

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. McCabe'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 35c. Episcopal Prayerbooks, all grades. Church Hymnbooks, all denominations. Sabbath School Library Books of standard authors and leading prices. Notes on Sabbath School Lessons, 1896, various authors and special low prices. Pocket Diaries, 1896, large variety. Booklets and Calendars and Cards, the beauty of which astonishes all.

M. NORTON, 222 LACKAWANNA AVE.

A Foe to Dyspepsia

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

MANUFACTURED AND FOR SALE TO THE TRADE BY The Weston Mill Co.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

Will Be Held on Jan. 7 to Nominate City Officers. A meeting of the Republican city committee was held Saturday afternoon at the Central club's rooms in the Price building on Washington avenue. Sheriff Frank H. Clemons was chairman. Thomas H. Dale read the call, after which George Sanderson made a motion that the primaries be held on Saturday, Jan. 4, and the convention on Tuesday, the 7th. Mr. Dale amended the motion so that it provided for the holding of the primaries between the hours of 4 and 7 p. m. and the time for calling the convention to order, at 2:30 p. m. Mr. Dale's motion prevailed that the vigilance committees elected at the Fall election be the ones to conduct the coming primaries. The list of the vigilantes and the call for the convention will be duly published.

As the courts will be in session the week on which the convention will assemble, it will be necessary to secure a place other than the court room for the purpose. The convention will be held in Music hall.

50,000 Imported and Key West Cigars. Key West, \$2.50 box, up; fresh and light. E. G. Courson.

Buy your Christmas Tea and Coffee of the Grand Union Tea Co., 311 Lackawanna avenue, and get a handsome calendar for 1896 given to every purchaser to-day, Monday and Tuesday.

Place Xmas Orders Early. Fresh candles, Florida oranges, fruits and fancy groceries. E. G. Courson.

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.

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.

ANOTHER PURITY SERMON

Lecture by Dr. McLeod on the Seventh Commandment.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR CONNELL

But the Mayor Should Be Strictly Held to the Enforcement of the Laws. Blessings of Marriage and Evils of Divorce.

Along the line of public discussion, addresses and comment, which have followed the recent police court case, was last night's sermon of Rev. James McLeod in the First Presbyterian church. Dr. McLeod's thought was a plea for higher morality. He had something complimentary to say of Mayor Connell, but frankly gave his opinion that any officer who fails to see that the provisions of the law are enforced should be summarily dealt with. The lecture was entitled "The Seventh Commandment is the Gospel of Purity" and, as indicated by the first three words of the title, was the seventh of a series of lectures on the ten commandments. Dr. McLeod's text was "Thou shalt not commit adultery," Exodus, xxiv, and "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God," Matthew, v.8. He said: "The seventh commandment preaches the gospel of purity. As interpreted by Christ, it forbids not only the impure act but the impure thought; it requires the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech and behavior; it is a law of unchangeable thoughts, words and actions. The advent of Christ gave to this commandment new force and interest. He preached and lived the gospel of purity. He was truly, harmless, undefiled and separate from sin. Marriage and Divorce.

It would not be convenient to discuss at this time, all the questions involved in this part of the decalogue. The value and the importance of this holy law can hardly be overestimated. The saintly and sainted theologian, Dr. Hoole, has devoted more space to its consideration than to any other of the commandments.

This holy law is of the utmost importance to the individual, to the family, to the church and to the society at large. If the fifth commandment puts a sacred guard around the home in respect of parental and filial conduct, the seventh commandment puts a sacred guard around it in respect of the divine institution of marriage. The most sacred of all earthly relationships is that of the husband and wife. It is wedlock, and to break that holy law is to break God's most holy law, which He has made for the peace and harmony of the home. The divine law on this subject is explicit, for marriage is a divine institution. It is not simply a civil contract. In the ancient "chapters" polygamy was tolerated, not because it was right but because of the hardness of the Hebrew heart; but "from the beginning it was not so." Polygamy was tolerated among the Hebrews somewhat as Mormonism was too long tolerated by our government. Both were wrong. They were crimes against God and against humanity, and both were a source of national disaster. The world owes its elevation in the scale of family and social purity to the advent of Christ. If the New Testament does not occupy a higher plane than the Old, it is, at least, more pronounced. The gospel of Christ lifts us up into a higher, sweeter, clearer atmosphere, and in this higher, purer air we see more clearly that which the old Hebrews, that "the law is spiritual."

On the question of divorce, the law of Moses was almost as strict as the law of Maine, while, on the other hand, the law of Christ is far less stringent than the law of South Carolina, for no divorce has ever been granted in that state. It would be a happy day for this nation—God speed its coming!—if all civil laws in all our states, touching the question of family purity, were brought into harmony with the law of Christ. The devil of divorce is a most impure as well as a most industrious devil, and he cannot be sent too quickly to his own place.

Standard of Purity Rising. The Bible gives great prominence to the subject of purity because of its great importance. The goal of purity is heaven. The goal of impurity is hell. Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever ye sow ye shall also reap. Neither drunkards, nor idolaters, nor the covetous, nor fornicators, nor adulterers shall inherit the kingdom of God. It is not surprising that the word of God with his holy warning, the sin of impurity is far too common in Christendom.

But while this is true it is my thankful belief, that Christ's gospel of purity has never been so widely appreciated, nor so widely practiced as it is today. The Christian religion is its own best work. The standard of purity has been steadily raised and it is steadily rising. If it be true that, too often, "Man's vows are woman's traitors," it is no less true that many honor and womanly virtue were never held in higher esteem than at this good hour. Occasionally the vices of the few receive more public attention than the virtues of the many. Wrecked lives, like wrecked ships, are widely heralded. It is well to call public attention to the wreck and ruin wrought by sin; but are there not in our land, an hundred sober men for every drunkard; an hundred honest men for every thief; an hundred loyal men for every traitor; and an hundred knights of virtue for every one who is a synonym for dishonor?

Neither Swift nor Sterne would be tolerated today in any Christian pulpit. The tone of English literature has been greatly elevated since that time, and, moreover, it is cause for gratitude that pure and healthy literature is, nowadays, quite as cheap as that which is filthy and degrading.

A small skirmish has taken place in our own city. I hope it will do good. Our mayor and some elect ladies and physicians have spoken plainly and directly on the subject. The Christian pulpit should welcome all such Christ-like help. The words of St. Paul: "Help those women which labored with me in the gospel," are as applicable to the pulpit of today as they were to that of the Apostle age.

A Tribute to Scranton. I have said more than once that this city is cleaner morally, and that it is better governed than any city of its size in this country. This is not a hasty judgment, but it is to be capable of abundant proof. But still there is room for improvement. The officers of the law, from the mayor down, should be held to a strict accountability for the enforcement of our righteous laws against Sabbath breaking and against the liquor traffic, and against impurity, as well as against theft and murder. An officer of the law who refuses to obey the law and to carry out its provisions, even when, according to his own confession, it is boldly and brazenly violated, is not fit to be a public officer, and he ought to be relegated as speedily as possible to private life.

First—It is possible for those already pure to preserve their purity, and if so, how? Second—Is it possible for those already stained with impurity to become pure, and if so, how? In reply to this second question, let me say, that if the impure can never become pure and clean, then I have no gospel to preach. We must not so limit the graces of God. The word of God can make the foulest clean. The best way to keep impurity out of the heart is to pour purity into it. But blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. And the pure in heart may re-

main pure. But it is no easy task to keep the heart clean. So says the Bible, so says history, and so says our own experience. The human heart is most deceitful. The way to keep it clean is marked out. Be very watchful yourself; be busy doing good; be much in Christ's company. When strongly tempted, remember those words: "Thou God, send me," for they have a mighty restraining influence. That is a pity saying of the great Dr. Johnson: "Be not idle when you are alone, and be not alone when you are idle." If we take delight in Christ's company, He will make our bodies the temple of His Holy Spirit. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

AGAINST PERSONAL VICE.

State Secretary Bard, of the Y. M. C. A. Talks Against Unchastity. Services of peculiar interest were held in the Young Men's Christian association building yesterday afternoon. The attendance was large and necessitated the use of the library in which S. M. Bard, the state secretary, spoke on the subject "Through a Hole in the Wall." The title of Secretary Bard's talk was "Through a Hole in the Wall." He spoke with personal sin and unchastity. He spoke of portions of the eighth and ninth chapters of Ezekiel, which, are replete with admonitions and cautions against personal vice, and urged his young hearers to cultivate a higher and better manhood. Against prostitution, tobacco, liquor and similar evils he spoke with no little emphasis. Special music was rendered by Walter Kelpie, violinist, and a glee party under the direction of J. M. Chance, the association's instructor of instrumental music.

Following the service the class in Bible study met and partook of a lunch served by General Secretary and Mrs. Mahy.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC.

Was Sung in Several of the City Churches Yesterday. Christmas music was sung in several of the churches yesterday. In most of the churches, however, the Christmas programme will not be rendered until Wednesday or next Sunday. In the Green Ridge Presbyterian church the soloists, Miss Lydia Pichel, Mrs. Metzger, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Conant, and the chorists, rendered a programme, choral in character. There was music in Elm Park church, but the special Christmas music will not be sung until next Sunday. One of the most elaborate programmes was that under the direction of T. J. Davies in the Providence Presbyterian church by a chorus of fifty voices and a quartet of soloists. The programme included organ solos in the First Presbyterian church were of Christmas character. In nearly all the churches in the city next Sunday, yesterday's programmes will be repeated, and special music will be originally rendered.

DR. ROBINSON'S SERMON.

"Daniel, the Model Statesman and Politician," His Subject. Rev. Dr. Charles E. Robinson preached last night in the Second Presbyterian church on "Daniel, the Model Statesman and Politician." Although the subject might have indicated that Dr. Robinson would have some pronounced things to say about local government and politics, the reverse was the case. The text was "The Lord is with Daniel because he was a righteous man, and he stood before the king." Dr. Robinson held up Daniel and Daniel's character as a model for police officials of today, and made an urgent plea for citizens to use their sovereignty by choosing as their officials only Daniels possessed of good moral character, stamina and the love of God.

SABBATH NEWS NOTES.

The struggle for Christian liberty in Cuba was the evening thought of Rev. L. C. Floyd in Simpson Methodist Episcopal church. The Penn Avenue Baptist church was occupied by Rev. George F. Warren, of New York city. In Calvary Reformed church, the topics of Rev. W. N. Stubblebine were "How Much Owe Thou Unto the Lord" and "Jesus, a Stumbling Block." In the Green Ridge Baptist church were "God's Anointed" and "The World's Savior." Special Christmas music was rendered by a choir of twelve voices under the leadership of Thomas Watkins. The sixth commandment was the evening theme of Rev. Foster U. Gift, of Grace Lutheran church. It was the sixth of a series of commandment lectures. In St. Mark's Lutheran church the theme of Rev. Dr. A. L. Ramer, were "The Voice of One Calling in the Wilderness" and "The Lord is at Hand." Rev. William Edgar's topics in the Providence Methodist Episcopal church were "The Babe of Bethlehem" and "Some Christmas Creations." Rev. Dr. W. H. Moore's evening theme in Elm Park church was "The Hymn of Peace."

There was a special Christmas service and an address by A. B. Vowles illustrated by a stereopticon in the Green Ridge Presbyterian church in the evening. A railroad men's meeting was addressed by Jim Burdick in the Scranton Street Baptist church in the evening. Rev. S. S. Matthews, the pastor-elect, preached in the morning. Rev. G. T. Price in the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church were "The Nativity of Christ; or, the World's Need" and "Longer, Prayers, Prayer and Thanksgiving." The afternoon Gospel meeting at the Young Women's Christian association rooms yesterday was addressed by H. W. Luce and A. B. Williams on "A World's Needs and How to Meet Them." Ralph Gillam, evangelist, delivered an address at the morning and evening services of the Dunmore Presbyterian church. Mr. Gillam ably assisted the Rev. B. Fay Mills in this city.

Rev. L. C. Floyd preached a patriotic sermon, taking as his subject the Cuban rebellion and its causes. The discourse was enjoyed by large audience. The Sunday school of the Plymouth Congregational church elected officers yesterday. Rev. James Felling preached in the Jackson Street Baptist church yesterday. Rev. S. F. Matthews, the new pastor of the Scranton Street Baptist church, preached at the Scranton street Baptist church in the morning. Mr. Matthews will preach his first regular sermon next Tuesday.

A few of the West Side churches conducted special singing services yesterday. In the evening the congregation at the Washington Street Presbyterian church was entertained with music by the quartette composed of Mrs. B. T. Jayne, Miss B. Balkin, Edwin Townen and A. Heaber. At the Plymouth Congregational church the choir, under the able leadership of Elias E. Evans, rendered several numbers. Solo singing was also enjoyed by the large audiences present. Rev. T. Bell, the pastor, preached.

Jim Burdick, the evangelist who has been conducting meetings at the Railroad Young Men's Christian association, gave a talk last evening in the Scranton Street Baptist church. The meeting was for the benefit of railroads, a large number of whom were present.

The masses at St. Peter's cathedral Christmas Day will be the following: Mass at 5 a. m., and low masses at 6, 7, 8 and 9 o'clock. At 10 p. m. Rev. Bishop O'Hara will sing a beautiful high mass and impart the papal blessing.

Big times these at Turnquest's the jeweler's. Have you been to see him yet at 205 Wyoming avenue.

A Little Out of the Way. Turnquest's jewelry store may be a little out of the way for some shoppers, but even if it is you'll be better pleased and better served if you go there. Poor goods find no place in his stock, and depend upon it, you get a full hundred cents' worth for every dollar you leave there.

difference between the product of today and one twenty years old. We aim to create new ideas in our printing, but at the same time, "we study to please the customer," re-allying that he is the one who will be daily using the work. Neatness is preferable to cheapness, and it is surprising for us to find the quality of work deteriorated so low (where the price is too low) that even an inexperienced boy would be ashamed of it, and could not earn a boy's wages in perfecting the job. Don't stop using the best product of the printers' art because it is a trifle more expensive. It pays in the long run to get the best.

WELL,

If you don't know what to buy for Christmas presents, and will take my advice, you will pay a visit to China Hall. I felt as you do not knowing what to buy or where to go to buy it. I went to Weichel & Millar's, and saw so many things that were useful as well as ornamental, that it was a real pleasure instead of labor in making my selections. They have so many little conceits, such as Trinket Sets, Comb and Brush Trays, Flower Vases, Ink Sets, Jardinieres, 6 o'clock Tea Kettles, Chafing Dishes—no end to Lamps, and Onyx Top Tables, Dinner Sets in open stock. It is surprising how cheap you can buy a nice set when you can select such pieces as you need and not have to pay for a lot of pieces that you do not need; and such a line of Libbey's Famous Cut Glass, artistic Rookwood, which you will find nowhere else in the city.

China Hall

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

SANTA CLAUS

Will so call on us, and if you will select your goods here you will be sure to get the best. Twenty thousand feet of floor room devoted to Candy and Toys.

Dolls by the Dozen

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.

AYLESWORTH'S MEAT MARKET

The Finest in the City. The latest improved furnishings and apparatus for keeping meat, butter and eggs. 223 Wyoming Ave.

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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, Minnesota, 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 cars fully fitted with bedding, curtains and up 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 E. V. SKINNER, G. E. A. 353 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

REXFORD, 213 LACKAWANNA AVE.

A Large Stock of CHILDRENS' COATS!

AT HALF PRICE.

MEARS & HAGEN,

415 Lackawanna Avenue.

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MEARS & HAGEN,

415 Lackawanna Avenue.

M. P. M'CANN Smoking Jackets

AND House Coats

All sizes, 34 to 42, at the one Price of

\$3.00

for choice of any on our tables, former price \$5, \$7 or \$10, all go now at

\$3.00

for your choice.

Sole Agent for Knox Hats. Come and See Me. 205 WYOMING AVENUE.

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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.

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.

CLOCKS IN ALL FASHIONABLE STYLES

Porcelain, Onyx, Etc. Silver Novelties in Infinite Variety. Latest importations.

Jewelry, Watches, Diamonds.

R. E. ROGERS, Jeweler and Watchmaker, 216 Lackawanna Ave.

LACE CURTAINS

Most Desirable Holiday Gifts.

Nottingham Lace Curtains, Brussels and other effects, 75c, \$1, \$1.25

Nottingham Lace Curtains, very rich effects, \$2, \$3, \$4

Irish Point Lace Curtains, beautiful designs, \$2.50, \$3.25, \$4, \$5.50

Five Dollars Will Do a Lot of Shopping in Our Store. MANTEL AND PIANO LAMBREQUINS.

Many handsome Japanese Silk Lambrequins, latest shades, embroidered with gold and trimmed with knotted fringe, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$4

SILK PILLOWS.

Fancy China Silk Pillows, figured designs, down filled and ruffles, \$1

Couch Pillows of Japanese silk, gold embroidery, \$2.75

SIEBECKER & WATKINS

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TAKE CARE OF YOUR EYES

and your eyes will take care of you. You are troubled with headache or nervousness go to DR. BURG'S and have your eyes examined free. We have reduced prices and are the lowest in the city. Nickel spectacles from \$1 to \$2; gold from \$1 to \$3. 305 Spruce Street, Scranton, Pa.

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MARTIN & DELANY'S CLOTHING STORE

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

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And if you want bargains come and get them at once.

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