The Scranton Tribune

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Tribune Publishing Company, at Fifty Cents a Month.

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

New York Office: 180 Nassau St. S. S. VREELAND, Sole Agent for Foreign Advertising. Entered at the Posteffice at Scranton,

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, MARCH 19, 1900.

STATE CONVENTION CALL

To the Republican Electors of Pennsyl-

vania; I am directed by the Republican state committee to announce that the Republicans of Pennsylvania, by their duly chosen representatives, will meet in convention at the opera house, in the city of Harrisburg, on Wednesday, April 25, 1900, at 10.30 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices, to wit: One person for the office of auditor gen-

Two persons for the office of congress-

Thirty-two persons (four-at-large) for presidential electors, and to choose eight delegates and eight alternates-at-large to the Republican national convention to be held in Philadelphia on Tuesday, the nincteenth day of June next, and for the transaction of such other business as

may be presented.
In accordance with the rule adopted at the state convention held in Harrisburg on August 24th, last, the representation in the state convention will be based on the vote polled at the last presidential election. Under this rule each legislative election. Under this rule each legislative district is entitled to one delegate for thousand votes cast for presidential electors, in 1896, and an additional delegate for every fraction of two thousand votes polled in excess of one thousand. Each district is entitled to the same number of delegates as rep-resented it in the convention of 1898.

Frank Reeder, Chairman. Andrews, C. E. Voorhees, Sec-

The proposition, now before congress to confer upon the general in command of the United States army a rank lifting him above the division or corps commanders is sound as a matter of military propriety and not more than just to General Miles and to the generals commanding who shall come after him.

The Primaries.

HE FEATURE of the legislative primaries on Saturday was the unexpected strength developed by Candidate Reynolds. His successful run retires the most effective representative that the First district has ever had at Harrisburg, deprives the county of the prestige of the speakership and constitutes the chief crumb of comfort which the insurgents have found in the primary contests thus far held throughout the state. If report be true, they spared no expense to gain possession of this crumb.

The more than two-thirds plurality secured by Hon, John Scheuer in the energetic opposition or ganized by the anti-Quay people in the Second district constitutes a gratifying sign that his good services are appreciated and that continued effective Republican representation of the district at Harrisburg is desired. The choice of delegates committed to the doctrine of party regularity is equally

It should be said that the inclement weather interfered somewhat with the success of this first test of the Crawford county system as applied to legislative nominations.

In the March number of the North American Review, in an article contending that the American people are too much governed, ex-Senator David B. Hill occupies eighteen pages to say what might just as forcefully have been compressed within two. It is said the ex-senator is about to return to the newspaper business. If that be true, he will need to learn again the dne art of boiling down.

An Impracticable Enterprise.

TE ARE NOT surprised to learn that the Sheldon experiment in the office of the Topeka Capital has been the means of kicking up a row in the regular management of the paper. The trouble seems to have originated in the desire of some of the 4irectors of the stock company which owns the Capital to continue the paper as a "Christian daily" of distinctly religious and unworldly character. How far this desire was influenced by the extraordinary financial success of the Sheldon experiment, the net profits of which, for the week, are computed to be between \$40,000 and \$45,000, and how far it is the psychological result of mere novelty, are matters not to be determined definitely, but one fact is especially noticeable. The stockholdnewspaper as a permanent policy are not men who have been brought up in the atmosphere of newspaper production., The editor, associate editor and ballings manager of the Capital all say that a paper run on the Shel-dop lines would soon starve to death. They were willing to give it a week's trial for the novelty of the thing, but they want none of it as a continuous

As I watter of public education we trust that the Sheldon experiment will be made permanent. It would in due time afford a convincing test of all points at issue. The Topeka Capitab would begin its new career with every advantage of widespread advertisement and with the disposition still strong among many active Christian people to support such publication as a matter of principle. If the religious daily is a business possibility under any circumstances it ought to be most likely to succeed under the possion circumstances ex-isting in this case. Therefore, the test

religious dally. paper impracticable? For much the same reason that old-fashioned, orthodox preaching, without the aid of fine music, costly church decorations, and other worldly helps in attracting audiences, is apparently no longer practicable. For the reason that the number of men who are sufficiently strict in moral principles to take no interest in a well-written report of a prize-fight, political convention, battle or other worldly topic reflecting the fundamental impulses of numanity, and the number of women able to resist the alluring vanity of a graphic description of a swell society function, an Easter bonnet or spring gown is not large enough to constitute a paying constituency for a daily paper which climinates all these things, even if such would tax their purses to support it, a possibility some

what remote. We do not say this as a matter o heory entirely. It frequently comes within the range of practical experience that among the class of citizens who call most loudly for a strictly religious daily are many who do not show substantial appreclation of advances which the secular press makes toward supplying their special needs. How often does the active worker in good causes, who is indebted to the daily papers for frequent and generous favors in the way of publicity not at all essential to the papers' business success, forget to reciprocate when opportunity offers. It is not so with the more worldly men who patronize newspapers largely for the reason that they are not strict. ly religious publications. These men as a rule expect to pay liberally for everything they get and it is not an exaggeration to say that their patronage is essential to the existence of every newspaper enterprise which is conducted on business principles.

France has wisely concluded that with the world's exposition and Count Castellane on her hands, it is useless to go abroad to look for trouble.

Reciprocity.

THILE SOME of the English papers have affected to sniff a little because President McKinley transmitted to Lord Salisbury the Boer request for intervention and coupled with it a friendly expression of his willingness to impart, if desired, any aid which he might consistently do toward restoring peace in South Africa, there is in our judgment no ground for believing that their hauteur is the work of official inspiration. On the contrary, the fact seems to be that Washington and London had a complete understanding before this step was taken, just as they had before the British ambassador, in company with the other diplomatic representatives of the principal European countries waited upon President McKinley in the early part of -our trouble with Spain and presented their harmless joint note hoping that peace would not be broken.

It is well known that on that occasion Lord Pauncefote declined to be a party to that imposing procession of would-be intermeddlers until he had first received assurances from President McKinley that the tenor of the communication about to be presented was in no degree unacceptable to the United States. So far from being unwelcome, the concerted deliverance of the president an opportunity to distinetly declare in formal manner to all the world the purpose of the United States to end in Cuba a situation which, as he then said, had become "insufferable;" and to affirm by inference the ability of the United States to take care of itself while engaged in this duty of humanity and good neigh-

borship. In the present instauce the conditions are not unlike, the chief difference being that the actors are reversed. From Pretoria had come a request to all the principal nations to intervene so as to stay England's uplifted hand. There was a possibility that in some capitals dominated by jealousy of England this request might be used at least as a pretext for embarrassing the British government. At this juncture, and before any other power had had time to act, the American charge d'affaires at London was instructed by Secretary Hay to convey to Lord Salisbury the request embodied in the Pretoria communication, with a friendly proffer of intermediary services; and the prompt execution of this commission not only anticipated a less friendly action by any continental power but also gave to the British premier the wished for chance to say, without of-

fence, that England would not accept intervention from any quarter, Thus with scrupulous exactness and literal completeness have we repaid an obligation incurred during our own war; and it is not difficult to believe, in spite of the previshness of some of the London papers, that the whole incident was the natural outgrowth of one of those friendly understandings between governments which comprise ers who favor the Sheldon style of the spirit and substance of the higher

diplomacy. Lack of news from Kentucky indicates that the supplies of ammunition and oratory have been exhausted.

Chicago's Big Labor Trouble. ORTY THOUSAND men are in idleness in Chicago and building operations to the value of millions of dollars are suspended because of a difference, or a series of differences, which has arisen between the Building Contractors' council, representing the employers, and the Building Trades council, representing the workmen. The tie-up is the culmination of a long succession of smaller frictions and it has been declared on each side that the fight is to a finish.

There is no disagreement as to wages or hours of work. The employers offer to pay union wages, to accept the eight-hour day, to allow time and a half for all over time, with double would be take. Therefore, the test would be take and for this generation at least it ought to be conclusive. By all measures let it be made.

Why, it may be asked, do practical newspaper men consider the idea of a non-union made material or as to the church: and, being rejuctant to insist time for Sunday; and holidays; but

use of machinery, that the foreman shall be the agent of the contractor, that they shall have the right to indenture apprentices and that they shall reserve the right to employ and to discharge whom they please. Until these conditions can be complied with they have stopped taking contracts Inasmuch as their attitude threatens the life of trades-unionism, the unions in the building trades have the sympathy and in some instances the support of other unions not directly affected. Every day sees some sympathy strike. At one time a tieup of all the industries in the city seemed imminent. To support the men who are idle is costing union labor \$200,000 to \$250,000 a week.

In explanation of why they have taken the foregoing stand, the contractors say they have been driven to it because of repeated experiences showing the unreasonableness of the demands made and conditions exacted by the Building Trades council or by walking delegates whom the council has sustained. They cite instances such as the refusal of the stone cutters' union to work on a building, the exterior marble for which had been cut outside the county but by union stone cutters working union hours at union wages; or the action of the plasterers' union in forcing by threat of a sympathy strike the putting on of three coats of plaster where two were specified; or the declaring of a general strike because a brick gauger in the middle of the day demanded pay contrary to the contract and was told to wait until the regular time. This strike was adjusted by paying the man not only what was due him but also for the time spent in making the strike.

It is asserted, by the contractors that the central organization of the building trades unions has "degenerated into a corrupt political machine in which the interest of the men forming the union and the welfare of the building industry has been subordinated to office-getting and personal revenue for those in power." They charge it with violating contracts laws, and orders of courts with impunity, allege that it runs the city administration and declare that in warring on non-union labor it does not hesitate to assault, maim and even kill. These, of course, are ex parte statements and we may safely assume that they are vigorously denied. That there has been an excess of officiousness, however, on the part of the walking delegate element in Chicago is amply established by independent testimony; and the honest and nonorable workingmen suffer by reason thereof as well as the employers and the public in general.

Efforts are now being made to se ure an impartial and disinterested arbitration of the grievances at issue so that further loss as well as menace to the public safety may be avoided It is to be hoped that they will succeed

hat many of the people who now have so much to say in reference to the "Puerto Rican outrage," would have been agitated to a much greater extent had they been called upon to pay extra tax in order to support the

the foreign representatives was, in a southern town the other day for the fact, a positive convenience to the ad- privilege of putting "ginger" in his ministration inasmuch as it gave to lines in the way of obscene jokes. An occasional tax on "ginger" in this city would not be a bad move in the interest of decency in theatrical performances.

> Until one has read the testimony presented by the objectors to the Delaware Valley and Kingston line before the New York state railroad commission, one can scarcely realize what a calamity a new railroad is liable to prove.

> President Steyn is better off than Aguinaldo. He still has a secretary of

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

Astrolabe Cast: 3.23 a. m., for Monday, March 19, 1900.

(3) A child born on this day will notice that

snow seldom remains on the sidewalk of an energetic man more than twenty-four nours after a storm. Everybody likes flattery that is applied

A delegate election will often entirely destroy one's faith in the friends wh are "only too glad for an opportunity to vote for you."

It is all right to moan about hard luck, provided one does not sit down to do it. There will be no base ball in Scranton this season. Snow ball, however, may be enjoyed for a few hours yet.

A good many social lions are only mas. uerading in the skin. Matrimonial statistics always cast upon the reputed wisdom of

Outline Studies of Human Nature

Was a Competent Witness.

UNITED STATES District Judge Williams, now holding court in Topeka, tells a funny story. Years ago he was a district judge in Arkansas. At a certain term of court a murder trial came before him, and the most important witness for the prosecution was a colored boy only 10 years old. The lawyers for the defense set out to show that the for the defense set out to show that the boy was too young to understand the nature of an oath, and therefore was not

competent as a witness.

"Boy," said one of them severely, "do you know what would happen if you swore to a lie?"

"Yes, sah. Mammy would lick me."

"Would anything else happen?"
"Deed dey would, case de devil would At this point Judge Williams leaned over his desk and said with pretended sternness: "Don't you know, boy, that I would get you, too?"
"Yes, sah, dat's what I jus' said."— Kansas City Journal.

Doing Penance. A SCOTCH MINISTER, says the Scot-

on the elder's resignation, suggested that every time he gave way to a strong word he should put a stone in his pocket as a reminder. At the close of play the elder walked up to his pastor and slowly emptied his pockets of a little heap of pebbles, saying disconsolately: "These are the monosyllables. The others are coming on in a cart."

Their Wish Was Gratified.

THE LAW OF coincidence works won-ders, says the Saturday Evening Post. During the blockade of Santiago, Admirál Sampson and his officers were sitting, one more than sultry day, upon the deck of the flagship New York. It was too hot for conversation, and al-most for thought. The sighters simply blinked and slaved. The silence was blinked and glared. The slience was broken by one who said: "Next to hav-ing a brush with the Spaniards, I'd like to have a Georgia watermelon."

The suggestion brought a smile to every face, which widened when the admiral echoed, "A watermelon? I want two for myself."

A moment afterward the quartermas-ter announced the arrival of a boat from a supply ship which had just come in from New York city, and added: "The boat is full of Georgia watermelons off

Red tape was disregarded, and soon all on board, from the admiral down, were having one of the most enjoyable feasts the entire war. When it was over their wishes were so promptly answered, but although they came near the truth they never learned the true story of the

Only a Confession. GLEN M'DONOUGH, the travesty w ter, is a son of Laura Don and is, perhaps, as erratic as his brilliant mother and as humorous as any wit of the hour, not excepting Oliver Hereford, writes Amy Leslie in the Chicago News, In one of the May Irwin farces McDonough had written two or three lines of necessity to be spoken by a chorus girl. The lines were given to a green, heavy amateur, who looked well and would do. At the rehearsal the girl made her way to fcDonough, who held the book, and

"Mr. McDonough, I have a line in the first act and one in the third. Couldn't you write me one for the second, too?"

McDonough thought a minute, looked at the girl, and said: "Yes. In the banquet scene you enter and say, 'Here is the ham.'"

"No, my dear; it is not a speech, it is confession."

Lunar Food.

MAMMA," exclaimed a little boule vard maiden, "they's a new moon." "Yes, so there is, my darling." "They's a new moon mos' ev'ry month sn't they, mamma?"

"Well, mamma, w'ere does Dod dit all His new moons from?" "Oh, it's the same moon all the time. Florence dear. They just call it a new noon because it grows dark once nonth and then begins to shine again." "It bedins jes' a little bit o' thin moo loesn't it, mamma?"
"Yes, dear."

"An' 'en it dits roun' an' fat like a brange, doesn't it?"

"Well, mamma. Dod mus' feed His moon sumfin' more 'an sunshine dinners to get 'em so fat."—Detroit Free Press.

No Wonder They Fled.

AUTHORITY upon chemistry was A lecturing before a well known wo-man's club and illustrating his remarks with experiments. All went well until he paused a moment and then said "I'm very sorry, but I must ask any of the bismuth to leave the room during this ent, as the gases I am about to set free have peculiar affinity for bismuth and turn it purple." Whereupon the entire audience save three courageous sisters rose and fled from the room.—St. Paul Globe.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

The latest hiding place for microbes is in mustaches.

Germany's iron imports increased \$8,000,000 in 1899. President Kruger's ultimatum is the

first that has ever been received by Great Britain. The total number of paid employes of municipal departments in New York city

Efforts have been started in Brooklyn to give the Gospel in some direct form to every adult during 1900.

The longest span of telegraph wire in the world is that over the river Kistha,

in India. It is over 6,000 feet long.

In the number of locomotives the United States comes first with a total of 35,746. Great Britain comes next with 19,602.

There are about 12,500 persons on the pay roll of the city of Boston, and estimated population of the municipality is

For a finger nail to reach its full length, an average of seven-twelfths of an inch, from 121 to 138 days of growth are necessary. London is twelve miles broad one way

London is twelve miles broad one way and seventeen the other, and every year sees about twenty miles of new streets added to it.

Publishing firms state that the rise in the price of Bibles is caused by the advance in paper, and not by a desire to form a Bible trust.

An agent of Collis P. Huntington is in London with a view to buying some of the most prized pictures in the exhibit at the new gallery.

at the new gallery.

Khartoum may now be reached from Cairo by boat and rail, and a hotel with room for sixty guests has just been completed at Khartoum.

An editor in a Tennessee town, who stated in his paper that the new century would begin Jan. 1, 1901, was ridden out of the town on a rail.

The number of waves required to pro-

The number of waves required to produce the sensation of red as they break upon the eye be 39,000 in an inch and iii, 000,000,000,000 in a second.

The total expenditures by the United States government during the war with Spain and as a result of it up to the pesent time are \$25,000,000.

Returns of Prussian incomes by the income tax hursan show a total of

income tax bureau show a total of \$1,819,500,000 in 1899, against \$1,683,750,000 in 1898 and \$1,693,500,000 in 1897. Russia's Asiatic possessions are three times the size of Great Britain's, but hold only 23,000,000 inhabitants, as compared with England's 297,000,000 subjects. The strength of the various sections

of the Methodist church by recent returns shows that throughout the world there are 7,957 churches, with 44,598 ordained ministers. *
Blackpool, England, a city of 40.00 population, owns and operates her street railways. It transports passengers for 3 1-3 cents per fare, lays by a sinking

fund, pays interest and taxes, and makes a profit.

More than 13,000 Michigan farmers More than 13,000 Michigan farmers raised sugar beets for the first time last summer, the result being a crop large enough to keep ten factories busy, and it is expected that the state will soon be able to produce all the sugar it needs.

It is estimated that at any given time, in Germany alone, 1,300,000 persons are afflicted with consumption and 1,200,000 in America have it at all times. Professor Hirsch pronounces it emphatically a discase of all times, all countries and all races.

races.
According to a London journal the According to a London journal the number of postage stamps now current in the world is 13,811. England has 131, her colonies 3,845. The United States has only 258 different kinds, while the little republic of Salvador finds a use for as many as 272.

"If Adam had worked 300 days each year from the day he was created to the present time at a salary of \$50 a day, he would not have earned by this time as much property as is owned today by Rockefeller or Vanderbilt," said Dr. Wright, of Det

In Woman's Realm

THE FINANCES of the Home for THE FINANCES of the Home for the Friendiess, as everybody knows, are at a low ebb. There are now eighty or more inmates and many applicants for admission. If the debt of \$13,000 could be lowered the interest now kept up could go to the support of the institution and the preat strain upon the board would be relieved. For some time the annual outgo of \$1,500 merely for interest alone with no income whatever from the Adams avenue property has been a source of continuous worriment.

continuous werriment.

It would be economy in the long run for the public to come to the front now and help raise this debt, as then the continual demands made upon the generous people of the city would be arrested. It is that horrible incubus of interest that is making the days and nights of the Home manager a burden to herself and everybody who knows her, for she isn't likely to talk about anything else, just as she hasn't talked about anything else for the past three years.

"Dear me!" said a woman on Saturday to a prominent citizen whom she was

to a prominent citizen whom she was asking for a Home subscription, "I just know what every man thinks when he sees me coming. He says to himself: "There's that awful Home for the Friendless woman! She's got tickets or some-thing and they'll cose me more money. I'm going in this saloon, or my private office where I won't be seen by anybody,' and he will proceed to do the same with and ne will proceed to do the same with amazing alacrity. I don't blame him but if only you good people would help us out now you wouldn't be so tormented in the future, for just as long as that debt is on the Home you'll simply be chased from one lair to another."

THE PROPOSED fair means a most tremendous amount of work. It makes one's head swim to anticipate the enormous undertaking. It means that every merchant, every wholesale dealer, all buyers and sellers who are in con-tact with Scranton must be besieged for donations. It means that every portion of the city and its suburbs must be in-terested. It means the publication of a daily paper during the fair, the selection of popular contestants for articles of value. It means unintermittent labor patience and long suffering, and there are people who are willing to take up the task for the sake of the little children who are thus kept from becoming crim-icals and for the poor old women whose last days must be spent in a charitable

MRS. L. K. TORBET, whose husband is at the head of the plan for locating a tin plate plant in Scranton, is soon to leave the city for her home in Chicago, having spent several months here. Mrs. Torbet is a niece of Hon. Benjamin Butterworth, and is a native of Cincinnati, where her husband's family is one of the oldest and most prominent in Ohio. She is a lady of great beauty and intellectuality and it is hoped will become a permanent resident of this city. Mrs. Torbet is a member of the famous Woman's club of Chicago whose exclusiveness and record in advanced thought and public improvement outrank any other woman's club in the country if not in the world.

M 188 KATE L. SMITH, of the School of Domestic Science of Domestic Science, will give a lec-ture on Lenten dishes tomorrow afternoon at the Young Women's Christ-ian association which will be of great interest.

THE LESSER DEEDS.

The men cry of a kindly word For long gone by. For long gone by.
The fragrance of a fading flower
Sent lovingly,
The gleaming of a sudden smile
Or sudden tear.

The warmer pressure of the hand, The tone of cheer.
The hush that means, "I cannot speak But I have heard!" The note that only bears a verse

From God's own Word: Such tiny things we hardly count As ministry; Such givers deeming they shave shown

Scant sympathy; But when the heart is overwrough, Oh, who can tell The power of such tiny things To make it well?

-St. Louis Republic. HENRY BELIN, JR.,

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A hard-working, industrious woman, active, and to all outward appearances healthy, a woman used to doing all the work about her home and sometimes going out to service, relates that when she lived at Oyster Bay. Long Island, and especially on ironing day when confined to a hot laundry, she would often become faint, a condition usually preceded by a shortness of breath. At times she could barely keep up to come out into the fresh air to refresh herself. After she moved to New York, the shortness of breath affected her when working in a close room or after climbing stairs. At one time, while so suffering, she was recommended to try some Ripans Tabules. The improvement in her breathing was such that she felt greatly relieved and she now keeps the Tabules always at hand, and since she has done this she says that the faintness has not been noticed and she can now readily climb stairs or work in a close room without any of the symptoms of distress which formerly oppressed her. When this experience was related to a physician who is familiar with Ripans Tabules, he said: "The Tabules are not advertised to cure faintness o shortness of breath, and my impression is that the symptoms referred to were caused by the stomach being distended with gas, as is sometimes to be noted with persons who use vegetable food mainly. Potatoes or cabbage," he said, "were quite likely to produce such a condition." A hard-working, industrious woman, active, and to all outward appearances healthy,