



Santa Claus Couldn't Bring any one, man woman or child, a present which they would appreciate more than a book, the best of all gifts; the most useful and enduring. Good books increase in value and are the best of companions always; a solace in adversity and helpful in prosperity. Our large assortment of desirable and choice editions is up to our usual standard of excellence. For all ages, conditions and circumstances.

Bibles, we have the best styles from four publishing houses at prices from 25c to \$15 each. Prayer Books and Hymnals, all sorts, Booklets, Art Calendars and Christmas Cards in bewildering variety of styles and prices. Fine Stationery and Fancy Art Goods, we have our usual large variety. Games and Large Toys, our display is unusually large and attractive.

Have three floors, 100 by 25 feet, with lots of light to show our goods and competent help to serve customers.

We think a store of this kind an ideal one for present buying. NORTON'S 322 Lackawanna Ave.

Shavings

The use of Shavings for bedding for horses or cows is not

New But put up like straw in Small Bales Is something new.

Cheaper Than Straw, Cleaner Than Straw, Better Than Straw. We keep it.

The Weston Mill Co SCRANTON, OLYPHANT, CARBONDALE.

ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT PAIN EXTRACTION OF TEETH WITH "ANAESTHETIC" FINEST DENTAL WORK IN THE CITY.

DRS. HENWOOD & WARDELL 36 LACKAWANNA AVE.

TWO MARRIAGES PERFORMED.

Couple from Dunmore and Another from the Sibley United.

Alderman Howe married two couples yesterday. Miss Phoebe Jacoby was made the wife of Henry Goldberg. He is 49 years old and she is 21. They are residents of Dunmore, where he is in the photographing business. The second couple united was Joseph Torchio and Francesco Graga. They are Italians and are young. They couldn't understand English and an interpreter had to be called in. They live near the Sibley mines in Old Forge township.

Headquarters for Xmas Goods at Davidow Bros., 217 Lackawanna ave. Choice cut flowers and flower designs at Palmer & McDonalds, 54 Spruce.

Holiday Slippers

We have just what you want.

Come now and get the best assortment ever known.

All Kinds, All Prices. All Winners.

For Men, Boys, Youths; for Ladies, Misses and Children.

All Leathers. All Shades. All Sizes.

SCHANK & SPENCER, 410 Spruce Street.

NEW OFFICERS OF WILLIAMSON LODGE

Installed Last Night in Masonic Hall on Penn Avenue.

BANQUET FOLLOWED CEREMONY

It was attended by nearly two hundred Masons... District Deputy Grand Master Thomas F. Wells and Past Masters T. F. Penman, F. S. Barker and F. L. Brown--The Officers Installed.

Peter Williamson lodge, No. 223, Free and Accepted Masons, installed officers last night and celebrated the event with a banquet in Masonic hall on Penn avenue.

The installing officers were District Deputy Grand Master Thomas F. Wells,



Past Master T. F. Penman, Past Master F. S. Barker and Past Master F. L. Brown. The officers installed were: Worshipful master, W. S. Diehl; senior warden, Ed. Lynde; junior warden, Frank Meyer; secretary, C. L. Van Baskirk; treasurer, Thomas E. Dutton;



trustees, E. H. Ripple, W. L. Connell and E. L. Dieck. Nearly two hundred Masons witnessed the ceremonies and attended the banquet.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Under this heading short letters of interest will be published when accompanied by publication by the writer's name. The Tribune will not be held responsible for opinions here expressed.

President Williams' Statement.

Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Because of dull collections and other adverse influences my college, in which I took pride and by which I tried to effect good results, passed to other control. My handbooks and faculty are protected by law and hold an inventory, which, as taken last year, amounts to double such claims. To protect all other creditors, and without preference except as to wages of employees, and on advice of Messrs. Warren & Knapp, I transferred to a trustee my open ledger accounts and also all other claims due and I have and believe the assets thus assigned, which are of large volume, will cover all liabilities.

All my available means have been absorbed and I accept a salaried position. Christian gentlemen of the board of trade, some of whom are strangers to me, held a meeting and without my knowledge discussed measures to relieve me and for the maintenance of the college as a public benefit. I hereby express to such friends my warmest thanks.

Under other auspices I believe the college will re-open Jan. 4, and from my sympathy with patrons and pupils I have striven to reach that end.

I have also unceasingly striven to ensure full payment of every claim from assets transferred to the trustee named, but if such cannot be effected even then from new business brought by the re-opened college, profits in future may offset present losses.

I owe thanks to a generous press and public who could not resist the charms of a pupal and with a large and talented faculty have labored unflinchingly to advance the educational status of the youth of Scranton and deeply sensitive, as I am, I keenly appreciate the fact that to their kind words and promises have been showered upon me. I have never heard an unkind word uttered to my career or in criticism of my college.

It will be pleasant if the press publish this statement as widely as the public may thus be served. Cordially, O. F. Williams.

Statement from Captain Hart.

Editor of The Tribune.

Sir:—The Crown King foot ball team desire to reach the following statement: The Crown King foot ball team has been organized since the foot ball season started and during that time has proved itself the strongest, most talented and most generally full of players that ever battled for supremacy in the territory hereabouts.

The game last Sunday broke up in a wrangle. It is true; but not until the Crown Kings did all in their power to have the game so on, conceding everything that was reasonable.

Immediately after the ball was out in play last Sunday until the game broke up it was a conspicuous fact that the Crown Kings were playing too strong a game and were fast snowing their opponents, the Crescents, under. After ten minutes' play, the Crown Kings secured a touchdown and a goal. It could be easily seen afterward that the Crescents tried all plans to have the game broke up, so as to have an excuse for avoiding the overwhelming defeat which they would receive. The ball was punned, and in the scuffle one of the Crown Kings deliberately fouled one of the Crown Kings. For this the umpire, the chief official in a foot ball game, allowed the Crown Kings fifteen yards.

The umpire gave his decision without prejudice, and the Crown Kings seeing that their opponents would not abide by his decision left the field. The Crown Kings will post from \$5 to \$20 in the sporting edition of any of the daily papers and will allow the above amount to the Crescents, if they can't duplicate the feat of last Sunday again next Sunday on the James Boys' grounds, providing however, that the Crescents does likewise. The Crown Kings have won all their battles on the foot ball field and not in the newspapers; so if the Crescents mean business, let them post their money and we will do the rest. H. F. Hart, Captain Crown King Foot Ball Club.

They Were Not Authorized.

To the Public. The two young men who called on the different business men of our city to solicit advertisements for the Young Woman's Christian association were not authorized by any of the officers of the association. Mrs. Ripple, President, Dec. 21, 1896.

WANTS THE RAILS PLANKED.

Resolution Signed by Mayor Will Give Traction Co. Some Work to Do.

Mayor Bailey Monday signed an ordinance and seven resolutions. Among the resolutions is one directing the Scranton Traction company to properly plank and clean up its tracks within the city limits where a T rail is used and where planking is not at once done then, the street commissioner is directed to proceed with the work and charge it up to the Traction company. Councilman Wirth, of the Nineteenth ward, is the father of the resolution.

The ordinance signed directs the city clerk to advertise for bids for planking the Nay Aug engine house with steam heating apparatus and steam. The other resolutions were: Granting permission to the city engineer to open Harrison avenue to construct a sewer, providing for the extension of Summer avenue from Fairview avenue to Putnam street, and the extension of a fire hydrant at the corner of Summit avenue and Putnam street; permitting the Economy Heat and Power company to lay water pipes on Franklin avenue, directing the city engineer to prepare plans for the opening of Wyoming avenue from Pine to Ash streets, and directing the city engineer to make plans and specifications for a viaduct from Lackawanna avenue bridge to Robinson street.

AMUSEMENTS.

Beautiful "Shore Acres," a play that has won the lavish praise of thousands of people in all parts of the country, will be the attraction at the Academy of Music to-night and to-morrow night. "Shore Acres" is a dramatized poem, a pretty, simple, pure, truthful story of human life, in which there appears at no time any evidence of stage device or clap-trap to offend the artistic senses of the audience. The play has some exquisite touches of human nature and contains much that is pathetic, sentimental and tender. The story of love, hope, faith, patience, ambition, and greed that makes up the circumstances of almost everyone's life is told in a masterly and dramatic fashion. Mr. McArthur introduced in "Shore Acres," and no one can help but admire this great play, which many able critics claim is the best native work yet produced.

Christmas afternoon and evening the "Thoroughbred," Charles Frohman's newest comedy success, will be the bill at the Frothingham. One of Mr. Frohman's many ideals is to keep a brand new comedy before the public all the time. "Thoroughbred" has not only completed its first triumphant tour of the country, but William Gillette's laughable creation, "The Much Ado About Nothing," is by an Englishman, and bears the record of splendid runs in London and New York. The well-known comedian, H. E. Dixey, made one of the greatest hits of his life in the original New York production and he, as well as most of the others of the original cast, will be seen here.

The attraction for Christmas and the next day at the Academy will be Mr. and Mrs. Russ Whytal in the powerful and amusing drama, "The Fair Virgin," which was so very favorably received last season. Since then Mr. and Mrs. Whytal have chosen to appear in the light comedy opera, thus offering the charm of novelty. The Saturday matinee will be at popular prices. The performance of that wonderful clever child, Little Brissel, makes the performance especially interesting to women and children.

Next Saturday brings to the Frothingham for a matinee and evening performance the most dramatic and novel "In Old Kentucky." The scene is laid in the mountainous regions of Kentucky, and the story is spirited, idyllic and thrilling by turns. It is a heavy scenic production, each scene representing some particular spot or building in Kentucky. Probably the most striking scene is the realistic representation of the battle of Shiloh, which is carried out with all the adjuncts and accessories, complete in every detail. No American play has ever made so much money for its producers as this delightful story of Kentucky life.

PERSONAL.

Carl Welles has returned from Yale for the holidays.

Patrick Hannick will spend a few days during the holidays in New York city.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Thomas, of Wilkes-Barre, are visiting friends in this city.

Thomas H. Dolan, of Easton, was the guest of Attorney John T. Martin yesterday.

Miss Anna Burke is home from Eden Hall, Torrensdale, for the Christmas holidays.

D. J. Moriarty, of the Times, is quite seriously ill at his home, on Orchard street.

C. W. Fulton, who has been in Denver, Col., for the past two weeks, returned to Scranton yesterday.

Ezra and Theobald Connell, of the University of Pennsylvania, will come home today for the holidays.

Colonel E. H. Rippe spent yesterday at the Soldiers' school, at Hartford, Susquehanna county.

M. J. Nihil, who is traveling engineer for the Pullman Pacific Railroad company, is visiting relatives on Niagara, where they intend to remain for some time.

John F. McElmerton, the Penn avenue bookseller, and several members of his family are at present in California, where they intend to remain for some time.

Charles E. Horn, son of Attorney George S. Horn, has returned from the law department of Dickinson college to spend the holidays at his home, on Ministry street.

Miss Jessie Dimmick and her brother, Willie, of Chicago, arrived in the city yesterday afternoon, where they will spend the holidays as the guests of their grandparents, Hon. and Mrs. William Connell.

Notice.

The following is a list of display cards kept in stock at this office and for sale at ten cents each: Rooms for rent. For sale. This property for sale. Furnished rooms. House for rent. House to let, etc.

Prices Scattered to the Winds

in silencers at the S. Brothers, 10,000 pairs are to be sold and we have cut prices square in two—\$1.00 silver for 50c. See our display. Open evenings.

Salesmen Wanted.

Ten experienced salesmen wanted immediately at Davidow Bros., 217 Lacka. ave.

Beitman

The Bookman is headquarters for Books, Calendars, Diaries.

Bring your card plate to The Tribune for printing.

THIELE

School of Music, 520 Spruce St. Mrs. Katharine Thiele, Voice Training, Solo Singing. Ernest Thiele, Violin, Piano, Cello ensemble. Both teachers at celebrated Scharwenka Conservatory, New York. Also other competent teachers engaged. Mr. Thiele is the successor to the late HERR KOPFF

PROSECUTORS GET THE WORST OF IT

Five out of Six Mulcted for Costs Yesterday in Criminal Court.

ONE PUNISHED FOR BEING LATE

By Their Verdicts the Juries Virtually Say That Nine-tenths of the Assault and Battery Cases Should Never be Allowed to Come into Court--Novel Disease Set Up in a Malicious Mischief Case.

Six assault and battery cases and one of malicious mischief were the only criminal cases before Judge Edwards yesterday. In five of the cases, the defendants were mulcted for all or a part of the costs.

One of the cases has an amusing feature connected with it. Michael Pianto, a well-known character, was charged with assault and battery on the person of John and Michael Koehlek. The case was called, but Pianto was not present, so court directed the jury to find a verdict of not guilty and place the costs on the prosecutor. Just as the jury rendered their finding, the prosecutor came breathlessly into court and hurried up to District Attorney John H. Jones, to tell him that he was ready to proceed. Instead of being invited to a seat at the prosecutor's table, he was marched before Judge Edwards and told that he could consider himself a prisoner until he had paid the costs imposed on him. He was a very much perturbed and deeply indignant man, but under the terms he secured his release under the insolvency laws.

Margie Quinn, of Pine Brook, was the first called to answer the charges of assault and battery. Annie Brown was the accused. The allegation was that the defendant slapped the 17-year-old child of the accused. The jury found the defendant not guilty and directed the costs. Attorney John F. Straub represented the defendant.

SHERIDAN AND MCGEE.

Patrick Sheridan and Frank McGee, of Carbondale, were the parties in case No. 2. McGee said he boarded with Sheridan, but owing to some dispute with Mrs. Sheridan, was ordered to leave. McGee did not go, but Sheridan met him walking along the Ontario and Western railroad track, and without a word assaulted him and struck him with a stick. McGee did not deny striking McGee, but averred that McGee batted him with his head in the face, and that he was only acting in self-defense. Not guilty, costs divided, again said the jury. Attorney A. A. Vosburg defended Sheridan. Providence furnished the next case. The parties were James Murphy and James Clark. Clark testified that he went into Lynch's saloon Aug. 8 last and had no sooner set his foot inside the door than Murphy made an insulting remark about him. He snatched his distractor across the face with the back of his hand and warned him to keep his distance. He then retired to the back room and was sitting there reading a paper when Murphy came in and apologized. They shook hands and agreed to be friendly. A minute later Murphy struck McGee over the eye with a beer glass, cutting a deep gash which endangered the sight of the eye. Murphy put in the defense that Clark first struck him, but the jury found him guilty, but recommended mercy. Attorney A. A. Vosburg appeared for the defense.

HIT HIM WITH A PAIL.

Peter Reiber rented a house from E. H. Pickering, in Dunmore. He couldn't pay the rent and had to leave. Some of his clothing had been left behind and returning to get it he found the door locked. He pounded on the door and Pickering coming down, ordered him to leave. The reason, according to the story of the prosecution, Reiber fell Pickering to the ground with a blow on the head from a dinner pail which Reiber carried over his shoulder. Reiber in defense said that Pickering struck him with a walking stick and that he merely pushed him away. Not guilty, prosecutor to pay costs was the finding of the jury. Attorney George M. Watson defended Reiber. Mr. Diehl, of Watson, Diehl & Hall, assisted in the prosecution.

That a woman would and did charge down her neighbor with the crime was the belief of one jury that went out in disrepute yesterday. Bertha Rose, of the South Side, was the woman who owned the dog. Hannah Andrews was the neighbor she charged with battering it down in a spirit of malice.

Mrs. Rose swore that Mrs. Andrews came to her house and daved her to come out. Mrs. Rose came out, but seeing that Mrs. Andrews was accompanied by two brinks, she retreated. Mrs. Andrews thereupon threw the bricks through the panels of the door. Mrs. Rose's brinks were open door and then proceeded to an alderman's office and had a warrant issued charging her with malicious mischief. The jury not only found Mrs. Andrews guilty, but also the prosecutor. Attorney George Eade conducted the defense. Attorney Nathan Vidaver assisted in the prosecution.

Martin Nelson, an old man living on Princeton avenue, was cited Mrs. Mary A. Rippe, his next door neighbor, for knocking him senseless with a "bump of a stone." The trouble occurred on Feb. 8 last, and grew out of a line fence dispute. The case was on at adjournment. Attorney Joseph O'Brien represented the defense, and Attorney F. J. Fitzsimmons assisted in the prosecution.

A verdict of not guilty was returned in the case of Joseph Wroblewski charged with assault and battery by Ludwik Jezniorski, which was tried Monday just previous to adjournment. Two-thirds of the costs were placed on the prosecutor and one-third on the defendant.

POSTPONED THEOPENING.

Superior Court Will Meet Here on the Second Monday of January.

The Superior court, in session in Philadelphia, has made the following order postponing the opening of the session in this city from the first until the second Monday of January:

Now, Dec. 18, 1896, it is ordered that the session of the court in January, 1897, begin on the second Monday instead of the first Monday, and that all appeals, which under the standing order, would be heard during the week beginning the first Monday of January, shall be placed at the head of the list for the week beginning the second Monday of January, 1897, and that the prothonotary at Scranton forward a copy of this order to the prothonotaries of the several counties affected thereby.

Ladies' Solid Gold Rings.

set with pearls, rubies, diamonds, sapphires, etc. We have over 1,000 different styles to select from; prices formerly were \$4.50, \$6 to \$7.50, now we are disposing of them at \$1.50, \$2.25, \$2.75 and \$3.50 to close out the business. DAVIDOW BROS., 217 Lacka. ave.

Ten Thousand Pairs.

Yes, 10,000 pairs we have and 10,000 pairs we must sell, so for the next few days, shippers will be sold at a sacrifice. Open evenings.

Genuine Diamond Ring

only \$10.00, worth \$25.00, at Davidow Bros.' great retiring sale, 217 Lacka. av.

An elegant calendar with every cash purchase of \$1.00 or over. FOOTER & SHEAR CO.

Join the Crowds

of well-blended book buyers at Reddeman's holiday store, 211 Wash. ave.

REXFORD'S.

No Store in Scranton Ever Done Such a Holiday Business as We Are Doing. What's the Reason?

REXFORD'S, 303 Lacka. Ave.

Christmas Presents

Are you careful when you buy china or glass? You are when you handle it. Why not be still more careful when you select it—when you buy it? Isn't hard to select good either, not when you have a stock like ours to select from. Prices make it easier. Many people have bought lamps of us—lamps that give light—lots of it. We believe that lamps should give light first and be beautiful afterwards—useful and then ornamental.

Dinner, Tea AND Toilet Sets Silverware, Etc.

CHINA HALL, MILLAR & PECK, 131 Wyoming Avenue. Walk in and look around. Open Evenings.

DENTAL WORK.

If you have any Dental Work you want done you will save money by seeing me before going elsewhere. When I say I am inserting GOLD AND SILVER FILLINGS

Guaranteed to save the teeth from further decay. I mean it. I am doing the very best dental work at lower prices than others and can prove it by calling at my office. Examination costs you nothing. If you want a gold crown or

TEETH WITHOUT A PLATE

Called Crown and Bridge Work. Remember. I make only one grade—the very best 22K gold and good weight—and the price is right.

DR. BARRETT, DENTIST

316 Spruce Street, Next Door to Hotel Jersey.

EYES EXAMINED FREE.

You can save money by buying spectacles of Silverstone, the eye specialist, at 206 Lackawanna avenue, one eye sight over the Lehigh Valley ticket office. The following prices will satisfy you that they are the cheapest in the city: Solid gold-rimmed spectacles at \$1.50 per pair; filled bows at \$2; nickel bows from 50c. to \$1.50; aluminum bows from 75c. to \$2.00; colored glasses from 25c. to \$1.25. We have a large line of reading glasses, the best in the market, at 25c. per pair. Opera and magnifying glasses at reduced prices. Office hours, 8 a. m. to 12m.; 1 to 6 p. m. Remember that your eyes will be examined free and satisfaction is guaranteed.

AUCTION SALE

OF Oriental Rugs, Carpets AND JAPANESE WARE, AT

500 Lack Ave., Cor. Wash., Today at 2.30 and 8 p. m. by

MICHAELIAN BROS. & CO

Do not fail to attend these giving-away sales.

SPECIAL

We offer about 50 Boys' 3-piece Suits, (short pants), sizes 12 to 16 years, at almost nothing.

These Suits are heavy weight, nice mixtures, and formerly sold for \$7.00, \$8.00 and \$10.00.

Choice for \$5.00 EACH

COLLINS & HACKETT 220 LACK AVE. & HACKETT

Clothing, Hatters, & Furnishers

OVERCOATS

Of the best makes and styles at prices that will astonish you. Everybody buys at the same price.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW

416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

ST. NICK

was agreeably surprised to find such a fine line of overcoats and suits at prices lower than the lowest in this county at

Kramer Bros., POPULAR CLOTHING HOUSE, 325 LACKAWANNA AVE.

PRICES REDUCED.

Today we reduce the price on all

Children's Coats, Ladies' Coats, Ladies' Capes, Silk Waists, Woolen Waists. Now is the time to buy. DRESS GOODS We are selling Fine Dress Goods at Special Prices. For Christmas Gifts. A very fine assortment of Toilet and Fancy Articles, Umbrellas, Pocketbooks, Handkerchiefs, Ladies' Kid Gloves, Gent's Kid Gloves, Children's Gloves and Mittens, Etc. FOR HOUSEKEEPERS. Every woman appreciates Table Linens, Napkins, Linen Sets. We have them in great variety at Special Prices.

MEARS & HAGEN, 415, 417 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, Pa.