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When space will permit, The Tribune always glad to print short letters from Is always giad 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, APRIL 2, 1900.

STATE CONVENTION CALL.

To the Republican Electors of Pennsylcommittee 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

One person for the office of auditor gen-

Two persons for the office of congress-Thirty-two persons (four-at-large) for

to the Republican national convention to be held in Philadelphia on Tuesday, the nineteenth 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 district is entitled to one delegate for every two thousand votes cast for the presidential electors, in 1896, and an additional delegate for every fraction of two thousand votes polied in excess of one thousand. Each district is entitled to the same number of delegates as represented it in the convention of 1898. By order of the Republican state com-

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

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

Legislature. First District-THOMAS J. REY

Second District-JOHN SCHEUER, JR

A sturdy and incorruptible citizen, whose life-work presents an inspiring object lesson to every student of it, passed away yesterday when Benjamin Hughes was summoned to his eternal rest. He was a massive man, big in body, big in brain, big in virtue, courage and kindness of heart. Selfeducated, self-promoted, he represented signally the opportunities of our country and the principles necessary to insure success in it. Let the youth of our day profit by the lessons of his stimulating example.

The Grand Jury's Work.

T IS MUCH easier to walk around sons connected with the administration of justice in this portion of the commonwealth have fallen into the bad habit of stepping out of the way of unpleasant tasks which are not absolutely unavoidable, and the example of the recent grand jury in taking the direct course right into the heart of its obligations to the public is both timely and wholesome. It should stimulate to renewed vigilance and activi-

ty every process of law enforcement. We will not discuss the indictments presented by the grand jury further than to say it is a thousand pities that a large number of men notoriously active for years past in councilmanic negotiations that looked suspicious could not have been included in the list marked for trial. The grand jury, of course, could not indict without a showing of direct evidence enough to raise a reasonable suspicion of guilt. Mere guess work and hearsay would not suffice. This rule saved scores of persons at various times active in municipal affairs who, without visible means of support, have toiled not, neither have they spun, yet Solomon in all his glory could not have held a candle to them in the matter of luxurlous living. As to the men indicted, they are entitled to a suspension of judgment while the case against them is in process of judicial determination.

As to the grand jury's general report, one portion of it cannot be too strongly emphasized. "We find," says the honorable jury, "that a condition exists in this community which to all right-minded citizens must be appalling. Its correction demands the earnest and intelligent effort of all public officials; the task is so great that in its performance the officers of the law should receive the active co-operation of all public spirited citizens who have the welfare of the community at heart," Prosecutions now and then of particular men believed to have gone astray or to have led others from virtuous paths have exemplary value, but to be effective they must be reinforced by an asserted public sentiment in favor of honest government which will not furnish a field already ploughed, harrough and fertilized for the raising of boodle methods.

Returns from Allegheny indicate that the Hon. William H. Andrews is not o sit in the next legislature of Pennstrive to bear up.

The Plain floral.

HE MOST unfortunate circumstance that can befall a public official is to be surrounded by untrustworthy or dishoneat advisers. The grand jury's report concerning the slot machines renders it pretty plain that Mayor Molr was at one time an object of pursuit by such a gang. That he knew of their untrustworthiness we do not believe; for a time they seem to have fooled him as they had fooled others. Enf. fair play for the mayor, he has awakened to his peril in time. There is no longer in the city hall any hanger-on or conspiracy of parasites which has reason to suppose that the mayor lacks a mind of his own. He has as-

his foot down for decent government. What he needs next is the moral backng of public sentiment while he cleans out the mon who would have betraved him and wields the snickersnee on the subordinates who appear to have trafficked in their fancled "pull."

This is the plain moral of the slot machine episode.

The prompt success which has attended the movement to secure a branch post office for the greater convenience of the 40,000 people inhabiting the West Side will be very gratifying to its promoters and the public generally. If success shall also attend the effort to secure rural free delivery of mail in Lackawanna county the have additional reason to feel pleased.

Admit Quay or Reject Him.

HIS IS the week in which the senate is expected to renew its consideration of the question of admitting Colonel Quay upon appointment by the governor of Pennsylvania. The agreement calls for continuous consideration until the arguments pro and con have been exhausted and a decisive vote has been

The opponents of Quay's admission must realize that to delay a vote in a spirit of factionalism cannot improve Secret of German their status in the general estimation presidential electors, and to choose eight of the public. The commonwealth of delegates and eight alternates at-large Pennsylvania is injured by such delay Pennsylvania is injured by such delay far more than Colonel Quay is. If he is deprived of a chance to have his appointment voted upon it can not be said by his opponents that the senate lent its weight to their view of his case; the only thing which that contingency would indicate is that the senate had shirked its duty.

The issue is simple, Either Governor Stone's appointment of a senator to serve ad interim is valid or it is not. The question of its validity cannot be answered without a vote. To withhold a vote is to leave the matter unsettled, and to deprive the state of its constitutional right to full representation in the senate. Obviously it is an issue of the highest privilege, and as such is justly entitled to a speedy decision. Let the senate do its duty.

The statement of Governor General revenue is absolutely necessary to keep the wheels of government moving on the opposition.

To Try Again.

RIENDS OF postal reform will be glad to learn amended in committee and again re-ported to the house, this time doing just one-half. Until the British White away simply with the right of publish. privilege whereby unsold periodicals a disagreeable duty than to wade are now returned at the pound rate. through it. A good many per- In this form there can be no shadow of just excuse for opposition to the bill ng congressmen who believe that the cent-a-pound rate should be restricted to actual newspapers and periodicals having contents in the nature of news and timely instruction.

"This bill," as the Washington correspondence of the Philadelphia Press explains, "cuts off the shameful abus; and evasion of existing law under which books, if not bound, are sent through the mails at the rate of one cent a pound, when it costs the government, according to Mr. Loud, over sixteen cents a pound to handle these books. The government pays the railroad companies for the transportation of these books eight cents per pound, to say nothing of the cost of handling them, and then publishers pay the government only one cent a pound. There is no pretense that these books are newspapers or periodicals within the meaning of the statute. They first were allowed to circulate in this way under an opinion given by an attorney general a great many years ago. Books issued fifteen years ago are now being circulated in vast quantities as alleged back numbers' of periodicals, though these 'back numbers' were printed within a few weeks. As the law now stands the books are started out from one city and sent to another, where they are put on sale, and then what is left is shipped to another city, and so they are kept going all over the country from point to point, and every time they are shipped the government loses. according to Mr. Loud, tifteen cents a pound on them, and it actually pays the railroad companies seven cents a pound more for transportation than it receives in postage. It is amazing that this scandalous abuse should have received the support of a single member of congress.

"The other abuse aimed at in the bill is so shameful that it is not believed that any man would be bold enough to get up in congress and justify his vote in favor of it. As the law now stands, under a special act passed six years ago, news companies are allowed to send return second-class matter through the mails at three cents a pound less than the publishers. This gives the news companies a monopoly and forces the publishers to do business with the news companies, which carry the papers for the publishers and charge yluanh. The commonwealth will them a cent or more a pound for postage more than the news company pays the government, thus making a profit out of the government, while the government loses seven cents on each pound carried in payment to the railroad companies alone. No more shameful wrong was ever perpetrated than this law which gives this special subsidy to the news companies. The publishers of books and the news companies have furnished the money heretofore to defeat the bills to remedy the abuses in second-class mail matter. By wholesale misrepresentation they have misled publishers of country newspapers into helping them. But as this bill does not affect anybody except the publishers of books and the news companies, there will be no excuse for any honest member of congress to vote

against it." seried his independence. He has put! The Loud bill should have passed in

its earlier form. This time its passage should be demanded by public sentiment

On Thursday of this week the Democratic party in Pennsylvania will go through the motions of holding a state convention. It will be only the semblance of a deliberative body. Colonel Guffey will tell it what to do and it will do as Guffey says. Incidentally it will accuse the Republican party of being boss-ridden.

The man who declared martial law in the Coeur d'Alene mining district who built the "buil pen" and who imprisoned strikers in it until they would give written guarantees of good behavlor was the Democratic governor of congressman from this district will Idaho. This is a detail the Democratic fire-eaters do not care to dwell on.

> One of the men nominated Saurday in Pittsburg for legislative honors is the well-known newspaper man, campaign orator and jolly good fellow, Colonel Henry Hall. He is an "insurgent" but a good one.

The opinions of Grover Cleveland on public questions are frequently wrong. but in the matter of the Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty he is everlastingly

Maritime Growth

Washington, April 1.-What Germany 1s ecomplishing in the way of building up or merchant marine is discussed most interestingly in an editorial in the Liver-pool Journal of Commerce of March 3. The congress of the United States is soon to discuss a bill for the building up of American shipping, in view of the possible passage of which foreign methods, as regarded by foreign newspapers, are timely interest and instruction to the American people.

The Liverpool Journal of Commerce, In editorial in question, significantly entitled "German Competition," points out that Germany is evidently deter-mined to take a hand in ocean carrying; that brand new German fleets are sup-plied wherever world's trade openings are ossible; that the patriotic German taxayer bears the cost without a murmur and that the emperor and the government, by word of praise and encourage-ment, stimulate the national zeal whenever Davis of Puerto Rico that until a civil Liverpool Journal of Commerce, advergovernment is organized a tariff for tises the growth of German commerce and shipping. No opportunity is lost right of to let the world know of Geraccount of the present inability of the poverty-stricken masses to bear direct as did the emperor at the launching of taxes cuts another big lot of scaffold. the Deutschland the other day, what Ger. ing from under the false pretences of Even accidents to German steamships many means to be as a maritime power. afford opportunity to exploit the glory of her marine, by honoring and medalling of her "heroes of the sea.

"Within thirty years," said Count Von be glad to learn that another effort will be made to pass the Loud bill. It has been teen fold." In the same time American ers of books or reprints of books to call this Liverpool newspaper, and even now their issues periodicals and get the her ships hold the blue ribbon for speed. cent-a-pound rate, and suspending the The revival of German shipping is due to the genius of Bismarck, says the Liverpool Journal of Commerce. It continues:

"Consequent on a memorandum eman ating from that famous statesman, a ubsidy was provided for the North Ge opinion of an unread controversialist ex pressed in a morning half-penny paper, are granted for the sole purpose of passing into the pockets of a few millionaire: sing as patriots. Nothing can be fur ther from the truth. They help to start a line of vessels which would not other-wise come into being, and thus carry the nation's flag to places where hitherto it had been but a name. Unless some such assistance were given by the nation there ould not be a trade carried on at all to

This newspaper points out other ways by which the growth of German ship building was aided, beginning in 1885, one being by placing all shipbuilding mate tals on the free list. This the United States also did several years ago, in re-spect of shipbuilding for the foreign trade, Moreover, this British journal continues, shipbuilding materials are carried at reduced rates on German government owned railroads. Not alone the German millionaire, but the German people in general, says this journal, are deter-mined upon having a home-built merchant marine of their own. This news aper thus concludes its editorial;
"The increase in valuable shipbuilding

plant in German yards has verged on the marvellous. At the same time the iron and steel industries are attaining to greater proficiency owing to the increased demand for shipbuilding material; and the day is not far distant when the merchant ships and war vessels of Kaiser Wilhelm will be fashioned at home of material all 'made in Germany.' Legisla-tion and advertisement by high authoriies have not done all under the head of advance in the numbers and tonnage of German ships. Nevertheless no other ountry has done so much for its ship-ollders and shipowners in order to foster a satisfactory mercantile marine to other the subsidy-fed German shipping will hold its own is hidden from us in the pashing forward at the present time.

Considering that, during the last half century, British steamships have re-ceived in subsidies for carrying British mails \$250,000,000, and that British steam thips are more numerous than the steamships of all other nations combined, the concern of British commercial and mari-time journals over Germany's rapid maritime and commercial growth is not sur-

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Wednesday, April the 4th Thursday, April the 5th Friday, April the 6th

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Millinery never attained a higher standard of true beauty than it shows this season. The best of all arts has been applied. Neither grotesquery nor eccentricity has any place. Every touch is for beauty, harmony, grace and becomingness.

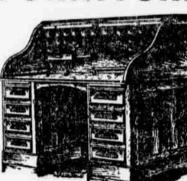
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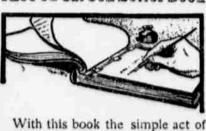
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"I live on a farm and keep house for my papa," says a young woman living in Panther, Ky. "My age is twenty-five. For ten years I have been afflicted with that dreadful disease, dyspepsia, and tried every kind of medicine that I could hear of, but found no relief in any of them until about two years age. I tried a fifty-cent package of Ripans Tabules. Did I find relief? Yes, I did. I am no more a sufferer. Ripans Tabules did it. I can eat anything I want to. Before I commenced using them I could not eat highly seasoned food without suffering with my stomach. With truth I can recommend Ripans Tabules to any one suffering as I was. If they do not want to take my word for it let them try just one package and it will convince them what they will do, and then they will never consent to be without them for anything."