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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 shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 13, 1900.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

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

It is strange that the ground which is so unsultable for the military operations of the British troops should seem so well to suit the Boers. It is time to give the ground a rest.

The Printing of the Ballots. EFERENCE was made in Sunday's Free Press to the fact that the Republican members constituting a

majority of the board of county commissioners had awarded the contract for the printing of the spring election ballots to the proprietor and editor of the local Democratic paper, Mr. Lynett, whom we congratulate. The Free Press article said:

The Republicans having a majority of the commissioners, it was expected that the Republican papers would get the patronage from the office, and no little surprise will be occasioned when it is known prise will be occasioned when it is known that the Times secured the job. But the commissioners are not wholly to blame for such a procedure. They wanted to be fair and apportion the printing among the different papers, but it appears that The Tribune and Republican wanted the whole thing or nothing, so they got noth-

The law requires that regular bids for the ballot printing shall be duly invited by the commissioners; but the first intimation we had that the commissioners did not want bids was when we were told by them that they had decided to give one-third of the printing to the Republican plant, one-third to The Tribune plant and one-third to Mr. Lynett, who has no plant. The question of price did not arise at any time.

So stringent are the law's requirements as to freedom from errors and promptitude of execution in ballot printing that The Tribune Publishing company, which had had the benefit of considerable experience in this matter, for its part declined to accept a proposition thus irregularly laid down. The Republican commissioners, after some manoeuvering, then gave the whole contract to Mr. Lynett, who is under heavy bond to have the ninety-odd thousand ballots delivered complete, without mistake, in time for distribution in every election district in the county not later than Monday next. The slightest error in any bailot, or failure to deliver on time, clouds the legality of the election and opens the door not only to costly contests but to suits against the commissioners for damages and perhaps to their impeachment. Having an adequate plant under its own supervision and control. The Tribune was willing to take its customary part of this risk, because it had taken it before and delivered accurately printed ballots within the time limit required by law. But it did not feel inclined to match, before a Republican board, in an arbitrary division of work not made according to the terms of the law, its large investment and experience against Mr. Lynett's ability to attack Republican principles and candidates.

for city service; a limiting of the charge to subscribers; a guarantee against a sell out, lease or combination; after three years a tax percentage of gross receipts; and a large bond for faithful performance-these seem to be effective safeguards. If in consequence of this enactment two exchanges shall be operated in Scranton. they will constitute, during the period of duality, a nuisance instead of a public benefit; but if eventually there shall be a well conducted single service, controlling the field at reasonable rates, the present experiment will be warranted. May that consummation be hastened.

According to Arnold White, the trouble with England is that the "morals of the poultry yard" and the "atmosphere of the stable" dominate the governing circles of the empire. If the case is as bad as that, punishment will continue until the chastening forces reform. It certainly does look as though something were radically wrong; but the public will not take Mr. White's rhetoric too literally.

Why Not?

EPUBLICAN sentiment throughout Pennsylvania will permit to slip by a splendid opportunity if it shall fail to unite in behalf of a Pennsylvania candidate for the vicepresidential nomination.

The man for the place is available in the person of Charles Emory Smith. He has all the requirements. He has the confidence of the administration, the esteem of the party at large and the enthusiastic admiration of the people of Pennsylvania. The fact that the national nominating convention is to meet in his home city should constitute a great additional advantage.

In the prevailing factional division in this commonwealth he is, we believe, the only Pennsylvanian of national prominence, the presentation of whose candidacy would to a large degree harmonize the party in its relation to the national campaign. No Pennsylvania Republican would dare to oppose him. No faction would dare to presume to assert control of him.

Not only is he the best qualified citizen of the state for the office in question but he is, by reason of these circumstances, the most available candidate. For the Pennsylvania delegation to support him earnestly would be no less expedient than popular and right.

Since the matter was first suggested it has come to our knowledge unmistakably that the suggestion is heartily | that it was in this case, is the nearest approved by the Republican masses of the Keystone state. Private expressions of opinion are unanimous. Even those who in times past have been in opposite alignment in state campaigns bear testimony to Mr. Smith's admirable qualifications. Why should not this unanimity of popular indersement find expression in a systematic movement for Mr. Smith's nomination?

General Buller's reputation for generalship would improve if he should henceforward make sure of his ground.

Roosevelt's Mistake. OLONEL ROOSEVELT'S

would oppose them for fear of losing the votes of the criminal class, and others would offer amendments in order to show their ability at higher criticism."

The last individual to attempt to gain prominence by accusing Admiral Dewey of having formally recognized the Filipino government is an Englishman by the very appropriate name of Bray.

> Sympathy Versus Sense. HOSE WHO THINK that Molineux is innocent must

admit that the jury which tried him was above the average in intelligence; that it heard carefully the whole case while the publie at large got only imperfect glimpses of the proceedings; and that twelve intelligent men are not likely to agree from the outset of their deliberations in an opinion which means the sending of a fellow man to the death chair unless the proof of guilt appears to them to be beyond question. In murder trials the sense of responsibility sits heavily on jurors and while here and

there may be found jurors who in capital cases do not appreciate the solemnity of their position, it is not conceivable that the entire twelve who tried Molineux were of this kind. We observe in some of the papers, notably the New York Tribupe, a dis-

position to make out that Molineux has been martyrized. The inference does not appeal to us. There is also manifest in certain places an excess of gallantry for Molineux's wife. This is not material to the central issue. A motive for the murderous hate in the defendant's breast was a necessary link in the chain of evidence: and it is well known to those who censure the assistant district attorney for bringing

in the wife's name that had he been disposed to go into the scandal of the case more extensively the opportunity would not have been wanting. Altogether mistaken, too, is the notion that because Molineux was nurtured in high circles he should be judged more leniently than an ordinary criminal, and is therefore more entitled to sympathy. The case before the jury was his innocence or guilt of the crime of sending poison through the mails with a murderous purpose, and thus indirectly causing the death of Mrs. Adams. The twelve impartial jurors heard the whole complex testimony most patiently and after considering it for upwards of seven hours with one voice decided that Molineux committed that horrible

crime. The system of trial by jury when at its best, as no one disputes approximation to perfect justice that has been devised by man; and whatever may be the legal technicalities upon which appeals for a new trial may be based; we shall, save in the event of the discovery of new facts, assume that the jury's judgment upon the evidence was well and truly rendered and that it represents even and exact justice, fearlessly administered. Any other assumption, it seems to us,

is non-judicial and unfair. A cabinet department of Official Etiquette and the True Order of Precedence may become necessary if these

of Human Nature

The Admiral's Ready Wit.

not here-it so happened one summer that

course the officers, young and old, were much feted, and were often ashore. One

had had an excellent time and

his ship for some days lay at anchor off a well-known seashore resort. Of

retired, has always been noted for his

now that his whole attitude is one of peace. A very good story is told and retold here about one of Beveridge's friends who went to him and told him that whenever he had any political row to count on his support. The gentleman himself tells the story, as follows: "Senator Beveridge's face assumed the most bland and childlike expression when he renided in vary senate value:

he replied in very gentle volce: "'My dear boy, there is not going to be any row. I won't have any row with anybody. If anybody wants to have a row with me, I will run away from him: not only that, but I will run hard. But.

added the senator, with a slitter of the eye, 'if anybody catches up with me there will be trouble.'"-Indianapolis

Picked Too Soon.

A DEVOTED Cleveland uncle took his very small nephew out in the coun-try one bright day not long ago, and his friend, the farmer, suggested he should go out and hunt for eggs. Of course the small nephew went along. The un-cle knew where to go, and, though he is fat and scant of breach, managed is fat and scant of breath, managed to gather a number from all sorts of hiding places. Presently he stooped and picked up a bantam's egg. The small nephew "Put it back, unk," he shricked, "don't

oo see zat one isn't ripe yet!"-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Lesson in Punctuation. A HIGH SCHOOL girl said to her fa-

A ther the other night: "Daddy, I've got a sentence here I'd like to have you punctuate. You know something about punctuation, don't you?" "A little," said her cautious parent, as he took the slip of paper she handed him. This is what he read: "A five-dollar bill flew around the cor-

Her He studied it carefully. "Well," he finally said, "I'd simply put a period after it like this." "I wouldn't," said the high school girl, "I'd make a dash after it!"-Cleveland Blain Dealor Plain Dealer.

A CENTURY OF MIGRATION.

From the New York Sun. The greatest migration that history has recorded is that of the European races during the century now closing. Up to 1820 only about 250,000 foreigners moved to this country, which has many fold sur-passed all the rest of America in accessions to its population through immigration; but between 1820 and 1882 more than 17,000,000 Europeans left their homes for the Americas and other parts of the new

The high tide of the European exodus was reached in 1882, when the United States alone received \$00,000 immigrants. The two next greatest years in the movement of pepulation were 1888 and 1892. In which two years this country saw 1,140,-000 Europeans enter its ports. Between 1882 and 1893 the European outpouring to various parts of the world was over 9,000,000 sculs. Then followed a decline in the volume of migration, this country receiving only a little over 200,600 immi-grants in 1594 and 200,000 in 1897, while ar-rivals in other regions, notably in Brazil

and Argentina, about held their own of increased. In the six years ending with 1899 about 3,000,000 Europeans sailed for foreign lands. The most trustworthy data attainable fustify the statement that during the century Europe has been drained of about 39,000,000 persons sicking to better their fortunes in other

lands. The world never before saw anything comparable with this tremendous movement of people in so short a space of time. The population that Europe has thus lost in a hundred years is greater than the total number of inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland in 1890, and Great Britain and Ireland in 1890, and only a little less than the number in the United States in the same year. It rep-resents a third more people than Great Britain and Ireland gained in population in the first ninety years of the century. It is equal to three-fifths of the total population of Europe in the time of Augustus Caesar. If the ships on which these emigrants embarked carried, on an

Washington social squabbles don't soon



TALENTINE LUNCHEONS, parties

W dinners, teas, etc., are the fad of the week. At a recent card party the score cards were dainty affairs in heart-shapes, valentines, one side forming a forget-me-not frame for a lovely little Watteny figure, while on the other were marked the table number and letter, with plenty of space below for the tiny glit hearts which were pasted on as we guarantee to pass. tiny gift hearts which were pasted on as score markers. They were suspended by ribbons of various shades and were exceedingly preity. When refreshments were served the sandwichts at once at-tracted attention as being heart-shaped.

THE FUMIGATING process is taking place at the library nowadays, and an inferno-like odor is detected by all visitors. The library patrons are becoming most impatient with the

low as any.

are becoming most impatient with the prolonged deprivation they experience in being denied the privileges of the circu-lating department. Most of them never realized before how much they did ap-preciate and use this department. They daily exclaim: "How long, Mr. Carr, how long!" and some of them make very sarcastic remarks about unplacarded cases of diphtheria in public boarding houses, of other cases placarded on the door of a sleeping room in an upper story of a house where many people come and go, and then they recall the fact that churches, banks, stores, street cars, saloons, theaters and other places **MERCEREAU & CONNELL**

cars, saloons, theaters and other places where people congregate are not closed, and then they murmur again. Some of them speak bitterly of the rumor that a case in court the other day was so un avory in character that it demanded lisinfection, and yet men and women, boys and girls fought for entrance "That, surely," asserted one lady, "was a case for the board of health," and she vas unwilling to be convinced to the

contrary.

STRAIGHT LINE is the shortest distance between two points. That this axiom is thoroughly understood in Scranton is apparent by the cob-A

webby appearance of the Court House Square. For years a warning to keep off the grass has confronted predestrians at the corner of the square, but as soon as the grass is no longer green they regard not the notice and proceed to strike out across lots from any point where they may happen to be, consequently those paths radiate like the spokes of a bleycle wheel. The other day a young lady who is endowed with active cont lentious scruples took one of the paths in order to save steps. She felt rather guilty as she hastened along, but reasoned that the notices must mean only for summer use. Early in the ev-ening she had occasion to pass that way again, and much to her startled amaze-GUNSTER & FORSYTH,

passers.

MERELY IN FUN.

Master-Tombs, this is an example in subtraction. Seven boys went down to a pond to bathe, but two of them had en told not to go in the water. an you tell me how many went in? Toms-Yes, sir; seven,-Tid-Bits,

Some scraps of yeal met a piece of ruber tire. Said the rubber tire: "Can't u join us in this bash this evening?" "No, thank you," replied the scraps of veal, "we have an engagement for the chicken ple tomorrow." But the cook just then got an order

Moral-You can't most always some-umes toll.-N. O. Times Democrat.

Sunday school teacher-What do we learn from the story of Samson? Tommy (meurnfully smoothing ragged locks)—That it doesn't pay smoothing his



FINLEY'S

two or three months and then Underskip out. We are here to stay. Our guarantee is "as good as gold." Prices as

Railroad Men

130 Wyoming Ave.

Coal Exchange.

Heating

Stoves,

Ranges,

Furnaces.

Plumbing

and

Tining.

325-327 PENN AVENUE.

The Hunt &

Connell Co.

Heating, Plumbing,

Gas Fitting, Electric

Light Wiring, Gas

an Electric Fixtures,

wcar....

Our January Clearance Sale of Underwear was so successful, that we are now enabled to open up for Spring, au entirely

New Line

Of the freshest and daintiest undergarments that the most perfect skill and artistic workmanship is capable of producing. The line as usual is complete-from the plainest to those more elaborately trimmed, and comprises everything in

Ladics', Misses' and

Children's Garments

Some extra special numbers in matched sets for wedding, etc., etc., at tempting prices.

> SALE OPENS MONDAY ...

510-512 LACKAWANNA AVENUE

The Prang Platinettes.

Teachers and superintendents desiring for class use in picture study, omething that is substantial an

at having been discovered "trespassing" and immediately jumped at the conclu-sion that the barriers had been erected solely as a rebuke to herself.

ment she ran plump up against a barrel which bore a very saucy sign to tres-passers. The young lady was horrified

The fact that a white man was lynched down in Texas the other day The United States cannot, save by may be an indication that the citizens of Texas are becoming color blind.

The Telephone Situation. OR A NUMBER of years past. the Central Pennsylvania

Telephone and Supply company has been threatened nations. Having asked the nations of with competition and has met this Europe and secured from them a pledge threat, among other ways, by arguto open and to keep open the door of ments showing the confusion which commercial admission and equal treatwould result from the operation of ment in their "spheres of influence" in two exchanges in one field. These ar-China, and to respect existing treaty guments are sound. The necessity for privileges in any new spheres acquired, two telephones where one, if properly

it would constitute a sorry acknowlmanaged, would do the work is a prosedgement to ride rough shed over their peet which will look the less attractive treaties with Costa Rica and Nicarauga in order to slam in their face the more it is examined. In the nature of things a successful telephone serthe doorways to the proposed transvice is monopolistic: to be of the largisthmian canal. To do this would be est value it must be able to offer to the a fitiable business even though we individual subscriber assurance of its were goaded to it by inexorable necesability to place him in communication sity; but to do it wantonly, in the abwith all other users of telephones in sence of any necessity, would be stupid in its want of foresight.

the community. Where this monopolistle feature is absent; where two or more exchanges divide a community's patronage, it means that a business man must have the service of all the companies in the field, involving increased cost and annoyance; and it means, also, that the man who admits but one 'phone to his residence

limits his convenience materially. The unfortunate part of the telephone situation in Scranton has been that the old company's service and charges have not been satisfactory and thus the projectors of the new exchange have had the benefit of a considerable public opinion in their finally There could be no closing of the canal successful fight for a franchise. It is in any event except by our maintenproper to say for the local manage-

ment of the old concern that it has at all times shown its willingness promptly to investigate complaints as to service and has appeared to be anxious to install suitable appliances; nevertheless the service has not improved, the [disqualification in men who occupy feeling in the community has grown hostile and the belief has been gen-

eral that if the company had devoted to improvement of plant and service some of the resources which it is supposed to have invested in political defenses against competition, the result would have been a decreased demand for competition.

tion for all his colleagues. "If the The terms of the new franchise ap-Great Jehovah should descend and offer pear to be fair. Underground wires: the Ten Commandments as legislation. It may be, though, that he will show them if occasion requires. It is certain

stop. ment concerning the canal treaty will not add to his With Buller extinguished it is now reputation for discretion. Not up to Kitchener. He is Britain's last

only does it in a political sense put resort. him in opposition to the administration, to which he is under many obli-Outline Studies gations; but in a larger light it exhibits a lack of mental breadth.

It might just as well be understood, first as last, that American control of the Nicaragua canal, in the sense in which a man controls his own home. REAR ADMIRAL STEPHEN B. LUCE. opening or closing his door at will, s impossible. The territory through ready wit, and, says the Saturday Evening Post, a great many stories are told among naval men of his bright sayings. which this canal is to be built is not American territory but belongs to two But, of all of them, perhaps the follow-ing best illustrates his quick repartee: When Admiral Luce was a young man, other independent powers, which have treaties with the principal European an ersign or a lieutenant-it matters

nations guaranteeing the neutrality of any canal cut through their limits. brute force, ignore those treaties, and it should as a matter of consistency object to going back on the uniform

night, after some function or other, a party of the young officers, among whom was Mr. Luce, set out for the ship. They and traditional contention of our diplomacy in the past that all the great feeling very jolly, laughing and talking perhaps rather hilariously; they drew waterways of the world should be held open on equal terms to the ships of all

The neutralization of the Nicaragua

canal as provided for in the pending

treaty does not apply to its approaches

beyond the three-mile limit. In other

words, if England and the United

States, for example, should get into

war, the United States could anchor

its warships in a semi-circle at each

end of the canal so as to guard the

ance of a superior force and we can

do that as well under the treaty as it

Inability to take a comprehensive

view of public problems is a serious

public office or are considered for pro-

motion. This disqualification cannot be

urged against Pennsylvania's candidate

for the vice-presidency, Hon. Charles

Senator Morgan evidently does not

have the highest feeling of admira-

stands as under the amendments pro-

posed

Emory Smith.

up to the ship, and, leaving the boat, clambered up the gangway, Mr. Luce in the lead. The officer of the deck, hearing so much noise of mirth, met them with a severe glance as they stepped on deck. He looked them over one by one, and then turning to Mr. Luce, who was the life of the party, he said;

"Mr. Luce, I am surprised; you are light, sir!" tight, Quick as a flash came the answer:

"Why, sir, I do not know what you mean, sir. If Stephen B. Luce, how can he be tight, sir? A ready answer turneth away wrath. The officer of the deck walked away

laughing. "A Perfect Fit."

"A Perfect Fit." A YOUNG fellow on the South Side has a negro valet, an old-fashioned southern darkey. "Here, Jeff, I want those trousers cleaned and pressed to-day," he said, pointing to a rather loud striped garment that Jeff had long had his eyes on. "All right, sah." said Jeff, with a sigh. Next morning Jeff brought the trousers back, with a big reases ont the trousers back, with a big grease spot still prominent on one knee. "Can't you get that spot out?" asked the owner of the trousers. "No, sah." "Did you try turpentine?" "Foh de Lawd; I done try turpentine?" "Foh de Lawd; I done sacchurated 'em wid turpentine." "Did you try coal oil?" "Yes, sah; po'ed a quart ob lie on 'em " "Did you try a hot iron?" "Pu'ty nigh bu'at 'em up." "Did you try benzine?" "Done tried ben-sine and kerosene, and all the other sines, an 'tain't techt dat grease spot." "Well, did you try 'em on?" queried the master, with a twinkie in his eyes. "Yes, sah." replied Jeff, with alacrity, "and dey's a puffect fit, grease spot an' all, sah."—Chicago Inter-Ocean. sah."-Chicago Inter-Ocean

Gave Him Another Trial.

W Kentucky for re-election, at one of his mass meetings an old hunter of wide political influence said: "Well, Harry, I've always been for ycu, but because of that vote (which he named) I'm goin' that vote (which he named) I'm goin' agin' you." "Let me see your rifle," said Clay. It was handed to up to him "Is she a good rifle?" "Yes." Did she ever miss fire? "Well, yes, once," "Why didn't you throw her awny?" The old hunter thought a mement and then said: 'Harry, I'll try you sgain." And Harry was elected.

Senator Beveridge's Running.

ALL OF THE fighting qualities for which Senator Beveridge came to Washington with a considerable reputa-



entrances fully as effectually as it could possibly guard them by means of land batteries. A hostile fleet that could overpower these floating sentinels could storm the batteries and turn our fortifications against ourselves.

WHEN HENRY CLAY was stumping

week.

ranks.

houses

representatives.

01

were

Access it in a jewel box the size of an or-dinary beanpod. As one would naturally expect in a country where the provision of freight cas is so generous, the total amount of in advance of that of any other country, the total given in millions being for the United States, 912; for Great Britain, 437; Germany, 276; France, 120; Russia, 27, and British India, 35 tons. More Vermont maple sugar is made every year in Davenport. Ia., from cheap

More Vermiont maple sugar is made every year in Davenport. Ia., from cheap yellow sugar flavored with vegetable ex-tracts than can be produced from all the maple trees in the whole state of Ver-mont. Currant jelly is manufactured from the cores and parings of apples utilized after they have been evaporated; glucose, sugar, a vegetable acid and some coloring and flavoring matter complete the delleacy

custom of wearing the wedding ring on that finger. During the past year 76,459 Italians emigrated to the United States; 53,546 were males and 22,943 females. They car-ried with them 5788,805. Just 1.445 Ital-lans were refused admittance to the United States. One of the largest forests in the world

stands on ice. It is situated between Ural and the Okhotsk sea. A well was recently dug in that region, when it was found that at a depth of 300 feet the ground was still frozen.

Was still frozen. One of the most valuable handker-chiefs in the world is owned by the queen of Italy, and is valued at \$30,000. It took three women more than twenty years to make it. It is so fine that the queen keeps it in a jewel box the size of an or-dinary beanpod.