

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on the merits of its policy.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

The Associated Press report of Monday's and Tuesday's battle at Paardberg drift, given to the public in yesterday afternoon's papers, and because of its dramatic interest, reproduced elsewhere, is one of those rare chronicles of the times that mark turning points in the world's history.

The Quay Case Taken Up.

WHATSOEVER MAY BE the result of the final vote in the senate upon the question of admitting M. S. Quay on gubernatorial appointment—a speculation chiefly confined to the bargain counter newspapers, which hitherto have foolishly imagined that their artificial noise was going to divide the question for the majority to take up the Quay case as a matter of the highest privilege is a fortunate indication.

The question is properly one of supreme privilege. Either the commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a constitutional right to its full representation and vote in the deliberations of the senate, or it has not. If it has such a right every minute of unnecessary delay in according due recognition thereto is an outrage, not only upon the temporary appointee, but also upon the people of Pennsylvania and the constitution of the United States.

This is an issue far bigger than Quay and anti-Quay. We feel well satisfied of Colonel Quay's ability to hold his end up in the future politics of Pennsylvania so long as he shall choose to remain active in party management, regardless of the grotesque endeavors of the Martins, Films and Wanamakers to "reform" him out of their way.

The Courts and the Press.

BY-LAW of the Associated Press stipulates that no member shall purchase news from any person, firm or corporation declared by the board of directors or stockholders to be antagonistic to the Associated Press.

The case of the Chicago Inter-Ocean against the Associated Press arose out of the fact that the directors of the latter threatened to drop the Inter-Ocean if it continued to buy news from the New York Sun.

When a corporation is created, there goes with it the power to elect by-laws for its government and guidance, as well as for the guidance and government of its members.

form to its policy. This duty on the part of corporations to do no act hostile to the policy of the state grows out of the fact that the legislature is presumed to have had in view the public interest when a charter was granted to the corporation and no departure from its charter purposes will be allowed which would be harmful to the public.

The Associated Press was meant to be an association for the mutual benefit of its stockholders and members and not an instrument of warfare against journals or news agencies considered by the board of directors to be "antagonistic."

Advice from the Chinese Minister.

VERY WORTHILY did the orator of the day at the opening of the University of Pennsylvania's new law school, Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to this country, acquaint himself in his discussion of the theme: "The Proper Relations of the United States to the Orient."

The speaker dextrously praised George Washington, both for what he did and for what he did not do, asking where another instance could be found of entire subordination of personal ambition to the public welfare.

Constant intercourse between the East and the West of necessity, he continued, requires a common medium of communication. The story of Babel has a moral to it. It was the confusion of tongues that scattered the people of the earth toward the four winds.

Lord Kitchener has the military idea. Keeping everlastingly at it until the enemy surrenders unconditionally is the true secret of great generalship.

Another encounter has just taken place between the "sober" and "fresh" elements at Cornell, and arrests will probably follow.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaachus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrologer cast: 3:21 a. m., for Saturday, Feb. 24, 1900.

failure to convict instead of to the death penalty yet existing in many states. He says: "In 1888, 2,155 murders were committed in the United States, for which only 231 persons were punished; in 1889, there were 3,567 murders, and 274 convictions; in 1890, 4,290, with 228 executions; in 1891, 6,000 murders, and 290 executions; and in 1892, the number of homicides had swollen up to 8,000, with the same disproportion in regard to the convictions, and so on steadily increasing up to the present day.

Mr. Headley attributes this failure to convict more to defective preparation of cases by the commonwealth, owing to inadequate detective service, than to prejudice in the jury box against sending murderers to the gallows.

There will be no disposition to dispute this latter conclusion; but regarding the cause for so many failures to convict in cases of homicide our observation does not agree with that of Mr. Headley.

Civil Service Reform.

AN AMENDMENT to the civil service law has been proposed by Representative Lacey, of Iowa, which has the merit of striking a happy medium between those who want office holders elevated into a separate caste and those who want no civil service regulations at all.

Mr. Lacey's bill provides that "all persons now or hereafter employed in the classified civil service, unless removed for cause or as provided by law, shall serve for a term of five years only from the dates of their several appointments, subject to all the rights of removal, transfer or reduction as provided by law.

Although the editor of the Montrose Democrat publicly bewails the fact that the farmers only receive 11 cents a dozen for hen's eggs, it is suspected he secretly rejoices that the reasonable product is within reach of the rich and poor alike.

Almost any actress is willing to become the target for severe criticism and fat box office receipts.

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CURRENT VERSE.

Vagaries of Spelling. A fisherman sat on the quay Partaking of afternoon tea; When a lady came by And whoinked with one eye, And whispered, "No sugar for munny."

A man was committed to the goal For stealing a teppany naol; The judge was severe, He sentenced him one year, Without any option of bail.

A thoughtful young butcher named Mowli Had a tender and sensitive nose; When he slaughtered a sheep He always kept the wool in a bowl, And paid for a funeral towel.

A sailor, who sported a queue, Was told by a girl that he knuseed; If he came under fire He used to retire And say, with a bow, "After yeeue."

The Dowager Duke of Buccleugh Was famous for Irish steech; When asked, "Do you use Any onion in steech?" He cautiously answered, "A feugh."

One autumn the Marquis of Seynes Shot a partridge with infinite peynes; When he cried, "It's a good bird!" Of the havoc I've made! See—only one feather remains!"

Memento. The small boy stole his neighbor's grapes, His sin impressed him overmuch. A grin O'erspread his freckled little face As he broke bunches off and gobbled them in glee.

Remember Me. "When this you see, dear friend, remember me," Old-fashioned, trite and neither new nor clever; And yet expressing what will always be The longing hope, to be remembered.

Keep A-Smiling. If you've parted with yer cash, Keep a-smilin'; Never think of action rash, Keep a-smilin'; Never wish that you was dead, If you want to git ahead, Better hush 'em up instead, Keep a-smilin'.

and avoid the pitfalls of foreign alliances. The rumor that President McKinley has made a secret compact with Great Britain originated abroad, and were circulated here by demagogues and ignoramuses.

The mixture of races in this country offers an insuperable obstacle to any permanent alliance with a foreign nation. Every American citizen, whatever his ancestry, respects and is devoted to the American flag.

From an Oration by Justice Harlan, of the United States Supreme Bench. Now, more than at any period in our history, is it necessary that we be faithful to sound principles of government and liberty regulated by law.

For my own part, I believe that a destiny awaits America such as has never been vouchsafed to any people, and that in the working out of that destiny, under the leadership of Providence, but manly everywhere will be lifted up and power and tyranny compelled to recognize the fact that "God is no respecter of persons."

HEALTHY AMERICANISM. From an Oration by Justice Harlan, of the United States Supreme Bench. Now, more than at any period in our history, is it necessary that we be faithful to sound principles of government and liberty regulated by law.

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