

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name; and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions of whatever nature and by whomsoever sent shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, JANUARY 17, 1900. REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS.—C. C. Ferber, E. D. Fellows. It is a little surprising that no formal announcement of Mr. Billy Mason's sympathy for Mr. Hoar in regard to the Barrett statement has been made.

As to Miners' Wages. THE Philadelphia Inquirer notes that advances in the pay of miners are occurring occasionally in the bituminous regions and it wants to know why similar news does not come from the Lackawanna region.

During the Grover Cleveland, Wilson bill period of industrial depression, when the coal industry in all its branches fell down to its lowest level, the rate of miners' wages in the soft coal regions was in many instances reduced to correspond with the general slump. The amount of soft coal mined was also reduced, thus curtailing the miners' incomes both as to the earnings per day and as to the total pay for the month.

The rate paid prior to that slump was paid without reduction throughout the long period of dull times; that is to say, for each day that the miner worked, assuming equal efficiency, he got the same pay that he had received when times were good.

The scale of wages in vogue in this district is not a sliding scale; it is a stationary rate, as large in dull times as in flush; but the element of flexibility in total earnings is supplied by the demand of the market for anthracite coal; hence the more the demand the more the miner's pay.

Persons who have been spreading the report that General Methuen is crazy doubtless formed their opinions of him from some of the portraits of the general published in the papers.

An UnAmerican Object Lesson. THE PUBLIC is apparently in for a wholesale revelation of nastiness in connection with the Molinoux case; and the sooner it comes and is forgotten, perhaps the better.

It does not appear that moralizing upon a theme like this is especially productive of practical good; yet to students of social problems there is much that is genuine in the revelations of this trial. There are few large cities which do not have a growing element of well-to-do "gentlemen" of leisure whose principal occupation, it would seem, consists of devising new forms of self indulgence.

In our issue of yesterday we gave generous space to an explanation of what we called an American object lesson. The reference was to those busy Americans down in Cuba who, amidst all kinds of difficulties and discouragements, are setting up a new order of civilization and making it possible for the next generation of Cuban people to live creditable lives under institutions worthy of the world's respect.

American Object Lesson; and of the two which will our young men choose?

The startling story to the effect that the Canadian Indians were becoming restless on account of the removal of some of the mounted police for South African service, and were taking great interest in the war with the Boers, has been punctured. Investigation has proved that the noble red man, instead of persisting in his demand for yellow journals on the reservation every evening, has not, in many instances, even heard of the war.

Mr. Wanamaker. FROM THE Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, a journal usually accurate in its political news, we glean the information that Hon. John Wanamaker contemplates an early announcement of his withdrawal as a candidate for United States senator in opposition to Colonel Quay.

"By this," says the Bulletin, "is not meant a cessation of Mr. Wanamaker's fight against Colonel Quay, but simply the taking out of his name from consideration as a candidate for a seat in the senate. It is said to be Mr. Wanamaker's purpose to enter upon the fight with zeal from the time of the announcement, and to lead an agitation which will be kept up without cessation until November for the election of legislators who will vote against Quay, for a constant rational convention and for better reform. Many men opposed to Quayism hesitated to identify themselves with the battle against the Beaver senator because of their supposition that the Philadelphia merchant was the candidate against him. A public declaration on the part of Mr. Wanamaker that he would not accept the office, anti-Quay men believe, would give impetus to the movement against the Quay machine. It has been a recognized weakness of the attacking party against Quay that some of its leaders were suspected of great personal ambition, and the necessity of eliminating this suspicion was felt. Preferably the anti-Quay men say the successor to Quay should be a western man, as Senator Penrose is a Philadelphian. If the fight against Quay is successful, an eastern man could be chosen two years later, when a successor to Mr. Penrose will be named."

The putting together of these two extracts tells the whole story. Mr. Wanamaker is conscious of his inability to defeat Colonel Quay in his own person as a candidate for office; so he will employ a substitute against Quay and save his own strength for another tussle with Penrose. We must compliment the former postmaster general upon the sagacity which recognizes accurately the dimensions of his own unpopularity; but will a candidacy thus nullified in 1900 be able to sugar coat itself into public favor in 1902?

The Philippines insurrection is over, according to official reports, but the insurgents at home and abroad do not seem to realize the fact.

An Unfounded Criticism. SENATOR WOLCOTT'S criticism of Senator Beveridge's speech on the Philippine question, that it displayed a spirit of greed, does not impress us as being just. The retort could be made that Senator Wolcott's recent advocacy of free silver coinage displayed the same spirit in that it was prompted by a desire to benefit the silver mining interests at the expense of the general welfare, but it is better to consider in both instances that the motives of these two eloquent senators are clean and creditable and that the positions which they have assumed with respect to public problems are maintained conscientiously.

Senator Beveridge was enthusiastic in his appraisal of the natural resources and commercial possibilities of the Philippines; his estimate upon those points was most encouraging. But to say that a new possession is valuable, to dilate upon the natural opportunities which it offers for the acquisition of wealth, is not to exhibit greed. It is the supreme duty of statesmen to consider material interests, to protect and to develop commerce, to open new doors to the enterprise of their constituents, to facilitate the prosperous employment of the people which lies at the bottom of all social order and all intellectual and moral advancement. Statesmanship is not primarily altruistic. The men who make the laws of the United States are not supposed to have chiefly in view the welfare, for example, of Germany, France or England. It is not a crime nor a misdemeanor for an American senator to point out wherein it is possible to broaden American trade and widen the circle of American opportunities.

To further American commercial interests in the Philippines by robbing and oppressing the native population, by denying to them any right to share in the material development of their rich islands and by establishing, as Spain did, a dividing line of caste which permanently doomed the Philippines to a position of conscious inferiority would, indeed, be to exhibit a spirit of greed and to default, with resulting shame, upon solemn moral obligations. But Senator Wolcott does not need assurances that such a programme has never been contemplated. Very far was such a programme from Senator Beveridge's mind. We infer from the text of his speech that he holds the sensible opinion that if the United States goes through all the work and worry of carrying "the white man's burden" in the Philippines, the United States will be fairly entitled to the

white man's proper pay. This does not imply that the black man or brown man will be robbed, cheated or tricked. Every Filipino will be made the richer by introduction to American ideas and American enterprise. The development of the natural wealth of the archipelago, the quickening of its marvelous but now dormant possibilities, will proceed hand in hand with the education of its people and the establishment of a just government guaranteeing to every honest man the right to live in peace and order, to acquire and to hold property, and to nurture as he may the capabilities within him in the light of an intelligent and a benevolent civilization.

The sailors who claim Manila and Santiago prize money seem in a fair way to leave their descendants something to hope for.

Owing to the thorough press censorship in South Africa, the war correspondent has little to do but look pleasant.

Affairs at Ladysmith continue to be as uncertain as the depth of the canals on Mars.

HUMAN NATURE STUDIES.

She Heard the Fog. A dear old lady from the country went to London to visit her married daughter, and came back with wonderful experiences, says the Youth's Companion. London did not show its best face to the simple country woman. It was enveloped in a driving fog, and for three days of her visit, and as her bed room looked out upon the railway was troubled by the very necessary noise of the fog signals, and as she went to breakfast after her first restless night and anxiously inquired the cause of the strange banging she had heard so often during the hours of darkness, "Oh, that was due to the fog," exclaimed her son-in-law, as she asked no further questions he let the subject drop.

Her visit over, the good woman returned to the country, full of the wonderful sights and sounds of London life. "Did you see a London fog, granny?" asked one of her nieces, as granny expatiated on the strangeness of the great city. "Ay, that I did," replied granny; "and I heard 'um' granny!" exclaimed another listener. "How didst hear a fog?" "Why," answered the old lady, in perfect sincerity, "London fog hasn't like our 'ere. Every now and then it goes off 'w' a rare bang."

As Applied to Family Affairs. "What," asked the teacher, "does an anthracite mean?" "That's a kind of coal," said little Willie.

"Yes; anthracite coal is what we call hard coal. So anthracite must mean hard coal. Now can you tell me what bituminous means?" "That's coal, too," Willie replied. "But it isn't the same kind of coal that anthracite is, is it? Bituminous coal is what we commonly refer to as soft coal. Now, Willie, let us see if you can form a sentence containing the words anthracite and bituminous."

Wasted His Money. "Before I agree to undertake your defenses," said the eminent criminal lawyer who had been called in, "you will have to tell me the whole truth. Did you embezzle the \$20,000 you are accused of having taken?" "No, sir," replied the accused man. "I'll not attempt to conceal the fact from you. I stole every cent of it."

Uncertain. Sir William MacCormac, the president of the Royal College of Surgeons, of London, who is best known to Americans by his many admirable works upon anatomy and Red Cross labors, is at times quite absent-minded, says the Saturday Evening Post. He is an indefatigable worker, and often to save time when studying in his laboratory has a light upon the table, and he has been seen to get it by saying bituminous words, but he gave her an anthracite look, and when he disappeared around the corner she was weeping bituminously.—Chicago Times-Herald.

A Bird of Paradise. Their parrot had died, and young Master Tommy, with his little sister Jennie, had just concluded the funeral services over the grave of the feathered pet. "I hope Polly is in heaven now," said Jennie, tearfully. "Yes," returned Master Tommy; "I s'pose he is." "Ho—he's got wings, but he wouldn't be an angel up there, would he?" inquired the little maid, anxious about his present status. "Oh!" cried Tommy; "he wouldn't be an angel; only people is that." "Then what do you s'pose he is now?" persisted his sister. Tommy thought for a moment. Then the light of inspiration dawned on his beaming countenance. "I guess Polly is a bird of paradise now." He announced, joyfully.—The Crisp.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE. In Saxony toy-makers earn 1 cent an hour. In Mexico 110 distinct languages and dialects are spoken. Italians constitute one-fourth of Argentina's inhabitants. Between the two lower falls of the Nile rain has never been experienced. It is a curious fact that a negro has never been known to tame an elephant or any wild animal. Russia in Europe has a forest area of about 50,000,000 acres. One-third of the country, indeed, is forested. An electrically operated whipping device has been introduced into some of the penitentiaries in France. The length of the world's railways is more than seventeen times the circumference of the earth at the equator. Within five years Russia will have at least a million freight cars in service, there being about 500,000 now in use. Steam railway passenger rates in India average 2 1/2 cents per mile first class, 1 1/2 second class, and only 9/10 for third class. A law just passed in Norway makes girls ineligible for matrimony unless they show certificates of skill in cooking, knitting, and spinning. The women's branch of the Church of England Temperance society will provide a reformatory, available for all England for women between 15 and 25 years of age. A government report, popular belief to the contrary, says that bachelors outnumber the spinsters by a large majority, there being 7,427,767 bachelors to 8,251,884 spinsters. A room may be quickly freed from the

smell of tobacco smoke by placing in it a ball of water containing a handful of hay, which will absorb all the odor of the tobacco.

A great man does not always attain a ripe old age; in fact, hardly half of the great men of modern and ancient times have reached that limit of age set by the Bible—70.

The burning of the bride's playthings is part of the wedding ceremony of J. P. The bride lights a torch, which she hands to the bridegroom, who with it lights a fire in which the toys are destroyed. Experiments in England have proved that heavy freight wagon traffic can be handled by motor power at one-seventh the cost of horse power.

Swiss cheese was the pioneer European cheese in America. Requester followed. The first made of goat's milk peculiar appearance made by dropping in it, while in the process of making, some pieces of the coarse peasants' bread. It is possible that silk may become an article entirely domestic in every step. Prof. Carl Braun, of Bangor, Me., intends to experiment with a new worm farm, and has ordered 150,000 eggs from Japan, the worms to be fed on oak leaves. The Russian Budget estimate for public education for the coming year is 40,000,000 rubles, or in round numbers, about \$24,000,000. This is about four times the sum that the state of Pennsylvania annually appropriates for public education.

Though Canada has been making special efforts to increase her population by immigration, the last census showed that emigration for the period covered by the enumeration exceeded immigration by 20,000.

To prevent the sides of a bed from spreading apart and dropping the slats a new attachment is formed of a pair of rods, one at each end, which are connected by a turn buckle connecting them at the center, to draw the sides together and grip the slats.

PERSONALITIES.

The Rev. Henry Wilson, rector of St. Augustine's church, London, raises and dispenses over \$10,000 a year in charity. Major Anstruther-Thompson, who weighs 280 pounds without his accoutrements, is the heaviest man in the British army.

The Prince of Wales has promised to open to the International Congress on Tuberculosis, to be held in England in 1901.

Lieutenant Franklin Schley, who is to go to Manila, closely resembles the late Admiral Schley, in appearance and stature.

Major General Wood, governor of Cuba, said recently that he considered President Diaz of Mexico, an ideal ruler for Spanish-America, strong, honest and steady.

When Alderman Smith Robertson, colored, died in Jackson, Miss., the other day, the white mayor and aldermen of the city acted as pall-bearers at the funeral, a tribute never before paid a negro.

Senator Morgan, of Alabama, was once threatened with arrest for implication in the assassination of Lincoln. He was at that time a farmer in Dallas county, Ala., and, of course, was quite innocent, never even hearing of the murder until several days afterward.

The Russian ambassador early in the year announced that his niece, Miss Marguerite Cassini, was not strong enough to accept more than two invitations a week. Count Cassini added that in no case, not even in the most special part of the government carried to such an excess as in Washington.

Mrs. E. M. Laterrriere, of Minneapolis, has been selected by the governor of New Mexico to go to the Paris Exposition and exploit the wonderful turquoise mines of New Mexico. She is a sister of A. DeMoules, the "Turquoise King," who was murdered about eight months ago.

J. H. Ridgway, a brother of the ornithologist of the Smithsonian Institution, has been engaged as curator of the University of Illinois, and is now at work on the museum specimens. He has been connected with the National Museum, the University of Iowa, the Iowa Agricultural college and the University of Ohio.

Raymond de Murtas was cashier in a Havana bank when a young man, and the president, taking a great fancy to him, gave him a fortune of \$200,000. With this he branched out and soon became a millionaire. He is interested in numerous profitable enterprises, among them the American Tobacco company, \$200,000 of whose stock is in his vault.

Dr. Jerome W. Egbert, a young dentist of Chicago, has won fame by the practice of his profession in India. He is the official dentist at the courts of several Indian princes. The Ameer of Afghanistan recently offered a valuable escort through the Khyber Pass and a fabulous fee for Dr. Egbert's services if he would undertake a journey to Cabul, but the doctor declined.

I. M. Moore, the president of the trustees of Northfield (Mass.) seminary, says that not one dollar received from the hymn books has ever been used by Mr. Moody or Mr. Sankey for their own personal use, but, on the contrary, every dollar received from the hymn book fund has been used to defray expenses of Mr. Moody's school material, including in the \$80,000 necessary to be raised annually for their current expenses.

SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY. One Grateful Descendant. "This," said the guide, "is the grave of Adam!" Historic spot! With reverential awe, nay, with a feeling of deep thankfulness, the wealthy merchant tapper on his first trip to the Orient drew near and cast a flower on the tomb.

"Eternal rest, O merciful God, grant to the soul of the departed!" murmured, "I should be the last man on earth to revile your memory! To your sin I owe my prosperity!"—Chicago Tribune.

Recruiting for the Transvaal. Recruiting officer—"I'm afraid you are not smart enough for a cavalryman. We want men who can ride right over everything, if necessary." Applicant—"That's all right, sir. I've been a London cab-driver for seven years!"—Collier's Weekly.

A Practical Motive. Aunt Gertrude—"And what will you do when you are a man, Tommy?" Tommy—"I'll go to grow a beard." Aunt Gertrude—"Why?" Tommy—"Because then I won't have nearly so good a face to wash."—Collier's Weekly.

Not Flattering. Bella—"When you showed him my picture last night he said I was very good-looking, didn't he; now, Ernest?" Stella—"No, indeed, dear; quite the reverse. He said it was a very good likeness.—Philadelphia Press.

Fine Distinction. "You ride your wheel on Sunday, yet you object to my going skating on Sunday. What is the difference?" Tommy—"Well, when you ride your wheel you are always going somewhere. When you are skating you're not. It's just like dancing. And you know it's the right thing to go to a dance on Sunday."—Chicago Tribune.

Accommodating. "If I give you a slice of bread will you eat the crust?" "Yes, if you give me a piece of cheese 'm'am, I'll eat de rind."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In Woman's Realm

THE ELECTION of Mrs. W. D. Kennedy as president of the Home for the Friendless is but another tribute to the rare executive ability and superior judgment of that lady. She will soon go abroad for a few months' study and on this account was reluctant to accept a re-election, but as it was felt by all concerned that it would be a calamity to the Home in its present straits if she were allowed to retire she was prevailed upon to continue in the position for which she is so well equipped both in foresight, in financial matters and tact in the direction of the constantly increasing details in connection with the institution.

During Mrs. Kennedy's absence the board will have an able presiding officer in the person of Mrs. C. P. Matthews, who has previously filled that position with great credit to herself and the Home.

The innovation of the public meeting held last Friday night and its success were due to the efforts and energy of Mrs. E. H. Ripple.

The board of officers and managers will meet Friday morning of this week at the rooms of the Young Women's Christian association for committee organization.

MANY OF our townpeople are familiar with the fact that Mrs. L. A. Watres, wife of Colonel Watres, is an unusually talented lady, but it is not perhaps generally known how wide is her versatility. Mrs. Watres was about the first amateur photographer in this region. Certainly she was the first woman to do anything in that line and the results of her experiments and study are models of beauty and taste. She has done much creditable work in oils and water colors and ceramic decoration, but a new departure of hers promises a field for the expression of her artistic thought still wider in scope. It is in plastic art that Mrs. Watres has recently surprised even those who have known of her capabilities. Her modeling in portraiture is charming in its picturesque effect as well as marked in its faithful likeness. A medallion in his relief of Colonel Watres is one of the best examples of her facility, while a bust of their youngest son, Richard, is beautiful in design and delicacy.

Miss S. E. Hawley, a sister of Mrs. Watres, has achieved unexpected success in water colors. Many of her sketches and studies indicate unmistakable talent and feeling while the subjects chosen are invariably pleasing. Miss Emeline Dunn, who so delighted Scranton people with her beautiful work in water colors, paid Miss Hawley many compliments during her stay here, predicting exceptional success in this direction.

Both Mrs. Watres and Miss Hawley have studied abroad under most competent masters.

MISS JOSEPHINE MERCEREAU, the gifted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Mercereau, promises to become known to fame by her miniature painting. Miss Mercereau has studied much in New York and has done work in both porcelain and ivory, but more recently has abandoned the former for the more difficult, exquisitely delicate effects in ivory. She is very happy in catching a likeness and her portraits are much sought after.

THE COOKING SCHOOL at the Y. W. C. A. will open this morning at 10 o'clock. The classes are filling rapidly and this course promises to be a permanent success.

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It was a revived shagbarker and hails from Staten Island, New York. He was in pretty good health, but every day when he took what he called his constitutional, that is, his afternoon walk, he was sure to have a sort of cramp which seized him in the calf of his leg with almost the severity of an assault by a ferocious dog. He read about the case of a man whose rheumatism was cured by Ripans Tablets and laughed at the idea. He thought the man a fool, but realizing that his own difficulty was a sort of rheumatic twinge, he finally bought and used some Tablets and of late his friends have noticed that he is more chipper than he had been for years. A lady who knew him well asked him about the dog that used to bite his leg in the afternoon and the old man said: "He is dead and Ripans Tablets killed him."

A new style packet containing five Ripans Tablets in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores. Each of these packets can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the Ripans Tablet Company, 101 Spruce Street, New York—on a single carton (the Ripans Tablets will be sent for five cents.