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ANTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA., ASSECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

SCRANTON, MAY 24, 1899.

Litigation is threatened over the governor's action in recalling for veto a bill which he had signed in misunderstanding of its terms. The bill's intent had been changed, by accident or design, in the clerical process of transcribing it and when the governor signed it he did not know of the change, The technicality raised as to whether he had the right under any circumstances to withdraw and veto a measure once signed. This, of course, is for judicial determination; but the governor's course will impress the average mind as being eminently sensible and manly,

"Beefing?"

Mr. Dunn's willingness to repair the asphalt streets of Scranton and keep them in repair for ten years for \$11,000 a year may, for we all know, be genuine, but its genuineness would have been more convincing had he put the proposition in writing and submitted It, with adequate bond, at the time that bids were solicited by the city. In that event we see no reason to believe that he would not have secured the contract; certainly The Tribune would have favored giving him the contract at the \$11,000 figure.

As the case stands, however, he is several months too late. The city in regular process has made a contract for asphalt repairs with the lowest responsible bidder that cared to submit a bid in answer to its advertisement for bids; and as a business proposition the thing for the city officials to do now is to pass the appropriation called for in this contract and permit the other party to the contract to get to work. If the city should try now to take Mr. Dune at his word it could not do so without nullifying the contract already executed and thi, would mean the payment of heavy damages to the Barber company. It is useless to blame the Barber people for this situation. It put in its bid at the city's request; its bid was low and it got the contract. It naturally would defend that contract to the full extent of its ability, just as Mr. Dunn or anybody else would in its place.

We do not have the pleasure of an acquaintance with Mr. Dunn, but if he is a responsible and honorable business man, as it is fair to assume him to be, he must realize the futility of his proposition at this time; and he must also be aware that his present course is open to criticism. There is in business circles an expression known as "beefing." It means the idle talk of those who, after a contract is let, try to make the awarder of the contract sick of his bargain. Some people look upon this sort of thing as dishonorable. We do not know that there is any "beefing" over the asphalt repair cor tract, but it is difficult on any other hypothesis to account for the loud talk of some men who were singularly reticent at the time when talking counted. Be this as it may, however, the con-

streets may be repaired. Probably the foremost lesson taught by the Reading railroad wreck at Exeter is that the hiring of incompetent labor because it is cheap does not pay.

tract is let and now it is the city's

place to furnish the money so that the

Roosevelt on Taxation.

Governor Roosevelt's special message to the New York legislature assembled in extra session to consider amendments to the Ford franchise tax bill contains some passages worthy of widespread study. In addition to the portion of it quoted in The Tribune vesterday he said:

"I have not the slightest sympathy with the outery against corporations as such, or against prosperous men of business. Most of the great material works by which the entire country benefits have been due to the action of individual men, or aggregations of men, who made money for themselves by doing that which was in the interest of the people as a whole. From an armor plant to a street railway no work which is really beneficial to the public can be performed to the best advantage to the public save by men of such business capacity that they will not do the work unless they themselves receive ample rewards for doing it. The effort to deprive them of an ample reward merely means that they will turn their energy in some other direction, and the public will be by just so much the loser.

"But while I freely admit all this, it remains true that a corporation which derives its powers from the state should pay to the state a just percentage of its earnings as a return for the privileges it enjoys. This should be especially true for the franchises bestowed upon gas companies and street railroads and the like. The question of the municipal ownership of these franchises cannot be raised with propriety until the governments of all municipalities show greater wisdom and virtue than has recently been shown, for instance, in New York city (or Scranton).

"There is no intention of oppressing people who have put their money into franchises. We recognize that, as in the case of all legitimate business, they benefit not only themselves, but the community at large. If a franchise it worth very little it should be taxed very little, but where the franchise is of great value it certainly should be heavily taxed; and the statute is, of course, based upon the use of the city's or state's real estate. Such use of the public real estate should not be given without substantial returns-returns not only in the way of service to the public, which, of course, a street railway or a gas company gives, precisely as the proprietor of a grocery or dry goods store gives, but also in the way of bearing a just share of the burden

of taxation; again, precisely as the owner of the grocery or dry goods store bears his share, the difference being that a railroad company, for instance, owes infinitely more than the proprietor of a big business establishment does to the real estate used.

"I am perfectly well aware that as Chief sustice Marshall says, 'the power of taxation is the power of destruction.' But this applies to every species of property. If demagogues, or gnorant enthusiasts who are misled by demagogues, could succeed in destroying wealth, they would, of course simply work the ruin of the entire community; and, first of all, of the unfortunates for whom they profess to feel an especial interest. But the very existence of unreasoning hostility to wealth should make us all the more careful in seeing that wealth does nothing to justify such hostility. We are the true friends of the men of means, we are the true friends of the lawful corporate interests which do good work for the community, when we insist that the man of means and the great corporation shall pay their full share of taxes and bear their full share of the public burdens. If this is done, then sooner or later will follow public recognition of the fact that it is done; and when there is no legitimate basis for discontent the American public is sure sooner or later to cease to feel discontent."

Reduced to plainer words, honesty is the best policy for all men, whether rich or poor. But the rich men owe it to the poor men who sometimes lack the rich men's education to set an example of honest dealing.

Governor Roosevelt's argument that all forms of property should pay a just proportion of the tax burden is by no means original with him but the manner in which he emphasizes it is.

The Governor Acted Wisely.

Says the Philadelphia Press The Scranton Tribune is trying to make its readers believe that Governor has only vetoed an appropriation of \$500.-600 a year made for free text books for the schools. The appropriation bill makes no mention of an appropriation for text books. It simply appropriates \$11,000,000 to the common schools for two years, and Governor Stone has cut it down by \$1,000,000 without any authority whatever. The constitution confers upon the executive no power to legislate.

The constitutional aspects of the governor's veto cannot be decided by the newspapers. The public can safely entrust the determination of those points to the supreme court.

Whether the school appropriation passed by the last legislature specifically mentioned free text books or not, the act of 1893 which added \$500,000 a year to the \$5,000,000 up to that time annually set apart for school purposes specified that this extra money was to be used for the purchase of text books by the state, the books thus purchased to be used in the schools without cost to the pupils. This act was drawn and successfully championed by Representative Farr and since it went into force the money mentioned by it has been used for the purpose designated with the result that today the public schools of Pennsylvania have text books and school supplies enough on hand, or should have enough, to last for two years easily, without important, if any, renewals. It was for this reason, as plainly stated by the governor, that the executive cut, made imperative by insufficient state revenues, fell on this \$500,000 annual sum instead of upon the appropriations in maintenance and aid of the state's very

The governor picked for his veto ax the place where its application would be least severely felt among the people, and he acted wisely in so doing,

If the Filipinos are not yet amenable o reason a few more taps with the club will clarify their understanding.

Let the Attempt Be Made.

If Representative Hosack, of Pittsburg, chairman of the ways and means committee of the legislature, is a good lawyer-and he has that reputation-one scheme of the Pennsylvania "insurgents" to annoy Governor Stone is not destined to pan out well. Savs Mr. Hosack:

"The position taken by those who for the election of a United States senator, that upon the refusal of the governor to call such session he may be compelled so to do, in my opinion, is untenable. The act of June 8, 1893, entitled 'an act relating to mandamus,' repeals all prior acts upon that subject, and is practically a codification of the statutory law relating to mandamus. The first section of that act provides that the court of common pleas of the county in which the seat of government is or may be located shall have power, and it shall be reto the lieutenant governor, secretary of the commonwealth, etc., naming nine other public officers. This act was amended by the act of April 28, 1899, which added to the list six others against whom the writ may be maintained. In both the act of 1893 and 1899, the governor is excluded from its provisions, therefore, if the power exists it must be outside of the acts of assembly."

Nevertheless, if the insurgents want to test this matter in the courts, we see no reason to discourage them. The matter is one of obvious public interest, and it would add to the general store of information to have it judi-

cially passed upon. The most noteworthy feature of the grounding of the American line steamship Paris was the perfect discipline which prevailed among the officers and crew and which contrasted sharply with the situation aboard the French liner, La Bourgogne. Say what you will, race counts.

The City of Paris accident has caused the old war maps of the Windward passage and Mole St. Nicholas to appear as the English channel in some of the up-to-date newspapers.

If everyone is allowed to have peace in his own way the conference at Hague will probably be an ideal love

A STORY OF THE AMBULANCE GONG

WHAT THOSE WHO HEAR IT SHOULD THINK ABOUT.

A Macedonian Cry-The Lackawanna Hospital and Its Needs-An Opportunity for the Philanthropic. Its Maintenance Depends Upon the People - Magnificent Work That It Is Doing in This Community for Suffering Humanity. Incidents of Every Day Occurence.

Clang! Clang! It is the ambulance gong and the community as-sociates its harsh echoes with sorrow and suffering. The galloping horses are hurrying through a fashionable avenue. Men, women and children at windows and on porches see the sombre vehicle as it flashes by.

Not a breast but pulsates with the deepest sympathy, although none know who will be carried to the hospital on the returning trip. The next morning the papers tell the story of a sad accident that befel a carpenter by the giving away of a high scaffolding upon which he was at work. The item is read, some one says: "Oh, that's where the ambulance was going yesterday,' and the incident is forgotten by the hundreds whose sympathies were stirred by the echoes of the hourse gong on the day before.

And yet this is only natural. Humanity loves the sunshine not shadows. There is no less sympathy for the stricken mechanic in the homes and hearts of the wealthy and fashionable today than there was yesterday when the ambulance flow by. Their sorrow is assuaged by the knowledge that the victim is being kindly and skilfully cared for in the institution which is largely maintained by the contributions of the rich.

A PICTURE REVEALED.

But here is a picture not revealed to he masses. The man who fell from the scaffold lies upon an easy cot with a broken leg. By his side sits a pale-faced woman with a look of tender love and nervous anxiety in her eyes. She holds one hand of the sufferer and manifests a devotion born of the truest affection. She is the wife of the man who is doomed to lie on that bed for weeks, perhaps months, patiently waiting until the bones shall grow together again.

And of what is she thinking? Of a iome where little children will miss the cheering voice of a loving father for a long time to come. Of demands that will come in the passage of time, for the support of the dear ones who until now, never knew what distress meant. The husband, now so sorely afflicted, was never an improvident man.

But he has been forced to endure the stringency of the times which made many idle days for him and prevented the harvesting for the rainy

But a brave woman is the wife that looks so lovingly down upon him. She has health and friends and nimble fingers. The time has come for an exhibition of that latent courage that has been slumbering in her bosom. The stricken man has been thinking of the future, too. Ever since he has been laid upon the hospital bed with his own comfort fully assured he has been thinking what was to become of those he loved during the long weeks that must pass before he would be able to bare his arm again in the strife for their support.

HER WORDS OF CHEER. But the woman who sits beside him bends tenderly and whispers: "Don't worry, dear; we shall not suffer. I can earn enough until you are on your feet again. You thank God, as I do. for the inspiration that evolved this noble institution. Here you will be cared for as I could not care for you. Gentle nurses will anticipate your wants and skilful physicians will do their best to heal you up quickly. It is a great burden that is lifted from both of us and heaven be praised for

Down in the Lackawanna hospital such scenes are frequently revealed. They touch the heart of the beholder and send the cynic away with a significant reminder that the world has a great deal of good in it after all. That there are women in humble life who are heroes and that there are such things as honest love and supreme domestic virtues. That the hospital itself represents the embodiment of favor the calling of an extra session | the highest Christian charity and that communal exaltation is best revealed in the establishment and maintenance

of such institutions. And again the cynic, if he cares to investigate, will find in the history of this hospital much to convince him that the good people of Scranton have never forgotten its great and growing They have, through their influence and money, endeavored to secure as time has advanced the most modern appliances for the relief of afflicted ones committed to its care, as well as intelligent service in every re-Hitherto the state has done spect. much in the way of contributing supquired, to issue the writ of mandamus port. There have been times when the benefactions of the commonwealth have rejoiced the hearts of those most deeply interested in this hospital, Such generosity meant much for suffering humanity. But now a Macedonian cry arises and each clang of the ambulance gong should stir the hearts of the community with a deeper and more impressive sympathy.

HOSPITAL OVERCROWDED. Men are employed in the most danerous occupations hereabouts. The risks are constant and many. Bleeding and broken forms are daily knocking for admittance to the hospital wards. These are overcrowded now. Nearly a hundred more patients are in the surgical department than there should be. It is an appalling condition of things. Political pollution, legislative extravagance, or what you will, has compelled a cutting down of charitable appropriations. Sorely needing a hundred thousand dollars, the gift from the state to the Lackawanna hospital this year was slashed down to thirty thousand, and this must last two years. And this is what inspires the

Macedonian cry just now. Of a truth the system of recent introduction which involves the graduation of nurses at the hospitals, has proved an inestimable blessing to the afflicted. Observation shows that the selections generally have been wise and judicious. Young women, of bright minds, cultivated manners and independent proclivities, have seized the opportunity to fit themselves for a profesion that, while it entails self-deninis and personal sacrifices, at the same time opens the way to generous re-

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wards in the matter of remuneration and reputation.

This helpful factor in the care of the

patients did much towards hastening convalescence. The very presence of the neatly uniformed and attractive attendants was cheering, and aided greatly in the amelioration of distress by driving from the mind those despairing thoughts which loneliness

WARDS ARE BRIGHTENED. Experience has shown that the atmosphere of the hospital wards has been greatly brightened since the ad-

the present nurse system In the great majority of cases the young women who are fitting themselves for future work in this chosen line, are amiable, sincere and patient Their devotion to the exacting labors that devolve upon them is the best evidence of their fitness, and hundreds who have had their care while in the hospital, are willing witnesses to this devotion on the part of the faithful women who nursed them. Unquestionably this crude tribute is fully de-

served: THE HOSPITAL NURSE. A ministering angel true is she And her labor with love she shares, As she moves on her mission her smill we see, While affliction bestows its prayers,

There's a light in her eye whose happy gleam Delights the universe,

ministering angel true; I ween, Is the faithful hospital nurse. The pailed cheek of the suffering one Glows when is heard her voice And no matter how hard the work to b

done, Destined she seems to rejoice, companion of pain, her mission still The sorrows of all to reverse With a song in her heart she sways the

Does the faithful hospital nurse. 'God bless you!" how many a soldier has

When afar in the front he fell A victim of fever among the dead, Or struck by a bullet or shell.

"God blers you, the heroine that you are And in all the universe, There's nothing too good, in peace or war For the faithful hospital nurse,

Clang! Clang! Clang! You will hear it again and again. And when the echoes fall upon your ear turn your thoughts to the demand of the hour. President James P. Dickson, of the Lackawanna hospital knows what is needed. His heart and best interests are wrapped up in this noble institution. Few know how hard he has labored to secure a better gift from the state than that which was granted. Many another man in this place would turn away utterly discomfited. But not he. He looks out upon the great city of Scranton and his faith revives. He believes that the people will respond to all demands that may be made for the sustenance of the hospital. He knows that substantial sympathy is a characteristic of Scrantonians. And this it is that gives him encouragement. Surely he should not

be disappointed. -Edward A. Niven. Other Mothers to Blame.

"What did your mothers-in-law congress do? "We talked about how different our sons-in-law would be if we had brought them up."-Chicago Record.

THE SENTRY AT GUASIMAS.

Alert and keen the sentry stands, The sentry ione and grim, Between the whited tents of men That give their trust to him

The sunlight falls upon his face And glints across his gun; The hour of waking cometh near, For lo! the night is done.

Stient he looks aross the sward, He scans unto the sea; Or hears the water washing far Where mighty war-ships be.

Warder and guard, a kingdom old Sinks in the dawning skies; But in the west thy stern eyes see A new-born empire rise! —John James Mechan in Leslie's Weekly.

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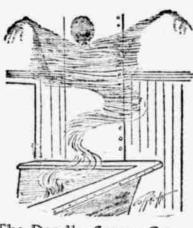
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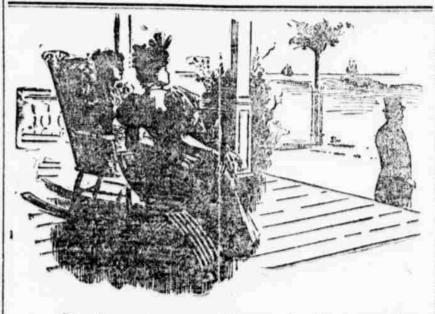
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