

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, MARCH 12, 1900.

STATE CONVENTION CALL.

To the Republican Electors of Pennsylvania: I am directed by the Republican state committee to announce that the Republicans of Pennsylvania, by their duly chosen representatives, will meet in convention at the opera house, in the city of Harrisburg, on Wednesday, April 25, 1900, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

One person for the office of auditor general. Two persons for the office of congressional-at-large.

In accordance with the rule adopted at the state convention held in Harrisburg on August 21st last, the representation in the state republican convention to be held in Philadelphia on Tuesday, the nineteenth day of June next, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

Frank Reeder, Chairman. W. R. Andrews, C. E. Voorhees, Secretaries.

The city of Scranton cannot afford to be represented at Harrisburg by inexperienced men.

Jack Knife Statesmanship.

TO UNDERSTAND the amendment which has been made by the senate committee on foreign relations to the pending Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty it is necessary to quote the rules which that treaty provides for the regulation of the contemplated water-way.

- 1. The canal shall be free and open, in time of war as in time of peace, to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations, on terms of entire equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any nation or its citizens or subjects in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic.

The proposition to advertise session laws as is done in New York and certain other states, which was defeated by the last legislature, is again to be presented at Harrisburg.

Instances of Indiscretion.

IN THE FEBRUARY number of the North American Review appeared a striking article by Major J. E. Runcie, General Wood's legal adviser, describing "American Mismanagement of Cuba."

There are two additional sections in the treaty. The first provides that the plant, establishments, buildings, and all the works necessary to the construction, maintenance and operation of the canal shall be deemed to be part thereof, and shall at all times enjoy complete immunity from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of the canal.

Following General Wood's promotion to the chief command, Major Runcie, who had been a most efficient assistant in the work done in Santiago province, was named as a member of the commission to revise the laws of Cuba and had just got nicely started in that most important task when the North American Review for February reached Havana.

Why cannot we be honest in our utterances touching the territories we have recently acquired? Really, it would save

time and trouble, to say nothing of life and treasure, to come out frankly with the announcement that we have annexed those possessions into cold blood and to use them for our profit and advantage. All this talk about benevolent assimilation; all this hypocritical pretense of anxiety for the moral, social, and intellectual exaltation of the natives; all this transparent parade of responsibility and deep-seated purpose; all this deceiving nobody, availing nothing, helps us not an inch in the reaction of profit, dignity, and honor.

The senate committee on foreign relations, while professing in its majority report to favor the neutralization of the canal, in the amendment which it has inserted effectually does away with neutralization. Its position is identical with that of the western legislator who said he was in favor of a certain law but "ain't its enforcement."

The decision of the Louisville court of common pleas that it has no jurisdiction in the Kentucky election contest, which belongs wholly within the jurisdiction of the legislature, probably means that unless the United States courts will grant a writ of error Taylor's cause is lost.

France in a New Ferment.

PROPHECIES multiply that the mania of hatred for England and the English which is sweeping over France will soon lead to open war. It is said that knowledge of this fact is the secret of the extraordinary war preparations which are being made in England, and of the immense force which has been sent to South Africa, as much for discipline and experience as for actual employment against the Boers.

No appearance of cause for a war between France and England is visible to the ordinary observer. But the history of French diplomacy shows that cause is not necessary where nerotic manias occupy the place of statesmanship.

But the reports which come from seemingly trustworthy sources are to the effect that the jingo mania is increasing in France. Until recently it has been very largely kept out of the newspapers under the promptings of those who have hoped it would blow over and leave the Paris exposition unharmed; but latterly the symptoms have become too vivid for concealment.

Is the widespread public interest which is manifested in the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon's blasphemous scheme of pretending to know how Jesus would run a newspaper a sign of degeneracy or simply another illustration of the truth of P. T. Barnum's dictum that the American people love to be humbugged?

English consols, bearing 2 1/2 per cent, interest, are selling in New York at 6 points less than the new 2 per cent, United States bonds. Both are payable in gold and both are "good as gold"; but the American indorsement, thanks to the administration of William McKinley, is considered the better.

The press of Puerto Rico, like the insurgents of Luzon, is taking seriously the Democratic party's campaign thunder in this country and constructing for itself a big experience in disenchantment when it shall become better acquainted with that organization.

By forcing Senator Mason and other spontaneous combustion statesmen of the upper chamber to twist the British lion's tail in executive session, were nobody can hear, the senate has performed a genuine service to humanity.

THE CALL.

Tommy Atkins, you're a wanted, And you've wanted might be wanted, And you've got 'n' t' git some fightin' Like 'o' which you've never had, For it won't better kiss your mother, For it won't be easy pickings, When you're fightin' with the Boers.

BRIEF MENTION OF MEN OF THE HOUR

RETIRING CHAIRMAN OF COMMON COUNCIL.

Mr. Keller Could Continue in the Position Indefinitely but is Anxious to Get Down on the Floor Again—The Retiring and New Chairman of the Select Council.

PERSONALITIES.

One of the first letters of sympathy received by General Roberts after the death of his son in South Africa, was from the ex-Emperer of the Shah, recalling how the general had given her a sprig of flowers from the spot where the Prince Imperial fell in the Zulu.

Richard H. Williams, who retires from the chairmanship of the select council, is now about to enter upon his fourth term, which, if completed, will give him a record of sixteen continuous years in council.

Everybody that knows anything in this city knows about the business and capacity of the late Mayor Atterton, the wide awake secretary of the Scranton Board of Trade, but few outside of the members of the Thirteenth regiment know much about his military side.

The new head of the High School, Prof. Grant, is a man who is not making very much of a fuss, but no one is to judge of him by that. It is because of a lack of activity on his part.

Illinois expended \$18,299,933 on its public schools in 1899. Colorado has the highest peak in the United States. It is Blanca Peak, 14,395 feet above sea level.

As the government of France could not be persuaded to vote \$1,000,000 for the purpose, a syndicate has been formed to lay a net of wires that will connect telephonically all of the 36,000 communities of France.

The French government has just ordered ten locomotives from this country. The government has stipulated that they shall be ready in time for the extror-

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They are waitin' anxious for you, And they're achin' t' begin, And a lot among your numbers, Tom, And you'd better kiss your mother, For it won't be easy pickings, When you're fightin' with the Boers.

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ordinary passenger traffic expected during the coming Paris Exposition. George A. Hubbard, the new postmaster of Boston, taking warning by the fate of his predecessor, who was broken down by the combined weight of official cares and social duties, has made a rule not to attend public dinners.

There are no fewer than ninety-six translations of "Milton's Paradise Lost" in the British Museum. Apart from the great languages of the world these translations are in Danish, Polish, Manx, Armenian, Icelandic and Bohemian.

Cats are greatly venerated in Persia. The feline friends of the Shah number fifty, each having its own attendant and a special room for meals. When the Shah goes on a journey the cats go, too, being carried by men on horseback.

Metal never rusts in the waters of Lake Titicaca. A chain or an anchor can be left in it two weeks and will be found as bright as when it came from the foundry, which is probably owing to the action of some of the chemical salts in the water.

Exclusively private charities, England spends something like £18,000,000 a year in providing for the necessities of the poor. It has been estimated that in London one person in forty-five is supported by public charity, while the proportion in New York is 1 in 20.

Senator Beveridge is not the youngest member of the senate, as is generally supposed. Mr. Butler, of North Carolina, is one year his junior, being 56 years old. Following these come Mr. Tamm, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Laughlin, of South Carolina, both of whom are 53.

Bishop Potter, of New York, who is now in Manila, has for years been interested in the islands of the Pacific and a careful student of the native languages and customs. Although this is his first visit to the Philippines, he has at his home an interesting collection of curios from those islands.

In connection with the call of Rev. Dr. George T. Purves of Princeton to the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, of New York, one of the prominent members of that church says that Dr. J. H. Hall used to say that were he to retire during his lifetime he would like to see Dr. Purves succeed him.

General John B. Gordon has issued the formal order for the annual meeting of the United Confederate Veterans to be held in Louisville, Ky., from May 29 to June 3 next. He says 1,300 camps have well along in the making, and applications for membership have been received from about 200 more.

Henry Charles Keith Fitz-Maurice, the Marquis of Lansdowne, who is being roundly abused for all the British reverses in the Transvaal, is said to owe his unpopularity to Lord Wolseley, with whom in his young days, some seventy years ago, he stormed so many practical strongholds and established the sovereignty of British North Borneo. He is a director of the British North Borneo company.

Joseph Chamberlain's American wife helped him over another stile not long ago. The colonial secretary was addressing a meeting in Birmingham, had laid the thread of his discourse, stumbled badly and finally came to a dead stop. Mrs. Chamberlain, who sat close by, coolly leaned over and whispered a few words to the embarrassed statesman. She evidently put him back on the track, for his face cleared up at once and he proceeded to the end of his speech without further mishap.

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