

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its readers 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 editorial revision.

SCRANTON, APRIL 20, 1900. TEN PAGES. FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, CHARLES EMORY SMITH, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS. Legislature. First District—THOMAS J. REYNOLDS. Second District—JOHN SCHEUER, JR. Third District—EDWARD JAMES, JR.

Some of our Republican brethren in Lackawanna county are wondering how the Republican voters in the Lackawanna end of the Twenty-first senatorial district will contribute to the nomination of a senator to succeed Colonel Scott. Just as usual, of course. The Crawford county rule in Lackawanna do not apply to a senatorial district until regularly accepted by the district. The Twenty-first district is still under the delegate system.

The Spokesman of the Administration.

IT HAS been said that the Republican leaders desire the nomination of a candidate for the vice presidency who can assume the burden of discussing Republican policies which the president, in respect to his office, is not permitted to take up. If an orator is wanted, where is there a better one than Charles Emory Smith?

There are orators and orators. Some ride the skies in chariots of hyperbole and when next day you try to recall a single thought there is nothing but a jumbled memory of words. No man ever listened to a speech by Charles Emory Smith without taking home much to think about. His newspaper training has taught him that no mere spurge of rhetoric can compensate for a scarcity of ideas; and therefore he packs his speech chock-full with well-edited information and invariably words it so that the audience sees his point.

He has the natural gift of eloquence—the dramatic fire, the command of diction and gesture which hold and sway great multitudes; but he never talks for the mere sake of talking; he talks only when he has something of importance to say. Take the wonderful addresses which he has been delivering from time to time in explanation of expansion. Not a man in the country has better caught the note of American destiny or pictured more clearly the conditions which have made inevitable this new out-reaching of national power and responsibility. He is the logical spokesman of the administration and expounder of its policies and, as such, is entitled to go on the national ticket.

There is a possibility that he may be nominated regardless of the attitude of the Harrisburg convention; but it is to be hoped that that convention will do as in common fairness it ought to do for so distinguished a Pennsylvanian occupying his high place in the national councils of the party; that is to say, endorse his candidacy enthusiastically.

Governor Stone predicts an early re-appointment of the state in accordance with the constitutional mandate. It is to be hoped that he is a good prophet.

More Than a Coincidence.

SINCE 1872 our foreign commerce has doubled, from one billion dollars to two. Our exports in 1899 were valued at \$1,227,000,000 and growing now in a manner that amazes the world. But wonderful as this growth is it is as nothing compared with the growth in the same period of our domestic commerce, notably that on our great lakes. The tonnage of vessels engaged in commerce passing through the St. Mary's Falls canal increased from 914,735 registered tons in 1872 to 2,158,347 tons in 1899, the increase having been over 2,000 per cent., as against an increase of 100 per cent. in total foreign commerce and 200 per cent. in exports. The percentage of freight carried by Canadian vessels, which in 1887 was 7 per cent. of the total, was in 1898 only 2.2 per cent. The value of Canadian craft passing this point was in 1897 \$2,653,400, and in 1898 \$2,491,000, while that of American craft, which in 1887 was \$17,684,550, was in 1898, \$45,199,800, the value of Canadian craft having increased less than 25 per cent., while that of American craft had nearly trebled. With this increase in tonnage and business had come an equally striking decrease in freight rates, the cost of transportation per ton per mile having fallen from 2.3 mills in 1887 to .78 of one mill in 1898.

It is more than a coincidence that this wonderful prosperity has been built up under Republican legislation; that it has been at its highest when Republican supremacy was most secure and at its lowest during the intervals of Democratic administration, or of Democratic possession of one or both branches of congress.

Because a criminal in Puerto Rico the other day, after being convicted of murder, was garroted in the Spanish fashion, an outcry is being made. This method of execution differs from the hangman's process more familiar in this country by being certain in its swift release of its victim from consciousness, whereas the American process

fold and noose process is liable at any time, by some defect in the arrangement, to end up in a most barbarous manner. The garrote, of course, will go in Puerto Rico as soon as the island becomes Americanized, but its ill fame is not deserved. If we allow that any form of capital punishment is proper,

We wonder if the Wanamaker newspaper syndicate really supposes that the voters of Pennsylvania are fooled by its political fictions palmed off in the guise of news?

Gunning for Trusts.

THE TRUSTS had better look out. Congressman Ray, chairman of the house judiciary committee, is after them. In addition to his proposed constitutional amendment conferring upon the federal government full power to define, regulate, control, prohibit or dissolve trusts, monopolies or combinations, he has just had his committee endorse five amendments to the Sherman anti-trust law. These are as follows:

- First, requiring the branding or marking of trust made goods shipped out of a state, so as to be easily identified as the product of a trust. Second, prohibiting the interstate traffic of trust made goods not so branded, and making them subject to seizure and condemnation. Third, requiring corporations having a capital of \$1,000,000, or doing an annual business of \$1,000,000, to file a report of their affairs with the secretary of state. Fourth, providing the process of injunction against combinations sending trust made goods from state to state or to foreign countries. Fifth, prohibiting the use of the mails to concerns and their officials proven to be trusts.

This ought to satisfy the popular spirit of resentment against the trusts. If it does not, let somebody propose more drastic measures—if he can.

Enterprise is seldom without results of some kind. If the tireless Philadelphia publishers do not succeed in locating the much-discussed opposition to Mr. Grow, or in purifying state politics to the extent of driving the other fellows all out of office, they may at least demonstrate that the butter market has been tainted with axle-grease.

Strange Business at Washington

SERIOUS CHARGES have been brought by the New York Sun against Hon. James D. Richardson, the Democratic leader in congress. The Sun repeats them daily on its editorial page, citing names and dates, and it would seem that Mr. Richardson ought to say something in reply, but he is silent.

In 1891 Mr. Richardson, while serving as chairman of the printing committee, was authorized by congress to compile and to publish as a public document, the messages and papers of the presidents, which he did, the compilation filling ten large volumes. A certain number of copies was allotted to each congressman, after which a resolution was passed giving to Richardson a duplicate set of the plates. When efforts were made to increase the number of free copies, for which there was naturally a large demand, they were somehow killed; and when Richardson was asked if he intended to copyright his compilation he replied that under the law a government document could not be copyrighted; yet nevertheless a special edition of the "Messages and Documents" soon appeared, purporting to have been put by congress in the hands of a "special committee on distribution" consisting of Richardson, A. R. Spofford and one Latus, but which was copyrighted "by J. D. Richardson," and for sale by canvassers at \$3 a set, the canvassers giving the impression that they were authorized by congress to peddle public documents on these terms.

The law to which Mr. Richardson referred when he announced on May 11, 1897, that he could not possibly copyright a government publication, is contained in Section 53 of the Public Printing act of Jan. 12, 1895: "The public printer shall sell, under such regulations as the joint committee on printing may prescribe, to any person or persons who may apply, additional or duplicate stereotype or electrotype plates from which any government publication is printed, at a price not to exceed the cost of composition, the metal and making to the government and ten per centum added; Provided, That no publication reprinted from such stereotype or electrotype plates, and no other government publication, shall be copyrighted." Yet Richardson, the Democratic leader in congress, has either copyrighted or pretended to copyright a government publication and is now receiving a royalty on every copy sold, based on his rights under that alleged copyright.

But this is not all. "In the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill for the coming fiscal year there was tucked away," says the Sun, "this small and apparently innocent provision in the form of an amendment: 'That permission is hereby granted to J. D. Richardson to compile, edit and publish, without expense to the government, the state papers and diplomatic correspondence of the late Confederate states, and access to said papers and correspondence shall be given him for that purpose, by the heads of the executive departments having such papers in charge, under such regulations as may be respectively prescribed by them.' This appropriation bill, including the amendment here quoted, has passed both the house and the senate, and has gone through the conference stage and is at the present time in the hands of the president. It will become a law and the Hon. James D. Richardson will have laid successfully the foundation for another claim to the commercial monopoly of important public records, the property of the United States government." An explanation from Mr. Richardson is certainly desirable.

The example of the Long Island school man who, to demonstrate a

certain point in geometry, baked a lemon pie, divided it into sectors and passed these around is respectfully commended to the teachers of Scranton, now in institute assembled.

In 1890, in Minnesota, Montana and the territory now known as North and South Dakota, there were only 172,923 population. In ten years this had become 474,482, a gain of 188 per cent.; in twenty years, 955,109, a gain since 1870 of 101 per cent.; in thirty years, 1,945,512, or a gain since 1880 of 104 per cent.; and it is generally expected that the new census will reveal in these four thriving commonwealths a population of at least 3,000,000 prosperous people where less than fifty years ago only the buffalo and the wild Indian roamed. With such an example of internal expansion, who ought to view with fear the new experiment of our own generation?

A Colonial Future.

(Charles Emory Smith, in Philadelphia Press.) SENTIMENT and precedent looked to the admission and assimilation of Puerto Rico, like Louisiana, with complete American citizenship, uniform taxation, all the rights of a territory and prospective statehood. This has been the normal course in the past. Precedent is on its side. Generous impulses made in this direction. The first decision and determination was undoubtedly along this line. This view was reflected in the hot agitation and furious outcry all over the country which followed the proposal of a different course. A very large number of Republican newspapers and many Republicans have been carried away by this impulse and this sentiment. They will return. Discussion and dispassionate examination have gradually made it clear that common sense and principle are wiser guides than agitation and sentiment. A population like that of Puerto Rico, nine-tenths illiterate, cursed with concubinage, on a low level of life, without schools, with wages at the 20 cent rate, with no organized institutions and of mixed blood and race, is not ready for full American citizenship. The island is not ready to be started on the road to statehood. The time has not come for the uniform taxation, the complete and unrestricted intercourse and the political and personal privileges which go with a territory.

Tutelage is necessary. Congress must retain its full powers of control under the constitutional power "to make all needed rules and regulations" for new territory, but free from constitutional limitations as to its action in states and "territories." Congress has two powers, one unrestricted in new territory, the other restricted by constitutional limitations in the states and "territories" over which the constitution is extended by law. Common sense dictates under the conditions which exist and will long remain in Puerto Rico that congress shall retain, untouched, the larger power. Sentiment may take a different view, but not a man but hesitates after the experience of the last thirty-five years at adding to ignorant citizens. Political power must go with political capacity. Common sense dictates such a bill as has been passed. It maintains the power of congress to levy taxes suited to special conditions. It does not extend internal revenue taxation. It levies a low tariff for a brief season to raise revenue needed by Puerto Rico. It grants American protection but not full American citizenship. It grants all the local autonomy practicable, but it leaves the upper chamber of the legislature and the executive appointed.

This establishes a colonial policy. It draws the line between territory and population ready to come into the political system of the Union and territory and population not ready for this privilege. Puerto Rico is not alone. Behind it are the Philippines. Behind that archipelago is a colonial future.

The Kansas Populists desire hereafter to be known as the Progressive People's party. They evidently do not wish to be considered as lacking in the spirit of advancement even if their progress is of a spasmodic and largely backward variety.

The sultan of Turkey will doubtless be able in the future as in the past successfully to cope with any diplomacy that is not emphasized by rapid fire guns.

The Pennsylvania Democratic leaders show a disposition to "get together" in a way that renders it necessary for the police to pull them apart.

If no one but Democrats are allowed to vote in Louisiana, there is no question that that party can continue to roll up majorities.

The ponderous indirection of Grover Cleveland's rhetoric is enough to make an elephant smile.

The quickest way to settle with the sultan of Turkey is to have the navy collect the bill.

The original Dewey men are hovering on the line that divides fame and oblivion.

If Mr. Cleveland wants Bryan's scalp why doesn't he frankly say so?

WHO TELLS THE TRUTH?

Walter Wellman in the Chicago-Times Herald.

The talk among the leaders in congress is that a clause will be put in one of the appropriation bills giving the president authority to pay both Admiral Dewey and General Otis \$100,000 as their compensation for serving upon the Philippine commission, by the accordance with President McKinley's recommendation. So far as can be discovered there is no opposition to this in any quarter. There is, however, a great deal of regret that Admiral Dewey should have lost his patience and his temper and jumped into the political arena in a somewhat childish effort to get "revenge" upon the president.

COLONEL PLUMER.



Cables just received from South Africa show an increased activity on the part of Colonel Plumer's column, which is now near Mafeking. This gallant commander was recently wounded in a battle against heavy odds, and had a horse shot under him. The picture we present is an authentic and hitherto unpublished one of the man who any day may force his way through the Boer lines and bring relief to besieged Mafeking.

American Labor Is Not Lawless

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA TIMES. THERE HAVE BEEN several recent serious labor troubles in different sections of the country which have threatened the peace and endangered the safety of the community, but it is creditable to American workmen that in no instance has any such issue been presented save where the disturbing labor elements were alien to our government and strangers to our institutions and language. We cannot recall an instance in all the serious labor convulsions of the past, where American workmen have defied the laws and required an appeal to the military to maintain public peace.

There is now a very serious labor trouble in New York state, where some seven hundred workers on the Croton Dam, wholly foreigners, are out on a strike, and their conduct has been so violent that fifteen hundred soldiers have been called out to restrain the lawless violence of these alien disturbers of our industry and business. The troops were called there not to make war upon the strikers, but simply to maintain the peace; to protect the rights of every person in the community, including strikers, contractors and citizens, and yet when the troops were first marched to the place, one was assassinated by a striker in ambush, a cowardly murder that could have been perpetrated only by an anarchist. This violent that fifteen hundred soldiers have been called out to restrain the lawless violence of these alien disturbers, but military authority has prevented any retaliation.

The American workman is not an assassin, he is not an anarchist; he is not lawless. He believes in the law that protects him and all others in the enjoyment of their rights, and the only criticism that can be made of the American labor organizations of the country is that they have not squarely and lowly demanded the lawless American anarchist who piles his vocation in the name of organized labor. The labor organizations of the country are respected everywhere, and they would be omnipotent in obtaining every just right, if they would entirely separate themselves from the lawless American anarchist who piles his vocation in the name of organized labor.

There are well-defined rights under the laws of this free republic which must be respected by all. The right of the workman to strike is absolute; the right of the workman to work is just as absolute, and the interference of others with the individual rights of any citizen or any person under the protection of our laws is simply lawlessness; and when it is remembered that the industrial people of this republic are three-fourths of our whole population and are the absolute sovereigns of the nation, the necessity for respecting the sanctity of law must be accepted by all who have any part in the great inheritance of American citizenship.

MOODY'S HANDLING OF A BULLY

"In his various offices Mr. Moody did not always have plain sailing. As sergeant-at-arms he kept over as well as he could," writes William R. Moody of his father, Dwight L. Moody, in the Saturday Evening Post, "who once had a young bully, the ring-leader among the worst element in the town, made persistent and malicious efforts to disturb the meetings. He was a source of great annoyance. After being repeatedly warned he only assumed a more belligerent attitude. It was against the rules ever to turn a scholar out. Grace had failed, and Mr. Moody saw that some other means was inevitable. At last he whispered to Mr. Farwell:

"If that boy disturbs his class today and you see me go for him to take him to the ante-room, you ask the school to rise and sing a very loud hymn until I return."

"The meeting proceeded. The boy began his interruptions and Mr. Moody made for him. He seized him with a strong grasp, hurried him into the ante-room and locked the door. Then he gave him a thrashing such as he himself had known in his boyhood days in New England, and when he returned there was a flush on his face, but it had in it an expression of victory. This boy was soon afterward converted, and many years later he had written me how still enjoying the benefits of that gospel exercise."

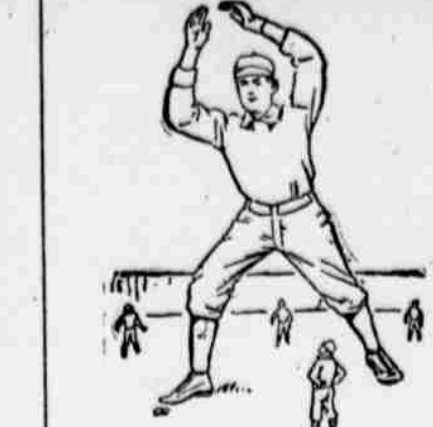
MOORE'S SEVENTEEN REFUSALS

From the Saturday Evening Post. Frankfort Moore has no sympathy with the young novelist who is discouraged because his second or third book does not bring him fame and fortune. "I published thirty-one books," he says, "before the literary public knew anything about me."

Mr. Moore was a journalist in Belfast, and a hard-working one at that. But he managed to find leisure time to produce in twelve years thirty-one books for boys, rattling tales of adventure of all kinds by land and sea.

Mr. Moore was never discouraged, for he thought he should know quite well when his time came. He finished writing "I Forbid the Banns," and, as he was leaving home for his office one evening, said quietly to his wife that,

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