### the Scranton Tribune

Published Dally, Except Sunday, by the Tribe

The Tribune's telegraphic news is from three to five hours fresher than that of any Philadelphia or New York paper circulated in its field. Those papers go to press at midnight; The Tribune receives news up to 3 a. m. and sometimes later. All the news in The Tribune while it is new.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER,

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 22, 1898,

It is probably just as well that Unck Sam's divers had the first peep at the wreck of the Maine.

### Washington's Birthday.

At this period of unrest, when the wild alarms of war are liable at any moment to peal forth in terrible reverberation, the celebration of the holiday set apart to commemorate the birth of America's greatest warrior and statesman must have unusual significance, Next to the date of the signing of the immortal document that precipitated the struggle for liberty, the date of the birth of the "Father of his country" should be regarded as an event of the first importance by the patriotic citizens of the nineteenth cen-

The awful disaster that followed the sending of a warship to Cuban waters to protect the interests of American citizens in a turbulent port indicates that it may be necessary yet for the descendants of the heroes of the revolution to exhibit their fighting qualities in order that the remnants of foreign despotism may be taught to respect the banner of the nation of the free.

What may follow the attempts to unravel the complications that perplex any event, however, this seems to be tered upon with a will that shall banish any suspicion that the spirit of '76 has been slumbering for the past few

The administration may not have moved as rapidly as many have desired in the settlement of differences with Spain, but all will observe that there has been no disposition on part of the government to recede at any stage of the game.

### Theories.

The report that divers in a prelimin ary investigation at Havana have found the forward magazine of the Maine intact is of obvious importance if true, since it will destroy what has of the Maine was designed. This theory cannot be better explained than in the words of a prominent naval engineer interviewed by the New York Sun. He said:

'The bulkhead between the fire-room of the Maine and the forward magaof an inch in thickness. That was all that separated the fire-room, or the coal bunkers in the fireroom, or the main coal bunkers alongside the magazine, from the magazine. When the Maine was completed so that her fires were lighted under the boilers I was with others in the magazine, and the bulkhead separating the fireroom from the magazine became so hot that I couldn't hold my hand on it. When this was discovered it was proposed to put in a second bulkhead, leaving an air space between the first and second to separate the boiler room from the magazine. But it was decided that there was not room enough for this, so a sheathing of asbestos on the original bulkhead was substituted. My belief is that the Maine was destroyed by the explosion of her forward magazine, caused by fire or heat communicated to the magazine from the boiler room or coal bunkers. I believe that there was a fire in her bunkers, how

Inasmuch as the ignition of coal in the bunkers has occurred frequently on board modern warships, either by spontaneous combustion or otherwise, the theory just outlined has been held pretty generally among naval experts who don't like to think that the Maine was blown up by an enemy. But if the forward magazine is intact this theory must necessarily be dismissed, and the next best theory, if we except the most probable one of all, namely, the theory of a submarine mine touched off deliberately, will be that the boiler exploded. Such an explosion could happen in two or three ways: (1) by reason of structural defects; (2), shortage of water; or, (3), because of an explosive introduced with the coal. The care with which the boilers of the Maine were inspected previous to the accident renders improbable the first of these conjectures: the second is improbable on its face and the third is peculiarly plausible.

If the report is true that the forward magazine of the Maine is intact we are almost certainly justified in suspecting foul play.

On Thursday of this week the present Cuban insurrection will be three years old. It has cost Spain \$280,000,000. the lives of at least 150,000 soldiers and an immense amount of humiliation, and Spain today doesn't hold a square mile of territory except that in the immediate vicinity of the fortified towns. The star of her sovereignty is fast nearing its total eclipse.

The loss of the Clara Nevada has by reason of careless inspection, rebelled while the craft was passing the straits of Fuca, and forced the captain to re-

companies and their victims to the sense of the terrible risk taken.

Delegate Palma doesn't hesitate to express his belief that the Maine was blown up by a Spaniard, and what he knows about the Spanish character and methods entitles him to speak with authority.

### Telephone Charges.

An interesting telephone war is in progress in Washington. The charges in that city range from \$80 to \$120 a year, according to the distance of the subscriber from the central office and the number of messages sent. For \$80 a year the subscriber has the right to send 600 messages within a circuit of it mile, and there is a sliding scale for longer distances and a larger service. All messages above the number given are charged extra at the rate 7, 8, 9 and 10 cents each, according to distance, and when the subscriber signs a contract he stipulates that he will not permit the telephone to be used by any persons except the members of his own family or his employes.

Mention was made recently of a suit before the supreme court of the distriet of Columbia by which the Washington telephone company secured a decision making it possible for it to prevent the guests at a hotel from using the hotel's 'phone except for the transaction of business specifically connect ed with the hotel. According to the decision they may use the telephone to call a drayman to take their baggage to the station but they may not, without paying toll, telephone for theater tickets or any one of a thousand things ommonly considered to be within their privilege as guests. The hotel men are consequently boycotting the telephone company, and a Washington letter in the Philadelphia Press adds:

The druggists of the city are now band-ing together for the purpose of ordering the instruments out of their establishments. The doctors are up in arms and are holding indignation meetings because part of the regulations of the com-pany are such as to prevent them send-ing confidential messages. They have no the American statesmen of today it privacy in their communications but a were difficult accurately to foretell. In these do not comport with his idea of the an occasion when the celebration of The doctors are also forbidden to call Washington's birthday should be enwithout paying charges at pay telephones. There are a dozen other stipulations that are claimed to be unusual and onerous.

This agitation in Washington has pread to other cities, notably Nev York, where the annual charge is \$240 a year. The Tribune of that city has been investigating the matter and it finds that in Detroit a company is giving first rate telephone service to 4,800 local customers who average 54,000 connections daily at a charge of only \$25 a year for residence phones and \$40 for business places.

An attempt will be made in Washington to get congress to take action in the matter. The committees in charge of district of Columbia affairs have before them a bill cutting the been the most plausible and the most charge in half and making regulations generally credited theory of those who sufficient to protect phone users. It is decline to believe that the destruction to be hoped that the bill will be en-

Horatio S. Rubens, counsel for the Cuban junta, corroborates the report that the Cuban republic would be willing to pay Spain a reasonable sum to evacuate Cuba before all property there zine was a steel plate, a scant quarter is destroyed. Spain had better grab at this offer while she has the chance.

### Another Mothers' Congress.

There had been so many congresses of women for purposes outside of woman's natural sphere and such a hullabaloo and fuss concerning the vagarles and vain pretences of the so-called Affranchised Woman that when, one year ago, announcement was made that there was to be that novelty of novelties, a congress of mothers, the public took to it like a duck to water. The congress was held as announced; it was attended by many of the brightest women and some of the best men of the nation, and while there was nothing sensational in its work, nothing that the yellow journals could exploit under scare heads, the fund of information relating to motherhood and childhood was visibly increased. The papers read and the addresses delivered before the congress represented the best thought of the country upon caused it is if course impossible to say." the most vital human relationship, and their widespread publication did an amount of good not within the ability of any one to estimate.

These recollections are suggested by receipt of information that a second congress of mothers is being arranged for. This one, it is expected, will be international in representation, the idea having within the year taken hold of the more progressive women of a number of foreign countries. It will be held in Washington in May, and will last six days. The first day, according to the prospectus, will be devoted to ecciving delegates, distributing badges, hearing reports of national officers and five-minute reports from clubs represented, any club of not less than five members being entitled to a delegate. The second and third days will be devoted to questions bearing chiefly upon the relations of mother and child. On the fourth and fifth days subjects involving the duties of both parents will be discussed. The sixth day will be given to a discussion of methods to be employed-from the individual, social, municipal, and national standpointwhich shall give to the child both before and after birth such conditions as shall insure to each successive gener-

ation a higher type of humanity. To this second congress of mothers the fathers and sons of the land will extend their most cordial greetings and their sincerest wishes for its success,

In deciding not to admit to statehood at this time the territories of Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico congress has acted prudently. With Nevada staring us in the face as an proved a warning to the victims of awful example of misdirected enteravaricious steamship companies. The prise it behooves the American conpassengers on the Neh Pac, a small gress to make new states a swly herehalk that had been permitted to sail after. Once made, a state cannot be unmade. Its creation is for all time.

A bill has been introduced at Albany turn to Port Townsend, where they to put a stop to the legal recognition will demand their passage money. The of "common law" marriages. At presdangers attending the overloading of ent in New York state the woman who stamers in the rush for the Klondike | can establish that she cohabited with a gold fields has often been pointed out, man may lay claim to part of his esand it is to be lamented that the loss tate, even though that man had had of a craft loaded with human beings also an acknowledged wife whose parvan necessary to bring the steamship riage with him had been properly cer-

tified. The present bill refuses to recognize an irregular social relationship as involving any held upon the property of the man, and it is obviously just. If the law does not protect marriage nothing else will.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution making the terms of members of the house of representatives four years instead of two, as at present, has been favorably reported to the house from the committee on election of the president, vice president and representatives in congress, but it will probably proceed no further. Constitutional tinkering is not popular.

The president of the New York Bar ssociation is credited in the press with having asserted that in half the cases tried in the courts nowadays there is deliberate perjury. If this or anything like this is true, the lawyers as a class must be cognizant of it and if they are true to their oaths as officers of the court they will see that the greater part of it is stopped.

Owing to other events of greater interest, M. Zola is not receiving the amount of advertising on this side of the pond that would have been accorded had his trial occurred at almost

### TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus The Tribune Astrologer.

February 22, 1898, 3 A child born or this day will doubtless refer to the event as the anniversary of "me and George,"

"The father of his country," It is stated, wore a No. 13 boot. No wonder he left hold footprints in the sands of time! It begins to look as though othre jouralism in Scranton was not confined extusively to the 60-mile-an-hour train ed-

Why not turn Messrs, Kirby and Hearst loose on Spain, and end the affair

Ajacchus' Advice. If you hear that the Viscaya has blown up Linden street bridge, do not worry. It will simply be an illustration of the enerprise of the fellows who have papers

### Torpedo's Effect Upon a Big Ship

which vessels have been blown up

N THE large number of cases in

and sunk by torpedoes in the past forty years there is, as far as we know, no single case in which the magazine was exploded. This does not prove that a torpedo or a submarine mine might not explode a magazine, and untu-evidence is obtained no final judgment can be reached, but it puts the burden of proof against the view that the muga-zine of the Maine was exploded from out-side by a mine or torpedo. The treacherous introduction of explosives might ex-plode from within. The Aquidoban, a Brazilian battleship, is one of the largest vessels yet destroyed by a torpedo, and, with two exceptions in China, the mly one approaching the Maine in size. The Brazilian vessel was 4,950 tons against 6,682 tons for the Maine, thirty feet shorter, five feet narrower and drawing two feet less; her armor belt was an inch thinner and she had nine instead of ten-inch guns. In May, 1894, she was struck while under way, with steam up, in ac-tion, and hence with magazine doors open, shell hoists in operation and her own torpedoes charged and ready in the bow a Schwartzkopi tor pedo charged with 175 pounds of gun cotton, as powerful an explosive as is in use for this purpose. The torpedo took effect in the bow, below the water tanks at the water line. The very detailed de-scription given by the English engineer from a Brazilian correspondent, evidenta professional engineer, reports that blow fore a hole through the stem of the vessel from side to side. The hole on the side where the blow was delivered measured eleven feet ten inches by fourteen feet eight inches. The hole on the other side was smaller. The deck plates, about fifteen feet above this tremendous blow, were scarcely bent and were uninjured. The water tanks were not opened. The first and second compartments filled and the Aquidohan went down by the bow; but no explosion took place, although when boarded next day shot and shell, with charges, were found place in the forward turret and in the open magazines.

The Blanco Encalado, a Chilean ves-sel, was blown up at 4 a. m. April 23, 1891, while lying moored to a buoy in Coldera harbor for repairs, with no fires in her boilers, though her crew was at quarters before the torpedo was fired. At the first attack all but the watch were asleep and only her auxiliary battery was in action, so that it is probable her main magazines were closed. Her size, 3,500 tons, was a little over half that of the Maine, and she was only two-thirds the length and three-quarters the width. She was struck, according to the official reports, by five Nordenfeldt torpedoes out of seven. The charge is not stated, but it was not less than sixty pounds of guncotton, and may have reached 120 or more. At least two of the torpedoes took effect amidships, and the holes torn were so large and the torpedoes were all fired so close together—all in about ten min-utes, by the Condell and Lynch, the attacking boats-that as large a proportion of her crew was lost as on the Maine. only forty-five escaping. No explosion took place on board, although the torpedoes were fired directly against the magazines.

Five Chinese battleships and cruisers Five Chinese battleships and cruisers were blown up by Japanese torpedo boats in February, 1895, in Wei-hai-Wei harbor, Of those, the Chen Yuen and Ting Yuen were battleships, 7,430 tons, larger than the Maine; the Ching Yuen and Chi Yuen, cruisers of 2,300 tons, and the fifth a smaller vessel. While all these were sunk while lying in harbor, the Japaneses torpedo boat flotilla running in on the nights of Feb. 4 and 5, no one of the vessels exploded. During our own of the vessels exploded. During our own war the Tecumseh was sunk in Mobile Bay by a submarine mine; but no explosion took place. Of five other vessels torpedced only one, the Housatonic, was sunk. The new ironsides, against which a gun powder torpedo was exploded, was practically uninjured. The Albemarle was sunk while at anchor by Cushing with a sixty-pound powder charge. Her side was blown in, but no explosion fol-

The popular idea of a torpedo or submarine mine explosion is of course that it rends a ship in twain. This looks pretty in a picture, but, like the picture, it is imaginative. English admiralty experiments and calculations indicate—though they do not prove—that the blow needed to shatter the double skin steel bull of a modern bettleship is 13 modern. hull of a modern battleship is 12,000 pounds to the square inch. If we accept the formula for the force of explosives deduced from General Abbott's experi ments at Willett's Point, a ground-that is, anchored-torpedo with 260 pounds of dynamite at five feet from a vessel ought to exert a pressure of 64,740 pounds per square inch. or five times the blow need-ed to break a hole. This blow decreases rapidly at a distance, being only 2.584 pounds at fifty feet, or a mere shock. The Maine was in 28 to 28 feet of water at mean low tide and therefore about 18 to 18 feet from the bottom. The blow of

doubtedly sink her, but evidence is needed, either in view of past experience or of received calculations, to show how a mine, and much less a torpedo, could blow a hole through her and explode the magazine. This is possible. It is also possible that explosives were introduced on board. But it is plain that great caution is needed in reaching a conclusion, and a suspended judgment is indispensably necessary until all the facts are known.

### **BOILER-PLATE JOURNALISM.**

Editor of The Tribune-Sir: Your recent criticism of boiler plate journalism may not be altogether inappropriate and will, no doubt, hit hard in many of the quarters where John Wanamaker's checks are still kindly remembered, but so far as the editor of the Wilkes-Barre Times is concerned, you should have made some sort of an allowance. No man in all Wilkes-Barre worked harder for the election of Frank Wheston and Sam Morran, two out and worked harder for the election of Frank Wheaton and Sam Morgan, two out and out Quay delegates to the state convention, than did Mr. Lildon Flick, the brains and sinews of the Times, and the appearance of the boiler plate article in question, roasting Senator Quay as a bloated bondholder, had better be mercifully overlooked. Possibly it may have been a mistake of the foreman.

However what the boller plate says about the poverty of the attendants of about the poverty of the attendants of the Bourse meeting is certainly not al-together untrue, and that this crowd was largely made up from the bacilli of the party will hardly be disputed by any-one who for instance knows something about the political character and micro-scopic size of the fellows who went down from Scranton to attend this memorial gathering and introduce themselves as original first comers into the alimentary canal of the merchant prince. They were not millionaries themselves, not one of them, and never will be, but, oh, how them, and never will be, but, oh, how they do worship money! Yours, A Kicker. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Feb. 19,

### CLIMATE AND CHARACTER.

From the London Spectator.

There are advantages in the American climate. It has killed off many weak-lings, but it has developed a resourceful character, a mind ready for sudden emergencies. Nature must have begun this educating influence immediately the Pligrims landed on the bleak New England shore; for they assuredly could not have survived at all unless they had been able to accommodate themselves to the ca-prices of that exacting climate. Many improvements in ways of living, in house and in dress have been introduced into America as the result of the educating influence of climate. The mind has been quickened, the character made both more eager and more inventive by the pressure of natural forces. On the other hand that are Englishmen are in deaper. hand, just as Englishmen are in danger of stolidity as the extreme of their calm confidence, so Americans are in danger of violent nervous tension as the outcome of a climate full of surprises. The sudden political excitements of

America, so often inexplicable on purely political lines, may perhaps be explained on the hypothesis of an organism subjected to severe overtension; and the sudden violence of American labor dis-putes, like a bolt from the blue, may be due to the same cause. Our own race has in this island home slowly drawn in from the soil and climate an Immense stock of vigorous energy, but energy dominated by calm directive force. Rome had a similar power, and hence Rome and England have, in two distinct orders of civilization, been able to spread, to or-ganize and to command throughout vast regions of the world. For this quality we may partly thank the favorable physical conditions which have obtained here. The American branch of our stock has, on the other hand, been compelled to face new climatic conditions, which have developed ingenuity and resource, but at the ex-pense of nerves. Each type of character has its own strength and validity, and each is competent to effect a great work

### JOURNALISM IN SCRANTON.

From the Sunday News. stimated that four persons are depend-nt upon each printer. This means 300 LCWIS, Reilly & Davies, persons. Two hundred boys daily are engaged in selling papers in this city. They bring home their pennies to 400 needy fathers and mothers. This means, at least, 600 more persons interested. There are 53 writers on the press of Scranton, which means, according to an accepted average 265 persons who depend upon the local papers. There are 32 persons who own printing establishments who support 160 persons, at least. A running investigation disclosed 43 jadies, who by their efforts in journalistic work are contributing to the support of that many families. The number benefitted by the lady workers is no less than 172. The number of draymen, telegraphers, fire-men, engineers, pressmen, stereotypers, engravers, local dealers in white paper, etc., reach 118. Five hundred and ninety persons are dependent upon them for a livelihood. Summarized the number in terested in local newspapers is 3,087.

### ANOTHER PRECEDENT.

From the New York Sun

The proposition that a state is responsible to a foreign state for injuries inflicted by the private citizens of the former upon the private citizens of the latter was enforced by England in the celebrated case of Don Pacifico, a British subject, whose house at Athens was plundered by a mob in 1847 because it was believed that he had induced the Athenian police to prohibit the Easter custom of burning Judas Iscarlot in ef-figy. The British fleet laid an embargo upon Greek shipping, and thus compelled the payment of an ample sum by way of

### THEY'RE UP-TO-DATE.

From the Scranton Truth. There is no longer any provincialism in the matter of newspaper-making so far as the furnishing of reliable information om all parts of the world is concerned. and certainly not in the newspapers of Scranton.

Two Advantages.

"'Tis better," said the sentimental roung man, "to have loved and lost than ot to have loved at all, or something of the sort.' "Also," said the elderly man, with the

string around his forefinger, "it is cheap-

er."-Indianapolis Journal.

# Haviland

WE ARE CLOSING OUT FOUR OF OUR OPEN STOCK CHINA PAT-

### At Cost.

IF YOU WANT A CHINA DINNER SET NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY WE ARE TAKING ACCOUNT OF STOCK AND WANT TO CLOSE OUT THESE FOUR LINES BEFORE FEB.

THE CLEMONS, FERBER, Connell O'MALLEY CO.

422 Lackawanna Avenne.



## A Malicious

## Falsehood Nailed.

It having been brought to our notice that somebody has circulated a report that we had given up our Upholstery and Drapery Departments, we beg leave to inform the public at large that such a report is untrue, and that we are better prepared than ever before to carry on business in these lines. The departments have been greatly enlarged; they are in charge of the most competent salespeople and workmen, and whenever you are in need of Curtains, Shades, Draperies, Hard-Wood Floors, Awnings or Upholstering---reliable goods, reliable work. and reliable prices, please come around to see us.

Very respectfully,

GOLDSMITH BROS. & CO.

### Lewis, Reilly Davies.

ALWAYS BUSY.



TRADE BUILDERS For Men,

\$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00 Honest Shoes.

114 AND H6 WYOMING AVENUE

THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE

### Stop a Minute

WHEN YOU ARE PASSING BY OUR PLACE AND LOOK AT THE DISPLAY HAVE ANTTHING YOU CAN THINK OF IN THE BRUSH LINE.

ALSO NOTICE THE

### \$100 Outfit of Carpenters' Tools

THESE TOOLS ARE ALL HIGH-GRADE AND EVERY TOOL WAR-RANTED.

FOOTE & SHEAR CO.,

119 N. WASHINGTON AVE.

HILL & CONNELL'S

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

### **GIFT SUGGESTIONS.**

DRESSING TABLES. FANCY TABLES, CHEVAL GLASSES PARLOR CABINETS. MUSIC CABINETS. CURIO CABINETS. BOOK CASES, FANCY BASKETS.

WRITING DESKS,

WORK TABLES. EASY CHAIRS, GILT CHAIRS. INLAID CHAIRS, ROCKERS. SHAVING STANDS. PEDESTALS, TABOURETTES.

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

Hill &

Scranton, Pa.

## The Very Best Clothing Manufactured

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

Call and see what we are offering.

# 416 LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

# FINLEY

Annual

Opens today and will

continue for

Ten Days.

No need to say that the values we will offer during this sale will be more convincing than ever that we are in a position to offer "High Class" Table Linens, Napkins, Doylles, etc., at prices that defy competition.

The few numbers quoted here, are only an index to the special prices which will apply to all qualities in stock. (during this sale only), from our 25c. number to the finest "Double Satin Damask" at \$2.75.

10 PIECES fine German "Silver Bleach" Damask, 58 in. wide; regular 50c

Sale Price, 35c

10 PIECES 64 in, wide; regular 75c

Sale Price, 54c PIECES Cream Belfast Damask, 72

in, wide; regular 75c, quality Sale Price, 58c PIECES 72 in. wide; regular \$1.00

Sale Price, 75c 6 PIECES 72 in. Bleached; regular \$1.00

quality

Sale Price, 75c Table Napkins to match all our finer quality Damasks.

25 DOZEN German "Silver Bleach" Napkins, 5-8 size; regular \$1.25 qual-Sale Price, \$1.10 MT. PLEASANT

25 DOZEN 5-8 size; regular \$2.00

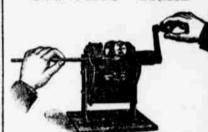
Sale Price, \$1.75 3-4 size, Full Bleached Damask; regu lar \$2.25 quality

Sale Price, \$1.85

All finer numbers in proportion

Special prices on Towels (For this Sale).

510 and 512 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 busi-ness places in the city. YOURS for a price saved in lead and the ime wasted in old fashioned chopping.

REYNOLDS BROTHERS STATIONERS, ENGRAVERS,

HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING. 139 Wyoming Avenue.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming

and the Repauno Chemical HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders.

Rooms 212, 213 and 214 Commonwealth

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Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeless

Building Scranton. AGENCIES: THOS, FORD.

JOHN B. SMITH & SON,

E. W. MULLIGAN.

AT RETAIL. Coal of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city

at the lowest price Orders received at the Office, first floor. Commonwealth building, room No 62 telephone No. 2624 or at the mine, telephone No. 272, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine.

WM. T. SMITH