The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by the Tribun-Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

ATTERED AT THE POSTOPPICE AT SCRANTON PA. AN EROOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1898.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For School Director. Three Years-PETER NEULS, Eleventh

Three Years-D. I. PHILLIPS, Fifth Two Years-E. D. FELLOWS, Fourth Two Years-F. S. GODFREY, Eighth One Year-F. S. BARKER, Seventeenth ward. One Year-ELIAS E. EVANS, Fifteenth

ELECTION TODAY.

The stockholder in a private corporation who shouldn't vote at the annual election to protect his interests would promptly be declared an egregious dunce. The Scranton taxpayer is virtually a stockholder in the Scranton school system, and its directors are to be chosen today.

Today's Election.

To what has been said heretofore concerning the importance of a wise choice of school directors at today's municipal election we can now add simply that the time for making this choice is at hand, Voters who have regard for the best interests of the city and who, as taxpayers and parents, have concern for their own interests, will not fail to do their duty today by voting for the six admirable Republican nominees.

In the wards where councilmen and aldermen are to be elected it is worth keeping in mind that the election of the Republican nominees will strengthen the party for its coming battles as well as tend to insure efficient local government. With the mayoralty and common council in the hands of the Democracy it is especially desirable that the present Republican majority in select council shall be maintained immicipal administration might be dis-

The thing to do, then, is to vote early and vote the Republican ticket straight.

Complaint continues at the inceninsinuations of the yellow journalism in connection with its report of the Martin trial. Judge Woodward should ting no guilty sensationalist escape.

A Deserved Rebuke.

is prominent in the councils of the reference to the de Lome letter which not hesitate," says he, "to say that we are, ourselves, to blame for the boorish conduct of the foreign representative. We have a confirmed and pernicious habit of speaking in disparagpressions from American lips. Freeism. If we do not love and honor our institutions we cannot expect foreign- there is a murder, perhaps preceded by ers to respect them."

The rebuke is deserved. It is one, It needs to be said, however, that since the publication of the de Lome President McKinley and his administration have grown ashamed of their

When a government gets down as low in the mire as ours has in the last two years it is pretty hard to kick it hard enough to make an insult felt. * * * We are sick of the whine of stock jobbers and pediers, who tell us through their nusillanimous press that we are not prepared for a war with Spanish braggarts who, unable to conquer a handful of Cubans, show their prowess by penning up women and children and starving them to death. The day has come for a genuine revival of national faith and patriot-

The day for that revival has certainly come, but its coming has not been helped by the kind of swagger which uses abuse and calumination as its readlest stock in trade.

De Lome's man scuttled the Tillie and the junta scuttled De Lome. Honors, therefore, are even.

A Temperate People.

From an exhaustive report by the British board of trade upon the production and consumption of wine, beer and spirits in the various countries of Europe and in the United States during the period from 1885 to 1896 the subjoined figures are taken because they have an important bearing upon the question of temperance reform. We are indebted for them to the Philadelphin Record.

The consumption of wine, the report shows, has grown in France from 21.3 gallons per head in 1885 to 29.5 gallons in 1896; in Germany, Great Britain and man drinks yearly nearly thirty times about 70 times as much as the average Britton and nearly 150 times as much He may not be so adroit nor so

TOTO THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO T

as the average Yankee. The American showing as to wine-drinking is therefore very creditable.

The French drink annually but 5 gallons of beer per head and this quantity does not perceptibly vary. The Germans in 1885 drank 19.8 gallons, but in 1896 this average had increased to 25.5 gallons. It is the Englishman who drinks the most beer of all, ale and beer being included under the one head. His annual allotment has varied 30.7 gallons. In the decade included in this report the average American increased his beer thirst from 8.8 to 12.7 but it is evident from these figures that it will take him at least fifty years at home again. the present pace to catch up with his

cousin across the water. Of the four leading countries under review Germany, according to the Record, "is the largest consumer of spirits for drink, the total quantity amounting to 100,760,000 gallons, or 1.94 gallons per head of the population-a small decline since 1890. France has a consumption of 70,180,000, or 1.85 gallons per head. The United Kingdom has a consumption of 40,076,000 gallons, or 1.01 per head, and the consumption in the United States is 59,186,000 gallons, or .83 of a gallon per head. For the United States, as well as for all other countries in this report, the measure is in imperial gallons, five of which are

equal to six of our gallons.' The obvious lesson from these figures is that Americans, while not perfect, are in condition to court comparisons in the matter of temperance.

Somebody has revived the story that Quay himself may yet become a candidate for governor. Let him do so by all means if the spirit moves. Then his opponents would have an unmasked

Postal Savings Banks.

In the recent press of more exciting topics the public has temporarily lost sight of a subject in which it has a direct interest-the subject of postal savings banks. But in a letter to the Philadelphia Press Rev. H L. Wayland of that unimpaired. Otherwise the results in city presents certain arguments in favor of this proposed reform which are likely to arouse new discussion of the theme.

The objection that it would be difficult for our government to organize and manage efficiently a system of diary distortions, exaggerations and banks for postal savings Mr. Wayland dismisses as hardly worthy of consideration after the demonstration given in the civil war of the power of the ply his rod with increased vigor, let- government to do great executive and administrative feats.

To the objection that postal savings banks are unnecessary he devotes more Dr. Guiteras, of Philadelphia, who extended attention. That in populous communities ordinary savings banks Cuban patriots, offers a thought in when well managed, would supply the public's need in this direcis both timely and to the point. "I do tion he admits but he contends that they do not fill the bill outside these centres. In New England out of 4,700,745 inhabitants, there are 2,096,650 depositors in savings banks, with \$754,861,622 of deposits; about 44 ing terms of our public men and our per cent. of the people are depositors; institutions. I have no doubt that Mr. in the Southern states, of 20,235,094 inde Lome has found in this country habitants, there are 66,685 depositors, willing ears for such statements as he or three-tenths of one per cent., with makes in his letter, if he has not \$9,479,314 of deposits; in the Western himself frequently heard similar ex- states, of 16,685,562 inhabitants there are 248,918 depositors, or about one and a dom of speech is a great thing. The half per cent., with \$79,821,655 of defaults of our public men should be pesits, "These figures," Mr. Wayland pointed out openly and without fear, thinks, "say all that need be said as to Specific charges should be made, where the failure of the ordinary savings there is a foundation for them. But banks to meet the wants of the people there is a vast difference between this in the sparsely settled regions. We and the loose generalizations we hear cannot expect that people will travel so frequently. Men in office seem to fifty or a hundred miles to make a debe honored for a moment by the pop- posit. So they either squander their ular vote, only to be vilified afterward money or put it in a stocking, and presas public criminals. We lack patriot- ently comes a fire or a mouse; or else there comes a mid-night tramp, and

torture.' It could be wished that to the next too, that the circumstances of the objection noticed by him the writer of case render doubly pointed, coming the letter in review had seen fit to pay from a representative of the class more detailed heed. What would the which might most naturally be dis- government do with postal savings deposed to feel dissatisfied with the ex- posits if it should decide to receive ecutive's course in regard to Cuba. them? Mr. Wayland says pay no interest; merely care for the principal, "It," he opines, "may be invested in the naletter most of the radical critics of tional securities, in recurities of states or cities that have always been solvent; they may also be loaned (according to attitude and are now learning modera- the ingenious and feasible suggestion tion. An exception must be made in | of Mr. Wanamaker) to the neighboring behalf of one of these, a minister of pational banks, at a low interest, the the gospel. Rev. Thomas Dixon, jr., leans being a first lien on the assets of who on Sunday in the Academy of the banks." Unfortunately deposits Music in New York, read from manu- which should draw no interest would script these words, and more like soon cease to be popular and that would defeat the very aim behind the advoeacy of restal savings. Interest is an essential, and if the government is to pay it it must first earn it by intelli-

gent use of the deposits. In conclusion Mr. Wayland says: "In ncouraging frugality the savings bank fosters morality. The vices are expenrive. The savings bank stands beside the church and the school house. The postal savings bank will be the foe to anarchy and communism and repudiation, partial or total. It will link every depositor to the stability and solvency of the republic by the strongest tie, that of interest. The man who has \$50 in the postal bank is not going to vote that the government shall pay him off in 50 cent silver or in irredeemable paper. I scarcely know of anything that would more largely promote frugality. morality, public integrity, true prosperity, than the postal savings bank," All of which may be literally true without helping us out of the immediate dilenma, which is, "How can the government use postal savings deposits so as to earn interest on them sufficient to pay the depositors and the expenses of conducting the postal savings system?" That answered satisfactorily, postal savings banks will be legislated into existence within thirty days.

The correspondents at Washington who are so ready to circulate false criticisms of General Woodford, our minister to Spain, ought to be ashamed. the United States the consumption in Their work may impair his usefulness 1896 was 1.06 gallons, 4 gailons and .22 at Madrid but it cannot injure him in gaffons respectively, these figures rep- the United States. We venture to say resenting a slight decrease from the that no other diplomatist on Uncle consumption in those countries in 1885. Sam's pay roll would care to trade po-In other words, the average French- sitions with General Woodford, and it is a remarkable fact in his as much wine as the average German; favor that with so little experience he has succeeded so well.

polished as Senor de Lome but he can evidently give points on common courtesy and horse sense to de Lome and the whole brood of Spain's professional liars, otherwise known as diplomats.

If it is true that the administration proposes to let the Brooklyn act as an escort to the Spanish cruiser Vizcaya on the occasion of its visit to the United States it will be a courtesy well bestowed. The Brooklyn ought not to but little from 30 gallons, being in 1896 leave the Vizcaya's side for an instant during that ship's stay in American waters, and since life is made pleasant by these little acts of politeners the gallons, a gain of nearly 50 per cent., Brooklyn might afterward even strain a point and escort the Vizcaya safely

> It is announced in some papers as if it were a new and startling idea that the defense in the case of Sheriff Martin and deputies may move for a dismissal of the indictment, among other reasons upon the ground that the commonwealth has no right to arraign for trial the representatives of its laws for doing in an emergency their unpleasant but, as they claim, their necessary duty. Such a motion may be made but if so, it will hardly come with the force of a surprise,

More gallant service than that of Captain Stenger in preserving order among the 212 passengers on board the sinking steamship Veendam until rescue came, and in supervising the transfer of passengers and crew to the steamship St. Louis without accident of any kind, has probably never been performed in the history of navigation. Read again President Zehnder's thrilling account of it in yesterday's Tribune and then doff your hat to this brave mariner.

The American who has never made a personal study of the French character as on exhibition in Paris cannot begin to understand the Zola trial and we are beginning to doubt if those who claim to know Paris by heart understand it much better.

Having made things uncomfortable for Princeton the temperance reformers are now training their heaviest batteries on Yale. Moral standards at our universities cannot be too high, but maybe some persons expect the impossible.

The assertion of ex-President Harison that he is taking "absolutely no Interest in political matters" means, of course, that he is not taking an office-seeking interest. As a good citicen he cannot be unconcerned wholly.

The problem of governing Hawaii under an American regime would not be half as difficult as is the problem of preserving peace and good order in Northeastern Pennsylvania, a territory which it nearly equals in size,

The anxiety of the Spanish property owners in Cuba to get under the sheltering folds of the American flag is not surprising. They evidently want no Cuban inspection of their property

Stone may shake Andrews before lection, but you can wager that Andrews would cling like a leech to Stone after election if Stone should be elected and Andrews had then an axe to

Generalissimo Garman abandons his dream of Democratic peace with a doleful sob that ought to melt even the marble heart of his esteemed contemporary, the redoubtable Mr. Lenahan.

Discontinue the Superior court's term of sitting in Scranton? Who is the preposterous person that proposes so absurd a change?

Spain's Turn to Walk the Floor

From the Philadelphia Press. ARIOUS questions are raised in some quarters in connection with

the de Lome incident. Did the Spanish minister outgeneral our government in offering his resignation before he could be called to ac-Did the Spanish cabinet hasten to accept his resignation before it was asked to recall him? Was there needess and unfortunate delay in presenting the message of our state department at Madrid? Has there been a play of tac-tical reovements in which the Spanish minister and government have thus far had the advantage? These questions are propounded and discussed as if they posessed real importance and significance. As a matter of fact they are of second-ary and inferior moment. They may ary and inferior moment. carry some interest as a mere detail of diplomatic procedure, but they do not touch the vital merits of the real question which has come up between the two

Mr. de Lome is now eliminated from the issue. Whether he forestalled recall or dismissal by promptly resigning is a matter of small consequence. It is enough that he recognized he had be-come impossible and took himself out of the way. What remains of the incident is a question between the two governments free from the disposition of the individual, and that is a question which is not to be determined by any smart technicalities. The essence of that question is whether the Spanish government shall extenuate the offensive act of its representative, whether it shall shield him and condone his wrong behind a resignation and above all whether it shall keep itself on a footing of complete courtesy and free intercourse with President McKinley's administration. That is a question primarily and peculiarly for the Spanish government. It concerns Madrid far more than Washington. Our gov-ernment needn't borrow any trouble about it. It is the other party that may be left to walk the floor. The Spanish government has been informed in a dignified and courteous manner of the act of its representative. It has dealt with him by accepting his hastily proffered resignation. But that doesn't discharge its duty to this government, and whether it accepted the resignation before the complaint was received or not doesn't affect the matter. The complaint is there and to that complaint the answer must be made, not to Mr. de Lome, but to the government of the United States.

The spirit of the answer will determine the attitude of Spain. If it be an attempt to evade a just and free atonement under the plea that the minister's resignation was promptly accepted, it will not relieve the Spanish government. If, on the other hand, it is an open and unreserved disavowal of his act and a frank expression of regret, it will set the frank expression of regret, it will set the Sagasta government right and permit its reception in the same spirit. This answer must be a voluntary offer of good will. We have no occasion to demand it. The Spanish government knows what is due to its own honor and to our offended sense. It is not a question which is affected by any measure of quibbles

or any race of technicalities. We do not doubt that the Sagasta ministry with meet its full obligations. It is a matter which is far more important to it than to President McKinley, and with the tenure of Cuba hanging by a thread any course which would preclude free and friendly intercourse with our government would be suicidal. would be suicidal.

HOW TO DEAL WITH GERMANY.

From the Washington Post. Without going into the details, which at present are not definitely understood, we may safely assert in a general way that Germany is disposed to treat this country in a very unfriendly manner. We may go even further, in fact, and say that her method of applying the hostile treatment is discourteous. Germany is not only adopting a polley of commercial warfare, animated by a spirit commercial warfore, animated by a spirit of retaliation, but she is doing it with what seems to be deliberate rudeness

Of course, no one denies Germany's of course, no one denies Germany's right to arrange her tariff affairs ac-cording to her own ideas. That is the privilege of every nation. It is a privi-lege which we exercise and intend to exercise to the end of the chapter. In such matters, nations consider their own in-terests, and not the welfare of the rest of the world. If Germany were to levy an utterly prohibitory tax on products of any given kind, she would be well or any given kind, she would be well within her sovereign prerogative, and no one could properly reproach her. But Germany has no right to single out the United States for harassing and injurious restriction. We have with that empire a distinct and explicit treaty, under the terms of which we are guaranteed the same advantages that are extended to iny other nation, and when Germany, under any pretext whatsoever, violates that compact, we are justified in complaining of unfair discrimination.

It is not difficult to locate the inspiration of this unfriendliness. The German government is simply responding to the Agrarian clamor for reprisals on ac count of our sugar tariff. It is an old story, familiat to every one who keeps pace with public events, and need no be recapitulated here. Germany has been resentful and hostile in her attitude for some years past and has exhibited great ingenuity in the contrivance of excuses for the exploitation of her sentiments In various ways she has attacked out trade and embarrassed and persecuted our exporters. This latest demonstration against American fruits, plants, etc., is nerely a new form of expression for at old animosity. It means, simply, that as long as we maintain the extra tariff or sugars imported from countries which pay a bounty to their producers we may look for these irritating and harmful acts on the part of Germany. We may after great trouble and tiresome contro versy, arrange this question of the ap-ples, and so on, but within a very few weeks the German animus will take an other shape and American interests will again be subjected to distress and injury.

The question is whether we should fritter away time in the adjustment of these successive and persistent annoy ances; whether it were not more dignifie to recognize their real character and purpose and to accept the hostile over-ture with courageous candor. It means retaliation—why, then, pretend to be-lieve that it means anything else? Why not treat it as it deserves and give Germany the opportunity she seems to long for? We can play at retaliation our-selves. The president is fully authorized to treat Germany just as she is treating us. Why not have done with this stupid farce and take the game as it is offered

UNREASONABLE CENSURE. From the Washington Post.

Abuse of congressmen because they have endeavored to secure early action n pension claims of their constituents is unjustifiable, and, therefore, uncailed for. So long as a congressman asks for no violation or straining of law, but onfines his efforts in the matter of pensions to a fair presentation of facts, his activity may justly be attributed to good motives. There is nothing wrong nothing wro ing that is not really commendable, in asking the pension bureau to take up particularly meritorious case out turn. If a congressman knows that an applicant, a soldier or a soldier's widow saries of a decent existence, he does manly thing in writing or going or send-ing his secretary of the pension bureau to ask that the case be expedited. There are thousands of applicants who can wait for the adjudication of their cases without serious inconvenience. There are thousands of pensioners, many of them of the most deserving class, having an empty sleeve or a wooden leg, who would never have known want had their country denied them a pension. But many of the pensioners are very poor, and many of those who now have applications on file are in destitute circumstances. Should a congressman be abused as a public enemy if, when one of these poor creatures asks his aid in getting early consideration of his or her case, h promptly complies with the request?

The time has been when many of the leading statesmen in both houses of congress have made a specialty of attending to the requests of the veterans in relation to pensions. Does anybody think the worse of John A. Logan and Daniel W. Voorhees because they were active in behalf of pension claimants? Did the people of their respective states blame them, or did their national reputation suffer by reason of such activity? The Post has no doubt that there are too many names on the pension roll. It has no doubt that congress has been too iberal in special pension legislation, and t believes that the general pension act of 1890 opened the door for thousands of the undeserving to get their names on the roll. It believes, too, that thousands of the undeserving have taken advan-tage of that act; that thousands who were not injured in the service, and are quite able to make a good living, are drawing pensions on the ground that they are not able to support themselves "by manual labor." But all this should not be permitted to work to the injury of meritorious applicants. The legisla-tive mistakes of congress cannot be remedied by reckless declamation against the pension roil or by assailing congressmen for giving kind attention to appeals from the old soldiers and their widows to expedite action on their

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