at Screpton, Pa., by The Tribune Pub-lishing Company. Office: Tribune Building, Frank & Gray, Manager.

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SCRANTON, MAY 16, 1896.

The Tribune is the only Republican cally in Lackawanna County. REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

Congressmen-at-Large, GALUSHA A. GROW, of Susquehanna SAMUEL A. DAVENPORT, of Erie.

Election Pay, Nov. 3

There are evidently some men in common council who cannot understand why the highest bid should not capture the marketable vote.

### Blocking a Gouge.

There can be no question that the award of the Monroe avenue paving contract to Dunn Bros., at a saving of 25 cents a square yard over the bid of the Barber Asphalt Paving company, is in the interest of the tax-payers. That any considerable number of men could be found in common council to favor the higher instead of the lower hid is a fact which ought to give the citizenship of Scianton serious concern; but it will probably be passed over like many similar instances with the easy comment that nothing better can be expected under the circumstances.

A large measure of credit is due to those members who stood by the honest and business-like view of this paving travel. contract and had the wit by a legitimate parliamentary artifice to circumvent the careless, if not culpable, majority. If the public would more earnand conscientiously sustain the honest membership in councils in each of its various efforts to bring system and order out of the chaos that now so often prevails in municipal legislation, considerable improvement might yet be wrought even with councils constituted as they now are. A good many of the men who at present train with the gang would walk the straight line if the eye of public inspection were more accurately focussed on their proceedings. As it is, however, matters of this kind as a rule receive scant attention beyond desultory notice in the papers, and the jobbers are permitted to feel that they have virtually a free swing.

The familiar saying that people get as good government as they want is certainly true to the extent that what they get is what they themselves are really responsible for. So long as voters are willing that men shall dominate councils who would not be trusted out of sight with private property, just that long will high bids for city contracts be preferred to low bids, and taxpayers be mulcted in order to make a councilmanic holiday.

Although the anti-McKinleyites still declare that the Canton candidate cannot win, it is interesting to observe how rapidly they are canceling their contracts with the St. Louis hotels and

## An Object Lesson.

A congressman from the state of Wasnington who lately returned from a visit to Japan brought back with him and is now wearing at the national capital a suit of white duck goods which cost him, in Japan, only \$3.25. It could not be duplicated in this country for less than \$10.

· Japan is a silver standard country. pays his employes gold standard wages and depends upon low American tariffs for his profits. But what is to prevent him from taking a sum of gold, going twice the amount of silver, and with that silver hiring native labor to make goods so cheaply that those goods could be freighted to the United States and sold here in competition with our homemade goods even after payment of a high tariff? On this basis the European exporter would make money at both ends of the deal; he would make a profit of 100 per cent, in his exchange, and he would make as much more out of his sales of the goods in America as our tariffs would permit. To keep him out of our markets we should have either to remonetize silver or to levy a prohibitive tariff on certain classes of imports. The difficulty with a prohibitive tariff as a general rule of economics is that it sacrifices revenue and necessimoney for the support of the govern-

This difference in exchange between the gold and the silver standard is already having the effect to quicken manufacturing industries in countries which are on the silver basis. It is the general testimony that in both Mexico and Japan-the two countries which afford the best test of the silver standmore rapid rate than in any other two countries on the globe. Although wages are low, as compared with the American scale, employment is steady, strikes and panies are few and the general average of comfort is steadily increasing. In our opinion the competition which countries will yet arrest the movement toward gold monometallism and cause the people of the United States, either

ard. It seems to us that we must some day come to this or else resort to the Chinese plan of building a tariff wall clear around us and buying nothing from foreigners.

It is perhaps only natural that the traffic managers who wish to escape imprisonment when convicted of viclating the interstate commerce law should try to railroad a repealer through congress. Fortunately the attempt has collided with public opinion and public opinion still holds the right

Repair the Turnpike Now that the supreme court has decided against the city at every point in its contention with the North Abington Turnpike company, it would seem to be proper for the city to desist from its obstructionary course and procoed to the observance of its contract with that company. That contract called for the maintenance of the two miles of readbed lying within the city limits in as good condition as is the two-mile stretch of roadbed which the company itself maintains in the township just This turnpike is one of the most trav-

eled and also one of the most advantageous public thoroughfares entering Scranton. It is said, and we think with approximate truth, that more merchandise is conveyed over this one roadbed than over all the other roads radiating from the city. Certainly more teams pass over it daily than over most if not all the others combined. In the town ship its condition is excellent. In the city its condition is simply horrible. The city of Scranton secured from the Turnpike company the removal of the old toll gate upon the express condition that it would properly maintain that part of the road lying within the city. It has not lived up to this condition, and it has declared that it will not permit the company to repair the road and collect, as under the law it now can, from

In other words, as we understand the present situation, the city of Scranton stands like a dog in the manger on the Turnpike company's line, saying in effeet that it will not keep up the roadbed of the most traveled thoroughfare in the county and that the company shall not. This may be a prudent and praise worthy attitude to assume, but if it is we are wholly in error as to the existing facts. The question as between the municipal authorities and the company is one thing; the welfare of the community is another. It is demanded by the latter that the city portion of this invaluable thoroughfare be speedily made lit for the purposes of economical

The Ohio authorities are determined that the Findlay preacher who last fall voted without registering in order to prove that the enforcement of election laws was lax shall serve a year's sentence in the penitentiary. It is a pity some of this zeal is not applied to the cure of the original cvil.

## A Valuable Inquiry.

An interesting inquiry has been planned by Controller of the Currency Eckels. Its purpose is to ascertain by a canvass of all the banks in the United States upon a certain day near July l, how much gold there is in the country and also what proportion of retail and wholesale business transactions are performed by instruments of credit This will be an extension of the inquiry made by Mr. Eckels in 1894, which was restricted in scope to national banks. It was estimated then upon the basis of the replies received that the American stock of gold was in approximation to \$625,000,000. It was also shown that among retail tradesmen using national banks, checks and other instruments of credit formed 86 per cent, of their total deposits.

The situation in 1894 was, however, exceptional. In that year the volume of moving currency was greatly diminished by the hoarding of coin and legal tender notes by wage-earners who had become suspicious of the stability of banks. Scrantonians remember how this feeling operated to congest the processes of business locally; and their experience was duplicated in nearly every city in the United States. Consequently the ratio of credit instruments to cash which prevailed in 1894 can by no means be regarded as a fair average ratio; indeed, the treasury authorities themselves admit that the normal per

centage of these instruments is not over 60. While advocates of the gold standard lay stress upon the alleged diminished need for money by reason of the The European exporter to America now growing use of credits, and cite the figures of 1894 in proof, bimetallists, it seems to us with fairness, challenge this claim and aver that the growth of credits, when unaccompanied by a corto Japan with it, exchanging it for responding expansion of the amount of eash current, is a step toward inflation

and commercial unsoundness. But on both sides there has long been realized a lack of trustworthy statistics upon the subject. Estimates at present vary so widely as to be at times amusing. Therefore the purpose of the controller of the currency to satisfy popular curiosity upon the point by a uniform and simultaneous canvass of American banks as near as possible to "settling day" is to be commended. It is unlikely that his inquiry will prove conclusive, since it will rest for the greater part upon the uncertain basis of voluntary co-operation on the part of state and private banks, which are not under his control. Yet if made with care and tabulated honestly it can tates direct taxation in order to get hardly fail to prove of decided usefulness to all who wish to fit financial theories to facts as they are.

> Spain does well to heed the handwriting on the wall. But the only guarantee of permanent peace is a free Cuba.

## Assuming Too Much.

Three months ago the Wilkes-Barr Record printed almost daily appeals for are-manufacturing is developing at a the Republicans of Pennsylvania to stand by the Pennsylvania candidate Senator Quay. Today it is spilling columns of wrath, not only on Colonel Quay himself, but also upon the very delegates who acted in accordance with its earlier advice and gave Colonel Quay assurance of their loyal support so long we shall eventually feel from these as he should remain a candidate. The Record, therefore, is neither consistent nor just. By this sudden shuffle it forfelts its right to assume superior virtue by themselves or with international co- and instead simply makes its attitude

stand the animus of its present excite-

That, however, is the Record's risk We should take no notice of its gyrations did it not assume, with cool impulence, to pass snap judgment upon subject of immediate concern to readers of this paper. The Record, in the ourse of a half column or more of Pecksniffian cant, remarks, as if its deliverance admitted neither of question nor dissent: "The Tribune knows that the masses of the Republican party in Lackawanna county would vote five to one for McKinley if the opportunity were afforded them. Nevertheless, the Lackawanna delegates will support Quay." The Tribune knows no such thing. Neither does the Record. On the contrary, the convention which elected the two Lackawanna national delegates, as well as the later district conventions which elected state delegates, distinctly and without dissent declared for Quay. The national delegates, it is true, were not instructed: but the state delegates, chosen several months later, were. Therefore we submit that the Record has no evidence upon which to rest its claim and consequently is not entitled to use its own unsupported conjecture as the basis for sneering remarks at delegates to St. Louis who have behind them the unanimous indorsement of their respective constituencies.

The Tribune is not making war on McKinley. It understands that the national delegates from this district intend to vote for McKinley whenever Quay's name is withdrawn. It does not even pretend that it thinks Senator Quay is likely to win. It does, however contend that as the demonstrated leader of his party in this state-in the latest demonstration of which fact The Tribune had an opportunity to learn something about Senator Quay's popularity in this region, particularly in Susquehanna-the junior senator is entitled to Pennsylvania's support, even though it may turn out to be an unsuccessful compliment. And we believe, furthermore, that few Republicans, however friendly they may be to Mc-Kinley, will dissent from this position or recommend that the way to promote the Ohio man's chances is by abusing everybody who does not make a mad rush to the McKinley band-wagon.

times when war may be necessary, but they are few, and it is difficult to find war which could not have been averted with less expense, difficulty and misery. The Civil war cost 1,000,000 men dead, 2,000,000 wounded and \$6,000,000, 000, and there is not one who will say that it could not have been prevented en years before, or when Abraham Lincoin offered to settle the trouble by purchasing the slaves for \$4,000,000,000." Yes, and for that matter, Adam might have refused to eat the forbidden apple and thereby have kept the human race in paradise. But Chauncey should est forget the Adam in mankind. It sometimes needs a combing down, internationally as well as individually.

most sprightly daily papers of New England, has secured as its new editor Mr. William H. Zeller, formerly state editor of the Philadelphia Times. Mr. Zeller is an experienced and scholarly journalist, who will soon put the Post in the front of the procession.

There is consolation in the fact that Thomas C. Platt might better be disgruntled than the seventy-odd millions of other American citizens.

We fail to observe much effervescen in the Harrisburg Patriot's enthusiasm over Brer' Harrity's renewed grip.

Maybe it is Frank Willing Leach's intention to try to be a John Alden to the senatorial Priscilla. Perhaps Mr. Platt is merely manoeuv-

ering to have those conciliation over-Something appears to be radically

wrong with the Pattison boom's sprout ing facilities, Mark Hanna ought to send William F. Harrity the recipe.

ASTROLOGICAL.

Coming Week.

Coming Week.

Sunday, May 17.—Sunday after Ascension. Weather fair, A child born on this day will be very industrious, fond of travel and successful in life.

Monday, May 18.—Mercury bi-quintle to Saturn; Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon. A child born on this day will be fortunate in business, but will probably meet with disappointment in domestic and love affairs. Buy and push thy business early in the morning.

Tuesday, May 19.—Venus in opposition to Saturn. Weather wet. A child born on this day will be a martry to misfortune and will experience much trouble. Travel and deal between noon and 3p. m., then be very cautious.

and dear between now and acceptance wery cautious.

Wednesday, May 20.—Jupiter an evening star, Weather generally fair, A child born on this day will be in constant trouble. Do not include in speculation on this day.
Thursday, May 21.—Venus semi-sextile to Negtune. Weather fair. A child born on this day will rise in life, but should be-ware of accidents. It is better to court, ask favors and seek employment before 7

ask favors and seek employment before 7 p. m.

Friday, May 22.—Uranus an evening star, Weather fine and mild. A child born on this day will be fortunate when in the employ of others, but should guard against accident and avoid quarrels. Transact all business of a speculative nature between noon and 5 o'clock p. m.

Saturday, May 23.—Saturn rises at sunset in evil aspect to Venus. Weather mild. A child born on this day will not be 4pt to achieve great success in life; a female, however, will marry well and live happily with her husband. Rather doubtful day for business enterprises.

## SUGGESTIONS FROM READERS

[Under this head The Tribune will be pleased to print from time to time any hints that may be given by readers as to the duty of a daily paper and best methods of conducting the same. As these communications relate to the conduct of The Tribune only they will be published over a nome de plume, but name of writer should accompany articles as an evidence of good faith, though not for publication.]

SHOULD LOOK AFTER SPEAK-EASIES. Editor of The Tribune.

Sir:-It seems to me that The Tribune should take a more active part in the war upon speak-casics which was threatened some time ago. It ought to be a newspaper's mission to take the lead in all reforms.

Seemen Man 15 200 Scranton, May 15, 1896.

THEIR CUP OF GRIEF IS ALREADY OVERFLOWING. of The Tribune.

Sir:-Why don't you jump ent Democratic municipality golden opportunity. Scranton, May 15, 1996.

### WILL IT BE WAR?

From the Washington Star.

There is no law-recognized or unrecognized—that gives to Spain any shadow of right to condemn to death those unarmed American citizens who were captured on board of, or escaping from, the Competitor. To accuse those unfortunates of treason and piracy is absurd. To condemn the prisoners to death for offenses that do not, in their cases, exist, is to arouse every manly man in this republic. To execute the condemned Americans would oubtless be accepted by this nation as a declaration of war. Treason by American citizens is only possible when they conspire against this government. Piracy is a term that cannot sensibly be applied to the acts of men who were ensayed only in carrying arms and ammunition to the Cuban insurgents. In their proceedings against the Competitor prisoners, the Spanish authorities have openly violated the Cushing treaty and disregarded the unwritten laws of humanity. Another step in the direction toward which the Spanish visage is set will, in all probability, precipitate war. From the Washington Star.

AN ABSURD SUGGESTION.

Handy in the Times-Herald.

As the original "Reed for the vice-presidency man," I am bound to say that I fear there is little probability of his accepting the second place on the ticket with McKinley or anybody else. The only hope of his acceptance would be in a unanimous nomination. But the suggestion made in a Washington dispatch that it would be infra dig, for him to ride behind McKinley on the ground that McKinley was once his "subordinate" is too absurd for anything. The chairman of the ways and means committee is in no sense subordinate to the speaker, except as every other member of the house of representatives is under his gavel. The ways and means chairman is the leader of the house. Equally absurd is the talk that McKinley would never have amourfed to anything but for the chairmanship to which Reed appointed him. Many men have had the same chairmanship and found it their top notch. The man makes the place, not the place the man. Fernando Wood, William R. Morrison had just as good a chance as McKinley to make a record and go up higher. But they did not. AN ABSURD SUGGESTION.

## TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe cast: 3.18 a. m., for Saturday May 16, 1896.

For 19 46

A child born on the day will notice that the Barber Asphalt company has been "Dunn up," so to speak.

When Mr. McKiniey defines his position on the currency and Mr. Powers decides where he will deign to play ball this sea-son, the country can take a breathing spell.

It is a sure sign of summer when the strawberry shortcake replaces dried ap-ple pie on ye boarding house table. Ajacchus' Advice.

Do not become too intimate with the man who is a friend only when he wants something.

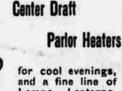
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