

BARGAINS IN BOOKS

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Have a Cigar? Thanks—Don't care if I do. Ah, this is a Popular Punch I'm in luck. It's my favorite. Garney, Brown & Co. Normman & Moore FIRE INSURANCE, 120 Wyoming Ave. Laundry Done Right, Regularly, at popular prices, with prompt service. The Lackawanna 508 Penn Avenue. A. B. WARMAN. DR. W. B. HENWOOD, DENTIST 316 LACKAWANNA AVE.

CHAS McMULLEN & CO. Have opened a General Insurance Office in The Traders' National Bank Bldg. Best Stock Companies represented. Large lines especially solicited. Telephone 1863.

ROCK-DRILLING CONTEST. A Scranton Team Won the Prize. Records of the Contestants. The rock drilling contest for the championship of Luzerne and Lackawanna counties took place at Evans' hotel, in Miner's Mills, yesterday afternoon and caused a great amount of interest among the miners. A prize of \$25 was offered, open to all comers, to drill in rock, a dry hole, time, ten minutes, to use one-inch steel and eight pound hammer. Quite a number of spectators were present. Nichols and John, of Scranton, drilled the deepest hole, which was fifteen inches, winning the prize. A number of bets were made by the spectators and quite an amount of money changed hands. The following is a list of the contestants and the depth of the hole drilled by each: Bevan and Thomas, depth of hole, 14 inches, Miner's Mills. Dixon and Foot, depth of hole, 14 1/2 inches, Mill Creek. Lingel and Ulfster, depth of hole, 13 1/2 inches, Scranton. Hughes and Evans, depth of hole, 10 inches, Plains. Nichols and John, depth of hole, 15 inches, Scranton. Leonard and Conover, depth of hole, 9 1/2 inches, East End. Loderick and Griffiths, depth of hole, 13 1/2 inches, Miner's Mills. The timekeepers were Edgerlon and Boye, and referee Grant Fotheringham. —Yesterday's Wilkes-Barre Record.

Twining, optician 125 Penn avenue, in Harris' drug store, Hours 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Big Decline Suits that were \$20.00 now \$10.00 Suits that were \$25.00 now \$15.00 Made to your measure, fit guaranteed, 300 Patterns. W. C. Loftus & Co., 608 to 578 Broadway, New York. 70 agencies. Call at 70 to agency, with WATKINS, THE HA 712, 205 Lackawanna Ave.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP RALLY.

It is to Be Held Tomorrow at Y. M. C. A. Hall. Tomorrow afternoon at Y. M. C. A. hall there will be a good citizenship rally on a grand scale under the auspices of the various young people's religious societies. Rev. Wilbur F. Crofts, Ph.D., superintendent of the National Reform Bureau, of Washington, D. C., will deliver the principal address. Out of this meeting, it is expected, will spring a local branch of the Reform Bureau and it is mainly with this object in view that the rally will be held. The committee in charge of the affair have sent to all the pastors in the city the following circular, advertising the rally: Young Men's Christian Association, Scranton, Pa., Nov. 25, 1897. Dear Sir: Please announce to your congregation and also have announced in the Sunday school, the following: There will be a meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance union, Young Women's Christian association, Young Men's Christian association, Epworth league, Baptist Young People's and Christian Endeavor societies of this city at the Young Men's Christian association hall Sunday at 3.30 p. m. (Nov. 26). Rev. Wilbur F. Crofts, superintendent of the national reform bureau, will deliver an address upon the subject of 'Good Citizenship.'

The more announcement that Rev. Dr. Crofts is to speak makes the success of the meeting. His several addresses in this city last Sunday will be long and pleasurable remembered by those who heard him. That another opportunity of hearing him is afforded should, without doubt, be hailed with deep gratification, especially by those who were regretting having missed his discourses of last Sunday. RECORD-MAKING FIGURES. Cross Fork Challenges Any Town of Its Size to Equal Its Output. During the month of October, the Lackawanna Lumber Company shipped from their mills and lumber yard at Cross Fork 7,501,000 feet of lumber and 1,225,000 lath. This lumber and lath was loaded on the cars with 20 men, and is the largest shipping for any one month that the company commenced business there. During the same month there were 1,675 cars of freight, etc., shipped from that town over the Cross Fork branch of the E. & S. R. R., and an average of over 41 cars daily. This freight consisted of bark, lumber, lath, wood, and hubs, and the freight receipts amounted to \$21,000 for the month. If there is another town of its size in Pennsylvania, the Cross Fork would like to hear from it. The depot work was all done with John Kinealy, agent, and A. B. Jenkins, operator, and all can truthfully say that it is no hard to beat. —Potter County Enterprise. The greater part of the stock of the Lackawanna company is held by prominent Scrantonians. CHARGED WITH MALPRACTICE. A \$50,000 Damage Suit Against Two North End Physicians. A charge of malpractice, with a \$50,000 damage suit accompaniment, was yesterday preferred in court by Mrs. Mary Malloy against two North End physicians, Dr. George O. Caldwell and Dr. D. H. Jenkins. Mrs. Malloy alleges that her 16-year-old son Patrick Malloy, who sustained a dislocation of the hip was unproperly treated by the defendant physicians, and will in consequence be permanently disabled. The allegations of the plaintiff is the extent of the charge. Voesburg-Dawson represent Mrs. Malloy. ORGILL RELEASED FROM JAIL. Furnishes Bail Before Judge Edwards in the Sum of \$1,000. Ex-Constable John Orgill, who has been in the county jail since Oct. 31, awaiting the result of the stab wound he inflicted on his friend and neighbor, Robert Elliott, was yesterday released from imprisonment on \$1,000 bail furnished before Judge Edwards by Joseph Robinson. A certificate from Elliott's physician setting forth that he was out of danger was the principal means of securing Orgill's release. THE SCRANTON BUSINESS COLLEGE. Within the past few days requests for a young man who can keep books and write shorthand; one for a young man who is a good stenographer; another for a young man who can keep books; then one for a lady stenographer; last evening another for a bookkeeper. Principals Buck and Whitmore were able to fill two of the above places for the reason that they had no more students qualified who are unemployed. A young man invested fifty dollars and seven months of time in an education at the S. E. C. immediately after graduating he secured a position after one month earned fifty dollars. Another learned both bookkeeping and shorthand. He was placed by the College, and being a hustler, in less than a year and a half he was earning one hundred dollars per month. A young lady was sent to an out of town position, which she filled acceptably, but which she resigned to better qualify herself as a bookkeeper. She was in school but a few days when a city firm secured her at a large salary. Her former employers later offered her inducements to return to them. A young man who graduated but a few weeks ago called at the office this week and said his pay has already reached sixty-three dollars per month. Business men are looking everywhere and all the time for good bookkeepers and stenographers. Can energetic young men and women better invest their money than in obtaining a practical business education? A gentleman, wife and child, 5 years old, want the comforts of a home in a strictly private family. Must be in a good locality. Willing to pay for comfort. Address care of Lock Box 115. DIED. DAVIS.—In West Scranton, Nov. 25, 1897, Mrs. Jane Davis, at her residence, 1113 Jackson street. Funeral Monday afternoon at residence at 1.30 o'clock. Interment at Forest Hill cemetery. SCHOFIELD.—In North Scranton, Nov. 25, 1897, Mrs. Bridget Schofield, at the home of her son, M. J. Schofield, of 154 Bloom avenue. The funeral will take place tomorrow morning at 9.30 o'clock. A high mass of requiem will be read in Holy Heart church. RAY.—In Scranton, Nov. 25, 1897, John W. Ray, aged 7 years, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Martindale, 916 Capouse avenue. Interment Sunday afternoon, Nov. 28, in Forest Hill cemetery. JENNINGS.—In Scranton, Nov. 25, 1897, Miss Alice Jennings, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Fred Hatch, 407 Kellum court. Funeral Saturday afternoon. Services will begin in Grace Reformed Episcopal church, Wyoming avenue, Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

SHOWMAN REEVES HAS BEGUN SUIT Sensational Incident at Davis' Theater Last April Recalled. THE CURTAIN WAS RUNG DOWN Fannie Thatcher and Ethel Milton Were Singing to a Man in the Audience When Mr. Davis Put a Sudden Stop to It—The Words That Passed Between Mr. Davis and Mr. Reeves Afterwards Are the Basis of the Suit. When Fannie Thatcher and Ethel Milton, of the Al. Reeves Big Burlesque show, sang their song 'Oh, You Little Darling,' at the same time pointing out the 'darling' in the big audience at Davis' theater away back in the afternoon of the 5th day of April, this year, they probably little thought of the trouble they were brewing. Fannie Thatcher is large, very large, and the other half of the team is small. They had been warned against firing their ammunition at individuals in the seats, but Fannie Thatcher and Ethel Milton know no rules. As a result of the breach and subsequent happenings on that eventful day Al. Reeves, the proprietor of the show, who also plays a banjo, began suit before Alderman O. B. Wright yesterday for the recovery of \$106.23, which he alleges is due him on a verbal contract forced upon Mr. Davis, owner of the theater, after the unpleasant incident. The summons will be served upon Mr. Davis today. About 500 persons will remember the sensational finish to the show. Mr. Davis himself went to the stage and, with his own hands, lowered the curtain. The play at the expense of the audience, was against the printed rules of the house. The company, Mr. Davis said, had been warned against such conduct and his action in cutting off Thatcher and Milton was the only way left to enforce the rules. SHOW PROCEEDED. After a delay of several minutes, during which the audience only guessed what was going on behind the scenes, the show proceeded. After the performance Reeves waited upon Mr. Davis and announced his determination to close there and then. Not a single other performance would be given at the theater. Moreover his company, said Reeves, would not play at Binghamton where Reeves' company was billed. Reeves in his bill of particulars, after saying that Mr. Davis, the defendant, 'took exceptions to certain things in the show' and would not play the plaintiff (Reeves) 'positively refused to give any more performances under the same engagement, claiming that the lowering of the curtain by said defendant during the progress of the first performance would so greatly reduce the attendance at subsequent performances that to continue under the original condition would prove unprofitable to said plaintiff.' 'And whereas, after the above mentioned performance was over said defendant called upon plaintiff at the St. Charles' hotel, where he was stopping, and asked him to continue his shows for the remainder of the three days, saying that it would injure the reputation of the theatre if there was any trouble and no performance. Plaintiff refused to continue under the old engagement but did agree to continue the engagement if said defendant would guarantee him an amount equal to that he received for his last previous appearance in the same theatre which amount said defendant then and there promised and agreed to give him in consideration of his company completing their three days engagement. THE AGREEMENT. 'And whereas said plaintiff and his company did continue to play at said defendants theatre for the three days as originally billed with the express understanding and agreement that plaintiff was to receive for his own and his company's services the said sum.' Reeves concludes that Mr. Davis still owes him \$106.23 on the side contract made at the St. Charles. John H. Perry, a member of the company, gives his sworn statement as a witness of the transaction, said statement being a part of the bill of particulars, a copy of which will be sent Mr. Davis today. 'The bill is drawn by Attorney Frank E. Boyle and George W. Marshall attaches his name as a witness. It was arranged when Mr. Reeves played an engagement at the Davis last week, Mr. Davis, when seen last night, was averse to discussing the matter. He did not think it necessary. Admitting that he had made a verbal contract with Reeves, it was done under stress and according to law and morals could not stand in the place of the regularly black and white contract made previously. The rules of the house had been broken, this has not been denied, and Reeves nevertheless forced the contract upon him. Dec. 3 is set for the time for filing an affidavit of defense. WILL BE A RARE TREAT. Programme of the St. Thomas College Lecture Course. The programme of this winter's lecture course at St. Thomas' college, the details of which have just been completed, shows a rare intellectual treat in store for Scrantonians. The first of the series will take place Dec. 14, when Rev. Dr. D. J. Stafford, of Washington, will lecture on 'Machbeth.' On the 16th Dr. Stafford will repeat his 'Hamlet,' which won for him such enthusiastic commendation when he delivered it here last winter.

Nuts, Fruits, Poultry, Oysters, Vegetables. SCRANTON CASH STORE

STOMACH PUMP TO THE RESCUE. Succeeds in Stopping the Effects of an Onset of Lardaceousness. Geoffrey Mohr, a shoemaker of Albright avenue, had a narrow escape from death by poison Thursday night. During a period of abstraction he swallowed a quantity of opium and the result was only a matter of hours before a hastily summoned physician that snatched him from the jaws of death. Nothing in his circumstances or surroundings would tend to indicate that Mohr had any particular reason for wishing to end his earthly career. He was able to be about yesterday and seemed to be suffering no ill effects from his experience. MAY BE A CASE OF SUICIDE Man Found Dead in the Columbia House Was William C. Straley, of Noxon. 'William C. Straley' is the correct name of the man who was found dead in room 21 in the Columbia house at 6 o'clock p. m. Thanksgiving day. It developed yesterday that death was probably not from heart disease or any other natural cause, but that Straley committed suicide while in a fit of despondency. The body is still at Raub's undertaking establishment and will be subjected to an autopsy by Coroner S. P. Longstreet this morning. The discovery of the man's identity was done through the letter signed by Pearl McArthur, of 91 1/2 Meade street, Wilkes-Barre, mention of which was made in yesterday's Tribune. It was at first thought that the dead man was the McArthur girl's father, but it now appears that the girl lived with his family at Noxon for several years. Following is the story as the Wilkes-Barre Times printed it last evening: 'The girl, who is apparently about 32 or 33 years old, was at home, as was also her father, C. H. McArthur, and Mrs. McArthur. They had not heard of the man's death and when shown the clipping which had been published in the Tribune they agreed that the dead man must have been William C. Straley, of Noxon. Pearl lived with Straley and his wife for eight years, having committed to their charge eight years ago by Mr. McArthur, shortly after the death of his first wife. She had continuously resided with the Straleys until several weeks ago, when her father went to Noxon and brought her to his home in this city. She has since remained here. Mr. McArthur was married again several years ago. Pearl on hearing the reading of the clipping containing the news of the man's death said: 'God, I'll bet he's gone and killed himself.' 'What makes you think so?' said the reporter. 'He had a great deal of trouble on his mind,' replied she. 'Of what nature was the trouble?' was asked. 'He owed a lot of horse rent and other debts and these always weighed much on his mind,' she answered. 'It would seem that Straley was a heavy drinker. He was a hustler, and the profits of his business being meagre, he was unable to make ends meet. He became more and more discouraged, drank harder lately than before, and his death was probably brought about by his own act as the best solution of his troubles.' Pearl McArthur says she always called Mrs. Straley 'mother' and as such she addressed her in the letter. Pearl says that she wrote two letters to Mrs. McArthur since she came from Noxon six weeks ago. 'She described Straley as having been 32 years of age, short and stocky and with a few white hairs in his hair. He was married but had no children. The body has not been removed from Raub's establishment. After the inquest today, Mrs. Straley will be communicated with and a disposition of the remains effected. The possibility of suicide is also borne out by the recollection that Straley, when discovered, lay in a position on the bed that indicated bodily pain. His hands were laid over his stomach. WENT UP THE FIRE ESCAPE. After All Their Trouble They Secured 50 Cents and Other Trifles. Burglars placed a ladder against the fire escape on the rear of a building on the north side of Lackawanna avenue in the first block and climbed six stories to a window in Howard Hill's store. The trick was done some time after dark on Thanksgiving day and when the store was opened yesterday morning it was then discovered what ill there is in a fire escape. The burglars secured an overcoat belonging to one of the workmen, three oyster knives and 17 cents from the cash drawer. As usual, the police were notified.

SCRANTON SUNDAY FREE PRESS. Tomorrow's Features. City Department—How Van Horn's neck will be saved. Stranger dies while visiting the city. An episode of the Davis' Theater. Those Illegal Assessments. A doctor who is again in trouble. Peculiar death of a young child. West Side—A brace of young criminals who are at the end of their rope; and the happenings of the week. 'Womans' Department—Several fashion articles. Toilet hints. Nursery Talk. Popular music by a well known composer. Welsh solist. Irish Department—Short letters from all the counties of Ireland, which will be of interest to Irishmen. Do not miss the Sunday Free Press. Send in your name and have it delivered to your home every Sunday morning before breakfast. No advance payment required. Collections made monthly, which will afford all a chance to read their favorite paper. Sold everywhere at 5 cents per copy. Rev. J. J. Lansing will recite 'The Courtship of Miles Standish' in the lecture room of the Green Ridge Presbyterian church, Tuesday evening at 7.45 o'clock. Tickets at Anderson's Drug store. BEECHAM'S PILLS will dispel the 'blues.'

JOSEPH J. JERMYN NOW TAKES A HAND

Proceeds to Help His Father Lurap the Board of Control. PLAN OF ASSESSMENT ATTACKED Suit in Equity Instituted to Secure an Injunction Restraining the Board of Control from Levying Taxes on the City Assessment—County Assessor It is to Be Held Is the Proper Basis of School District Taxation. Attack No. 2 on the board of control was begun yesterday when Joseph J. Jermyin instituted a suit in equity to secure an injunction restraining the school board from collecting taxes upon his property, alleging first, that it is illegal to levy the school taxes on the city assessment, and second, that the board of twenty-one, as the plaintiff's father, John Jermyin, is trying to prove, can not legally make an assessment. The complaint is as follows: First—I am a citizen and taxpayer of the Scranton school district, and am the owner of certain real estate situated therein, in the Eighth ward of the city of Scranton, on the western side of Penn avenue, Nos. 123 and 121, about fifty feet in front by one hundred and fifty feet deep. Second—The board of control of said district has levied a school tax on said real estate for the year of 1897, amounting to ninety-one (\$91) dollars, and by its officers and agents is endeavoring to collect the same, and is threatening to impose penalties and file liens and to distribute your orator's property and cause him large costs and expenses by reason thereof. Third—The said tax is levied on the assessment of said property made by the board of city assessors of the city of Scranton for city purposes, which board of assessors was created by Act of Assembly of May 23, 1888, entitled, 'An Act providing for the incorporation and government of cities of the third class,' and as amended by Act of May 23, 1888. Fourth—Your orator avers that the school tax so levied upon the city assessment is wholly void and without authority of law for the further reason that it was levied by a board of control consisting of twenty-one members, one member having been elected from each of the twenty-one wards of the city of Scranton. Such board of control not being a legal representative of the school district of Scranton, and having no power to levy a tax or perform any other duty pertaining to the management of the schools of the Scranton School district. Fifth—By reason of the aforesaid premises the aforesaid levy of tax was wholly void, and your orator has suffered great and irreparable damage, for which he has no adequate remedy at law. The ground upon which the first complaint is based is that the law under which the board assumes to levy school taxes on the city assessment is unconstitutional. School boards in cities of the third class by a special act of the legislature, were given the power to use the city instead of the county assessment in levying school taxes. SPECIAL LEGISLATION. This is held in special legislation for the reason that school districts are school districts the state over and using a local application what is done for Scranton should be done for Danmore. The reasons for the second complaint are the same as filed in the John Jermyin suit against the board of twenty-one. Ex-City Solicitor I. H. Buras and M. J. Martin are the attorneys in the case.

CLOTHING BARGAINS. MATTHEWS BROS., 320 Lackawanna Ave., Scranton Pa. Wholesale and Retail DRUGGISTS. ATLANTIC WHITE LEAD, FRENCH ZINC. Ready Mixed Tinted Paints, Convenient, Economical, Durable. Varnish Stains, Producing Perfect Imitation of Expensive Woods. Reynolds' Wood Finish, Especially Designed for Inside Work. Marble Floor Finish, Durable and Dries Quickly. Paint Varnish and Kalsomine Brushes. PURE LINSEED OIL AND TURPENTINE. Early Selections OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS. Take advantage of this opportunity. By doing so you can go about it leisurely and any article will be reserved for future delivery. LADIES' AND GENTS' WATCHES in solid gold and filled cases, at prices that will astonish. DIAMONDS, JEWELRY in endless variety. We carry all styles and makes in clocks; sterling silverware in jewelry, and toilet articles warranted and stamped by responsible makers. We invite you to call and compare prices. WEICHEL, JEWELER 408 SPRUCE STREET. Open evenings until after the holidays. J. W. GUERNSEY'S GREAT MUSICAL ESTABLISHMENT Is the best place in the state to buy either an Organ or Piano. YOU CAN BUY CHEAPER, YOU CAN BUY ON EASY TERMS, YOU CAN BUY BETTER INSTRUMENTS Than at any other place. Don't fail to call and see for yourself. Ware room, 205 Washington Avenue, SCRANTON, PA.

CITY ASSESSMENT USED. Third—The said tax is levied on the assessment of said property made by the board of city assessors of the city of Scranton for city purposes, which board of assessors was created by Act of Assembly of May 23, 1888, entitled, 'An Act providing for the incorporation and government of cities of the third class,' and as amended by Act of May 23, 1888. Fourth—Your orator avers that the school tax so levied upon the city assessment is wholly void and without authority of law for the further reason that it was levied by a board of control consisting of twenty-one members, one member having been elected from each of the twenty-one wards of the city of Scranton. Such board of control not being a legal representative of the school district of Scranton, and having no power to levy a tax or perform any other duty pertaining to the management of the schools of the Scranton School district. Fifth—By reason of the aforesaid premises the aforesaid levy of tax was wholly void, and your orator has suffered great and irreparable damage, for which he has no adequate remedy at law. The ground upon which the first complaint is based is that the law under which the board assumes to levy school taxes on the city assessment is unconstitutional. School boards in cities of the third class by a special act of the legislature, were given the power to use the city instead of the county assessment in levying school taxes. SPECIAL LEGISLATION. This is held in special legislation for the reason that school districts are school districts the state over and using a local application what is done for Scranton should be done for Danmore. The reasons for the second complaint are the same as filed in the John Jermyin suit against the board of twenty-one. Ex-City Solicitor I. H. Buras and M. J. Martin are the attorneys in the case.

Special Prices on OIL CLOTH. Reduced from 40c. to 25c., 1, 1 1/2 and 2 yards wide, 25c. per square yard. Oil Cloth Rugs 1 yard square, 15 cents. 1 1/2 yards square, 25 cents. 2 yards square, \$1.00. Worth double the price. Table Oil Cloth 1/4 yards wide, 2 yards for 25c. 1/4 yards wide, reversible, per yard, 17c. Linoleum Remnants One-half price. Those formerly sold at \$1 now 50c. Those formerly sold at 75c. now 37 1/2c. SIEBECKER & WATKINS, 406 Lackawanna Avenue. HENRY J. COLLINS. Preparing The Boys for Thanksgiving. If you are going to take them out to dinner, is a pleasure when you have bought their clothing from our handsome and perfect-fitting stock of Boys' and Children's Clothing. We have an up-to-date stock of Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing that we are selling at prices that will surprise you. Henry J. Collins, Lt., Lacka. Ave. MALONEY OIL AND MANUFACTURING CO. 141 to 149 Meridian Street, Scranton, Pa. Telephone 385. BURNING, LUBRICATING AND CYLINDER OILS. BELL & SKINNER, Hotel Jermyn Matters.

YOUNG'S HATS. ALSO OTHER FALL STYLES In Black, Brown, Green, Etc., Now on Sale. HENRY J. COLLINS, Lt., Lacka. Ave. MALONEY OIL AND MANUFACTURING CO. 141 to 149 Meridian Street, Scranton, Pa. Telephone 385. BURNING, LUBRICATING AND CYLINDER OILS. BELL & SKINNER, Hotel Jermyn Matters.

LEO XIII IN THE VATICAN.

a personal study of the venerable Roman pontiff, will be the subject of the discourse by F. Marion Crawford on Dec. 23. Dr. Austin O'Malley, of Notre Dame university, who will be heard Jan. 4, will have as his subject 'Dante's Paradise.' This will be an illustrated lecture. The concluding number of the series will be a lecture on 'Patriotism' by Rev. James Moffitt, the eloquent young preacher of St. John's church, South Scranton. Admirers of Mr. Crawford are talking of a reception in his honor on the occasion of his visit here.

STOMACH PUMP TO THE RESCUE. Succeeds in Stopping the Effects of an Onset of Lardaceousness. Geoffrey Mohr, a shoemaker of Albright avenue, had a narrow escape from death by poison Thursday night. During a period of abstraction he swallowed a quantity of opium and the result was only a matter of hours before a hastily summoned physician that snatched him from the jaws of death. Nothing in his circumstances or surroundings would tend to indicate that Mohr had any particular reason for wishing to end his earthly career. He was able to be about yesterday and seemed to be suffering no ill effects from his experience. MAY BE A CASE OF SUICIDE Man Found Dead in the Columbia House Was William C. Straley, of Noxon. 'William C. Straley' is the correct name of the man who was found dead in room 21 in the Columbia house at 6 o'clock p. m. Thanksgiving day. It developed yesterday that death was probably not from heart disease or any other natural cause, but that Straley committed suicide while in a fit of despondency. The body is still at Raub's undertaking establishment and will be subjected to an autopsy by Coroner S. P. Longstreet this morning. The discovery of the man's identity was done through the letter signed by Pearl McArthur, of 91 1/2 Meade street, Wilkes-Barre, mention of which was made in yesterday's Tribune. It was at first thought that the dead man was the McArthur girl's father, but it now appears that the girl lived with his family at Noxon for several years. Following is the story as the Wilkes-Barre Times printed it last evening: 'The girl, who is apparently about 32 or 33 years old, was at home, as was also her father, C. H. McArthur, and Mrs. McArthur. They had not heard of the man's death and when shown the clipping which had been published in the Tribune they agreed that the dead man must have been William C. Straley, of Noxon. Pearl lived with Straley and his wife for eight years, having committed to their charge eight years ago by Mr. McArthur, shortly after the death of his first wife. She had continuously resided with the Straleys until several weeks ago, when her father went to Noxon and brought her to his home in this city. She has since remained here. Mr. McArthur was married again several years ago. Pearl on hearing the reading of the clipping containing the news of the man's death said: 'God, I'll bet he's gone and killed himself.' 'What makes you think so?' said the reporter. 'He had a great deal of trouble on his mind,' replied she. 'Of what nature was the trouble?' was asked. 'He owed a lot of horse rent and other debts and these always weighed much on his mind,' she answered. 'It would seem that Straley was a heavy drinker. He was a hustler, and the profits of his business being meagre, he was unable to make ends meet. He became more and more discouraged, drank harder lately than before, and his death was probably brought about by his own act as the best solution of his troubles.' Pearl McArthur says she always called Mrs. Straley 'mother' and as such she addressed her in the letter. Pearl says that she wrote two letters to Mrs. McArthur since she came from Noxon six weeks ago. 'She described Straley as having been 32 years of age, short and stocky and with a few white hairs in his hair. He was married but had no children. The body has not been removed from Raub's establishment. After the inquest today, Mrs. Straley will be communicated with and a disposition of the remains effected. The possibility of suicide is also borne out by the recollection that Straley, when discovered, lay in a position on the bed that indicated bodily pain. His hands were laid over his stomach. WENT UP THE FIRE ESCAPE. After All Their Trouble They Secured 50 Cents and Other Trifles. Burglars placed a ladder against the fire escape on the rear of a building on the north side of Lackawanna avenue in the first block and climbed six stories to a window in Howard Hill's store. The trick was done some time after dark on Thanksgiving day and when the store was opened yesterday morning it was then discovered what ill there is in a fire escape. The burglars secured an overcoat belonging to one of the workmen, three oyster knives and 17 cents from the cash drawer. As usual, the police were notified.

JOSEPH J. JERMYN NOW TAKES A HAND Proceeds to Help His Father Lurap the Board of Control. PLAN OF ASSESSMENT ATTACKED Suit in Equity Instituted to Secure an Injunction Restraining the Board of Control from Levying Taxes on the City Assessment—County Assessor It is to Be Held Is the Proper Basis of School District Taxation. Attack No. 2 on the board of control was begun yesterday when Joseph J. Jermyin instituted a suit in equity to secure an injunction restraining the school board from collecting taxes upon his property, alleging first, that it is illegal to levy the school taxes on the city assessment, and second, that the board of twenty-one, as the plaintiff's father, John Jermyin, is trying to prove, can not legally make an assessment. The complaint is as follows: First—I am a citizen and taxpayer of the Scranton school district, and am the owner of certain real estate situated therein, in the Eighth ward of the city of Scranton, on the western side of Penn avenue, Nos. 123 and 121, about fifty feet in front by one hundred and fifty feet deep. Second—The board of control of said district has levied a school tax on said real estate for the year of 1897, amounting to ninety-one (\$91) dollars, and by its officers and agents is endeavoring to collect the same, and is threatening to impose penalties and file liens and to distribute your orator's property and cause him large costs and expenses by reason thereof. Third—The said tax is levied on the assessment of said property made by the board of city assessors of the city of Scranton for city purposes, which board of assessors was created by Act of Assembly of May 23, 1888, entitled, 'An Act providing for the incorporation and government of cities of the third class,' and as amended by Act of May 23, 1888. Fourth—Your orator avers that the school tax so levied upon the city assessment is wholly void and without authority of law for the further reason that it was levied by a board of control consisting of twenty-one members, one member having been elected from each of the twenty-one wards of the city of Scranton. Such board of control not being a legal representative of the school district of Scranton, and having no power to levy a tax or perform any other duty pertaining to the management of the schools of the Scranton School district. Fifth—By reason of the aforesaid premises the aforesaid levy of tax was wholly void, and your orator has suffered great and irreparable damage, for which he has no adequate remedy at law. The ground upon which the first complaint is based is that the law under which the board assumes to levy school taxes on the city assessment is unconstitutional. School boards in cities of the third class by a special act of the legislature, were given the power to use the city instead of the county assessment in levying school taxes. SPECIAL LEGISLATION. This is held in special legislation for the reason that school districts are school districts the state over and using a local application what is done for Scranton should be done for Danmore. The reasons for the second complaint are the same as filed in the John Jermyin suit against the board of twenty-one. Ex-City Solicitor I. H. Buras and M. J. Martin are the attorneys in the case.

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