

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 rate was not so good, however, as it could not operate as many days in the month as when people throughout the country were prosperous and buying lots of hard coal. This affected the mine owner as well as the miner; but, fair play for the former, he did not cut the daily rate, as did the owners of bituminous mines in a large majority of instances.

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.

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.

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 punctuated.

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.

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.

An Unfounded Criticism. SENATOR BEVERIDGE'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.

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 the history of surgery, is at present absent-minded, says the Saturday Evening Post.

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.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE. In Saxony toy-makers earn 1 cent an hour. In Mexico 110 distinct languages and dialects are spoken.

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 forest.

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

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.

PERSONALITIES. The Rev. Henry Wilson, rector of St. Augustine's church, London, raises and dispenses over \$10,000 a year in charity.

As Applied to Family Affairs. "What," asked the teacher, "does an anthracite mean?"

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.

Supposed to be Funny. One Grateful Descendant. "This," said the guide, "is the grave of Adam!"

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."

A Practical Motive. Aunt Gertrude—"And what will you do when you are a man, Tommy?"

Not Flattering. Bella—"When you showed him my picture last night he said I was very good-looking, didn't he; now, Ernest?"

Fine Distinction. "You ride your wheel on Sunday, yet you object to my going skating on Sunday. What is the difference?"

Accommodating. "If I give you a slice of bread will you eat the crust?"

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.

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.

MANY OF our townpeople are familiar with the fact that Mrs. L. A. Watres, wife of Colonel Watres, is an unusually talented lady.

MISS JOSEPHINE MERCEREAU, the gifted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Mercereau, promises to become known to fame by her miniature painting.

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.

OFFICE FURNITURE. Roll Top Desks, Flat Top Desks, Standing Desks, Typewriter Desks, and Office Chairs.

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AGENTS. THOS. FORD, JOHN B. SMITH & SON, W. E. MULLIGAN.

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