

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, The Tribune is in all ways 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, JULY 12, 1900.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

National. President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Vice-President—THEODORE ROOSEVELT. State. Congressmen at Large—GALUSHA A. GROW, ROBERT H. FORTMAYRER, A. S. VRELAND, J. S. VRELAND, S. S. VRELAND, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

County. Congress—WILLIAM CONSWELL, Judge—GEORGE M. WATSON, Sheriff—JOHN H. FELLOWS, Treasurer—J. A. SCRANTON, District Attorney—WILLIAM R. LEWIS, Prothonotary—JOHN COPLAND, Clerk of Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS, Register of Wills—E. R. BECK, Jury Commissioner—EDWARD B. STURGES.

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

The Greenback Plunderers who mistook the census enumerator for a bunco-steerer erred not without cause. Some of Uncle Sam's questions were enough to arouse suspicion.

The American Position.

THE SIGNIFICANT portion of Secretary Hay's circular of instructions to our foreign representatives concerning American policy in China is contained in the following paragraph, and especially in what follows the fourth specification:

"The purpose of the President is, as it has been heretofore, to act concurrently with the other powers, first in opening up communication with Peking, and rescuing the American officials, missionaries and other Americans who are in danger; second, in affording all possible protection everywhere in China to American life and property; third, in guarding and protecting all legitimate American interests, and, fourth, in aiding to prevent a spread of the disorder to other provinces of the empire and a recurrence of such disasters. It is, of course, too early to forecast the means of attaining this last result, but the policy of the government of the United States is to seek a solution which may bring about permanent safety and peace to China, preserve Chinese territorial and administrative entity, protect all rights guaranteed to friendly powers by treaty and international law, and safeguard for the world the principle of equal and impartial trade with all parts of the Chinese empire."

Mark especially these words: "The policy of the United States is to seek a solution which may bring about permanent safety and peace to China, preserve Chinese territorial and administrative entity, protect all rights guaranteed to friendly powers by treaty and international law, and safeguard for the world the principle of equal and impartial trade with all parts of the Chinese empire." In seeking such a solution, the United States proposes and needs no alliance with other powers, but welcomes the friendly co-operation of all of them. But should any of the powers develop opposition to this policy, the words of Secretary Hay leave no doubt of the government's intention to continue seeking such a solution, using such means as in its judgment may be necessary.

It is an unmistakable notification that the whole power and influence of the United States are behind the open door for the purpose of keeping it open. Other nations now know our intentions and can act accordingly.

Mr. Bryan characterizes the Kansas City platform as the greatest upon earth, but modestly waits for some one else to announce the author's name.

The Civilized Way.

THE BASIS upon which the recently settled St. Louis street car strike has been reopened presents a strong argument in favor of clothing a high and impartial court with power to take absolute jurisdiction over matters of this kind.

"The whole trouble," says the Associated Press dispatch announcing the action of the executive committee of the railway men's union in reinstating the strike, "seems to hang upon a question of fact, the men insisting that the company had violated its agreement while the company on the other hand emphatically denies that such is the case. The men claim that a verbal agreement was entered into concurrently with the written agreement and under the verbal agreement the company had agreed to re-employ all the old men in sixty days, seniority in the service determining the priority of re-employment. The officers of the company declare that there was no such verbal understanding and that the written agreement which was published at the time."

If this is the pivot of the controversy and if this difference in the understanding of a single fact is sufficient ground to justify a renewal of the costly inconvenience which the public suffered during the first instalment of the strike, then it is likely to give impetus to the sentiment favorable to compulsory arbitration before an established tribunal possessing ample power to bring the exact facts forward and to give judgment accordingly. We permit our courts to adjudicate other issues quite as intricate and complicated in their bearings upon the law. We permit them to try cases involving life and death, and upon the whole,

Outline Studies of Human Nature

HER PARENTS had no particular objection to a correspondence with the young man, but they insisted that all of his letters should be read by them and all of her letters should be submitted before being posted. When he wrote to her under these conditions were too cold and formal, and the young folks concocted a scheme that worked well for a short time. When he wrote to her in these peculiar conditions, she wrote to him in the same way, and the correspondence was kept up for some time. When her parents insisted that she must translate these mysterious marks, of course she could translate them, but anything she saw fit, and the translations were always very plain and proper reading. And when she submitted translations of the mysterious marks she made to read him, her parents could find nothing there to criticize.

Colonial Civil Service.

AFTER NOTING the fact that by request of the Philippine commission the chairman of the central board of examiners of the United States civil service commission has been assigned to duty in the Philippines, for the purpose of preparing a system of examinations calculated to develop the qualifications of applicants for office under the Philippine civil regime, the Indianapolis Press continues:

"President McKinley's attitude on the subject of appointments to the civil service in this country has not been calculated to inspire confidence in his good intentions with respect to our new possessions; but, as soon as it can be definitely ascertained that the popular apprehension of the devotion of colonial offices to the spoilsman is groundless, and that the president is sincere in his intention to adhere rigidly to the merit system in making appointments, much criticism of the administration's colonial policy will be completely disarmed, and at the same time much of the anti-expansion sentiment will subside, one of the most fruitful sources of opposition to the retention of the Philippines and colonial expansion generally has been this dread on the part of citizens who feared the effects of a rule by the carpet-bag boodler and party politician."

We don't know why President McKinley's attitude on the subject of appointments to the civil service in this country has not been calculated to inspire confidence in his good intentions. It is of a nature well designed to do that. He has veiled out a good deal of the humber in the paper system of civil service reform that obtains in Washington and has made possible in many ways a closer accountability between responsible chiefs and their subordinates. Both in the example which he has set by his own appointments and in the measure of scrutiny which he has caused to be placed upon the recommendations of others for appointments, he has shown a very praiseworthy intention to keep the personal standards of his administration high and to give the people officials in whom they can have confidence and respect. There have been a few mistakes and a few disappointments out of the many thousands of appointments to the high character of the McKinley appointments as a whole.

Coming to the subject of the colonial civil service, it is gratifying to observe that the same sensible policy has prevailed. First we had war conditions, when the general who could handle troops effectively was the foremost consideration. They were good generals for that purpose and they did their work well, whether in Cuba, Porto Rico or the Philippines. It was the merit system as demonstrated in real life rather than on formal examination papers that put them on the firing line—Shafter and Wheeler and Chaffee and Lawton; Anderson, Greene, King, Merritt, Otis, McArthur, Bates, Funston—and when the fighting was over it was not chance that sent Leonard Wood to Santiago and Havana, and that chose Judge Taft to head the permanent Philippine commission. These appointments were all in conformity with the sensible and necessary policy of putting the right man in the right place, and it is the policy that must become permanent if the colonial experiment is to succeed.

There is no assurance that the civil service examiner can evolve any scheme of queries which will exhibit a man's fitness to do the big work that Americans must do in the new dependencies in order to bring order and progress and contentment out of chaos. Examination papers are an exceedingly crude test of intellect and no test whatever of character. The men to be kept will have to prove their merit in their everyday life and justify in works the confidence represented in their appointment. We cannot succeed if our responsible heads in these distant islands have their arms tied and their mouths gagged in civil service red tape. The problem there, like most executive problems here at home, is to find the right man for the top place and let him have his way in the working out of details through his subordinates. Merit must be proved in service and prized when found; we have very little hope that it will be evolved through any pencil and paper hocus focus on the part of the grand high examiner of the civil service commission.

"Divine Healer" Frances Truth, of Boston, has just paid fines amounting to \$2,500 for practicing through the United States mails. If Truth crushed to earth, rises again in this instance, he will probably conduct his hocus hocus healing operations by long distance telephone or express.

A cork plank or two might prove of service in Mr. Bryan's platform when it encounters the whirlpool near the finish of the campaign.

In the race with Porto Rico prosper the Democratic orator, bid fair to become winded early in the contest.

In the matter of juggling the "Issues" Orator Towne threatens to wrest the champion belt from Mr. Bryan.

Tricks of the Typewriter.

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Swallowed His Destination.

A CLEVELANDER who is just back from a trip to Washington says that much was impressed by the beauty and grandeur of the national capital and its surroundings, the thing he will remember longest was a remark he heard made by one of the grand old men of the city, who said that the daily trip up and down the Potomac.

These boats stop at many of the picturesque little Virginia and Maryland river towns that dot the banks of the historic river and take freight shipments to and from Washington. One of the things shipped from one of the down-river towns on the river the Clevelander was the goat of the sort that delight the average small boy. The Clevelander was wandering about the boat, interested in the differences between the Potomac and Maryland river boats, when he noticed the colored deckhand standing almost motionless before the goat, which was tied to one of the supports of the upper deck. He was watching his head and apparently very much puzzled.

"What's the matter?" the Clevelander asked of the deckhand.

"Why," answered the colored man, "he got done eat up what he give to."

The goat had simply chewed up and swallowed the tag on which was the address to which it was being shipped.

'I'd Leave My Happy Home.'

IT IS NOT often that an organ-grinder contributes anything to develop the sense of humor which is implanted in a greater or less degree in all mortals. As a general thing, the organ-grinder awakes a sentiment just the opposite, particularly when he insists upon grinding out popular airs who have heard so often that repetition is positive painful. One grinder, however, played better than he knew when he came in front of St. No. 5 the other day. The class in Greek history was on the recitation bench. One pupil was repeating the familiar story of Helen of Troy, who gave her name to the city of Troy. In all seriousness she closed the telling of the tale she said: "And she left her home for him." Just then the street organ outside began to peal forth, "I'd leave my happy home for him." The teacher was compelled to abandon dignity and join in the smile that spread throughout the school-room.—Albany Press.

Tom Platt as a Joker.

MR. PLATT has never lost his love of fun, although he doesn't look it. After a formal deal of persuasion by his family he consented to sit for his portrait to Artist Whipple. On the wall of the studio was a recently finished portrait of John Sherman, whose face—Mr. Platt paid his respects to Mr. Platt—did not let him be disturbed.

One day Mr. Platt had called to the studio in an open car on Sixth street, and set down to pose without seeing a picture that his cat collar was turned up. Mr. Whipple, walking behind him, came down the cellar, and Mr. Platt, his glance lighting on the newly finished portrait, remarked:

"Well, well, I shouldn't have believed the slight of John Sherman's portrait would have raised my collar like this."—John Paul Hapcock, in Harper's Weekly.

Half Dead.

JAMES PAVY says: "The Backwater of Life," that as soon as he became deaf his friends tried to lighten his mind by giving him doses of those who have made humorous mistakes through suffering a like infirmity. The efficacy of this method may be doubted, but such as it is, many have had to endure it.

One story he, indeed, to be tolerated, because it refers to a gentleman who, although deaf, was not so much so as he pretended to be. A friend came to him and said:

"Will you lend me half a sovereign?" "What?" "Will you lend me half a sovereign?" was the still louder petition.

"What was that?" "Will you lend me a sovereign?" "You said half a sovereign before!"—Youth's Companion.

A Revised Reading.

GENERAL BENJAMIN F. TRACY, ex-Secretary of the navy, was once trying a case in the city court which involved the liability of a provision dealer for unwholesome pork. The point of issue turned upon toxicologic and the word was handled about by counsel and scientific experts. The most interested auditor was an old court officer, who listened to all the arguments, especially those of the general, but he did not know that pigs were unwholesome animals, but I never knew they had tricky noses before."—Saturday Evening Post.

He Feared to Presume.

THE AMERICAN tourist is so firmly convinced that he is being cheated on all hands during his European travels that he occasionally oversteps the bounds of prudence.

"What is the price of this pin?" asked a young man in a Paris shop, handling a small silver brooch of exquisite workmanship.

"Twenty francs, monsieur," said the clerk.

"That's altogether too much," said the young American. "It's for a present to my sister. I'll give you five francs for it."

"Zen it would be zat I gave zat present to your sister," said the Frenchman, with a deprecatory shrug, "and I do not know nademotelle."—The King.

Why He Didn't Call.

A GAY and festive youth who is employed as a clerk in the Pennsylvania railroad office had occasion to go down to Wilmington one evening last week, and while there he met a girl who impressed him as being worthy of cultivation. He asked if he might call, and was assured that he would be welcome. "I live in Newcastle," she said. "But where in Newcastle?" he inquired. "Oh, anybody can direct you," she replied. "We live in a great big house—the largest house in the town."

CHINESE CONVERTS AT CHEI-OO.



These good Chinamen, with their American teacher Rev. Percy Granting Travers, are the principal objects of the Boxers' relentless hatred. All the hostile celebrities detest foreigners, but their abhorrence of the patriots whom they regard as renegades cannot be expressed in occidental phrases.

He was forced to be satisfied with that. On Sunday he took a run down to Newcastle, and when he inquired where the young woman lived the big jail was pointed out to him. "That's the jail," said one of the town boys. "Her father's one of the jailers." The young man took the next train back—Philadelphia Record.

Reed's Little Joke.

AT ONE TIME Speaker Reed wished to see a bill on the pending legislation, and he telegraphed for him to come to Washington. The man took the first train available, but a washout in the road made it impossible for the train to proceed. Going to a telegraph station he sent this message to the speaker:

"Washout on the line. Can't come." Reed sent back this reply: "Buy a new shirt and come anyway."

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Albany correspondent of the Syracuse Post-Standard tells in detail, upon the authority of politicians prominent at Kansas City, the story of David B. Hill's throw-down by Richard Croker. It makes an interesting chapter in dirty politics and is as follows: "Almost from the hour that the Democratic state convention adjourned in New York city five weeks ago, the full were set up to 'do Hill' at Kansas City. The plan was hatched in Tammany Hall with the full sanction of Croker and Augustus Van Wyck was to be the beneficiary. When the state convention adjourned it was believed by the state leaders that with the modification of the free silver plank the Democrats would have a fighting chance in this state. It was agreed that Hill should be New York's member of the committee on resolutions to secure a modification of the declaration for Albany. Then what happened? Hill came back to Albany and went to work on the platform. There was no fight, no opposition, no dissimulation with his selection on the surface. Under cover, however, Tammany was working to smash Hill and elevate Van Wyck—the man who was hissed in the state convention as an ice-cream magnate. Van Wyck as the nominal state leader in Croker's deal, Van Wyck wanted to get on the committee on resolutions. Croker wanted him there, and Croker's lieutenants paved the way for putting him there. They sent into the separate districts and proceeded to 'bait' the delegation. McCarty and Shelton, who were in charge of the Kings county delegation, were 'on' from the start. They were a most difficult lot to get. Norman E. Mack, the head of the Erie county delegation, also joined the deal. He is afraid of Hill, and furthermore, the Croker brand of politics is more than a match for the Hill brand. Then there was a man named Burke up in Franklin county. The Twenty-third district was represented by two Hill men. Burke wanted to get on in place of one of them. His friends in the delegation were not prepared to care if the other fellow was agreeable. So Burke got on. When it came to a showdown in the delegation Burke came out from under cover and voted against Hill. He was one of the little things that made Hill mad. The next time he met Burke he wouldn't speak to him. The chances are that Burke will have occasion to remember this incident in the future. Croker's deal was to fight Hill. Croker had staked everything to beat him for member of the committee on resolutions. After that he had nothing in reserve. Hill did not get into the deal as a representative of another state because it would look too much like carterbagging. Tammany got panicky, however, when it learned of his opportunity, and for that he might, Croker's deal was to fight Hill. Croker had staked everything to beat him for member of the committee on resolutions. After that he had nothing in reserve. 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