

**NORTON'S BOOK STOCK**  
will interest close buyers just now both in the extent and variety and low prices. Main floor is full best subjects. Here are some of the items: Children's large picture books from 5 cents upwards, young folks' story books from 10 cents upwards, the little "Classics," cloth, standard authors and good subjects, 15c each, publisher's price 35c. Webster's large Dictionary, old ed., 97c. Webster's New International Dic., \$8.50. Good Vest Pocket Dictionary 10c up. McCauley's England, 5 vols., cloth, 97c. McCauley's Social Forms and Customs \$1.50, formerly sold by agents for \$3.50. A large History of the United States \$1.50, formerly sold by agents for \$3.50. Good pocket Testament 5 cents. Large pocket Bible 25 cents. Large new Bible 50 cents. Teachers' Bibles \$1.25 upwards. The best values have ever had, four different makers, best of each. Catholic Prayerbooks 10c to 25c. Episcopal Prayerbooks, all grades. Church Hymnbooks, all denominations. Sabbath School Library Books of standard authors and leading pubs. Notes on Sabbath School Lessons, 1895, various authors and special low prices. Pocket Diaries, 1896, large variety. Booklets and Calendars and Cards, the beauty of which astonishes all.

**M. NORTON,**  
322 LACKAWANNA AVE.

**A Foe to Dyspepsia**

**GOOD BREAD**  
USE THE  
**Snow White FLOUR**  
And Always Have Good Bread.

**The Weston Mill Co.**  
PERSONAL.

Pay your gas bills today and save the discount.  
Poor Director Charles Tropp is seriously ill.  
Coroner J. A. Kelley spent yesterday in Pittston.  
William G. Myers, grand exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, is the guest of Elks in this city.  
Joseph Green, leading man of the Thomas E. Shea company, is being entertained during his stay in this city by T. J. Jordan, private secretary to Alderman Miller, who was a former member of the Shea company and Mr. Green's chum.

**POOR DISTRICT BELONGINGS.**  
Annual Inventory at Hillside Home Taken Yesterday by the Poor Board.

Poor Directors Swan, Gibbons, Langstaff, Williams, Shotton and Secretary E. J. Lynett went to the Poor Farm yesterday to take inventory as is done annually about this time of the year. The party left here at 9 o'clock a. m., and returned at 4 o'clock p. m. Superintendent George W. Beemer had the inventory prepared, so, all that the members had to do was to check off the different properties. The result of their work will be made known in their annual reports.

**CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS**  
Come and pick them out now, as you will have a better selection. We have in stock all of the best shapes and the lowest prices ever offered in Holiday Slippers.

**OUR TWO LEADERS.**  
Men's Russia Leather, \$1.50  
Men's Seal Leather, 1.50

Men's Russia Tourist, formerly \$2.50, we sell them at \$2.00, all sizes, any shape.

**SCHANK & KOEHLER,**  
410 Spruce Street.

**FOR BETTER CITY LAWS**

Reading Takes the Lead in an Important Movement.

**CONVENTION FOR A NEW ACT**

Select Council's Communication from Reading Relative to Better Government for Cities of the Third Class—Other Council Doings.

A movement to frame a new act for the government of cities of the third class was made known to select council last night in a communication under date of December 18, from H. H. Hammer, city clerk of Reading. Accompanying the communication was a resolution setting forth the details of the movement in full, which is printed below:

Office of the City Clerk, Reading, Pa., Dec. 18, 1895.  
Whereas, the municipal act of 1882 providing for the government of cities of the third class is substantially a revision, with certain amendments of the several municipal acts enacted under the constitution; and

Whereas, the original act of 1874, of which all subsequent municipal acts have been amendments, was not a system of municipal law specially designed to meet the provisions and requirements of the constitution of 1874, but a compromise of the charter of the several cities intended to be governed thereby, resulting in numerous contradictions and inconsistencies; and

Whereas, the municipal laws thus compiled have proved inadequate to the purpose for which they were intended, and the experience of twenty years has demonstrated the advisability of the enactment of a new municipal act, which shall be a system with the largest autonomy permissible under the restrictions of the constitution of 1874; therefore

Resolved, That the cities of the third class of this commonwealth be invited to appoint delegates to consist of the mayor, city solicitor, city engineer and one member of select council and two members of common council of each of said cities, to meet in convention at Reading on Wednesday, the twentieth day of March, at 10 o'clock a. m., in the common council chamber, and such other times and places as special convention may from time to time designate to prepare and draft a municipal act to obviate the objections and meet the requirements aforesaid, to be submitted to the next session of the legislature.

Resolved, That the city clerk be and is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of these resolutions to the cities of the third class in this commonwealth.

Submitted by H. Hammer, City Clerk of Reading.

**The Mt. Pleasant Ravine.**  
The sewers and drains committee which visited the Mount Pleasant ravine Wednesday, recommended that a committee be instructed to provide for a culvert about 100 feet long to connect the North Main avenue culvert with the Mount Pleasant colliery culvert, thereby making a covered sewer as far as the ravine, which runs between the Diamond and Mount Pleasant dumps, and which can, in the opinion of the committee, be safely used as an open sewer.

Three sets of competitive plans for the May Avenue bridge on Franklin avenue were received in response to City Clerk Layell's advertisement, and referred to the Joint Fire Department Committee.

At a previous meeting a proposition was received from the Providence and Abington Turnpike company to place the West Market street portion of the road in good shape for \$2,500 and keep it in repair for \$1,500 a year. There was some doubt as to whether under the terms of this proposition the first year would require an expenditure of \$2,500 or \$4,000, and the matter was referred to the Judiciary Committee, which, last night, brought in a report containing an opinion that the \$2,500 would cover the cost for the first year and that the \$1,500 additional would not be due until one year after the date of the completion of the repairs. The report was ordered filed.

An ordinance providing for an electric light midway on the Linden street bridge was favorably reported from the light and water committee and ordered printed.

Peter T. Mulligan was awarded the contract for constructing the Hyde Park avenue and Swedland street sewer for \$1,845, and the Capouse avenue and Larch street sewer for \$1,250.

Bids for the construction of a lateral sewer on Penn avenue, between Green Ridge and Larch streets, were read as follows:

Hewley Bros., \$1.85 per lineal foot, Hart & Gibson, \$1.45 per lineal foot; Peter T. Mulligan, \$575 for the work complete. The proposals were referred to the sewers and drains committee.

Ordinances for railroad gates at the Broadway crossing of the Jersey Central and Hudson lines, and the crossing of the Delaware and Hudson passed third and final reading.

**IN COMMON COUNCIL.**  
Mr. Nealis Was Full of Vinegar Last Night and Frowned Fiercely.

In common council last night Mr. Olliver moved to take a recess until after the holidays, but Mr. Nealis raised the point of order that no regular meeting can be dispensed with by a mere resolution and as the chair ruled the point will take the lower branch will meet the night following Christmas and if enough of them can be gotten together.

Mr. Nealis also pitched into City Engineer Phillips again for not making a report on the resolution directing him to secure options on the Davies and Allen properties on North Main avenue, which Mr. Nealis intends to convert into a public park. A resolution fathered by Mr. Nealis, demanding a report from Mr. Phillips was adopted.

Result of the Star Chamber Session.  
The Judiciary committee reported adversely the resolution authorizing the city solicitor to take an appeal from the report of the viewers on the damages incurred in grading New street. Council adopted the report. This committee also reported favorably the resolution reducing the assessors' salary to \$400 a year.

The taxes committee reported favorably and council approved a resolution exonerating all firemen, paid and volunteer, who have seen three years' active service, from occupation tax.

Among the new measures introduced were a resolution providing for the opening of Birch street from its present terminus to Washington avenue, and an ordinance providing for an additional permanent man for the Paonix company.

**SMITH REPEATS CHARGES**

Does So in an Affidavit Signed by His Client, Mr. Jennings.

**PAPERS OFFERED IN EVIDENCE**

Application for a Change of Venue in the Burns-Smith Case Was Made by Argument Before Judge Gunster and Edwards Yesterday.

Attorney Cornelius Smith and his client, John G. Jennings, are anxious to get out of Lackawanna county to try their case and with that end in view Mr. Smith argued in court yesterday afternoon for a change of venue in the case of Burns against him on the hearing of the rule to strike off the award of \$15,000 given by the arbitrators in the Libel suit. The argument was made before Judges Gunster and Edwards. Judge Archibald stepped down from the bench when the case was called and took a chair among the lawyers who had gathered around to hear what was going on.

Mr. Smith's first move was to read an affidavit signed by Jennings, which was a refutation of the charges made in the Burns case filed of record in the Supreme court. The document set forth that on the 10th of October, 1888, James Jennings, son of John G. Jennings, was seriously and permanently injured by the Lehigh Valley Railroad company's Mud Run in a collision, and that in January, 1889, two actions were begun in the common pleas court of this county against the company. That Attorney Ira H. Burns, the plaintiff in the above action, conspired and confederated with Thomas Reynolds, Myron Kasson and others for the purpose of hindering, delaying and defeating the plaintiffs in their actions against the Lehigh Valley Railroad company, and for the above alleged wrongs committed by the said combination against the affiant he has brought in the courts of common pleas of Lackawanna county an action for conspiracy against the Lehigh Valley Railroad company, Judge R. W. Archibald, Ira H. Burns, Myron Kasson, C. E. Pryor, Judge E. N. Willard, Major Everett Warren and Lemuel Amerman, which action is now pending in court.

**LITTLE TRIXIE IS CLEVER.**  
Unusually Good Performance Given at Davis' Theater.

An unusually clever aggregation of specialists in the "Little Trixie" company which entertained at Davis' theater yesterday. Every member is good in his or her particular line, and the lines are all right. There is a serious plot running through the performance, but that does not interfere with the entertaining features.

May Smith Robbins leads the company in her particular line, but very full in cleverness. Her daintiness is charming. Rosa Deloro and Lorene Jansen dance well and Miss Deloro sings the soprano solo, "Jamaic," in an exceptionally good voice. Harry Patterson does the most act in fine style, and his singing was loudly applauded. Fred Robbins is very entertaining.

The show has an abundance of good things, including a talented burlesque quartet, Lewy McCard, a German yodler, George P. Watson. "Little Trixie" will be repeated this and tomorrow evenings with afternoon matinees.

**A GRAND DISPLAY.**  
The Best in This Line Ever Made in Scranton.

The most elaborate and tastefully trimmed store in Scranton for the coming holiday season are the Scranton Cash Store and the Lindley Market on Washington avenue. The elegant display of fine confectionery in one of the windows is so artistically arranged it is simply a perfect dream and the next which is fixed up with Figs, Dates, Almonds, Raisins and Nuts is deserving great praise to whoever had it in charge, while in the third the magnificent display of Oranges, Grape Fruit, Bananas, Pine Apples, Grapes, etc., is attractive in the extreme. The fourth window which is reserved for a display of Poultry and Game will be so arranged to be in keeping with the others, on the whole both inside the stores and in the windows the grand display of fine goods with the elaborate trimming of holly and evergreens, hollyhock, etc., these establishments make the finest exhibit of the kind ever presented in this city and is worth a journey of many miles to see.

**UNSTINTED GENEROSITY.**  
Prominent Coal Operator Remembers Those Santa Claus Is Apt to Overlook.

No poor family in the city will know the want of a Christmas dinner and no child will be overlooked by Santa Claus if the board of associated charities can find them out.

This year, as during last Christmas, the board has the unlimited use of the check book of a well-known citizen, with the admonition that the more that they use it the better it will like it.

Mrs. Duggan, agent of the associated charities, will enlist the services of the representatives of the various charity organizations in distributing the good cheer so generously furnished.

The class of goods that we are selling at our establishment we are not afraid to guarantee, as they will give entire satisfaction and anything purchased of us, if not as represented, we will refund the money.

Davidow Bros., 217 Lackawanna ave.

Sugar Shells at Turnquest's.  
New patterns in Watch Chains. Turnquest's.

Harding's China Store, 215 Lackawanna avenue. Finest display in Fancy Decorated pieces in China and Glass, Silver plated ware, Cut Glass, Solid Brass and Onyx Tables and Banquet Lamps, Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets. Toys in endless variety as low as the lowest.

Individual Creams and Sugars in quadruple plated ware at Turnquest's, 205 Washington avenue.

Money to Loan.  
Anyone wishing to get a loan to help them over Christmas can be accommodated at Davidow Bros., 217 Lackawanna avenue.

Pickle and Table Castors. Turnquest's.  
Old prices in Silverware at Turnquest's, 205 Washington avenue.

Handkerchiefs for holiday gifts. Real Lace and Fine Hand Embroidered Handkerchiefs. The largest and finest stock in the city. Open every evening.

Silver clothes brushes, hair brushes, toilet sets, hat marks, coat hangers, paper cutters, and other silver novelties too numerous to mention can be had at Davidow Bros.

Slippers from 48 cents up at the 5 Brothers' Slipper Palace.

Watches at Turnquest's.  
Lace Pins, solid gold, \$2.50. Turnquest's.

The 5 Brothers' "Slipper Palace" charms everybody.  
It's easy to get suited in Jewelry at Turnquest's, 205 Washington avenue.

10,000 Pairs of Xmas Slippers to select from at the 5 Brothers' Slipper Palace, 608 Lackawanna avenue.  
Novelty Button Hooks. Turnquest's.  
Tea Sets in elegant designs at Turnquest's, Jeweler, 205 Washington ave.

**Serviceable Holiday Presents**

The holiday season is near once more. The question of Christmas gifts confronts you, and as the past year has been successful, a useful present will be more appreciated than anything you can give. Our store is filled with them.

Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Lamps, Onyx-Top Tables, Cut Glass, Sterling and Silver-Plated Ware, Five o'Clock Teas, Chafing Dishes, etc.

**China Hall**  
WEICHEL & MILLAR,  
134 WYOMING AVENUE.  
Walk in and look around.

**SANTA CLAUS**  
Will soon call on us, and if you will call and select your goods he will bring you just what you want. Twenty thousand feet of floor devoted to Candy and Toys.

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Umbrellas for holiday gifts, latest designs. Open every evening.  
Finleys.  
All you want of Brice-a-Brac at Turnquest's, 205 Washington avenue.

**Dolls by the Thousand**  
Dolls' outfits complete. Hats, Caps, Shoes, Heads, Bodies, Doll Furniture. See our  
Child's Carpet Sweeper and the  
Ideal Sewing Machine  
for \$5.00, will do any kind of sewing, and the  
Baby Sewing Machine  
for \$2.50.

**EXAMINE OUR TEN AND TWENTY CENT CANDY COUNTER**  
The largest and best variety for the money in the land.  
CALL AND SEE US.  
**J. D. WILLIAMS & BRO.**  
312 AND 314 LACKAWANNA AVE.

**Short Time**  
Only a few days and the best things are going. We never did such a business. Twelve extra, experienced sales people are here to serve you today.

**The Crowds**  
When you look in the store and see it crowded all day with satisfied purchasers what does it mean? This, that straight one price way of doing business wins. We are a little far down the avenue, but a step more and you won't regret it.

**REXFORD,**  
213 LACKAWANNA AVE.

**AYLESWORTH'S MEAT MARKET**  
The Finest in the City.  
The latest improved furnishings and apparatus for keeping meat, butter and eggs.  
223 Wyoming Ave.

**WILLIAM S. MILLAR,**  
Alderman 8th Ward, Scranton.  
ROOMS 4 AND 5,  
Gas and Water Co. Building,  
CORNER WYOMING AVE. AND CENTER ST.  
(1 hour intermission for dinner and supper.)  
Particular Attention Given to Collections  
Prompt Settlement Guaranteed.  
YOUR BUSINESS IS RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED  
Telephone No. 134.

**ON THE LINE OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RY**  
are located the finest fishing and hunting grounds in the world. Descriptive books on application. Tickets to all points in Maine, Canada and Maritime Provinces, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Canadian and United States Northwest, Vancouver, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Ore., San Francisco.

First-Class Sleeping and Dining Cars attached to all through trains. Tourists are fully fitted with bedding, curtains and a fully adapted to wants of families may be had with second-class tickets. Rates always less than via other lines. For full information, time tables, etc., on application to  
**G. V. SKINNER, G. E. A.**  
353 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

**A Large Stock of CHILDRENS' COATS! AT HALF PRICE.**

**WEARS & HAGEN,**  
415 Lackawanna Avenue.

**M. P. M'CANN**

Is Now at His New Store with a FULL LINE OF HATS

**MEN'S FURNISHINGS**

Sole Agent for Knox Hats, Coats and Suits Me.  
205 WYOMING AVENUE.

**Remember**  
Your friends at this hallowed season with  
Practical, Useful, Lasting Gifts  
Pleasing to the eye and easy on the pocketbook, thus making yourself happy, too.

**We Have Them Here**  
Abundant, varied, cheap; anything in our line of business at the right price.

**PIANOS**  
Of the World  
DECKER BROS., KRANICHE & BACHE and others.

**ORGANS**  
Musical Instruments, Musical Merchandise, Sheet Music and Music Books.

**P. M'CREA & CO.,**  
Coal Exchange. 128 Wyoming Ave.

**We Have On Hand**  
THE BEST STOCK IN THE CITY

Also the Newest, Also the Cheapest, Also the Largest.  
**N. A. HULBERT'S**  
MUSIC STORE,  
117 Wyoming Ave. - - Scranton

**CLOCKS IN ALL FASHIONABLE STYLES**  
Porcelain, Onyx, Etc. Silver Novelties in Infinite Variety. Latest Importations.  
Jewelry, Watches, Diamonds.  
**A. E. ROGERS,**  
Jeweler and Watchmaker, 215 Lackawanna Ave.

**Wedding Presents**  
and articles appropriate for  
**Christmas Gifts**  
New lot of  
Japanese Screens, 4 and 5 feet high, Fire Screens, Bamboo Flower Stands, Blacking Boxes, Easels, Rogers' Groups, Brass Tables, Vases, Etc. Down Pillows and Silk Mantel Scarfs Table Covers, Lace Curtains, Etc.

**SIEBECKER & WATKINS**  
406 Lackawanna Avenue.  
TAKE CARE OF YOUR EYES and your eyes will take care of you. If you are troubled with headaches or nervousness go to the SIEBECKER & WATKINS. We have reduced prices and are the lowest in the city. Special specimens from \$1 to \$2; gold from \$4 to \$6.  
305 Spruce Street, Scranton, Pa.

**THE RECEIVERS OF MARTIN & DELANY'S CLOTHING STORE**  
Are still offering the large stock of goods from 25 to 50 per cent. below cost.

**These Goods Must Be Sold**  
And if you want bargains come and get them at once.

**MARTIN & DELANY**  
RECEIVERS,  
Wyoming Ave.

**Smoking Jackets**

AND  
**House Coats**

All sizes, \$1 to \$2, at the one Price of  
**\$3.00**  
for choice of any of our tables, former price \$5, \$7 or \$10, all go now at  
**\$3.00**  
for your choice.

**COLLINS' JACKETS & HATS**  
Clothing, Hatters & Furnishers.

**STENWAY & SON'S**  
Acknowledged the Leading  
**PIANOS**  
Of the World  
DECKER BROS., KRANICHE & BACHE and others.

**ORGANS**  
Musical Instruments, Musical Merchandise, Sheet Music and Music Books.

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Are still offering the large stock of goods from 25 to 50 per cent. below cost.

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Wyoming Ave.