CARBONDALE.

[Readers will please note that advertisements, orders for job work, and items for publication left at the establishment of Shannon & Co., newsdealers, North Main street, will receive prompt attention; office open from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m.]

THE BRIDGE QUESTION.

Reply to an Ebullition of the Mayor's Official Organ.

The article in last Monday's issue anent the visit of Mayor Hendricks and his pet councilmen to Newark and Jersey City, has caused a good deal of consternation hereabouts, and has also aroused the wrath of the mayor and his organ, the Leader. In an editorial, they deem that the writer of the article should have been called down, as if no one had a right to question the actions of public officers, when facts and figures are correct and copied from their own report of the proceedings.

The Leader for Feb. 26 reads thus: "Only two bids for the Melan Arch bridges were at hand. When read by the city clerk they were found to run slightly higher than for the steel structures, which had not been expected." These are the bids, as given by the Leader:

Clark & Co., New York, concrete—

Eighth avenue	$6,266
Sixth avenue	6,266
Salem avenue	7,668
Total	$20,173

Six dollars per cubic yard for extra work. The entire contract called for $30,000.

Then as to steel bridges:

Owego Bridge company, steel—

Eighth avenue	$6,047
Sixth avenue	5,452
Salem avenue	5,729
Total	$17,228

Further, as to the figures of the contracts, we read "that it is not at all certain that all the bridges can be built. The bids last night exceeded expectations, since only $14,000 had been appropriated for them in the new bond issue" of $26,000. Now where does the perversion of facts and figures come in? If accuracy is called in question, mark the Leader's sample of it in referring to Clark & Co.'s bid, "the entire contract," of which called, it said, "for $20,000." The actions of the mayor in this episode speak louder than words. If he has acted in good faith, wherefore his great anxiety to carry through the bids on the Melan bridges? Why his readiness to go on their bonds? Wherefore his continual promptings of Mr. Baker, the proposer of the resolution? And what meant his frequent reference to the agent of the company?

The Leader, by the way, has also displayed a change of front since it said: "A close investigation had shown, however, that the Sixth and Eighth avenue bridges must be of iron, on account of the shallow river banks at those points and the well-known floods which occasionally sweep through the channel."

A COSTLY WHIP.

The Brooklyn Handicap Pays $7 for a Whip Broken.

The Brooklyn Handicap company, which played at the opera house on Monday evening, borrowed a whip for their performance from Liveryman Thompson, at the rear of the building. By some accident the whip got broken and it was not discovered until after the company left the city.

Mr. Thompson got out an attachment of the court, and Constable Neary left for the Electric City, where, after a good deal of work, obtained the sum of $7. Value of whip, $1.25 and costs.

A Case of Diptheria.

Joseph, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Canston, died Tuesday afternoon at his home on Orchard avenue. The cause of his death was diphtheria. He was an intelligent and much beloved boy among his associates. He was laid boy among his associates. He was buried yesterday afternoon in St. Roses' cemetery.

PERSONAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

Rev. W. McArthur, superintendent of the Rescue Mission, preached at the Welsh Methodist church last night to the branch recently established of the mission.

Public Librarian Yarrington reported last night that the venture of the public library was a very great success so far. He is kept busy during business hours.

Ralph Blair is seriously ill at his home on Sixth avenue.

J. H. Reese, of Washington street, is confined to his room.

The arch in front of the Columbia Engine house was blown down by Tuesday night's gale.

Mrs. King and children have returned from a visit at New Milford, Pa.

The stockholders of the Traction company will meet today at the power house at Mayfield at which time the new president will be elected.

W. J. Gallagher, of Pittston, has returned to his home after a visit of a week's duration in the city.

A pleasant surprise party was tendered C. N. Bronson, of Canaan street, by his neighbors. Those present were: Messrs. and Mesdames D. W. Humphrey, J. M. Harvey, J. S. Bassett, Mesdames Joseph Wilcox, Fowler, James, Vanaan, J. S. Berry, G. B. Samson, Misses Hattie Berry, Lena and Cora Bronson.

Frank Berry, of Wilkes-Barre, spent Monday with his parents on Canaan street.

Evan J. Tucker, the Salem avenue merchant, spent Sunday with friends at South Canaan.

Dr. T. C. Fitzsimmons has returned from Philadelphia, whence he took a patient to undergo an operation at the hospital.

It is stated that the "Chimes of Normandy" will be given again for the benefit of the hospital.

The Odd Fellows' Hall association have engaged W. A. Coles, the blind humorist, to give an entertainment Monday evening, March 16.

TAYLOR.

George Thomas and Miss Susan Marsh were united in the bonds of matrimony last evening at the home of the bride's parents, on Storrs street. Rev. Dr. Harris performed the ceremony.

The old school at South Taylor has closed. There will be no school in that district until the completion of the new building.

An union meeting was held under the auspices of the various Christian Endeavor societies at the Calvary Baptist church last evening.

Grier Phillips has been selected as president of the Band of Hope of the Congregational church.

The choir feel confident that they will make a good showing at the eisteddfod on March 17 at the Frothingham.

Lost.—Between Atherton's and Mr. Thomas C. Davis', of Main street, last evening, a gold watch. The finder will please leave same at Will Davis', who delivers the Scranton Republican. The owner, preferred not having her name mentioned. The finder will undoubtedly be well rewarded by the young lady.

Very interesting meetings are being held by the Christian Endeavor society of the Congregational church on Wednesday evenings. The Sunday school topic is ably discussed and illustrated on the blackboard at every meeting.

The members of the Welsh Baptist church are to be congratulated on securing the services of such an able and wise pastor as Rev. Lloyd, formerly of Parsons. He will shortly enter upon his duties in his new field of labor.

John Davis, of Pond street, is erecting an addition to his home.

Mrs. Evan Davis, of High street, is seriously ill at her home.

Mrs. Crier, of Pond street, while walking in the yard surrounding her home yesterday fell and injured her knee.

The concert last evening was well patronized and all went home saying, "It was good for us to have been there."

The choir will hold their rehearsals in Taylor hall hereafter.

All the members of Christian Endeavor of the Methodist Episcopal church are requested to meet at the church Friday evening. Business of importance to be transacted.

It is announced that Miss Maggie James, of Union street, will be married to William Edmunds, of Providence, on the 18th inst.

A special meeting of the resident shareholders of the Safety Investment and Loan company, of Syracuse, N. Y., was held in the parlors of Mrs. B. O. Jones, on Main street, at 7:30 p. m., Wednesday evening, March 4, for the formation of a local board of officers. The following were unanimously elected: President, Dr. J. L. Griffiths; vice president, Thomas H. Jenkins; treasurer, David M. Williams; attorney, James E. Watkins. The organization was perfected and the last Tuesday of each month named as the regular day of meeting. The list of members is one of which any company may well be proud. The Safety has loans more than $80,000 in our valley and is doing excellent service in providing homes for our citizens. A representative from the home office was present at the meeting.

HONESDALE.

Edward Kimble, whose serious illness was reported in yesterday's Tribune, died at his home on Gravity Heights Wednesday morning. He was 24 years old and had been a sufferer with Bright's disease for several years. He was an active member of the Red Men, and the Honesdale tribe will attend his funeral in a body. He is survived by his wife. Funeral Friday at 2:30 p. m.

John N. Sharpsteen, of Carbondale, is spending a few days at his home here.

A. W. Walkey, of Jermyn, was a caller in town Tuesday.

Major W. S. Millar, of Scranton, inspected Company E at the armory last night.

FAKE CONFESSIONS.

Motives That Lead Men to Admit Crimes They Didn't Commit.

From the New York Sun.

"The hardest men the police have to deal with," said a police official to a reporter, "are those who confess to crimes that they did not commit; and they are not scarce, either. Here was an instance the other day, this fellow Mason, who told of his plan to rob a bank in New Orleans, and confessed that he had blown out the side of a bank building up in Newtonville, Mass. Of course he lied, although he did tell the circumstances of the robbery in Newtonville all right. He lived in Boston when the robbery occurred, and the papers were full of it. His confession fitted the circumstances as they were printed in the papers. He fooled the captain with his stories. I mean Captain O'Brien. I don't want to reflect on the captain, but the fact is, the fake confession people fool him more than they do a good many others.

"You want to know why men confess to crimes they have not committed? Well, there are several reasons. Sometimes they want to be sent home by the police. They know there is no chance of their being convicted when they get home, and it's an easy way to get home. Others are young men who are ambitious to get a reputation as big crooks. These are the fellows you strike in the large cities, where the newspapers have large general circulation. They confess to the chief, and the chief tells the story to the newspapers. It goes all over the world. It takes four or five days to find out that they are not telling the truth, and when that is found out the fact is seldom printed, because the chief who received the credit for getting the confession don't want to lose it, and if he does tell the newspapers they dismiss it with a paragraph. Now, just why a man should be ambitious for a reputation as a professional criminal I can't say, but some people have queer ambitions. Another reason men have for confessing to crimes that they did not commit is a desire to shield the real criminal long enough for him to make good his escape. Women are more apt to do this than men. Confessing that you committed a crime of which you are not guilty is pretty safe, anyway. The law everywhere is that a person cannot be convicted on an informal confession. There must be corroborating evidence, and besides that the man who says he did, but didn't, can nearly always prove a good alibi."

WILKES-BARRE.

CLOTHES THIEF CAUGHT.

Young Man Who Robbed Mrs. Maud Kirwan Arrested in Scranton.

The young man who was in the employ of Mrs. Maud Kirwan a few weeks ago and who suddenly left town with several hundred dollars worth of clothing which belonged to the late Dr. Geo. H. Kirwan, was arrested in Scranton Monday and is at present in the county jail. The young man gave his name as Eddie Walker and said he is 18 years old. When here he was connected with the Rescue Mission and the Salvation army. He had been only a few days in the employ of Mrs. Kirwan and assisted her in packing up the furniture previous to her removal to Philadelphia, when he stole the articles.

The young thief was recognized in Scranton by a lady member of the Salvation army who knew him here and she notified an officer who arrested Walker and notified the Wilkes-Barre authorities. Officer Connors went to Scranton and brought the young fellow here. Walker admitted that he stole the articles and spent the night in a hotel in this city. Next morning he bought a ticket for Williamsport, but returned to Berwick and sold the clothing for $20. He disposed of a $90 full dress suit to a traveling quack doctor for $6.

Mayor Nichols committed him to jail in default of $500 bail for his appearance at court.

AFTER UNLAWFUL BUTCHERING.

S. Sinkovitch, a butcher of South Washington street, and Jacob Levy, of South Fell street, were arrested Tuesday on warrants sworn out by Meat Inspector Charles Maurer charging them with killing calves from 4 to 10 days old and selling the meat. The law says calves shall not be killed and sold as meat under four weeks old, but Mr. Maurer alleges he found four calves, three killed and one alive, which were not more than a week old. The men were given a partial hearing before Mayor Nichols. The mayor fined one of the offenders $5 and costs and confiscated the calves. The other butcher was fined the costs.

TWO ORPHANS BY HOME TALENT.

Arrangements are nearly complete for the production the latter part of April of the "Two Orphans" by the Jefferson club, for the benefit of the St. Vincent de Paul society of this city. The Jefferson Dramatic club is made up of the best obtainable amateur talent and no doubt this production will be one of the finest of its kind ever given in this city. The costumes to be used in the piece will be specially made for it and the selections of the quartette under the direction of Professor Pratetorius, will be a great treat.

VARIOUS NOTES.

An adjourned meeting of the Luther league will be held at St. John's church on Sunday morning after the service.

The mayor received a complaint yesterday from the Rescue Mission manages, that the meetings are disturbed by unruly men.

The Puritan Literary society will hold its monthly entertainment at the Puritan church, South Sherman street, Friday evening, March 6.

WYOMING.

Miss Sarah Knorr, of Carverton, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. James Hufford.

Mrs. Edward Rozell spent Tuesday with friends at Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Maggie Carey was visiting her son at Orange yesterday.

Mrs. J. J. Newton visited friends at Wilkes-Barre yesterday.

N. Bapson was at the county seat on business yesterday.

Leonard Foss had a narrow escape Tuesday in the Wyoming Coal and Land company's mines by a fall of black rock. It caught him on the arm and had he been six inches nearer he would have been crushed instantly.

Mr. Payne wishes to notify the public through the columns of The Tribune that the article published in Monday's Gazette, stating that he held services in the Institute building Sunday, was false.

Revival meetings are being held in the Presbyterian church this week. Last evening Rev. L. E. Vanhoesen preached in the West Street chapel, this evening Rev. W. G. Simpkins will preach, and Friday evening Rev. H. C. McDermott.

Thomas Reidy, W. Davis, Lewis Dunland and Mr. Harris were delegates to the Baptist convention, held at Parsons, this week.

Amos Giherson is entertaining his brother from Columbia county.

HALLSTEAD.

Mrs. Charles Lawrence is ill.

A meeting of the congregation of the Presbyterian church will be held next Monday evening for the purpose of considering the matter of removing bodies in the grave near the new church.

Monday evening the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of the Baptist church elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Miss Mary Scotton; vice-president, Mrs. Charles Bogart; secretary, Miss Josie Millard; treasurer, Delbert Lindsley.

Mrs. Charles Ahern has purchased of Mrs. H. D. Barnes the building on Main street, used for the laundry; consideration, $1,500.

A large number of our young people attended the funeral of Chester Wells at Binghamton Wednesday.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Ira McLeod, on Wednesday, a daughter.

Conductor Charles Scanlon was a visitor in the Electric city on Wednesday.

Master Frank Pittsley is ill.

The ladies of the Baptist church will hold a two-days' sale and market day in the Railroad Young Men's Christian Association hall on Thursday and Friday, March 19 and 20.

Miss Lydia Hall, of Scranton, is the guest of friends in town.

Michael Walters, of Conklin, will move to this place the first of next month.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, are to hold a supper at the home of Mrs. Joseph Gruslin next Tuesday evening.

Mrs. H. D. Barnes has returned home from a visit with friends in Montrose.

Master Grant Decker was in Binghamton Wednesday.

Engine No. 5 is being repaired.

Alonzo Lindsley, an old resident of this place, died at his home on Railroad street on Sunday. The funeral services were conducted from the Baptist church on Tuesday and were largely attended.

John Shields, while at work repairing an engine on Tuesday, had the misfortune to be hit on the side by a pinch bar. He will be laid up for several days.

RAILROAD NOTES.

The east bound shipments from Chicago last week were 90,372 tons, against 57,692 tons the previous week and 58,768 tons the corresponding week last year. Of the total, Michigan Central carried 8,655 tons, Wabash 6,540, Lake Shore 13,132, Fort Wayne 9,216, Pan Handle 9,754, Baltimore and Ohio 7,201, Chicago and Grand Trunk 11,030, Nickel Plate, 6,246, Chicago and Erie 14,358 and the Big Four 4,430 tons.

Vice-President Thomas M. King, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company, has been appointed receiver of the Pittsburg and Western railroad, which is controlled by the Baltimore and Ohio. The receivership will not affect the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern nor the Staten Island Rapid Transit companies, both of which are also controlled by the Baltimore and Ohio. Messrs. Cowen and Murray have been appointed auxiliary receivers of the company's property in New York state. It is stated that the receivers will employ surplus earnings in the general overhauling of the rolling stock. They also intend to cut down expenses as much as possible, and it is understood that every employe not actually needed will be relieved of his position. It is not intended, however, to cripple the service of the company. On the contrary, it will be improved as much as possible. Railroad men and financiers believe that a fatal mistake was made when the Baltimore and Ohio disposed of the Virginia Midland Railway company, and began extending north to Baltimore. The Virginia Midland was transferred to the Richmond and Danville system, now the Southern Railway company, in 1886. It comprised 413 miles of road and extended from a point near Washington to Charlotte, N. C. The sale of this line is considered to have been the beginning of the Baltimore and Ohio's troubles, as it entirely destroyed the southern business of the company. After disposing of this property, Mr. Garrett began building north to Baltimore, involving an expenditure of millions of dollars in the shape of additional indebtedness and imposing fixed charges upon the parent corporation, which for years were not compensated for from the earnings of the Philadelphia extension. After this project had been completed the next step was to provide rapid transit through Baltimore and to connect the main system with the Philadelphia division. The building of the Belt road and tunnel followed, and it is supposed that this cost about $10,000,000, and which, including the Philadelphia branch, brought the total up to about $21,000,000. The position of the Baltimore and Ohio might be improved by the reorganization of some of its subsidiary companies so as to cut down interest charges and rentals, and this will probably be done, but there is more than this to be done to put the Baltimore and Ohio on a sound basis.

New York, Susquehanna and Western Railroad company report for the month of January:

	1896.		Changes.
Gross earnings	$178,495	Dec.	$22,362
Op. expenses	102,731	Dec.	15,763
Net	375,763	Dec.	$6,598
July 1 to Jan. 31:			
Gross earnings	$1,261,920	Inc.	$92,798
Op. expenses	779,971	Dec.	53,990
Net	587,848	Inc.	$146,788

LADY SOMERSET SUES ASTOR.

She Wants $25,000 for Damages to Reputation.

London, March 4.—Lady Henry Somerset has sued William Waldorf Astor for $25,000 damages caused to her reputation by the remark of the Pall Mall Gazette not long ago that "Lady Henry Somerset would drive anyone mad." This remark was uttered in the course of comments upon Lady Henry's efforts to reclaim Jane Cakebread, the notorious dipsomaniac, who has made more than 300 appearances before London police magistrates.

The Pall Mall Gazette was cruel enough to insinuate that Cakebread's madness was caused by association with Lady Somerset.