

The Scranton Tribune

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LIVY S. RICHARD, Editor, G. F. BRYCE, Business Manager.

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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 rules are 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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TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, JANUARY 3, 1902.

It begins to look as though the railroad men about the country would be obliged to secure larger dinner pails.

Truly Golden.

AT A TIME when the courts are busy severing like one marital bonds, and when among a large and growing number of the American people the question is being asked, "Is marriage a failure?" there is peculiar gratification, both on the personal side and as a beautiful and wholesome object lesson, in the observance of a golden wedding.

Fifty years married! Not fifty years passed in frivolity or dedicated to lonely selfishness, but fifty years of comradeship; of mutual anxieties, sacrifices, trials and joys. In the evening of life, to look back upon so long a period of home-making and home-keeping, with children and grandchildren gathered about and prospects bright for many more years of usefulness and companionship, is an experience vouchsafed to few. Custom has wisely selected the fiftieth anniversary as a suitable occasion for exceptional commemoration. It is well named the "golden" wedding; for the love which alone warrants the existence of marriage has, after so long a test in the crucible of daily vicissitude, become refined like unto pure gold.

In every land the fiftieth anniversary of a marriage is made an opportunity for the proffering of congratulatory wishes. But it seems to us that there is a special and peculiar call for the public interest and good will in the golden wedding of an American couple like William and Annie Connell—two persons who, in the morning of life, when their worldly circumstances were poor as the poorest, bravely faced the future, wrestled with its discouragements, kept faith and hope and mutual confidence in the long years when privations were many and success was uncertain, and lived to realize to an exceptional degree the rewards which American institutions place within the reach of merit.

Such an example offers a powerful incentive to upright citizenship, and makes an irresistible call upon the appreciative sympathy of all classes and conditions of men. May the evening of their days be peaceful and untroubled.

When General Dick gets on the firing line it is expected that he will make the Forakerites shiver in their loins.

Mark Hanna.

THAT the fight now waging at Columbus, O., is one of desperation on the part of both the supporters and opponents of Marcus A. Hanna, with the objective point, not the mere gaining or losing of a few legislative offices, but the continuance or retirement of Senator Hanna in or from political power is now plain to all. Says the Columbus correspondent of the Washington Star, a neutral paper:

The Hanna managers here now realize that just such a quiet organization has been made against him all over the state, in the legislative organization, as that in four years ago, under the direction of Charles L. Ritter and Mayor R. E. McKisson, came within one vote of defeating him for the senate, speaking of the situation to a friend several days ago, when the truth was coming out, John R. Malloy, in connection with the Hanna forces, said: "As the case stands, we are whipped to a standstill; whether we lose or win, we are ruined."

It is evident that Hanna's supporters are not taking part in the election fight as they were here, but now they are working in Senator Hanna's interest and some are against him. The most conspicuous in this Republican politics are: Charles L. Ritter, Congressman Bedford, Arthur Nesbit, Kyle, Taylor, Van Voorhis, Dr. E. Jones, of Barton, Governor Bushnell, of Springfield, and other prominent party leaders.

That the fight on Hanna has been a formidable one may be inferred from the action of State Chairman Dick in abandoning the neutral attitude expected of a state chairman and getting into the thick of the fray as a Hanna partisan. Upon its face this looks like a confession of Hanna's weakness, though it is creditable to Mr. Dick's personal loyalty to the man who made him.

What is the reason back of this continued and determined opposition to Mr. Hanna? No doubt many reasons contribute. Envy, factional jealousy, classing ambitions, all these are customary features of political life and combine in all states to oppose those who make themselves conspicuous by success. But in the case of Mark Hanna they would seem hardly to account for all of the grim determination of the forces in his own party and among his own political neighbors to effect his subordination or retirement. There is an element of bitterness in this opposition which is difficult to comprehend except by the theory that Hanna's

ascendancy has been in some degree at the expense of a man personally likeable, possessing warmer gifts of personal attractiveness and magnetic power to command unselfish loyalty from friends and followers.

Such a man is Joseph Benson Foraker. It has been common talk in political circles that since Hanna came to the senate he has forced his colleague into a relatively minor position in the disposition of political patronage and thus has developed the belief among Foraker's Ohio friends that he is grasping and unfair. How much truth there is in this, if any, we do not know. It may be partly true or wholly false; but it is a belief largely prevalent among a large percentage of the active Republican political workers and people of the Buckeye state and it, therefore, goes far to explain the existing antagonism.

In looking over the past year of prosperity one must admit that the calamity howlers are entitled to credit for creating considerable anxiety upon small capital.

Cuba's First Real President.

THE FIRST president of Cuba, Tomas Estrada Palma, whose inauguration will take place early in the evening, was born in Bayamo, province of Santiago, Cuba, in 1835, of wealthy parents. He received a liberal education and was a practicing lawyer when the insurrection of 1868, known as the 'Ten Years' War, broke out. He espoused it and on that account his father's estates were confiscated by the Spanish government and his mother killed by Spanish troops under circumstances of revolting brutality.

During that war Senor Palma attained the rank of general through effective fighting in the field and upon the death of General Cespedes succeeded to the presidency of the insurrectionary or provisional government. In 1877 he was captured by Spanish soldiers and deported to Spain as a prisoner of war. Freedom from captivity in the castle of Figueras was offered to him if he would swear allegiance to the Spanish crown, but he refused.

A year later, at the close of the insurrection, he was liberated and came to this country. Then he went to Honduras, where he had many friends. There he met and married Senorita Guardiola, whose father was president of Honduras. That was twenty years ago. General Palma became closely allied with the federal power in Honduras and was made postmaster general of the republic. At the outbreak of the Cuban revolution in February, 1895, General Palma was chosen as foreign envoy for the revolutionary party.

He became the head of the "Junta," as the New York bureau of the rebels was known, and worked indefatigably for the cause. He was also elected president of the council of Cuban patriotic clubs. He superintended the purchasing of arms and ammunition, chartered steamers to carry filibustering expeditions, and at the same time aided in the direction of hostilities in the field. When the Spanish flag in Cuba was finally lowered in defeat, General Palma retired to his home in Central Valley, N. Y., where he supported himself by presiding over an institute for boys. He is a fine linguist, speaking English as well as several other languages fluently, and, unlike most Cubans, is of the blond type in personal appearance. In manner he is collected, and he has excellent judgment. There can be no question that of the men considered he was by all odds the best qualified to supervise successfully the launching of a new government in Cuba. To a correspondent who saw him at Cherry Valley on Tuesday, he said:

"The principal object of the Cuban republic should be first of all to secure the most friendly relations with the American people, who helped us in our hour of need. We will always bear in mind the work of the United States in helping us to obtain our independence from Spanish rule, and at the same time we should try to secure from the Washington government all the advantages possible from our products by reasonable reductions of the import duties, especially on sugar and tobacco, as this is the only way for Cuba to escape the absolute ruin of these two industries, which are the only bases of Cuba's actual wealth. Without this benefit the Cuban people will find themselves in great distress and subject to disturbances from lack of employment; without this benefit all the sacrifices of the Cubans for their freedom will be in vain, for in a starving condition they cannot enjoy their independence. I am convinced that the people of the United States know very well that it is in their own interest that Cuba be in prosperous condition and in a state of order and peace, and for that reason I am sure that a majority of the Americans will favor a commercial treaty between the countries advantageous both to the United States and Cuba."

In this judgment he is absolutely right.

President Castro's happy new year was fraught with manifestoes and ultimatum.

Centralized Control of Charities.

ONE OF the sweeping recommendations in the second message of Governor Odell of New York is that the various boards of managers of the state reformatories, charitable institutions and hospitals be abolished and their control be centralized under the state commission in lunacy and the state board of charities, subject to inspection by annually appointed boards of visitors. The governor is moved to offer this recommendation by reason of the wide variations in cost of maintenance of these institutions, covering a range of nearly 100 per cent. per capita per week, and in consequence of his belief that many of these institutions are now "not run so much for the benefit of the inmates as for the exposition of peculiar and sentimental ideas that should have no part in their management." He figures out that the adoption of his suggestion would effect a saving of at least \$750,000 a year with increased efficiency of administration. To what an extent such a system would be practicable in Pennsylvania is a question too important

for determination without thorough consideration. But if in New York it shall be tried and found successful, its introduction in this commonwealth could hardly be long delayed.

President Palma, of Cuba, has demonstrated that it is possible to conduct a most successful campaign at long range.

Odell on Sunday Opening.

IN VIEW of the widespread interest which has been aroused by the discussion over Sunday opening in New York, that part of Governor Odell's message which refers to changes in New York's excise law is entitled to notice.

The governor reiterates his belief in the principle of home rule for cities, but says it should not be the shibboleth for the enactment of laws not in harmony with general state legislation. When it is sought under the cry of home rule to enact laws which are repugnant, distasteful and injurious to other portions of the state, then, he says, "we have exceeded the powers that were sought to be given to localities, and home rule would become a mere excuse for the violation, by legal forms of laws desired by the remainder of the state." The governor continues:

"During the last municipal campaign in our greater city there arose a discussion with reference to local option. Local option as it relates to the liquor traffic is understood as meaning that in all communities other than cities the inhabitants thereof shall have the right to determine whether liquor shall be sold in such communities six days of the week, and upon the determination of that question the excise department predicates its administration. This right was given because before the enactment of the present excise law it was within the power of the voters of the appointing authorities in the municipalities and villages to absolutely prohibit the sale of liquor by electing or appointing a board opposed to the granting of such licenses. It is a well known fact in the original draft the same rights as to local option were sought to be given the municipalities, and that they do not possess them is due to the opposition of their own representatives.

"There can be no objection to submitting this same question to the voters of the cities, if it is so desired, as it would be treating all parts of the state alike. But if by local option is meant the right to determine whether the doors of the saloons may legally remain open on Sundays, then a different proposition is presented, and a departure is proposed from the fixed rules which have governed the administration of our excise laws, and it then becomes a question which concerns not only a particular city, but every section of our state. Each locality owes to all others a due regard for their rights and convictions and their moral and physical comfort. No such departure should, therefore, be sanctioned nor power delegated to localities touching, as this would, upon the fundamental principles which have had their growth from the foundation of our country, unless clearly desired by a majority of the people of the state. Before submitting a referendum to the cities, the whole question should be passed upon by the people at large.

"It would seem that the laws which we have would prevent the alleged abuse of the privileges accorded to the hotels, with resultant immorality. If such laws were rigidly enforced by a police honestly and efficiently administered, if, however, such laws are not broad enough in their scope to reach the particular evils complained of, it should be your duty by amendment to strengthen and to make more certain their proper enforcement."

By way of emphasizing his position he concludes: "I am convinced that this attempt to inject into the policy of our state a question so at variance with the moral convictions of a vast majority of the people is unwise and unbecoming. Such a departure could not but be harmful to the state at large, because it would be extending to a particular line of business rights which are withheld from others. If open saloons should be authorized in cosmopolitan cities, demands would soon follow for licenses from other branches of business, and might reach an extent that would arouse the consciences of every man and every woman in our commonwealth who have not only in a day of rest, but in rendering to God, who has blessed us as a nation, the homage that is due Him.

"Blackmail can never be stopped so long as men are corrupt, but it can be lessened and almost entirely done away with if those charged with the administration of our laws follow out the principles which they are sworn to uphold. A failure in this direction renders them liable to the severest punishment, as their enforcement of the law would make possible the quiet enjoyment by all of our people of the day set apart both by secular and moral law as a day of rest and worship. I feel, therefore, that no legislation should be enacted except there is more of a general demand than is apparent at present, and that under no circumstances should a referendum be permitted to municipalities until sanctioned by the entire electorate of the state."

WHAT SHE SAID.

May—When George took me to a stylish restaurant last night, he said I had the appetite of a bird.

Ann—He did? But he didn't explain whether he meant a Canary or an ostrich, I suppose! Philadelphia Bulletin.

Mr. Cleburn—I see by the papers that a poor young man, who lost both his legs while saving the life of a beautiful girl at a railway crossing, is to marry the girl. She dismissed all suitors and offered herself to him.

Mrs. C. (unusually)—Very sensible girl. She'll know where her husband is nights, anyway. New York Weekly.

Mrs. Bowler—Henry and I attended the opera last night. We had a very nice time.

Mrs. Howard—Caramelo, weren't they? I saw you in the gallery eating something. Richmond Dispatch.

Midnight Medicine—She (rather wearily)—It must be lovely to be a man.

He (a late stayer)—Why?

She—A man can spend the evening with whom

he pleases, and not have to entertain anybody that comes along.—New York Weekly.

Many From One—See—So you're really engaged?

Jew—Yes, and to think I should do it after rejecting nearly fifty proposals.

Tom—Fifty? Well, what a persistent young man he must be.—Philadelphia Press.

WHAT HE SAID.

Mrs. Kingsley—The dressmaker says she won't make me another gown unless you pay her bill.

Kingsley—That's good of her. God bless her.—Life.

Bizzer—How does your wife like that lady who moved in next door?

Bizzer—Oh, all right! She hasn't as many gowns as my wife.—Columbus (O.) State Journal.

Miss Guilder—How torturing, how fearful the thought must be for a great singer to know his last lay voice!

Mr. Frazer—It's much more torturing when she doesn't know it.—Tit-Bits.

"I want to be reasonable," said the gentle little woman.

"Of course," replied the man, "and you would be if it were not for one thing."

"What's that?"

"You were born a woman."—Chicago Post.

CONDENSED HISTORY OF 1901.

From the New York Tribune.

United States.

January 26. Fifty thousand Filipinos in Iloilo province took the oath of allegiance to the United States.

March 1. President McKinley and Vice President Roosevelt were inaugurated.

March 23. Aguinaldo was captured by General Frederick Funston.

May. Pan-American exposition was opened at Buffalo.

July 4. Civil government was established in the Philippines.

July 24. Rear Admiral Schley asked for a court of inquiry.

August 6. Indian reservations in Oklahoma were opened for settlement.

September 6. President McKinley was shot in Buffalo.

September 14. Theodore Roosevelt took the oath of office as president of the United States.

October 4. Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht Shamrock II was defeated in the contest for the American cup.

November 24. Holland submarine boat remained under water, with crew, fifteen hours.

December 14. Signor Marconi announced that he had received by wireless telegraphy at Halifax, N. S., a message from Cornwall, Eng.

December 18. Niagara Canal treaty with Great Britain was ratified by the senate.

Europe.

January 22. Queen Victoria of England died.

January 24. Edward VII was proclaimed king of Great Britain and Ireland and Emperor of India.

February 7. Queen Wilhelmina of Holland was married to Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin at The Hague.

March 9. Count Leo Tolstoy was excommunicated.

March 16. The duke and duchess of Cornwall started on a tour of the world.

May 29. Andrew Carnegie gave \$10,000,000 to Scottish universities.

October 19. M. S. Belmont sailed in his airship from St. Cloud around the Eiffel Tower and returned.

Asia.

January 12. Joint note of the powers was signed in Peking.

February 26. Two Chinese officials were publicly beheaded in Peking in compliance with the demand of the powers.

May 1. Mission at Peking fixed the total sum of indemnity to be paid by China to the powers at \$25,000,000.

October 3. The Amir of Afghanistan died and was succeeded by his son.

Africa.

January 17. Martial law was proclaimed in Cape Colony.

July 28. British forces defeated the Mad Mullah in Somaliland.

Cuba.

February 6. The rights of the United States were recognized by the Cuban constitutional convention at Havana.

December 24. T. Estrada Palmer was elected president of the republic.

South America.

August 17. General Plaza was elected president of Ecuador.

August 29. Colombian rebels captured Colon and United States marines were landed.

December 25. Chile and Argentina signed a protocol and war over the boundary dispute was averted.

December 27. The German cruiser Vineta anchored off La Guayra prepared to enforce Germany's claims against Venezuela.

Some Notable Persons Who Died.

Abdur Rahman Khan, Amir of Afghanistan, Oct. 3.

Breslau, Sir Walter, English novelist, June 9.

Bismarck, Count William, of Germany, May 29.

Boutwell, Charles A., of Maine, May 21.

Buchanan, Robert W., English poet, June 10.

Bunce, Rear Admiral Francis M., U. S. N., Oct. 19.

Butterfield, General Daniel, New York, July 17.

Crispien, ex-premier of Italy, Aug. 11.

Donnelly, Ignatius, politician and author, Jan. 2.

Erazmus, president of Chile, July 12.

Evans, William Maxwell, Feb. 26.

Empress Dowager of Germany, Aug. 6.

Greenway, Kate, illustrator, Nov. 7.

Harrison, Benjamin, ex-president of the United States, March 13.

Hohenzollern, Prince von, former chancellor of Prussia, July 5.

Li Hong Chang, Chinese statesman, Nov. 7.

McKibbin, William, president of the United States, Sept. 14.

Milan, ex-king of Serbia, Feb. 11.

Murat, General Prince Joachim Napoleon, Oct. 24.

Nordenskiold, Baron Adolf Eric, Swedish naturalist and Arctic explorer, Aug. 12.

O'Leary, Prince Henri de, Aug. 9.

Pingree, Hazen S., ex-governor of Michigan, June 18.

Rothschild, Baron Wilhelm von, head of the famous banking house, Jan. 23.

Vetri, Giuseppe, Italian composer, Jan. 27.

Victoria, Queen of England, Jan. 22.

Sufficient Reason.

From the Chicago Tribune.

"The trouble with me," remarked the man in the mackintosh, "when it comes to making speeches, is that I can't think on my feet."

"I don't wonder," observed the man in the imitation sealskin cap, looking at their ample proportions. "I'd be awfully embarrassed myself with a pair of feet like that."

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