

The Scranton Tribune

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



SCRANTON, JANUARY 19, 1895.

THE SCRANTON OF TODAY.

Come and inspect our city. Elevation above the tide, 740 feet. Extremely healthy. Estimated population, 1894, 168,000. Registered voters, 25,000. Value of school property, \$700,000. Number of school children, 12,000. Average amount of bank deposits, \$10,000,000. It is 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, 5,233. Population in 1820, 25,000. Population in 1840, 45,520. Population in 1860, 75,215. Population in 1880 (estimated), 126,000. And the end is not yet.

IN THE CHOOSING OF CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL, BRAINS SHOULD TRUMPH OVER BLOODS AND PERSONAL MERIT OVER "TULLS."

The True Tests of Fitness.

The sincere friend of good local government, the man who believes that public money should be expended and the public business transacted with the same care, the same discretion and the same attention to business principles that characterize the management of a successful private business, may give, in a number of wards in this city, a very practical expression to this theory by voting at the caucus in his ward for upright and capable candidates for common or select council, or both. This applies to Democrats and Republicans alike. The machinery of a party is only dangerous when manipulated for the purposes of unselfish and disreputable men. The citizen who is a Republican or a Democrat on national issues would have no reason to reject a Republican or a Democratic caucus nominee in local contests provided that nominee were a proper and a representative man; and such men can be nominated in either party whenever the individual members of that party assume their duties and assert their rights.

The Gospel of Gloom.

We wonder what influences the Wilkes-Barre Leader to instillate facts as it does in the following assertion: "The theory of the compulsory education scheme is that we shall have no more ignorant voting, no more tendency to anarchism in cities, when all the boys are required to go to school, or sent to prison if they won't go." The Leader is too well educated not to know that perfection is not claimed for any system dealing with fallible men and women. Is the Leader ignorant of the fact that the word "prison" doesn't once appear in either of the compulsory education bills now before the legislature at Harrisburg; or is it using that distasteful word deliberately and demagogically, in order to incite unfounded opposition to those bills? We have noted, with some interest, the semi-socialist trend of editorial opinion lately assumed by our contemporary, not only with reference to this question, but in relation to most of the political and social issues of the hour. We gather from it that society is greatly menaced these days by the growing dominance of aggregated wealth, reaching hold of power through the ignorance or the indifference of voters. We trust that we do no violence to our contemporary when we say that its attitude on this point is not far dissimilar to that of General Edward S. Bruce, the famous Wisconsin Democrat lately rebuffed from public life, who has just contributed the following sentiments to a Milwaukee exchange: "Corruption is an incident to a pure democracy. The ignorant voter is every part more readily and thoroughly than it does any other form of government. It has destroyed all the republics that have preceded ours, and bids fair to do its work here. Reform may be made in name, but they will prove the driving off of our swarm to make room for another. Bribe corruption may be checked like houses of cards, but the cancer sore is not cured and only scattered, and the evil continues, being an incident to the passions of the race. Contrast that statement with the following from the Leader, and to our mind the underlying thought is largely identical in both: "Illiterate voting is not necessarily ignorant voting, and it certainly not all there is of ignorant voting. Compulsory education might put an end to illiteracy, but would not put an end to or appreciably lessen either ignorance, socialism or anarchy. The ignorant voter that is most to be feared is that which is blindly and bigotedly partisan, and that which puts money unaccompanied by brains, or money and brains unaccompanied by honesty and deference to popular rights, in high places. To get rid of this, the sort of education, compulsory or otherwise, that is needed, is the sort that will reach those who have long since learned to read and write, but have not yet learned to do so to good purpose. If, therefore, education does no good, and Republican government at heart is merely an impossible dream—for such seem to us to be the logical conclusions of the aforesaid premises—what does our Luzerne contemporary offer as a substitute? Would it seriously advocate the keeping of boys and girls out of school, in order that they may escape the dangers of education? Or would it not rather redouble those enterprises which have for their twofold purpose improving the schools and insuring general attendance at them? We believe that the latter course is the one to pursue. We do not yet accept the conclusion that popular education is not a remedy for ignorance; and that

doubt not, will be that of the Republicans of Philadelphia.

We do not believe that it is the province of the public schools to make specialists out of their graduates at public expense. The public schools were established for the rightful purpose of educating the common people in the elementary branches. Every new faculty loaded upon this primary and fundamental mission is loaded on at the expense of the many for the benefit of the few. There is no more reason why the public should be taxed to make some boys wood painters, wood carvers, chemists or plumbers than to make others doctors, lawyers, preachers or teachers. The great American people, in its happy faculty for fall following, has leaped far beyond this fundamental and eminently sensible basis; but the basis is the true basis, nevertheless; and the faddists are grandly wrong.

SCRANTON HAS NEED OF THE BEST MEN AT THE FRONT. WHY NOT PUT THEM THERE?

Good Men for Councils.

The municipality of Scranton does an annual cash business exceeding \$350,000. This amount of money is received and expended each year in the government of our city. Eleven men in each branch of council, or twenty-two men in both, control this business. They are the agents of the people in transacting this volume of expenditure. Upon each man rests a responsibility which, if it could be expressed in figures at all, would certainly equal \$15,000 every year.

The question for each voter to ask, in the choice of councilmen, is whether the man for whom he is asked to vote may be trusted to handle \$15,000 or not, without any other bond for good behavior than is embodied in his indorsement by the people. Are there men in council today whom a wise merchant would not trust to handle the expenditure of so much money? If so, clean them out. They are not safer in a public position than they would be in a private one.

The selection of honest and capable men for councils is the supreme duty of the hour.

The suggestion of the mayor that councilmen entrust to the street commissioner's department a bulk sum for street repairs, to be expended under the commissioner's direction, is in accord with business principles. If the street commissioner of Scranton knows his business, he ought to be a better judge of how the streets should be repaired and at what cost than the two councilmen from each ward. If he does not know his business, a change in officials would be in order. Common sense is with the mayor on this question, although we hardly expect it to influence favorable action on the part of councils.

Legislative Topics.

Ex-Congressman Amerman's Bill.

Harrisburg special to the Philadelphia Bulletin: "The bill of Ex-Congressman Amerman, of Lackawanna, requiring that one verdict in election contests be returned by the parties on Wednesday received a favorable report from a committee of the senate. This is a measure of more than usual importance, and its passage is urgently needed. The act of 1877 provides that two verdicts in election in favor of the plaintiff or the defendant are requisite to finally deliver the right of possession to real estate. It may, therefore, require three verdicts to settle what should be settled by one. If the plaintiff recovers in the first case and the defendant in the second case, it will require a third trial to determine which is the right of possession. This is an anomaly in the law, for in no other action or class of cases is this the rule. It is certainly singular that the right of a dollar's worth of real estate there should be two, possibly three, trials, while to determine a man's life or liberty one trial suffices. It arose from the fact that the action of ejectment was founded on a fiction and regulated altogether by the courts of common law. The remedy was frequently used by a child and a creation of the court. Thus, A, who held the title to the land and desired to secure the possession, under the old practice, went into the court and sued B, to whom he made a lease for the land. C, another friend, came upon the land and ejected B. B. then brought his action against C, who was known as the casual ejector. C. thereupon notified B, the real party in possession, to come in and defend. If B recovered he transferred his right of possession to A. If B was defeated he could select another friend, E, make a lease to him, who could begin another action. To obviate the injustice of these proceedings indefinitely courts of chancery, after three or four actions of ejectment upon a bill of peace being filed by the prevailing party, granted an injunction to restrain further action. This same purpose was accomplished by the act of 1877, which gave the possession to him who secured two verdicts in ejectment. The action of ejectment under the present law has ceased to be an action founded upon fiction. The reason for the two or three verdicts having ceased, the law, it is claimed, should be abolished, and, as in all other cases, one verdict should be conclusive between parties."

As to Capital Punishment.

Nicholson Examiner: "Men are no better than the law, and if the law is revengeful in every part more readily and thoroughly than it does any other form of government. It has destroyed all the republics that have preceded ours, and bids fair to do its work here. Reform may be made in name, but they will prove the driving off of our swarm to make room for another. Bribe corruption may be checked like houses of cards, but the cancer sore is not cured and only scattered, and the evil continues, being an incident to the passions of the race. Contrast that statement with the following from the Leader, and to our mind the underlying thought is largely identical in both: "Illiterate voting is not necessarily ignorant voting, and it certainly not all there is of ignorant voting. Compulsory education might put an end to illiteracy, but would not put an end to or appreciably lessen either ignorance, socialism or anarchy. The ignorant voter that is most to be feared is that which is blindly and bigotedly partisan, and that which puts money unaccompanied by brains, or money and brains unaccompanied by honesty and deference to popular rights, in high places. To get rid of this, the sort of education, compulsory or otherwise, that is needed, is the sort that will reach those who have long since learned to read and write, but have not yet learned to do so to good purpose. If, therefore, education does no good, and Republican government at heart is merely an impossible dream—for such seem to us to be the logical conclusions of the aforesaid premises—what does our Luzerne contemporary offer as a substitute? Would it seriously advocate the keeping of boys and girls out of school, in order that they may escape the dangers of education? Or would it not rather redouble those enterprises which have for their twofold purpose improving the schools and insuring general attendance at them? We believe that the latter course is the one to pursue. We do not yet accept the conclusion that popular education is not a remedy for ignorance; and that

Favors Compulsory Education.

Pittston Gazette: "In view of the fact that the subject of compulsory education is to occupy a prominent place in the Pennsylvania legislature during the present session, legislators and citizens generally of this state will view with more than usual interest the operation of the compulsory education law that went into effect in New York with the opening of the new year. Many of the provisions of the New York law are similar to those proposed to be established in our own state. The one provision which, above all others, will bring about a rigid enforcement of the act is that which deprives school districts which fail to enforce it of one-half of its state appropriation. There is no getting around the fact that the tendency of the times is in favor of compulsory education."

Juries Will Not Enforce an Unjust Law.

In 1882 only 8 per cent. of those who committed homicide crimes suffered the extreme penalty of the law. In 1891 only 2 per cent. suffered that penalty. Juries have virtually abolished capital punishment. The law is in contempt. Certainty of punishment has reached its minimum. The almost certainty of acquittal makes the law of no restraint to the commission of crime.

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THE PRESENT MONTH.

From the Chicago Herald. January is one of the months added to the calendar by Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome. He named it after Janus, that hybrid deity who had the faculty of looking two ways at once, retrospectively and prospectively. It is an admirable name for a month in which people usually employ themselves in considering both the past and the future. In the French calendar it was called Nivose, the snowy month. It was not until 1793 that January became the first month of the year in Great Britain and her colonies and the Gregorian calendar was adopted. Prior to that time the year began on March 25. The change was brought about by parliament under the leadership of Lord Chesterfield, and for a time caused great excitement among the lazarous, who imagined that parliament had robbed them of three months of the year, because the year 1751, which had begun March 25, was made to end Dec. 31, thus containing only nine months.

January is the birth month of a long list of distinguished men whose names will long be remembered. Among them are Francis Bacon, Edmund Burke, Montesquieu, Franklin, Webster, Cleveo, Frederick the Great, Gouverneur Morris, Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, John Hancock, Stephen, General Lee, General Stonewall Jackson, Landor, Byron, Burns, Poe, Mollers, Mozart, St. Pierre, Thomas Paine and a great number of others almost equally well known. Webster, whose statue was recently unveiled at the capitol in Washington, was born Jan. 18. The 21st of January is St. Agnes' Day, and for this we should be grateful, if only for Keats' splendid poem, "The Eve of St. Agnes." Jan. 25 will always be remembered far and wide as the birthday of Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat since that unhappy poet passed from earth, but his name gains brightness with each succeeding year.

The Nicaragua Canal.

From the Minneapolis Tribune. The men who have sunk their money in the Nicaragua enterprise, who now find the concession an elephant on their hands, are perhaps not to be blamed for seeking to get Uncle Sam to step in and take the load off their shoulders. But they are blameworthy for seeking to rope the government into a partnership with the projectors of the Union and Central Pacific railroads, in which the projectors pocketed millions and the government is left with an uncollectible debt on its hands. It might perhaps be advisable for the United States to build the Nicaragua canal, but it should not be entered upon until after thorough surveys and estimates have been made, and then it should own the whole work and not go into partnerships with or guarantee the bonds of a private corporation.

Our Great and Good Country.

From the Chicago Herald. It must be a source of great satisfaction to the good people of this county to learn from the reports of the constables that there are no violations of the liquor laws in Lackawanna. In this great county—morally and physically great—there is not a single place where liquor is sold without a license; there is not one instance of a minor tugging intoxicating drinks, and the county on Sunday is as dry as a blast furnace. Truly we are to be congratulated, but in the general rejoicing let us not forget the constables to whose vigilance this state of affairs is mainly due.

Bread Monopolists.

From the New York Herald. With flour cheaper than ever before, wages down to the lowest notch and the use of labor-saving machinery, which materially lessens the cost of production, the price of bread to the consumer is still as high as it was two or three years ago. The condition of affairs indicates that bread will not be any cheaper until there is a large reduction in the unwholesome greed of the monopolists who control its production.

The First Signs of Spring.

For The Tribune. There's a balmy breath in the morning air, The sheep are off to the hills, The willows are reddening down by the grove, And green blades fringe the rills; The carion crow caws loud to his mate, And the peewee's plaint I hear, While the curlew's smoke o'er yon sugar grove Denotes that the spring is near. —V. H. Lyman.

Useful and Ornamental Goods

- 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.

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DURING this great sale our entire Trimming stock has been greatly reduced in many instances to less than 10c. on the \$1.00. We can make more money for you during the next 10 days, if you will come in and take your pick out of the bargains that are piled upon our Dress Trimming counter, than you will be able to make in any other way within the next six months.

LOT 1—Gold and Silver Braids, Gimps and Cords that were 50c., your choice now at 25c. per yard. LOT 2—Persian and Velvet Bands and Tinsel Gimps that were sold as high as 87c., your choice now for 10c. per yard. LOT 3—Moss and other fine Silk Neck Trimmings that were sold us to 75c. per yard, your choice now, 5c. LOT 4—Illuminated Jewel and Applique Trimmings that were \$2.25, your choice now 25c. LOT 5—Heavy Black Silk Cord and Tassel Fringes, suitable for Wraps and Dresses, that were from \$3 to \$5 per yard, your choice now 25 cents per yard.

Fur and Jet Trimmings also greatly cut in price.

Don't Miss This Great Dress Trimming Sale

A choice lot of Brook Mink Fur Tippets, with spring heads, that were \$1.98, sale price, 98 cents.

JANUARY IS THE MONTH WE INVENTORY GREAT REDUCTIONS IN ODD AND ENDS OF DINNER, TEA and TOILET SETS, LAMP GOODS and BRIC-A-BRAC COURSEN, CLEMONS & CO 422 LACKA AVE.

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DR. SHIMBERG, 305 Spruce St., Eye Specialist, EYES EXAMINED FREE.



DR. E. GREWER, The Philadelphia Specialist, and his associated staff of English and German physicians, are now permanently located at Old Postoffice Building, Corner Penn Avenue and Spruce Street.

DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM The symptoms of which are dizziness, lack of confidence, sexual weakness in men and women, fainting, rising in the night, spots floating before the eyes, loss of memory, inability to concentrate the mind on one subject, easily startled when suddenly spoken to, and dull distressed mind, which unites them for performing the actual duties of life, making business impossible, distressing the action of the heart, causing flush of heat, depression of spirits, evil forebodings, convulsions, fear, dreams, melancholy, tire easy of company, feeling as tired in the morning as when retiring, lack of energy, nervousness, trembling, confusion of thought, depression, constipation, weakness of the limbs, etc. Those so affected should consult us immediately and be restored to perfect health.

Lost Manhood Restored. Weakness of Young Men Cured. If you have been given up by your physician call upon the doctor and be examined. He cures the worst cases of Nervous Debility, Scrophulous Old Sores, Catarrh, Piles, Female Weakness, Affections of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, Asthma, Deafness, Tumors, Cancer and Crampes of every description.

Consultations free and strictly sacred and confidential. Office hours daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, 9 to 2. I will pay one thousand dollars in gold to anyone who can furnish a cure of EPILEPTIC CONVULSIONS or FITS.

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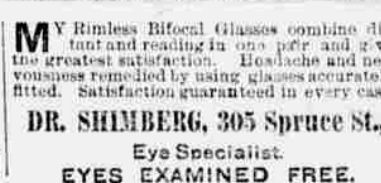
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