## The Scranton Tribune

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WERRIST TRIBUNE, Issued Every Saturday, intains Twelve Handsome Pages, with an Abunce of News, Fiction, and Well-Edited Misceley. For Those Who Cannot Take THE BALLY RIBURS, The Weekly Is Recommended as the at Bargain Going. Only \$1 a Year, in Advance.

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SCRANTON, JANUARY 1, 1896.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION. Headquarters Republican state commit-

teb, 1231 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 12, 1855. To the Republican Electors of Pennsyl-

The Republicans of Pennsylvania, by their duly chosen representatives, will meet in state convention, Thursday, April 23, 1896, at 10 o'clock n. m., in the Opera transacting such other business as may be

presented.

By order of the state committee,

M. S. Quay,

Chairman. Jere B. Rex. W. R. Andrews,

Representation in this convention will be the same as in the last state conven-

More fuss is being made in many cities concerning the methods of approaching municipal reform than there is any necessity for. Municipal reform can always be had by electing good and progressive men to office. Such men are the safest reformers.

### A Happy New Year.

ing of a new milestone in the progress of the years carries with it a suggestiveness hitherto unfelt. A twelvemonth of this period of the world's development is more than equal, in the volume and diversification of the events for which it stands, to a decade at the present century's birth, or to a century five or six hundred years ago. There is no newness in the thought, yet this one occasion gives it perhaps a new signiffcance, that we are children of an electric age-of an age that glories in fast and furious speed, in giant undertakings, in audacious speculations, Our scale altitudes and conque chasms that two generations ago would have been deemed impregnable; our mechanicians harness the forces of the earth and of the air to new and marvelous combinations of human ingenuity and skill: and our inventors without hesitation or abashment go eagerly to their task of revolutionizing the universe two and three times a day.

Most of this ceaseless activity is by many people quietly taken for granted. The majority is fallen into the rut of expecting these things and of ceasing to take note of them. It requires, among the most of us, a pretty big achievement to pique our dulled and sated curiosity and to stimulate our languid interest. A Teskla once and an Edison twice or thrice have, in the world of electricity, challenged our admiration; but in the natural sciences we have ceased to feel surprise at any discovery or any theory; in the arts we are dimly conscious of a host of workers with no projecting single figure; and in the realm of philosophy and religion not even the cry of heresy suffices any longer to invest a preacher or a teacher with more than transient interest. The fact, as Nordau has stated it, is that we are so rapid and so mulitfarious in our industries and our achievements that the senses are being blurred and numbed by the strain; and if it is not degeneracy which gives to the activities of our day their nether side of pain, doubt and hopelessness it is certainly some similar heritage of the "pace that kills."

We are not, however, viewing the outlook with anything like despair. The student of history does not need to be told that nations and civilizations have their cycles, now one of sated weariness, and again one of tranquility and rest. Already from out the babel of our fin de is his comparison of postal with passensiecle overanxiousness there is borne the note of a quieter philosophy. The disposition to overdo is likely to give way, perchance sooner than we know, to the saner and happier disposition imply to do. The upbuilding, in our stantly traveling University Exsocial activities of its youngbut some of the symptoms at the coming of a period e for this New Year's wings s Bewilds hall business and that the fact would have become more in the que them money be the ence, or shall chief purpose 38 dinated to the they be auxiliai ole chark upbuilding of no ters?"

first lant Bayard is not th Bayard is not the apon wit Samson slayed the P

Recall Bayar foreign e The house committee on orting back fairs did exactly right in repeation, the with a favorable recommend with a favorable recommend on McCall resolution calling up as the president for information whether any steps had been take per ascertain the truth of the newsport is not reports of Ambassador Bayard's rec

speeches concerning the weakness and the dishonesty of his countrymen in the United States, The case of Mr. Bayard dare not be dropped short of such action by this government as will teach him and all other ambassadors that their mission in foreign climes is to stand up loyally and boldly for th whole people they represent, and not simply for some one faction or party.

In view of the present grave differen ces between this nation and Great Britain, it seems almost incredible that the president should wish to continue at the English court an ambassador who, within a few weeks, had gone out of his way to explain to the people of England that his countrymen were stubborn and headstrong, that they needed a strong man to govern them, and that the great majority of them, being believers in Protection, were in effect dishonest while American legislation was entrusted by them to chafferers, not to statesmen. With what grace could Mr. Bayard, after this deliverance, enter with confidence the presence of Lord Salisbury and lay before that wily old diplomat business of importance concerning the United States? Could not the English premier turn Mr. Bayard's approach into an immediate jest by reminding him of the badness of the nation he was serving and by commiserating him upon the kind of government with which that nation was afflicted?

It seems to us that there never was a learer case of self-achieved disqualification for an important trust than is presented in the case of Ambassador Bayard, following his recent speeches. While it is true that at the time he spoke, there seemed to be no appearance of trouble between his government and the government of her majesty, it is equally true that the rituation to-House, city of Harrisburg, for the purpose of nominating two candidates for representatives at large in congress and thirty-two candidates for presidential electors, selecting eight delegates at large to the Republican national convention, and transacting such ather business as may be day is radically different. There now Mr. Bayard stands by his own act utterly discredited. He does not command the confidence of his own countrymen, and in the ludicrous light of his present dilemma he certainly cannot hope for sympathy from England. As an ambassador he is without one of the requisites that make ambassadors valuable; and if the president does not possess sufficient discernment to perceive the necessity of replacing him, congress itself should take the national dignity into its own keeping so far as it can do this under the constitution.

It is well to remark on the very first day of 1896 that The Tribune, this eventful year, will maintain and, in fact, surpass its old habit of printing the best newspaper in Northeastern Pensyl-In these busy modern days the passvania; and it will be especially enterprising in its presentation of the news of the presidential campaign. Begin the new year rightly by subscribing for the best daily paper.

### The Railway Problem.

In the course of a recent speech in Detroit Mayor Pingree said: There is no question in the minds of mer

Detroit Mayor Pingree said:

There is no question in the minds of men familiar with general conditions but that transportation levies too great a tax upon producers. The economists of the country point out that in the last few years labor and the products of labor have fallen in value 16 to 17 per cent., while transportation has not fallen 2 per cent. This in liself is enough to attract the serious attention of legislatures to the question of artificial prices granted by those bodies and charged by corporations. But further proof of the gravity of the question may be found in the following facts which show the enormous profits growing out of railway transportation. In Australia you can ride a distance of 1,000 miles across country for \$5.50 first class, while workmen can ride six miles for 2 cents, twelve miles for 4 cents, thirty miles for 10 cents, and railroad men receive from 25 to 20 per cent, more wages for eight hours of labor than they are paid in this country for ten hours. In Victoria, where these rates prevail, the net income from the roads is sufficient to pay all the federal taxes.

In Hungary, where the roads are state owned, you can ride six miles for 1 cent, and since the roads were bought by the government the men's wages have doubled. Belgium tells the same story—fares and freight rates cut down one-half and wages doubled. Yet the foods pay a yearly revenue to the government of \$6,00,000. In Germany you can ride four miles for 1 cent on the government on the government of seconds. Germany you can ride four miles for 1 cent on the government owned lines. Yet wages are over 125 per cent, higher than they were when the corporations owned them, and during the last ten years the net profits have increased 41 per cent. Last year the nave increased 41 per cent. Last year the roads paid the German government a net profit of \$25,000,000. If our government owned the railroads we could go to San Francisco from Boston for \$10. Here is the proof: The United States pays the railroads not quite \$275 to transport a loaded postal car from Boston to San Francisco. A passanger car will care fifty. cisco. A passenger car will carry fifty passengers, which, at \$10 each, would be 5500, or a clear profit of \$225 per car, and this, too, after paying 5½ per cent, on the cost of the roads.

These figures are sufficiently startling to warrant examination. In every country mentioned except Australia it is to be noted that Mayor Pingree com pares the lowest rates of fares for thirdclass travel in localities having double and treble our population to the square mile with the first-class rates charged in the United States for a service more luxurious many times over than is the best service afforded on the railway lines of continental Europe, This makes a stiff contrast, no doubt, but it is not quite a fair one. Equally unfair ger ratees. Whenever parties of fifty men want to start, two and three times a day, from Boston to San Francisco as do the postal cars, it is probable that they can negotiate for rates that will be very little higher than the rates paid ies and towns, of public libraries and by Uncle Sam. Until then, the fact institutes: the missionary work of must be taken into account that travel between the coasts is light and irregulecturer; the entry of the church | lar, and that it costs nearly as much to haul an empty train across the conti nent as to haul a full one. In regard to Australia we must confess that we shall be more thought than are in the dark; but if it has been found m of life and less immer- | possible to give the equivalent of our the immediate routine of American passenger service in Australia at a rate of less than one-third of a thought which goes cent per mile and return a profit on the centals, is embodied capital invested, we should imagine

> generally known than it is. The trouble with Mayor Pingree's argument, however, is that it approaches the railway problem from the wrong side. People are not complaining in this country at excessive passenger rates. Their complaint is directed rather against often exorbitant and indefensible freight charges. When it takes four or five tons of anthracite coal at the mouth of the mine to pay for the transportation of one ton to tiderater, as has been the case more than ce in the history of the fuel industry, n there is room to question the ty of current freight charges. The y for this and similar extortions

ernment ownership, but is rather to be sought in a more thorough and effective regulation of the existing rallway system by state and federal supervi-

The Scranton Truth almanac for 1896 s one of the best of the year books that have been received to date. The almanac has been carefully compiled; is neatly printed and contains a large amount of useful information for all. The liberal advertising patronage accorded the work also shows that the worth of the publication is appreciated by business men generally. The Truth is generally in the front rank of enterprise upon all occasions and the almanac for 1896 is no exception to the rule.

Beginning today William H. McElroy, formerly of the New York Tribune. will assume editorial charge of the Rochester Post-Express, which will become a straightforward Republican paper. This change will have the effect of bringing to the aid of New York Republicanism one of the cleanest and newsfest and best-conducted newspapers in the United States. We wish it every success under its new editor.

The Pottsville Chronicle has issued a neat almanae and hand-book for 1896 which contains the usual features of excellence that mark publications from first-class establishments. The Tribune acknowledges the receipt of one of the Chronicle's timely souvenirs, and wishes our contemporary a year of prosperity.

The Republican party, by organizing the senate, gains a little patronage at the price of a grave and serious responsibility. From a political standpointand this is wholly a political matter-we think it will yet appear that the game wasn't worth the candle

Senator Lodge's Americanism is evidently of the robust type which would sooner go a step over the line in defending his country's dignity than to falter on the side of cowardice. Let the Mugwumps sneer at him if they will; their sneers are compliments.

The Carbondale Leader doesn't take defeat gracefully; but considering the magnitude of that defeat and the personal meaning wrapped up in it, perhaps we shouldn't either, if we were in the Leader's shoes,

### WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

Tribune Bureau,

515 Fourteenth street, N. W.,

Washington, Dec. 31.

From the looks of things down in Kentucky the jig is up with Senator Joe Blackburn. Only a split among the Republicans can save him, and that is not likely to happen. Blackburn's term in the senate loss of extract and water and March 3.187, which

cans can save him, and that is not likely to happen. Blackburn's term in the senate does not expire until March 3, 1877, which will make twelve years he has served in the upper branch of congress. He was a member of the house for ten years previous to his election to the senate. He also served in the Kentucky legislature. In fact, he has been pulling at the public teat ever since he left the Confederate army at the close of the "late unpleasantness."

It is a hard blow to Blackburn to be forced to leave public life. He is good for nothing else, except as a criminal lawyer. He has the most abusive tongue of any man in the senate. That is his strong point. An argument by Blackburn without being allowed to abuse his antagonist is rather a tame affair. He is a bully by nature, and in debate is a ruffian and blackguard. During a discussion in the senate a few years ago he locked horns with Senator Chandler, of New Hampwith Senator Chandler, or New Hamp-shire, and when Blackburn saw he was getting the worst of the argument he walked over to the Republican side of the chamber and pulled Chandler's ear. Not satisfied with thus humiliating his antag-onist and fellow-senator, Blackburn fur-

onist and fellow-senator, Blackburn further proved himself a blackguard by
wanting to fight a duel with the New
Hampshire senator. Lucklly for Blackburn Senator Chandler declined to partleipate in warfare of that kind.

Less than two months ago Blackburn
met his match in another KentuckianLicutenant Lucien Young, of the navy.
They had a misunderstanding at a dinner
in an up-town restaurant. The lie passed,
Blackburn pulled a gun on Young. The
latter snatched it out of the senator's
hand, threw it on the floor, grabbed Blackburn by the throat and made him apoloburn by the throat and made him apolo-gize, which he did very promptly and humbly.

numbly.

The day for blackguards in the United States senate is gone, and when Joe Blackburn steps down and out there will be few regrets and no tears. The South, which has been furnishing this class of statesmen, is sending better material to the senate.

If the emergency tariff bill, which the house passed last week, passes the senate, it will be with the assistance of Gorman, Murphy, Brice and Smith, known as the "Big Four," who opposed the passage of the Wilson bill on the ground that it would not raise sufficient revenue to meet the expenditures of the government. It will be remembered that these four senators so loaded the Wilson measure up with amendments that its author could scarcely recognize it. They predicted then that there would be a deficit in the treasury if the bill became a law, and their prediction has been verified. The house tariff bill, if it passes the senate at all, will doubtless resemble a crazy quilt. If there is too much patchwork about it when it reaches the president he will not sign it. He has been verified or reliaving the treasure the president and are an arrival to the treasure the president and are an arrival to the treasure the president are an area of the president as a constant of the treasure the president are an area of the president as a constant of the treasure the president are an area of the president as a constant of the treasure the president are an area of the president as a constant of the president are an area of the president and the president are a constant of the president and the preside he president he will not sign it. He has his mind set on relieving the treasury by the issuance of bonds, and bonds it wil

The prospects of the senate passing a bond measure are not bright at this writ-ing, unless the sound money senators con-cede a free silver clause. If they do that the bill will run against a snag when

that the bill will run against a snag when it reaches the white house. President Cleveland will not sign any bill that provides for the free coinage of silver. He desplees the white metal so that he would rather see the government go bankrupt than to recognize silver.

There seems to be no doubt now about the issuance of bonds by the treasury. The president and Secretary Carlisle have made up their minds that that is the only means left for relieving the strain on the surplus, and the sale of \$100,000,000 or \$200,000,000 of bonds any day need occasion no surprise.

Congressman "Jack" Robinson is in Pittsburg on business and incidentally looking after his senatorial boom in that ection of the state. "Jack" is in the fight

A new press club is to be organized by the Washington correspondence. It the Washington correspondents. It will start with a membership of 109, and that start with a membership of 109, and that number is expected to be more than fon-bled in a short time. The old club, which made an assignment for the benefit of its creditors last May, had a membership of nearly 400.

Information has reached here that th Oos Pasos committee, representing New York bondholders of the Philadelr New York bondholders of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad is about to ask Judge Dallas, of the United States circuit court at Philadelphia, to remove J. Lowber Weish from the receivership of that railroad. Among other things they will cite that Mr. Weish is overburdened with responsibilities and business cares. In addition to being a receiver of the Reading railroad, he is president of the Union Traction Trust of Philadelphia, trustee of the Drexel estate, a member of the Sugar Trust, being the owner of a large sugar refinery in Philadelphia, has large sugar interests in Cuba, and is interested in public and private business conested in public and private business cor

the mouth of the mine to pay ransportation of one ton to tideas has been the case more than the history of the fuel industry, here is room to question the for this and similar extortions of the found ir. the doubtful and private business concerns.

The main point to be urged for Mr. Welsh's removal will be that during the recent strike of the motorne and conductors in Philadelphia he so manipulated affairs that the Fourth and Eighth line, which is an active competitor of the Reading road for local traffic, and which is in Union Traction Trust, was the last to go out. The Reading was thus financially injured. Hence the effort to remove Mr.

Welsh from the recivership of that rail-

Congressman William A. Stone, who left the city last week to recuperate from the severe strain be has undergone since the convening of congress, is reported to be very seriously in at Atlantic City. It is said that he is threatened with pneumonia. His friends are alarmed about his condition and fear fatal results.

Congressmen Scranton and Leisenring Congressmen Scranton and Leisenring have gone home to spend New Year's. Mr. Scranton is said to be very much alarmed over the local political situation and his principal object in going home is to help his friend, Captain Moir, in his campaign for the mayoralty nomination. Mr. Leisenring will look after his interests for district delegate to the national convention.

After Jan. 1, 1886, the address of ex-Clerk of the House James Kerr will be Clearfield, Pa. His family left for their old home today. W. R. B.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacohus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 12.61 a. m., for Jan. 1.

0

Happy New Year! A child that's born upon this day Will stalle, no doubt, to hear that war with the leland over the way, Will not occur this year. The man who has he happlest new year is probably the one who can most effect ually close the shutters upon the past twelve months.

Individual Boroscopes. [Ajacchus has undertaken the task of fying advice to a few renders who have nclosed samples of hair and date o

birth.]
Michael, Dunmore.—According to the signs you should be an exceedingly healthy specimen of suburban humanity. If you lived in Seranton, Michael, we would be proud of you and perhaps would elect yai to the office of constable. There is little advice that can be given you, though there are several suggestions that might be of benefit to your relatives. We would advise you, however, to avoid joining any movement on foot to annex pertions of Dunmore to Seranton, and by all means keep away from bedies of water—you night be tempted to drink some. birth. might be tempted to drink some.

Belle, of Wilken-Barre,-It was unne-Belle, of Wilken-Barre,—it was unneccessary to give your present abiding place, Belle. When you remarked: "I haven't saw nothing like it," the location of your residence was revealed. If you were born at the recent date mentioned in your letter there is no reason why you should not have a reasonable share of the good things of life. By nature you are inclined to be melancholy. For this reason you should avoid reading Editor Sam Roya's poetry and eating mines use and lobster after and eating mince ple and lobster afte 11.30 p. m.

Ajacchus' Advice. Make all of your good resolutions today. They can be broken at leisure, Do not attempt to peer too far into the uture unless you are satisfied with th

Do not begin the year with the idea that the world is entirely had. You might be awfully lonesome upon finding yourself the sole redeeming element.

His Busy Day. Irate Manufacturer-"See bere! I sent

rate Manufacturer—"See here! I sent you an advertisement saying my planos were 'inferior to none."

Editor—"Yes, sir."

Irate Manufacturer—"You printed it 'inferior to tone."

Editor—"Oh, well, never mind; that is easily fixed." easily fixed."

Irste Manufacturer-"Eh? Easily fixed?"

Editor-"Certainly. Change the name of your planos and send me another advertisement, Here's a card showing our rates. Good-day, sir."-New York Weck-level.

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## (G.B.)

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\$ 8.00 Ladies' and Misses' Reefer Jackets reduced to \$ 10.00 Ladies' Reefer Jackets reduced to 6.98 17.00 Ladies' Silk Lined Jackets reduced to 9.98 12.00 Ladies' Fur Capes, Full sweep, reduced to 6.98 16.00 Ladies' Canada Seal Capes reduced to 9.98 20.00 Ladies' Electric Seal Capes reduced to 12.98 30.00 Ladies' Astrakhan Capes reduced to 17.98 50.00 Ladies' Wool Seal Capes reduced to 29.98

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They will take the picture of a candidate for a city office, ears and all. So your ears will get in all right, too.



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Consumes three (8) feet of gas per hour and gives an efficiency of sixty (60) candles.
Saving at least 33 per cent. over the ordinary Tip Burners.
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