

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 28, 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, 26,586. Value of school property, \$200,000. 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 which to establish new industries. See how we grow: Population in 1820..... 9,223 Population in 1870..... 35,000 Population in 1880..... 45,550 Population in 1890..... 75,215 Population in 1894 (estimated)..... 103,000 And the end is not yet.

Why should the Republican party of Pennsylvania, through the legislature which it controls by an overwhelming majority, hesitate to make obviously needed amendments to the Baker ballot law? What advantage can it expect from facilitated corruption at the polls?

Dangerous Criticism.

The meeting of citizens which night before last permitted a number of speakers to indulge in disparaging remarks concerning the law judges of Lackawanna county went beyond the limits of proper criticism. It gave the weight of its authority to unproved charges affecting the official conduct of those judges which, if proved before the right tribunal, would constitute ground for their impeachment.

What judge sitting on a Lackawanna county bench ever granted a license to sell intoxicating liquor without even looking at the remonstrance which the law provides may be brought to his attention? Such a charge was made, but no name was specified. This is decidedly unfair. Who is the judge? Let us have his name.

It is legitimate to criticize even a judge for dereliction of duty, when the facts sufficiently warrant such criticism. But too much care cannot be exercised against the utterance of exaggerated charges, that have no other practical tendency than to bring our courts of justice into disrepute among those to whom it should be ever a synonym for unswerving justice.

The saddest examples of the forgetfulness of the world after we have passed away are given in the sympathy that red-handed murderers receive at trials in court while their innocent, defenseless victims slumber unremembered in lonely graves.

Suggestion for a Junket.

The time of year is rapidly arriving when the dirt roads of Pennsylvania will be at their worst. The person who has driven to any extent over these roads in spring-time, when they are cut up by the erosive power of running water or else mushy with the moisture from melted snow, will not need to be told that these roads are a consummate disgrace. Should others doubt this fact, the proof of it is near to hand.

From among the five or six road reform bills pending before it, this legislature ought easily to evolve a fairly comprehensive and admirable law. Let it provide for the building, up to fixed specifications, of a number of stem roads traversing two or more counties, these roads to serve as models, and to be constructed and maintained at state expense. Then let it provide a system of bounties for local roads which shall be improved up to this standard. That is to say, let it agree to bear a certain percentage of the expense of equipping and maintaining local roads, inside county lines, which, when completed by any county, shall be found to equal or excel the specified requirement. The remaining details essential to a law of this general character can be easily adjusted, and the total expense limited to a moderate sum until the plan shall have been practically tested.

As an incentive to such action on the part of the legislature—should one be needed—the house and senate might appoint a joint junketing committee to travel by wagon from say Philadelphia to Erie, beginning on that appropriate day, April 1. This kind of itinerary would be very likely to remove from those making it the last vestige of dubiousness as to the urgent, indeed the imperative, need of better common highways in Pennsylvania.

A Chicago paper states that "it is easy to detect butterine because it looks and tastes so much better than butter." It is probable that the hog-fat and tallow preparation may be more palatable to one used to the axle-grease article of the Chicago boarding house, but many Pennsylvanians are still willing to pay a larger price for the genuine product of the dairy that leaves no tallow coating upon the throat of one who investigates its flavor. Chicago epicureans are welcome to their mysterious lubri-

cal, so long as they do not attempt to palm it off in Pennsylvania markets as genuine butter.

The esteemed Wilkes-Barre Record says it "fails to see anything in the Farr compulsory education bill that will in any way interfere with parental authority, provided that authority is exercised intelligently. On the other hand, the parents who persistently neglect to provide for the education of their children should be compelled by law to do so. The children of this state have rights as well as their parents, and the most inalienable of these is the opportunity to secure a common school education." That is the view which the large majority of sensible Pennsylvanians take of this measure. The legislature will make a great mistake if it shall fail to take cognizance of this growing demand.

Bad Taste in the Pulpit.

The Reverend Madison C. Peters, a Gotham clergyman, in a sermon preached last Sunday had the bad taste to say: "The wealth of this nation is in the hands of a few, and these few are marrying off their daughters to titled imbeciles. This is the most successful way of making a nation poor. Two million dollars for a title. The outward legal form in such a matter may seal the lips of criticism, but as a marriage it is not. As the \$2,000,000 to be settled on the little count are contingent on his good behavior, there is very little likelihood of the money ever getting out of the Gould family." This impertinent reflection upon the Count de Castellane was made without a shadow of apparent justification. The integrity and high character of that gentleman have never been successfully impeached. He comes from a distinguished family; from the grade of American freedom the Count de Lafayette. Why should he be assailed from an American pulpit, as if he were a pickpocket or a thief?

If Rev. Mr. Peters had wished to decry the practice by certain wealthy American families of marrying their daughters to unprincipled wearers of foreign titles, could he not have done so without going outside the bounds of both truth and decency to attack, from the shielded vantage ground of the pulpit, a gentleman who has, until proved otherwise, the moral as well as legal right to be regarded innocent of wrong doing; and to insult a lady whose choice of a husband was none of Rev. Mr. Peters' business?

This kind of pulpit sensationalism had better be discontinued by those who regard with reverence the true function of the official expounder of the Christian religion.

An Oklahoma woman who had been pestered by the attentions of a persistent admirer took a shotgun and blew a portion of his head off. Her manner of dismissal, though somewhat abrupt, from an eastern standpoint, seems to have been effective beyond a doubt.

An Awkward Inconsistency.

We do not know the exact provisions of the bill of Senator Landis to prevent bribery at elections, which a senate committee recently negatived, but in consideration of the fact that several similar measures have been tested with encouraging success in a number of American states, not to mention England, it seems fair to assume that, if defective, it could easily have been amended. Why was this not done, instead of reporting the bill adversely?

We do not like to say that the senate of Pennsylvania is lukewarm in the matter of promoting purity at elections; but this second peculiar action, coming close after the same body's refusal to take up the two amendments to the Baker ballot law necessary to bring that excellent measure to a yet higher degree of perfection, fills us with suspicion. Why should Pennsylvania be behind any other state in its insistence upon clean politics? Did not Pennsylvania supply the first capital of this nation and contribute a commanding share of the brains, honor and patriotism out of which our republic was evolved? We were first at the beginning. Why should we be less than first now?

The senate of Pennsylvania yesterday honored itself by conferring upon a distinguished Scrantonian a costly token of its esteem. Now why does ex-Lieutenant Governor Watres occupy so enviable a place in the estimation of the Republican party in Pennsylvania? Is it not because the masses of the party recognize in him, in the words of an eminent Philadelphian, "a conspicuous type of the clean politician, who does not get down into the mud and mire?" The senate of Pennsylvania, in an alternate days honoring Mr. Watres and defeating a measure to prevent bribery at elections is guilty of a gross inconsistency, which it will find difficulty in explaining.

The Quay county movement has caused an agitation in the Rip Van Winkle whiskers of Wilkes-Barre's municipality unequalled since the secession of resolute Lackawanna.

A Prince of the Cuckoo Tribe.

It has remained for the editor of the Richmond, Va., Times to win for himself the questionable distinction of out-cuckooing all the sycophant cuckoos who hover about the temporary incarnation of authority who sits in the presidential chair. Hear him chirp:

If Mr. Cleveland has really secured the powerful aid of the Rothschilds for effecting this result (the new bond agreement), then he has performed one of the greatest services for the American people that any president could possibly have rendered them. If he has really made combinations that will end all drain on the gold of this country, except for what is demanded to settle the balances of trade against us, he would have secured the result on most favorable terms to this country by giving the whole of the \$22,000,000 of bonds for it.

Instead, then, of senators denouncing him for making an improvident bargain, all Americans should unite in sounding peans of praise to his name, for greater financial service hath no man before rendered to America; and it was a service, too, which few presidents would have been able to render. It was not the president, but the man Cleveland, who was able to perform this almost superhuman feat. He was able to draw these powerful potentates of finance into co-operation with him for his country's salvation, because his record from its beginning to this day in connection with our financial system has been one that commanded the unqualified confidence and approval of all men who have anything to lose or any share in the progress and prosperity of the nation; and no Republican could have equalled him in it. We propose three cheers for Grover Cleveland for this gigantic and patriotic service which he has rendered to his country.

The ability of Mr. Cleveland to "draw these powerful potentates of finance into co-operation with him for his country's salvation" was very easily acquired. All that the president had to do was to sell to the potentates bonds worth easily 120 at 104 1/2, in order that the potentates might pocket the difference. Almost any potentate would be willing to help save the country on a margin of 1 1/2 points. As for the syndicate's agreement to stop the gold drainage, that part of the contract will be believed when it is carried out, which is to say when the earth ceases to revolve and the Mississippi river flows up hill.

We propose three cheers for the editor of the Richmond Times. As the prince of cuckoos, of Cleveland cuckoos, he certainly deserves them.

Indiana has, at last, a modern libel law. It requires that before any suit shall be brought for libel, the aggrieved person shall, at least three days before filing the complaint, serve notice upon the publisher specifying the article, and if it shall appear that the article was printed in good faith, and that its falsity was due to mistake or misapprehension, and a full and fair retraction is made, then the plaintiff shall recover only actual damages. The bill is drawn so as not to apply to libel against candidates for public office, providing the retraction is made at least three days before the election. The bill provides a punishment for such a libel, both fine and imprisonment. When will Pennsylvania be blessed with such a law?

The Philadelphia Press opposes the sending of a meddling committee of state senators to Philadelphia on the ground that if they come some of them may get hurt. This is not the loftiest possible view of the case; but we concur in the Press' idea that Philadelphia's municipal government ought not to be regulated from Harrisburg on the long-distance plan.

New York shoe dealers are advertising for triply salesmen. It is presumed that the Triply salesman is the individual who can hypnotize number 2 shoes upon number 6 feet.

Mr. Cleveland is said to evince the profoundest contempt for the opinion of the country on the bond deal; but considering the kind of a deal it was, this is only natural.

LEGISLATIVE TOPICS.

For a Steering Committee. Harrisburg, Feb. 27.—A steering committee in the senate is the latest development. It does not appear in the official list of house committees, but it will soon exist just the same, and its object will be to check the tendency of the present legislature to vote money for every conceivable kind of purpose promising political spoils. The idea is to select a joint committee of equal number from each house which will be the master of the situation and from which all orders will emanate. This steering committee will not only deal with and dispose of all political questions that may arise in either house, but will take into consideration the fate of important bills, nominations by the governor to which there may be objection and decide upon the length of the session. The names of the members of this committee will soon be announced.

Bill Governing Gas Companies. Persons living in communities that use natural or artificial gas for heating purposes will be interested in a bill recently introduced by Senator Mitchell, of Jefferson county. It is aimed at the deposit required by electric light and natural and artificial gas companies before they will agree to supply light or heat. The consumers have nothing but the good word of the concerns as security. The bill provides that the maximum of deposits shall be 35, and that all money now in the hands of the companies as deposits, or that may be paid for this purpose in the future shall be placed for security in banks or safe deposit institutions to the credit of the consumer who pays them. A security value is specified. The bill also forbids gross charges on bills to the extent of the deposit—that is, the 10 per cent. off will be allowed on bills whether paid in ten days or not, as long as the deposit is up to its amount. The bill also puts a stop to the practice of requiring consumers to agree to take a certain amount of gas or electric light before any company will consent to furnish it.

New Mine Law Proposed. A bill of considerable importance to the bituminous mining industry has been introduced by Representative Anderson, of Washington county. It requires the appointment by the governor of a sealer of weights and measures who shall visit all mines in his district and test the scales at least once in every three months. This official shall also brand all cars where coal is filled by measure without check weighing and check measuring. The sealer shall be paid a salary of \$1,500 per year and traveling expenses. He is required to give a bond for \$5,000. All coal in the bituminous region is to be weighed before ascending at a price to be agreed upon between the miners and operators.

Building Society Insurance. Senator Grady has introduced two bills of more than passing importance. The first authorizes building and loan associations to take out policies of insurance on the lives of their shareholders. One-fifth of 1 per cent. of the monthly installment is to be set aside to pay the premiums, and on the death of a shareholder the amount of the policy is to go to the association towards paying the maturity value of the shares. The other Grady bill amends the law of 1888, which gives half the fees of county officers in excess of the expenses to the commonwealth, so that hereafter they will be retained by the counties. The bill also bars the state from collecting all such fees as are now in dispute.

Another Grady Bill. In the senate yesterday Mr. Grady presented a bill amending the act fixing the fees to be received by the several officers of the state, so that county officers shall, with the exception of those of the state, as heretofore, and providing

that counties and cities coextensive with counties may retain all fees paid thereto by county officers, the state relinquishing all claims against said officers.

Judge Archbald Argues. Judge Archbald, of Scranton, appeared before the senate committee on judiciary general yesterday afternoon in support of the Vaughan bill, to create a circuit court of five judges. Subsequently a sub-committee, consisting of Senators Brewer, McCarrall, Osbourn and Walton, was appointed to consider all the various circuit court bills, and from the number to prepare one which would be acceptable.

SPRING REFLECTIONS.

The Easter bonnet is en route. Yield not unto temptation and new veils. Winter flannels may now be changed for pneumonia.

The bluebird's song is heard—in warmer climates than this. Hayseed may now be scattered upon barren spots of earth.

Warm sugar parties will soon be the fad in rural districts where the rock maple flourishes.

House builders, bricklayers and plasterers can now go on a strike with hopeful hearts.

Lunch wagons will do well to keep off the streets that may sprout on Scranton streets if all councilmanic theories are carried out.

Parties who do not like the manner in which some of our streets are clogged with building materials may travel by some other avenue.

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Special attention is called to our own importation of Printed Scotch Dimities, all new and original designs that cannot be found elsewhere.

On or about March 15th we will open up about 600 pieces of Dotted and Figured Swisses.

Limited space will not permit us to talk about Silks, but if you will kindly call and see our stock, it will talk for itself in louder tones than it ever did before. We have prepared ourselves for the great existing demand for Silk Skirts and Waists, and can prove to you that our prices are unmatched.

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- Balance Books
- Graves' Indexes
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DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM
The symptoms of which are dizziness, lack of confidence, sexual weakness in men and women, hair falling in throat, spots 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 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, cowardice, 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, and many others. Those so affected should consult us immediately and be restored to perfect health.

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Weakness of Young Men Cured.



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