THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1899.

Christ Before Pilate.

JOHN xviii, 28-40.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D.,

Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

# NEGRO BURNING AS PRATICED IN SOUTH

A GROSS CRIME AND ITS COM-MUNAL EFFECTS.

A Pen Picture of an Episode Which Has Sent a Thrill of Horror Throughout Civilization - Study of the Conflict Between Law and Order and Anarchy.

From the New York Evening Post.

The deliberate narrator who comes after the reporter and the correspondent, and tries to set down upon paper. without their power of rapid generalization and speed of utterance, what really takes place in a small community in the south when a negro is burned at the stake, is met at once by the hindrance of truth itself, which at such times refuses to come into the domain of the utterable. Nobody has dared to describe a modern burning with its communal aspects as carefully and accurately as the old writers have described the auto da fe of centuries ago. Shame and pity run together into reticence in our day. The ninetcenth cen-tury sits heavy on our lips. The recital is an indictment of man himself.

The writer of this article happened to be stopping in a southern town when one of these deeds of shame occurred. He was staying with a small family as a guest. The adults were intelligent, God-fearing persons of the kindliest natures, humbly active in good work, widely respected, and making that kind of a home which one oftenest finds in middle life, and in which some kind of sunshine seems to radiate from the characters themselves. All at once there came the news of an atrocious crime committed by a negro. The helnousness and the ferocity of the act were such as to indicate the demonism or the insanity of a rude nature, suddenly ssessed by ungovernable passion. In the family where I was, the circumstance was guardedly alluded to as an Incidental exhibition of crime not at peculiar to the region; an exhibition elemental savagery that constantly akes place in the very centers of civilization, and is only to be met by the accreting power of intelligence on the one hand and law and order on the other. All this goes without saxing, among men and women who have been taught to lean up confidently against the abstract majesty of civilization itself. But I very soon perceived that my friends and their neighbors, in all their allusions to what was an important event in that community, betrayed an apprehension that I did not understand until twenty-four hours later.

### "THEY'VE GOT HIM."

While we were at breakfast a neighbor's wife broke in upon us and cried out excitedly: "They've got him-they've got him," and then as suddenly disappeared. I saw her through the window running from house to house, disheveled by the engerness of her tidings. The effect of the announcement in our group was peculiar and instant. The mother of the family was staring at her husband with a frightened facial inquiry, and he was palpably trying to avoid her eye. Suddenly he jumped up, without a word of explanation, and made for the door, but before he had turned the knob his wife had leaped after him and had her arms around bim. "For the love of God," she said, "stay here with me and the boys." His reply echoed her apprehension without inswering It. They mustn't do itthey mustn't do it." and he was gone. The woman entirely ignored me for the moment. Her first thoughts were of her two boys, who were at the table. "Go up stairs to your room," she said peremptorily and they abeyed her as some inscrutable danger had beset the household. Then she went to the south windows and began pulling the green blinds to, and hooking them, but not before I had caught's glimpse of cur neighbors hurrying down the road. It all flashed upon me then in an instant. But even if it had not, I would not have been left in the dark very long, for presently another neighbor's wife put her head in, her face already congested with excitement, and shout-"Come on, they're going to burn him!

rayed creatures, pounding on the door Sunday-School Lesson for May 28. with their fists. One was down on her knees praying incoherently-oth-ers were hurrying up the knoll. With the medivaeval instinct, they were making straight for a house of refuge. Not far beyond was a school house, set in shade-bushes, the patches of lungworth making a purple mass in the sweet spring sunlight all about the door. The school-mistress, bareheaded, was running across the field, and far ahead of her were her runaway boys racing toward the court house. This incident stopped me for a moment, and I half turned about with a quaim not unlike seasickness, and just then the distant shouts of men, mingled with the shriller notes

of the boys, were borne to me, and the mere gravitation of curiosity hurried between Calaphas and Jesus, members of the Sanhedrin came together (Luke me on As I passed through the streets I

xxii: 66). There being no formal charge, noticed that some of the householders were hurriedly closing their shutters, witnesses were suborned among the Jews, but their testimony did not agree (Mark xiv: 53, 59), and was insufficient to conand the places ordinarily animate with life looked mute and frightened. It reminded me of the shopkeepers in Paris and Constantinople, who hasten to barricade their places of business when there comes a rumor of a street fracas. But none of these householders apprehended any personal danger. They were in fact pulling down their domiciliary veils so as to not see or to be seen, just as does the sensitive girl when her modesty or her fears give the alarm.

AN IMPENDING HORROR.

In a very short space of time the consciousness of an impending horror had seized upon the whole town. I found myself in a mob of rough men men in butternut, gaunt, sallow, hardjawed men, and in the centre the victim. From this nucleus extended concentric circles of agitated people, racing round in eddies, some of them saying, "It must not be," eagerly and helplessly; others shouting out, "Burn him-burn him." Here and there a pale-faced woman, swept here by some force that she could not comprehend, staring up into the spring sky as if God would surely interfere at the proper moment, on account of her nerves, and put a stop to it.

But God did not interfere. The clank a heavy ox-chain, mingled with oaths and laughter, sharply marked each strophe of this infernal preparation, and presently the victim came marching at the head of a motley

column, the whole town sweeping in at his heels. The one glance I caught of him showed him to be a brawny brute, very little removed above the status of an animal. But an agony of fear was already transforming him from that which had been at least a scm-blance of humanity. The shirt-collar round his neck was sodden with blood flowing from a wounded face. One eye had been struck out, and the other rolled and gleamed with protuberant agony and fright, emitting a bale light as it swept over the faces of his tormentors in dumb, wondering search for some look of human pity. During the two minutes that I saw this ghastly and revolting figure it was struck twice in the face by missiles thrown from the crowd, and both blows elicited shouts of exultation. I confess that the sight completely unmanned me. Shame and an immeasurable upwelling reproach made me sick, and I had to hold fast to a friendly tree for a moment.

### DEMONIACAL.

While I clung there a mob of men women and children swept past me that only Dante could have described. The human phantasmagoria was made up of afrites of terror and drunken ghouls. All the basest impulses of the then the old sickness passes again insensate demon who boasts that he is made in God's image seemed to have

vict. The utmost said by any of them was a false construction of His words concerning the temple (John H: 18). During these charges Jesus was silent. At last, with unbecoming temper, the high priest left his seat, and, hastening for-ward, stood before Christ, and demanded ward, stood before Christ, and demanded in a peremptory way, to know whether He was the Christ. This was a new at-tempt to force a confession, and Jesun responded "I am" (Mark xiv: 61-63), This was deemed all that was necessary, Rending His garments Calaphas pro-nounced Him guilty of blasphemy and worthy of death worthy of death. DEFILEMENT.-The whole company immediately arose (Luke xxiii: 1) and led Jesus away into the Praetprium and de-livered Him to Pilate, the governor. Up to this point Judas had been immoveable,

It has been suggested, purely a conjecture, that this disciple had expected his Mas-ter would in some way extricate Himself, that either by wisdom or power He would overcome His adversaries and prove His It has been thought that Judas hoped to precipitate a controversy that should result in a triumph. But, cortain it is, that when he saw Jesus conducted to the Roman tribunal he repented, and offered to restore the money he had re-ceived (Matt. xxvii: 3-10). The wiley Jews, in whose hearts were bitterness and hate, halted at the door of the Roman ruler, and would not enter, because if they did, they would be unfit to eat the passover. What an abominable exhibi-

ion of hypocrisy (Verse 23), ACCUSATION .- The appearance of u man bound in the civil court, with no ac-

cusers present and no statement of his offense, was a novelty. Ordinarily un-der such circumstances a prisoner might be immediately dismissed (John viii: 11) But Pilate desired to conciliate his trou-blesome subjects, of whose religious prejudices and jealousies in the went norant (Mark xv: 10). Hence, he went forth to inquire what accusation was forth to anguingt Jesus (verse 29). This brought against Jesus (verse 29). This shows that nothing had been reduced to writing. The haste, so unbecoming the which set ecclesiastical court, was proof of the enmity by which the prosecutors were moved. To Pilate's charge of blasphemy upon which they had agreed, and, de-pending upon the respect which the civil and asked him to pronounce sentence on their finding.

JUDGEMENT .- Matters had taken very unfortunate turn, one little expected by the leaders of the church party. Had there been time for reflection they would crtainly have given a different answer.

across the soul, as one hears voices

OMISSIONS -John omits from his par-rative important matter which should be supplied between the close of last lesson (Verse 27) and the beginning of the pres-ent lesson. After the private interview between Calaphas and Jesus, members of the Sanhedrin came together (Luke Jesus and deal with Him according to their law, proposing to find release from these religious complications, with which he had been much annoyed during his term of office. To this the priests replied that, while they had adjudged the prisoner to be a malefactor, they had no right to inflict the death penalty (Verso 32), thereby disclosing their full pur-pose concerning Jesus according to His pose concerning jesus according to his prediction (Matt. xx: 19). They had now told an humiliating truth. So shame-fully had they executed the law of Moses, taking the life of the innocent, that Rome found it necessary to deprive them of power.

> EXAMINATION .-- Following the stateent of Jewish officials many volces delared that Jesus was perverting the na-

tion and that be claimed to be a king (Luke xxiii: 2). This was the political aspect of Christ's assertion before Cala-phas (Luke xxii: 70), the blasphemy, as they had before charged, being held in abbeyance. Of this Pilate was obliged to take notice. Returning to his scat in the judgment hall he summoned Jesus before him and asked "Art thou the king of the Jews?" (Verse 32). Jesus met the question with another, asking whether Pilate made the inquiry of his own accord or because he had been prompted to aake it (Verse 34). He must have known why Pilate asked, but He sought a basis for an answer to the first question, that he might be better understood. An explanation would be better than a mere affirmation. Pilate frankly admitted that he had no personal interest in the case, that as he was not a Jew he could not be responsible for the charge, that in fact the chief priests, the countrymen of Jesus, had delivered Him and Pilate

only sought to know His offense (Verse

KINGDOM - The opportunity was thus ifforded for a clear statement of the ase, and Jesus proceeded to inform Pi te in regard to Himself and His mison. To remove all fear that He had iny designs against the Roman govern-ment, He declared at the outset that His kingdom was not of this world. In proof of that fact He said that His followers would fight if He came to set up an earthly kingdom. As He had been de-livered to the Jews, and they had not interfered, all might know that temporal sovereignty was not sought (Verse 36). But Pilate thrust in again his old court ought to pay to the church, they said the fact that they presented Him was sufficient to show that He was a malefactor (Verse 30). In this it was implied that they had judged the case who love truth and hear Him (Verse 37). In this recital before an earthly ruler Jesus explains as He does nowhere else

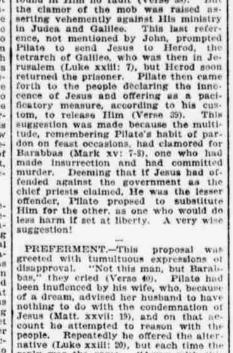
35).

the grand design of His appearance and work among men. Pilate appeared to be confused somewhat with such a lofty conception and ended the interview by asking "What is truth?" (Verse 28).

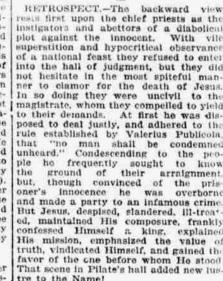
for this put them in an awkward predicafor this put them in an awkward predica-ment. Pilate took advantage of their of Jesus made a very favorable impres- tre to the Name! ACQUITTAL .- The words and manner 

back through the years, starting the Island to operate all the machinery of flashes of that far-away hell-light that the world. played about those distorted faces, and

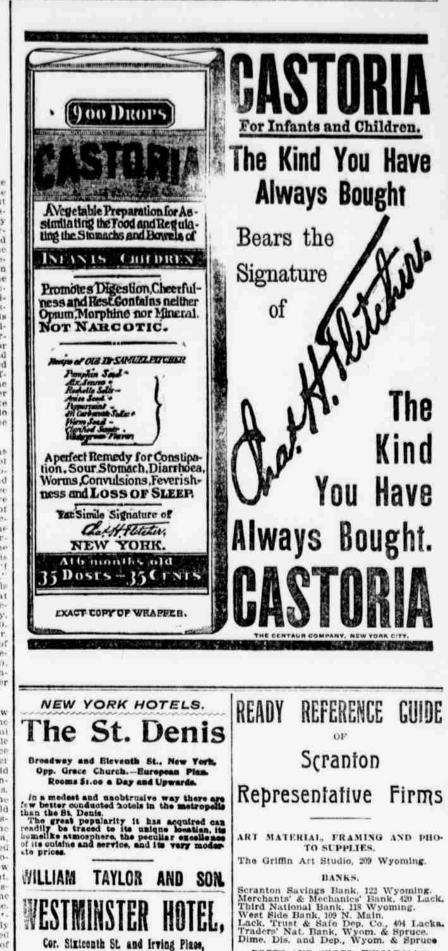
If, as Ericcson demonstrated, heat enough to make one horse power may



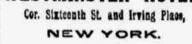
native (Luke xxill: 20), but each time the reply was the same. "Away with this man," "release unto us Barabbas." man," "release unto us Barabbas." " have found no cause of death in him." said Pilate, but they drowned him words shouting "Crucify him." "Why, what evil hath he done?" was the pleading re-joinder, yet they cried out exceedingly. "Let him be crucified" (Matt. xxvil: 23) It was a trying place for a heathen ruler Pliate finally yielded to the clamor of the mob, and value attempting to re-lleve himself of blame (Matt. xxvii: 20). gave sentence of death, delivering the in necent into the hands of officers to suffer by the cross.



\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* like the square-faced, peaked end of haystack, and at a distance appears dif-ficult or impossible of ascent. Its south ern and western faces may be morbe developed from each square yard when the sun's rays fall perpendicu-foot mountain the level shows Mountain the level Jackson to be the highest of all mountains, Mount James the next, whill Blockfoot is the third. But the dif ference in height are slight. A few miles northwest of Mount Jack son and lying on the west side of th



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#### FEAR AND TERROR.

As I left that house I carried with me an impression of a frightened woman barricading herself in her own retreat, not indeed to escape from some struggling and half-demented miscreant, but to protect herself and her boys from her own race. I hurried down the road in the direction of the court house, some kind of trepidation repeating over and over in me the words of my friend: "It must not be, it must not be." I had to pass the little white Methodist church, perched on a small knoll, and there were three or four negro women, poor, half-ar-

Women get used to being sick. They come to consider back-ache, head-ache, side-ache, dragging, dreary, bearing-down feeling, hot flashes and nervous



irritability as a part and parcel of their womanhood. They get used to being half dead all the time. They forget that they ever were anything else. If they don't have to go to bed and stay there they don't try to get well. Nine-tenths of all the sickness of

women is due to some derangement or disease of the organs distinctly feminine All such sickuess can be cured-is cured every day by

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burst into an emotional debauch. Somewhere, somebody with a venerable face and white flowing hair was making a feeble appeal from the tail of a cart for law and order. Between him and the surging crowds there were centuries of geparation. Save a halfscore of pale, determined men, who stood near him trying helplessly to epresent society itself in this crisis of levilitry, no one gave the slightest heed to him. It was a foregone conclusion that once started, this orgie must sweep to its dire finish, and most of these spectators wanted to have a place at the spectacle. Men with vehicles were selling sents. Boys, both black and white, were calling to each other as on a holiday, and women,

with their faces distorted by an obscene curiosity, were lifted up on boxes and harrels that they might see the disfigured features of the human animal as it passed. In this temporary delirium all rational processes were suspended. Man had agglomerated and transformed himself into a pack of rabid wild beasts.

I did not see the actual burning, be cause my nerves revolted, but I followed the crowd to the place, And now my pen refuses to repeat what I there heard. In their unleashed rage of vengeance, these men mutilated their victim before they burned him; they pressed up close to the flame and gloated over the convulsive writhings and cheered his agony as if every additional pang were a pleasure to them. and they hung over the embers and calcined bones as if the excitation of their miserable emotions had enchained them to the spot. Then, when there was no more of the poor quivering flesh to feed their passions, they hung

their heads and slunk away, SARCASTIC SYMBOLS.

On my return from that scene I found myself suddenly in front of the little church again. Its doors were open and the sound of prayer came like a mur-mur from the inside. But for the first time in my life the house of God, as the people called it, wore to me an Inexpressible air of impotence. As I turned the corner of the street the cupola of the court house came in sight, and on it was flying the banner of the republic. I thought it wore for the first time a monstrous Aristophanic irony as it lazily unfolded itself to the spring sunshine in graceful undulations. I was sensible of a new desire to go away somewhere and hide my genus among the kindly beasts of the field. This strange complex of devil where in his life shudders to look himself in the face.

For several days after this mob murder the town hung its head down. There was no repentance in it, nor remorse: the reaction was sullen, gruff and defiant. Some few irrepressible braggarts, who had in a measure recovered from their fiendishness, undertook the easy condonement of their own fury by the alleged necessity of proshine on a territory smaller than Long tecting their wives and homes. One simply wondered if men who delight in

torture and give way to the foulest gratification of private vengeance are the best protectors of women.

One such experience in a lifetime is enough. The scar of it remains in the memory forever like an infernal tattoo. The original wound reached very deep to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and mar-Some twitches of it will

n other lands, where other blacks are being torn to pieces, and the flag is flying over it all.

## TO USE THE SUNS' POWER. French Scientist's Invention to Move

the World's Machinery. Sunshine is to be brought to our aid n doing work, says the New York

Herald, and the free and unlimited force of Old Sol is to be made to serve a dozen different purposes. By means of solar action alone it will be possible to sink artesian wells in the most arid desert, to get water from any depth, bring it to the surface and make use of it as we will. Railways can traverse the Sahara desert, and the whirr of busy manufactories wake up its silent echoes, while steamers plow the waves without need to trouble about finding fuel.

The apparatus that is to do all this is the invention of M. Mouchot, professor of physics at the Tours Lyceum, France, and is called by him the solar condenser. In construction it is exceedingly simple, and it is asserted that it is so easy to manipulate that a child of 7 could learn to manage it in five minutes.

It consists of a large conical shaped reflector, made of highly burnished copper, which has in its centre a boiler made of tempered glass. There is also a steam engine whose slightest movement sets in motion various conducting wires which lead to the reservoir where the heat is stored. The latter consists simply of a vast quantity of sand, surrounded by a woolen covering, which is able to hold the superfluous heat un-

til it is required. Other wires lead to dynamos set at work by the solar heat. concentrated and brought to a focus by the solar condenser. This conical shaped funnel once set

facing the sun the rest goes by itself. A lever enables the reflector to be moved backward and forward horizontally, while a toothed rack, by setting in motion two cogs, elevates or depresses it vertically. The heat converges upon the reflector from all directions, and the dynamos are soon merrily set going, the superfluous heat being conducted to the non-conductor. In experiments conducted in Tours Professor Mouchot succeeded in grilling cutlets and cooking soup by means of his solar condenser, and, although the apparatus is not made for France. as Professor Mouchot explains in Le Monde Scientific, it is admirably suit-

ed to the desert sands of Africa, where the sun shines uninterruptedly through dry air. The invention of this maand angel that we call a man some- chine, it is declared, will completely revolutionize the conditions of African deserts and will render habitable many other desert spots on the earth.

The amount of power that is theoretically available in this way is almost beyond computation-enough could be gotten from the deserts alone to operate the machinery of many worlds like this. As a matter of theoretical and demonstrated fact, it is possible to get enough power from the rays of sun-



larly through a dry atmosphere, from one square mile enough may be collected to make as many horse powers as there are yards in a square mile, or 3,089,600. At the outside, the city of London does not use more than 800,-

000 horse power, and this would operate all its electric and horse cars, motor carriages, wagons and carts; run all its steam engines, tugs and ferry boats on the river, and all other machinery of every kind.

## GLACIERS IN MONTANA.

Not Necessary to Go to Alaska for Moving Ice Masses.

For some years I have been interested In the geography of a small section of the Rocky mountains, which, until re-cently, was part of the Blackfeet reservation, in northwestern Montana. This section lies for the most part east of the continental divide and between the international boundary on the north and the Greath Northern railroad on the

The portion of it which I know ath best is included in the watershed of the St. Mary's river and its tributaries. In sel I took to the head of the St. Mary's river the first party that had ever visited , so far as known, and in 1895 accomanied to the same point the government

commission which afterward purchased rom the Blackfeet Indians the rough from the ountain land which formed the western oriion of the reservation of that tribe. efore that I had made a sketch map of he region, which is the basis of all the ps of it that have been made or pub-

In 1897 I made a hasty trip to the head of the river and climbed Mount Jack-on, the highest peak in that region. ast July (1598) I again went to the head the river and climbed the Blackfeet ountain, another lofty peak, somewhat as accessible than Mount Jackson. On both trips I was accompanied by my friend, J. B. Monroe.

These last trips have enabled me defiitely to locate two points about whose relations I have never until now been quite certain. One is the Pumpelly gla-cler, discovered by Professor Paphael Pumpelly, who, I believe, in 1883, with a small party, which included the late W. A. Stiles, crossed from the Flathead country to the plains by way of the Marias, or, as it is now called, the Cut Bank pass. The great mass of ice, which is seen by every traveler going through the Cut Bank pass, rises to the height of several hundred feet above the face of a lofty cliff, over which portions of the glacier are constantly falling with tremendous reports, which are heard for a ong distance. From the top of the Blackfoot mountain

the whole country leading up to the Cut Bank pass can be seen, and immediatebelow it to the southeast lies the Pumpelly gincier, readily identified, not only by its position with relation to the alley, but also by the peaks and rocks in its neighborhood. It thus appears that the Pumpelly gincier, as I have long supposed wa the case, is part of the southern flow of the great ice-cap which cov-ers almost the whole of the Blackfoot mountain. The Blackfoot glacier, which stretches away in a northeasterly direc-tion from the peak of the Blackfoot mountain, though perhaps varying in ex-tent somewhat with the season, was ex-timated last July to be six or seven miles long, and in some places between three and four miles wide. From the beak of the Blackfoot mountain the icefield flows

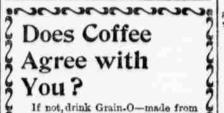
also in a northerly direction, meeting an-other which runs down between Mount Kainah and Mount Jackson, while from Mount Jackson a number of smaller gla-clers flow down in timber that ters flow down to timber line. A little to the west of south of the

A little to the west of south of the Blackfoot mountains, and lying in a great bend of Mud creek-tributary to the Flathead-which entirely cuts it off from Flathead-which entirely cuts it off from the main range, lies Mount James, one of the three highest peaks in this immediate section. Seen from the cast, it is shaped

range is a little basin named Avalanci basin by L. R. Sperry, of Oberlin, Ohio and on the mountain overlooking this Mr. Sperry tells us, are extensive snow fields and a glacier. From the summ of Blackfoot mountain it appears that th avalanche basin lles nearly south Mount Plegan of my map, and south west of Mount Reynolds, I understand that Mr. Sperry who was, of course, un aware that the mountain had bee earlier named, has called Mount Reynold Matterhorn, from the slender-as sefrom the southwest-finger of rock which forms its peak. Mount Reynolds is i the continental divide, although most o the recent maps wrongfully place it car of the divide. If the locations of the Pumpelly glacic

and of Avalanche basin, with regard to definite and well known points in the continental divide, are thus established the matter is one of some interest to stu-dents of this section of the norther, Rocky mountains, since hitherto, so fa as I am aware, the relations of the cas and west sides of the ranges have no been known between the head of Beily river and the Cut Eank pass. Lying nearly to the south of Mount

Jackson and between it and the Black-foot mountain is a deep basin, which is the head of Harrison creek, flowing down toward the Flathead lake. This basir which I have called Pinchot's basin, i occupied by a large glacier, which is fe by many smaller ones flowing down the steep sides of Mounts Jackson, Kainah and Blackfoot. What the extent of this glacier may be I do not know, but lying in this deep basin and almost completely surrounded by high mountains, the are of the moving ice must be considerable.



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FLOUR, FEED, RAY AND GRAIN. The Weston Mill Co., Lackawanna ave. MACARONI AND VERMICELLE.

Cassess Bros., 60 Luckawanna ave. JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS-WHOLE

SALE. evy, N. B. & Bro., Traders' Bldg. BUTTER, EGGS, FLOUR, HAY, ETC asterie & Co., 121 Franklin. Jabcock, H. F., & Co., 116 Franklin.

JEWELERS AND WATCH MATERIAL. Phillips, Geo. & Co., Coal Exchange,

WINES AND LIQUOR. Casey Bros., 216 Lackawanna. LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Northwestern Mutual Life, Mears Bldg.

LAW AND COLLECTION. Sold in Scranton, Pa., by Matthews Bros. and McGarrah & Thomas, druggists. Okell & Dunn, Coal Exchange Yocum, Geo. C., Connell Bldg.

> BICYCLES AND PHOTO SUPPLIES. Florey & Brooks, 211 Washington.

OVERALLS, UNDERWEAR, ETC. Harris, S., 322 Penn ave.

LUBRICATING OILS AND GREASES Maloney Oil Mfg. Co., 141 Meridian.

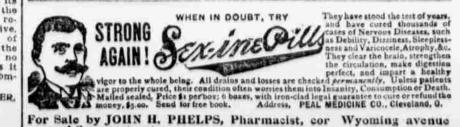
OIL, PAINT AND VARNISH. Maloney Oli Mfg. Co., 141 Meridian,

STATIONERS AND ENGRAVERS.

Prendergast & Gelpel, 207 Washington, FUNERAL DIRECTORS.

Tague, P. W., 113 S. Main.; Residence 1124 Price, William, 135 S. Main.

DRY GOODS, SHOES AND GROCERIES McCann, P. J., 441 N. Main.



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and Spruce street.

