The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 4, 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, \$19,*

It's the metropolis of northeastern Penn-Can produce electric power cheaper than

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

Population in 1870. 35,000
Population in 1880. 45,850 Population in 1890. Population in 1894 (estimated).... 103,030

The retrospect in another column covering the lively times of 1871, when the Young Men's Christian association crusade against illegal liquor selling forced the Liquor Dealers' league to agree, in open court, to observe the law, and, in the words of Judge Handley, reduced the court costs while raising the license revenues \$30,000 a year will be read with interest, after the interval of a quarter of a century. The methods by which that campaign was won were heroic ones. They did not stop at soda fountains nor deal in inferential evidence. They cut cleathrough to the marrow of the central iniquity; and forced a favorable result by not giving up short of one. It is instructive to renew acquaintance with those times, even though the comparisons suggested be not wholly complimentary to the present.

The Work of the Baldwins.

It is immaterial, so far as scientific investigation is concerned, whether the so-called mind-reading entertainments of the past week were bogus or genuine. The principle upon which they are said til she found to rest is today well established, and would survive any exposure of the immediate modus operandi employed by ity, under favorable conditions, of transferring mental influences from mind to mind without materialistic information of the sure foul mouths rendered more foul by their admit of demonstration in a geometri sense. It cannot be established by the same absolute rules which convince the mathematician that two added to two makes four. Yet it is admitted by most candid students of psychology and may be demonstrated experimentally by any one who yet doubts it.

For example, if a person will, upon entering a railway car, attentively concentrate his gaze upon another person seated several feet in front of him, only a few minutes will usually intervene before the object of this scrutiny, if semi-somnolent by reason of the drowsy influences of traveling, will become restless and uneasy, will writhe in his seat and will finally turn squarely around and return the gaze. The same experiment will succeed, nine times out of ten, when the person experimented upon is asleep. The parlor game called "memerism," in which one person is blindfolded, led by two asso clates into a room where one of these associates or a confederate has concealed some object upon which the companions of the blindfolded one concentrate their thoughts, and unconsciously walks directly to that object, afterward picking it up, involves the same general principle in modified form. These experiments do not always succeed, and therefore the principle cannot be said to have reached the standing of a fixed science; yet the preponderance of evidence is heavily in its favor, and the intelligent inquirer who enters upon an investigation of this shadowy realm of advanced knowledge without prejudice or bias must soon decide to give credence to at least the possibility of such phenomena, entirely apart from any commercial hocus pocus or humbug.

If, then, it be possible to convey thought, silently, without materialistic intercommunication, from one mind to another, why should it be deemed improbable that in some human organisms this mental or psychical sensitiveness is more pronounced than in others? It is tolerably well authenticated, although by no means generally conceded, that the late Washington Irving Bishop performed many remarkable feats of mind reading and telepathy while in a hypnotic state-such as driving blindfolded for several blocks through the busiest of Chicago's busy streets, to a place where a small object had been hidden without the possibility of his knowing anything about it. Another performance is recorded in St. Petersburg in which a slight young lady, whose name just now escapes our memory, with her finger tip pressed to his chair, lifted the strapping Czar Alexander II, and carried him about the room; and afterward, with equal ease, hurled him against the wall of the palace although he-sald to have been the strongest man in his empire-with both his giant arms outstretched,

braced himself against her. The achievements of the Baldwins in our city may have been wholly deceptive, wholly genuine or a mixture of both. We do not pretend to know which supposition is the true one. But In any event they have been, upon the | the electric cars-every movement of a whole, beneficial inasmuch as they have sentient commerce, transporting from directed public attention to a vista of north to south, from south to north,

exploration in which, notwithstanding much prevalent quackery and charlatanry, there is very evidently some degree of truth not yet revealed in its full measure. Many of the ablest men of our day are at work upon this exploration. Their theories are numerous and fantastic. But however much they may differ in conclusions, there can be no denying the desirability of a thorough sifting of ascertainable facts. For it is clear to us that in this direcknowledge in its keeping subject to release only after patient and toilsome pursuit.

Recently this journal took occasion to pay what at the time it believed to be a just compliment to the Harrisburg correspondence of the Scranton Truth We now find the writer of that correspondence charged by Representative Farr with making "uncalled for misrepresentations." Mr. Farr specifies the assertions in that correspondence touching an alleged clash between himself and Representative Connell on the reapportionment question. These Mr. Farr declares to be untrue and misleading, since he has proposed no plan of reapportionment whatever, and ence had nothing about which to clash. We should regret to believe that the Truth's opposition to compulsory education had influenced its Harrisburg representative to "write down" the member from the First district.

The New Woman At Large.

A good many eccentricities have to be excused in the New Woman; but it is doubted if the ordinarily complacent and indulgent New Woman's Brother will sit quiet under the latest one of these, which consists of going about. man fashlon, from saloon to saloon, in search of the novelty or the fascination which the New Woman assumes must 75,215 be possessed by such rendezvous of the convivial male homo. If we mistake not the temper of the said woman's fraternal relative and guardian, he will stand a good deal of foolishness, but he will not stand that.

> "But," you ask us, "Is it true? Does Aye, that she does, alas; and we have Syracuse Post of last Saturday comprised thirty-six readable pages, the whole of them written, edited and proof-read by the New Woman-and her friends. And on the second of these pages we see, in black head letter, these tell-tale words: "In the Saloon Dives." "What a Post Woman Saw on a Tour Among Them." Our horrifled attention thus abruptly transfixed, we proceed to digest the unblushing details. It is admitted, as a first concession, that "the better class of saloons are inviting. They have a wealth of decorations, the service is quiet and skillful generally, courtesy to one another is observed and the lunch counters are resplendent with fragile ware and attractive with savory viands." But from this kind of place the New Woman speedily descended un-

saloons where cleanliness seemed un known, where the crews before the bar-were restless, moving crushes of bensi-lality, where the conversation was less rethe Baldwins. This principle—which may be roughly stated as the possibility, under favorable conditions of the men less cleanly, the hats of the worn and battered description, and the smells diabolical, arising from old clother

Yet even this was not the ne plus ultra of the New Woman's hardihood

For, going still lower, she came to the saloons where the most dissolute we men hover about. These saloons are where the windows are covered by shades or curtains drawn so closely over the win-lows that only for the streaks of light from the sides or through the crevices in the dilapidated screen it would be sup-posed that they were unoccupied. It is in these saloons of narrow width and retricted room the most violent of the smells and the greatest license is found, The language grows coarser, the crowds are more like wiggling, twisting, squirm ing masses of earth worms than anything, moving to and fro, gesticulating, singing or rather bellowing, and past much sen ble movement of any sort, for they were

unqualifiedly drunken. From an artistic standpoint the venturesome daughter of Eve who is our pilot in this novel journey through the slums concludes that saloons, upon the whole, are unqualified failures. In her

pilgrimage she tells us there were three places where nule figures were dis-played. They were all life size and while in the gallery of the millionaire, the Metropolitan Musem or in the art publication, they (or rather the originals) would be tooked upon as conductive to cultivation of he artistic sense, in the reproduction they have lost their ideality and while Godiva in the former place is of marvelous beauty, she takes on the air of the lo-callty where found, and in a raloon one only thinks of her as stealing away for any other purpose than to alleviate the wrongs of an oppressed people. So too, the nymphs of the woods move in harmolous grace in the original, but madly caper with unseemly motion when dis-played on the walls of a saloon. What may be the reason for placing these figures on the walls or in the corners of the saloons it is hard to comprehend. The habitues of these places are not generally of artistic proclivities, so they do not need them for studies. They do not seem nec-essary in any other respect and the only reason imagined is that they lead men to drink in order to forget them.

The New Woman tells us much more She tells us, for example, that in one place she saw "a forlorn, watery eyed, purple faced, trembling wreck of a man once doing a prosperous business In another a strong, fine looking man was displaying a roll of bills and spending money freely, whose wife is a delicate, educated woman with two babes and takes in washing in order to live, But despite these spectacles, so cleverly described, not a word does she say about prohibition or moral suasion or she establishes her claim to be called the New Woman.

But what will her brother say? indeed, what can he say?

Writing in the current number of the North Ambrican Review upon "The Financial Muddle," Secretary of Agriculture J. Sterling Morton takes occasion to remark that "the harmonies of civilization, the multifold tones of trade, all the great choruses and melo dles of commerce—the murmuring stream that runs the mill wheel, the hissing engine on the rail, the plash of the paddle wheel on inland lakes, the monotonous pulsations of great hearts a great number of street passenger rails of steamships on all the occars of the

from east to west and from west to east, with all its myriad sounds of contented industry, are merely the economic orchestra of civilization obeying the motions of the magic baton of Demand wielded by the will power of the civilized world. These are the marvelous melodies of modern commerce. But the inspiration which gives voice east, with all its myriad sounds of But the inspiration which gives voice to value, and energizes the manytongued industries of modern life, advancements and improvements, is extion of inquiry the future holds much changeability based upon demand, which is founded upon desire." We have no doubt that the public will once more breathe easily now that this fact is officially decided.

workingman who is most benefited by public libraries. Persons of wealth can purchase libraries of their own, but not even the wildest dream of socialism contemplates an estate for the industrial toller sufficiently fortunate to ena- | a useful measure. able him to have access, in his own home, to a collection of 2,000,000 books like that soon to be accessible to him in the Hub. The public library is one of the chiefest ameliorating forces of our present civilization, and that city is fortunate indeed which has such a force in active and successful operation in its midst.

To the extent of a column in the Harrisburg Patriot a Scranton "Democrat" who does not chose to come out from cover larrups William F. Harrity and ex-Gyernor Pattison for their alleged joint betrayal of the Democracy of Pennsylvania. This anonymous writer's principal grievance against Mr. Harrity is that the latter rose from the estate of a Philadelphia ward politician to the national chairmanship of his party. At least, this seems to be the main thing charged against him. We do not admire Harrity and have no conceivable interest in him, one way or another, the New Woman frequent saloons?" But it occurs to us that this Scranton assailant of Harrity ought in common her own word for it. The esteemed justice to come out of ambush and do his fighting in the open, like a man.

> "It is encouraging to know that the feeling is growing that Christian fidelity means patriotism just as much as it does piety; means being a good citizen just as much as it does being good church member; and that 'Nearer, My God, to Thee,' and 'Star Spangled Banner,' are both Christian hymns in the mouth of an all-round Christian."-Dr. Parkhurst,

Rev. Dr. Carlos Martyn, a Chicago elergyman, is in disfavor because he said that there were 40,00 disreputable women in that city-or one in five of the female population between 18 and 25 years of age. Dr. Martyn should remember that figures can readily be made to prevaricate, if one be not very careful in their use.

Upon the whole, the banks of Pennsylvania, both state and national, have emerged from the trying times of the past two years with flying colors. In what other state has the banking business made a superior record for honesty

LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

The Harvey School Bill. Wilkes-Barre Record;

portant measures now before the state gislature is that relating to the prompt payment of the school appropriation. It was prepared by S. J. Strauss, of this city, and has been introduced simultan-cously in the senate and house by Senator Kline and Representative Harvey. The bill provides that whenever any school district shall have held its schools open for the minimum school term in any year, the president and secretary of board shall file a statement with superintendent of public instruction such form as he may prescribe, showing the time during which the schools have been actually kept open that year; and thereupon the superintendent of public instruction shall certify the statement to the state treasurer, and he shall cause to be transmitted to the said district within sixty days, three-fourths of the state appropriation to which that district is ntitled for the year, and the remaining fourth shall be transmitted after the end of the school year and after the annual eport has been made to the department as heretofore. The necessity of such a bill is plain to all who have had experiace in the managment of our public schools. Under the present system, the state appropriation is not available until three or four months after the school year has ended. The money lies idle in the treasury or is distributed among the various banks used as state depositories, but the districts cannot secure it no mat-ter how much it may be needed to pay necessary expenses. This has proven a hardship to the poorer districts in the state, while even those that include the larger cities find it necessary in many intances to borrow money and pay interstances to borrow money and pay inter-est for its use, while waiting for the ap-propriation. This is clearly unjust to the districts. There is no good reason why at least three-fourths of this money should not be paid at the close of the minimum school term. It would not only be doing an act of justice to the districts, but would relieve many of them from the necessity of borrowing money to tide them over the school year."

The Proposed Charities Bill. Pittsburg Commercial-Gazette: "A bill has been introduced in the house at Har-risburg abolishing the state board of public charities and establishing in its stead a department of charities. The pro-posed bill will make radical changes in the management of these several institutions. places at the head of the department superintendent, who is to be appointed the governor and serve for three years with authority to appoint three inspec-tors, five clerks and three deputies. The superintendent will have conferred upon him all the powers now vested in the board of public charities, with full power to visit and inspect the books of all institutions receiving state aid. The purpose | act to tell. about prohibition or moral suasion or of the bill is to secure better service white ribbon crusades. In this detail through concentration of power, throwing upon one person the responsibility now resting upon ten, and giving him a suf-ficient number of assistants to have the work of the department more thoroughly performed. The success of the change will largely depend upon the character and fitness of the superintendent and the manner in which the various duties shall be defined. Some change in the law seems desirable, but it is possible to create an expensive department without any co-

esponding benefit to the public at large." To Prevent Overcrowding of Cars. Below is the text of the Kearns bill to egulate the rate of fare to be charged on street passenger rallways for passen-gers who are not tendered or provided sulting in discrimination between the pas-sengers and causing great inconvenience and discomfort. "Section I-Be it enacted that from and

after the first day of October, A. D. 1895, it shall be unlawful for any street railway

"Sec. 2—The violation of any of the pro-visions of this act shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and any person, corporation or employe convicted thereof shall be pun-ishable by a fine of not less than \$5 and

not exceeding \$50. One Valuable New Bill.

Carbondale Herald: "Senator Woods has introduced a bill to prevent electric Boston has just dedicated a new \$5,000,000 public library; and by a suggestive coincidence the first person to enter the new structure was one whom the press dispatches describe as a "broad-shouldered workingman." Yet tals was as it should be, since it is the workingman who is most benefited by those that airendy exist, the people will have at least one cause to remember the present legislature kindly. The bill will be a still greater blessing if it will in-clude in its provisions public highways as well as car lines. Then indeed will it be

Too Much Law-Making. Carbondale Herald: "The American people are too much governed. Our law makers get together for only one session in two years, but when they do meet, they make up for lost time. From the first to the last it is a wild rush of bills. One thousand bills were read in place during the first six weeks of the present session. The gentlemen at Harrisburg seem to imagine that the people of this commonwealth are crying for legislation; that we are suffering for the passage of more bills. The state would be better off if the general assembly met only once in ten years: or better off still if they would go into con inuous session for the repealing of laws." . . .

Mr. Fritz's Little Bill. Mr. Fritz, of Columbia county, has presented a bill to authorize the assessment and collection of taxes for local purposes on real estate of railroads, canal, telegraph, telephone and pipe line companies. This bill provides that statements shall be made and returned by the companies to the state board of assessors, composed of the auditor general, state treasurer and secretary of internal affairs, who shall meet at the office of the auditor gen eral on the first Monday of November of each year for the purpose of assessing this

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Our show windows during the next week will be a perfect revelation.

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spoken to, and dull distressed mind, which
units them for performing the actual duties of life, making happiness impossible,
distressing the action of the heart causing flush of heat, depression of spirits, evil
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