LIVY S. RICHARD, Editor O. F. BYXBEE, Business Manager.

New York Office: 150 Nassau St. S. S. VREELAND. Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising.

Entered at the Posteffice at Scranton Pa., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

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 shall be subject to editorial revision.

TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS .- C. C. Ferber, E.

Contrast Republican prosperity with Democratic desolation and remember that Charles Emory Smith was the "original" McKinley man in 1896.

The Board of Health.

E FEAR that the esteemed Philadelphia Ining upon Scranton topics, does not always read The Tribune taking exception to the summary closing of the public library. The thing to lity. which we took exception was the alleged neglect of some physicians to make prompt report of contagious cases, so that the circulation of library books could be safeguarded.

The board of trade closed the library for the public good and deserves praise instead of blame for its courage in taking this apparently necessary step. Those who have been insisting that the oard should give additional proof of As activity should not be the first to unto itself some of the summary powers of its office and apply them to the best of its ability in the behalf of the lished government to protect. public's protection. An active board of health means that somebody's corns are bound to be trodden upon. It is impossible to safeguard the health of the community in a time of special and pressing danger unless the health officer shall have the public's cordial sup-

We fully agree with the Inquirer that "the people of the Electric City can do without a public library for a week or two better than they can afford to buy cemetery lots, coffins and the other paraphernalia of death." We also be-Heve that if there were the right spirit of co-operation existing between the physicians, leading citizens and health officer, it would not be necessary to close the library.

With two governors and plenty of ammunition, there seems no reason for Kentucky to suffer with ennui during the dull season prior to the opening of spring trade.

The Situation in Kentucky.

HE COURTS of law are the proper tribunals for the settlement of Kentucky's election contest, and it is well that an appeal has been made to them. Governor Taylor's request to the president for recognition and help was the foolish act of a man evidently the victim of too much excitement. Like his use of the Kentucky militia to overawe the legislature, it takes from him much of the public sympathy founded on the belief that he was fairly elected. and reveals a personal weakness out of keeping with the gravity of the situation before him. The president of the United States is not a judge of elections and should not be put in the position of one.

The people of Kentucky should not be permitted to shirk the responsibiltry for the chaotic conditions prevailing within their borders. Their constitution and laws provide a method of settling election contests; and it is their duty to enforce submission to that method, no matter which party is hart. If the Goebel scheme is unjust. no better way to demonstrate that fact exists than to acquiesce in the submission of the whole question to the courts, with a view to ultimate appeal to the people at the polls if necessary. The majority in Kentucky will in due time find an effectual means assassination or violence.

Covernor Taylor's mistake was in failing to recognize this fact. He should have let the Democratic majority in the legislature take its own revolutionary course and then appealed to the courts to decide whether he or Goebel was the legally qualified governor. In that event had the appeal gone in his favor much ill will would have been averted; while, had the courts decided against him, he could have bowed to the decision with dignity and taken an appeal to the fourt of final resort, the Kentucky electorate.

That mistake is now committed, and beyond recell, but the lesson of it can be heeded in future conduct. It matters less to the welfare of Kentucky what man is governor or what party is in power than what respect there is for law and what willingness there is to submit to the duly constituted tribunals of justice.

Captain Dreyfus and Lieutenant Hobson appear to have been starring in the same company of late.

Marriage Reform.

HE GOVERNOR of Colorado. it is announced, has drafted and will recommend a bill to place the granting of marriage licenses in the hands of a board of medical examiners.

The bill, as outlined in a press dispatch, provides for each county a board of medical examiners, to consist of three physicians, no two of the same school, and where possible the board is to have one or more female members. No licenses shall be more from which the average was de-

granted until a certificate is had from board that the man is not less than twenty-five years old, the woman not less than twenty-two and both are free from dipsomania, organic or true insanity, hereditary insanity, tuberculosis of the lungs or other vital organs, hereditary asthma, scrofula, epilepsy, and other diseases and that there is no blood relation existing between them. In no case shall a certificate be granted to a person notorious for moral depravity or one who shall at the time of the application be on trial, under bonds or in prison for felony.

This is marriage reform with a vengeance. Hitherto the idea embodied in this bill has been confined to the academic discussion indulged in by scientists and philanthropists. The need of a nore searching restriction upon marriages has long been recognized in medical circles, but until this moment nebody has had the courage to take up the subject practically. It will be the part of prudence to await the result of the Colorado experiment before prenouncing final judgment upon the merits of the plan.

The award of the prizes in the recent contest for the best reply to Markham's "Man with the Hoe," indicates that the average reader does not know what poetry is. People who imagined that poetry consisted of intelligent thoughts woven into musical sentences will deduce from the fact that Kate quirer, when comment- Masterson received only the third prize that they have been mistaken. Vague meaning, jerky rhythm and an allaccurately. It credits this paper with round joiting impression fill the highest ideals according to modern author-

The Sensible Solution.

HE REPORT of the Philippine commission, transmitted by the president ! gress yesterday, considers in place the proposition so gitted and a cated by Colonel Bryan and effectually | the race of civilized man. disposes of it.

"A protectorate," the report says, presupposes an established government to protect." Excepting the milicomplain when the board does take | tary government administered by the United States wherever possible, there is in the Philippines today no estab-

"The only kind of protectorate which the insurgent leaders ever attempted to formulate," the report continues, "was one under which the United States should incur all the responsibility of protecting the Philippine government against foreign nations, while the Philippine officials themselves collected all the revenues. The idea of a protectorate entertained by the insurgent leaders, under which they should enjoy ail the powers of an independent, sovereign government and the Americans should assume all obligations to foreign nations for their good use of those powers, would create an impossible situation for the United States. Internal dominion and external responsibility must go hand in

hand." The report adds: "Under the chimerical scheme of protection cherished by Aguinaldo, if a foreigner lost his life or property through a miscarriage of justice in a Philippine court, or in consequence of governor's fallure to suppress a riot, then the United States would be responsible for indemnity to the foreigner's government, without possessing the power of punishing the offenders or of preventing such maladministration. or of protecting itself against similar occurrences in the future. Nor could the liability to foreign nations be reduced without permitting them directly to sick recess, and such a course would, it is feare t speedily lead to the appropriation of the Philippine islands by the great powers, who would not need to seek far for pretences for in-

tervention. Foreign nations respect the American flag that floats at Manila in sovereignty over the Philippines. By all the laws and customs of nations the American title is impregnable. Foreign nations would not be under similar obligations to respect the flag of Aguinaldo even though it should be backed by the asserted "protection" of the United States. To make that protectorate certain, the United States would require a fleet of warships able to withstand the combined navies of Eutope and a standing army in proportion. Permanent sovereignty is the pear ful, sensible and economical solu-

Puerto Rico's reward for good behavior threatens to be commercial not long tolerate usurpation. It will ruln, Puerto Rico might be excused if she should see fit to start Senators of enforcing its will without resort to Pettigrew and Mason on a lecturing our in her behalf.

Longevity and Degeneration.

T TILLIAM ROSCOE THAYeration in the February gives some interesting figures much thought.

ten years elder than his grandfather, As to the various chances of long life ciaborate research has been made, the | Till the Steam King roars from both the result of which is likely to bring to confusion some of the traditional beliefs. For instance: Poets are popularly supposed to bring themselves to an early grave because of much mooning, and an unwholesome disregard for three presaic meals a day. The fact is that they live to an average age of 66 years. Painters and Rest when the task is done, sculptors, who are also understood as Sleep when the day goes by, enduring many privations supposed to And the sweat of the hand that plows sculptors, who are also understood as sap vitality, attain the same age, Musicians, probably because of too much nervous strain and frequent Work-Let the anvils clang' cerapping with ordinary people, disartier, their average age being only 62. Novelists go one better. living to the uge of 62, while men of letters, essavists and purely men of letters, essavists and purely like will flash from the sledge's clash like will flash flash like will f literary writers, who think hard at times, are 67 at the time of their death. From the religious category prelates and church dignitaries are excluded.

rived. They reach the age of 66. Philosophers are 65, but oddly enough the habit of close study in another direction seems to tend to longevity, for historians make an average of 73 years of life; while inventors, who surely have troubles of their own, and whose habits of life, particularly as to diet, are notoriously opposed to the

rules of health, live to be 72. Met, of active, strenuous life, such as been prominent in navy have army academy chronicles, and average 71 years. Agitators frequently manage to shorten the earthly career of other people, but they themselves live tolerably long, as they reach the age of 69, and in making up these statistics some men like Parnell and Boulanger are included, who made their days less by reason of excesses. Statesmen, despite the tension and stress of their chosen station, live to be 71. In this list are included public men of high rank, United States Presidents, English Premiers, Popes and Kings.

Women classed as emotional rather than intellectual, in these statistics average 67 years. Among these are mentioned such personages as Harriet Beecher Stowe, George Ellot, George Sand and the Brontes, the last named by reason of their early years greatly reducing the rate. The average of all classes is given as 68 years and 8 months for the century. The conclusion drawn from all is that working on the highest plane, in whatever sphere it may be and with little regard to outward conditions, tends to prolong life. Hence the theory of degeneration as advanced by some thinkers seems to have little to recommend it. The century past has been one of college and hospital building, if not of cathedrals, and in comparison to the development of the moral sense and the abandoning of traditionary evils, is no less remarkable in its progress than in the average longevity of

Lancaster, like Scranton, has, it appears, a highly developed case of the examination fad in her public schools. So fast has been the educational pace in that city and so rapidly was knowledge rammed and jammed into the pupils' craniums that many pupils took sick and had to leave school; complaints from parents multiplied, and plaints from parents multiplied, and "th' watch's low, and yo' all 'li hev to finally the school board appointed a dam up th' creek."—Cincinnati Enquirer. committee to inquire into the matter. This committee has just reported. It finds that examinations have been en- GENERAL GROSVENOR was walking tirely too frequent and that the general pressure has been too high. The health of pupils is too often regarded as a secondary consideration.

The Democrats have prepared for introduction into the Maryland legislature a bill which does away with party grouping and emblems on the official ballot and arranges the names of candidates in a single column. Their idea is to effect the disfranchisement of the illiterate negro voters and thus anchor Maryland permanently in the Democratic list of states. The purpose is tricky but the method is fair. No man in any state should vote who does not know enough to mark his own bal-

In Alaska prisoners and witnesses, in attending court, frequently have to go 2,000 miles away from home and remain snow-bound all winter. District Attorney Jones might make a foot note of this on his next trial list, as a consolation for local grumblers who complain when they have to go half a block out of their way in behalf of justice.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 4.16 a. m., for Satur-day, February 3, 1900.

3 ot A child born on this day will notice that the "speakeasy" seems to be the recognized scapegoat in Scranton for a large amount of cussedness that deserves

to be located in other quarters. In the attempt to follow good advice some men make a werse mess of it than the man "who did not know that it was

It is evident that the Scranton man who is to put up money for a base ball club in the proposed Atlantic league, saw his shadow yesterday.

If the "Man with the Hoe" had grabbed plumber's wrench, much of the pathos of the poem might have been avoided. Cheap notoriety is the shoddy gar-ment that soon wears out. The proverbial good-patured man sometimes gains the reputation of being a "chump."

A SONG.

(in Answer to "The Man with the Hoe.") From Giant-forests, hewn, An golden fields of grain; From the furrowed hills and the beich

ing mills
With their fuel of hand and brain; er, in an article on Longevity and Degen-Sounds one vast song that rolls along And circles the world again;

Work-Let the anvils clang! and presents an optimistic view of his Work-Let us sew the seam! subject which will afford food for Let us bind the girth of the mighty earth With the music of our theme! Sing as the wheels spin round. young man of this generation has the probability in his favor of living to be Till all the land is light!

Over the desert's waste We measure the miles of chain And rends the hills in twain. We search in the ocean's bed. And bridge where the torrent hurled, And we stretch a wire like a line of fire

To signal through the world! You with your tinsel crowns And kingdoms of crumbling clay, You with gold in its yellow mold

Are gome that you cannot buy! Work-Let us sew the seam! Let us bind the girth of the mighty earth With the music of our theme

From the wealth of the living age, From the garden grave of death, Comes one acclaim like a furnace flame Fanned to a white hot breath. only those of marvelous at iritual in-fluence, such as Spurgeon and Phillips Brooks, being considered in the fifty or Brooks, being considered in the fifty or Has reached to make a King

Outline Studies of Human Nature

Offered the Next Best Thing.

MR. CHOATE is quite as good a story-teller as he is a lawyer, or an am-bussador, either, as far as that goes, says a London correspondent of the De-troit Free Press. He loves a story him-self, and relishes the telling. Here is the most recent effusion of his-an after-din-ner affair that not many days ago was sprung at a barquet in London and brought about his ears a thunder of ap-plause that rattled the chunks of ice in he punch bowl.

the punch bowl.

Mr. Choate said that he went into a book shop in the Strand a few days before to purchase a cepy of Dante's "Inferno." It was his intention to present the best to a second second. the book to a young friend who particu-larly warted to read it. Much to Mr. Cheate's chagrin, the instant he stepped foot in the store the word "Inferno"

tirely escaped his mind.

He told the salesman that he would be back in a minute, and he walked away down to Whitehall trying to think of the last half of the book he wanted. Of course, it was Dante's "something," but Dante's "what" -that was the question. Finally he gave up trying to recall the full title and went back to the shop. The clerk asked him what he sought. He made a bold stab. "I want a copy of Dante's 'Hell,' he replied.

The clerk darted back to the rear of

the store. By and by he returned with empty hands. "I am very sorry," he said, "but we haven't got 'Hell,' by Dante, but we've got 'Twenty Years in South Africa,' by Cecil Rhodes, if that "And feeling," concluded Mr. Choate,

"that that was fractically the same

Preparations for a Bath. BILLY DRACH, the traveling man, tells of a hotel experience in the interior of Arkansas that is looked upon by nis friends with suspicion. He had arrived at a small settlement, and at once re-paired to the Eagle House, which was situated on the outskirts of the town on the bank of a small stream.

After a dinner of side meat and corn After a dinner of side meat and corn bread Billy lighted a cigar, and the pro-

prietor said: Stranger, is that anything we 'uns kin do foh you all?" Thinking to confound his host, Drack answered:

"Well, yes; come to think of it, I'd like The proprietor let his feet drop from the railing upon which he had hoisted them, disappeared in the house, and returned in a moment with a huge cup full and shovel, which he offered Drach, "What's the pick and shovel for?"

"Wal, stranger," answered the landlord.

As Bad as His Pictures.

through the corridors of the capito yesterday, says the Washington Post, when a lady approached him.
"I beg your pardon," said she, pleasantly enough, "Lut isn't this Congressman Grosvenor, of Ohio?"

"Yes, madam," was the reply.
"I thought so," she continued, "You see, I recognized you from your pictures in the papers." Then she paused a mo-ment, white General Grosvenor also waited. "General Grosvenor," said the lady,

with a touch of timidity in her voice "couldn't you give me a ticket of ad-mission to the gatteries?" Quite gallantly, the Ohio congressman procured a card, filled it out, and signed his name. The lady west on her way rejolding. General Grosvenor stood for a moment thoughtfully. "Well." he said, "that is the first time I over knew I really looked as bad as my pictures.'

A College Joke.

a pleasant smile over a reported adventure of Rudyard Kipling and Thomas Hardy. It seems that Mr. Hardy took ONDON, says Literature, is enjoying Mr. Kipling to look over a house which was thought would suit him. Kipling moved out of earshot Mr. Hardy bserved to the occupant:
"I may mention to you that this gen

tleman is no other than Rudyard Kip-"is that so" she replied. "I never heard the name before."

Presently Mr. Kipling, in turn, found himself alone with the lady, and re-

"Possibly you may not be aware that the gentleman who brought me here to-day is Hardy, the eminent author."
"Oh, indeed!" was her reply. "I don't knew his name."

Tit for Tat.

FORMER commodore-captain of a fa-A mous transatlantic line, while friend-ly and polite to his passengers when below, was very much the reverse if ap proached when on duty. As he happened to be on deck one line afternoon, a lady culte unaware of this peculiarity, accost ing him with some trifling query as to the probable duration of the favorable weather, was both surprised and indignant to get curtly answered; "Don't know, ma'am-don't know. Bet

ter go and ask the cook." The lady, though taken somewhat aback, was quite equal to the occasion, and rejoined: "Oh. I beg a thousand pardons. cuse me, pray. I thought I was addressing the cook!"--Collier's Weekly.

Would Justify the Supposition.

BUCKLE attributes the great success of Scottish men of science to their preference for a priori or deductive ar-gument, says the Chicago News, The following story of similar trend was at-tributed to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman: A Scotchman was asserting that all the great poets were of his nation.
"Well, but," said one, "how about Shakespeare? You can't say he was

To which the other replied:
"His talents would justify the supposi-

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

Women are not permitted to be photo-There are 6,000 pieces in the modern high-grade locomotives. A scientist says that only 500 persons in 1,000,000 die from old age. Chicago has two free bath-houses, and last year they gave 301,468 baths. The average amount of sickness in

human life is ten days per annum. The number of languages and dialects oken in the world amounts to 3.064. One year's sweepings of the British mint yielded over \$5,000 in particles of gold and silver. Hickory nuts are an American pro-duct, and we export them in large num-

bers to Europe.

The president of Switzer and only gets \$2,700 per year, and the law forbids him to succeed himself. It is supposed that the average depth It is supposed that the assets of sand in the deserts of Africa is from thirty to forty feet.

The largest city in the country in The largest city in the country in the co

Washington's time was Philadelphia, had 69,000 inhabitants. The lumber consumed in the United States last year is estimated to aggre-gate 9.500.002,000 cubic feet. Utah gives its convict murderers the choice of how they will be executed. The latest one chose to be shot.

The Health Board computes the population of New York as being 3,559,953, as gainst 3,438,899 in 1898, a gain of 111,154. There are 54,000,000 people in Germany, and the population increases at the rate of 700,000 or 800,000 every twelve months.

The alarming increase of juvenile criminals in Germany is puzzling the legislaters. In 1885 the juvenile offenders numbered 39,704, the total rising to 45,501 in

1894 and to 47,975 in 18 98. The increase of all criminals in 18:8 over the preceding year was 3 per cent., an increase dispro-Statistics of the criminal population of the United States show that only 6 per cent, of the total number of criminals are

The postal money order service in New York for 1898 amounted to \$90,081,782. For 1899 it amounted to \$115,488,028-a gain of

The African Methodist Episcopal church will endeavor to raise \$609,000 its twentieth century thank offering by

The Swiss Cabinet consists of a Federal Council of seven members, each of whom draws the moderate remuneration of \$2.400 per annum.

The estimated value of the industrial

smoke their cigars in secret.

There is no word in the Chinese lan-

guage that conveys an intimation of what we term public opinion; nor is there a synonym for patriotism. The principal undertaker of Greenville S. C., says that in the past six years he has buried in that town the bodies of

German emigration has fallen off rapidly. In 1881 there were 220,900 emigrants from Germany; in 1887 there were 104,780; in 1891, 120,000; in 1895, 37,490; in 1896, 33,820;

PERSONALITIES.

The Crown Prince of Germany is the only child of the Emperor who is not left-handed, a trait common for centuries in the royal family of Prussia.

The fireplace in the dining room of Captain Sigsbee's Washington house is decorated with carved wood from the wreck of the battleship Maine.

Mayor Ernest Girardot, of Sandwich, Mich., has served ten terms in the office. Several times he was elected by accla-mation, but of late has had to go through a contest, usually getting about two-thirds of a vote of 300. Senator Simon, of Oregon, although

not a subscriber to a clipping bureau has an almost complete collection, filling several scrap books of all newspaper comments upon him. He is an omniverous reader of newspapers.
President Daniel C. Gilman, of Johns

Hopkins university, will leave early in the spring on an extended trip to Europe, having been granted a leave of absence by the trustees in recognition of his services as head of the institution since its foundation.

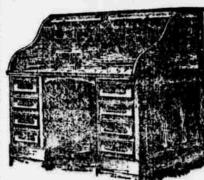
Speaker Henderson made an apt reply to a remark that the speaker's duties were already shockingly aging him. "Well," replied Mr. Henderson. "I am not so young as I was, but I am not by twenty years so old as I hope to be at the proper time.

Down at Washington the other day omeone in introducing Senator Depew to Representative Dolliver, of lowa, said to the senator: "This is the gentleman who coined the catch line of the last national campaign, 'McKinley and Prosper-ity.' " Whereupon Senator Depew re-plied: "Naturally the sequel will be

McKinley and Bliss."

Daniel H. Moffait, the banker and mine owner of Derver, has given \$100,000 to George Boss Lewin, cashier of the First National bank, of Denver, and \$75. 600 to Thomas Keely, the assistant cash-ier of the same bank, as tekens of his regard. About a year ago Mr. Moffatt took the head waiter of the Fifth Avenue hotel, of New York, on a trip to Europe, President Loubet, of France, has con-ferred the order of chevalier of the Legion of Honor on Henry Peartree, Prest dent of the American Chamber of merce of Paris, in recognition of his active participation in the negotiations of the Franco-American commercial treaty and for signal services rendered in the development of the commercial relation between France and the United States. Senator Allison, of Iowa, is the senio senator from that state not only in the ingth of service, which began in 1873 and has continued consecutively ever since but also in the duration of his present term in the senate, which does not expire until 1903. Senator Allison is ever, the senior senator in point of years for his colleague. Senator Gear, whose term expires in 1901, is four years older and will, at the time his successor is to be chosen, be 76 years of age

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