

The Scranton Tribune

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

NOTED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

"Printers' Ink," the recognized journal for advertisers, rates THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE as the best advertising medium in Northeastern Pennsylvania. "Printers' Ink" knows.



THE SCRANTON OF TODAY.

Come and inspect our city. Elevation above the tide, 740 feet. Extremely healthy. Estimated population, 1891, 193,000. Registered voters, 23,280. Value of school property, \$750,000. Number of school children, 12,000. 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 1869, 9,223. Population in 1870, 25,000. Population in 1880, 45,850. Population in 1890, 75,215. Population in 1894 (estimated), 100,000. And the end is not yet.

Scranton is too big a city to be bound down to the standard of curbstone statesmanship represented in the present common council. It would be dollars in Scranton's pocket to get good, clean business men into this body.

The Christmas Tribune.

The impression which prevails in some places that this is a poor year for business does not receive corroboration from this issue of The Tribune, the twenty-four pages of which are laden with invitations to holiday merry-making and adorned with bright helps to the season's gaiety. We call attention to the general character of the business announcements represented in this imposing Christmas display, and proudly believe that in no recent issue of a morning newspaper in Northeastern Pennsylvania has such a distinguished number of high-class advertisers found equally conspicuous representation.

While the bargain-hunter and the bargain-provider naturally have precedence in this happy season of holiday gift-purchasing, it is not amiss to call our readers' attention also to the varied literary menu provided for their delectation in today's Tribune. The special articles in this number are not composed of boiler-plate material purchased in New York at ten-cent rates; each has been written or edited in this office; put in type by the expert manipulation of The Tribune's staff of linotype operators and illustrated by our own artists. When it is said that this extra labor has been performed simultaneously with the getting out daily of the best morning newspaper in Northeastern Pennsylvania, the regular issues of which have not been slighted, an ample commendation is pronounced upon the fidelity and industry of this journal's force of employees.

This past year, although one of business depression which this paper has felt in common with other enterprises, has been a year of steady progress for The Tribune. As it draws nigh to its end, it brings us constantly nearer to a correct realization of the indomitable energy, pluck and resources of this growing city of ours—resources which have carried it in safety across the panic and landed it securely upon ascending, solid ground. In wishing each and every reader and patron the compliments of the season, we beg to assure them of our determination to push on to yet greater achievements, keeping pace with the advancement of Pennsylvania's foremost city.

The grade crossing evil is none the less an evil for being very common in Lackawanna county.

Good men in councils would possibly have been a better investment at a period in the city's development before all the valuable franchises were given away; but good men are yet desirable in those bodies, and ought next spring to be put there.

An advertisement in The Tribune is read by a class of persons who are invariably attracted by enterprise and new ideas.

The East and Silver.

We commend to our readers' attention the article elsewhere in this paper entitled "Why the West Asks for Free Coinage." Without indorsing it unreservedly, we bespeak for it a fair perusal and invite comment upon it. This question is obviously of such growing interest and magnitude that to confine the discussion of it to what is generally regarded as the eastern side, which is to say the side of the gold monometallists, would be both unjust and inexpedient. The aggregate common sense of the American people, once fairly enlisted in the consideration of this currency problem, may be depended upon to reach a safe and wise conclusion. Therefore, we begin our part in this "campaign of education" by offering a free field to all who have opinions to present.

The views of Judge Goodwin in the article just alluded to contemplate, if we understand them, the throwing open of our mints to the silver of the entire world. We fall to perceive in his argument sufficient warrant for such an extreme step in international philanthropy. The primary duty of this government, it occurs to us, is to legislate for the best interests of Americans. Its obligations to mankind in general are subsidiary to its home obligations. We therefore believe it possible and practicable, notwithstanding the denials of the gold monometallists, to offer free coinage to American silver at

a fair ratio, provided a high tariff on foreign silver shall protect us from being swamped by it. This we understand to be the policy of the more liberal and progressive Republican leaders, notable among them being Thomas E. Reed. To this compromise policy we have no doubt the mass of eastern Republicans will ultimately yield their assent.

If the conservative western friends of silver will be satisfied with this proposition, well and good. If not, let them reflect a second time before entering, with incongruous Populistic allies, upon a sectional fight that offers small hope of ultimate success and large prospect of needless bitterness.

The best men in every ward are none too good to send to councils.

It takes a better grade of brains to govern a city properly than it does to govern a nation, because in city government the resources are fewer and the people more critical. Very singularly, though, people as a rule make twice the fuss over the election of one congressman than they do over the choice of ten councilmen. It is time this abnormal ratio were changed. If it is possible to change it.

An interested public is eager to hear from Superintendent Byrnes.

Robert Louis Stevenson.

Among judges of good literature, the death of Robert Louis Stevenson, in far Samoa, suddenly, by apoplexy, will produce a shock such as would be occasioned by the death of no other writer of English fiction. There are writers, although not many, who possess greater popularity than was possessed by the author of "Kidnapped," "David Balfour," and "The Master of Ballantrae." There are writers, this time many, who have managed to be more talked about. But there has been no English writer since the day of Scott who possessed more thoroughly the artistic spirit essential to historical romance, combined with the rare power of treating historical characters with real human interest. And there has been no other in any age possessed of a superior style or with ear more keenly attuned to the melody of his language. In this latter detail the name of Stevenson will take rank at the very head of English novelists; nor are we aware of many defects which would seriously jeopard his chance of primacy along other lines of comparison.

There is but one missing gift which we recognize as threatening his taking foremost rank among the masters of creative fiction. He lacked the saving resource of humor. Satire he unquestionably possessed—a polished, genteel kind of satire it was; illustrated at its best in the little sketch, "Prince Otto." He was also master of sarcasm, although it was a resource sparingly employed. But of humor, in the mellow and unctuous sense in which that word is associated, for example, with the writings of Fielding, with those of Smollet to a less degree and Dickens most of all, Stevenson had none. His characters, in the main, are stern and serious men, tinged with melancholy and not infrequently bordering upon the shadowy domain of monomania. Perhaps upon the whole he is closer to the imagination of people than to their hearts or fancy. He fascinates, where he does not induce sympathy nor obtain reverence.

We regard it as a just criticism of Robert Louis Stevenson that he signally failed to catch the true note of womanly character. The men in his stories are admirably hit off—some brave, some cowardly, some grand, some mean and pitiable. But the women—name one that reaches the plane of an immortal character! They are, for the most part, mere genteel creatures of lace and linen, introduced because women are a necessary part of life, and politely escorted off the stage at the earliest convenient opportunity. Possibly had our author possessed a better fund of humor, this failing would not have been so noticeable. As it is, it is his most serious bar to first place in English fiction—a place which he would occupy without question of his title were all his powers as well developed as are his gifts of describing somber, romantic and terrible scenes, in language vivid with the fires of his consummate genius.

The only "pull" which should land a man in councils is the "pull" of honest fitness and honest popularity. Unluckily, such pulls are scarce.

The mayor of a third-class Pennsylvania city, however good, is largely at the mercy of councils. When one of the branches of councils is made up, either in whole or in part, of venal or ignorant members ready at any time to sell or trade their votes, what can a mayor do? If the taxpayers of the representative wards of this city should elect as good men to common council as they elect to manage their individual business enterprises, there would be decidedly less cause for complaint at the way Scranton is governed. Cleanse common council.

We know, you know and they all know that common council needs cleansing. Why, then, not cleanse it?

Judge Gunster and Grade Crossings.

The ruling of Judge Gunster in the injunction proceedings of the Delaware and Hudson Canal company against the Scranton and Pittston Traction company denying the defendant company the right to cross the former's tracks at grade because of the danger of such grade crossing to the public establishes a valuable precedent in the county. The court's condemnation of grade crossings as inimical to the public welfare is really simply an expression of widespread popular opinion. When it says further that overhead crossings, while costly, are thoroughly practical, it expresses a familiar fact, which carrier corporations should more generally be made to recognize it.

A grade crossing, once authorized, means, generally speaking, a grade crossing permanently. If a grade crossing is dangerous, the proper time to guard against it very obviously is before it is built. While the decision in this particular case will in all probability interrupt for some months the progress of the electrical transit railroads that seek to connect Forest City upon one extreme with Nanticoke on the other, it is much more important to the general public that this connection should be made properly and safely

than that it should be made without delay. There is already a disposition among newly born trolley corporations to claim the same sweeping monopoly of public privileges once coolly assumed by the steam railroads. The people, in their innocence, sat quiet under the audacity of the steam railroads; but having learned, upon that occasion, the value of self-confidence there is reason to believe they will be more earnestly in evidence while the trolley companies are spider-webbing the country with their interlacing wires and rails.

We regard Judge Gunster's decision as a very timely expression of courageous common sense. It is unfortunate that other trolley companies prior to this have established grade crossings in this county. Where such crossings could be avoided short of the impossible they should have been supplanted with overhead structures, voluntarily if possible, but compulsorily if necessary. The fact, however, that upon other occasions other judges have been less outspoken in this particular direction is no reason why Judge Gunster should shrink in law we do not assume to say. In all probability an appeal to the supreme court will be necessary for a determination of that point. But the finding of the local court is certainly orthodox common sense, which in the judgment of laymen is even more important, upon the whole, than is technical soundness.

Scranton, it is true, is not the only American city which permits some men to make laws for it whom no citizen would employ in an equally responsible private relationship. But this is no reason why Scranton should continue to make a victim of itself.

The New York Sun struggles bravely to defend Tammanyism and sneer at the Lexow findings. But not even this able paper's unequalled mental equipment can stay for an instant the popular uprising against Gotham's official ravisers.

From present appearances people hereabouts will be obliged to content themselves by reading poems on the beautiful snow on Christmas.

SOME XMAS NUMBERS.

The Scranton Republican last Saturday issued a 24-page Christmas edition, including a fine lithographic cover. The number contained many interesting special articles and was a creditable Scranton production. After it was printed, J. A. Scranton & Son, the publishers, tendered a banquet to the Republican employees and a pleasant occasion was pleasantly commemorated.

There are two newspapers on The Tribune's exchange list which are having a merry rivalry—the Buffalo Express and the Rochester Post-Express. Both are invariably so bright, so witty and so good that it is a difficult matter to award the preference; and this difficulty is increased by the magnificent illustrated Christmas numbers that the two journals have issued—the former comprising twenty-eight pages, sixteen of which are of calendar paper, beautifully illustrated with half-tone engravings; and the latter thirty-six pages, with a handsome illuminated cover. Without dwelling upon them, we congratulate the readers of both papers upon the splendid bargains they get, not only on special occasions, but also every day of the year.

Our esteemed Albany contemporary, the Times-Union, last Saturday issued a 24-page special number, replete with bright miscellany and containing interesting advertisements. The Times-Union is a wholesome, trustworthy and readable newspaper every secular day in the year.

The Sunday Free Press this week greeted its readers with sixteen well-edited pages, many of which were devoted to holiday advertising. Truly speaking, the Free Press is a clean, able and enterprising Sunday journal, reflecting most creditably upon the uniform skill and judgment of its editorial manager, E. J. Lynett. We wish it unbounded success.

The Hazleton Sentinel several years ago set for itself a metropolitan pace, under the control of J. M. McCarthy; and now it confirms this characteristic by printing a 24-page holiday annual. The Sentinel is fearless, aggressive and untrammeled. May its interesting shadow continue to expand!

One week ago Sunday the Milwaukee Sentinel was 50 years old. It commemorated the occasion by issuing a 24-page paper containing an elaborate history of its successive managements. Every eastern reader of newspapers knows that the Sentinel is one of the representative daily journals of the northwest; its growth, its influence and prosperity is, therefore, a subject of general congratulation.

That veteran journalist, E. A. Niven, of Wilkes-Barre, announces the appearance next Thursday of a Christmas annual, entitled the Cricket. Prominent members of the Luzerne bar have contributed signed articles, and the publisher's contents gives assurance of a lively chirping on the Cricket's part.

The Lancaster New Era is one of the few journals in Pennsylvania which will not accept a cut in its advertising department nor shade a card rate in behalf of a foreign advertiser. The result is that the merchants of Lancaster swear by the New Era and frequently enable it to print 16-page special numbers like that of last Saturday, which bubble over with good reading and attractive business announcements. The New Era has won its way to fame and fortune by keeping faith with every patron.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Eckley D. Cox is reported to have withdrawn his opposition to Haale county.

Major Everest Warren, of this city, denies the Harrisburg dispatch which said he had been appointed a member of Governor Hastings' staff.

Richard W. Hayward, of Philadelphia, night watchman at the state arsenal, received a letter last week from Governor-elect Hastings assuring him that he would be retained under the next administration. It is understood that Governor-elect Hastings will not appoint a successor to Recorder of Deeds Curley, of Philadelphia, until after the February election. Then the Democrats will dispute the legality of the appointment and carry the case to the supreme court for final settlement.

With Coroner Sam Ashbridge out of the Philadelphia mayoralty contest, Senator Furness has a clear field for the Republican nomination. Inasmuch as a nomination on the Republican ticket is equivalent to an election, it is not premature to proffer congratulations to Mayor Sturges' brilliant success.

According to the Patriot, Governor-elect Hastings is overrun with applications for positions on his staff. The only selection he has thus far made are those of Col. Fred W. Reynolds, of Bellefonte, an aide on the staff of Governor Pattison; Colonel James L. Spangler, of Bellefonte, a leading Democrat in that section and a member of the staff of Governor Beaver; and Henry Hall, the popular and versatile correspondent of the Pittsburgh Times.

carried out that one of the first of the boards to be abolished is the state board of agriculture, and another is the state board of charities and committee on lunacy.

Republicans hereabouts view with favor the effort of Pittsburgh to secure the next national republican convention. There is obvious geographical justice in Pennsylvania's expectation of recognition in that convention, and Pittsburgh is well located for the adequate reception and entertainment of delegates. By all means let the convention meet in Pittsburgh.

According to Editor George W. Turner, of the New York Recorder, who has been visiting ex-President Harrison at his Indianapolis home: "Nothing is more repugnant to Mr. Harrison than a third nomination, and he would much prefer to remain at his home here in Indianapolis and practice law. He needs no vindication, for the last years have abundantly vindicated him and his policy, and for him to undergo the trying ordeal of a presidential campaign with its subsequent turmoil and trouble would be a severe hardship." General Harrison's earnest wishes in this matter will in all probability be respected.

Quaker Oats advertisement featuring an image of a Quaker man and the text: 'What a queer World this would be if Quaker Oats were buried at the bottom of the sea! Millions of ruined breakfasts! Sold only in 1 lb. Packages.'

Christmas Presents . . .

Useful and Ornamental goods for the holiday trade.

- LADIES' DESKS, CABINETS, BOOKCASES, LADIES' DRESSING TABLES, TEA TABLES AND LIBRARY TABLES, BRASS AND ONYX TABLES AND CABINETS (OF A GUARANTEED QUALITY), AN ELEGANT STOCK OF PICTURES AT MODERATE COST, FANCY BASKETS AND LAMPS, CALL EARLY AND MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS WHILE OUR ASSORTMENT IS COMPLETE.

Hill & Connell, 131 AND 133 WASHINGTON AVE.

DINNER SETS

We are now showing the largest line of Dinner Sets ever displayed in this city. A splendid variety in

HAVILAND & CO., CHAS. FIELD HAVILAND, R. DELENINERES & CO., FRENCH CHINA, CARLSBAD AND AMERICAN CHINA, PORCELAIN AND WHITE GRANITE WARE.

If you want a Dinner Set examine our stock before buying. Coursen, Clemons & Co.

DR. HILL & SON ALBANY DENTISTS.

EUREKA LAUNDRY, 322 Washington Ave.

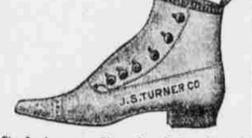
THAT WONDERFUL WEBER TONE IS FOUND ONLY IN THE WEBER PIANO GUERNSEY BROTHERS, WYOMING AVE.

GOLDSMITH'S BAZAAR. WE HAVE Taken the Town

By storm with our magnificent display of Holiday Goods, and with the extremely low prices we are selling them at. If you are wise you will do your Holiday shopping now, and you will do it right here. Useful Holiday presents of all kinds, Umbrellas, Neckwear, Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Smoking Jackets, Jewelry, Leather Goods, Celluloid Goods, Silverware, Toys, Games, Books, Booklets, Pictures, Rockers, Cushions, Lambrequins, Linen Sets, Rugs, Curtains, Carpet Sweepers.

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.

STOCKTAKING SALE



The Lackawanna Store Association, Limited.

We will sell for the next thirty days, previous to our inventory, Edwin C. Burt & Co's FINE SHOES FOR LADIES, at a reduction of 10 per cent. from regular prices. Every lady in Scranton and vicinity should avail themselves of this opportunity to purchase these celebrated shoes at the prices usually paid for ordinary goods. We have several other bargains to offer. See our new novelties in FOOTWEAR FOR THE HOLIDAYS. We have original styles and designs. A full line of Leggings and Overgaiters. Our stock of the J. S. TURNER CO.'S HIGH GRADE SHOES for gentlemen is complete. You will be pleased with our goods in all departments, having a fine line of Groceries, Hardware, Dry Goods, Gent's Furnishings, Etc.

ELEGANT LINE OF Holiday Goods

Comprising Dressing Cases, Jewel Cases, Glove Boxes, Cigar Boxes, Sterling Silver-Mounted Card Cases and Pocket Books, Bill Books, Photograph Albums, Photograph Frames, Prayer Books, Family Bibles, Oxford Bibles.

The Most Elegant Line of Ink Stands Ever Shown in the City.

REYNOLDS BROS., Stationers and Engravers, 317 LACKAWANNA AVE.

DR. HILL & SON ALBANY DENTISTS.

Set teeth, \$5.50; best set, \$8; for gold caps and teeth without plates, culicid-crown and bridge work, call for prices and references. TONALGIA, for extracting teeth without pain. No other. No gas.

OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK.



BIG CUT IN HOLIDAY - SLIPPERS

AT THE FACTORY SHOE STORE, 411 Lackawanna Avenue.

IMMENSE STOCK OF BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS

A dollar saved is a dollar made, and you can certainly save a dollar in purchasing your holiday footwear from us. Our Men's department is complete, from a French calf patent leather and English enamel to a 5c. shifting shoe.

NOTE THIS: Men's Fine Calf Welt Shoes, former price \$1; this month \$1. 1 lot Men's Calf Welt Shoes, full value at \$2; December price, \$2.25. CORK SOLES, \$2.25. Yes, you generally pay more for them. Come and see them.

FACTORY SHOE STORE, 411 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

SCIENTIFIC EYE TESTING FREE BY DR. SHIMBURG

Specialist on the Eye, Headaches and Nervousness relieved. Latest and Improved Style of Eye-glasses and Spectacles at the Lowest Prices. Best Artificial Eyes inserted for \$5.

HORSE SHOEING. HAVING purchased the Shoeing Forge of William Bluzza & Son, I shall now give constant attention to shoeing horses in a practical and scientific manner. Quick work and good is the motto. JOHN HAMLIN, DOCTOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY.