thousand gallons, on them. Hotel closets, wash basins, etc., are free to the publie. All others can control their water; hotel men cannot. Then the unfair wholesaling of God's greatest gift, as though it were a manufactured product, at prices ranging from 6 cents per thousand gallons to 20 cents per thousand gallons, a difference of 350 per cent. in favor of the large dealers against the small dealers! Water, man must have; nothing lives, breathes or grows without it. There are other staples that enter into the economy of existence, bread, meat. regetables, etc., all manufactured or developed by man. How would it be if a difference of 350 per cent. existed between the first handler and the last consumer of those products; they are produced by man and sold to the consumer at an average profit of 10 per cent. Water given by God, the greatest necessity of all.

Dr. Tanner lived six weeks without food; he could not have lived one day without water. Nothing strangles young industries so much as conditions of this nature, and any coming to this city, and being made aware of such conditions, if they studied their own interests, would promptly stay away. Water at present rates up to 20 000 gallors per day is a complete offset to the advantage of cheap fuel. It is true that the attendance at the municipal hall the other night was small; the domestic consumer was conspicuous by his absence; his turn has not yet come. This is the first twist of the thumb screw, others may come later. If a charge of 20 cents per thousand gallons can be made, and the dear public stand it, what easier way to increase the income of the company than by increasing charges to 30, 40 or 50 cents per thousand gallons, and so on ad libitum?
"It is a cinch." Any complaint to the office is mot by the answer, "go over your plumbing and stop the leaks," I have spent \$50 within the last two months on plumbing. The pressure of the water, varying from 39 to 90 pounds to the square inch, and churning the sand, gravel, dirt and other impurities from the main into the pipes, destroying the seats, valves and washers, makes it imposthie to keep plumbing tight under the high and ever varying pressure that exists here.

It was a grand idea, perhaps a little sardonic, to build a grand monument in the shape of a beautiful road, rivaling Rome's famous Appian Way, around a beautiful lake on top of a high mountain, and then occasionally has the honor of supplying wring the price of it out of the emperor with a uniform.

ton two decades, and it seems to me the condition of trusts, cates and monopolles is such that the cruth of Ignatius Donnelly's "Caesar's olumn, or Two Thousand A. D.," are in a better way to be realized than Edward Bellamy's idyllic "Looking Backward." The Iron Maiden of Wurtemburg was merciful as compared with the relentless grasp of the monopolies of today. The end came soon In her embraces; now it is linked agony, long drawn out. Electricity is measured out by volts, heat by cubic feet, to all consumers. In water here, small dealers are discriminated against to the tune of 350 per cent There are concerns in this city which keep their taps opened so as to waste from fifty to seventy-five thousand gallons per day, to get in on the low rate, and the water company harps on leakage. There are cities that pump every gallon of water, and carry it for miles, for 21/2 cents per thousand gallons, flat.

I am informed that the Susque hanna can be brought to our doors in unlimited quantities for less than \$400,-The quality of the water is as good as the Lehigh river water, which is part of the Scranton system, as it s entirely out of the coal measurea above Pittston. Would it not be a good idea to free ourselves, and also assist in developing our city, by taking advantage of that fact? Is all spirit crushed out of us, that we should crouch and cower like belabored nounds 'neath the master's lash, and make no effort to free ourselves? I wonder if the day is far distant when scientists will be able to control the air we breathe; capital corner the supply and meter it out at so much a breath (any price they please). Breath is no more of a necessity than water. To buy thousands of acres of water shed, build reservoirs sufficient to supply a city of a million inhabitants, lay expensive pipes over the Poconties of inestimable prospective and speculative values, add 100 per cent. water to their stock in the past year and then saddle the entire burden of this immense prospectively valuable property upon a population not to excoed 60,000-that, certainly, is enter-prise. (The Providence Gas and Water company) furnish the North End. We have about three thousand rate pay ers. The Cas and Water company d not depend entirely upon small streams for their supply, if the Lehigh river is one of their bases.

The city of Scranton used million of gallons of water to flush its streets and private houses used water without stint on their lawns, in the street: and in many instances rubber hose forming fountains that were going day and night in hot weather; all this before the Elmhurst reservoir was fin ished, and no complaint was made of the demand exceeding the supply; so it would seem that the immense improvements were for other purposes than the mere supplying of Scranton's population. Is it justice that the consumer here should be saddled with all this and bear the burden of so called improvements that they never asked for and can't use for, perhaps, a nundred years, if ever? In the meantime 'Man's inhumanity to man makes

ountless thousands mourn." Yours very respectfully, W. H. Whyte. Scranton, Jan. 26.

From the Wilkes-Barre Record. article from The Scranton Tribune, sug-gesting Hon. Charies Emery Smith for the vice presidential nomination. There is no Republican in Pennsylvania, or in any state for that matter, whose nom ination for second place on the presi dential ticket would be more gratifying to the Record, and we doubt not that such recognition of one of the ablest and purest Republicans in the state would equally gratifying to every man in the arty who has battled side by side with barles Emory Smith for better and obler conditions in politics, state and national. Is this suggestion of our Scran-ton contemporary practical? That ques-

tion must be answered by those Pennsylvania Republicans who have up to this time been the litter and relentices enc-

mies of Mr. Smith and the opponents all the reforms in our party he has

THE VICE PRESIDENCY.

vallantly battled for. The Republicans who constitute the dominant faction of the party in Penn-sylvania, and who will control the state's lelegation in the ensuing national con vention, will have the deciding whether or not the attempt shall be made to nom nate a Pennsylvanian for vice president and if so whether Charles Emory Smith shall be the man. He stands for all that is best in Republicanism. He champions the principals and policies that made the party great and that have kept it in party great and that have kept it in power in the national government almost continuously for forty years. It is never a mistake to nominate for a great office a man whose fame has for its founda-tion ability, purity and integrity. Men of that stamp always have a powerful hold on the intelligent masses. Charles Emory Smith is a man of that stamp, and it follows that his nomination for vice president would be intensely gratifying to the masses of this state, and of the entire country.

But as we have said, the question whether or not this splendid Pennsylvania Republican shall be urged upon the en-suing Republican national convention for the vice presidential nomination will de-pend upon the men who will constitute or control the state's delegation. The great Republican commonwaith is cu-titled to such recognition, and will de-serve consideration, and doubtless will receive it, if our delegation shall present the name of Charles Emory Smith. Our Scranton contemporary is in accord with the dominant faction of the R publican party, the faction with which Charles Emory Smith has not been and is not now identified. Are the leaders of that faction ready and willing to accept Mr Smith for the vice presidency? If so there will be no difficulty in presenting united front in making a battle for

PERSONALITIES.

Sir Charles Nicholson, sole surviving member of the first Australian paritament, has just entered on his ninety-sec-

nd year. Mrs. Lydia Bradley, of Peoria, Ill., who gave \$500,000 during the year to philan-thropic objects, stands second on the list of women largest givers in the country.

The name of Samuel Smiles has been so long forgotten by the reading public that many will probably be surprised to learn that the author of "Self-Help" is still alive. He fives in London.

All the Hohenzollern princes born since 1722 have slept in a curious old cradle of carved oak. On the four sides is carved the text: "He hath given His ingels charge over thee, to keep thee in John D. Rockefeller advises young men to keep a careful record of all expendi-tures and recolpts, so that at the end of every year they may tell whether they

are saving enough to provide against the inevitable tainy day.

Though the German emperor employs Berlin tailors, he believes in giving pro-vincials employment also. In every im-

ticularly her 200-mile trip across the veidt, have made her the subject of general at-tention, is the first woman war correspondent bearing a courtesy title, Gideon Hawley, the oldest locomotive engineer on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railway, between Buffalo and Chicago, and probably the oldest engi-neer in the United States, is soon to be retired on a pension of 87 per month, Senator Hoar amuses himself by compiling odd statistics. The other day he piling oad statistics. The other day he said he had found that 55 per cent, of the present congressmen wear frock coats and slik bats to the session, but that a majority of the senators stick to busi-

ness suits.

Ohio's inquisitorial tax laws have forced H. M. Hanna, the senator's brother, to make his permanent resident at Thomasville, Ga. He explains that the laws enforce "a constant temptation to commit perjury," and he is fleeing from that temptation.

CURRENT VERSE.

Night Wanderers.

In the silence of the nighttime, When the earth is hushed and sleeping, And the wakeful stars are keeping Solemn watch from out the sky. Go the birds their guide notes calling, Clear and strong their cries come falling With a wild and rhythmic cadence, As to Southern haunts they fly.

Seeming but as wandering voices, Roaming in the upper regions.

Or like strange tongued spirit legions, Gathering to a mystic tryst. Strong, unswerving, faltering never, As if guided by some power, Through the trackless wastes of ether, Through the moonlight and the mist.

Do they see a shining pathway, Firelit cloud or spirit sliding. On before them guarding guiding Through the perils of the air? This we know not, but believing That all creatures weak or needing. Have the Father's love around them Can we doubt that He is there?

Ideals.

I'd like to be the sort of man Who walks with lordly style And who each creditor may scan With a superior smile. On checks and coupons I had set My hopes, when hopes were new. But plain small change is what I get, And I'm right thankful, too.

With plaudits from the crowd And often stop to hear my name Re-echoing long and loud. But I am mighty glad to meet Some good friend that I know When walking carelss down the stree And hear him say, "Hello."

I dreamt of laurels which I'd wear When with the great I sat. I'm lucky if I hide my hair With a new-purchased hat. Life's humbler pleasures are so sweet, 'Tis wasting time to fret O'er benefits you hoped to meet Instead of what you get. Washington Star.

Mute Witnesses. The soft lamp gilds my desk tonight; My books stand all a-row. turn them o'er, and to my sight

The ancient rhymes of love and death That were such comforters Seem now to know some living breath That all about them stirs.

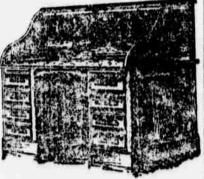
Story and fable, quaint and good, They speak so bitterly! Not as the hand that penned them would

That they should speak to me A little comment scribbled fine.

A finger-print, a bit Of folded paper at some line Tells how we talked of it. Alike the poet and the sage, Gold-edge and russet-brown— A penciled word upon a page,

A corner folded down The glamour of the verse is flown: The cut leaves seem to bleed. In the dlm light I read alone

-Post Wheeler in New York Press OFFICE

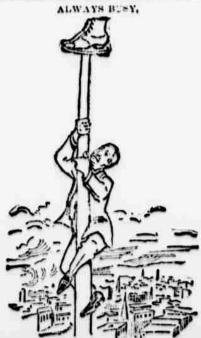


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A lady who read the above testimonial said: "If I knew how to give R'I-P'A'N'S to my dog I should like to make use of the same remedy." On inquiry it was ascertained that by cutting a slit in a piece of meat and inserting a Tabule therein the dog swallowed it readily and had his medicine in him before he knew it.

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