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is always that 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.

TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 6, 1900.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

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

The vacation of the nickle-in-the stot gambling machines in Scranton seems to have been very brief-

The Judgeship.

N THE important matter of selecting a successor to the late Judge Gunster, the opinion, we find, very generally prevails that the Bar association of Lackawanna county, which, better than laymen, knows and appreciates the requirements of the indicial office and is acquainted with the men who most nearly approximate to the filling of those requirements, should, for the guidance of the appointing power, indicate its preference. It is believed that such an Intimation would have great weight with the governor and it seems to be due to him that it should be given,

The Modder river landrost evidently believed that the pro-Boer people of this country should have some consolation in the way of manufactured

That New Railroad Project.

E ARE PLEASED to observe that the esteemed Philadelphia Inquirer at last perceives the equity in the application of the individual coal operators for permission to construct, with their own money on a right of way already secured and piercing a country which does not at present have the benefits of rail transportation facilities, the Delaware Valley and Kingston railroad, so that the product of their mines can have the benefit of cheap freight rates to tidewater. Our contemporary admits that the experiment is worthy of a trial and cannot see why it should be opposed.

The people of Dutchess county, New York, go further than the Philadelphia Inquirer. They actually assert that unless this new railway line shall be built, to take the place of the abandoned Delaware and Hudson canal, their chief industries, now without a proper outlet, will languish and destitution will overtake many of their inhabitants. The people of the Delawar valley are practically unanimous in favoring the construction of the Delaware Valley and Kingston railroad and are taking steps to cause their wishes to be known by the New York raffway commissioners.

In the face of such representations as these, the genuineness of which cannot be doubted, it becomes a problem to understand upon what theory or assumption the corporate interests allied in opposition to the new railroad project hold the belief that the desired charter will be withheld.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Macrum's long silence will not, when broken, open the floodgates of a species of oratorical mania similar to that with which Mr. Bryan seems to be afflicted,

A Lesson for America.

ROM THE REVERSES sustained by the British military forces in South Africa, and more particularly from the weaknesses in military organization and equipment which that war has revealed on the English side, the Philadelphia Press draws a lesson very pertinent to the American people.

"England," says the Press, "like the United States, has enlarged its army. But the system on which it was organized remained unchanged, as it has in this country. The United States has quadrupled its army, but left the training of its officers, their tests, examinations and qualifications, and the staff organization of its military forces exactly as they were for the smaller force of three years ago. England has done the same thing. Its army was doubled, the increase taking place for the most part in the past ten years; but the officers continued to be selected on a family 'pull,' they were practically restricted to a small upper class, their training was confined to the drill of the barrack yard, and their knowledge of fighting came only from meeting black and brown, half savage races. The supporters of the English staff system, like the supporters here of the system whose reform Secretary Root urged in his annual report. pointed to a brilliant past, marshaled victories, new and old and declared thatenn army which had done well in the that would do as well in the future. Against the self-interest of the Engtish staff, the inertia of officers and the influence of leading families the critter of the English army system could accomplish nothing, just as the critics of a like system here can make no progress against politicians, a permanent staff and elderly officers who feel that the education which trained the leaders of the civil war is better

"But war, the one final test and critic of military systems, has spoken, The English army is plainly inadequate. Its organization has utterly egilapaed. Santiago was a great victors with Spaniards on the hills who fied by Colonel Bryan. It takes a sould not shoot and would not stand. superior quality of diplomacy, executive not pleasant to think what would tive ability and generalship to run a

who could, as they have to effect at Magersfontein and at Colenso. The increase in the range and the rapidity of fire of modern weapons has altered the basic conditions of war. The attack has grown so difficult that it can only be carried out by men carefully trained to the work. The general officers must be schooled in strategy, so as to pass around the lines before them. The army must be mobile and swift in its march. The regimental officers must understand how to keep their men sheltered. Information as to the ground over which the attack

lish army furnishes a spectacle of defeat. Neither numbers nor bravery have availed in the absence of a good general. Having no rigid system of testing men as in Germany, the English system of selecting general officers is as hap-hazard as our own, and each general has thus far been deficient. The officers are brave, but they have had no special training. They are ignorant, reckless and unprepared for their work. The practical result is that the English army, as a whole, proves unfit for its duties. A small war has required the dispatch of every man to South Africa, and in Great Britain, for the defense of London and the coast, only untrained levies are left. A more perflous position the modern world has not seen for a great

is to be delivered must be diligently

obtained. For lack of these, the Eng-

"'Experience,' said a Philadelphia newspaper man a century and a half ago, 'is a dear school, but feels will learn in no other.' No military tultion fees are so dear as those settled in defeat. England has paid them. If Secretary Root's advice is disregarded, the United States will some day pay a tuition fee as heavy as that of England today."

empire with a quarrel on every fron-

Ex-Candidate Arthur Sewall does not have much faith in the drawing qualities of his former running-mate. Mr Bryan. This is but another proof that there is considerable truth in the remark to the effect that "distance lend; enchantment" when applied to William Jennings Bryan.

Direct Election of Senators.

NDER THE inspiration of factional troubles in many states, and legislative deadlocks in four states, there has arisen lately a new demand for the election of United State senators by a direct vote of the people. Those who praise this idea in the most extravagant terms are in some instances persons who would be equally quick to condemn the popular vote system if it did not bring about the results of their choice.

To any one who possesses a working acquaintance with politics and a philosophic knowledge of political history it is unnecessary to say that the proposed constitutional amendment changing the method of electing senators offers little hope of betterment. Our own opinion is that it offers no hope; that the result of such a change upon the character of the senate would after a period of years, be more likely to be harmful than beneficial.

The popular election of senators would, under the party plan of government, necessitate the popular nomination at state conventions of candidates for the office of senator. In states where the pulse of public interest in primary elections is sluggish this would mean that the so-called "machines" would control as at present; in other states, no advantage would accrue because where public sentiment is right the senators as a rule are right, under the existing system. The demand for the popular election of senators comes, in Pennsylvania, for example, mainly from opponents of Quayism. Suppose the change were made. Would it necessarily take out of the hands of the Quay element the ability to control the nominating convention? Or if, in course of time the Quay element should be dethroned and the Dave Martin-William Flinn element enthroned, would that "machine" differ in method or principle from the

much abused Quay "machine"? To this the reply is made that if any thimble-rigging should prevail at a state convention in the nomination of a distasteful candidate for senator, the independent element could have recourse to a stump nomination and thus defeat the "machine" nominee and force the election of a Democratic senator. This argument suits those who are suited with Democratic senstors, but it is not calculated to create enthusiasm among those who believe that a great Republican state like Pennsylvania should at all times be fully represented in the senate of the

United States by Republican senators. We said a moment ago that we hought the direct election of senators would result eventually in a deterioration of the senate. We will now explain how. Those who have gone carefully over the political history of the ountry from its early days must have been impressed by the fact that a greater number of demagogues have secured office through direct election than by intermediate means. As careless immigration laws have added new dangers to universal suffrage and populated our cities with discontented iements whose discontent is not directly a fault of the country itself, but of their own ignorance, laziness or inability to adapt themselves to American conditions, the incentive to demagogism has increased among aspirants for elective positions until, in 1896, we had the rare spectacle of the presidency itself almost captured by a young man practically without public experience and gifted only in the knack of giving ingenious expression to the restlessness and silly prejudices of the hour. At the risk of saying what may not be popular, we wish to record our belief that the welfare of American institutions is infinitely than any 'new-fangled German nonsafer in the custody of the kind of men able to manipulate state legislatures or manage political "machines;" in other words, men like T. C. Platt. Mark Hanna and M. S. Quay, than it would be in the hands of men of the shifty. loquacious and irresponsible kind typi-

most anybody with a little gift of gab and a willingness to trim his sails to fit the prevalent wind can become a vote-catcher.

In theory the senate is supposed to e a check upon the house; the upper branch of congress balancing and ballasting the lower. Often the house loses temporarily its equilibrium in response to some flurry or gust of passing popular excitement or prejudice; men frequently elective are not, as a rule, men with the full courage of their convictions. It was the purpose of the framers of the constitution, in requiring senators to be chosen at less frequent intervals by a majority ballot of state legislatures or by gubernatorial appointment in certain contingencies, to interpose a safeguard upon the responsiveness of the house of representatives to what might be merely temporary and fitful outbursts of public opinion; and much as the senate has been decried in recent years, the record shows that it has, upon the whole grandly fulfilled this function. The entire nature of the senate would undergo a change; the whole theory of its usefulness as a check upon the house would suffer modification, in our judgment for the worse, if the senators were put upon a level with the representatives in the manner of their election.

In what states not now well represented would direct elections be likely to improve the representation? It seems to us that before so radical a constitutional change is decided upon this question should be clearly answered.

Roger Q. Mills has become one of the richest men in Texas. It is doubtful now if Mr. Mills could be persuaded even to remember the title of the pet tariff scheme which years ago made him famous and ruined many industries in this country.

Utah threatens to elect another Mornon congressman to succeed Brigham Roberts. In this case the state should furnish the new member with return mileage in advance.

Outline Studies of Human Nature A woman, forty, fat and fair.

The Conductor's Revenge.

THE STREET CAR conductor some times manages to "get back" at the grumbling passenger, and does it in a smooth way, too, says the Omaha World-Herald. The conductors are not allowed to talk back, and passengers often take advantage of this and roust the fare collectors. One day last week a man boarded a car at Sixteenth, and when the conductor came through the crowded car handed him a quarier. The conductor collected two or three fares before making change, and the passenger thought it a good chance to make a

grand-stand play.
"Say, conductor, don't forget to give me my change. You conductors have a of overlooking that, but you can't work it on me. I'm next to your game Fork over. "It was a quarter you gave me, I be

lieve," said the conductor. "You bet it was." "And you want 20 cents in change, "That's what I do, and I want it quick

said the wise passenger, looking about for applause. "Very well, sir; here you are." And the conductor count

pies into the outstretched hand of th There you have your 20 cents, sir That is correct, I believe. The wise passenger had nothing to say

Picturesque Onions.

A PARTY OF young men and wome A were bicycling along a country road It was a sketching class, and every eye was wide open for an artistic subject. Suddenly the whole party dismounted with various exclamations of delight and

surprise.

Just within the ferce on the left grew innumerable graceful stalks, each bear ing aloft globes of pale green that shad ed into gray and purple.
"How enchanting!" said a young wo

mar.
"How decorative!" said a young mar "Just what we are looking for," sale the teacher, a full-fledged artist.

A gardener was standing near at hand "Do tell us," cried a girl, "what those benu-co-tiful things are." "Which?" replied the gardener.

"Why, these," said the girl,
"Them?" said the gardener, with
chuckle, "Them's onlong gone to seed

Four-Year-Old's Anger. FOUR-YEAR-OLD kindergarten gir

was playing with a small book, which the teacher took away from her during school hours. Much incensed, the little girl arose and walked toward the door. eacher asked. "I am going home," said the child. "I shan't come back any more, I'm going to be in the second reader now. An' to-

morrow my mamma is going to bring a big spider and put it on you." "But I like spiders, Annie." "Well, it'll crawl all over your face." I like that ever so much.

"it's a goin' to crawl in your mouth.

An' she'll bring a bug, too!"

And satisfied with this culmination of horrors. Annie consented to remain the rest of the morning -Indianapolis Press.

Shaw's Witty Rejoinder. BERNARD SHAW, the plcywright, is a wit as well by word of mouth as by word of pen, a fact illustrated in a story which Booth Tarkington tells of

one first night at a London theater a play of his had taken the audience by storm. After the final curtain the author was called for, and stepped forward to make a speech of thanks, when a single, but vehement, hiss was heard from a man leaning over the gallery rail. The play-wright looked up to where the man sat, and addressed him:

"Yes, my friend, I'm of your way of thinking myself, but what"-indicating with a wave of his hand the crowded house that had cheered to the echo-"but that can we two do against so many?

An Invitation.

L ITTLE JOHN'S aurt was visiting the family, and John old not always approve of her remarks. One day the small boy was observed working very hard in the back yard, digging a hole as deen as his strength would permit. He then carefully placed something in the hole and shoveled the cirt back in. Curious to know what the youth was about, his father secretly unearthed the buried ob-ject and brought to light this letter: Deere Deavel: Kalt is vistun us. I doant lik hur.

Ant Kait is vistum us. Ant Kait is vistum us. Plees cum an tak her i-way. Indianapolis Press.

PERSONALITIES. nument on the famous heights of St. Malo will be put up to the mem-ory of Jacques Cartier, the first Euro-pean to make an exploration of Canada, and the founder of Montreal.

To a bound and would not stand.

Superior quality of diplomacy, executive ability and generalship to run a bave come if Boers had been there successful political "machine"; but ai-

opened the Parliament to which Glad-stone presented his Irish home-rule bill. Mrs. Agassiz has resigned the presi-dency of Radcliffe college, sometimes called the Harvard annex—an office 0000000000000000

called the Harvard annex—an office which she has held since the beginning of the institution. Her health no longer permits her to perform its duties.

William Battersby Finnigan, a veteran of the British army, has just died at his home near London. He was notable as being the sole surviving possessor of a pension granted during the reign of William IV., Victoria's predecessor on the throne.

on the throne.

General Gatacre, though a very strict disciplinarian, is said to be very popular with his men. In the Soudan campaign his popularity even survived the stop-page of the sale of liquor of any kind; "a maist uncommon experience," as a Highland piper remarked. Honore Palmer, now a bank messen-

ger in Chicago, was recently asked by an impudent paying teller how it was that Potter Paimer should set his sons to work. "To teach us to get along for ourselves," was the reply "and to make us the kind of men who "I ask such question."

It is rumored that the New York Journal. bane, one of his most tracted lieutennants, will start a magazine de luxe in New York something on the lines of Lady Randolph Churchill's Angle-Saxon, to appeal only to the most cultured

CURRENT VERSE.

An Automobile Girl.

With the innate grace of a fairy queen smile that plays on a face serene, A manner circumspect— the spins down our boulevards at ease,

In a succen lightning whiri, A sight the pessimist's heart to please-This automobile girl.

shy, No lackey, made to grin; But in her glory rolls fast by

Alone, to take her spin. Each heart is in a twirl. For old and young the vision well know-The automobile girl.

- Edwin M. Abbott.

A Century from Now.

If you and I should wake from sleep A century from row, Back to the grave we'd want to creep, A century from now. We'd witness such a startling change, Find everything so wondrous strange, We'd hurry back across the range,

A century from now, May warm with grace the Speaker's A certury from now.

The cabinet may be a flock Of girlies, gay of hat and frock, Who talk, but who won't mend a sock, A century from now.

The people all will fiv on wings A century from now,
(Not heavenly, but patented things)
A century from tow.
They'll soar aloft devoid of fear On pinions of a chainless gear, And change their "flyers" every year, A century from new.

There'll be no restaurants at all A century from now. The home will have no dining hall A century from now. The chemists all our wants will fill With food in tablets, and to still Our thirst we'll simply take a pill, A century from new.

-Pearson's Weekly.

Old Times in Yavapai County.

There was blood in the eyes of the Vigil Of the Gray Buzzard's Gulch that night, sprang

And wheeled down the gulch, to the This hoss-stealin' biz got to stop around yare," With an oath muttered Hassayamp 'An' of Rattlesnake Tim tuk my little

gray mare— W'y, we'll hev the settlin' of him, Down in Yavapai County." Who else mout it be?" quoth Catamount "I seen 'em a-splittin' the air,

Comin' gallopin' down, not a haif-hour ago. Tro' de gulch, on yer little gray mare Den loosen yer reins, fellers, dig in ye

spura: how yer caballos can git; Hoss-thieves and hoss-stealin' may go some-a-w'eres. But wid we-uns dey never went yit, Down in Yavapai County."

On down through the gulch sped the galloping steeds. Beating down the dry sage and the grass, While the prowling coyote slunk out it

the weeds To let the grim cavalry pass. Like the wind did they ride; not a word, not a sound Was heard as they flew o'er the heath, save the beating of hoofs on the hard, blistered ground.

And the brown sage a-crackling be Down in Yavapai County.

Then a shadowy speck arose in their sight. Like a bullet it shot on ahead: seemed like a fugitive wraith in

As on through the darkness it sped. It is him!" with an oath muttered Hassayamp Jim; "Kain't ye see how they's splittin' the He was right, for there never was rider

like Tim. Nor steed like that little gray mare, Down in Yavanai County.

'It is him!" was the whisper on each horseman's lip As forward he bent for the race; Deep, deep sank the spurs, and the mercitess whip Urged the foam covered steeds in the chase.

a cyclone they flew, indistinct in the night. Like And the hoofs thundered fast on the ground; Ah, the fugitive knew in his hurrying What was meant by that ominous

Down in Yavapai County. Deep, deep in the flanks of the little gray Sank the spurs of the rider ahead;

Through the sage and the grass sped the fugitive pair
While behind them the Vigilants sped. "On, on!" urged the flying on. "On! came the sound They Must Go In the rear, from a dezen of lips; On, on sped they all with a leap and a

At the touch of the spurs and the Down in Yavapai County. How ended the race? When the gray

That rose in the dark 'mid the sage and the weeds.

And they won the race—by a neck.

Down in Yavapat County.

Arigona Graphic.

That's the order we gave sullen morn Looked down on the guich with a frown o 2,000 pairs of Double-Sole a naked old cottonwood, standing for-Shoes for ladies and gentlelorn. With the neighboring grass trample men. Prices from fold the tale, told it well, how the Vigilants' steeds Through the gulch chased the fugitive \$1.50 TO \$3.00.

> Lewis. Reilly & Davies. 114-116 Wyoming Avenue.

Double-Quick

Railroad Men In Woman's Realm &

for Inspection Annual

THERE WAS a merry party of society girls in Chicago who decided to give a chafing dish supper to James K. Hackett one night after the play. One of the number was a young lady who is well known in Scranton and another was the daughter of a man of great prominence in this region. They were having a beautiful time and the rarebit was in fine condition when suddenly Mr. Hackett arose and said: "Ladies, I must ask you to excuse me, I al-We have now a full line of all makes of Watches that we guarantee to pass.

Buy your Watches of an dies, I must ask you to excuse me, I al-ways telephone to my wife at just midold reliable house. Not some agent who will open shop for night."
"And what do you think?" exclaimed the narrator of this incident, "if he didn't trot himself off to the long distance telephone and talk to his wife. We didn't know he had one or that she was Mary two or three months and then skip out. We are here to stay. Our guarantee is "as Mannering, the beautiful woman on the stage. I wish you could have seen how we looked at each other. It was a reg-ular semi-comedy and we weren't sure it was our time to laugh." good as gold." Prices as low as any.

T WO SCRANTON physicians of dif-ferent schools and of much distinc-tion in their profession were heard MERCEREAU & CONNELL

to remark vesterday that there is

great deal in the present epidemic scare that is more scare than hurt, if the truth

were known. They declare that but few cases of real diphtheria have been found

in this city during the past four months

and the same is to some extent true of scarlet fever. Every person who has a sore throat is at once marked for diphtheria's own and the announcement is accordingly made. Rarely have these cases had the malignant symptoms of

actual diphtheria.

These physicians are of the opinion that

the persistent reports of the prevailing epidemies are like the reports of Mark Twain's death, greatly exaggerated. They injure the city and by reason of the censtant strain of worry and mental

distress, have serious consequences or

THE GREEN RIDGE WOMAN'S

performed excellent service to the pub-lic in so doing. The proprietors of dairies

where the conditions were found unde-

sirable seem disposed to attempt a re-form in their methods and those who in-

sisted upon a moderate degree of cleanliness are encouraged to improve the system employed. That the milk supply of the city will be delivered in a more sant-

fully assured. For in such an hour when the dairy man thinks not down will swoop a committee of pretty women. like a wolf on the fold, and he will wish

the attendants had not that particular day left the milk can open in the stable

recking with odors to which the visitors

There is one most peculiar thing about

dairies. The milk from the dirtiest stables seems to be uncommonly rich and

the cream is thick and yellow and will "whip." From the clean dairies, the ones where both the outside and the inside of the cup and platter are relentlessly washed, comes milk thin and blue and

the alleged cream, like Markham's Man with the Hoc, is brother to that milk to such a degree that you can't tell which from t'other. It is eviden

that in the nice, clean dairies they wash both sides of the milk so vigorously that it becomes thin from the "strain."

THREE LITTLE SMILES.

Only.

route during the tour?
Shylock-Only to let the trains go by.Syracuse Herald.

Under Social Pressure.

Judge-What explanation have you to

Prisoner-Your honor, I was invited to

A Shining Example.

"Do you think the hands can indicate

that a man is about to acquire wealth?"
"I do in the case of pockets."—Cleve

OFFICE

"Do you believe in palmistry?"

ball.-Chicago Record.

Yes, to some extent.

Roll Top Desks,

from.

Flat Top Desks,

Standing Desks.

Typewriter Desks,

A Large Stock to Select

Hill & Connell

121 N. Washington, Ave.,

ALWAYS BUSY,

And Office Chairs

land Plain Dealer.

Hamfat-Did you leave your regular

club has made a pretty thorough canvass of the dairies of this re-

gion and it must be admitted has

the nerves of many mothers.

130 Wyoming Ave. Coal Exchange.

Heating Stoves. Ranges, Furnaces. Plumbing and Tining.

GUNSTER & FORSYTH. 225-327 PENN AVENUE.

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Heating, Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Electric Light Wiring, Gas an Electric Fixtures, Builders Hardware.

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THOS. FORD, JOHN B. SMITH & SON, W. E. MULLIGAN. Wilkes-Barre

FINLEY'S

Sale of Table Linens

Under ordinary circumstances this announcement would be sufflcient in itself, without further comment, to interest every housekeeper in the community, but taking inte consideration the recent advances on almost every line of Dry Goods. LINENS INCLUDED, and the fact that all our stock of Linens was bought early enough to secure them at old prices-makes it all the more so.

Our Table Linens, as usual, are only of the best-such celebrated Barnsley and

Scotch Damasks, Fine German "Silver Bleach" Belgian Double Satin Damasks.

All at our popular LAST SEASON'S PRICES, and in the choicest designs.

Etc., Etc.

Napkins to Match

Almost all fine numbers in Damask both in 5-8 and 3-4 size. Some very fine sets in 8x4, 8x10 and 8x12, at specially low prices to red duce stock. Ask for our

Two Specials in Crotchet Quilts. Marseilles Patterns. at 98c and \$1.19

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The Prang Platinettes.

Teachers and superintendents desiring for class use in picture study, something that is substantial and inexpensive will find these beautifu new reproductions of great value. We have 100 different subjects to select from. The prices are very reasonable and the assortment is complete.

The Pen Carbon Letter Book



With this book the simple act of writing produces a copy. Any letter head can be used and a copy produced from pencil or any kind of pen and ink. When the book is filled, extra fillers can be purchased from us at very little cost. Two sizes and bindings in stock.

Reynolds Bros

Stationers and Engravers, Scranton, Pa.



Speaking of a serious case of sickness caused by dyspensia and bihousness, the agent of the B. & M. R. R. at White Cloud, Kansas, said: "Now there is no use in any one suffering as that man does. Many and many a time have I been attacked with

biliousness, and one RIPANS TABULE

has given instant relief in every case. Why don't that fellow try them? I wouldn't be without them in the house for all your medicines. You try a few for pumples. They will knock em higher'n a kite. Not only that, but they are good for headache, indigestion, sour stomach and all aiments of that nature. They are more pleasant than pills, and don't leave the bad effects that other drugs or medicines leave."