

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, DECEMBER 13, 1894.

THE SCRANTON OF TODAY.

Come and inspect our city. Elevation above the tide, 740 feet. Extremely healthy. Estimated population, 1891, 103,000. Registered voters, 23,500. Value of school property, \$750,000. Number of school children, 12,900. Average amount of bank deposits, \$10,000,000. It's the metropolis of northeastern Pennsylvania. Can produce electric power cheaper than Niagara. No better point in the United States at which to establish new industries. See how we grow: Population in 1800, 9,223. Population in 1810, 25,069. Population in 1820, 43,539. Population in 1830, 75,215. Population in 1840 (estimated), 103,000. And the end is not yet.

By the way, the Christmas Tribune will be a number of unusual interest this year. In the language of the promoters of the greatest on earth, "wait for it."

Be Reasonable About the Viaduct.

The action of the West Side board of trade in censuring Mayor Connell for his vetoing of the viaduct ordinance would have carried greater weight had it contained an intelligible and convincing explanation of how he could consistently have done otherwise in view of the present condition of the city's finances.

Does the West Side board of trade know that unsatisfied judgments for damages now pending against the city amount already to \$22,600, without taking into account the more than 400 cases not yet passed upon? If the report of the viewers in a recent case awarding grade damages of \$400 to a property owner whose lot cost only \$400 in the first place and is now held for sale at \$800 be a fair indication of the kind of findings to be expected in these 400 unadjudicated claims, the city may consider itself very fortunate if it shall get clear of these suits inside an expense of \$50,000. To open the door to unknown additional expenditures, at such a time, by the enactment of any public improvement ordinance which failed to carry with it some estimate of the probable damages would be a course so obviously reckless as to call for even sharper censure than is now administered to the mayor because of his viaduct veto.

The present effort in certain quarters to turn this veto into a political weapon will not only be inexpedient, but it will, we doubt not, have the express disapproval of many residents of the West Side who would otherwise be heartily in sympathy with a viaduct movement conducted along prudent and conservative lines. No one objects to an expression of the people on this viaduct question. It is to be desired. But if such an expression shall be solicited coupled with the condition that the city blindly commit itself to items of expense, of the aggregate of which it can form no definite conjecture, we should hesitate to predict the affirmative decision which the West Side board of trade so earnestly desires.

Exchanges think that there is yet hope for Lilloukiani, as the black and tan queen has thus far refrained from attempts at writing magazine poetry.

Bring Order Out of Chaos.

The pleasant announcement is made, presumably by authority, that Luzerne's new district attorney, D. A. Fell, will choose as his chief lieutenant Attorney H. A. Fuller, of Wilkes-Barre. Such a selection will be most welcome to the people, who will naturally expect from a gentleman of Mr. Fuller's strong gifts and thorough equipment very material improvement in the quality of work that in late years has exhibited itself in the Luzerne district attorney's office. We except from this latter remark the service of P. A. O'Boyle, of West Pittston, a gentleman who emerges from the office of assistant district attorney with the satisfactory reflection that under disadvantageous circumstances he has done excellent work.

Mr. Fuller is no novice in this position, having had nine years' experience, during the greater part of which the district attorneyship maintained a standard for vigilance and efficiency since often lacking. That he will, under the advantageous present condition attending his induction to office, surpass his past efforts is a conceded probability. Mr. Fuller has the ability, the eloquence and the energy to work out decided betterment in the prosecutor's department of the Luzerne courts. The field awaits him—a field stained with many crimes which justice has never overtaken—and his many friends will hope to see him resolutely supplement the efforts of Mr. Fell to cleanse this field and bring order out of partial chaos in the commonwealth's side of what has too often been mal-administered justice in Luzerne county.

The opportunity is a brilliant one; and we suspect that Mr. Fuller is the man to prove equal to it.

The city fathers have decided to disagree on the interpretation to be given the language of a resolution bearing on the awarding of contracts for the Linden Street and South Side bridges. There has been quite enough of delay already in arranging the preliminaries for the erection of these bridges and the public

is not in the humor to stand further nonsense on the subject. The man with an axe to grind had better be a little careful about the way in which he attempts to clog the wheels of progress. There are already quite enough of people in this country who suffer from red nosed regret because in a rash moment they toyed with a buzz saw.

Professor Wilson's friends declare him the coming Democratic candidate for president in 1896. There is probably no one known in the Democracy who would be more acceptable to Republicans than Sir William Wilson. He would be snowed under at a depth that would make excellent sleighing all winter.

Statistics of Foreign Parentage.

The recently issued extra census bulletin showing the number of persons in this country who are of foreign parentage supplies useful information. Prior to the census of 1870, no effort was made to ascertain the respective percentages of native and foreign-born residents. In that enumeration it was discovered that the whole number of persons of foreign parentage here was 10,822,015, constituting 23.25 per cent. of the total population at that time. The number of persons in this country then who had been born in other lands was 5,567,229. Additional facts of interest gleaned from this bulletin follows: In 1880, out of a population of 50,155,783, there were 14,922,744, or 29.75 per cent. who had either one or both parents born in foreign countries. The number of foreign-born persons of foreign parentage was approximately 6,646,691. In 1890 the total population was 62,622,250. The number of foreign white persons of foreign parentage was 9,015,968. The total number of persons of foreign parentage, without regard to color, was 20,676,046, or 33.02 per cent. In the North Atlantic states in 1890, the number of white persons of foreign parentage constituted 47.19 per cent. of the population. In the North Central states 25.08 per cent. of the total population consisted of white persons of foreign parentage. In the Western states the same class constituted 45.27 per cent. of the total population. In the South Atlantic and South Central states, with the exception of Florida, there was an excess of native white persons of foreign birth as compared with the number of foreign white persons of foreign parentage.

In New York city and in Chicago practically four-fifths of the total population in 1890 were of foreign parentage, the exact percentages being 80.46 for New York and 77.90 for Chicago. Of the other cities having a population of 400,000 or more, the percentages were 55.53 for Philadelphia, 71.94 for Brooklyn, 67.46 for St. Louis, 67.90 for Boston, and 41.67 for Baltimore. Of all the cities considered, the largest percentage was found in Milwaukee, Wis., where 88.36 per cent. of its population in 1890 was of foreign parentage. The next largest percentages were found in Holyoke and Fall River, in Massachusetts, where 82.98 per cent. and 82.71 per cent., respectively, were of foreign parentage. Lawrence, in the same state, had also 78.83 per cent. of foreign parentage. Hoboken, in New Jersey, had 81.46 per cent. of its population of foreign parentage, and Long Island city, in New York, 80.62 per cent., or practically the same as for New York city. Other cities which had at least 75 per cent. of their population of foreign parentage in 1890 were San Francisco, in California, with 78.15 per cent.; Detroit and Bay City, in Michigan, with 77.17 per cent. and 76.20 per cent., respectively; Buffalo, in New York, with 77.11 per cent.; Scranton with 75.23 per cent.; Duluth and St. Paul, in Minnesota, with 75.21 per cent. and 75.14 per cent., respectively; and Cleveland, in Ohio, with 74.98 per cent.

The important fact in this connection is to properly train this second generation of newcomers so as to fit it for American citizenship. The fact, for example, that somewhat more than three-fourths of the entire population of Scranton are only one generation removed from necessarily different old-world conditions makes doubly urgent the upbuilding of a strong sentiment of patriotism, perhaps even more manifest and emphatic than would be requisite were our citizens long grounded in American traditions. The Tribune takes no stock in proscriptive orders or agencies that would excite sectarian strife. It appeals, without bias, to its readers, native born and naturalized, to co-operate in the strengthening of all honest and worthy patriotic influences which promise more effectually to put our friends of foreign parentage in unison with American conditions and institutions.

Ex-Speaker Grow's remarks upon the coinage seem to have aroused the usual smart, that has been re-echoed by the Democratic parasite press throughout the country. Many paragraphs of Democratic feel it their duty to growl at anything advocated by Mr. Grow on general principles, whether or not they realize what they are talking about.

In Literature.

In the attempt to gain fame as a composer Emperor William has brought untold trouble and vexation upon himself, and has become the target for the ridicule of critics across the waters. In some respects the customs in literary circles of the old country differ from those in this progressive land. At present in America the fields of literature are second only to the stage as localities where greatness may gambol unrestrained. Years ago an article which found its way into print usually was accepted upon the merits of the writer and its attractiveness as a work of literary standing. Today the foremost writers of the world can scarcely compete with the special work of notoriety and freakdom, while the unknown author has no chance whatever with the leading publications.

In order to claim attention from magazine publishers, music publishers or the managers of any concerns where high attainments are required one must first go to congress; engage in a prize fight; jump off a bridge; engage in some scandal that has unusually sensational features or distinguish himself in some other way. Then the works of literature become pleasant pathways. Opinions are accepted and re-written by hired office assistants and the freak author is well paid for his efforts. Emperor William should

try American markets with his literary and musical wares. There is always demand for the efforts of greatness and critics are usually lenient in cases where a writer's bread and butter is not depending upon the success of his works.

The fact that there is excellent sleighing in Wayne county no doubt accounts for the frost-bitten aspect of some of the congressional booms up that way.

The Diphtheria Cure.

In speaking of the new diphtheria cure, the Philadelphia Inquirer remarks that it is unfortunate that when some new medical discovery is heralded to the world the most extravagant claims are sometimes set up for it before satisfactory tests have been made of its curative or preventive powers. The result is that when it does not fulfill all the expectations that have been formed of it men are inclined to make light of the patient investigations of medical scientists and to look with suspicion upon the next thing which is declared to have a healing virtue.

The serum remedy for diphtheria, while a success as a cure, in ordinary cases, probably, cannot be relied upon as being infallible in every case and it is no doubt better for medical science and the suffering public that physicians are not too enthusiastic in relying upon its efficacy in battling with the dreaded disease. They are using the serum, and at the same time are investigating with it, watching its effects and drawing conclusions, although not expecting immediate evidence of its curative properties. Careful experiments show that it has been used with success, but the widely-scattered results have not yet been gathered together and made the authority for a law.

This is the proper attitude to be taken by the scientific and the medical world, and it is the one that will be productive of good results.

If the tree planting movement inaugurated by Arthur Frothingham progresses with proper spirit, court house square may become a delightful grove in a year or two. The tree planting enterprise stands out in marked contrast to the vandalism that has caused the destruction of many of Scranton's finest shade trees. By all means let the movement for shade in midsummer receive encouragement.

Secretary Carlisle's currency theories have called forth very little comment from the press of the country. There seems to be a general uncertainty as to just what the secretary is driving at.

There are no new developments in the congressional middle of the Fifteenth district. The various candidates are evidently gathering their energies for a new struggle.

The experience of the Shoe and Leather bank with Samuel Seely suggests the adoption of a cash register system in bank bookkeeping in New York.

It would doubtless surprise Mr. Peffer more than anyone else should some of his original measures be adopted by congress.

Hemp treatment is usually best for the kind of insanity that crops out in the defense at murder trials.

Fake stories are usually exclusive.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Christopher McGraw, of Beach Haven, Luzerne county, has been made special messenger in the government printing office at Washington, a 45-a-month job due to Billy Hines.

The Cumberland county bar will tender Judge Sadler a dinner Dec. 20, in compliment to the able manner in which he has for a decade presided over the courts of that county.

John T. Shoener, of Ashland, is the latest entry in the factory inspection fight. He has the indorsement of Senators Keeler and Coyle, Congressman-elect Brumba and County Chairman Payne, of Schuylkill county.

District Attorney Fell, of Luzerne county, in addition to Henry A. Fuller, the new assistant district attorney, will have Benjamin H. Jones as office assistant; and Isaac G. Eckert, of Forty Fort, as county detective.

Wilson M. Gearhart, of Montour county, chief clerk under Secretary Stone, is an aspirant for his old place. He is a relative of General Beaver, George Hutchison, of Huntington, is one of the candidates for deputy secretary of the commonwealth.

General Frank Reeder, who is to be appointed by Governor Hastings as secretary of the commonwealth, says that he has not selected any of his subordinates, and that the report that he would appoint his chief clerk from his own county of Northampton is incorrect.

The other evening Philadelphia's amiable Stylus club tendered a complimentary dinner to Colonel James H. Lambert, who will be the next insurance commissioner; and also presented to him a handsome gold pen as a little token of his worth as a journalist. Mayor Stuart and numerous city officials, as well as other men prominent in the political, business or journalism of the Quaker City were present.

FOR PAID FIREMEN.

Scranton is moving in the matter of substituting a paid fire department for her present volunteer system. The matter is already under consideration in the city council, and according to the Scranton papers the probability is that by the first of the coming year the change will be inaugurated. Scranton has sixteen engines, hose and hook and ladder companies. It is not proposed to wholly disband these, but to disperse with two or three of them, in sections of the city where there are more than are needed; to employ a sufficient number of men regularly to take care of the apparatus and be always on duty; and for the remainder of the force to adopt the "call" system—that is, a certain number of extra men to each company paid by the hour when called into actual service. Reading has a volunteer fire department, the equal of any in the world, and of which she is justly proud; but the rapid growth of the city plainly portends that before many years it must give way to the paid system, and it is the part of wisdom for both firemen and citizens to take thought upon the subject and prepare for the inevitable change.

A Growing City.

From the Binghamton Herald. There are few cities that grow so fast as Scranton. In 1860 she had 9,000 population and today, thirty-four years later, she claims over 100,000.

Was a Good Verdict.

Lackawanna county has at last redeemed itself, and lifted the opprobrium attached to it from the fact that it seemed impossible to obtain a verdict of murder in the first degree in homicide cases. Since the county was established more than a dozen men were put on trial for their lives, but the man known as "Beze" was the first to have the capital penalty

returned against him. The verdict seems a just one, in view of all the circumstances connected with the case. It meets general approval, and the jurors who sat in the case deserve credit for breaking a record that had become pernicious in this county, and no doubt was a great promoter of crime.

Kill the Income Tax.

From the Washington Post. It is undemocratic and un-American, it establishes a distinction not contemplated in the organic law or sanctioned by the spirit of our institutions. It creates two classes of citizens—one class that contributes directly to the support of the government, and another that does not. It represents the prejudice of the poor against the rich, and exemplifies the animosity of the shiftless toward the industrious and the provident. It is the first step of legislation on the road to anarchy and social chaos. The Democratic party is responsible for it, and the Democracy should make confession and do penance by unloading that responsibility without delay. Hon. Franklin Bartlett's bill to repeal the income tax is a good thing. Push it along!

Neither: They Read Home Literature.

From the Reading Herald. According to the statistics of the postal business of cities in Pennsylvania the Scranton postoffice does a business of \$8,000,000, while Reading uses the mails to the extent of \$7,000,000. Scranton claims a population of 100,000. Reckoning it out by the rule of three, if it takes 100,000 people to do \$8,000,000 worth of business in Scranton, to do \$7,000,000 worth of business in Reading would require a population of 82,500. Either Scranton must be making extravagant claims as to population or her people must be so illiterate that they make little use of the mails.

The Whereabouts of Blount.

From the New York Tribune. The present session of congress should not adjourn without making provision for some sort of an exploring expedition to discover what became of the Hon. Paramount Blount, late of Georgia and Hawaii. The last time that erratic adventurer was heard from he was floundering about in the jungles in one of the remote provinces of political obscurity.

Has a Deterrent Effect.

From the Anthracite. We do not arrive at that capital punishment will inhibit the high crime of murder, but it has a wholesome effect in checking it materially. The gallows, with its well known terrors and resultant anonymity, stays the hand of the murderer and makes him reflect on the consequences of the act.

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COME AND SEE US IN HOLIDAY ATTIRE

Special Holiday department, second floor--take elevator. Articles selected now laid away for customers until wanted. We will discontinue giving away Crayon Portraits after December 31st, 1894. So those who are entitled to them are advised to order them now.

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