

**SCRANTON TRIBUNE**  
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General Manager.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY IN SCRANTON, PA., BY THE TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

NEW YORK OFFICE: TRIBUNE BUILDING,  
FRANK S. GRAY, MANAGER.

Entered at the Postoffice at Scranton, Pa., as  
Second-Class Mail Matter.

**THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE**

SCRANTON, MARCH 20, 1894.

THE PRESENT sickly red postage stamp costs Uncle Sam seven and one-half cents per thousand, gum included. It is an emphatic pity he doesn't make it an even dime and secure a quality of paper that will occasionally tear along the lines of perforation.

TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

On this, the ninetieth birthday of General Neal Dow, the primitive father of the temperance movement in America, it will be customary, no doubt, to supplement the personal celebration in which the venerable reformer will participate in Portland, Me., with reminiscent glances at the progress of the general battle against the strong drink. That in spite of many eccentricities, much false leadership and the hindering championship of unreasoning fanatics, the belief in temperance has gained large hold admits of no denial. Nor can we longer say that "temperance," in the sense in which it is generally used, means intemperance in that it compels total abstinence instead of moderate and prudent indulgence to which the adjective properly has referred.

The truth is everywhere apparent that the temperance movement, considered as an integer, has broadened and liberalized. It no longer verges on the borderland of personal buttonholing and proselytizing.

It is no longer attended by excessive noise and mental hysteria.

Instead of depending for its strength upon the stern coxcomb exhortation of the zealots and enthusiasts, it includes within its intellectual arsenal the chief forces of secular education and religious culture, the wide-spread fact that sobriety is one of the first requisites of success in business and the developed sentiment that intoxication is a mark of disgrace and not, as formerly, a token of personal distinction.

When employers raise the issue of temperance as a pre-requisite to employment; when science shows the excessive use of alcohol what a wreck he really makes of himself and what a peril entails on posterity; and when possibly, above all this, society begins to shun the inebriate and even smile upon the abstainer, it is time to conclude that the movement with which Maine's venerable nonconformist reformer is so intimately identified is rapidly nearing the haven of success.

The greatest mistake has been the common one of proceeding upon the supposition that, in these matters of personal option, laws can do for obstreperous or unfortunate individuals what the individuals refuse to do for themselves.

There has been rather too much of the notion that it did not much matter how the individuals stood, provided only that the laws were sufficiently tense. Thus we have witnessed many efforts to enforce prohibition long before the sentiment of a fair majority of individual citizens had come to a settled conclusion in favor of legal prohibition; and thus has there been encountered inevitable failure and disengagement, due rather to premature pushing than to any fundamental aversion for honest temperance reform.

But no great movement is free from errors. That which is reviewed today is a great and grand one, in spite of its passing faults.

IN CRIME IS CONTAGIOUS.

The evil influence of a bad example is frequently shown in current annals. Thus since the publicity given to the Stroudsburg lynching we have had one local illustration of attempted similar lawlessness, and several distant ones. The finding at Plains, Saturday, of the body of a man who had been shot by unknown assassins appears to have corresponding effect in stimulating imitative crimes; and the next day, within a radius of six miles, occurred one successful murder and a shooting and stabbing affray in which two persons are reported to have received fatal injuries.

While it cannot be scientifically demonstrated that the suggestion of these later crimes was imported by publication of the details of the former ones, there remains no moral doubt of the fact that crimes are contagious; and that the seed of lawlessness, planted in one place, brings forth harvests of criminal impulse covering wide-spread areas. Thus an additional weight of responsibility is laid upon the shoulders of those officials who, by their indifference or insufficiency, give opportunity for the original crimes to be gloriously and conspicuously committed.

We should like to believe, in this direction, that the brutal prize fight said to have occurred Saturday near Wyoming borough had no connection with the prize fight once conducted putatively, without interruption, in the immediate vicinity of Senator Garman's home in Nanticoke; or with the later encounter in a Wilkes-Barre gymnasium, at which policemen were accessories, both before and after the fact. But probability is strongly in favor of a close bond of relationship. We do not cite these Luzerne instances in any Philistine spirit, to inspire the inference that Lackawanna has less occasion to promote law enforcement. They are cited merely because the news record of two days ago is them notably prominent.

It is a bad investment for any community to shut its eyes to familiar lawlessness.

IT HAS occasionally been the fashion in politics to be dishonest. Suppose we now try to make it fashionable to be honest.

JONES—*What are your qualifications as a curio?*

APPLICANT—I never said that I could successfully conduct a newspaper; have never advanced an opinion on the currency question, and—

M. Manager—Enough! You are engaged. Name your salary.

TEACHER—*What goes the word celibacy mean?*

CASS—*The state or condition of being single?*

TEACHER—Correct. Now, if you wanted to express the opposite of celibacy or singleness what would you use?

BRIGHT PUPIL—*Pleasure.*—*Chicago Tribune.*

IT IS a strong newspaper opposition, "Jack" Robinson has captured the four Blair county Republican delegates away from Walter Lyon, after one of the hottest contests on record. The article of war put up by this Dallastown aspirant is beginning to make the best of spectators open their eyes in surprise. Allegheny county's favorite son is recommended to look carefully to his fences, for with Robinson pursuing his present pace they will soon fall inside the danger line.

NOW THAT Burke and Craig are both tethered at the same crib, let us have peace.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

In an instructive address delivered last Friday evening before the American Academy of Political and Social Science, in Philadelphia, Editor E. L. Godkin, of the New York Evening Post, outlined his ideas of the municipal problem that, in greater or less degree, confronts all American cities; that is, the problem of transferring the control of city government from men who are often, as a class, illiterate, dishonest and careless to men who can bring to its discharge personal probity, comprehensive intelligence, and the prestige of individual business success.

Mr. Godkin, to be sure, presented no new thoughts, nor did he give so much time to outlining practical remedies as he gave to painting in dark colors the difficulties already familiar. Yet some thoughts of his are of present interest, and will continue to occupy a growing share of public attention until the abuses in question shall have been in some manner overcome.

Mr. Godkin discerns propulsive signs of coming deliverance from the condition of acquiescent apathy in which the majority of intelligent and self-respecting taxpayers at one period consented to be systematically plundered by the Tweed and Crokers and Murphys of American politics. To be sure, it is still spasmodic and uncertain. We rely, somewhat too implicitly in the ability of the so-called better element

to turn, like the trodden worm, and rend its despoilers. Popular uprisings may be effective for the moment, but they are, as Mr. Godkin says, very apt to be followed by dangerous periods of reaction, or apathy, during which the old evils resume their sway. What is needed, and what the speaker thought would eventually arrive is a state of public feeling, "which the mere appearance of an abuse will at once bring into action to correct it, at the only time when the destruction of an abuse is easy, the time when it first makes its appearance."

In Mr. Godkin's mind this state of public feeling is intimately associated with the discomfiture of municipal elections from partisan politics. He does not believe that there is any American city in which the good people, by which term he means the sober, intelligent and industrious people, people who desire pure elections and the honest administration of the laws, are not in a majority. Good government, therefore, is within their easy reach. They have only to stretch out their hands for it, in Mr. Godkin's opinion, to have it. Why, then, do they not have it? Simply because they never, or rarely, vote together. They regularly split in city affairs and the dangerous classes, the enemies of social order, as regularly do not split." Combining the good against the idle, the vicious and the lawless classes, mass the united strength of character and conscience against what Mr. Cleveland once called the "cohesive power of public plunder," and you will have the battle won.

There is room for thought in this suggestion. It may not be new, but who dare say it is not true?

GOVERNOR WAITE'S course is rapidly dissipating some western Democrats with the other party to Democracy's recent fusion. This is the breezy way in which the Minneapolis Times touches the subject:

ADMIRAL MELVILLE is probably congratulating himself that he had the good judgment to turn the flush over to Da Gama.

KNOW WHEN TO QUIT.

ADMIRAL MELVILLE is probably congratulating himself that he had the good judgment to turn the flush over to Da Gama.

CAN NOW BREATHES EASY.

ADMIRAL MELVILLE is probably congratulating himself that he had the good judgment to turn the flush over to Da Gama.

WAR ON SCROFOLI, and every form of impure blood is boldly declared by Hood's Saraparilla, the great conqueror of all blood diseases.

SEE WHAT . . . .

\$2.00

Will buy in the  
way of a . . . .

• • • HAT . . . .

AT  
CONRAD'S

A SPECIAL EXCURSION

TO—

WASHINGTON, D.C.

VIA CENTRAL R.R. OF N.J.

WILL BE RUN ON

Thursday, March 22, '94

Affording the residents of Scranton and visitors to the city a full day's excursion and sightseeing at the most delightful season of the year.

Special excursion tickets from Scranton will be sold, good to go only on trains leaving Scranton at 8.10 A.M. March 22, and for return on any train with arrival at Scranton at 4.15 P.M.

PRICE, EACH WAY, \$7.81

Through parlor cars will be attached to this train, at which seats may be had at a charge of \$1.50 each.

AT THE  
Pie Counter.

Were I the virus doctor, great,  
When fires of small-pox smolder  
All symptoms I'd investigate.  
And pretty girls I'd vaccinate—

Of course upon the shoulder.

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MUSEUM MANAGER—*What are your qualifications as a curiosity?*

APPLICANT—I never said that I could successfully conduct a newspaper; have never advanced an opinion on the currency question, and—

M. Manager—Enough! You are engaged. Name your salary.

TEACHER—*What goes the word celibacy mean?*

CASS—*The state or condition of being single?*

TEACHER—Correct. Now, if you wanted to express the opposite of celibacy or singleness what would you use?

BRIGHT PUPIL—*Pleasure.*—*Chicago Tribune.*

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