## The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 21, 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, \$900,000. Number of school children, 12,000. Average amount of bank deposits, \$10.

It's themetropolis of northeastern Penn 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 1870
 35,600

 Population in 1880
 45,850

 Population in 1890
 75,215
 Population in 1894 (estimated)..... 163,000 And the end is not yet.

The returns from the Seventh and Nineteenth wards would seem to indicate that Scranton's common council is appropriately named.

### The Councilmanic Elections.

The defeat of Walter E. Davis, Re publican candidate for common councilman in the Sixteenth ward, by Lorenz Zeidler, a Democrat, was caused by the failure of many Republicans to go to the polls. To a similar cause may be ascribed the election in the First ward of John J. Loftus, an Independent with Democratic leanings.

Last fall First ward Republicans for governor polled 622 votes against 222 Democratic votes, or a total of 844 votes. On Tuesday, the Republican candidate for common council, D. H. Reese, polled only 373 votes out of a total of 781, being defeated by 35 plurality. It is safe to assume that two-thirds of the 63 per sons who voted for governor last fell. but who, on Tuesday, did not vote at all, are Republicans, who, had they been apprised of the importance of support ing their party ticket, would have voted for Mr. Reese, thus insuring his election. Why did they not come out to the polis?

In the Sixteenth ward, on Tuesday Mr. Zeidler received a vote of 266 to 215 cast last autumn for Candidate Singerly. This would seem to indicate that 51 Republicans voted for the Democratic candidate. But on the other hand, Mr. Davis received only 200 votes to 285 re ceived last fail by Candidate Hastings, a falling off of 134 votes. Even subtracting from this number the 51 votes of Republicans who supported Mr. Zeidler, what became of the 134 Republicans who apparently stayed at home? Why were they not brought out? Two-thirds of them could have defeated Mr. Zeidler and thus secured councils to the Re publican party on joint ballot.

The Eighth ward aldermanic contes shows that it is possible, at a spring election, to bring out the entire vote The total vote polled last fall in this ward was 541; on Tuesday it was 568. General Hastings received only 310 votes to 323 polled at an off election for Candidate W. S. Millar; and Editor Singerly only 231 to 245 polled Tuesday by Candidate Fitzsimmons. Here is a gain in the total poll of 27 out of 568, or 4.7 per cent., as against a falling-off, in the First ward, of 63 out of 781, or a trifle more than 8 per cent, and in the Sixteenth ward, of 134 votes out of 466,

It is apparent, we think, from these figures that Republicans should not rest too easily on their oars, if they expect to keep proper pace with the Democratic procession. The stay-at-home Republican especially should read these figures over and paste them in his hat.

David Martin will get the congratulations; but we venture to predict that Warwick will be mayor.

More About Compulsory Education. The esteemed Lebanon Report, which two years ago was an ardent supporter of compulsory education, has evidently

changed its mind. It now says:

The aim of a compulsory school law i universal education; this universal educa tion is deemed essential to good citizenship. No one denies the latter proposition. The ballot must be in the hands of intelligent men, to be of any value. The only question is whether compulsory educa-tion will have the desired effect. Will in raise the status of general intelligence to so much higher a standard as it must if it would justify its existence? A compulsory school law would entail a greatly increased number of public officers, it would entail an annoying system of explonage into that privacy which above all should be sacred—that of the home; it would entail a greatly a greatly a present a superconduction of the sacred that of the home; it would entail a greatly a would entail a greatly augmented trial list, the great burden of the cases being for the consideration of what, though a crime by law, will with great difficulty be recognized as such by the accused. Such are some of the odious features of an odious law. The solitary redeeming fea-ture is the possibly improved grade of intelligence. To justify the passage of such a law there must be an undoubted and practical benefit assured; this benefit must be great in proportion to the odium of the law, for it is a universally recognized dictum, that a harsh law is justi-fied only by its undeniably superior ef-fects. Recognizing this harshness and unpleasantness of such a law what grounds do we have for supposing it necessary? In other words, comparing Pennsylvania with her sister states which have such laws in operation does she suffer? Are her citizens inferior in average intelligence? Is there greater corruption at the poils, and are her legislative and execu-live and judicial departments of govern-ment of a lower order than those of the

states which have tried compulsory edu-cation? We must conclude that she does not suffer in this comparison. This would be a strong argument if its premises were true. But are they skull. He objected to having his wife true? There ure, in this state, ap-

tion involves a gross injustice-an injustice, first to the children themselves, who are thus thrown upon their own resources without adequate preparation for life's battles; and secondly, an injustice to society, which has a right to be protected from the many-sided expensiveness of an illiterate element.

Upon whom would the hand of a wisely drawn compulsory education law fall? Certainly not upon parents whose children are already in school. These parents, constituting by far the greater fraction, would entirely escape the peration of such a law; and the extra tax cost imposed upon them, in support of the law's enforcement, would, if felt at all, be more than compensated by the decrease which more general education would occasion in the cost of our police courts and our jails. The hand of the law would fall, then, only on parents whose children do not go to school a small minority. And, among these, it would escape all who can offer valid excuse for such non-attendance, and fall simply on greedy, indifferent or incorrigible parents in whose eyes childhood has no rights and parentage no

sanctity. We say, let it fall on such parents; and, if necessary, fall hard!

Although it is a habit we have, Pittstonians will please make note of the fact that The Tribune printed the fullest election returns of all the morning papers. You don't get the best if you don't take The Tribune.

### The Decline and Fall of Platt.

To an outsider who is privileged to oberve things in the impartial capacity of a disinterested spectator, there is in progress, at this time in New York state, a most diverting political comedy-drama. The main incidents that ed up to it are generally familiar. They comprise the election of Levi P. Morton governor and of William L. Strong mayor, the former as a Republican who would, it was promised, be in sympathy with the reform movement on Manhattan island; and the latter as a non-partisan business man pledged to govern his conduct as mayor solely by his conception of the public's real needs The election of these two men, by pluralities in excess of even their own wildest expectations, caused consternation, first to Tammany, which found itself presumptively dispossessed of great spoils; and secondly to one wily individual, ostensibly Republican but in reality only personal, who had, when it suited his purposes, been Tammany's efficient assistant; to wit, the honorable Thomas C. Platt. Tammany recovered from the shock just in time to hear Mr. Platt chanting forth from the house tops that it was all his victory; and to see him plunge, all undaunted, into the task of trying to cozen favor with Mayor Strong, so as to bag a large proportion of the mayor's appointments. As a safeguard, he had first got his Albany lieutenant, Senator Lexow, to propose legislation for New York city which, if passed, would have laid the foundations of a new Tammany, with the self same Thomas as absolute high chlef.

Great was his grief when the aforesaid Platt found that the legislature. nder the scrutiny of Dr. Parkhurst and the civic movement which he repre ents, would not pass the Lexow bills. But this shock was as nothing compared with that which he experienced for a tombstone and a hearse. when, one fine morning, he read in his newspaper that Mayor Strong had exerised his authority as the representative of the people, by making non-partisan appointments to the chief city de partments, heading the list with the name of an honest man whom Platt had once deliberately betrayed. When he recovered the power of speech, he sent post haste for a reporter and poured forth the vials of his wrath. Then he ummoned his henchmen to a conference and divulged a desire for -r-r-evenge. Lastly, he rushed off to Albany, to see Governor Morton; but he consolation that he got from him was evidently not re-assuring, for just efore he had reached Albany, a majority of the Republican assemblymen from New York city had signed a state ment virtually repudiating Platt, and his old-time protege, ex-Senator Fasett, of Elmira, was telling the Gotham reporters that "we cannot, as a party r as Republicans, place ourselves in the deplorable light of trying to out-Tammanyize Tammany in the rush for spoils and plander. Let Mayor Strong to ahead in his non-partisan work, and he people will uphold him."

Meanwhile, Mayor Strong, merely smiles and says: "No, sir, I don't propose to allow any legislature in Albany o interfere with my actions here. They can go ahead and do as they see fit there and I will go ahead and do as I like here, considering only the best interests of the people and the city from a non-partisan standpoint."

From the report, on another page, of the finance committee of the recent he is buying and pay for. As the matter Kirmess, it appears that after all debts stands now, as a rule he expects 2,240 had been met, there remained a total pounds, but probably often gets 2,000, and had been met, there remained a total of \$8,549.17, which has been placed at Mr. Luden's bill should become a law the disposal of the Lackawanna hos-pital. An additional \$200 may be real-science will permit from giving him, say, pital. An additional \$200 may be realmost credit, not only upon the generous persons who planned and managed It. but also to the public which supported it.

If Chairman John E. Roche only had a party behind him, we suspect he would prove a big stumbling block to Republican aspirations. Luckily, he

Politically speaking, Hon. Thomas C. Platt appears, at this writing, to present the most remarkable example of sudden and rapid shrinkage on record.

The cause of councilmanic purification in Scranton apparently stands adjourned for one year.

Pattison, like Cleveland, went once oo often to the mill.

An Indiana man is lying at the point of death suffering from a fractured

an equality with a pet pug in his wife's affections certainly needs some effective argument to convince him of the error of his way.

We could, without violating precedent, cast ridicule upon the quality of the 7,898,125 cigars which Deputy Revenue Collector Green of the Ninth district assures us were manufactured trict assures us were manufactured last year in York county out of York and Lancaster leaf tobacco. But to do

H. E. P.—Company, villanous company, hath been the spoil of me.

—Shakespeare. and Lancaster leaf tobacco. But to do
that would be to strike a blow at a
home product, as well as to asperse

W. F. H.—Shut, shut the door, good
John! Fatigu'd I said:
The up the knocker, say I'm sick, I'm
—Pope. the nicotinian comforts of thousands dead, of esteemed fellow citizens who would prefer a York "toby" in all its uncouthness to the finest island growths in the | no more. tropical seas. And why should any sane journal do that?

The people of Athens, Ga., are to be congratulated. They have just successfully intimidated a troupe of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" barnstormers which had booked to play in that city, and have thus, as one paper put it, "rebuked that vile slander on the manhood and honor of our fathers." Sound the toesin and get out the band!

A revenue license of \$2 per year on each bleycle is proposed by a Chicago alderman. The Herald very correctly contends that if it is necessary to tax vehicles at all, they should all be treated allke. The anti-bicycle legislator these days is treading a dangerous path.

There does not appear to be any reaon to doubt that Harry Hayward, the Minneapolis murderer, is an abnormal criminal, devoid of moral qualities. But we see no particular reason for wishing such unemotional monsters to remain

General Lew Wallace, in referring to Armenian troubles, says that it is incredible that the sultan of Turkey would wink at anything. General Wallace evidently wishes to convey the impression that the sublime Porte is possessed of a glass eye. Talk of Lexowing Philadelphia by

way of Harrisburg should from this time forth subside. The citizens of Philadelphia have demonstrated their entire ability to govern themselves. Another emphatic protest has been

registered against the theory that marriage is a failure. This time it is a resident of Kentucky, aged 93, who has just wedded his seventh wife. The fledgling city of Pittston proudly enjoys the distinction, if it be a dis-

sylvania in which the Democrats have held their own. A message of thanks from Mayorelect Warwick to Brother-in-law Alexander McClure would fittingly round

Pittsburg's celebrated "blind pool" operator has been legally pronounced not guilty, with the supplementary admonition to "not do it again."

out the amenities of the occasion.

Only a few more days, and Scranton's fragrant wooden block pavement will again be diffusing its succulent sweetess among the sons of men

Robert Emory Pattison is now pre pared to receive bids and specifications

Ex-Governor Pattison lacked about 70,000 votes of being a "man of destiny" on Tuesday.

## LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

Distribution of School Appropriations Norristown Herald: A proposition in the legislature to change the basis on which the state appropriation is distrib-uted to the various districts of the comnonwealth, is intended to give to sparsely settled districts an undue proportion of the money set apart by the legislature for he benefit of education. The money distributed now in proportion to the num-ber of taxables, an utterly arbitrary method, because it has no possible connection with the number of pupils, which ought to be the rule in this case. The proposed law changes the basis from the number of taxables to the number of schools, an qually arbitrary and unfair plan. The number of pupils to be educated is the only fair basis of distribution. That should be ascertained by a census of children of school age in each district. The money for educational purposes ought then to be divided according to its results among the districts of the state. While a change is being made it should be made according to the principles of justice and commor sense, without reference to whether they ire sparsely or densely peopled, since alitizens are expected to pay taxes on the

Another Silly Bill Punctured. Reading Times: A bill has been intro-duced in the legislature by Representative Luden, of this city, providing that 2,990 unds shall constitute a ton of coal, as pounds shall constitute a ton of coal, as sold by retail dealers. The regular ton, of coal or anything else, calls for 2,40 pounds. There would seem to be no ser-rious objection to Mr. Luden's proposi-tion, as it makes no substantial differonce how many pounds are counted to : ton, only so that the purchaser is not de-ceived or mistaken as to how many pounds some cases perhaps even less. But if 1,800 pounds?

. . . Condemnation Not Yet Deserved. Norristown Herald: As usual in every legislature, many foolish and extravagant measures have been introduced, but they have not been passed. Even should any of them run the gauntlet of the two houses, Governor Hastings stands ready to veto them, and there is no doubt whatever that the state treasury will find in him a faithful protector. It will be time enough to blame the legislature when it shall have committed the blunder of extravagance. The members of the major-ity are all aware that this is no time for recklessness in appropriations, and that the future of the Republican party, ar well as the public welfare, requires the ex-ercise of the strictest prudence and the most careful scrutiny of every measure which takes money out of the state treas-ury, and they will act accordingly.

Some Reapportionment Plans. Harrisburg correspondence of the Will-lamsport Times: The Sixteenth congres-sional district composed of the counties sional district composed of the counties of Lycoming, Potter, Tioga and Clinton, is likely to be torn asunder by the congres-sional apportionment committee, now at work on the apportionment bill to be presented when the legislature reconvenes. There is trouble in this district every two years because of the conferree system and the Republican leaders are anxious that this difficulty be removed. Just what counties are likely to be taken from the kiss a pug dog when she would not kiss district and the ones to be substituted has

proximately 150,000 boys and girls of school age who do not attend school. We venture to say that not one parent among the parents of these children is ignorant of the fact that the failure of these children to receive an education involves a gross injustice—an integral of the second of the fact that the failure of these children to receive an education involves a gross injustice—an integral of the second not likely to make such a move.

So It Appears. From the Wilkes-Barre Record.
When Scranton rejected Judge Handley's proposition to cover the Lackawanna river and convert that ditch into a thing

of beauty the proposition was rejected.

Statesmen Talk in Their Sleep. From the Harrisburg Patriot.

W. U. H.-So comes a reckoning wher the banquet's o'er.
The dreadful reckening, and men smile

C. F. W.-With the losers let it sympa-thize; for nothing can seem foul to those that win. -Shakespeare D. M. and C. A. P.—We are but as the Instrument of Heaven. Our work is not design, but destiny.

-Owen Meredith.
M. S. Q.-Vengeance is in my heart. death in my hand. Blood and revenge are hammering in A. K. M.—Hell to more bearable than nothingness.



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