NORTON'S HIGH ART
WALL DECORATIONS.

The Largest Variety Beautiful Colorings and Choicest Designs we have ever exhibited.
Wall Papers were never as pretty or as low in price as now.
Our Patterns of Fine Papers cannot be seen elsewhere in town.
We have all grades of stock
Can please the most critical taste.
We have the finest show room in the state—plenty of space and lots of light to match and compare the various combinations.
Our salesmen have had many years' experience in this special line.
When in need of Decorations to cover bare walls or old decorated walls, come in and see the best goods that are made.

WINDOW SHADES AND FIXINGS.

All sorts and sizes for residences, offices, stores, etc.
Curtain Poles, Wall Mouldings.

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at surprising low prices
Bicycles, Velocipedes, Tricycles
Boys' Express Wagons, Carts, Barrows, at very interesting prices.

M. NORTON,

322 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton.
32 South Main St., Wilkes-Barre.

SEED OATS,

Choice, Heavy, Clean.

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For Lawns.

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We Wholesale Only.

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BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

THE GENUINE

POPULAR PUNCH CIGARS

Have the initials G., B. & CO. imprinted in each cigar.

GARNEY, BROWN & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS, COURT HOUSE SQ.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Howell, of Pottsville, are at the Hotel Jermyn.

Misses Landmesser and Irving have returned to Wilkes-Barre after a visit with Miss Knowles, of Penn avenue.

Mrs. Charles Worthman, of Chatanooga, Tenn., and her daughter, are here to spend the summer with Mrs. Worthman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Knowles, at the United States Hotel.

Miss Lillian Zurflieh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Zurflieh, of 627 Adams avenue, was married to William S. Boyd, jr., Wednesday night at her home by Rev. Charles E. Robinson, D. D., of the Second Presbyterian church.

Miss Adele Porter, the only woman in the country who is advance agent for a theatrical company, was here yesterday. She represents the "Madame Sans Gene" company, which is booked at the Frothingham Monday night. Miss Porter left in the afternoon for Syracuse, but will return here to witness Monday night's performance.

Planing Mill Burned.

An extensive planing mill owned by Paul Banall, at Nanticoke, was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. It was first discovered among a lot of shavings and refuse in the boiler room. Loss estimated at $2,000, on which there was an insurance of $3,000.

Coffee! Coffee! Coffee!!

Golden Rio, 25; Java, 28; Java and Mocha, 34. Best coffee house in America. Coursen's. **

Tribune tomorrow. Another great edition. Twelve pages. All original. No plates. It beats 'em all.

WE ARE SHOWING

New Spring Goods

The Best Styles ever offered in Lace and Button and all the best colors for Ladies, Misses and Children.

EASTER SHOES

Are the new things. You should see them before purchasing elsewhere.

LOOK IN OUR SHOW WINDOWS.

SCHANK & KOEHLER,

410 Spruce Street.

WHAT THE DEFENSE CLAIMS

Exhaustive Opening Address Made by Major Everett Warren.

DETECTIVE M'SWEENEY'S TALE

Defendants Prisoners in His Office One Night—Commonwealth's Case Closed at 3.10—Attorney Milo J. Wilson the First Witness for Defense.

At 3.10 yesterday afternoon the commonwealth's case rested in the Luce-Bateman arson trial. A few witnesses were called by the defense for further cross-examination and at 3.25 Major Everett Warren began the opening address to the jury and did not conclude until 4.10. He outlined what the defense proposes to prove.

After a few introductory remarks he read the statute which covers the crime with which the defendants are charged. The law has fixed a severe penalty for arson or an attempt to commit the same. The punishment is not over a fine of $2,000 and imprisonment at hard labor and solitary confinement in the penitentiary not exceeding 10 years. He asked the jury to give the case their most thoughtful consideration, knowing that it means so much to the defendants.

He said that the testimony which will be presented will fully establish the innocense of the accused and will explain away the various circumstances which the commonwealth has relied upon to convict. Major Warren related a case which occurred in a street car in New Haven, Conn., when he was a student at Yale college. A woman was robbed of her pocketbook and upon a search of the passengers being made the purse was found in the pocket of a prominent clergyman.

Fortunate circumstances afterward developed which proved that a notorious pickpocket had taken the woman's prperty, and when he feared detection had placed it in the clergyman's pocket unawares but the real truth was not discovered until after the latter had been forced to the humiliating task of procuring bail for his release from custody.

HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

He emphasized that the jury must believe beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendants are guilty before they can be convicted and he said that in the light of all the circumstances, it would be fully established that Mr. Luce and Mr. Bateman had nothing at all to do with the fire. It was not the purpose of the defense, he said, to deny that an attempt had been made to burn the Howley building; neither would they charge that anybody else did it, all they intended would be to show that they had no connection with the crime one way or another.

In the first place, asked Major Warren, what would it benefit Mr. Luce to destroy the building? He had just built up a profitable business and did not carry an amount of insurance to indemnify him for the loss. Mr. Luce, with his father, and two or three near relatives, had bought out the business of the Scranton Knitting company and by industry and perseverance had succeeded in building up a trade, that was permanent and profitable. One New York house alone had left orders for all the hosiery that the factory could turn out.

They would also show by the testimony of the girls employed at the factory that it did not quit the day of the fire until 6 o'clock in the evening.

Then Major Warren spoke of Mr. Luce as a young man of the best of character, known and trusted by nearly every business and professional man in Scranton; associated with his father in the insurance firm of R. W. Luce & Son, a firm of a standing second to none in Lackawanna county.

What would it profit him to destroy a well-paying business such as the Knitting company was doing for the paltry gain of $2,500 insurance. Prominent men of the city would be brought in to testify to Mr. Luce's standing; and men acquainted with Mr. Bateman in Dauphin county, this state, will come forward and testify to his good reputation also.

DEFENDANTS' WHEREABOUTS.

The jury would be thoroughly enlightened on what the commonwealth took great pains to prove. They would not deny that Messrs. Luce and Bateman had been at the factory the evening of the fire. They admitted that, and would prove they were there taking note of what stock was needed for a busy winter trade, and that after they left the place Mr. Luce went to his office and wrote letters ordering the material; that Mr. Bateman went home early and went to bed. This would be proved by Mr. and Mrs. Kringlesmith, with whom he boarded.

Mr. Luce's whereabouts at the important minutes preceding the fire would be proved by reputable citizens. Attorney O. B. Partridge was ready to swear that Mr. Luce was in the hallway of 421 Lackawanna avenue at 9 o'clock, and after that he was seen at the postoffice by A. C. Fuller. They were also prepared to admit that Mr. Luce went into Mayor Bailey's grocery store a short while before the date of the fire and purchased a gallon of kerosene oil. This fluid was necessary for the use of those who had to wash machine oil off their hands after work.

When court convened in the morning Detective James Keighron, of Wilkes-Barre, who guarded Bateman in Barring & McSweeney's office on the night of Dec. 14, 1894, was the first witness. There had been objection made the day before by counsel for the defense toward allowing him to detail a few remarks he heard Bateman express. Judge Archbald permitted him to tell, and Keighron said Bateman remarked that "Luce would get free all right, as he had lots of money, but he would get soaked."

DETECTIVE AT WORK.

The task of discovering the person or persons who set fire to the Howley building was placed in the hands of the detective agency of Barring & McSweeney, of which the next witness, Daniel McSweeney, is a member. He went to Mr. Luce and asked to see the books of the Scranton Knitting company. Mr. Luce permitted him to do so after first consulting Attorney Partridge. He also learned that the company carried $2,000 insurance on the machinery, $500 on the stock and $150 on an electric motor. He questioned Mr. Luce closely in regard to his whereabouts on the night of the fire and was told by the latter that he was at the factory not later than 8 o'clock, at which hour he started for his office on Lackawanna avenue, wrote a few letters, went to the postoffice and mailed them and then walked home.

Mr. McSweeney testified that he went to Schuylkill county on Dec. 11, 1894, and met Bateman there; he took the defendant to Scranton with him under pretense that he was to be used on account of his connection with the company in running down the one guilty of setting fire to the building. Bateman and Luce were arrested on Dec. 14 on a warrant sworn out late in the afternoon and as the offense with which they were charged is not bailable before an alderman they were kept in the rooms of the detective agency that night rather than send them to jail.

The witness denied that he had laid any traps for the defendants while they were in custody under his auspices to extort from them a confession. Major Warren handled him without gloves on cross-examination and asked him if he had not made use of these words to Luce: "This matter can be settled right here; no one outside of the officers need know it, and it will not get into the newspapers." McSweeney emphatically denied the statement imputed to him.

He was on the stand the most of the day and the greater part of the time was under Major Warren's searching cross-examination, the intent of which was that the detective agency had arrested Luce and Bateman without the shadow of evidence, and once having them as prisoners endeavored in many ways to break them down and make them tell something which might be of value to the detectives later on and that failing to do this they wanted to settle the matter.

Luce and Bateman were under lock and key in Barring & McSweeney's quarters in the Commonwealth building from the evening of Dec. 14 to the afternoon of the next day. Mr. McSweeney was asked by Major Warren if he was running a branch office of the county jail at his quarters.

Chief of Police Simpson took the stand after Detective McSweeney. He saw the defendants at the central police station after the fire, about two hours after it, and they made statements then which were written out by Desk Sergeant Deiter. The papers were exhibited to the chief and he identified them. They were submitted in evidence and read to the jury. What the papers contained was simply some particulars already related as to the whereabouts of the defendants on the night of the fire, before, at the time of, and after it.

TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE.

When Major Warren's opening address was ended, Attorney Milo J. Wilson was called to the witness stand as the first one to testify in favor of the defense. He swore that as soon as he heard that Luce and Bateman were under arrest in Barring & McSweeney's office he went there as counsel for the former in order to procure his release on bail. Mr. Wilson knew that a justice of the peace or alderman cannot take bail in an arson case and he started after supper for Judge Archbald's house to get bail before him.

The judge had no jurisdiction because the defendants had not been given a preliminary hearing and so they had to stay in the Commonwealth all night, preferring that to the county jail. Mr. Wilson swore positively that Mr. McSweeney in his presence made the overture of settlement to Mr. Luce, but the detective did not say anything about money. At this point court adjourned. The defense promises to knock the pins from under the commonwealth's case today.

BEFORE JUDGE GUNSTER.

The Clancy Family of the Hampton Mixed Up in a Free Fight.

A verdict of guilty was returned by the jury that heard the case of the commonwealth against Martin Kaminski, charged with stealing $75 from Andrew Bobonis, of the North End. The defendant will receive sentence tomorrow morning.

Michael Cosgrove was tried for assault and battery upon Dr. J. F. Saltry, of Green Ridge. District Attorney Jones conducted the case for the commonwealth, and Attorney J. C. Manning appeared for the defendant. Dr. Saltry, on Feb. 24 last, sent a bill for $7 to Cosgrove, which had remained unpaid for two years. That same evening the defendant called at the doctor's office, and after a brief conversation, but without any cause of provocation, he struck him a heavy blow of his fist on the face. Constable Patrick Roach and Patrolman Thomas W. Evans served the warrant on him and they testified that on the way to the lockup the defendant said he was sorry he had not broken the doctor in two. Cosgrove admitted he aimed a blow of his fist at the doctor, but he denied that he struck him. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty of simple assault, without the battery.

TROUBLES OF THE CLANCYS.

William, John and James Clancy, brothers, were tried for assault and battery on their father, Michael Clancy. It was the funniest case heard in court since they were up last term. The father is about five feet tall and each of the sons is no larger than an ordinary 10-year-old urchin, though William is 32, James is 23 and John is 20. Ex-Judge Stanton assisted District Attorney Jones for the commonwealth, and Attorney John J. Murphy defended the unfilial trio. The Clancys live at the Hampton, in Lackawanna township.

Two days before last Christmas the old man came home in the evening and was assaulted and beaten by his sons without any cause, he claimed, except that they wanted to put him out of the way. Mrs. Gerrity, an old woman who must be upward of a century, but who nevertheless smiled and refused to answer when Mr. Murphy asked how old she is, corroborated Clancy. She said they knocked him down and then beat him. The old man was badly covered with blood, but he was not seriously injured. The defendants swore that their father came home drunk and was in his customary fighting mood. They admitted striking him but said it was necessary to do it to subdue him. The jury found William and James guilty and acquitted John.

MAHEDY OF MINOOKA.

Samuel Mahedy, of Minooka, was tried for carrying concealed deadly weapons. Constable Joseph Woelkers was the prosecutor. Attorney T. V. Powderly defended Mahedy and District Attorney Jones conducted the case for the commonwealth. The constable had occasion to arrest the defendant about two months ago and found him armed with a "billy." Desk Sergeant Deiter, who removed the sleep producer from Mahedy's hip pocket in the station house, corroborated the constable. The jury had not returned a verdict at adjournment.

John Binbinnick, of Vandling, was put on trial for arson. Victor Pario's house was burned some time ago and because he heard the defendant make some threats before that concluded he set fire to the house. The defendant's claim is that a spark from a passing locomotive was the cause. The case is not finished yet.

VARIETY AT DAVIS'.

Great Performance Was Given by Albini's Meteors Yesterday.

Variety and the spice of variety, at that, is the life of Davis theater for the first three days of this week. Albini's Meteors is the name of the organization. The performance is considered the best ever seen in this city. In the company is Miss Fannie Leslie, the wonderful contortionist, who several weeks ago delightfully surprised the patrons of Davis'. Howard and St. Clair give a pleasing sketch in which the former does some funny falling. Bowers, the "great," shows how to swing Indian clubs and Gertie West sings several character songs.

The efforts of Dryden and Page please the upper portion of the audience. A great musical entertainment is offered by the Edisons. From the most difficult of instruments the sweetest melody is lured by these skillful players. A selection from La Trovatore is magnificent. Albini, owner of the show and a card manipulator of great skill, made many who saw him believe that he is in league with the spirit world. He not alone is a clever deceiver, but is a natural wit and humorist.

Si Hassen Ben Ali's troupe of acrobatic Arabians also feature the performance. The horse play sketch which closes the show could well be spared. The attraction is one that should not be missed. It will be continued this and tomorrow evening, with matinees. The house is kept very cool by large ventilators in the roof.

WONDERFUL are the cures accomplished by Hood's Sarsaparilla and yet it is only because Hood's Sarsaparilla, the one true blood purifier, makes pure, rich, healthy blood.

HOOD'S PILLS for the liver and bowels act easily, yet promptly and efficiently.

Tribune tomorrow. Twelve pages. All the news. Special articles. Exclusive features. Don't miss it.

T. H. WATTS WAS CHOSEN

He Will Represent the Third District in the State Convention.

WAS NO OPPOSITION TO HIM

The Resolutions Endorse the Candidacy of Matthew Stanley Quay for the Presidency—Dr. J. W. Houser Named as Alternate.

Republicans of the Third Legislative district of this county met in the arbitration room of the court house yesterday afternoon and elected T. H. Watts, of Glenburn as their representative at the state convention in Harrisburg on April 23. Dr. J. W. Houser, of Taylor, was named as alternate, and resolutions were adopted favoring the candidacy of Senator Quay for president.

John McCrindle, of Moosic, the chairman of the Third district standing committee, was unable to be present and in his absence Dr. J. W. Houser, of Taylor, the secretary, called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for chairman of the convention. William Morgan, of Lackawanna, named Major A. I. Ackerly, of Clark's Green, and notwithstanding that gentleman's protest that he was not a delegate to the convention and therefore in his opinion not eligible to the office of chairman, he was selected. S. G. Shoemaker, of Dalton, was chosen secretary, and James Watkins, of Taylor, assistant secretary. The list of districts were then read and the delegates handed in their credentials, showing that the following were present:

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE.

Benton—A. W. Brundage, C. B. Reynolds.
Dalton—H. V. Decker, S. G. Shoemaker.
Glenburn—John Northup.
Greenfield—Louis Johnson.
LaPlume—M. O. Webster.
Lackawanna township—South district, D. D. Griffiths; West district, W. L. Anthony, C. L. Edsell; Northeast district, William Morgan; Southwest district, Christ Fassold.
Newton—Lester Van Camp.
North Abington—Warren Lewis.
Old Forge—Fourth district, John R. Edwards.
Scranton—Sixth ward, Third district, Nicholas Bennett, Roland Roberts.
Scott—Herbert S. Newton, Elmer E. Taylor.
South Abington—N. S. Davis, M. M. Hufford.
Taylor—First ward, John E. Davis; Second ward, Dr. J. W. Houser, Thomas J. Powell; Third ward, William J. Hoskins; Fourth ward, William T. Evans; Fifth ward, James E. Watkins, substitute for E. C. Davis.
Waverly—Edward Parker, Albert Johnson.
West Abington—A. F. Rhodes.

Clifton, Covington, Gouldsboro, Lehigh, Lackawanna East district, Madison, Old Forge, First and Second districts, Ransom and Spring Brook were unrepresented.

PERMANENT OFFICERS.

For permanent chairman Dr. Houser nominated W. S. Davis, of South Abington, and he was unanimously elected. The temporary secretaries were made permanent and Mr. Davis then appointed as a committee on resolutions Dr. J. W. Houser, John Northup and Lester Van Campen, who reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:

We, the Republicans of the Third Legislative district of Lackawanna county, in regular convention assembled, affirm our unswerving allegiance to the principles which were clearly and unequivocally enunciated in the Minneapolis platform and which have been the mainstay and foundation of our national unity for half a century.

We heartily and unanimously endorse the candidacy of Pennsylvania's peerless and indomitable leader, Matthew Stanley Quay, for the nomination for president of the United States, and it is the sense of the convention that our national delegates should use all honorable means to secure his nomination.

Nominations for state delegate were called for and Dr. J. W. Houser named T. H. Watts, of Glenburn, for the honor. He was selected without opposition.

On the suggestion of James E. Watkins, of Taylor, Dr. J. W. Houser was named as alternate and the convention then adjourned.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Hanlon Brothers' "Fantasma" will be seen at the Academy of Music tonight and will be repeated tomorrow afternoon and evening. The company that will produce "Fantasma" here numbers among its members America's funniest clown, George H. Adams, who stands unchallenged as the king of merriment; his performances, in conjunction with Miss Nellie Black, who ably plays the part of Fantasma, the fairy queen in the disguise of a witch, furnishes no end of amusement and wonder to the children, as well as to the elders, who can to their hearts' content revel in mirth, marvel and mystery from the rise to the fall of the curtain. During the performance Miss Rose Newhart and Miss Sadie Stephens, both sopranos of rare excellence, will render a number of musical selections comprising the favorite songs of the day. Miss Pauline Glidden, a truly musical genius, will be heard in choice cornet solos, and Master Orie Gerard, a master of melody, will add strength to the musical contingent.

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A powerful revival of "Michael Strogoff" will be the bill at the Frothingham next Saturday afternoon and evening. Since the great success of the "Prisoner of Zenda," there has been a strong interest revived in plays of the romantic order. "Michael Strogoff" is one of the best of these, appealing to the heart with its story of love and patriotism, and making the jaded theater-goer's pulse beat quicker at its scenes of peril. William Morris, the well-known star, as Michael Strogoff, has added new fame to his reputation as a delineator of romantic roles. The scenery and costumes have all been prepared specially for this production. Special prices of 25 and 50 cents will prevail for the matinee.

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There is little room for doubt that Carrie Louis' own company, in repertoire, is proving one of the solid financial successes of the present season. In many cities Miss Louis has drawn the largest houses ever known in the theaters and the clever star is said to have the best supporting company of her career. Indeed, many prominent critics have declared her to be the Ariadne of repertoire. Negotiations are now pending for Miss Louis' appearance at the Academy of Music during the week beginning April 20.

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The great success of the season, "Mme. Sans Gene," in its English version, will be seen at the Frothingham on Monday and Tuesday, April 20 and 21. The great success of "Mme. Sans Gene," which is considered as Sardou's most successful comedy, has demonstrated conclusively what a great drawing card this beautiful stage picture is. Manager Augustus Pitou, under whose direction the play is presented, has spared no labor, time or money in the production. Miss Kathryn Kidder in the title role, and Augustus Cook as Napoleon, have made most emphatic and pronounced hits. The gowns worn in the court scene are wonderful creations of art. "Mme. Sans Gene" will no doubt be one of the society events of the season.

MR. SILLIMAN'S LETTER.

Pertains to the Recent Criticism of the Traction Company System.

General Manager Silliman, of the Scranton Traction company, has replied to the criticism of the company's system contained in a recent report of the board's public safety committee. The letter will be read at Monday night's board meeting.

Following the publicity given the committee's report, President Illsley, from his Philadelphia office, addressed a letter "to the public," which was printed in the city papers. It was a general argument and denial of the committee's allegations. General Manager Silliman's letter, however, is said to deal more consistently with the points at issue and is a document of four closely typewritten pages.

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This having new goods in every department to show you. For months we have hunted the country over for desirable things. 52 cases are here, unpacked and marked. Manufacturers say we want too much for our money. Can't help it; must underbuy so that we may undersell.

2 Bargains

Today and tomorrow only.

Writing Paper

One pound, Whiting's make, who makes better? Fine linen, ruled or unruled, 108 sheets, Thurday and Friday

15c., Envelopes to Match.

Tea Spoons

A wonderful offer: 500 sets of genuine Rogers' - Spoons. Their reliable name stamped on every spoon.

25c. for Six

REXFORD, 303 Lacka. Av.

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If so, it won't pay you to shop around, buy odd pieces here and there, foot up what you have paid and you find it cost you more for a job lot than you would have to pay us for a neat, decorated, open stock pattern that you can match at any time. You don't have to buy the whole set at one time. A few pieces now, a few pieces another time and you have a complete set at no extra cost. Others find it pays; you will if you try it.

Toilet Sets,

Cut Glass, Silverware, Etc.

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134 WYOMING AVENUE.

Walk in and look around.

THE KNOX LADIES' SAILORS

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For Spring.

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Our stock is replete with the most desirable patterns in every grade of Floor Coverings.

We are not making "Special Prices" or "Great Reductions." We simply sell everything at the lowest price, first, last and all the time.

☞It will pay you to make comparisons.

P. M'CREA & CO.,

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SPRING SUITS AND OVERCOATS

For Men, Boys and Children.

An elegant assortment at prices that are very low considering the quality, make-up, etc., is being shown at our store. If you are thinking of buying a Spring Suit call in and look at our stock—it will do you good, and us, too, of course. We are almost sure you will buy—cannot resist.

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Is replete with everything that is new and stylish; all the latest styles and colors. Call in and be convinced.

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Clothiers, Hatters & Furnishers

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THE BEST STOCK IN THE CITY

Also the Newest.
Also the Cheapest.
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CLOCKS IN ALL FASHIONABLE STYLES

Porcelain, Onyx, Etc
Silver Novelties in Infinite Variety.
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Jeweler and Watchmaker. 215 Lackawanna Ave.

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No Greek about it. Prices are plain. All can read them. The day is past when prices are marked in hieroglyphics. We have goods marked so that buyers know they are getting full value for their money. Our prices make our increased trade.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW

416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR EYES and your eyes will take care of you. If you are troubled with headache or nervousness go to DR. SHIMBURG'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 $4 to $6. 433 Spruce Street, Scranton, Pa.

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Dimities, Organdies,
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Linen Batiste,
Chatelaine Tulle,
Swiss Milenge,
Mull Delaines.

These Goods have been selected with great care, the patterns and colors are all in the present style. Our prices are moderate for Fine Fabrics.

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