

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 condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, JUNE 29, 1900.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

National. President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Vice-President—THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

State. Congressmen-at-Large—GALUSHA A. GROW, ROBERT H. FOERDEBER. Auditor General—E. B. HARBENBERG.

County. Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL. Judge—GEORGE M. WATSON. Sheriff—JOHN H. FELLOWS. Treasurer—J. A. SWANSON. District Attorney—WILLIAM R. LEWIS. Probationary—JOHN COFFLAND. Clerk of Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS. Recorder of Deeds—EMIL BONK. Register of Wills—W. K. BECK. Jury Commissioner—EDWARD R. STURGES.

Legislative. First District—THOMAS J. REYNOLDS. Second District—JOHN SCHUTZ, JR. Third District—EDWARD JAMES, JR. Fourth District—P. A. PHILBIN.

In his letter of acceptance, Ignatius Donnelly, People's party candidate for vice president, says that "the country is in a horrible condition." Mr. Donnelly talks like a constant reader of the Scranton Times.

Perils of Consular Service.

THE CASE OF Edward Gottfried, the former consular agent at Poughjio, Peru, is of a nature calculated to cause hesitation on part of ambitious citizens who are aching for appointments to foreign posts. Mr. Gottfried, who was once a resident of Wilkes-Barre, was ushered into his official position with the usual pomp and ceremony and began a career in the South American town that was promising. On an evil day, however, the little nation was shaken by revolution and the results were extremely unpleasant. In the hour of conflict a gang of rebels entered Gottfried's home and demanded a number of guns and \$2,500 in cash. Gottfried protested that he was an American citizen, but that was of no weight; the majority of the rebels had never heard of the United States or Wilkes-Barre, and they laughed at the agent as they applied the implements of torture because he was unable to meet their demands. When the rebels were finally dispersed and the leaders of the gang that tortured Mr. Gottfried had been slain, the agent thought that he was entitled to some compensation for the sufferings he had undergone. He asked for damages. The Peruvian government refused an indemnity and the United States officials have also agreed that the Peruvians discharged their duty towards Gottfried in killing the rebels who had tortured him. While others receive pensions and prize money it seems Mr. Gottfried's branch of service has carried no safeguards against unforeseen conditions, and he can only be comforted in the thought of having performed his duties faithfully. The scenes of conflict in China have emphasized the perils that surround a minister or consular official in a barbarous country. So long as peace reigns and the government officials are in control the minister may enjoy the emoluments and honors of a prince; but at the first signs of disorder the foreign representative generally becomes the victim of the mob that has no respect for international courtesies.

Richard Croker is as talkative these days as a man with a suburban lot building scheme on hand.

Sultan's Silver Jubilee.

IF HE IS NOT assassinated before that time, the sultan of Turkey will celebrate his twenty-fifth anniversary as ruler next September. Abdul Hamid is the fifth sultan only in the past 500 years who has not after a short administration met a violent and premature death. Twenty-five years is a long reign for a Turkish ruler and the assassin may yet figure in Constantinople between this and September. Extraordinary precautions for the safety of the sultan, however, have been taken and vigilance will doubtless be doubled as the season of festivity approaches. During the next few weeks it is expected that plots will thicken in the vicinity of the Golden Horn and that the sultan of the monarch will be anything but peaceful. With all of his shortcomings the sultan of Turkey has displayed abilities as a statesman and diplomat that command the admiration of the world. During the twenty-five years of his reign Constantinople has been the center of more schemes and intrigue of interest to the whole of Europe than at any period of history. And in spite of the fact that his country has been for years looked upon as the prey of jealous powers the wily ruler has directed his moves upon the diplomatic chess board in such a manner as to make his position more secure so far as the outside world is concerned than at the beginning of his reign, a quarter of a century ago. By tact and statesmanship upon all sides he has averted the dagger or cup of the assassin about his own fanatical household has managed to keep the representatives of the grasping powers in a state of apprehension that made them hesitate at every proposed move in the interest of a betterment of conditions in the kingdom of oppression, and has demonstrated that the health of the "sick man" of Europe has been at no time in an alarming state so far as the interests of the sublime porte have been concerned. Abdul Hamid is today the head of Mohammedanism in the old world. It

is his religion that prompts fanatical followers of the false prophet to periodic seasons of uneasiness that result in the slaughter of helpless Christians who may reside in the vicinity of that nerve the dusky fatalists of Omdurman to welcome death before the withering fire from the guns of the legions of Lord Kitchener. Yet while at times apparently unable to control the restless subjects of his own empire the feeble monarch has worked upon the fears of the powers in a way that has postponed in every instance individual or concerted action in the interest of reform and left him thoroughly established on the territory that all are anxious to acquire. The success of this monarch, representing elements more vicious than unalloyed paganism, in beating back the powerful representatives of civilization and religious enlightenment, has been one of the most curious spectacles of the nineteenth century.

The fact that Governor Roosevelt is a hero is, of course, displeasing to the average Bryan organ. Dyed-in-the-wool Democracy never cherished admiration for heroes in this or any other generation.

The Wheat Crop.

STATISTICIANS assert that the recent remarkable rise in the price of wheat is not an accurate measure of the extent to which this season's production will be curtailed as the result of the protracted drought in the northwest. At the high level reached this week, the July option showed an advance of 22 cents per bushel over the figure of June 2, when the damage reports began to come in. On the basis of the Agriculture Bureau estimates for June 1 the indicated yield was 341,000,000 bushels for winter wheat and 278,000,000 bushels for spring wheat, a total of 619,000,000 bushels. It is calculated by the experts whose authority is highest in the trade that the injury sustained since the first of the month will reduce the spring crop by 90,000,000 bushels. The condition of the winter crop has also been lowered somewhat and a liberal estimate would place the amount destroyed for the whole harvest at about 100,000,000 bushels. This, however, as may easily be seen, is by no means commensurate with the advance which has occurred in market prices. The value of the crop now expected, at 88 cents a bushel, exceeds by \$48,000,000 the value of the much larger crop indicated on June 1 at 66 cents a bushel. Here, then, is one direct proof that the rise in the market has been out of all proportion to the damage done, even accepting the very highest estimates regarding the damage.

The above comparison brings out what is the most important point to notice that on the strength of the data by which the speculation is governed, the recent rise in prices has been excessive. This conclusion is further strengthened by applying the same process of calculation to a comparison with the wheat position of a year ago. The present yield in prospect is some 23,000,000 bushels below what it was then, yet with a difference of 14 cents in the price the speculative value of this year's harvest is \$25,000,000 greater. Undoubtedly there are other factors now which tend toward a higher level for the market than in June, 1899. Europe is certain to have a smaller production while its supplies of old wheat are about the same, and the increase in our own commercial supply is more than offset by the decreased invisible stocks in farmers' hands. Then again considerable allowance must be made for the Chinese troubles, in the knowledge that any suggestion of a foreign war has in the American grain market. But these supplemental influences, whether individual or collective, can by no means be said to counterbalance the striking discrepancy between the rise in prices and the lowering of our production estimates. It should be observed that the part of the crop involved in the drought misfortune is by no means as large as the widespread discussion and stir about the subject may have led the outsider to believe. The damage has been confined almost entirely to the states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota, the Canadian province of Manitoba, which has also suffered, not being necessary to consider. In 1899 these three states produced 157,000,000 bushels, or 62 per cent of the actual yield of spring wheat. But including the winter crop it represented only 20 per cent of the country's total production. Assuming that even the most pessimistic forecasts will come true and that the damaged area in the northwest will turn out a crop of only half last year's total, the prospect is certainly not alarming so far as the country at large is concerned.

Four ticket scalpers at Philadelphia the other day were fined \$20 each, but were kept from prison through intervention of the Pennsylvania Railroad company in their behalf. The evils of ticket scalping consist principally in the fact that the business offers temptation to railroad conductors to dispose of tickets taken up on trains to scalpers instead of turning them over to the companies. It is said that in past a large percentage of tickets sold by scalpers have been acquired from dishonest conductors rather than from passengers who have stopped short of their destination. To overcome this evil, which has resulted in enormous losses to railroad companies and often inconvenience to buyers, the anti-scalping law was enacted in Pennsylvania. Like the oleomargarine merchant, however, the railroad ticket broker has continued in his business apparently impressed by the idea that the act of restraint upon what he regards as legitimate business is unjust. A few doses of legal medicine will probably remedy the evil and render to business of ticket-scalping too unprofitable to be continued by many. Vineland's curfew law, which was enacted about a year ago, was repealed on Wednesday night by the city council. The law has been a failure from the start. Only three attempts to enforce the ordinance were ever made

and these caused such a howl of indignation that the cases were dropped. Vineland citizens realize that if young people receive proper care in childhood curfew laws will be needless and that councils can be employed in more useful legislation than passing laws to govern children.

Democratic newspapers argue that the Republican administration has nothing to do with the yield of wheat and claim that prosperity would come just the same if the affairs of the nation were in the hands of the Democrats. None of them, however, make reference to the fact that with the change from Democracy to Republicanism the price of wheat advanced from 50 cents to nearly a dollar a bushel.

The generous response to appeals for aid for the starving in India has been in keeping with the noted philanthropy of Scranton. When so much can be accomplished by a small amount of money, the most modest contributor may feel a satisfaction that his mite has been effective. The demand for help still continues, however, and those who have not responded to requests for contributions may do so at any time through the advertised channels where aid is received.

Now that Generals Del Pilar, Concepcion, Alvarez and others have concluded to come into camp at Manila, there is no reason why the ants on this side of the water should not take the oath of allegiance and again become good citizens.

The delegates at the Prohibition convention at Chicago are probably all old enough to know better than to attempt to attract votes by slanderous insinuations against President McKinley. If not, they will doubtless be enlightened next November.

Mr. Bryan intimates that the enthusiasm over Governor Roosevelt has convinced the sixteen to one candidate that the Democratic figurehead for office of vice president must not curbing his efforts to looking pensive during the coming campaign.

While wheat will continue to move upward an occasional drop may be expected in order that superfluous fleece may be removed from speculative lambs who linger at the edge of the pit.

Among other things, when communication with Chinese ports has been re-established, we will probably learn why the Monocacy did not fight at Taku.

Notwithstanding the state of the thermometer the anything-to-beat-McKinley party has a decidedly frost-bitten appearance.

Failure of the Boers' Mission

THE BOERS' envoys are sailing for Europe, empty handed except for a small money contribution to their cause, which they did not need or solicit, and disappointed except as guff may soothe drooping spirits when nothing substantial is obtainable. They have carried themselves with dignity during their stay, and their farewell address to the American people serves a polite purpose fairly well. Nevertheless, it is a fact that their mission has been a failure, and should never have been undertaken. Concealed in error, it could not have been pushed to success by any means, or by anybody.

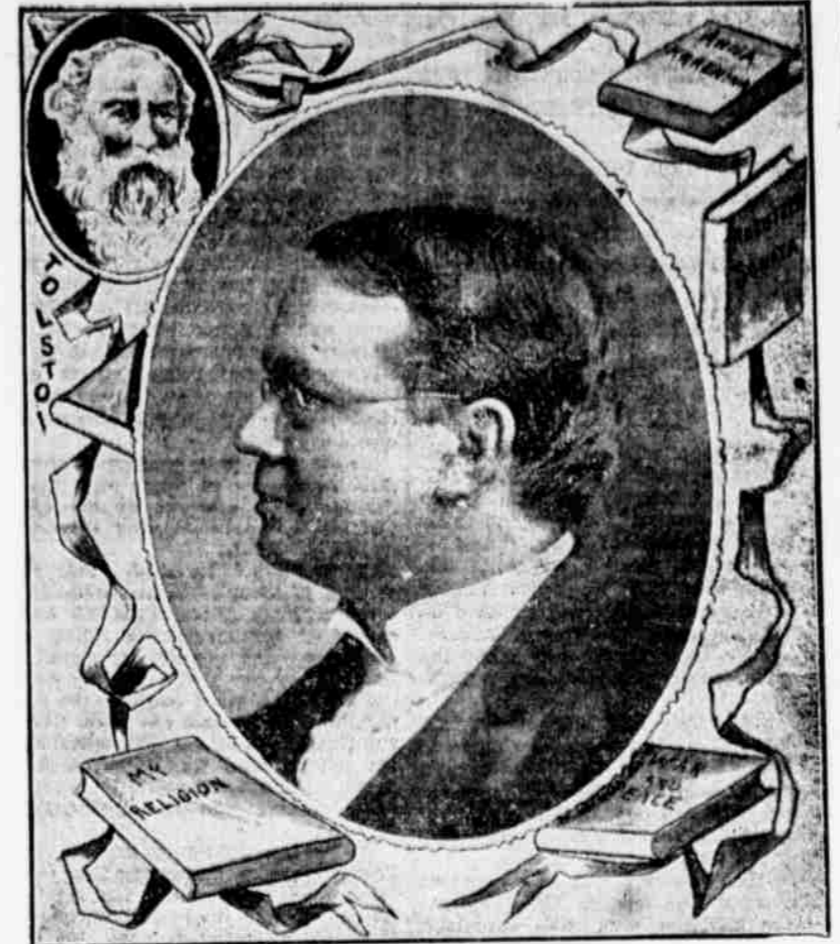
The episode would be ludicrous if it were not pathetic. The idea that this government could be induced to take the war off the hands of the Boers, but it found lodgment in the minds of the Boer leaders. The more shame to us, it seems to have been of American origin. A weakling American carried the message of diplomacy, but it was not the Transvaal to inspect the scene of conflict, were prime factors in misleading Oom Paul and his lieutenants as to American sentiment and hopes of American relief. When two American officials were found snuffing their noses at the Boer sympathies—the one to return home to set the government right as to the facts, and the other to take the platform and stir the hearts of the people with his lung power—the simple burghers naturally expected great things of America.

But what an awakening for their envoys when they arrived! Macrum and Davie had become objects of ridicule and contempt at home, and the men of the Sulzer and Lantz and Allen kidney had arranged to play the envoys as a partisan card against the administration in the political game of the year. The cry was not for liberty, but down with McKinley. The paramount proposition was not to help the Boers, but to hurt the Republicans. Neutrality was the only possible course if this government was to be true to the president and the American people. Interference meant war with Great Britain, and war with Great Britain meant the probable precipitation of a universal conflict. And in two months after this Boer proposition is declined a situation has arisen in China which, in effect, arraya civilization against barbarism, and Great Britain is one of the powers helping to save American lives and property from threatened destruction.

ROOSEVELT'S ANCESTRY.

New York Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger. The biographical sketches of Roosevelt which have accompanied the news of his nomination have failed to give any adequate account of his notable ancestry. This is characteristic, however, of the American press, which pays little attention to what a man's father and grandfather were, but a great deal to what he is. The Roosevelt family, while not as distinguished in American politics as the Adams and Harrison families have been, has nevertheless been prominent in many different fields of activity for several generations. Governor Roosevelt's father was a merchant of high standing and unquestioned integrity. It is related of him that he made it a rule to devote only the days a week to his business. Saturday he gave to charitable work among the poor, and Sunday to religious devotion and rest. This is an example that might well be followed by the business men of this generation who find even seven days in the week too short for their financial scheming and unscrupulous enterprise. President Hayes appointed Governor Roosevelt's father a collector of the port of New York, then as now the leading financial position in this state, but then of more political

LURING TOLSTOI WESTWARD.



William R. Harper, president of the University of Chicago, hopes soon to have Count Lyof Tolstoi, the eminent Russian author, humanitarian and reformer, as his guest. President Harper has just returned from a visit to the count's home in Russia, where he spent a delightful time. He is the most prominent exponent in this country of the Tolstai cult.

Influence than it is now. The senate, however, declined to confirm him. His brother, Robert B. Roosevelt, uncle of the governor, and still living, is a Democrat on the committee of 100. He has been prominent for many years in this state. He was the first president of the state fisheries commission, and has served in congress and as minister to the Netherlands. The governor's grandfather, Cornelius V. S. Roosevelt, was noted in his day as a merchant and philanthropist. He had a brother, James, who long served as justice of the supreme court for the state. Another member of the family of that generation devoted his fortune to the founding of Roosevelt hospital, one of the best institutions of the kind in the city. One of his sons was a member of the Kingston convention of 1877, which framed the first constitution of the state, and of the Poughkeepsie convention of 1878, which ratified the constitution of the United States. He little dreamed that his great-grandson would, as governor, execute the constitution he helped to frame, and as vice-president help to maintain the federal constitution which he, with others, ratified.

Isaac Roosevelt was one of the leading citizens of his day, and served on the committee of 100 which undertook to restore order in the city in the troublesome time of 1775. He was for several years president of the Bank of New York, the oldest in the city. One of his sons was a director of the Merchants' bank and prominent in the sugar trade. Another son, Nicholas, was an inventor and associated with Fulton in the first practical application of steam navigation. Another Roosevelt of a more recent generation was a noted builder of church organs. The Roosevelt family in this city dates back to 1648, and has been distinguished during all that period. The governor, however, is the first to achieve fame in war and literature, as well as politics. The first of the family in this country is said to have been Jan Martenszen van Roosevelt, and otherwise Nicholas, son of Martin, of Roschild, a native of Holland.

OUR GENERALS.

Table listing military generals and their service records, including names like George Washington, Winfield Scott, and others, with columns for years and months of service.

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Advertisement for 1901 Calendars, featuring an illustration of a man and a woman, and text describing the calendars and their prices.