

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 current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication by the writer's real name, and the conditions precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

TWELVE PAGES. SCRANTON, MAY 12, 1900.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, CHARLES EMORY SMITH, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS. State. GALESHIA A. BROWN, ROBERT H. FORBES, Auditor General-E. B. HARBENBERG.

Legislative. First District-THOMAS J. REYNOLDS. Second District-ROBIN SCHUYER, JR. Third District-EDWARD AMES, JR. Fourth District-P. A. PHILLIPS.

Of course Theodore Roosevelt is fond of seeing his name in print and enjoys reading a story in the world. Who isn't? Who doesn't? But don't make the mistake of supposing that he is a mere sensationalist. Men who do things as Teddy does are entitled to be talked about.

Secretary Long. IF AN EASTERN man is to be nominated for vice-president at the Philadelphia national convention, it seems now to be well assured that the choice will fall on either Postmaster General Smith or Secretary John D. Long.

Mr. Long is a candidate in his own name and with the active support of the delegation from his own state; Mr. Smith is the candidate of those who recognize his exceptional fitness for the place, but he has not pressed his own claims nor is the Pennsylvania Republican organization pressing them for him.

We are committed to Mr. Smith's cause for reasons which have been fully set forth in these columns. We consider not only that he possesses in a pre-eminent degree the peculiar combination of qualities and accomplishments required in the occupant of the vice-presidential office and that the country's recognition of his worth would so widen during the course of the campaign that his nomination would bring strength to the ticket in every part of the theater of battle; but also that the magnificent loyalty of Pennsylvania to Republican principles as exhibited in unwavering devotion to the north and the great part which her industries and business men are playing in the practical development of American expansion fairly entitle the state and city in which the convention is to assemble to contribute to the national ticket the one nominee not predetermined. From this proposition we shall not budge until the last ballot has been counted. It is an attitude in which we should have the earnest support of every Pennsylvania Republican, as we already have of thousands of discriminating Republicans in other states who appreciate the force of Pennsylvania's claim and marvel that Pennsylvanians themselves do not press it with more spirited determination.

But it gives us pleasure to recognize in Secretary Long a competitor of no mean qualifications. As an orator he is not the equal of Charles Emory Smith—few men are. Yet he is a good talker; a clear, logical and pleasing talker; a man who never talks without contributing to the sum of human information and instruction. He is also a good secretary of the navy, so good that if President McKinley is wise he will not let him swap jobs. In the Sampson-Schley matter he was both firm and right. He might have gone a little further and treated Schley to a court-martial; in that matter he erred, if at all, on the side of leniency; but let that pass. We don't believe that John D. Long has had as thorough a preparation for the delicate duties of the vice-presidency as Mr. Smith has. He was never minister to Russia. He has never brought to success a great newspaper enterprise. He is not so widely acquainted among the leading men in public life. Still, he is a fine man, and the party would accept him cheerfully, but the nominee should and we hope will be Charles Emory Smith.

General Otis will not come home to an embarrassment of red fire and sky-rockets; but one day history will do justice to his tireless industry, patience and ability and a statue will be erected in his honor in the most prominent part of Manila.

Practical Education. THE LETTER which Secretary Root has addressed to President Eliot of Harvard University in recognition of the preparations which Harvard is making to entertain and to instruct in American ways during the summer months the large party of native Cuban teachers whom the war department is to bring to this country for educational purposes is a model of both well-directed courtesy and straight-forward thinking clothed in clean English.

"I do not think," the secretary writes, "you are in any danger of over-estimating the importance of the thing you are about to do. I visited many schools when in Cuba this spring, and I was much impressed by the brightness and intelligence of the children who were crowding in for instruction under the new regime and of the native teachers who had been already employed. It is great raw material for education, and nothing can be clearer than our duty at least to start the process along right lines. It would

have been a poor boon to Cuba to drive the Spaniards out and leave her to care for herself, with two-thirds of her people unable to read and write and wholly ignorant of the art of self-government, and without any political system under which the peaceable, home-loving majority of her people could find an opportunity to take part in the government. Instead of that, we are trying to give the Cuban people just as fair and favorable a start in governing themselves as possible and to help them to avoid the conditions which have subjected Hayti, San Domingo and the Central American republics to continuous revolution and disorder.

"The Cubans are behaving admirably, and I have great hopes for them. The great difficulty with which they have to contend is that they have had no experience in anything except Spanish customs and Spanish methods which have grown up for centuries under a system opposed to general education and to self-government. To succeed in their experiment the Cubans must necessarily acquire some new ideas and new methods. That is a very hard thing for a whole people to do, and it cannot be done by having outsiders preach to them. It is something that they have to do themselves. The best that anybody else can do is to afford them opportunity of seeing and studying new methods. The greatest opportunity that has yet been suggested for the accomplishment of this necessary work is the bringing of these 1,450 teachers to Massachusetts to see for themselves the University of Harvard and the institutions and life of the state, and to explain to them what they see and its bearing upon their work for the education of their own countrymen. I believe that this body of teachers going back after their experiences in Cuba, will carry back more saving grace for peaceful and prosperous Cuba than the whole power of the government could accomplish in any other way."

Since March 4, 1897, nearly 100,000 rural homes in all parts of the United States have received free delivery of mail, thanks to the present energetic management of the postoffice department. Charles Emory Smith would run well among these citizens.

"Carpet Bag Government." NO SYSTEM has been devised by man which will prevent dishonesty. It is a humiliating circumstance, the shame of which is felt by every American citizen, that among the carefully picked employes of the independent postal service which our government has set up in Cuba with great care as an object lesson for the natives were some capable of entering into a conspiracy to steal funds which were in their trust; but such experiences are not uncommon; they occur with frequency in the most thoroughly managed private business institutions; banks, trust companies, stores and industries all have to run a certain measure of risk with the imperfect human instruments which they employ; the best that can be done is to use every possible precaution and to let no guilty man escape.

It was to be expected that the first slip discovered in the discharge by representatives of our government of their fiduciary relations toward the people of our new dependencies would be seized upon with ghoulish glee by opponents of the administration and put to use as weapons against the policy of expansion; and the expected has happened. The Philadelphia Ledger was the first to generalize pessimistically from one bad particular in the conduct of affairs in Cuba, and soon its chorus of despair will be swelled by the voices of every opponent of Republicanism. "Theoretically," says the Ledger, "there should be no more difficulty in managing postal affairs in a colony than in our own country; the systems of keeping and auditing accounts being the same, but in practice the government is likely to find a different class of men seeking colonial appointments from those who get employment at their homes. The slick carpet bag politician does not go to a distant land for any other purpose than to make money as quickly as possible, and hence the colonial service administered by a nation of politicians is almost certain to be worse than the similar service at home. Great Britain has been successful with her colonies, but Great Britain does not permit politics to control or even influence her civil service. The men sent out to her colonies may look forward to a tenure of office during good behavior; they have an incentive to honest and faithful labor in the hope of promotion, and where their location is not agreeable may, if they have done their work well, obtain a transfer to more agreeable surroundings. Our colonies are not likely to be governed in any such fashion. Politics will control the appointments, and the seekers of colonial berths will be those who cannot get anything as good at home. Their tenure will be uncertain, and many of them will be tempted to make money quickly, that upon their return they may be more or less independent of government favor. The embezzlement in the postal department of Cuba is an indication of what we may expect to become a frequent item of news when we shall get carpet bag governments fully established in our island possessions."

As a matter of fact, taking into account the necessity for haste in organizing a postal service in Cuba which resulted from the speed with which war problems of great magnitude were accumulated beyond any man's control, the selections of men for responsible positions in the Cuban postal service were made with a great deal more than the ordinary care, and Postmaster General Smith has put on record the fact that politics had nothing whatever to do with influencing appointments. Men were picked out in virtue of their exceptional fitness as demonstrated in the service records,

in the indorsement of reputable friends of both parties, and in their general appearance and manner of doing business. This man Neeley, the alleged chief employe, had improvements on a character which would have secured his employment by any private employer in the country needing a man quickly and having to take one on the word of others until such time as personal study of subordinates could qualify the employer to do his own picking. No more surprised set of men are to be found in the United States than the immediate friends and neighbors of Neeley in Indiana, who have known him intimately all their lives and who would have trusted him with their last cent.

It is easy to cry "carpet bag government," but it is not easy to find perfect men. Certainly the administration, which has to bear the brunt of the responsibility for the way affairs are administered in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, would be foolish if it put men in responsible places who were not believed at the time to be the best that it could secure. At the head of the "carpet bag government" in Cuba is a man whose record for honesty, efficiency, ability and courage is as clean as a hound's tooth; and the disinterested testimony of all intelligent observers is that upon the whole the men associated with him are of like character. In every group of picked men there are some who are susceptible to temptation, and no means have been contrived yet to determine in advance who are characterproof and who are not. That test has to be made in the crucible of actual experience. There is no other way.

The fidelity of the government to its trust will be exhibited in the steps which it shall take to bring the guilty to justice and to strengthen weak places as they develop. By this will it stand or fall.

The Grout bill proposes to put a tax of 10 cents a pound on oleomargarine colored to imitate butter. Now let congress amend it to include a similar tax on butter colored in mid-winter to look like the yellow butter of summer.

Walter Wellman says Hanna voted against Quay because Quay failed to sustain the McKinley administration just before the Cuban war. We thought it was on constitutional grounds.

A bill prepared by the state department to reorganize the consular corps, grade the pay and establish a high order of efficiency is before congress. It should be adopted.

Candidate Towne, Mr. Bryan's Populistic running-mate, appears to have been a trifle late in having his photograph taken.

Lord Roberts evidently believes that Pretoria is nearer than Christmas.

For a man of his years, Lord Roberts is quite spry.

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrolabe cast: 4:16 a. m., for Saturday, May 12, 1900.

A child born on this day will notice that there's always room at the top for the fellows who cannot get there.

The faculty of applying a limited stock of eloquence at the proper moment is better than a wealth of oratorical talent.

A wise woman is well served that men never cry clothes in their pockets to keep away moths.

The pessimist is a man whose goggles were not properly adjusted at birth.

Too many "high balls" will prove disastrous to any pitcher.

A good cook book is often better than stomach bitters.

CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE. China's foreign trade, and especially her trade with the United States, developed very rapidly in 1899, as is shown by a statement just received by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. The statement in question, from the "Returns on Trade" by the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China, shows especially rapid development in the section where railways have recently been opened. The following are extracts from the report:

"The foreign trade of China during the year 1899 was characterized by an astonishing development, and merchants, both foreign and native, made handsome profits from almost every branch. The political situation, although still unsettled, gave rise to no immediate fears; exchange remained remarkably steady; the rice crop was abundant; the spring weather during the critical period for the silkworms was unusually favorable; and, except for a recrudescence of piracy on the West river, there were no disturbances to check trade. The gratifying result was that the year beat all previous records and showed an advance without precedent. The total trade was valued at 460,552,288 halikwan taels (the average value of the Halikwan tael was \$1.18 in 1898, \$0.67 in 1899, and \$0.72 in 1899), a rise of 91,316,805 halikwan taels in 1899, and more than double the figures for 1898.

"The internal trade of the country was also unusually brisk, and the important changes which will be brought about by the extension of railways have already been proved. Newchwang and Tientsin have prospered in response to the stimulus of better means of communication, and the trade of those ports has leaped forward, although the former suffered from a severe outbreak of the plague. It is found that immediately trains begin to run, districts through which there was little traffic, such as between Peking and Pekin, suddenly commence to hum with life and activity, and the springs up a flourishing trade which was formerly undreamt of and impossible for want of cheap transport. The Russian line has been completed so far north as Moukden, and the extraordinary richness of Manchuria will soon become evident. The Lu-Han railway, from Peking to Hankow, makes steady progress. Within six months it is expected that trains will be running as far south as Chungking. The difficulties in the southern section, where extensive tunneling is required, make construction slower there, but rails have been laid for forty kilometers southward from Hankow, the track is now being made as far as Shyuan-to which place it is hoped to run trains within two years—and the whole line of 1,300 kilometers is to be completed in five years, including the difficult engineering feat of bridging the Yellow river. The line between Taku, Tientsin and Peking continues to advance in prosperity, and the extension beyond Shanhaiwan towards Chingwang will shortly be connected by rail with the capital. Difficulties regarding the question of control are hampering the construction of various other lines, but it is to be hoped that these will soon be satisfactorily arranged, as there is no longer any doubt that the effect of cheap transport will lead to an enormous development of China's trade."

"The net value of the import trade was 254,748,456 halikwan taels, being an advance of 55,109,122 halikwan taels over the previous year and double the figures for 1898. It would be tedious to particularize all the gains, but every article mentioned in the table of imports, with the exception of iron castings (which declined), T-cloths, English and Dutch jeans and

PRESIDENT CHARLES W. ELIOT.



The latest portrait of President Charles W. Eliot, of Harvard University. He has followed up his offer to give 1,000 of the Cuban teachers who will visit the United States free admission to the summer school by throwing open his private residence to as many teachers as can be accommodated in it.

English yarn, were imported in quantities exceeding the figures for 1898. As regards the falling off in T-cloths, it is explained that their place is taken by what are generally known in the trade as "continentals," which are included in our returns under the heading of sherings. English sherings show an advance from 225,396 to 263,762 pieces, and the increase must be assigned partly to Continentals and partly to the higher prices which prevailed in the United States. American sherings rose again, from 2,483,991 to 3,975,991 pieces.

"The feature most worthy of note was the continued advance of American and Japanese goods, the latter especially showing very rapid development. The class of white shirtings now imported is greatly superior to what came formerly, the people demanding a better article. It is worth noticing, as evidence of prosperity, that what may be described as cotton goods de luxe, such as chintzes, printed twills, cambrics, etc., and handkerchiefs, jumped from 305,314 to 458,356 dozens. Cotton flannels increased from 123,885 to 327,405 pieces, and Japanese cotton flannel from 56,835 to 176,679 pieces. English cotton yarn suffered a falling off, while Indian and Japanese increased, the latter having now risen to 775,700 piculs. It is probable that the local mills will gradually get better of their foreign rivals. The yarn made from Chinese cotton is much whiter than the Indian yarn and obtains better prices, which explains why Japan imports raw cotton from China to mix with Indian. Woolen goods, though not showing such a promising progress as the cotton goods, made a distinct advance, cambrics, lastings, long ellis and blankets all having increased. The metal trade remains inelastic and the total value was slightly below that of the previous year.

"The value of the exports was estimated at 167,784,822 halikwan taels, an increase of 56,747,658 halikwan taels over the previous year's total, and, as in the case of imports, more than double the figures for 1898. In view of the fact that railways are now opening up districts previously cut off from communication with ports, it is fairly safe to predict that in less than another ten years the trade will have again doubled. Exports are at present checked by price and inferior quality—the former due to cost of carriage and heavy taxation, the latter to adulteration or faulty methods of preparation for foreign markets. Prices will come down when railroads bring the goods more cheaply to the ports and increase the supply."

COMMON SENSE IN LAW. From the Indianapolis Press.

The suggestion of a doubt as to the power of the government to punish a crime committed by one of its own citizens in Cuba is repugnant to average intelligence. Assuming there is reasonable ground for the charge of embezzlement on which Mr. Neeley has been arrested, it seems to a layman monstrous to assert that he cannot be convicted and punished because the crime was committed in Cuba, which does not belong to the United States and has no sovereignty of its own. No treaty has been ratified, no agreement of any sort relating to extradition has been entered into between this nation and the people of Cuba; therefore the prisoner cannot be returned to Cuba, where the alleged crime was committed, for trial. It would be strange if such a view of the power and jurisdiction of the nation should prevail.

The government has always asserted and maintained its right to protect the weakest of its citizens, arbitrarily and unlawfully, and a public official under any circumstances of funds held in trust by the United States in any part of the world? Common sense would suggest that the sovereignty of the nation follows the flag everywhere, to the extent at least of authorizing the punishment of a crime committed against itself by one of its employes, and justice should be meted out by a technically a question as to the place of the trial.

THE MAN FOR THE PLACE. From the Montrose Independent Republican.

As time goes on, and the merits of the numerous candidates are discussed, it becomes more apparent that among the names suggested as fitting running mates for President McKinley, none measures up more fully to the requirements of the occasion than does Pennsylvania's distinguished and honorable citizen, the present postmaster general, Charles Emory Smith.

GROWING IN FAVOR.

From the Lebanon Daily News.

It will be gratifying to very many Republicans in this state to learn that Hon. Charles Emory Smith, the popular postmaster general, is growing in favor as a candidate for vice-president on the Republican ticket. He would undoubtedly add strength to the ticket, and the state by his nomination would receive an honor to which it is entitled. McKinley and Smith would be a combination of strength and great popularity.

AN EMPTY NEST. Never a sign in this empty nest of the love that mated, the love that sung. The birds are flown to the east and west. And the huck of their household has no tongue to tell of the sweet still summer eves. Of the cooing, merriment summer days. Only a nest in the falling leaves. And silence here in the wood's dark maze.

But I hold in my hand the dainty thing. Woven of feather and fluff and wool. Once 'twas the haven of breast and wing. And the shelter of callow and helpless nest. It tells of a passionate gladness gone; It dumbly whispers that love is best; That never a night but has had a dawn— And I drop a kiss in the empty nest.

—Margaret E. Sangster, in Frank Leslie's.

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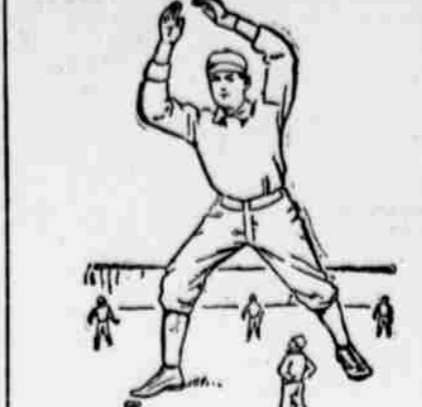
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