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\$2.09
Don't pass up anywhere for \$4.00.



Look in our show window. They won't be longer before your size is out.

SCHANK & SPENCER,
410 SPRUCE STREET.

CITY NOTES.

The regular meeting of the Central Women's Christian Temperance union will be held this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

There will be a regular meeting of the board of health at their rooms in the municipal building Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

Charles Fuller, charged with defrauding his landlady, Mrs. M. B. Daniels, was held in \$300 bail for court by Alderman O. H. Wright yesterday.

The Second Presbyterian church is observing this week of prayer. Meetings will be held each evening this week, except Saturday, at 7:30 o'clock.

Michael Hargerty and Magale O'Malley, of Scranton; Harry Emmet Jackson and Estella Williams, of Scranton, were yesterday granted marriage licenses.

A meeting of the Central Women's Christian Temperance union will be held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Vought, 1355 Monsey avenue.

The Dolawana, Lackawanna and Western company paid yesterday at the Archibald, Continental and Hyde Park mines. The Manville, Diamond and Hallstead mines will be paid today.

John Malick was received at the Lackawanna hospital yesterday suffering from a compound fracture of the right leg sustained in a fall of roof in the Pancoast mine, where he is employed as a laborer.

There were reported to the board of health last week thirty-nine deaths from all causes, including two from membranous croup and one from diphtheria. Eleven new cases of contagious disease were reported, eight of diphtheria, one of whooping cough and two of scarlet fever.

The Delaware and Hudson company paid its office attaches in this city and the employees of Marvino colliery. The Delaware Lackawanna and Western company paid at the Archibald, Continental and Hyde Park collieries, today the employees at the Hallstead, Diamond and Manville collieries will be paid.

DR. O'MALLEY ON DANTE.

The Notre Dame Lecture to be heard here this evening.

Dr. Austin O'Malley, of the Notre Dame (Indiana) university, will give the fourth in the series of St. Thomas college lectures tonight in College hall. "Dante's Paradise" will be his topic. Dante is said to be Pope Leo's favorite poet and Dr. O'Malley is admitted to be the greatest authority in this country on Dante's works, so the lecture should be one of unusual interest.

A special train from Scranton will leave that city on the Erie and Wyoming railroad at 7 o'clock this evening and will return after the lecture. It is expected to bring a large contingent from down the valley. The train will be in charge of J. H. Glennon and W. H. Rutledge.

ONLY TWENTY-FIVE PRESENT.

Boxing Tournament at North Scranton Attracted Little Attention.

Only twenty-five persons attended the boxing tournament at Company H armory, North Scranton, last evening. The first bout was a six-round go between Fred Fitzsimmons and Jack Swartz, light-wights. The next set was between Bill Poole and Joe Maloney.

The last go was between two colored boys, Kid Roy and Kid Curtis. Jack Barrett acted in the capacity of referee.

THE LAST OF THE SHOPLIFTERS.

Mrs. Wescott Yesterday Furnished Bail For Court.

Mrs. George Wescott appeared before Alderman Howe yesterday and furnished bail for her appearance at court to answer the charge of shoplifting. Her husband went security.

Seven women, all told, have now furnished bail for their appearance at court. The grand jury will consider the cases Thursday.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 14, 1897.—I had a headache in the head and could not find any medicine to relieve me until I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, which helped me so much that I recommended it to others. Carrie Reidenbach.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills. 25c.

For ill effects of over-eating—BEECHAM'S PILLS.

2 FOR 5c

We will sell all cigars in our case, including Imported, Key West and Domestic at the above price for a few days. There are cigars worth \$25.00 a thousand in the case.

SCRANTON CASH STORE
P. P. PRICE, Agent.

CONTESTANTS ARE ALL ELECTED

Recount of the Ballots in Dunmore Contest Completed.

THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITIES

They Ran from 74 to 123—On Face of Returns the Democrats Had Majorities Ranging from 60 to 100. Men Who Won Contest Will Take Possession of the Offices at Once. Appeal to the Supreme Court Will Not Cause Delay.

The recount of the ballots in the contested Dunmore election was completed by Judge Archibald yesterday afternoon and today, or at the latest tomorrow, a formal order will be handed down declaring all the contestants elected.

The successful candidates will at once enter upon their offices. An appeal to the Supreme court will not bar their taking immediate possession as some suppose. The act of May 18, 1897, Page 70, P. L., says:

Section 12.—In appeals from judgments and decrees in mandamus, quo warranto, contest election cases, and in cases in criminal proceedings and all other classes of cases not herein otherwise provided for, the appeal shall not operate as a supersedeas, unless so ordered by the court or any judge thereof either by general rule or special order and upon such terms as may be required by the court or judge granting the order of supersedeas.

This acts with the same force as the Kelly law, which provides in case of a contest that the candidate shown to be elected on the face of the returns shall enter upon the office. Before these two laws were passed the incumbent of a contested office held over until the contest was finally disposed of.

The Republican majorities run from 74 to 123. The Democrats on the face of the returns had majorities ranging from 60 to 100. The following table tells the whole story of the election and contest in figures. The first column shows the returns as made by the election officers; the second column gives the number of illegal votes each received, and the last column shows the result with the illegal votes subtracted:

Re- turned, legal count.	Il- legal votes.	Re- sult.
Victor Burscheil, D.....113	291	82
Dan Powell.....105	143	62
Powell's majority.....120		
Treasurer—		
Frank T. Monagan, D.....117	295	82
Louis Engle, R.....108	126	82
Engle's majority.....110		
Tax Collector—		
Wm. C. Burke, D.....125	291	84
Wm. Correll, R.....107	111	96
Correll's majority.....122		
School Directors—		
M. J. Murray, D.....132	295	87
M. T. Glynn, D.....116	265	81
Jeremiah E. Mc- Peck, R.....105	156	82
Moses K. Kellam, R.....106	136	70
McPeck's majority.....88		
Kellam's majority.....89		
Council—		
M. J. Walsh, D.....135	309	126
Charles Wengler, D.....116	310	134
C. H. Weber, R.....101	124	83
Wm. McCullough, R.....106	128	83
Weber's majority.....85		
McCullough's majority.....74		
Auditors—		
John J. Gilmartin (G years), D.....113	295	82
Vito Girardi (G years), D.....111	259	82
H. H. Marshall (G years), R.....107	135	95
H. F. Marshall (G years), R.....102	137	95
Winter's majority.....108		
Marshall's majority.....122		
Justice of the Peace—		
Robert A. Scott, D.....114	294	84
A. A. Krotzer, R.....103	135	78
Krotzer's majority.....91		

About 44 illegal votes were cast in the election. Taking the head of the ticket as a fair rule to go by the illegal votes, Democratic and Republican, were distributed throughout the eleven districts as follows:

Powell, Burscheil.	First ward, First dis.....11	11
	First ward, Second dis.....4	19
	Second ward, First dis.....5	56
	Second ward, Second dis.....8	66
	Third ward, First dis.....4	41
	Third ward, Second dis.....11	4
	Third ward, Third dis.....39	15
	Fourth ward.....1	3
	Fifth ward.....1	3
	Sixth ward, First dis.....22	9
	Sixth ward, Second dis.....25	12
		115
		201

The reasons for which votes were invalidated were: Non-payment of taxes, 29; defective affidavits, 136; not naturalized, 114; not registered, 29; receiving unlawful assistance in the preparation of ballot, 11; voting under age, 10. This makes a total of 509, but the excess over the number of voters disqualified is explained by the fact that some votes were thrown out for more than one reason.

RAILROADERS BANQUET.

Mid-Winter Meeting of the R. R. Y. M. C. A. Men Last Evening.

Sixty-five members and members' friends of the Railroad Young Men's Christian association assembled at the association rooms on Lackawanna avenue last evening for the annual mid-winter banquet. The supper was served by the members of the Ladies' auxiliary.

Afterward speeches were made by E. B. Buckalew, general secretary of the Wilkes-Barre association; Professor A. F. Kennedy, physical director at the Young Men's Christian association, and Attorney A. V. Bower, Secretary F. W. Pearsall, of the local association, also spoke, telling of the prosperity of the association. The condition has never been better in the history of the association.

John R. Troch was chairman of the evening. The Stanton orchestra played during the banquet.

ST. BRENDAN WON.

Third Debate in Y. M. Series at Green Ridge Last Night.

The third debate in the series of the Young Men's Institute Debating League at St. Paul's hall, Green Ridge, last night between St. Brendan council, of West Scranton, and General Sheridan council, of Green Ridge, was won by the champions of the former council. The subject was: "Resolved, That Capital Punishment Should be Abolished." St. Brendan advocating the negative side. The debaters were: Affirmative, J. J. Dougherty, J. J. McElrath,

Timothy Burke; negative, Attorney M. P. Cawley, James J. Quinn and W. J. Lawlin. The judges were: Rev. D. J. MacGouldrick, Attorney James R. Burnett and E. P. McNally. The highest mark possible to each debater was 100 or 200 for the side. St. Brendan made 129 points, General Sheridan, 76 points.

TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF.

Bar tender Prevented a Tragedy in Wolf Johnson's Hotel.

A man, apparently 25 years of age, placed a loaded revolver to his head in Wolf Johnson's hotel, on Penn avenue, last night and was prevented from firing only by the alertness of the bartender. A beer glass flung at the revolver saved the man's life. His identity is unknown. He entered the hotel about 10:30 o'clock and, after drinking a glass of beer, fell back to a corner of the room, where he remained silent for more than an hour. His hands covered his face most of the time and he seemed to be brooding over something. The unusual alert attracted the attention of the bartender and the half-dozen men in the place. They watched him, but the young fellow seemed entirely oblivious of the presence of anyone. Suddenly, as the men watched, the mysterious man placed his hand in his hip pocket and drew out a revolver. Placing this to his forehead, he said quickly: "I will die."

Before his finger could press the trigger, however, a well-aimed beer glass from the hand of the bartender struck the revolver and sent it spinning from the fellow's hand. The other men in the room then pounced upon him and to the police station by the combined strength of three men. They got him as far as the door, but no farther.

Patrolman Thomas Lowry, who was acting desk sergeant, was called and succeeded in dragging the fellow to a cell. He is supposed to be of the name of the revolver, a 38-calibre, will be presented at the hearing before Mayor Bailey this morning.

WEATHER DURING 1897.

Local Observer Paine Compiles an Interesting Record For the Year. December Was a Great Month.

The observations for 1897 of the government's local weather observer in Scranton, H. E. Paine, have been compiled and the conclusions furnish figures and facts of not a little importance. This is especially so because of the fact that comparisons may be made with 1896, which was the first year in which official, daily and regular observations with government instruments and rules had been made in this city or region.

With the figures for the whole of the year 1897 at his command, Mr. Paine announces that the average temperature for Scranton was 47.15 degrees, which is probably colder than most Scrantonians would have believed. Possibly nine out of ten persons would have guessed about fifty degrees, but Mr. Paine's figures are correct and are reckoned to the fineness of hundredths.

During 1896 the average temperature was 49.22 degrees. This, Mr. Paine says, was an abnormal year in several respects. It was 2.07 degrees warmer than 1897. The 596 rainfall was 30.85 inches and that of 1897 was 23.49 inches, a difference of 2.63. While the winter of 1896 was colder than that of 1897, the summer of the former year was the hotter. This equalized the 1896 temperature, but it was still withal as equitable and consequently, not as reliable for a standard as the year just closed.

These conclusions are Mr. Paine's, not The Tribune's. His opinion is supported by the record of his observations. It is his own statement that the climate is very healthful, more so than in the majority of regions of the same latitude. This is explained in the fact that the temperature, rainfall and snowfall and dryness while variable is not extreme in any case.

December was a peach—or, so it might be described by a weather man who uses slang and wanted to find vent for an expression on the 65 degree range of temperature the month developed. The warmest day was the eleventh when the thermometer went up to 67 degrees, showing it to be warm enough for swimming or for open windows and doors. Thirteen days later, on the 24th, there was quite a contrast. The mercury was down to within two degrees of the zero mark. The reverse of the extreme 21.90, was rather cold, warm.

In December the rainfall was 2.44 inches and the snowfall 12 inches. Last Friday's snow was to a depth of nine inches, one inch of which was water. The prevailing December winds were southwesterly. There were twenty cloudy days, more than the average for that month.

VERY HUMOROUS ENTERTAINMENT.

Conducted By the German Folks in Music Hall Last Night.

A humorous entertainment was enjoyed by the members of the Liederkranz and their friends at Music hall last night. The entertainers were Carl Hansen, of New York city; William Erlich and P. Nolte. The latter named gentleman arranged the entertainment. Music was furnished by the Symphony orchestra under Professor Theodore Hemberger. The entertainment was one of the most enjoyable ever given in this city.

SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.

Declared by Directors of Merchants and Mechanics Bank.

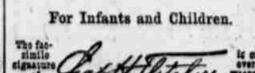
The directors of the Merchants and Mechanics bank at a meeting yesterday afternoon declared a semi-annual dividend of three per cent, and added \$20,000 to the surplus, making it \$100,000.

The business done during the year was the most satisfactory in the history of the bank.

Mayor Bailey's Message.

Mayor James G. Bailey will present his annual message to the meeting of select council next Thursday night.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.



INGERSOLL TELLS HOW IT HAPPENED

Heard at the Lyceum on "Why I Am an Agnostic."

HAD A RATHER SMALL AUDIENCE

He Laments Christianity in General, Tells Everybody That Doesn't Believe as He Does That They Are Inane and Indirectly Lets the Audience in on the Secret That He Has Thought it All Out Right.

About three hundred persons, many of them literary admirers or curiously inclined listened to Robert G. Ingersoll for two hours at the Lyceum last night, while he told why he is an agnostic. It is one of his best if not his best paying lectures and those who heard it received a treat, no matter what feature of it they admired. The continuous and enthusiastic applause evidenced that he had many auditors who were in sympathy with his views. He came upon the stage unaccompanied, and without introduction proceeded with his instructing, entertaining or curiously satisfying effort—as the hearers viewed it. Step by step he told how his agnosticism grew upon him "what light he followed, his long voyage through the vast sea of religion which he has explored."

"I like you," he began, "was born among people who knew. They knew that one Monday morning 4,004 years ago their God started in and made the heavens and the earth. They knew that he lived back of that in eternity, but never did any work before (laughter). They didn't want to hear their belief questioned. They knew; that was enough for them. In this vein he continued for some time, ridiculing religion and the Divinity using Biblical quotations freely in his mirth making, as for instance, saying that the flood reminded him of "His mercy endureth forever" and "His loving kindness is over all His works."

HE EXCUSED THEM.

He then very thoughtfully excused Christians for their ignorance. The child is assaulted in the cradle, assassinated in its mother's arms with the impossible facts of orthodox religion. It has its very life blood imbued with these gone religions, devils, idols, lies. Then comes the Sunday school teacher and the revival meetings. In these meetings people lose what little sense that may have escaped the other onslaughts and they become substantially insane. The ministers at the revivals are earnest, they know little but believed much. They are sincere, hateful, loving, bigoted, honest and insane.

"I heard hundreds of these sermons," said the speaker. "I was in a double frame of mind. It is so, I guess, but I would say to myself. They know—but they must be mistaken. I heard one of these revival sermons and it made a scar on my mind. It was a sermon on Lazarus and Dives. The cry of the rich man in hell and the revivals are earnest, they know little but believed much. They are sincere, hateful, loving, bigoted, honest and insane."

ETERNAL PUNISHMENT.

Then for a time the speaker dwelt upon the "God of infinite revenge," and how the dogma of eternal punishment made him the implacable enemy of Christianity. Every church in which it is preached is a curse, he said, and every preacher who preaches it is an enemy of mankind. It gives to the Holy Ghost, the dove, a vulture's beak; it puts into the mouth of the Lamb the fangs of a viper.

Popes, cardinals, bishops and priests were all insane, he said, and he had "the kindness and candor" to admit that Edwards and Calvin were both crazy. Taking a scientific tack, the speaker told how he studied astronomy a little and learned that the sun was one million times larger than the earth, which convinced him that the writer of Genesis was a fool to say that all the planets and stars were made one Thursday afternoon and that it took a whole week to make the little atom—earth. The study of geology convinced him that the writer of Genesis was a savage, not to know that men and women inhabited the earth thousands and thousands of years before Adam and Eve were manufactured.

Robert Burns he lauded to the skies, saying that he would rather appear drunk before the judgment seat—if there is one. Said the lecturer, "and say that I wrote 'A man's a man for a' that,' than to

appear there sober and say I was a Scotch Presbyterian."

After telling about the literature that he read, the speaker went on to tell that he studied the other religions of the world and found them all founded on the same misconception of nature.

There is absolutely nothing new in Christianity, he said. Christ is nothing more or less than a Sun God myth. The ancient religions all had their Sun Gods and every one of them were substantially alike. Every one of these sun gods had a God for a father, and a Virgin for a mother. Every one of them had a humble place of birth. The side of a street, a cave, a manger, or some such place. At the birth of each there was celestial music, the appearance of a signal star, and each of them was in great danger of destruction by a king or some such power. Each of them, except Buddha, fasted forty days. Buddha fasted fifty-two. They are taught in parables, each met a violent death and each rose again. And every one of them was born on Christmas—the winter solstice—when the lengthening days show that the sun is triumphing over darkness. Christ is the last of the sun gods. He was not a man but a myth; the testament is not a biography but a legend.

The cross was used as a religious symbol by the Egyptians thousands of years before Christ; baptism is older than the oldest Baptist; holy water was used in India long before Catholicism; were dreamt of; Egyptians had their trinity and believed in atonement and salvation by faith; the Pagans had a eucharist, wafers made of bread typical of their goddess of the field, Ceres, and wine, the blood of their god, Bacchus, which they partook of in that sense at certain feast times. Christianity, the speaker said, was but new steam for an old engine.

Then the speaker proceeded to give in connected form the deductions he made from his studies, and closed with a peroration that in the matter of wording and expressiveness was a gem.

Not Philanthropy

But business. When we want to move stock faster we cut into the prices—cut deep, if necessary. That's how we keep freed from accumulations from season to season. We propose to move a lot of goods to day.

Three instances of the price cutting:

Alarm Clocks

Ansonia make—best alarm clocks made—fine time-keepers—sold everywhere at \$1. Here today, 69c.

Cracker Jars

50 of these—left from holidays—sold from \$2 to \$4. Quadruple plate silver tops—opaque twisted glass jars. Choice today, \$1.25.

Picture Sale

Lot of artotypes, pastels, imitation water colors, etc., in variety of sizes and frames—sold regularly for 50 cents and 75 cents. Choice today, 29c.

THE REXFORD COMPANY

303 Lackawanna Avenue.

Dyspepsia

Heartburn, Gas, indigestion, Stomach Disorders positively cured. Grover's Dyspepsia Remedy is a specific. One dose removes all distress, and a permanent cure of the most chronic and severe cases is guaranteed. Do not suffer! One bottle will convince the most skeptical. Matthews' Dispensary, 320 Lackawanna avenue.

ATTEND TO YOUR EYES NOW

Keysight preserved and headaches prevented by having your eyes properly and scientifically examined and fitted. Eyes examined free. The latest styles of Spectacles and eye-glasses at the lowest prices.

DR. SHIMBERG,

305 Spruce Street.

WEAVERS RESIST CUT.

Mill Hands of New Bedford Will Not Accept Wage Reduction.

New Bedford, Mass., Jan. 3.—The weavers of the city mean to make a stand no less decided than the spinners and to operatives are almost unanimous in favor of a firm resistance to the proposed reduction of wages, and at the same time a strike against the firing system, which it was proposed to fight in March. A deputation has been appointed to go to Fall River for a conference with the Fall River officials.

This committee will endeavor to secure the pledge of the Fall River unions to strike as soon as the New Bedford strike begins. It was voted also to send out communications to all centers of the textile trade in the north, soliciting financial support and proposing the same action as the committee will suggest to the Fall River help.

Dropped Dead in the Pulpit.

Toronto, Jan. 2.—The Rev. William Burns, an old and well known member of the Presbyterian church in Canada, and secretary of the superannuation fund, while preaching in St. John's today, died in the pulpit. The cause was heart failure.

China Mall.

To start the New Year aright we put on sale a number of

NEW Dinner Sets

Semi-Vitrious China, Under-glaz'd Decorations.

Prices range from \$11 to \$16

for 112 pieces. They are good value, too. Stock is limited at these prices.

Millar & Peck

131 Wyoming Ave.

"Walk in and look around."

China Mall.

USEFUL PRESENTS FOR MEN—Halt Robes, Night shirts, Neckwear, Gloves, Suspenders, etc.

CONRAD'S

PRICES THE LOWEST

ATTEND TO YOUR EYES NOW

Keysight preserved and headaches prevented by having your eyes properly and scientifically examined and fitted. Eyes examined free. The latest styles of Spectacles and eye-glasses at the lowest prices.

DR. SHIMBERG,

305 Spruce Street.

Sale of Jardinieres

Might interest you, May be that you have palm; then, too, the prices might be as interesting as the Jardinieres themselves.

Gold Decorated

One that will take a 7-inch pot, three colors to select from. During sale, 10c.

Three Colors

To select from of this number. Best pottery and best glazing. They were 39c. During sale 24c.

\$.49 Jardinieres are now.....\$.37
\$.69 Jardinieres are now......44
\$.89 Jardinieres are now......74
1.25 Jardinieres are now......94
1.50 Jard pieces are now.....1.14
2.00 Jardinieres are now.....1.44

THE GREAT 4c. STORE

310 Lackawanna Ave.

J. H. LADWIG.

KIMBALL PIANO

To those who are not acquainted with the standing of the W. W. Kimball Co., the following will prove of benefit:

REPORT.

Business established in 1859 by W. W. Kimball. Incorporated June, 1882, with capital of \$600,000.

Capital increased in January, 1888, to \$1,000,000.

Capital increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000.

Statement, January, 1896, showed surplus of over \$1,000,000 overpaid in capital.