The Scranton Tribune

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E. P. KINGSBURY, PRES. AND GEN'L MGR.
E. H. RIPPLE, SEC'Y AND TREAS.
LIVY S. RICHARD, EDITOR.
W. W. DAVIS, BUSINESS MANAGER.
W. W. YOUNGS, ADV. MANG'R.

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UNION LABEL

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 5, 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, 20,598.
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 1860	9,223
Population in 1870	35,000
Population in 1880	45,850
Population in 1890	75,215
Population in 1894 (estimated)	103,000

And the end is not yet.

The Brooklyn trolley strike cost $5,000,000. Did it pay?

The Home Saloon Idea.

There will soon be opened in Chicago, according to the Herald of that city, a resort to be known as the "home saloon." Our contemporary says of it: "It will in some respects resemble the ordinary saloon. There will be beverages, stimulating but not alcoholic. There will be a free lunch. There will be newspapers, periodicals and books. Those able to pay for what they want will be permitted to pay. But the hospitality of the place will not be denied to any who are orderly and well-behaved. Its promoters realize that men cannot be kept out of alcoholic resorts, where they get food, shelter and society, such as it is, as well as drink, unless an alternative resort is opened presenting some of the same privileges."

In another place the same paper says:

People with warm homes to rest in today; with newspapers around; with smoking breakfast tables served by gentle hands; with the ease that income assures, and the happiness begotten of pleasant social relations, know little of the days of a man without work; of the nights of a man without a roof; of the dejection of a man without companionship he can trust, and of the proximity of such a man to despair, to crime or to suicide. It is a dull student of sociological conditions that assumes every man to be profligate or ill-disposed who is homeless, foodless and without means to provide necessaries for himself. The home saloon imprints no stigma on those who will accept its hospitality. It will be free from everything offensive to good morals, and it will be an exemplar of good manners. The hopelessly mean will not cross its threshold. Those who are worthy of help will not seek its kindness in vain. It will wound no man's self-respect. If he be able to pay for its accommodations a small sum will be accepted. If he have no money he may get through it a chance to earn some. The irrepressible desire of men for conversation on current topics will be gratified.

The foregoing recalls to mind a conversation recently had by the writer of this with a young Scrantonian who expressed much the same idea when he said: "I go to saloons. Why? Because I have no other place to go to, wherein I have the same freedom and meet with the same companionship. I am not married, I have no home, and no present likelihood of one. In day time I work; but at night it is almost like being in a prison to sit solitary-wise in my little, third-story room. When I go out, I drift into well-kept saloons for the reason that there is, in all Scranton so far as I know, no better loafing place offering equal facilities for conversation, smoking, and temperate indulgence in food or drink."

If the "home saloon" would solve this young man's dilemma, it would probably be the means of directing into channels of usefulness a career which is now in the dangerous crisis of indecision 'twixt good and evil.

Colonel Corbett assures the Minneapolis legislature that "when the ordinary bar-room fight or drunken street brawl is considered, where men throw each other down and kick, gouge, scratch and even bite, then such a meeting as I will engage in with Fitzsimmons becomes a mere feat of cleverness and quickness." But the public, dear boy, is not dying for mere feats of cleverness and quickness. Such feats are a dear price to pay for the prize ring's debasing tendencies.

An Almost Ideal Charity.

Rev. Dr. William E. Johnson, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, in New York city, has begun the operation of a charity which appears to be so admirable and yet so feasible that it deserves a word of description and of commendation. In the center of one of the most crowded portions of the city, a portion inhabited chiefly by artisans, Dr. Johnson has hired an ordinary flat house, in which is maintained an industrial and art school, where are daily classes in sewing, crocheting, dressmaking, embroidering, painting, music, dancing, cooking and stenography. These are the terms demanded for instruction in either of the branches named: Sewing, crocheting, dancing, 5 cents a lesson; embroidering, painting, cooking and stenography, 10 cents a lesson; music, piano, 50 cents, and vocal 10 cents a lesson; dressmaking free. There is also a children's department, in which instructions in the ordinary English branches are given to the backward, sickly or crippled children who cannot gain admission to the public schools.

The foregoing features of this charity, while inestimably helpful, are not original. But there is another feature which is. It is the providing of trained nurses to visit the sick at their own homes at prices varying from 10 cents an hour to 50 cents for a day or night. These nurses are trained graduates of the hospital. They are in every instance as capable and as skillful as if the charge for their services were tenfold as great. Dr. Johnson says that the system of charging for services rendered, albeit the charges are only nominal, lifts the enterprise from the odium sometimes attaching to free service and at the same time makes it nearly, if not entirely, self-sustaining. The beneficient influences of such a charity—for a charity it is, in the truest sense of the word, although little dependent upon the gifts of the rich—can scarcely be exaggerated.

"No citizen is doing his whole duty as a citizen who conceives of a public officer as being anything other than a servant of the popular will and an instrument for the execution of public choice. Officers are our representatives, not our substitutes. You cannot deposit your vote in November (or in February) and then retire into the shell of your own private interests and have any reasonable ground for expecting that the government will be administered according to the principle which your vote was intended to express."—Dr. Parkhurst.

Religion and Politics.

The current report that papal censure for Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, had been administered through the roundabout means of a loquacious gentleman in Chicago who, taking a reporter into his confidence, proceeded to read to him a "highly important" letter from Rome is somewhat improbable. Nevertheless, we shall be much deceived in the present temporal head of the Catholic church if he shall not yet indicate his displeasure at the Rochester bishop's breach of clerical etiquette, if not of church discipline, as embodied in his recent rhetorical assault upon Archbishop Ireland. Upon the merits of the genesis of this dispute we again find ourselves indebted to the Rochester Post-Express for an expression of opinion which admirably voices our own belief, and, as we further believe, the belief of nine-tenths of the progressive Catholics themselves. Our Rochester contemporary well says:

It seems clearer than ever that the latter, in the course he took during the recent political canvass, did a great service to the public as well as to the Catholic church, whether he strained any Episcopal courtesy in doing it or not. It was said in this state that Catholics ought to vote the Democratic ticket regardless of their political affiliations, and simply on religious grounds. That plea was made by the Democratic candidate for governor himself at the opening of the canvass; and many Catholic priests, who had been Republicans, advocated the policy openly. Archbishop Ireland merely stepped forward and denounced the introduction of religion into politics. He urged Catholics to vote on their political convictions and on no other consideration. His position was sound in every respect; and his action prevented the Catholic church from being identified with a party doomed to defeat in the nation and the state and to disgrace in New York city. It was a frightful punishment, in the worst period of the French revolution, if our memory be not at fault, to lash the living to the dead and fling both into the Seine. Archbishop Ireland prevented his religion from being lashed to a political corpse and cast into dishonor.

The attempt to introduce sectarianism into partisan politics is bitterly condemned by Protestants and Catholics alike, when it is made by the opposing party. Upon such occasions it takes comparatively little courage for one to register his protest. The course that John Ireland took was not of tirade against an unscrupulous enemy but a non-partisan warning addressed to his own immediate friends and co-religionists in order to deter them from taking what would have been an irreparably false step—false as a matter both of politics and of religion. Bishop McQuaid, in censuring his ecclesiastical superior for the utterance of this timely and manly caution, struck a double blow, one at his own party and the other at his church. The party may not resent its share of the blow; but were the church also to keep silent, there would soon be an end to discipline and a strong incentive to a most unwise mixing of spiritual faith and party politics.

The Pittsburg Dispatch merely throws the following out as a suggestion of what may yet have to occupy the post of honor in the newspaper of the future:

"Mr. Breckinridge, his white hairs tumbling in confusion over his forehead, and his sturdy frame quivering with emotion, made a vicious right-hand swing at his antagonist, which the clever Missourian dodged. Heavy infighting and a clinch followed; cries of foul, foul, from the attendants of the principals, were swallowed up in the yells and shouts of the maddened spectators. As the infuriated combatants swayed back and forth, it soon became evident that the superior weight and nerve of Mr. Breckinridge were telling in his favor, though the electrical sparks which were flying from Mr. Heard's iron gray beard indicated plainly that his backers were getting a run for their money. Just at the moment when it looked as if the whole affair must end in a free-for-all knockdown and dragout, the speaker succeeded in separating the principals, and declared the bout a draw."

We are coming to this sort of thing very rapidly.

The inability of the Scranton Truth to discuss the present movement in this state for compulsory education fairly is rapidly becoming chronic. The latest instance is shown in its reproduction of a New York Sun dispatch from London narrating a case of conspicuous cruelty in the enforcement of a drastic compulsory education law in vogue in Great Britain. The Truth does not deem it necessary to say that such a case could not arise even under the most inflexible enforcement of the Farr bill. Indeed, we are moved to question if our esteemed contemporary has yet read that measure. Certainly its comments do not bespeak a detailed comprehension of the Farr bill.

With reference to the Kearns bill to give a penny rebate to standing passengers on overcrowded street cars, the Pittsburg Dispatch fears that the reduction provided is not in proper proportion to the discomforts. It thinks that perhaps if a man gets a comfortable standing place inside the car without too many people standing on his toes, or digging their elbows into his back, he would be satisfied with 1 cent rebate. "But the man who has to stand on the car platform in a wintry storm ought to have at least 2 cents off, if any reductions are going. The man who hangs on to a car step in default of a better place is paying well if he gets 3 cents off; while he who is reduced to climbing onto the bumper and clinging to the platform pays highly if he gives a cent for the privilege." Why not solve the whole problem by passing a no-seat-no-fare law?

"I never could see how it was fair to preach against the Ahabs and Jezebels 3,000 years back and be any less pronounced in the respects we pay to the same genius of depravity brought down to date. It is just a bit suggestive of cowardice to pound the antediluvians for their depravity and ignore the manifestations of equal wickedness that are contemporary. If a man preaches in that way it looks as though he were preaching for his salary and setting up his target centuries enough away to guarantee him against the risk of libel suits."—Dr. Parkhurst.

Mr. Fassett, of Elmira, perhaps in remembrance of past obligations to Mr. Platt, of Tioga, is inclined just now to deprecate the disposition of Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, of New York, to show up Platt as he is. Mr. Fassett, of Elmira, is a loyal friend, and a better partisan than Platt deserves to have; but he will find his effort to discredit Parkhurst is a vain one, and his other effort to sustain Platt a clear case of love's labors lost. The Republicanism of the Empire state is manifestly getting ready to shuffle off the Tom Platt coil.

One of the main difficulties with Thomas C. Platt as a political dictator is that there is nothing in his record as a leader to warrant such dictation. If he had been a successful leader, if under his reign the Republican party in the Empire state had ever won a clean victory at the polls, it would be different. He has, however, been uniformly and incessantly unsuccessful, and yet he has the nerve to ask the party to accept orders from him. It is time Platt were looked at in his true colors.

The difference between the two principal contestants for the judgeship in Indiana county seems, from the sworn evidence, to be that one dispensed booze in exchange for votes, while the other disseminated boodle. It is another case of the pot calling the kettle black. Neither is fit to sit on a bench of law in Pennsylvania.

Senator Camden, of West Virginia, probably exaggerates when he says that the Lord's Prayer couldn't pass the United States senate without amendment. The novelty of it would carry it through before a man jack of 'em could think of objecting.

If the trolley roads want to carry freight and if the people want them to, the only thing for the legislature to do is to pass the Bliss bill. What the steam roads want in this connection is of minor consequence.

A good state legislator is easily worth $2,500 a year to the commonwealth, and a poor one is dear at the smallest price. Perhaps $1,500 a year isn't an unfair average as the case now stands.

Captain Gordon, of the Craithie, the ship which sunk the Elbe, says he saw nothing and heard nothing before or after the collision. But it was his place to do both. Was he in a trance?

Queen Victoria's household expenses are nearly $600,000 per year. There seems no reason why the plumbing of her establishment should not be of the first order.

The sultan has ruled that newspaper reporters must keep out of Armenia. The sultan evidently knows where to locate his dread.

LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

Of Interest to Typewriters.

Senator McCarroll has a bill on the calendar at Harrisburg which adds leased typewriting machines to the articles which are exempt from levy and sale on an execution for distress for rent. The law now protects hired pianos, melodeons and organs from such execution. In this bill it is required, however, that the person hiring the typewriter shall give the landlord notice of the fact.

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To Protect the Indigent Insane.

From Sam Hudson's Harrisburg letter: A bill by Senator Snyder, of Chester county, is directed at an abuse from which there has long been great complaint. It proposes to relieve the indigent insane from being the subjects for the practice of fledgling doctors. It provides that hereafter it shall be unlawful for any public or charitable institution receiving state aid and which cares for the indigent insane to put such patients under the care and treatment of any physician who shall not have had at least two years' practice after graduation.

* * *

Governing Trade Union Labels.

Philadelphia Bulletin: "Senator Becker is backing a bill that was prepared by the trades unions. It allows any association or union of workingmen to adopt a trade mark, label, symbol or privte stamp for their protection and for the purpose of designating the product of their particular labor or workmanship. It requires that a copy of the label shall be filed with the secretary of state and be published in the newspapers as an advertisement."

* * *

Good Roads vs. Officeholders.

Altoona Tribune: "The most vital thing in connection with the movement on behalf of good roads is to persuade those who would be most directly benefited thereby to manifest some interest in the matter. At the present time it is painfully apparent that our rural brethren are holding back. They are afraid of the cost. In the meantime their representatives at Harrisburg are laying the wires for the creation of a large number of wholly unnecessary offices at their expense. It is the opinion of the Tribune that the people of both town and county should at once deluge their representatives with postal cards protesting against the creation of any new offices or the increase of any present official's salary, and urging the adoption at the present session of a wise and workable measure for the building of good roads throughout the commonwealth, by the joint action of the commonwealth and the counties. There is no earthly reason why Pennsylvania should have any more office holders. There is every reason why she should have good roads. And the truth is that the roads will cost far less in the end and be far more useful to the people than the proposed new brood of office holders.

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Need of Compulsory Education.

Pittsburg Times: It would be a great misfortune if dissension among the friends of a compulsory law should lead to the failure to pass any measure on the subject or the enactment of a defective one. Pennsylvania needs a good law on the subject badly. With many thousands of children out of the schools who should be in them, large numbers of them the offspring of foreigners ignorant of the laws and constitutions of the state and nation the necessity of some effective means of insuring their getting an American education is most pressing. The measure adopted should, in order to be effective, contain provisions for a school census and also for a truant officer, for exclusive control by the educational department and for adequate safeguards against the evasion of the law as well as against the perpetration of undue hardships by its enforcement. The question of providing sufficient accommodations for the increased number of pupils which the law will induce should also receive attention.

That Nervous Headache.

From the Washington Star.

"Tell me, honestly," said the novel reader to the novel writer, "did you ever see a woman who stood and tapped the floor impatiently with her toe for several moments as you describe?"

"Yes," was the thoughtful reply; "I did, once."

"Who was she?"

"She was a clog dancer."

BEAUTIES OF FOOTBALL.

Line up, pass her back, keep the ends in check;
When the umpire's back is turned, slug 'em in the neck.
Paste a fellow when he's down, grind him with your boot,
Break his head if necessary; scoot, brother, scoot.
Tackle 'em below the knee, gouge 'em in the eye,
Kick 'em in the abdomen and leave 'em there to die;
Hear your Alma Mater's voice rise above the din,
"Anything to win, boys, anything to win."
Never mind a rib or two, smash a collar bone,
Sweeter than the sweetest music is a dying groan;
Mother sits up on the stand, anxious for her son;
She won't recognize her baby after we have done.
Slug 'em once again for luck, break his Grecian nose;
Make him lose an ear or two, amputate his toes.
Don't forget our motto, boys, do your level best;
Now for God and country, boys, and—well, you know the rest.

—Kansas City Star.