

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, DECEMBER 7, 1898.

The Wilkes-Barre Record speaks of the bill of costs in the Langstaff contest, which means an extra 2-mill levy for county purposes...

The Doom of the Sky-Scraper.

The destruction of fire in New York the other day of two office buildings constructed more than a score of stories high has newly directed attention to the disadvantages of cloud-piercing architecture...

New York being built on an island, the conservation of space is, of course, of immense importance; but there are other conditions in the building of a city at least as important...

Colonel Roosevelt has replied to a presidential hint by saying that during the next two years he doesn't propose to give a thought to his personal political future...

Since Judge Gordon resigned on the plea that the salary of the bench is insufficient to support life in comfort, juries are underpaid...

Value of Native Shipping.

It has often been said, but it will always bear repetition, that there is no single industry which is the product of so many different industries as shipbuilding...

It was Thomas Jefferson who, speaking of the value of the ship-building industry, said: "In time of general peace it multiplies competitors for employment in transportation..."

Had Great Britain and France been embroiled in war over the Egyptian question, as at one time seemed imminent, this truth would have been forced home to us in a manner as unpleasant as it would have been expensive...

There is no such danger constantly menacing the United States. Were it our ships that did our own and a large portion of the world's carrying, as it does it might be, considering our resources, the skill of our shipbuilders...

and the vast wealth of our people, the danger that threatens the world's commerce whenever a European war seems imminent would not exist. From every point of view, of national resources, of demonstrated ability, of a vast foreign commerce to carry and a larger one assured, of situation and condition, everything invites us to become self-reliant and wholly self-dependent in the matter of merchant shipping.

The threatened prosecution of the English Christian Scientists charged with responsibility for the death of Harold Frederic has been dropped. John Bull evidently for once took the rational view that pushing a case like that would only make matters worse.

The Nicaragua Canal.

The president's references to the Nicaragua canal problem, particularly his explanation of the numerous legal kinks and twists which have happened or are likely to happen if the chameleonic-like little republics of the isthmus are to be permitted to have a sovereign voice in this matter, will go far to confirm the wisdom of an opinion ventured recently by Congressman Hepburn of Iowa...

It is probable that the canal, when built, will have to be held neutral in time of war, as the Suez canal is now. This would be an international necessity as well as a practical saving since the best way to defend a canal against use by an enemy's fleet would be to meet that fleet and destroy it before it reached the canal...

We must take possession of this soil, by peaceful negotiation if possible, by right of eminent domain if necessary, by force if we cannot secure a condemnation, submitting to arbitration the matter of compensation, precisely as a railway company prevents the caprices of a small property-owner from blocking a great public enterprise.

Signs of Good Times.

The Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph finds much to inspire hope in the immense eastbound shipments from Chicago last week which exceeded 100,000 tons, compared with 45,000 tons for the corresponding week last year.

Last week five of the great systems have made their reports of the results for the month. The Union Pacific shows a net gain of \$308,000, the St. Paul a gain of \$306,000, the Burlington a gain of \$293,000, the Atchafalpa a gain of \$232,000, and the Pennsylvania a gain of \$196,000.

Says Governor-elect Stone: "I am opposed to political persecutions such as the case now pending against Senator Quay. They always benefit the accused more than the prosecution."

Engineer Knaack, an American, who is in prison in Berlin for having expressed his ability to box the kaiser's ears, pleads irresponsibility, and states that he was drunk at the time the threat and other disparaging remarks about the emperor were made.

for indiscreet remarks. The case of Knaack will doubtless hereafter induce travelers with a thirst to skip the Fatherland when witnessing the sights of Europe.

Before the war investigation commission Quartermaster Lee excuses himself for refusing to issue a tent for sick soldiers at Camp Thomas by the statement that the tents were packed up and difficult to get at.

Currency Reform Walker, of Massachusetts, has no use for the message because the president didn't boom his bid. It is interesting to note that at the last general election Mr. Walker was elected to stay at home.

The recent attempt to form a turkey trust resulted in dismal failure. The turkey is too wary a bird to be cornered.

The sky-scraper building that burned in New York the other night was fire-proof—until it became ignited.

The president is entitled to congratulations upon the fact that his message did not please Dick Bland.

Real estate speculators will take note that Queen L.I. offers her plot at the rate of \$6 an acre.

Mr. Bryan is said to be as willing to talk as ever, but nobody wants to listen.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Henry A. Janvier, of Bridgeton, N. J., who has just returned from China, has an experience in that country which he will not soon forget. He is a practical machinist and draughtsman and he went to China to set a mill for the Chinese government.

Colonel Clark E. Carr, of Galeburg, Ill., president of the American Maize Producers' Association, has for his chief purpose in life to have the best article manufactured from Indian corn upon exhibition at Paris—corn meal, flour, hominy, hulled corn, starch, sugar, syrup, cermals, cane and other corn products.

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What will it matter in a little while that for a day we met and gave a word, a touch, a smile, upon the way?

New York is in the thick of an interesting telephone fight. For years the established rate was \$20 a year for unlimited service.

a call. It is proposed to supply a private line residence service for \$30 a year, and a group of residence service with unlimited service, for \$12 a year. An arrangement is to be made with message service subscribers by which they will receive a share of the pay station tolls.

The United States constitute the richest nation on the globe. Malthus furnishes these figures: United States, \$1,750,000,000; Great Britain, \$7,630,000,000; France, \$4,750,000,000; Germany, \$4,250,000,000; Russia, \$2,125,000,000; Austria, \$2,125,000,000; Italy, \$1,500,000,000; Spain, \$1,500,000,000.

A San Francisco friend of Admiral Dwey, who sent him an account of Hobson's oculatory experience and the prophecies of Dwey's fate when turning, received this answer from the admiral: "The clippings you sent do not seem possible. The threats you make persuade me to remain forever in Manila."

HARMONIOUS BOSTON.

Yesterday was a great day for the organ grinders permanently or temporarily residing in Boston. It was the day when their right to earn a livelihood by the laborious process of turning a crank was to be determined.

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CAUSE OF WISCONSIN'S MISHAP.

From the Chicago Journal. We don't know why the Wisconsin, after having been successfully launched, should proceed to unlaunch herself by sliding on a mud bank in San Francisco bay.

TRANSPORTATION COMES HIGH.

From the Des Moines Register. The government pays out annually an average of \$10,000,000 for the transportation of mail matter and mail cars.

UPON THE WAY.

What will it matter in a little while that for a day we met and gave a word, a touch, a smile, upon the way?

Drop Lights

We have just received a fine line of these goods. They are the handsomest we have ever seen.

BEIDLEMAN'S HOLIDAY BOOK STORE. 303 Washington Ave., Detroit Tribune Office.

GOLDSMITH'S G. B. BAZAAR.

Blankets and Comforts

Are the bulkiest articles carried in our stock. Therefore, in order to make room for the immense quantities of Holiday Goods to be opened very soon, we have priced all of our Blankets and Comforts at figures which will insure a speedy sale of large quantities during the coming week.

See Window.

ALWAYS BUSY 1898. Fall Exhibit. 1898 HILL & CONNELL'S Furniture One Hundred Pieces Yard-Wide Percales Best Goods Made. Absolutely Fast Colors. Hill & Connell At 121 North Washington Avenue Scranton, Pa.

When You Are Out looking around for your Christmas Gifts . . . remember our stock of Fine China, Cut Glass, Brick a Brac, Dinner, Tea, and Toilet Sets. THE CLEMONS, FERBER, O'MALLEY CO. 422 Lackawanna Avenue

Drop Lights THE HUNT & CONNELL CO. Stationers and Engravers, 139 Wyoming Avenue. THE 510 and 512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE. HENRY BELIN, JR., General Agent for the Wyoming District for DUPONT'S POWDER. HIGH EXPLOSIVES. 434 Lackawanna Avenue