

The Scranton Tribune Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cent a Month. SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 1, 1898.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET. For School Director. Three Years—PETER NEULS, Eleventh ward. Three Years—D. I. PHILLIPS, Fifth ward. Two Years—E. D. FELLOWS, Fourth ward. Two Years—F. S. GODFREY, Eighth ward. One Year—F. S. BARKER, Seventeenth ward. One Year—ELIAS B. EVANS, Fifteenth ward. Election Day, February 15.

Dangerous Trifling. When rumors become current that a certain bank is unsafe and there is the prospect of a run on the institution, no more effective way has been found for reassuring scared depositors than for the bank officials to have at hand a sufficient sum of ready money to meet all demands. This is a kind of reply which every depositor can appreciate.

The United States government has borrowed money from different persons giving therefor bonds payable in coin. At the time that these bonds were issued silver differed so slightly in market value from gold that neither the borrower nor the lender thought it necessary to specify in writing which kind of coin was meant. Both of the parties to the deal being presumably honest, it was supposed as a matter of course that the value of the repayment would be in every respect equal to the value of the loan.

The American silver dollar today contains, speaking roughly, 50 cents worth of commercial value plus fifty cents worth of government guarantee. A party which fourteen months ago polled 6,500,000 votes in round numbers is seeking to cancel that government guarantee. Under these circumstances, to enact a law threatening the holders of our bonds with repayment in dollars which another presidential election might make worth only about half what they are worth today would be not only to deal unfairly with them, but also to invite a "run on the bank." Holders of bonds, now well satisfied with their investments, would then rush to unload; American credit would over would drop like a flash and unless we had the gold at hand to pay off every bond and redeem every outstanding obligation to the utmost limit of our agreement—which at this time we haven't and aren't soon likely to have—we should soon bring down upon ourselves a crisis worse than any this nation has yet known.

It does not pay to fool with so important a matter as the national credit. Men in public life willing to kick it about in partisan debate need to be disciplined. The house of representatives yesterday did well to squash the Teller resolution.

Kentucky is said to be one of the worst states in the country in which to promote syndicate schemes. The Kentuckian's natural objection to watered stock makes it difficult.

A Word of Reminder. There are times when Scranton feels in duty compelled to doff its hat to Wilkes-Barre. The assertion by Harry A. Fuller, esq., president of the Young Men's Christian association of that city, upon the occasion of the celebration of that association's twenty-sixth anniversary, that since last year an association debt of \$24,000 has been reduced to \$9,000 and will in less than a year more be wiped out, supplies one of those times. Enterprise like this, which is not primarily put forth with a view to pecuniary profit, is therefore all the more praiseworthy, being in inception unselfish; yet we dare say that the liberal citizens of Wilkes-Barre who have contributed to this encouraging result have in more ways than they suspect got their money's worth, and will continue to get this for an indefinite time to come.

We are not advised at this moment of the extent to which the past year has witnessed a reduction in the indebtedness of the Scranton Young Men's Christian association, but that the figures will not compare favorably with those just cited we feel sure, more shame to Scranton. And yet there is no city in the country which has greater reason to feel grateful and generous toward an institution of this broad and useful kind than Scranton has; and we question whether there is one wherein the percentage of benefit returned to the community on the latter's investment in the work has averaged higher.

This is not a begging appeal. We have no ulterior purpose. Nobody connected with the local Young Men's Christian association knows that these words are going to appear in print. But it seems to us, from a glance at the progress which is being made in Wilkes-Barre in association work, that Scrantonians need on this subject a word of reminder. If citizens who have means would do for the local institution what its merits warrant in the way of practical aid and co-operation, they would not only maintain the lead over Wilkes-Barre which Scranton in most matters is entitled to, but what is of vastly more importance, they would also perform a duty to the community which stands, we fear, in some danger of being neglected.

The value of exports from the United States in the calendar year 1897, as shown by revised figures of the Treasury department, was \$1,090,748,554, as compared with \$1,065,837,241 in 1896. The imports were valued at \$742,631,350, as against \$681,079,552 in 1896. The balance

of trade in favor of the United States, therefore, was \$307,111,204, the largest on record. These simple figures bear calamity howling all hollow.

On chickens imported into Cuba the Spanish tariff amounts to 30 cents apiece; on eggs, nearly 2 cents, and on hogs of the quadruped variety, \$3 apiece. With interior Cuba converted into a waste and these high duties kept up by Spain it is small wonder that Spanish rule is tottering for a fall.

Electoral Defects. In the Forum magazine for last November ex-Secretary Carlisle, in an article which we noted at the time, pointed out a number of what to him appeared as dangerous defects in our present electoral system; in the Forum for February he outlines his remedy. "The principal danger remarked by him was one which might at any time arise from a situation like that presented in the Hayes-Tilden controversy of 1876; in the reluctance of a majority of the popular vote to accept a minority's choice for president, notwithstanding that the latter might have a majority in the electoral college. It has twice happened since 1856 that the choice of the electoral college was not the prima facie choice of the people. In 1876 the popular vote gave Tilden an apparent plurality of 251,695 and in 1888, although Harrison was seated, Cleveland had 94,483 more votes than he. Mr. Carlisle fears that this possibility of a discrepancy between the popular and the electoral vote may, if continued, sometime result in trouble. He also objects to the present system because there is no requirement of uniformity among the states in the choice of presidential electors; one state might choose them all at large; another, partly by congress districts and partly at large; and a third, by its legislature, thus opening the door to serious inequality of representation and to confusion.

These dangers are largely fanciful and more to be deplored in theory than to be feared in fact; but at the same time it is worth our time to give heed to Mr. Carlisle's remedy. "A constitutional amendment, providing simply that the president and the vice president shall be chosen by the people of the several states, voting by ballot, on a day fixed by congress, which shall be the same throughout the United States; that the electors in each state shall have the qualifications required for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature; that each state shall be entitled to a number of votes—to be called presidential, or electoral, votes—equal to the number of its senators and representatives in congress; and that, in ascertaining the result of the election, each person voted for shall be entitled to have counted in his favor a number of the presidential, or electoral, votes of each state, corresponding to the proportion of the popular vote received by him in such state;—this," he affirms, "would not only secure uniformity and equality, but would greatly simplify the proceedings, and avoid nearly all the dangers incident to the existing system."

"This," he continues, "is the honest, Democratic, and American method of ascertaining the choice of the people. Every argument against it is necessarily an argument against the right, or capacity, of the people to govern themselves; for, if they have not the right, or are not competent, to choose the official who executes the laws, they cannot have the right, or the capacity, to choose those who make them. If it could be shown that any great public interest would be endangered by a direct popular vote, it might be better to submit to a continuance of the evils to which we are now exposed than to make a change; but it will scarcely be contended by anyone who has carefully examined the subject that our institutions will be made less secure, or that any substantial interest will be imperiled, by simplifying the process of government or the methods of choosing important public officials."

The argument is interesting; but it is open to doubt if the remedy would be wholly effective. Certainly it needs amendment in respect of basing the number of electors on the number of representatives in congress; or, rather, the basis of congressional representation needs to be altered to fit the emergency presented in states like Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, which use the negro in population estimates so as to gain a big showing in congress, and then pass laws which have the effect to prevent the negro from participating in elections. Congressmen and electors ought both to be allotted on the basis of the qualified vote cast.

Miss Hallie Rivers, the novelist, has been obliged to enter a sanitarium to rest her nerves. Her latest novel, "Smoking Flax," is the direct cause of the trouble. The public has thus far been able to bear up under the strain.

Buying the Forests. The New York legislature took a step in the right direction last year when it passed what was known as the Adirondack Park act, which carried with it an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to be used at the discretion of a board of commissioners in the purchase of lands needed to carry out the scheme of restoring the forests of the state which were rapidly disappearing under the axe of the ruthless lumberman. The recent report made by the commissioners indicates that a big year's work has been accomplished by the men entrusted with this important duty. Every purchase made by the board has been with a view to its value as timber property, and it is expected that the benefits resulting from their discretion will be of untold value in the way of preserving the water sheds of the Empire state.

will turn a deaf ear to the pleadings of the small but enthusiastic band that is battling for the protection of the grand old forests of Pennsylvania. Notwithstanding the warnings that are given by the condition of the country in the vicinity of the treeless tracts of land in many localities in the lower anthracite coal belt, the grab legislator continues on the even tenor of his way, unremorseful of the vandal who destroys in an hour that which cannot be replaced in generations.

In a recent address Governor Hastings pointed out with startling distinctness the dangers that are attending the process of tree destruction in Pennsylvania. It is a pity that his advice on the subject could not be ever before the lawmakers of this great commonwealth, and before the voters also. None save the statistician realizes the terrible decrease in the water supply each year, which is due almost solely to the destruction of the patches of woodland which are becoming more rare as time moves on.

Some means should be provided not only for the protection of the remaining forests but for the encouragement of tree planting in all sections. In many localities there are a few well-meaning persons who engage in the work of tree planting yearly, but they are but a handful when compared to the greedy horde that is continually being and hacking regardless of the burdens and sufferings that they are bringing upon future generations.

A Pottsville man has just cut off his daughter without a cent because she has wedded a member of the Third brigade band of that place. He does not propose to have any horn player "blow in" his cash.

Marie Coroll, the novelist, has indignantly refused to have her head examined by a phrenologist. It is not likely that a bump-surveyor who has read any of her works would ever attempt the task.

Neglect and dust are the only elements lacking to make this extremely Klondikish spell of weather enjoyable.

The Teller resolution now resembles a last year's self-raising buckwheat flour sack.

It seems to be easier to make than to unmake senators down in Kentucky. The ground hog will settle all weather disputes tomorrow.

TOLD BY THE STARS. Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacibus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological Cast: 1:44 a. m., 1st Tuesday, February 1, 1898.

A child born on this day will be of the opinion that the publisher who boasts that his sheet is the best advertising medium on earth and then cuts down prices, is altogether too philanthropic to be in the newspaper business.

The crop of Valentine doggerel promises to be unusually large this year. The advance sale of seats for Wado Finn's return engagement in the council has not been encouraging.

Fortune tellers, somehow, never predict their own success or trials. The ink has grown very pale on many New Year resolutions.

Ajacibus' Advice. Do not envy the Bostonians who mix strawberries, at \$2.40 a box, with their beans. A good deal of comfort may be derived from stewed prunes at this season of the year.

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY. 1—Scranton merchants decide that the morning newspaper is the proper medium in which to insert a bargain sale advertisement.

2—Street Commissioner Dunning sees his shadow and retires for the regulation period of repose.

3—King winter takes another lease of life.

4—A Wilkes-Barre citizen ruptures his face laughing at one of Sam Hoy's jokes.

5—John E. Roche publishes a statement of the number of square inches in the Wyoming avenue extension.

6—The Wilkes-Barre "Times" jack-knife artist dislocates his vision.

7—The Sunday Free Journal charts another fight.

8—Ex-Boss John Fahey decides that the local political situation is colder than Klondike.

9—Editor Lytle orders a fresh stock of calamity howls suitable for the spring trade.

10—The Nay Aug park commissioners hold a session and decide that there is too much landscape on the plot.

11—The spring poet pens the first stanza of his ode to St. Valentine.

12—Warm suit parts are reported by the rural correspondents.

13—Local architects become dizzy while drawing plans for Parker Davidson's new "Waldorf."

14—Scranton letter carriers contend that the presence of the fool killer would lighten their burdens.

15—The school board of six is rendered homeless.

16—Tom Jennings announces that he would rather resign the presidency of the school board than remain in office for life.

17—Billy Welsh banquets the loyal "seven."

18—Several original Bryan men of Scranton suffer from lack of more than 70 per cent.

19—Treasurer Boland has his vest pocket enlarged to accommodate the South Side vote.

20—Manager John Kirby's gray hair passes everything on the road—going in the opposite direction.

21—Mayor Eddy sharpens a lead pencil.

22—Many Scranton young ladies are wondering who George Washington was.

23—The rumor of another base ball club for Scranton causes Charlie Fowler to emit a warwhoop.

24—Jimmy Judge's hands grow rigid at the thought of Tommy Ryan.

25—Professor Coles presents a bizzard.

26—Richard Beamish begins active operation on his annual output of spring poetry.

27—Not on record.

28—Wait and see!

MURDER. From the New York Sun.

What Spain has done during the last three years in the way of slaughtering that island's people is more awful in its destruction than the entire achievement of Spanish armies in the course of their wars to extend Spain's dominion in other countries.

Charles V., in the Netherlands, in the thirty years elapsing from 1520 to 1550, brought death to about 10,000 persons, according to the estimate of Grotius. From that time up to 1566 the Spaniards murdered in cold blood, said the Prince of Orange, over 50,000 persons. The Duke of Alva, in a well known letter to his master, Don Philip II., boasted of having slain in cities and towns, within five years, 15,000 Dutch people. But what is all that when, from 1850 to 1870, as declared by the bishop of Havana, 530,000 or more than half a million victims of Spanish barbarity have been buried in the cemeteries of Cuba? What are the awful crimes committed in the name of

the king of Spain by Boves and Morillo during the struggle for independence in South America when, in Cuba, General Weyler, in less than two years, exterminated over 200,000 peaceful non-combatants in Cuba, slaughtering them not only with fire and sword, but by the pangs which Dante put among the first of hell—the slow and ruthless torture of hunger?

What is the record of Spanish atrocities in Mexico and Santo Domingo when, within three months after General Blanco's landing in Havana, 80,000 persons perished in Cuba from starvation, or were assassinated, regardless of sex or age, in the manner described by Blanco himself in his decree of Jan. 8, 1895, ordering his soldiers not to kill any more men, women and children, aged, unarmed prisoners, or "defensesless" Spaniards? These are horrors such as have never been committed before at any time in any country, by the most bloodthirsty savages who have tainted the pages of history.

The Jingo Scheme of Foreign Policy. From a Speech by Senator Frye, of Maine, Delivered Before the Manufacturers' Association.

G. L. DEBONO, a quarter of a century beyond the seas may some time or other overtake her mother. Suppose he should speak today, what would he say? Our daughter beyond seas has overtaken her mother, as she has distanced her in the race, and can only see her now by looking backward from the rear raised by the winds of our magnificent industries. (Tremendous applause.) We have the best home market in all the world, our people consuming per capita at least one-third more than any others. You are trying to reach another market. The first market you are trying to reach is the market of the Orient. You don't propose to leave that to be closed against you. Is there any way you can shorten distance, reduce freight, lessen time in your search for the Orient market? Let the Nicaragua canal be constructed by the United States and you have got it. (Applause.) I say by the United States, because the government can construct that canal for one-half what any private corporation could do it for. (Applause.)

How far are you from the Orient today as compared with your competitors? You are 1,200 to 1,500 miles further off from Japan, from China, from India, from the southwest coast of South America, New York is—than Liverpool, your nearest competitor. The moment that the Nicaragua canal has been constructed New York is as near Hong Kong as Liverpool is (applause), 1,200 miles nearer the nearest port of China, 1,800 miles nearer Japan, 1,000 miles nearer Australia, nearer British India, and 2,700 miles nearer the western coast of South America. (Applause.) I think Yankees can take advantage of all such things as these. (Applause and laughter.)

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

The Biggest Selling Event Of the Year,

The February Muslin Underwear Sale, which begins tomorrow. After weeks of preparation the great White Fair will be in motion. A general invitation is extended to everybody

Second Floor, = = Take Elevator

OFF WITH THE OLD The Very Best Clothing Manufactured



AS THE OLD YEAR IS CAST OFF like an old shoe, so should you resolve to carry out the simile by coming in and selecting a new pair of our elegant "PS" shoes. Just received for those who want advance styles at backward prices.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies, WYOMING AVENUE. THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE.

THEY'RE GOING FAST Those Oil Heaters we told you about last week. But the fact of our having had a good sale of them WILL NOT change our resolution to clean them out.

THEY MUST GO And judging from prices we are selling them at they won't last long.

Call and Be Convinced. FOOTE & SHEAR CO., 119 N. WASHINGTON AVE.

HILL & CONNELL'S Furniture

Such a choice stock to select from cannot be found elsewhere in this part of the state. And when you consider the moderate prices at which the goods are marked is a further claim on the attention and consideration of buyers.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS. WRITING DESKS, LOUNGES, DRESSING TABLES, WORK TABLES, FANCY TABLES, EASY CHAIRS, CHEVAL GLASSES, GILT CHAIRS, PARLOR CABINETS, INLAID CHAIRS, MUSIC CABINETS, ROCKERS, CURIO CABINETS, SHAVING STANDS, BOOK CASES, PEDESTALS, FANCY BASKETS, TABOURETTES.

All at lowest prices consistent with the high quality of the goods.

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GLASGOW, SCOTLAND expressly for the fine American retail trade, and in designs exclusively our own.

They are just opened and await your inspection. WM. T. SMITH. 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE

Is the only kind we have; you can buy it as low as you would have to pay for the ordinary.

Call and see what we are offering.

BOYLE & MUCKLOW, 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

SIX DAYS' TRIAL PLANETARY PENCIL POINTER If it breaks a point bring it back.

Now in general use in the public schools, city hall and court house offices, and many private business places in the city.

YOURS for a price saved in least and the time wasted in old fashioned chipping. REYNOLDS BROTHERS, STATIONERS, ENGRAVERS, HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING, 130 Wyoming Avenue.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER.

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