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.

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SCRANTON, OCTOBER 17, 1901.

THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

State.

Supreme Court—WILLIAM P. POTTER.
Treasurer—FRANK G. HARRIS.

County.

Judge—J. W. CARPENTER.
Controller—E. A. JONES.
Coroner—DR. J. J. ROBERTS.
Surveyor—GEORGE U. STEVENSON.

Election Nov. 5.

"When the Democracy went out of power in our state it left to the Republican party a legacy of almost $40,000,000 of debt. This debt, by wise administration under Republican rule, has been almost entirely paid. We have increased the appropriations to the common schools until we stand at the head of the American states in support of popular education. Under Republican administration there has been paid each year for educational purposes more than was appropriated by the Democratic party in their quarter of a century of mis-rule. We have increased our appropriations to charitable and eleemosynary institutions until we can make the boast that no state between the two oceans supports these institutions as well as does our own. Our 7,000,000 of people are industrious, honest, law-abiding and happy. Yet, surrounded as we are on every side with prosperous business conditions, with people happy, employed and contented, and with every avenue of business and trade fully occupied, and with the prospect of the future brightening and growing more hopeful, the old historic party of obstruction and negation sets up a hysterical cry of false pretense, hypocrisy and insincerity for the purpose of misleading the people and regaining lost power."—From the Republican State Platform.

It now looks as though Mr. Garman intended to try to do a little reforming also.

The Grounds for Confidence.

THE CARBONDALE Leader tells Republicans not to be too confident. Its advice is wise, because no fight is ever won until the polls close and the vote is counted. The kind of confidence which causes those who hold it to stop working for the success of their cause, to "lay down" while the enemy is industrious, would, indeed, be disastrous. It should not prevail among Republicans.

We do not ignore the fact that a snug fight is on. We give credit to Mr. Newcomb and his supporters for ingenious campaigning. Their efforts to get Republican votes for Colonel Hitchcock, recognizing that every vote so cast is as good for their purposes as a direct vote for Newcomb, are being put forth with considerable skill, though we believe with scant success.

But the fact that they are active simply means that Republicans must be more active. This is a Republican county. The Republican party this year is united. There are no factional divisions within its ranks. Its ticket is clean in personnel and acceptable in point of the geographical distribution of its candidates. There has not been a better ticket in the history of the party. It ought to be elected. It will be elected. Republicans must see that it is elected.

Until the spellbinders are turned loose the majority of our Union party friends will no doubt be a trifle uncertain as to what they are really shouting for.

Hurt by His Friends.

AS THE Schley investigation proceeds, it becomes clear that the course of the McKinley administration with reference to Mr. Schley was wise. It did not give him the chief command, and we think the disclosures made in the testimony as to his lack of firmness and decision at critical moments constitute a justification of that decision. But it gave him the second highest command, to avoid any appearance of prejudice; and if his friends had let him alone this, also, would have turned out well.

When he made that extraordinary retrograde movement off Santiago, it did not, as most of the officers on the strategy board expected and wanted, order his arrest and appearance before a court-martial; it waited to learn what his explanations were. These, though not satisfactory, were not incriminating. At most, there was a case of bad judgment; a case of not fitting the full requirements. For that the administration was as much to blame as Schley, for it put him in the place presumably knowing his characteristics. The final victory at Santiago, with glory enough to go round, would have wiped out his earlier errors and kept them from the public knowledge, leaving the entire naval service in far better odor, if Schley's friends had kept still when President McKinley generously named him for promotion second to Sampson, the commander-in-chief.

Instead of that, they raised the howl of persecution, claimed for their man the bulk of the glory and insisted that unless Schley got the big end of the reward no promotions at all should be made. Their course in this particular is directly responsible for the entire muss subsequently kicked up. It has forced a public washing of dirty naval linen which the administration tried hard to perform quietly and without publicity. It has destroyed effectually Schley's chances for a high place on history; driven Sampson into physical and, according to some reports, mental collapse; stirred up enmity and ill will amongst hundreds of naval officers, to say nothing of its effect upon public opinion; and the country will be fortunate if it shall not be the means of interrupting for some years the generous appropriations by congress necessary to give to the United States its proper place among the sea-powers.

The investigation has added no laurel to Schley that he lacked before his fool friends started the row. He has certainly not been shown to be a bigger man than his admirers thought him prior to the raising of this scandal. On the contrary, while he has not been convicted of cowardice or of treason or of any intentional great fault at a time of tremendous expectancy, all judicious readers of the testimony must see that he was vacillating, unstable and fitful. Very probably he did his best. But that was not good enough to fulfil the best traditions. And, moreover, his correspondence with Hodgson shows him up as a tricky man; from the most charitable standpoint it is damaging to his reputation.

Once the row had begun, an investigation was inevitable; and now that it has been started, it is properly going to the bottom. In some respects it has developed less to Schley's discredit than was expected, and for that both his friends and the public generally are glad. But it has revealed enough to prove that the McKinley way was the prudent way and that those who, in Schley's behalf, blocked the fulfillment of the president's programme, did Schley an irreparable injury.

The final disposition of the divorce canons at San Francisco no doubt caused a feeling of relief in Dakota business circles.

Concerning Divorce.

THE VOTE of the house of deputies of the general Episcopal convention declining to accept in the canon on marriage and divorce adopted by the house of bishops the section outlawing the remarriage of innocent parties to divorce, though close, is significant. The support for this proposition comes almost wholly from the clergy; the opposition to it, from the laity. The clergy live largely in an ideal world and would order things to correspond. The laity recognize life as it is.

Both views have their value but in the making of laws, whether political or ecclesiastical, it is better to have laws that can be enforced than laws which become dead letters. There is only one church which has succeeded in maintaining among its members the indissolubility of marriage. From the nature of things no Protestant denomination can hope to prevent divorce. It may discourage it, frown upon it and use every persuasive and educational influence at its command to minimize it, but the moment it proposes to cast out of its fold those who have been divorced without guilt, save insofar as guilt may by some be assumed from the fact of divorce, that moment it opens its door to an exodus of those of its members whose consciences acquit them for having obtained divorce.

In the eyes of the civil law, marriage is a contract, for life or good behavior. It is proper to enact safeguards against the whimsical and inconsiderate breaking of this contract. It is proper to throw safeguards around the making of the contract, so that those who wish to enter into it may not do so until they realize what they are doing. It is proper for those who so feel to condemn the breaking of the contract under any circumstances. But until a majority can be made so to feel in the matter, divorce in our civil courts will be available for cause, and while that is true no ecclesiastical canon can stop it or materially check it.

The disposition of the issue made at San Francisco is therefore worldly wise and in consonance with common sense.

The testimony in the Schley case continues to confirm the suspicion that much of the news published during the Spanish war was written at long range.

The Battle in New York.

FOR SPIRITED political fighting the campaign in New York is becoming an object of wide-spread study. Since Seth Low resigned the presidency of Columbia college he has given every minute of his time to aggressive campaigning. He is an earnest, eloquent and witty speaker and his terse thrusts at Tammany make a lasting impression. He is closely seconded by William Travers Jerome, the anti-Tammany candidate for district attorney, who is more bitterly hated by Croker than any other man in the anti-Tammany ranks, because Jerome as a magistrate has pulled the mask off Tammany's partnership with vice and furnished most of the ammunition used in the present attack. It would not hurt Croker's hold on Tammany to lose the mayor's office. Some think he has put Shepard up to be knocked down. But it might destroy Tammany if both the mayor and the district attorney were honestly bent on prosecuting those criminally implicated in official crookedness. For that reason Jerome is as much the central figure in the contest against Tammany as is Seth Low, and he is doing as strong fighting.

The principal point urged by Low, Jerome and the other anti-Tammany leaders is that government by Tammany is a conspiracy of loot, a systematic and continuous perversion of public to private ends. But there are interesting subsidiary arguments. One is the fact of Richard Croker's residence abroad. They call him Squire Croker, of Moat House, Wantage, Berks, England, and allude to the inhabitants of New York as his tenantry. This is counted upon to appeal especially to voters of Irish descent, who are traditionally opposed to absentee landlords. Another is the fact that in New York city thousands of children of school-going age cannot be accommodated in the public schools while other thousands, owing to lack of room, get only half a day's instruction. Mr. Low cites figures to show how Tammany, while skimping the schools, is adding annually millions of dollars to unnecessary or extravagant payrolls and wasting other millions upon favorite contractors. He promises if elected mayor to cut out the wastes and build more schools.

One humorous feature of the campaign was the appearance recently of a text-book for spell-binders, issued by the McLaughlin or Willoughby street Democratic organization of Brooklyn, Tammany Candidate Shepard's chief sponsor, in which many of the charges brought by the anti-Tammanyites against Tammany rule are admitted and condemned. Here, for example, is one extract: the personal reference being to the Brooklyn representative on the Greater New York police board: "It is every where recognized that Mr. York's efforts have been directed toward keeping Brooklyn at least free from the evils which afflict the borough of Manhattan. With the entrance of Brooklyn into the league of boroughs which constitutes the present city of New York, an effort was made to extend to this borough the chain of poolrooms which literally covered the borough of Manhattan, and to introduce the system of police protection which has flourished for over forty years in the old city of New York." In another place there is a reference to the Tammany attempt to "Deverylize" Brooklyn. It is explained that these thrusts at Tammany got into the book "inadvertently." But their presence is better explained by the fact that Edwin N. Shepard, the Tammany candidate for mayor, is trying to face both ways.

In the meantime, Croker and his followers are pursuing the expedient policy of silence. They are letting the other side do the spouting while they oil their machine.

The governor of Alabama announces that he will protect sheriffs in his state who defy lynching parties. This is evidence of reform at the root of evil. Mobs do not thrive very long when the administration is in earnest in the work of promoting good order.

Studying American Streams and Forests

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, Oct. 16.

THE WATER resources of the United States are being studied and reported on in the same way as are the mineral resources of the country. This work is carried on by the United States geological survey, and the results are printed as one of the volumes comprising the annual reports of this organization. There has just been issued by the government printing office a volume giving the results of recent stream measurements. The book gives a description of many of the principal rivers of the United States, beginning with those of Maine and ending with California. The quantity of water flowing in these streams day by day is shown by means of diagrams, putting before the eye in graphic form the fluctuations which take place and making evident at a glance the great difference in amount between the time of flood and that of low water. The difficulties encountered in measuring the flow are discussed and also many facts which bear upon the value of the streams in furnishing water power and in supplying water for agriculture by irrigation as well as for other industrial purposes. A large number of views are given showing the waterfalls and characteristic topography along various streams, and also numerous maps and diagrams. The work has interest not only to engineers but to all citizens who are concerned with the development of the country and the utilization of water in manufacture, agriculture, or municipal supply.

About one-fifth of the United States consists of high plains situated along the eastern front of the Rocky mountains and extending northward and northwestward through Montana into the Canadian northwest. The soil is extremely fertile, but its value agriculturally is dependent upon the farmers' ability to procure water. The utilization of the high plains has been the subject of an investigation carried on for some years by Willard D. Johnson, of the United States geological survey. The results have just been published in a paper accompanying Part IV of the twenty-first annual report of that survey. Mr. Johnson gives an interesting account of the origin and structure of the high plains, the deficiency of climate, and the way in which water may be obtained within certain areas. The discussion is accompanied by a large number of illustrations bringing out clearly the peculiarities of this great region and showing the conditions under which settlement can proceed with safety. Attempts have been made in the past by thousands of people to make homes on this fertile soil, especially after years of abundant rainfall, under the belief that with settlement the rainfall would increase. Disappointment and loss have followed and these people have been compelled to leave their homes and go elsewhere, abandoning their improvements and beginning life in other regions. The high plains may be considered a trap set for the unwary, the luxuriant verdure of good years tempting the settler to his ruin. It is only when the conditions are fully known that man can hope to successfully cope with nature's niggardly supply of water for this rich soil.

The wind furnishes one of the greatest unutilized forces of nature. In certain parts of the country, particularly upon the Great Plains, it is in rapid motion almost continually throughout the year, robbing the soil of its moisture and often carrying away the lighter particles. The ingenuity of man is, however, converting what is a nuisance into a blessing by employing the plains are considerable quantities of water, and at by means of suitable mills. At depths of from 20 to 50 feet beneath the surface of the western plains are considerable quantities of water, and it has been found possible to pump this water by means of windmills being now in operation and probably millions of dollars having been invested in machinery of this character. The windmill has become, therefore, one of the great factors in the development of the drier parts of the United States. Its efficiency and economic use have been the subject of investigation by the United States geological survey, since the utilization of the water resources of the country is so largely dependent upon this device. The matter has been discussed by Professor E. C. Murphy in Water Supply and Irrigation Papers of the United States Geological Survey Nos. 41 and 42, recently issued by the government printing office, and distributed to members of congress, from whom copies can be had upon application.

ANNA.

Wake from sleep, to greet the morn
And come away;
See, for he once more is born
The light of day.
Vanish'd is the May's short night
And the summer sky is bright
With cloudless blue;
'Tis the very time for love;
Anna, does the season move
Thy heart, too?

Rise, and through the wood and glade
Come with me;
Long the birds their songs have made
From every tree;
Listen, one outbids them all—
'Tis the sweet-voiced nightingale
That we hear;
Mirthfully he ever sings,
Like him leave all troublesome things—
Age draws near.

Time, who hates our merry ways,
His pinions shakes;
As he flies, our happy days
With him he takes.
Sadly, sadly wilt then say,
Worn with age, some future day
"Vain was I
To let the beauty of my face
Neglected fade and all the grace
Of youth pass by."

—Composed by the Roumanian Queen; Translated by Leo Rose.

SCHLEY'S MEN ON THE STAND

[Concluded from Page 1.]

nity of the men, and none of the guns were put out of action, though the rapidity of the fire was reduced.

Mr. Hanna asked about the Oregon in the chase. The witness said that her course was about 500 yards from that of the Brooklyn and on the Brooklyn's starboard quarter.

In reply to a question from Captain Parker, Commander Mason said: "The muzzles of three of the five-inch guns were swelled, but we fired with them, and kept on firing, notwithstanding this trouble."

The court asked a number of questions about the Cienfuegos and Santiago blockades before discharging the witness. When the commander left the stand a recess was taken for luncheon.

Afternoon Session.

The first witness at the afternoon session was Lieutenant Edward McCauley, who was an ensign on the Brooklyn during the Cuban campaign, and served as Commodore Schley's signal officer. He had a diary in which he had made notes of the progress of events during the war and frequently consulted it to refresh his memory. He said that on May 23 the British steamer Adula had reported that the Spaniards had left Santiago. He spoke of the weather on the cruise from Cienfuegos to Santiago, saying that it was bad and that both the Eagle and Vixen "made bad weather" on that trip. He gave a number of signals made from and to the Brooklyn, most of them relating to the condition of the collier Merrimac, which was somewhat disabled on May 26th; also to the slow speed of the smaller vessels. It was at 6 p. m. on that date that the cylinders and valves of the Merrimac became incapacitated.

The signal book of the Brooklyn, which the witness consulted, showed that both the Minneapolis and the Yale had reported short supplies of coal, the Minneapolis saying that she had just enough to take her to Key West.

When the Enemy Surrendered.

The witness then read a list of the signals to and from the Brooklyn on July 3, the list being as follows:

"July 3, 1898, 9 a. m. Flagship to fleet: 'Disregard motions of the commander in chief.'

"9.15 a. m. Brooklyn to Texas: 'What is your theory about burning of block houses on the hill last night?'

"9.21 a. m. Iowa to Brooklyn: 'Enemy is escaping.'

"9.35 a. m. Brooklyn to fleet: 'Enemy is escaping.'

"9.36 a. m. Brooklyn to fleet: 'Clear for action.'

"9.45 a. m. Brooklyn to fleet: 'Close up.'

"11.55 a. m. Brooklyn to the Oregon: 'Well done.'

"12.30 p. m. Oregon to Brooklyn: 'Flag of a strange vessel seen is Italian.'

"12.35 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon. 'She was built in Italy.'

"While chasing the Colon the Oregon fired a number of shots. We wigwagged her when each one struck, and a number of unimportant messages were exchanged."

"Give us these unimportant messages as well as you can recollect."

"When the Oregon came up on our quarter we wigwagged to her: 'God bless the Oregon.' Later on during the chase of the Colon we wigwagged the Oregon to try one of her thirteen-inch guns, or something to that effect."

"Was that the signal that has been spoken of as 'Try one of your railroad trains?'"

"I have heard it spoken of outside the court, but I don't remember."

"Have you given all the signals on the day of the battle?"

"No, sir (reading). This is not a signal, just a note of when the Colon surrendered: 'Colon fired her lee gun and hauled down her flag.'"

"1.25 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Enemy has surrendered.'

"1.26 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Cease firing.'

"1.27 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Keep your guns loaded and trained on the enemy.'

"1.30 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Congratulations on the grand victory. Thanks for splendid assistance.'

"1.35 p. m. Oregon to Brooklyn: 'Than you more than words can express.'

"1.45 p. m. Brooklyn to flagship New York: 'We have gained a great victory. Details will be communicated.'

"1.50 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Report your casualties.'

"1.55 p. m. Brooklyn to New York: 'Killed, one.'

"1.55 p. m. Brooklyn to New York: 'This is a great day for our country.'

"2.30 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Ascertain as far as possible position and strength of the enemy's forces and report without delay.'

"2.30 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Hoist out all boats.'

"2.40 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Do you want services of chaplain to bury dead?'

"2.45 p. m. Brooklyn to New York: 'Would like to have services of chaplain. Will signal later.'

"2.50 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Send for chaplain when you want him.'

"3.30 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Send both steam cutters and strongest tow line.'

"3.45 p. m. Brooklyn to New York: 'Both steam cutters entirely disabled by shot. Will use such pulling boats as we can. Will send tow line.'

"4.20 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Follow flag.'

"4.25 p. m. Brooklyn to Oregon: 'Close up.'

"4.25 p. m. New York to Brooklyn: 'Will remain in charge of prize.'

"Do you remember any incident connected with the signalling of Brooklyn to the Oregon at 4.20 p. m., 'Follow flag,' and at 4.25 p. m. from the Brooklyn to the Oregon, 'Close up?'"

"There was a report that there were one or two Spanish ships to the eastward, and I understood that the Brooklyn and Oregon were to go after those ships. We started off and signalled the Oregon to follow us. She did not get under way immediately, as I remember it, so we signalled her to 'close up.'"

Going back to May 28, when the fleet reached Santiago after the retrograde movement, Lieutenant McCauley said that the Spanish flag was flying on Morro castle. The next morning he had seen the Cristobal Colon and another Spanish vessel lying in the harbor.

Lieutenant McCauley also gave a list of the signals made from the Massachusetts while that vessel was being used as Commodore Schley's flagship, May 31, and when asked whether any signals had been sent to the fleet to "not go in any closer," replied:

"No, sir."

He said he had charge of the signals and did not remember such a signal.

Schley's Nerves Were Steady.

Leading up the battle of July 3, Mr. Rayner asked:

"What was the conduct and bearing of Commodore Schley on the day of the battle?"

"Perfectly cool and steady."

"Where was the commodore? What was his position when you saw him?"

"On the platform outside the conning tower."

"Did he make any encouraging remarks on that day to the officers of the ship that you heard?"

"He said: 'Give them hell, bullies.'"

"Did he say that more than once?"

"Yes, sir; several times."

"Can you give us any incident to show that he was not laboring under great mental excitement on that day?"

"When Ellis was killed and another officer and myself picked up his body and started to throw it overboard the commodore saw us and said: 'Don't throw him overboard. Cover him up with something.'"

"Were you present when Ellis was killed?"

"Yes, sir."

"How near was Ellis to the commodore when he was killed, and to you?"

"He was standing right next to me. He was about fifteen feet from the commodore, I should think."

Lieutenant McCauley described the incidents of the battle of July 3, saying that he had "on his own hook" hoisted the signal, "Clear ship for action," and then when he had reported this action to the commodore the latter told him to hoist "close up." The Spanish squadron was, he said, at that time headed southward and westward, and standing out, the Viscaya apparently heading directly toward the Brooklyn. He said that when the Brooklyn started to turn with port helm Yeoman Ellis had given him the range at 900 yards. He said that not until after the Brooklyn's signal to the Oregon had the latter began to use her thirteen-inch guns, and that was when the Brooklyn also opened with her eight-inch guns.

Recurring to the bombardment of the Colon, May 31, the witness said that Commodore Schley's bearing on that occasion had not been different from what it had been on other occasions.

Signalled to Oregon.

The cross-examination was conducted by Mr. Hanna, who questioned the witness in detail concerning the signal to the Oregon to use her thirteen-inch guns, asking the witness why he remembered it especially.

"Because I sent it myself," was the reply.

"Did you also send the others in which you have refreshed your memory by referring to your book?"

The witness said that he had made them.

He did not recall that the Oregon had made any response to the signal to that vessel. Mr. Hanna also called attention to an entry in the signal books of the Brooklyn and the St. Paul of a message for Admiral Sampson. It appeared that as received by the St. Paul the signal was as follows:

"If Sampson comes here tell him that half the squadron is out of coal and that the engine of the collier is broken down."

Upon reading the entry of this signal Lieutenant McCauley said that it ran: "If Sampson comes here tell him that half of the squadron is short of coal." He said, however, that the word "short" was very indistinct. The signal "close up" had, the witness said, remained flying "until we discovered the Oregon on our quarter. Several of the ships had their answering pennants flying, he remembered, and especially that the Oregon had, but could not recall the ships which made no response.

Lieutenant McCauley was then excused and Lieutenant Charles Webster was called. He said he had been a watch officer on the Brooklyn during the campaign of 1898 and began his testimony by describing the blockade of Cienfuegos. He thought the distance out at night was seven or eight miles, with picket boats inside the line.

The sea was moderate, he said, between Cienfuegos and Santiago, on the occasion of the flying squadron's voyage, "making bad weather for the smaller vessels." The custom at Santiago was to lie off from the port four or five miles during the day. The vessels steamed back and forth at night, about the same distance out.

Asked if he had seen any suspicious movements on shore at Santiago during the evening of July 2, the witness replied:

"I remember being on deck July 2 and seeing columns of smoke rising and apparently moving, as though vessels were steaming in the harbor. Also in my watch I remember the burning of block houses to the westward of Santiago, which I reported to the commanding officer."

"What was the conduct and bearing of Commodore Schley in the different engagements and on July 3?"

"I never saw Commodore Schley during the engagement. I saw him immediately after the battle of July 3 and he was perfectly cool and collected."

The Battle Account.

Lieutenant Webster gave a brief account of the battle of July 3. He said that when the signal was given to clear ship for action he had run forward, having charge of the forward gun deck battery. He had then seen the Texas and the Iowa a little abaft of the Brooklyn's beam. When the engines were started the Brooklyn had headed directly toward the harbor, the helm being changed frequently until after firing was begun, when the helm was put hard aport. He estimated that the enemy's vessels was 1,400 to 1,600 yards distant when the Brooklyn began its turn and that after the loop was completed it was 2,500 yards, increasing to 2,800 yards when the Viscaya turned in.

On cross-examination Lieutenant Webster was asked a number of questions by the court relating to the blockade at Cienfuegos and the position of the Brooklyn at Santiago. He was on the stand when at 4 p. m. the court adjourned.

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