

The Scranton Tribune

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TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, MARCH 5, 1898.

Scranton property owners, who complain that there is no money in owning real estate in Scranton, probably have never looked at the question from the standpoint of the rent-payer.

A Word About Advertising.

As they near the springtime enterprising business men invariably take extra care to publish broadcast their bargain news. Our columns already reflect this fact, but a word of suggestion on the subject may not be amiss. (1). As to quantity of circulation, The Tribune believes that it has as large a regularly delivered and paid for circulation as any of its contemporaries. We might go further than this and yet not go beyond the truth. We will not exaggerate. Bluff and brag on this point will not alter the facts. The only way for the advertiser to satisfy himself is to advertise intelligently in the different papers and thus find out which one brings him in the most business. We court this test.

(2). As to quality of circulation. Papers sold on the street are of small value to advertisers since they are rarely taken into the homes; penny papers are good mediums for certain lines of trade, but the paper that is taken regularly by bright, well-educated and middle class families and scanned throughout the day by each member of the family in turn; the clean paper, the paper that doesn't print sensational news nor pollute its columns with scandal-this is the paper in which advertisers reap golden results. It reaches the kind of buyers whose trade is worth having and they have confidence in what they see in its columns. The Tribune is admittedly the best paper in the city and it follows naturally that it has the best circulation.

(3). As to time of circulation. The dispute relative to the respective merits of a morning and an afternoon circulation is incessant. Expert opinion differs. There are advantages and disadvantages on either side. The morning circulation undoubtedly reaches a wider area, because it has more time in which to be distributed by trains. It also is more likely to be read with care by the women, since they get the paper in the morning and have all day for it. An advertiser can afford to insure morning circulation. On the other hand, afternoon circulation is valuable, particularly among workmen, who read the evening papers after supper, while they rest from the day's toil. The intelligent advertiser will want to be represented in at least one morning and one evening paper, because he cannot afford to miss either class of readers. We leave our evening contemporaries to settle between them which is the better medium, and we advise the advertisers of Scranton to test for themselves the two morning papers, not by what those papers claim but by what actual results they can produce. This is the basis of The Tribune's bid for patronage.

Charles W. Stone could be elected Governor without a particle of trouble. So could Congressman Olmstead or Charles E. Rice. But could P. A. B. Widener? There be those who doubt it, and this without any disrespect to Mr. Widener, who is a most generous, enterprising and public-spirited man.

Unequal Taxation.

Ex-President Harrison, in his recent address upon the subject of taxation, dwelt particularly upon the extent to which personal property escapes its just share of the burdens imposed by the state, and while reproaching on moral grounds the well-to-do citizens who play false with the government went so far as to suggest that if tax evasion by the very rich were not moderated there might come a time when so drastic a remedy as confiscation would be considered seriously by the great mass of indignant sufferers from this unequal adjustment of the tax burden.

Commenting upon the subject thus opened to general discussion, the Washington Post mentions a point which will be read with interest in Scranton, where examples in evidence are visible on every side. "There is," says the Post, "another inequality that has nothing to do with personal property, relating entirely to real estate, and easily reformable by equitable legislation. Some of the largest fortunes in the United States have been made by setting title to a tract of land and holding on to it while a city grew up around it. The laws of numerous states open up this way to fortune, and no man can be blamed for utilizing the facilities which the law affords. Tracts that are not laid out into house lots, but are kept intact, are assessed by the acre, as 'agricultural lands,' at a rate that is merely nominal compared with the rates imposed on contiguous property that has been opened up for improvement and settlement. This enables a landowner to get rich by the enterprise of his fellow-citizens. All he has to do is to pay the comparatively trifling tax imposed on his acres, while streets and avenues are being opened all around him and residences, churches and other buildings are being erected. When the right time arrives, he donates a part of his holding for streets and sells house lots at as much per square foot as he paid for a square rod when he bought the property. This is the his-

tory of thousands of small fortunes and a few great ones. This has been going on in a good many states ever since their governments were organized. It is not a fair distribution of the public burdens. Although it is not evasion or dodging of taxes, it is a wrong inflicted on the tax-paying masses. The fortunate owners of these 'agricultural lands' in cities are not open to just censure, for they violate no law. But the laws that enable citizens to make fortunes through the enterprise of their neighbors-laws that are especially adapted to that end-ought to be reformed."

A law empowering the state or city to buy these unimproved tracts at the valuation placed upon them by their present owners during assessment time would probably have the effect to cause a noticeable increase in the tax revenues.

Governor Hastings takes a vacation while Senator Quay takes a sweat. Time is a rare avenger.

Our Inland Seas.

If the American flag is absent from the mercantile paths of the high seas it is some compensation to be able to reflect that it is increasingly in evidence on the great lakes. Last year freight to the amount of \$3,922,775 net tons was locked through the United States and Canadian canals at Sault Ste. Marie, and passengers to the number of 49,215. This was an increase over the figures for 1896 of 17 per cent. in freight and 82 per cent. in passengers. The freight floated through these locks was more than twice that carried through the Suez canal in the same year, and at the present rate of growth it will not be many years until the commerce of our lakes will be equal to the maritime commerce of any of the principal European nations, excepting Great Britain.

That the passenger business on the lakes should increase so rapidly than one reflects upon the charm of a boat trip across and around these great inland seas. The man who has once made this journey will be sure to repeat it as soon as he has the opportunity. The man who has not made it has within reach a most delightful object-lesson in American patriotism that to put as many as possible of the younger generation-accompanied, of course, by representatives of the elder-sailed one of the national passenger steamers which ply between Buffalo and Duluth during the summer months, and permit them to see for themselves what a great and magnificent country this is, which can offer such a stretch of business and pleasure navigation without coming nearer than 200 miles of salt water on the one side and 1500 to 2000 miles on the other. Here is a maritime domain of itself sufficient to employ the energies of more navigators than the continental powers of Europe have, put together; a freshwater empire which could swallow up a large part of Europe and yet have water to throw away, around the edges.

It is reported that there is to be no river and harbor bill this session of congress. We trust that this does not signify any let-up of the government expenditures which aim to facilitate navigation and safeguard travel on the great lakes.

By promoting Mr. John W. Bailey from the managing editorship to the presidency of the Philadelphia Record and continuing as editor Mr. Theodore Wright who had been the acting editor under Mr. Singler's management at the directors of the Record Publishing company have assured themselves and the public that the excellence of the Record as a newspaper will be prolonged, and they have also recognized appropriately faithful and able service. The Record, with the exception of its occasional political aberrations, is almost a model newspaper. Its news service is exceptionally comprehensive and well-edited; its literary miscellany is unsurpassed among its kind, and editorially it is always dignified, keen and forceful. It well merits the large success it has won.

Scranton seems destined not to be privileged to enjoy professional baseball next season by Scrantonians, in the light of past experience, can heartily congratulate patrons of the national game in cities where it will be played professionally upon the fact that the National league has decided to do away with rowdy ball playing. A board of discipline has been appointed, before which any player or any spectator may lodge complaint concerning objectionable words and actions on the diamond, and if the accusation is sustained the board has unrestricted power to administer punishment.

It is sad to observe two such eminent reformers as Mr. John Wanamaker and Mr. Herbert Welsh in serious disagreement. According to the latter the former hates Quay simply because Quay balks his ambition. "Wherein," Mr. Welsh wants to know, "would good government profit by the election of a man (Mr. Wanamaker) whose public record has been an almost unbroken violation of its principles, and who would rival upon us the chains of two bosses for those of one that he broke?" That's the very question we were about to ask.

The Loud postal reform bill, which the house has just snowed under, had good points, but it was unfortunate in some of its champions. Representative Loud, its author, rasped people who came in contact with him, and the power of the country editor, who didn't want the "sample copy" privilege restricted, also aided the opposition. But now that it is dead we see no reason why congress should not investigate the matter of postal transportation contracts with the railroads, which are alleged to be unfairly steep.

Commodore McNair, the naval officer who will soon succeed Rear Admiral Matthews in command of the North Atlantic squadron, and who, consequently, would be our chief reliance in case of a naval brush with Spain, has been tested and found not wanting. Under Farragut in '61, when a mere boy, he won a lieutenantcy by gallant conduct; and during the four years following he went through the hottest naval fights

of the war, showing up strongly in every one. With their new navy in the hands of men like McNair and Sigbee the American people need have no fears.

Walter Wellman says the president's chief concern in the Cuban problem is how to avoid wounding Spain's excited feelings. Perhaps a good way out of the dilemma would be to give the Spaniards another warship to blow up.

Every misfortune has its compensations. The Maine blow-up diverted the anarchistic New York Journal from the Martin trial and probably saved the anthracite region from another spasm of mob violence.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaechus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 124 a. m. for Saturday, March 5, 1898.

A child born on this day will doubtless attribute hard times to the fact that the men who want to get something for nothing are rapidly on the increase.

It is seldom that a woman gets fooled in matrimony unless she marries for love.

The models of perpetual motion machines invariably have wheels. Mr. McKinley could not undo in three months the mischief done during the four years of Clevelandism. Hence the howl of the Scranton Times. It is only the real brave man who can crack a joke upon a person to whom he owes money.

Ajaechus' Fabrics.

Once upon a time there lived a man of historic ambitions. He said: "I'll be a manager and will introduce 'hot stuff' to the theatrical world and make millions. I will line my pockets with dollars and my name will be the synonym of 'singer' throughout the land." He entered the field, but did not make a cent. The enterprise was received with kicks and cuffs, and the ambitious manager was pinched for indelicacy. And he said: "Alas! my name is mud!"

Moral: Don't get gay w/d de actors.

Real Significance of the Maine Affair

"Maximo G." in Rochester Herald. THERE are those who think that the Maine disaster ought to be settled with, on its own merits, and that the question of Cuban liberty afterwards. These reasons have, therefore, not been taken into consideration of a money indemnity to be demanded of Spain. It is justly charged that the Americans are a commercial nation, and are not to be expected to put pretty much everything into dollars and cents. And yet this predilection to monetary valuations does not entirely account for the money demand in this indemnity. It is, probably, for the most part the cloak for that peace sentiment that wealth and vested interests not less than philanthropy and Christian benevolence naturally engender. In true patriotism the Americans are not lacking, and all alike, rich and poor, those who may have to fight and those who may reasonably hope to stay at home, probably desire their country's honor to be maintained. But, on the question of whether that honor has been imperilled and what steps the laws of nations and of eternal justice impel us to take to maintain it unscathed, Americans differ widely.

Cuba has not been a bellicose nation. War has not been her habit. As a national entity, war followed an insult to our dignity at a time when we were poor and weak, war took us to the semitropics to defend the rights of our southern outposts, and war bloody put the former comprehension of man occupied the generation, many of whose heroes we have with us still, on the question of human slavery was forever settled. Border warfare, too, has until recent years tried the temper of our brave sons, from the earliest times. But war, as it is understood on the chessboard of European politics, we have carefully refrained from; nor have our diplomats, much less our people, been constantly engaged in this or that permutation of nicely balanced adjustments between nations, any clearances of the kind which would lead to war. Hence it is that our people are not familiar with the application of those principles of international right and wrong that dictate the laws which, while the sense of shame mantles to the brow of every American as he reads of the dastardly deed perpetrated on those shores, he can never see in his country's history. It is a loss to pronounce with confidence on his own right to feel the martial awe, and seek a blood atonement for the shedding of the laurel blood of his country's brave defenders.

Should the court of inquiry find indisputable evidence of the complicity of high Spanish officials in the blowing up of the Maine, it will be plain to every mind that the United States need not declare war; for war will already have been declared by the act of Spain. Prompt disavowal, coupled with equally prompt and complete punishment of the guilty, might, indeed, change the situation somewhat. And yet the right of the United States to proceed to any military measures we might deem expedient would not be questioned. The cause for war would still remain. If we chose to regard it so, no matter how the Spain's apology or how ample her promises of retribution against offenders and indemnity to those injured.

But we will assume that only one of the rumors in regard to the cause of the disaster which have gained wide circulation was true. We will assume to the effect that certain Spaniards, their rank not even guessed at, hired certain desperadoes to proceed from a disused harbor in the south, as is held to be true, to the vicinity of the Maine, and construct a mine, which at the appointed time was touched off by an electric battery operated from the unused wharf. We will assume that these Spaniards were not men of authority, and that their acts were entirely unknown to the Spanish rulers, military and civil. "It is the case of the Italians mobbed at New Orleans," exclaims one of the advocates of peace at any cost. But it is not that case. It is far from that case. It differs from that case in those very respects that are vital to a nation's dignity.

The Italians had gone to Louisiana to settle, and presumably to do so many of their fellow countrymen have done in the north. The Spaniards, on the other hand, were not citizens of the republic. But their habits, or the wages they were willing to accept, or a misconception of their customs and purposes, made them obnoxious to their neighbors, much as negroes have been obnoxious to whites in the south, and as Poles and Hungarians have been offensive to the people of Pennsylvania. There was no feeling against the kingdom of Italy, and Italian majesty and dignity were not thought of when the mob arose and murdered neighbors who had become obnoxious personally. The Maine anchored in Havana harbor in pursuit of a peaceful mission. It represented while there the power and dignity and honor of the American people. She lay where an authority which palmed the harbor and assumed to guarantee her peace had placed her. To every Spaniard, whether officer, soldier, or civilian, that a vessel represented the United States. To endanger the lives of those whom the United States had sent there in her commission was to imperil the peace of nations, and every piece-

dent from time immemorial would carry out this contention. To feebly carry out such a design as that against the Maine, was, so far as the individual is concerned, to raise the question, to make war upon the United States.

It is well that the nations have combined to give this sense of importance to their commissioners. It is in the interest of peace that such understandings exist. No hoodlum in a foreign capital dares raise his hand against one of our consulates. The place is sacred to a foreign country, and foreigners have properly a just fear of committing an offense on such property that will surely doom them to more persistent pursuit and more grievous punishment than would follow the commission of the same crime on native soil. These distinctions are not without reason, and the necessity for maintaining them is a fact of international intercourse and comity, and every nation is interested in maintaining its own honor and dignity whenever they are violated.

But should a great nation be involved in a law of miscreants, which it may disavow? That is within the discretion of the aggrieved nation. Precedent places the character of the reparation to be demanded at the discretion of the injured party; and there is no limit to the demand that may be made, if there lies force behind the demand. It is not to be feared that our less pretentious thrones have been subverted and dynasties changed.

But the United States constitute a great nation. And magnanimity is one of the prerogatives of the truly great. Our resources are vast, our location is favorable, our preparation is adequate, our bravery, to date, has never been called in question. We might afford to overlook the insult to our flag, if the United States can, indeed, afford to be magnanimous. But it is a question whether the present is, under any circumstances, an occasion for the display of magnanimity. Much will depend on Spain's course. Had the miscreants been caught red-handed, could any set of circumstances be concocted so as to convince them promptly and certainly of the crime, so that an example might be promptly made, Spain's flag would be promptly restored to its former position of honor and dignity. The fact must not be lost sight of, however, that people everywhere are now now sufficient to understand that the dignity and honor of the country as represented by her flag are not contemptible in the sight of any man. And in discussing the question of magnanimity care must be taken to filter long selfish desire for national ease and plenty at the expense of honor. It must not be said of us that the commercial spirit has entirely subverted the spirit of honor and independence. Our birth-right of honor cannot go for the postage of the stock exchange. In seeking to be magnanimous, let us be very sure that we are not really pusillanimous.

There are those who see in this incident a chance for a more discussed principle of international arbitration. Happily Spain herself has delivered us from those specious reasoners and their folly. Her action, and the reasons therefor, in rejecting arbitration with supreme disgust, it is emphatically not a question for arbitration. There is no boundary to be demarcated. There are no money damages to be fixed with nicety. There is no question of law to be looked into. It is a matter of honor pure and simple. Spain must satisfy herself as well as the rest of the world that a gross indignity has been properly atoned, or our guns must ask the reason why not.

THE GREAT WAR SCARE.

[Being a faithful record of one day's work for revenue only-by a cheap sensational "news" paper.]

3:30 A. M. War! War! War! Horrible, bloody war! To put the dona to rout, John Smith has said it: His word you can't discredit. "This war without a doubt- War! War! War!"

4:30 A. M. Another war ship gone! Foundered on the coast, the spirit of yesterday sailed away. At least she sailed away. She hasn't had time, as yet, to sink her colors. But what care we for that? We're after circulation!

5:30 A. M. The cabinet is meeting; It has often met before, But let the haughty Spaniards Prepare to hit the floor! Day has put his coat on. And Long has coughed! What for, if not to let the people Prepare for bloody war!

6:30 A. M. Lee has picked his teeth- This means that blood must flow! Let freedom's sons get out their guns, And be prepared to go! When Lee gets out his pick He does it just to show The people that the time has come To lay the Spaniard low!

7:30 P. M. A man in Oskaloosa Has put his corner on. And swears that he is going To lick the haughty don! This means that war is certain, We can't avoid it now. Come, hurry up and purchase An "extra" anyhow!

8:30 P. M. Billy Mason's talking. And pulling out his hair, Down in the senate chamber, And scattering it there! There's fire in his nostrils, His lips with foam are white- This puts an end to doubting, We've simply got to fight!

9 P. M. (last edition). War! War! War! Horrible, bloody war! There's going to be a row. We can't know who or how, Bill Jones has said it: His word you can't discredit- How-wow-wow! War! War! War!

-Cleveland Leader.

Haviland China...

WE ARE CLOSING OUT FOUR OF OUR OPEN STOCK CHINA PATTERNS 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 FEBRUARY 1. All at lowest prices consistent with the high quality of the goods. Hill & Connell At 121 North Washington Avenue. Scranton, Pa.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

WALL PAPER

Blossoms in the Spring, when all Nature changes her dress. How about your home? New coverings for its walls will make it a new home. The Bazaar's Wall Paper stock never was so large, varied, complete or low-priced as it is now. To acquaint you with the excellent values that can be bought for little money, we quote the following:

White Blanks-6 double rolls for 25 cents-with 9-inch border to match at 1 cent per yard. It is not the kind that will not hold paste or not stick to the wall.

A better grade of White Blanks, such as are sold at other places for 10c., at 6 cents per double roll, with 18-inch border to match at 3 cents per yard.

A good quality of Gilt Paper at 8 cents per double roll, with 9-inch border to match at 2 cents per yard.

The 20 cent Gilt Papers we now sell at 10 cents per double roll, with 9-inch border to match at 3 cents per yard.

18 and 20 cent Glimmers at 10 cents per double roll, with 18-inch borders to match at 4 and 5 cents per yard.

All of the 25 cent grades cut to 12 1/2 and 15 cents per double roll, with 18-inch borders to match at 5 cents per yard.

The grade that we sold last season for 45 and 50 cents, we now sell at 25 cents per double roll, with blended borders to match at 6 and 8 cents per yard.

30-inch Ingrains at 20 cents per double roll, with 18-inch border to match at 8 cents per yard.

We also have the latest novelties in Raw Silk and Crepe Effects and Pressed Goods. Our show windows will give you a faint idea of the line we carry.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies. The Very Best Clothing Manufactured

ALWAYS BUSY. 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.

FINLEY'S Black Dress Goods Opening

A newspaper ad, however elaborately gotten up, could not do justice to this department, and particularly so does this apply to our

Elegant New Line of Black Crepons and Grenadines

Which have only to be seen to be appreciated. This week we are making a special showing of these, and cordially invite your inspection. Every design an exclusive one.

Black Brocade Silks

Will also be extensively in use the coming season for Separate Skirts, and we are prepared to meet the early demand.

We mention 3 specials as worthy of your attention, knowing they cannot be equaled at these prices:

No. 1, 10 Pieces Extra heavy, Gros-Grain Brocade, all silk, and value for 75c. Special, 59c

No. 2, 10 Pieces Gros-Grain and Satin Brocades, extra width, and value for 95c. Special, 75c

No. 3, 12 Pieces Best \$1.25 quality Brocades, wear guaranteed. Special, 95c

No duplicates of the above numbers, and these prices are for this week only. Our line of Liberty Satins is now complete. 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. WM. T. SMITH.



Spring of '98. WE MAKE A SPECIALTY OF FOOT CLOTHING. WE FITTINGLY FIT THE FEET. THAT IS OUR BUSINESS. SHOES, SHOES, FOUR FLOORS, AND NOTHING BUT SHOES.

Lewis, Reilly & Davies, 114 AND 116 WYOMING AVENUE. THE MODERN HARDWARE STORE.

Stop a Minute

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

\$100 Outfit of Carpenters' Tools

THESE TOOLS ARE ALL HIGH GRADE AND EVERY TOOL WARRANTED.

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.

THE CLEMONS, FERBER & O'MALLEY CO. 422 Lackawanna Avenue.

SIX DAYS' TRIAL

Planetary Pencil Pointer

If it breaks a point bring it back.

REYNOLDS BROTHERS, STATIONERS, ENGRAVERS, HOTEL JERMYN BUILDING, 139 WYOMING AVENUE.

HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for

DUPONT'S POWDER.

Mining, Blasting, Sporting, Smokeless and the Best Quality Gunpowder. HIGH EXPLOSIVES. Safety Fuse, Caps and Exploders. Rooms 212, 213 and 214 Commonwealth Building, Scranton.

AGENCIES: THOR, FORD, JOHN B. SMITH & SON, E. W. MULLIGAN. Pittston Plymouth Wilkes-Barre

MT. PLEASANT COAL 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. 4; telephone No. 204 or at the mine, telephone No. 272, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine. WM. T. SMITH.