

The Scranton Tribune

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TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, MAY 20, 1899.

Every legitimate native aspiration will find full scope in Cuba's annexation to the United States and the influences tending toward that solution of the Cuban problem, though not assertive, are irresistible.

That Mysterious Disappearance

The assertion of ex-Mayor Bailey that copies of the city's original contract with the Barber company, as edited by the court, and signed during the Bailey administration, should be in existence somewhere among the city records, inasmuch as he has a distinct recollection of having put his signature to them, corroborates the theory that the disappearance of those municipal papers was not accidental.

Things have come to a strange pass in the government of Scranton if the very records and papers of the city are not safe.

The legal custodian of documents of this kind is the city solicitor. The city solicitor of the Bailey administration was M. A. McGinley, esq.

The governor of New York is not a concerned man, but he evidently intends to superintend his own administration.

Restricting Election Contests.

The summary in another column of the progress made by the last legislature in curtailing some of the intolerable evils growing out of the act of '74 governing election contests makes interesting reading. It is especially interesting to the taxpayers of Lackawanna county, who have suffered perhaps more than the taxpayers of any other county in Pennsylvania by reason of insincere, vindictive or speculative contests, with bills of expense mounting into the thousands.

The most important of the amendments to the act of the '74 enacted at Harrisburg last winter was the provision restricting to 90 days the time of taking testimony in election contests at the public's expense. The theory of this amendment is that if the merits of a contest cannot be brought out in three months' time, the man who wishes to continue the procedure beyond that limit should be willing to risk the additional expense. If this amendment had been in force prior to the institution of the Langstaff-Kelly contest it is safe to say that it would have saved to the taxpayers of this county more than enough money to keep in repairs every county property for ten years. Casuists may cavil at its abstract justice; but as a barrier against inordinate public expenses it is a practical necessity.

Another valuable amendment, drafted by Judge Archbald, provides that in case any person is allowed to vote at an election, who is not registered, but makes an affidavit which by reason of election board errors is defective, that person, in event of a contest, shall have the right to have those errors corrected so as not to lose his vote. A third amendment forbidding the allowance to illegal voters of witness fees or mileage and requiring petitioners in a contest to file with their petition a bond sufficient to cover any liability in costs completes the legislative record on this important subject as made at the last session. Vigilant enforcement of this supplementary legislation will do much to scale down the abuses under which the people of this county now groan.

The Governor and the Constitution.

The report that proceedings are to be carried into the Supreme court for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of the governor's veto of the free text book item in the school appropriation, also his veto of the resolutions providing for a popular vote on proposed constitutional amendments, and likewise his failure to convene the legislature in extra session to elect a United States senator will excite very little alarm. Although factional in origin and intent, we see no reason why such legal proceedings should not be welcomed by the governor and his friends. The governor has acted in all these matters on his best judgment after careful consideration of the constitutional features. If his view of the constitution shall be sustained it will put an end to controversy; if, on the contrary, his legal advice shall be shown to have been defective, he should be as well pleased as any other citizen to be put right by the high tribunal of the commonwealth.

In spite of the frantic efforts of the Wyanamaker spite league to manufacture a popular outburst against the governor's course in these matters it is becoming daily more apparent that he is sustained by an overwhelming majority of the common people. Especially is this true with respect to the veto of the free text book allowance.

The fact that since 1893 July \$2,000,000 has been expended by the commonwealth throughout the various school districts for the purchase of text books, most of which are today in good condition and fit to be used for some time to come, coupled with the fact of the state's present shortage of revenue, dulls the edge of the factional contention that the executive's veto is a blow at the schools. It does not cripple the school work one particle. It simply enforces the proposition that when the state is hard up and in debt, the school children should get along for two years with the text books now in use, which are adequate, instead of making unnecessary renewals. The school children will not suffer by rea-

son of this object lesson in economy. On the contrary they are liable to benefit; it will teach them to regard public property with the same care, thoughtfulness and thrift that they instinctively exhibit when the text books used are their own. The only sufferers from a two years' rest in the free text-book appropriation will be the text-book publishers, otherwise known as the "book trust"; and they have no right to expect the state to buy books unnecessarily.

The governor's interpretation of his constitutional duties may not coincide with the interpretation which may hereafter be put upon them by the Supreme court. That cannot be determined positively in the advance of a judicial opinion by that court. The governor has obeyed the dictates of common sense and followed the legal advice of those in whose interpretation of constitutional points he has confidence. He could do no more. If anybody wishes to go beyond the governor for constitutional interpretation the Supreme court door is open.

One of the surest evidences of prosperity is the anxiety of the labor agitator to bring on the adversity that follows a clogging of business by strikes.

Uncle Sam's Ledger.

According to the assistant secretary of the treasury, Mr. Vanderlip, there will be no necessity for any new provision for revenue during the next congress if the present rate of receipts continues. The daily average of receipts for March was \$1,675,256; for April, \$1,664,463, and for the first eleven days of May, \$1,678,783. This rate means for the year a total income of \$512,000,000, or about what Secretary Gage estimated. The secretary's estimate of the expenses during this period is \$340,000,000, which would give a deficiency of about \$28,000,000. But it is explained that some of the estimates were not appropriated by congress, while others will not be expended within the year, so that the deficiency will be much smaller than the figures indicate. In any event, with a cash balance of \$250,000,000 in the treasury, it is the opinion of Mr. Vanderlip that several annual deficiencies of \$28,000,000 could be met without embarrassment and without legislation for additional revenue.

Meanwhile, the treasury strong box presents a very gratifying appearance in the item of golden contents. The stock of gold in the United States has, as Charles A. Conant points out, increased from \$600,148,847 on July 1, 1898, to \$880,792,590 on May 1, 1899. In 1893 gold disappeared from the custom-house receipts and did not begin to reappear until after the defeat of Bryanism. In January, 1898, the proportion of gold to total receipts was 6.8 per cent, and it has steadily increased from that time, the proportion having been 8.9 per cent, for the first eleven days of May, 1899. The government, in fact, is embarrassed with a glut of gold, and it could get many millions more if it had small notes to exchange for it. The treasury contains only a sufficient amount of the latter for the necessities of current business, a condition, remarks Mr. Conant, "exactly the reverse of that which was felt during the trying years of the silver panic, when gold flowed steadily out of the treasury and nothing but paper came in, either through the custom house or in demands for redemption in gold."

Facts like these explain why men like ex-Senator Peffer and the editor of the Salt Lake Tribune, who flew away from the Republican party on the free silver tangent, are now coming back to the original fold, convinced by manifest facts of the error of their aberration.

That Buffalo strike seems as difficult to settle as the Filipino insurrection.

The Clergy and the Bar-room.

The spectacle of the one-time rector of a fashionable church returning to the same town and taking the management of a hotel, is one that will interest the good people of the great yachting resort, Larchmont Manor, during the coming season. Rev. Mr. Hipkin found himself without a church. Bishop Potter seemed unable to provide one in that diocese, and the clergyman after vainly endeavoring to gain a living as a newspaper writer, decided to leave an all-around athlete and a great favorite with the yachtmen and seamen reasonably certain of a living for the coming five years. Meanwhile his former parishioners are tearing their hair and feeling much chagrined at the alleged disgrace which has overtaken them. There appears to be no just reason why a clergyman who discovers himself unable to live by his profession should be debarrd from adopting a new one. Rev. Mr. Hipkin is not the first man to make such a change and while, to be sure, a wide gulf separates the calling of a minister of the gospel from the business of a hotelkeeper, if the reverend gentleman is able to elevate his new vocation beyond what it has been at this famous resort on the Sound he will probably have done a good work. It is however a dubious outlook and the hotel will presumably be no better while the clergyman will retrograde.

St. Clair McKelway says that the editorial page of a newspaper "reflects the character of a journal." True and alas! in many instances it also reflects a lack of character.

The Bicycle.

Mrs. Henriotin, of Chicago, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, has taken exception to what the Rev. W. W. Reynolds, of Indianapolis, and Captain Luke Collier, chief of the Chicago detective department, have to say relative to the alleged immorality of the bicycle. Captain Collier says the bicycle leads many women to moral ruin; not only that, but every woman who rides a bicycle is unbecomingly spoken of by immoral and depraved men, who may be found loitering on every street corner.

Mrs. Henriotin's defense is flimsy, in-

deed. She scarcely says a word of defense for the "bike"; she only avers that "it is exercise," and that there is no truth in the "immoral" part of it. Why it does not tend to lure some women into evil she fails to explain; she simply says, "it doesn't." Mrs. Henriotin doubtless finds the statement of Captain Collier a hard proposition to overcome. Captain Collier is a man of wide experience in police and criminal work, and knows whereof he speaks. It is true the bicycle is a favorite pastime of the most refined women of our land, but nevertheless they are all exposed to the tongue of immoral and depraved men. Women as bicycle riders are always used as good subjects for slurring jokes behind the footlights. Why is it?

The following does not sound well for Scranton, but there is no city where a woman is more exposed to the depravity of a vicious mind. Women are being insulted daily upon our streets, and without cause or provocation. The fault, of course, is not with the women who ride bicycles. The fault is with their insulters. But it would become modest women to give as little opportunity for vicious remarks as possible. It is possible to dress for bicycle exercise and to behave while riding so as to nullify all of these criticisms; and the propriety of doing so should be strongly urged.

The recent mission entrusted to Admiral Watson has caused a search of records which reveals the fact that during the war of the rebellion Admiral Watson, then a midshipman, performed an act of personal valor equalling in bravery and surpassing in results the exploit of Hobson. Whether Watson possesses the diplomacy of Dewey remains to be seen, but if there is necessity for further fighting in the Orient the heroic pupil of Farragut may be relied upon.

Senator Peffer will be welcomed back into the Republican party as a shining example of the statesman who can indulge in an occasional pipe dream and not lose his balance entirely. May his hissing shrubbery continue in luxury.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaechus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrologic Chart, 6:38 a. m., for Saturday, May 20, 1899.

A child born on this date will wonder what the Select Commission think of a court mandamus now.

Eleven members of the select body of city lawmakers no doubt believe in warm "attachments."

It is easier to tell people when to hold your tongue than to hold your own.

Every man would prefer to risk a new evil rather than encounter one with which he is familiar.

The majority of the Select evidently did not know that Mr. Vostburg was dead.

Ajaechus' Advice.

Do not over-estimate yourself except by letter or long-distance telephone.

Thinks the Masses Are Overeducated.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. C. F. HUNTINGTON, the famous Southern Pacific railroad magnate and millionaire, delivered a speech at a banquet in San Francisco last Saturday evening in which he attacked and denounced the existing system of higher education. He declared that the masses are being overeducated and that the youth of the country are spending too many years in school. This sentiment is not held exclusively by Mr. Huntington. The faults and excesses of our educational system have long covered a slip in their logic and attribute to education itself evils which are due more to methods and to abuse of education.

It is really absurd to say that the masses of the people in this country, or in any other, are overeducated. A majority of boys and girls leave school when they are about fourteen or fifteen and never re-enter any institution of learning. They may and do acquire much knowledge subsequently by reading, observation and travel, but it will hardly be held that knowledge so acquired, if it be not vicious in its character, is detrimental to their moral or material well being. Certainly the education secured before they leave school cannot be excessive. That "knowledge is power" has been illustrated in Mr. Huntington's successful career. It has been because he knew so much of railroading and of business methods, mastering details of finance, of legislation affecting his interests, and of his chosen line of action, that he has been able to surpass most of his contemporaries in railroad management and the acquisition of his millions.

That many persons in acquiring an education indulge in what sporting adepts call "overtraining" is obvious to any careful observer. They take courses after course, common school, academic, collegiate, post-graduate and post-post-graduate, following them up with special courses in half a dozen fields of study, until the best years of their lives are gone and then they find themselves "out of harmony" with the practical conditions of society and unqualified for dealing with anything in particular. To be always getting ready and never doing is as foolish as to begin without getting ready. The first years of schooling are for the cultivation of general intelligence, and in the nature of things cannot be specific with reference to a student's life work. But as early as possible a purpose should be formed and education directed towards that end.

It is difficult to understand, in the absence of a fuller report regarding Mr. Huntington's speech, on what ground he bases his opinion that the masses are over-educated. We know of no honorable calling in which intelligence and knowledge do a man or woman any harm. A farmer who is a farmer is none the worse for being a scholar. A hack driver who is also a linguist will find his knowledge of the languages

handy sometimes. The machinist who is well grounded in mathematics stands a good chance of advancement and success in his trade. The housewife is none the worse for a cook for a good book and laboratory acquaintance with chemistry, nor will she find her knowledge of physiology, anatomy, hygiene, history or philosophy in her way in rearing a young family. False views of life may be acquired with an education. Any man who thinks that because he has won a degree at college he is too good for the work for which he is evidently best adapted has a perverted view of the object of education. That there are many of this class we do not deny, but we believe that the percentage diminishes with the spread of knowledge. No reproach now attaches to a mechanical pursuit on the part of men who are graduates of our colleges. There are thousands of them in the country at large in our shops and factories with grimy hands and overalls on tiring labor hours. The majority, it is true, are in responsible positions, but it is because their education qualifies them for such places. Other things being equal, we don't think Mr. Huntington would object to a college education for the engine of his special train or of any other train.

We believe the education of the masses beyond the simple rudiments of knowledge is doing much to solve the grave social and political problems of our time. Educated men are not so easily misled by fallacious reasoning as they would have been had they remained in ignorance to be imposed upon by smart and unscrupulous leaders. They have learned to think and to reason for themselves. They can more readily detect errors and puncture falsehoods. They have become acquainted with the mistakes and follies of former times, and they are more discriminating than ignorant men regarding the character and quality of the teachers whose instruction they receive. There are evils to be corrected in our systems of education, but education itself along legitimate lines cannot be and ought not to be restricted.

A GREAT COUNTRY.

From a Letter Written at Manila by Major Charles A. Howard, of the South Dakota Volunteers.

This is a great country, and it is going to prove a valuable acquisition to the United States. It is like discovering a new continent, for there has no development of the natural resources of the islands. There are vast quantities of gold, silver, copper and iron, and a possibility in the time of hemp, sugar, tobacco, lumber and rice beyond the power of imagination. This is practically on the part of the Tagalogs, a tribe inhabiting about a quarter of the island of Luzon, stirred up by some of their leaders who are educated in the political schools of Spain, and the trouble was fostered by the dilatory, easy-going, undecided policy on our part caused by the uncertainty of the feeling of the nation, until the election had been held. These adventures had an idea that by putting up a bluff the United States would be induced to allow them to set up a government and leave them at liberty to plunder the islands at the Spaniards had done, and I'm glad the scheme did not work.

There will be a great opening here for American capital when matters get adjusted and settle down, and millions will be made here through American enterprise and with American money. Everything is new, and the modern methods are not used anywhere or in anything. The climate at Manila is fine, none better, I guess, anywhere in the tropics.

AN EXPENSIVE COUNTRY.

From Leslie's Weekly.

This is a great country, and it costs over \$2,000 a day to run it. It is said to stop and think, once in a while, of this fact. Last year, for instance, congress appropriated \$675,000,000. The largest item of government expenditure was for pensions, \$145,000,000. Then came \$125,000,000 for permanent appropriations, \$95,000,000 for the postal service, \$80,000,000 for the army, \$40,000,000 for the navy, and the same amount for the sundry civil service; \$25,000,000 for delinquencies; \$20,000,000 for legislative; \$16,000,000 for rivers and harbors; \$2,000,000 for miscellaneous, including the \$2,000,000 paid to Spain; and the remainder distributed among the expenses of the diplomatic service, the Indian bureau, fortifications, and the District of Columbia. These figures have been printed a good many times in various forms, but we put them in concrete shape so that he who reads may understand them without much study, although they are well worth studying.

REXFORD'S.

SCRANTON, May 20.

"Being the only wholesale and retail jewelers in Scranton explains why our prices are below other stores. For instance, a little thing like a collar button: We have a one-piece unbreakable button, the back covered with hard enamel, cannot soil the linen, don't leave a green decoration on you, either, 15 different shapes. The price—50 each, 50c the dozen.

THE REXFORD CO.,

132 Wyoming Ave.

Solid gold buttons, \$1.

Luther Keller

LIME, CEMENT, SEWER PIPE, Etc.

Yard and Office

West Lackawanna Ave.,

SCRANTON, PA.

The Highest Grade

The Spalding

FLOREY & BROOKS.

Jonas Long's Sons, Jonas Long's Sons.



"Beidleman the Bookman,"

CARRIED

An Immense Stock An Elegant Assortment

But Mr. Sheriff held the master hand and the entire stock had to be sold--yes, sacrificed.

MONDAY MORNING AT 8 O'CLOCK

It will remain for you to choose from amongst the entire lot: Books, books--we have grown weary in the marking of them.

OF THE BOOKS--THERE IS NO END OF THE STATIONERY--THE SAME STORY.

Nothing will be held in reserve. Every dollar's worth must go--and quickly. Price is no object. We have cut Beidleman's figures in halves and quarters. Remember the day and date.

Jonas Long's Sons.



The Deadly Sewer Gas

from a leaky drain may give the doctor a case of typhoid fever to work with unless you permit the plumber to set in his work on the drain first. Do not hesitate about having the plumbing in your house examined by an expert if you think there is the slightest defect. A thorough overhauling now will save many a dollar later. The smoke test will convince you whether there is sewer gas or not.

GUNSTER & FORSYTH, 325-327 PANN AVENUE.

The New Electric Clock.

NO WINDING. NO WEIGHTS. NO SPRINGS. NO REPAIRS. NO TROUBLE OF ANY KIND.

And PERFECT time at small cost.

Send postal card and our agent will call with samples.

MERCEREAU & CONNELL, SOLE AGENTS, 130 Wyoming Avenue.

book binding

NEAT, DURABLE BOOK BINDING IS WHAT YOU RECEIVE IF YOU LEAVE YOUR ORDER WITH THE TRIBUNE BINDERY.

Send postal card and our agent will call with samples.

MERCEREAU & CONNELL, SOLE AGENTS, 130 Wyoming Avenue.

Reynolds Bros

STATIONERS and ENGRAVERS, Hotel Jermyn Building.

Send postal card and our agent will call with samples.

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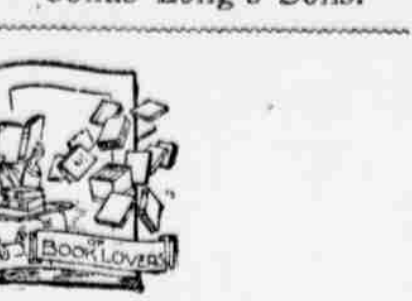
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Nothing will be held in reserve. Every dollar's worth must go--and quickly. Price is no object. We have cut Beidleman's figures in halves and quarters. Remember the day and date.

Jonas Long's Sons.

We are Showing This week

a great variety of elegant goods in

Spring Serges, Checks and Plaids.

You will find the prices like the goods--right.

W. J. DAVIS, 213 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Send postal card and our agent will call with samples.

MERCEREAU & CONNELL, SOLE AGENTS, 130 Wyoming Avenue.

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FINLEY'S

We invite inspection of our elegant new line of

Flac Piques, Dimities, Dotted and Fancy Swiss, Swiss Grenadines, Mouseline de Soie, Organdies, Wash Chiffons, Etc.,

All of which we are showing in an unlimited assortment of the newest patterns and designs:

New line of Black Satin, China Silk, Wash Silk and Lawn

Shirt Waists

Choice line of new belt buckles

Collarette Clasps

In sterling silver and jeweled, in the most artistic designs.

Jetted and Steel Belts, Black Satin Sash Belts

Shirt Waist Sets, in sterling silver, Roman and gold enamel, pearl, etc., an unusually large and attractive assortment.

&lt;