

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 should be signed, for publication, by the writer's full name, and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

THE RATE TABLE FOR ADVERTISING. The following table shows the price per inch for insertion, space to be used within one month.

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SEVEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 5, 1901.

This congress should not adjourn without rewarding suitably the as yet unrewarded sailor heroes of the Spanish-American war, foremost of whom is the commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, Rear Admiral Sampson, who should be made vice admiral.

An Ingrate Exhibited.

THE ARTICLE in yesterday's Times headed "Another Bogey Scares The Tribune" is about the worst example of mendacity in journalism that we have ever seen. It is a dishonest and unprovoked attempt on the part of the Times, by misreading statement and false innuendo, to array organized labor against The Tribune, and why?

Because The Tribune has been counselling conservatism; because it has been advising our working people to use prudence, care and self-control; because it has been solicitous for that general and uninterrupted welfare of the whole community without which neither labor on the one hand nor capital on the other, and incidentally neither the circulation of the Times nor its advertising patronage, can be permanently prosperous. This line of reasoning is exactly the line which is being followed by Samuel Gompers, and John Mitchell and every other intelligent and effective leader of organized labor in the United States who feels restrained from mad impulse by the weight of grave responsibilities; and yet for offering it as a general proposition recommended impersonally to all to whom it may apply. The Tribune is viciously and maliciously attacked by the Times, absolutely without provocation, justification or excuse; is scornfully held up to view as a "corporation organ"; and the effort is made to draw upon it, to its business injury, the ill will of the great hosts of men and women who labor within the limits of its circulation.

This wanton attack, we may add, comes with the more peculiar grace from Edward J. Lynett, who owes his present ownership of the Times and largely his present business standing to friendly influences set in motion by the president of The Tribune company. A garbled expression of Justice Harlan made in an extempore speech on Chief Justice Marshall has been magnified into an indication that he believes the Constitution automatically goes with the flag. The time is approaching when Justice Harlan will express his opinion on this subject officially and it is safe to guess that it will be the opposite of the foregoing surmise.

The Gentleman from Hawaii.

SOON AFTER Robert W. Wilcox was chosen delegate in congress from Hawaii charges were made against him with a view to influencing congress to expel him as it expelled Roberts of Utah. The charges were similar to the charges against Roberts but worse. It was alleged that while Wilcox was a student at a military college in Turin, Italy, he married an Italian princess, Gina de Stigliano by name. The twin came to this country and lived for some time in California, where a daughter was born. Wilcox, it is alleged, subsequently persuaded his wife to return to Italy and the next thing she knew Wilcox had wedded the princess Theresa Kasheblani, a descendant of one of the early Hawaiian kings. Wilcox claims the pope annulled his first marriage but the Italian wife asserts that this is false, and hence her petition to congress to turn the alleged bigamist out. But how a more serious offense is charged against Wilcox. Letters of his to Aguinaldo and other Filipino insurgents are exhibited which come pretty close to making out a case of treason. Some specimen cuttings from them, showing his mental as well as his moral calibre are appended: "I am already made up my mind," he says, "to join with you in your country against the Americans." "Between General Aguinaldo's determination and myself it would be very little chance left to the invader army of the United States to conquer your country." "Tell General Aguinaldo I am already given my services for your country." "I am thinking to go to assistance to Aguinaldo against the invaders and hypocritical yankees, the carpet bagged politician Otis." "It is my duty to fight against them and support the independence of the Philippines." "In fighting and destroying the United States influence in the east I would be gloried and honored and my work would be appreciated by the Filipinos, Chinese and Japanese and Arabs. It is my great folly to lose all these chances."

It is evident that the country had a narrow escape when Wilcox, instead of joining Aguinaldo and driving the American invaders into the sea, deter-

mined to seek the suffrages of his fellow Kansans and invade Washington. But it may be doubted that Hawaii receives much lustre from such a representative.

To the question, Is serious crime on the increase, a partial answer is returned in the annual report of the city magistrates of Greater New York. In 1890 the number of persons arrested in that city charged with felonies was 4212. If the increase in crime had been equal to the increase in population the number of arrests for felonies should have been 5694 in 1900. As a matter of fact it was 5838.

Libel Reform.

THE PRESENT libel law, enacted in 1897, is certainly fair, so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. It provides, very properly, that no publisher can be prosecuted twice for the same crime, and says that if the matter charged is, in the opinion of the court, proper for public information, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury. A statement proper for public information, if true, is not libel, nor without constitutional amendment can any statute make it libel. A statement proper for public information, if true in the main, may be incorrect in certain particulars and need not constitute a crime. If by reason of inaccuracy damage is done, the publisher doing it certainly ought to pay such damage as, in civil action, a jury may find, provided it is a reasonable amount. In the judge of trial may well be vested discretionary power to reduce an excessive award.

A statement which would be proper for public information if true, but which is untrue in the main averments and which discloses to the jury reasonable presumption of malice in the intent of its publication, is criminal libel, and should be roundly punished, even though true in incidental details. And, finally, the persistent reiteration of a statement which may have been originally proper for public information and in the main true, but which through lapses of memory or by reason of popular condonation of the offense charged has lost pertinency, should, upon information sworn, be admissible before a grand jury, and if the grand jury determine that it represents malice, indictment and trial should follow, as in any other case.

In other words, the intent exposure of an out-grown past should be outlawed by a statute of limitations. This will trim the longest claws of bizzard journalism.

A desire to get back at Hanna seems to be one of the chief factors in the opposition to the shipping bill. That is a poor standpoint from which to view public duty in a question of national magnitude.

A State Excise Commission.

IT IS PREDICTED in correspondence from Harrisburg that legislation will be enacted this session to take away from the judges the power to grant liquor licenses and to place it in the hands of a state excise commission. This proposition will provoke factional dissent based on the contention that it would strengthen the political power of the state administration. And the extent to which this dissent will prevail among the people will be determined largely by the details of the bill. These not having been announced, consideration of the proposition is necessarily limited to the principles involved.

The vesting in the judges of jurisdiction over liquor licenses places upon them a task out of keeping with the character of their office and inevitably tends to surround them with political considerations and necessities which should not be. It is of great importance that the bench should retain the high measure of public respect which tradition assigns to it. But this is often rendered difficult by the annual proceedings in license court, when the cherished theory of law administered without fear or favor is fortunate if it does not get sadly damaged by court practice. This is not to say that our judges willingly present on these occasions a different front than when in the discharge of functions more strictly judicial; it is to point out a condition of fact unsatisfactory alike to judges and public, for which the remedy is to make excise supervision a separate police task.

It would be interesting to know what there was in the public career of William Goebel to warrant any considerable number of the people of Kentucky in honoring his memory.

Why Not?

IN A LETTER to the Commercial Gazette Mr. Edwin Z. Smith, a substantial citizen of Pittsburg, offers a suggestion on the subject of the proposed new second-class charter which is pertinent and forceful. He writes: "It may be a hardship, but it is not illegal nor necessarily unjust to summarily remove a city official, even though honest and capable, for no one has a vested interest in a public office; but it is neither right nor proper to deprive the people of the liberty of choosing the officials who are to govern them and to do so for mere partisan advantage is absolutely indecent and indefensible. A provision requiring an election to fill all offices under the new charter, within, say, thirty days after its adoption, would do away with this very serious objection, and would be welcomed and approved by all just and fair-minded men."

Why not?

Without abandonment of the Monroe doctrine, Cuba never can be unconditionally independent. It will be enough if her people shall have every reasonable opportunity to enjoy the rights and privileges, the protection of which is the purpose of government.

Before the uprising it is evident that Crazy Snake never heard the expression: "He eats 'em alive!"

Outline Studies of Human Nature

A Literary Statesman.

AMERICAN statesmen have, as a rule, been men of marked literary proclivities, who have surrounded themselves with libraries of great value. To this rule there is one notable exception in the gifted Andrew Jackson, whose list of books ranged from Barlow's "Columbiad" to a small edition of the "Penny Sticks." Randolph was unchangeable in his literary tastes, and Mrs. Gaston's Cook Book, the celebrated John Randolph, of Roanoke, was his very antithesis, and in his love for books and literary attainments he was in many respects the opposite of the more acrimonious disputer, one of which resulted in his famous duel with Clay. The duel arose from a comparison of Clay and Adams as a coalition to that of Bill and Black George in Fielding's novel, "Tom Jones," which Randolph referred to as a combination unknown until then of Puritan and Blackie. His reading was extensive, but of a rambling nature; he had few favorites, though he read and reread "Tom Moore's sentimental ditties, which were all ideal and above Nature." The poet himself he described as a wit, and a spruce, dapper little fellow, Randolph was unchangeable in his literary views, steadfast in believing himself incapable of error in such matters, carrying this conviction so far that he actually dismissed his doctor upon his death, because he refused to disagree with him about the pronunciation of certain words.—Collier's Weekly.

Shutting Them Up.

THE MEN of one of the volunteer regiments recently drilled at Camp Peckskill in New York were given to making frivolous and unnecessary complaints when ordered on parade. Their commanding officer silenced them in an ingenious manner. The sergeant-major, awaiting the colonel on parade, met him with the familiar salutation: "Sir, believe there are complaints to be made in respect to the ration." "The men, having their jaws tightened up to the greatest pitch, were perforce silent." "I dismissed the parades," said the colonel. "Very satisfactory,"—Collier's Weekly.

A Lesson in Courtesy.

MRS. KENDAL is making it not impudently, but with the greatest propriety, that certain members of the Philadelphia Telegraph. She was sleeping one day at certain well-known stores, and, having concluded her purchases, took leave of the assistant who served her with a friendly "Good morning." There was no reply. In that hard working dame's busy career there was no time, probably, for the minor gentleness of life. "Say good morning and smile!" exclaimed Mrs. Kendal, impetuously. "The girl started in mute amazement. 'Then, I shall return here until you do,' said the great actress, in the most persuasive but yet in the firmest tones. This was too much for the girl. 'Good morning,' she said, and burst out laughing. From that hour Mrs. Kendal's appearance at the stores in question was the signal for an outbreak of geniality.

Spiked His Guns.

A NORTH MEMPHIS gentleman has been trying lately to induce his wife to adopt the habit of driving a car. She is a frequent driver, but she is inclined to be delicate in health, though not a decided invalid, and her well-meaning husband fancied the spirits would strengthen her. She opposed with all a woman's obstinateness his suggestion. Perhaps she recalled when her lord and master had come home reeling like a ship whose cargo has shifted. "The other day he spoke to her after this manner: 'You are unreasonable, my dear, not to drink wine.' Her reply came sharp and pointed: 'Wine? but I've noticed that you are unreasonable when you drink it.'—Memphis Scimitar.

With a Sulphurous Twang.

THE TEACHER of the cooking school had been expounding to a group of using a certain kind of coffee pot. "You remember," she said, "I told you how much pulverized coffee you must put in the pot for every cup of boiling water. I told you to take out the coffee after it had been in the water ten minutes. The object of this is to prevent the formation of what?" "The girl at the foot of the class—Chicago Tribune.

REAL STATUS OF CUBA.

The United States in pledging "independence" to Cuba pledged no more and no less a measure of national power than American nations similarly situated enjoy. If the present constitutional convention of Cuba were to call over a European prince to lead the new state, the United States would certainly and more promptly than it did when a "council of notables" in the capital of Mexico called over an Austrian prince some forty years ago. A constitutional convention, to be a permanent instrument, but if the new constitution opened the way even for such a financial supervision over Cuban railways and banking franchises by foreign agencies as Brazil permits over a certain area under the empire, and from which the republic seeks to extricate itself, the United States would act without hesitation. Cuba, "independence" does not permit Cuba to evade the responsibility of her own future, but of her own making, to establish any but a republican form of government or to mortgage its credit so as to imperil its financial or administrative autonomy.

Wanted.

A GENTLEMAN, GOOD ADDRESS, WISHES to have a room for rent with bath, permanent by locate in city. Address J. M. L., Tribune office.

Help Wanted—Male.

THREE ACTIVE MEN FOR LOCAL POSITION (several weeks), Salary \$2.00 per day. Address Wm. J. Vail, Manager, 725 Chestnut st., Phila.

Help Wanted—Female.

WANTED—GIRL FOR GENERAL HOUSEWORK in family of three; must be good cook and neat dresser; wages \$10 per month. Mrs. J. W. Jones, 642 Prescott avenue.

Situations Wanted.

SITUATION WANTED—LAUNDRESS WOULD like to get some ladies' and gentlemen's laundry; also take family washing home; best of city reference. Call or address 324 Pleasant street.

Physicians and Surgeons.

DR. W. E. ALLEN, 513 NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE.

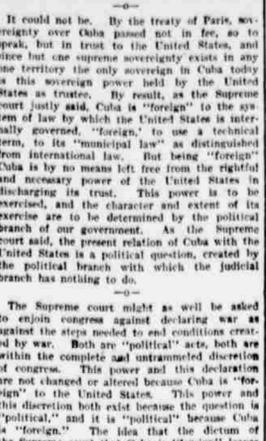
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ALWAYS BUSY.



LEWIS & REILLY

For Rent.

FOR RENT—STORE, 305 SPRUCE STREET, REAR BUILDING. Inquire second floor.

For Sale.

FOR SALE—A PAVING HORSE, WEIGHT 1000. Guaranteed to be sound and gentle. 570 Dean street.

Money to Loan.

STRAPLESS LOANS—NO NOSSSENSE, REPUBLICAN, Attorney.

Furnished Rooms.

COMFORTABLE FURNISHED ROOMS AND BATH, 811 Mulberry street.

Board Wanted.

BOARD WANTED—FOR THREE ADULTS and one small child, in respectable Jewish family, living in first-class neighborhood. State price. W. A. Tribune office.

Recruits Wanted.

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, OF good character and temperate habits, who can speak, read and write English. Recruits specially desired for service in Philippines. For information apply to Recruiting Office, 123 Wyoming ave., Scranton, Pa.

Wanted—To Buy.

WANTED—SECOND-HAND SLOM MACHINES; also good order, state particulars as to make and price. Address L. M., general delivery, Scranton, Pa.

Found.

FOUND—A PURSE CONTAINING SMALL SUM of money. Call at 241 Franklin avenue.

Special Notice.

NOTICE—I HEREBY STATE THAT I CANCEL the statement made by me referring to my wife leaving my bed and board. EDWARD SALAMON.

LEGAL.

IN PROBATE OF JOHN A. REID, DECEASED. In Orphans' Court of Lackawanna county.

LEGAL.

NOTICE is hereby given that upon the application of Esther Reid, administratrix of the estate of John A. Reid, a rule has been granted by said court to show cause why she shall not be discharged as executrix of the said estate.

LEGAL.

NOTICE is hereby given that upon the application of John J. Kennedy, administrator of the estate of John A. Reid, a rule has been granted by said court to show cause why he shall not be discharged as executor of the said estate.

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1901 CALENDAR PADS.



FOR FEBRUARY, 1901.

Page

FRONTISPICE 1

EDITORIAL COMMENT, Augusta Prescott 2

SOMETHING WORTH READING. 3

THE STORY OF TEDDY, Frances A. Schneider 4

THE FLOWER GIRL OF WINTER 6

DOROTHY'S LOVE AFFAIR, Frank Sommers 6

A STUDIO AFFAIR, Jeannette Hays 7

PARIS FASHIONS, Anette Rierdon Reed 8

NEW YORK FASHIONS, Helen Grey-Page 9

THE SHIRTWAIST LUNCHEON, Augusta Prescott 10-11

ARTISTIC COUNTRY RESIDENCES, Herbert C. Chivers 12

LEARNING TO ACT, Helen Terry 13

THE INTELLIGENCE OF WOMEN, Susan B. Anthony 13