

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, FEBRUARY 25, 1902.

Stated plainly, the fire insurance companies deliberately falsified in their promise of a rebate of the milk slip extortion, and having pocketed the swag, declare their intention of keeping it.

Morgan and the Union.

AN AIR of mystery is lent to the preliminaries of the attempt of the miners' union to secure a conference with the operators. It has been reported and denied that John Mitchell saw representatives of the operators in New York last week, and it looks as if there were to be a period of dust-throwing on both sides before the people of the anthracite region are to know whether to prepare for peace or trouble this spring.

All this seems very childish to us. It ought to be possible to get from the operators a direct and specific answer to the invitation to a conference in a very few days after the invitation is received and once got it should be made public without delay.

The last is said to be positively Miss Stone's farewell release. It was South Carolina's fault that Ben Tillman got into the senate but it will be the senate's fault if he remains in.

Outline Studies of Human Nature.

Lady Dufferin's Quick Wit. The late Lord Dufferin was known to his friends as one of the most charming of men. His friends were of both sexes, but his pluck and bonhomie, after he had reached the age when he could safely indulge them, were quite unexcelled.

Edmunds Didn't Know the Senator.

Some years ago Edmondson told a man to the senate whose name was McCormick. He enjoyed a brief term of about five or six weeks, and then he disappeared. Yesterday Mr. McCormick visited the senate chamber again.

Dealing in Futures.

Here is a story about J. E. Toole and J. E. Warden. One night they entered a livery in Belfast at which they were well known, and Mr. Toole ordered a bottle of champagne, asking the proprietor whether he would allow payment to stand over till a bet that had just been made was decided.

Dewey and the Prince.

AN AUTHORITY version of the incident at Hong Kong, where it has been said that Prince Henry insulted Admiral Dewey by toasting the United States last, has been given to the American press by Captain von Muelner, aide-de-camp to the German emperor and official spokesman for the prince during the latter's present visit to America.

Papa Lacked Impressiveness.

There is a man who fancies he is the head of the house. This particular man has several small children, and it pleases him to discuss a great deal on the training of the young.

While Paderewski Played.

A bird stayed long last night for a while. And sang at our heart's dear door. And added and gladder our love and our smile Than ever beneath the roof.

ney general to argue that point. He is simply asking for an opinion from the courts as to whether a law of the United States has or has not been violated. When that question has been answered it will be time enough to consider whether the law itself is a good law or whether the public interest demands its amendment so as to legalize such mergers of transportation lines as was contemplated in the organization of the Northern Securities company.

If the fire insurance men had played fair no one could have objected. It has generally been recognized that existing rates are too low, considering the growth in fire losses. What the people of Scranton object to is the sneaking way in which the underwriters have gone on to hoist the rates. It is beyond defense.

The Value of It.

IT IS TRUE that such occasions as the visit of Prince Henry have no direct bearing on affairs of state. But, as our accomplished ambassador to Germany, Hon. Andrew D. White, has pointed out, they are valuable in that they create an atmosphere of good will in which the official representatives of the countries in interest can move more expeditiously and to better effect.

In the large transactions of business it is very often the little courtesy of the dinner at the club which clinches the desired contract. Many of our wealthy corporations employ expert talent simply to entertain persons whose favor is sought for commercial purposes. These attentions are wholly aside from the negotiations which take place when the business itself is transacted. They are for the purpose of creating a suitable atmosphere.

Those who criticize our government for sending a special embassy to the coronation of the King of England, alleging that it is mere throwaway and sabbatery, overlook that it is largely by such interchanges of courtesy and good will that official influences are developed with large benefit for all concerned. When, during the dark days of our civil war, the public opinion of Great Britain was insistent upon peremptory reprisals for our seizure of Mason and Silldell, it was due to kindly personal feeling growing out of just such opportunities for forming valuable acquaintances as are being made through Prince Henry's visit that our representatives at the British court were enabled to set in motion the machinery which culminated in the queen's now famous action in blue penning Lord Palmerston's warlike dispatch.

In the case of Germany the most influential man in it is the emperor. He by the way as well as nominal head of the German government. When differences between Germany and the United States arise it is often the individual opinion of the kaiser himself which determines whether an immediate and cordial adjustment shall be had or a prolonged controversy, with friction and unpleasant feelings. The kaiser is not only the most interesting and statesmanlike ruler of Europe; but he is human. He, like other men, is influenced consciously and unconsciously by personal feeling, by the little things that merge into the big ones. In the years to come he can hardly fail to forget that when he sent his brother to America on a good will mission that brother was met and greeted by all the American people with the most cordial of welcomes and from high to low the utmost endeavor was made to respond to his kindly overture in kind. The memory of this fact will weigh in the consideration of future affairs. It will be a silent influence for the preservation and intensification of friendly relations, perhaps even when those relations might otherwise become strained.

Consequently the best of treatment for Prince Henry! Let American hospitality show what it can do when aroused.

The insurgents are now floating a story that Senator Quay intends to run for governor himself, to prevent embarrassment to the party. It might do that to the party, it would certainly embarrass the insurgents. But the senator has put on record his refusal to seek or accept public office. Therefore the insurgents will have to guess again.

Fair Play for the President.

LET US SEE if there is any foundation for the criticism which has greeted the president's course in reference to the Northern Securities company. It is held in Wall street that in the first place there was no call for federal interference in this matter. That, of course, is a matter of opinion. If the merger is in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and the attorney general, a pretty good lawyer, says it is, then it is clearly the duty of the president, through the department of justice, to see that the question came fairly before the courts. No stockholder in the company has any reason to complain on this score. On the contrary, every stockholder ought to be glad to have so important a matter decided as quickly as possible.

But it is argued by the president's critics, in the second place, that even though he may have been justified in ordering a judicial investigation, he should not have done this without first letting Wall street know about it, so that steps could have been taken to prop up the market. No doubt if the revealing to Wall street of his intention in advance of any official action could be proved in no other way than for the protection of the unwary it would be a merciful exercise of executive discretion. But Wall street is not usually looked upon in the light of a philanthropic institution. It is just as likely that this advance information would have been put to profitable use by its recipients as that it would have gone for the salvation of the ignorant.

As a matter of fact, the Northern Securities company was not formed for purposes of public benefit primarily but to let a lot of frightened speculators out of a bad hole. The discovery of its great usefulness to the people came later. Those who uphold the necessity of such centralizations in the railway world have no quarrel with the president. He is not asking his attorney

Tillman's charge was a lie. Was it not? He also defended himself against Tillman's physical attack. In that unparliamentary? The senate of the United States is a very dignified place but we refuse to believe that when one of its members is struck on one cheek it is incumbent on him meekly to offer the other.

Franklin Bell, whom President McKinley jumped from captain to brigadier, has been justifying his promotion by cleaning out Filipino insurgents faster than ever known before. Half a dozen more officers of his kind in Luzon would wind this whole matter up ere fall.

The theory that the capture of Miss Stone was the work of Macedonian politicians who took that method of replenishing the campaign exchequer suggests that the Macedonians must have been getting their training in politics from certain Pennsylvanians.

Tillman's coarse accusation was equally an insult to the memory of President McKinley, since no deal to give McLaurin control of the patronage of South Carolina could become effective without McKinley's knowledge and consent.

Mr. Tillman will need to pay more strict attention to the established rules if he expects to receive offers of a share in the gate money from any of the well known athletic clubs.

President-elect Palma of Cuba denies that he ever said he would decline to serve if the American congress withheld reciprocity. We'll wager he thought it.

Now that Miss Stone has been released, the question arises, What next? Is the kidnapping of American citizens to become an established business?

It was South Carolina's fault that Ben Tillman got into the senate but it will be the senate's fault if he remains in.

Heavy fruit crop prophets are a trifle uncertain, but the confidence of the food prognosticator is appalling.

King Leopold, of Belgium, evidently thinks that there is enough hospitality in America for all.

Sap weather is here and maple syrup will soon be in our midst.

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WHAT YANKEE RULE HAS DONE FOR CUBA

Frederic J. Haskins, in a Letter from Havana Published by the Philadelphia Record.

THE TIME draws near for the withdrawal of the United States army of occupation from Cuba. For a few years work accomplished by the American forces during their stay on the island will prove itself.

When the agents of Uncle Sam hoisted the Stars and Stripes over the palace at Havana, three years ago, they found themselves confronted by a city of suffering and despair. The streets were a mass of filth, and the air was filled with the stench of decay. The people were starving and the government was a mere name.

The most important development of the operations conducted by the Havana Yellow Fever Commission was the discovery that this terrible disease is spread by mosquitoes. Some authorities have heretofore supposed these insects to be the distributing agents of the malarial, and the Havana commission proved the contrary to be the case. The fact was established by experiment.

Several volunteers were placed in a room with infected insects—there were many varieties of mosquitoes, but only one kind carried the germ of this fever. These men had not been exposed in any other way, and after being bitten a number

PADEREWSKI'S RECITAL AT THE NEW ARMORY

WORDS were perfume, color, wild desire. If poet's song were fire That burned to blood in purple-pulsing veins.

How Paderewski plays then I might dare to tell. How Paderewski plays and it was he. Of some disembodied spirit that had rushed. Into some startled hour a life's felicity.

THE WAITING thousands sat with upturned faces, silent in the anxiety of their expectation. Softly across the platform stepped a slight figure, the delicate face framed in hair, soft and shining as corn-silk in the September sun.

The Schumann "Carnaval" was one of the great numbers. Under his touch, the swift succeeding pictures in the procession of gaily melted into the dainty miniatures, ivory-keen, but idealized, softened.

Perhaps, most of all, were anticipated the Chopin numbers. Possibly, some of them were too familiar in their defenseless condition against the amateur, but no one would ever recognize them as anything but set with a halo, they came forth last night.

The softly graceful Etude, the rippling, wonderful Valse op. 42, and finally the great Polonaise in A flat, completed the group. Notable in this were the running notes, so deftly produced that they were like the dancing leaves, and the color in the climax leaving.

Etude and a Rhapsody of Liszt. The latter, it is said, will never be forgotten by the listeners. The swooning of senses, the passionate whirl of emotion, the great climax were such as have not been heard often in later days.

During the progress of the programme he was presented with a lyre of flowers four feet high. The inscription ran "To Poland's greatest representative, from his countrymen." Many of these countrymen crowded about him in the artist's room and the manner in which he greeted them would have touched the hardest heart.

There is a little drawing of the great pianist by Sir Edward Burne-Jones, which more nearly expresses the real Paderewski than any other portrait of him. Somehow, he fits into the Pre-Raphaelite ideal and all at once we see him as he is—not the pianist only, not the statesman, but the man, the man of letters, the man of letters, the man of letters.

The programme of last night opened with the Moonlight Sonata of Beethoven. Scranton heard it for the first time in America from this great pianist's fingers. His method of slipping into the keys of a sharp minor was richly rhythmic and brought out the warm, full tones with consummate beauty.

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by the interlocking hands and dividing the runs and arpeggios in this number were intensely fascinating. His pedal movements are remarkable. He uses them as if they were another bank of keys, producing the sweetest vibration, the most carrying tones, which are thus varied in every degree of shading.

The allegretto movement, so scherzoso-like in its brilliancy, was charged with dramatic fire under his touch.

The Mendelssohn numbers were rich with sentiment. The simple folk-song songs swelled out in unimagined loveliness through his interpretation. The "Hunting Song," with its swift bravura, caused a distinct sensation. No contrast could be more gracefully marked than the Spinning Song, with its low lament of sorrow for something missed out of the lonely life.

A singular accompaniment to Paderewski's playing is one little, almost unobservable movement he has—no artist is so free from mannerisms as this man—but which glides into the soft chords full of pathos and reserve, down his hand in a gentle, sad emphasis of the thought expressed by his art and repeated in his own heart. It would be difficult to describe anything more affecting to sympathetic listeners than this unconscious abandonment to the grief of the movement, and it is so utterly free from attempts at spectacular effect.

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T. J. Foster, President, Elmer H. Laval, Treas.

R. J. Paster, Secretary

time, the report for 1901 will show only five fatalities due to this source.

Havana was not only a favorite haunt of yellow fever, but also a favorite haunt of cholera.

The total death rate of Havana has been reduced from 100 to 25.

When the sanitary commission was first organized, it was a mere name.

The work was performed so thoroughly as a system and perseverance could accomplish it.

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