the Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 2, 1895.

THE SCRANTON OF TODAY.

Come and inspect our city.
Elevation above the tide, 740 feet.
Extremely healthy.
Estimated population, 1894, 103,000.
Registered voters, 20,599.
Value of school property, \$750,000.
Number of school children, 12,000. Average amount of bank deposits, \$10, It's the metropolis of northeastern Penn-Canproduce electric power cheaper than

Niagara.

No better point in the United States at which to establish new industries. See how we grow: Population in 1860..... 45,550

And the end is not yet. Mr. Jordan, of Tunkhannock, will represent the Fifteenth district in congress just two weeks, lacking a day. But that will doubtless be long enough to disgust him with the Fifty-third con-

The Loss of the Elbe.

Out of the chaos of conflicting reports concerning the recent accident whereby the steamship Elbe, with its human cargo of almost 400 souls, went to the bottom within a few minutes following its collision in a fog with the British steamer Crathie, one or two facts now appear to be settled. One is the utter inadequacy of the life boat accommoda tions of the Lloyd steamship; and the other is that Captain Gordon, of the Crathie, is unfit to remain in charge of ony vessel sailing the high seas.

That a boat habitually carrying from them unfit for use, seems almost inouraging similar carelessness in the

As to the conduct of Captain Gordon, it will be fair, before believing the to her peril and to the fate of her many

An official inquiry into this unfortu-

One of the finest newspaper issues that we have ever seen comes from the the Farr bill! New York Commercial Advertiser, and takes the form of a sixty-page edition illustrating the business resources of the metropolis. The Commercial Advertiser under the editorship of Foster Coates and the business management of Jason Rogers has become without exception the most enterprising afternoon paper in the United States.

An Age of Combines.

We doubt if it was ever contemplated by the founders of this government that there should one day be passed in American law-making assemblages legislation applicable not to the whole people, but only to distinct classes. Yet today the arena of legislation is a battlefield of clashing class interests, and it seems to be the exception rather than the rule when a law is passed for the general good of the masses.

We do not need to go further than Harrisburg in order to see abundant instances in proof of the foregoing assertion. What is the first thing, almost, that one hears at the capital of contest in Indiana county ground for Pennsylvania? The chances are ten an earnest protest against the present to one that it will be something about form of the provision of the secret some legislative "combine" by which the general interests of the commonwealth are to be "held up" in deference to the demands of a clique or class. One of these combines is known as the "Labor Combine." It exists upon the proposition that labor is a distinct institution, like a hospital or a school, which must each session have a certain amount of legislative "pap" thrown to It or else it will starve. The particular kind of pap now sought for by the Labor Combine consists of a grist of bills creating new offices for labor agitators and their friends and imposing a new strain upon the constitutional right of each citizen to paddle his own cance, in his own way, within the common law. A number of members from industrial districts, by joining hands these spasmodic and ill-digested bills argued against the straight party circle through in time for them to do campaign duty at the next election; and if, less, since straight party voting is every liberty, that such individuals now have.

at some later time, the taxpayers shall year becoming less frequent; and in the paign duty at the next election; and if, less, since straight party voting is every

find, at much expense, that the most of them were unconstitutional, what difference will it make?

Then there is another enterprise known as the Agricultural Combine Its chief purpose in life, apart from the aid it extends to politicians in search of votes, is to secure the enactment of laws exempting the farmer from taxation as far as it can, and giving him as much of a monopoly of the sale of farm produce as can be given by act of legislation. This particular combine's character was well illustrated some years ago when it sought to exclude from the markets of Pennsylvania all dressed beef products not grown, killed, cured or packed within the state; or in other words, tried to add from 2 to 5 cents to the cost price of every pound of meat consumed by the carnivorous food eaters of this commonwealth, such addition to go into the pockets of Pennsylvania cattle growers, as so much clear profit. The anti-oleo law is another piece of the same fine Italian handiwork-a law virtually decreeing that chemistry must not try to cheapen the foods of the people if by so doing it will jeopard the revenues of the Pennsylvania dairyman.

These two specimens of class clannishness by no means exhaust the list; in truth, they hardly begin it. In addition, there are the Standard Oil Combine, the book trust ring, and all the rest of the long catalogue of special interests, private, corporate and sectional, which regularly employ agents, lobbyists or "legislative committees" to guard their respective interests by tactics of both offense and defence. There is scarcely a business or a class or a section of any consequence which is not thus provided with lynx-eyed agents and representatives; but one will in vain search for some such combine in the interests of the plain people. Their affairs at Harris-Population in 1894 (estimated).... 103,000 burg, under Democratic rule and under Republican, seem to be for the greater part overshadowed by the more urgent ambitions of the class combines. Only during campaign time do they appear to receive a predominant share of consideration.

The American people would do well to turn back from this tendency toward class rivalry. It augurs no good for them if it shall be persisted in; but on the contrary it is fraught with the menace of great harm.

Every one to whom this issue of The Tribune comes should read our report of the address Andrew Carnegie on "The Uses of Wealth," It wontains thoughts worth remembering.

Pass the Farr Bill.

For two sessions Representative Farr, of this city, has stood as the special champion of compulsory education. He has made that subject a particular 300 to 500 passengers should be pro- study, devoting to it a persistency of vided with only three life boats, one of inquiry which few men in public life exhibit in their treatment of public credible, but the early assertions to questions. The result of this concenthis effect have not to our knowledge trated effort is a bill which is as nearly been contradicted. If true, it would perfect in its details as any bill can be seem that this fact would, in law, ren- before it is subjected to a practical exder the Lloyd company liable for dam- perimental test. The gentleman from ages for every death or injury sus- Lancaster county who is now trying to tained by reason of Thursday morn- force Mr. Farr's bill to the rear may ing of a wholesome clyic sermon. ing's collision. It would establish their be just as sincere in his enthusiasm as guilt of contributory negligence and a Mr. Farr is. But the practical effect of prosecution along this line, even if un- his belated work is to complicate the successful, might have a good effect in prospects of enacting any kind of a and decidedly progressive young man. empulsory education law, and to this extent he is doing the public an injury, rather than a benefit.

We are more deeply interested in the worst, to await the telling of his side of principle of compulsory education than the story. That he deliberately steamed in the men who champion the principle. away from the sinking Elbe, indifferent If the question were simply a personal one between Mr. Farr and Mr. Seyfert, passengers, is a statement too mon- we could well afford to let the house of strous for premature belief. It will be representatives make its own choice time enough to adjust the ethics of in the light of each man's record. But civilization to such a black circum- instead of raising that issue, Mr. Seystance when the assertion is proved. fert has victually put an obstacle in the But wholly apart from this phase of path of any measure having this broad the subject, it would seem that a sea- principle in view. He has introduced a man who should permit his ship to bill the provisions of which are drastic steam along quietly through a fog, beyond all common sense, and seeks to without giving sound or signal, and force it down, heedless of the wishes-of without paying heed to the rocket sig- nine-tenths of those who worked for nals of an approaching ship, would be compulsory education before he thought in safer business if he were deprived of framing a bill on the subject. We of his captaincy and put to breaking have compared the two measures with the utmost care, and we are so little satisfied with the Seyfert bill that we nate circumstance is imperatively de- would sooner see no bill passed than to have his radical measure become the

In justice to the commonwealth, pass

place two Mergenthaler linotype machines in its composing room, which will give it a superior equipment. The Report will then not only print a good paper but also a large one, comprising an exceptional bargain for the appreclative readers of progressive Lebanon.

It is gratifying to note that Dr. Parkhurst is not in the least discouraged. "We have fought one battle and have won." he says," and we have got to fight another battle; and when we have got through with that battle, we probably will find another battlefield looming in sight. But that is what life is for." In other words, "keeping everlastingly

at it brings success." Needed Ballot Changes.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Philadelphia Press, finds, in the recent disclosures of electoral crookedness made during the Blair-White judicial ballot law in this state governing the admission, to booths, with disabled voters, of professional "helpers" who in this snug retreat, in security from detection, manage to "fix" both the voter and his ballot at one time. The Press has evidence that hundreds of able bodied men in that county sold their ballots in this manner, often for as low a price as \$1 each. It demands that if there is to be a helper for disabled or infirm voters, he shall be an honest one, and shall not be permitted to help those who are abundantly qualified to help themselves.

This is virtually the contention made in these columns several weeks ago. We likewise advocated another change in the present law; and if any change is to be made it would facilitate matters and hopes, expect to be able to rush to make one complete job of it. We as being a device in the first place use-

individual candidates of another partisan falth. The Sittser-Dunham contest, in which this point has appeared, is a good local reminder of the danger of such carelessness-a danger which would be entirely avoided if the voter were required to indicate his preference for each candidate by a separate mark. unless when choosing presidential elec-

these developing abuses should be sufficient to induce them to modify their in this state is overwhelmingly favorable to a secret ballot, and for that tem promotive of its secrecy and of its

which provides that the passenger on prominent Odd Fellow. burg; but it is a praiseworthy effort to solve a great problem. The spectacle ly packed full of men, women and chilmanity, and all because of the negligence of the company in supplying make one wish that the Kearns bill, or one a good deal stronger, might become a law. An ordinance limiting the number of passengers to a car, and providing a fine for the overcrowding of this limit, would perhaps modify this evil; or one imposing a tax on overcrowded cars equal to the sum of the fares collected above a certain maximum limit per car. It is time for the law-makers to do something, if the car companies will not.

The second number of our new contemporary, the Lackawanna Legal News, was issued yesterday, and it shows that the court made no mistake in confiding to John G. McAskie the eports of its decisions. An interesting feature of this number of the Legal News is the concluding portion of a scholarly paper by James J. H. Hamilton on the constitutionality of the income tax. It is an admirable summary of the fundamental law upon this now uppermost revenue question.

We reprint, elsewhere, an address on municipal reform delivered by Rev. Dr. Parkhurst in Chicago the other day. It bristles with telling points and in terse, epigrammatic force has rarely been equalled. The perusal of this address would prove mentally profitable to every reader of this paragraph, and s recommended as equal to the hear-

Lemuel E. Quigg has shown in sev eral directions that he is a wide-awake and publisher of the re organized New York Press he will be the right individual in the proper place

The death of Ward McAllister re moves from earth a man who, while neither learned nor great, will be missed more than he would had he been either

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

The Accommodation Argument. Representative Farr at Pittsburg; Some opponents of compulsory education say that school accommodations are not sufficient to make compulsory educa-tion necessary. This is merely a pretext for opposition—a flimsy excuse, indeed, if it were true that present accommoda-tions were so scant as that, how long do you think it would take the school authorities to provide the additional accommodations necessary for the increased at endance that would follow the enactment of this law? A vigorous public sentiment would, if necessary, stimulate the school directors to their duty. School directors, as a rule, are always willing and take pride in doing their duty. Schools are an conomy. Wipe them out, and see how much more it would cost to run this state than with them. In Philadelphia they say there are rapidly growing districts in which there are limited school accommo-dations. The Philadelphia school system The Lebanon Report has decided to is not the best in the world. It has weaknesses, but that great and rich city ought to have no difficulty in providing an abundance of school room. Its share of the school appropriation made by the state must be in the vicinity of \$1,000,000. In Scranton, my home, the population is increasing at a wonderful rate. It jumped from 45,000 to 75,000 between '80 and '90. There has been an additional increase of 25,000 since 1890. Last year our increase in school attendance was nearly one-thir-tieth of the entire increase in the state. Scranton is a progressive city, and pro-vides school accommodations for all who want to attend. Unfortunately, there is a large number of children who should be, but are not, in school. Here and there throughout the state there may be crowded schools, but that there is any serious lack for room is not true. For a number of years past school buildings have more than kept pace with the increasing at-tendance, the number of scholars drop-ping from fifty-two in each room to forty-one year before last. The large increase last year, due in the main to free books, increased the number per room by only one, making an average of forty-two to a room, This is conclusive evidence that Pennsylvania has sufficient school ecommodations for many more in the state at large than now attend.

> The Rights-of-Parents Argument. "It was said that free books would make a compulsory education law unnecessary. They have simply proved the absolute necessity of such a law if we want to necessity of such a law if we want to reach any reasonable portion of the vast number who do not go to school. The statistics presented to you show that there are a great army of them. Free books drew many of those children whose pa-rents wanted to educate their children, but could not before on account of the cost to them of books. But free books have no charm for the parent who is in-different to the best interests of his childdifferent to the best interests of his child; who doesn't care whether his little boy or girl gets any education or not. There are thousandsof them who for inexcusable reasons will not educate their children unless they are compelled. Sentiment should not be wasted on such parents. should not be wasted on such parents. There is too much at stake. The interests of the child, his character, his life, justice to him, the interests of the state, demand that he shall get some education. Liberty, Cicero says, is obedience to just laws. Is it any injustice to a parent to say, if you can educate your child, for the sake of the child, for your own best interests, for the highest welfare of the state, you must do it? It is a license, not

next place, liable to invalidate the bal-lot of the man who, after marking a cross in the top circle, wishes after-ward to vote for one or perchance two thoughts and acts, and they will become useful men and women. Their duty to their children will be clear to them, and will be justly done."

SKETCH OF JAMES H. CODDING

From the Towarda Reporter-Journal. James H. Codding was born in Pike township, this county, July 8, 1849. When he was 5 years old his parents removed unless when choosing presidential electors, at which occasion a group marking would save time.

It has been intimated that the party managers at Harrisburg were averse to re-opening the ballot question during this legislature; but the distinctness of mained one year, when an opportunity to enter at once upon an active business ca-reer presenting itself if he accepted it. decision. The sentiment of the public But his tastes and the natural bent of his mind were toward literary and profes-sional pursuits, and in a short time he very reason the majority party should be willing, whenever possible, to accept improvements to the present system prompting of the present system prompting of the present system. Mr. Codding is a Mason of high degree and has been honored with many places of trust and high honor by that body. In 1893 he held the office of grand commander Representative Kearns, of Pittsburg. of the Grand Commandery, Knigh has introduced a bill at Harrisburg Templar, of Pennsylvania. He is also

a trolley car who is unable to get a seat shall be entitled to a reduction in fare. The bill will fail, of course, because the trolley interests hold the whip hand over legislation at Harriston the Republican from his for public office was in 1890, when he was nominated for judge of the Thirteenth distribution the Republican ticket after one trict on the Republican ticket after one of the bitterest contests at the primaries ever known in our local politics and into visible in our own city, every evening which were dragged many outside issues. about nightfall, of street cars indecentdren, some squeezed into almost a solid the fires of that ordeal Mr. Codding mass of struggling or exhausted huacter and with popularity undiminished. Throughout that campaign of bitterness and hate not a word in way of detraction sufficient cars, is enough almost to was uttered against his character or his integrity, and it is a fact that today nearly every man who then opposed him is numbered among his loyal and de

to numbered among his loyar and devoted adherents.

Although comparatively a young man there is no question of his fitness for the place. He has had a wide experience in business affairs, is a successful lawyer, has had the indorsement of a Republican convention that nominated him for judge, and in the recent contest for the con gressional nomination was practically th unanimous choice of the party.

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DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM
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floating before the eyes, loss of memory,
unable to concentrate the mind on one
subject, easily startled when suddenly
spoken to, and dull distressed mind, which
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distressing the action of the heart, causing flush of heat, depression of spirits, evil
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tired in the morning as when retiring,
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