

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends on current topics, but its rule is that those must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name, and the conditions precedent to publication is that all communications shall be subject to editorial revision.

THE PLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING. The following table shows the price per inch for each insertion, space to be used within one year.

Table with columns: DISPLAY, Line of, Reading, Position. Rows: 100 lines, 200 lines, 300 lines, 400 lines, 500 lines, 600 lines.

For cards of thanks, resolutions of condolence and similar contributions in the nature of advertising, the Tribune makes a charge of 5 cents a line. Rates for Classified Advertising furnished on application.

SCRANTON, MAY 2, 1901.

The Republican issued yesterday an interesting and prosperous-looking Twentieth Century special edition of 20 pages given over largely to exploiting the sundry resources of Scranton. It fairly entitles our morning contemporary to congratulations.

Be Fair.

ON A NORMAL party vote the proposed new First legislative district, to which objection is offered by a number of West Side Republicans, is about 2000. It is a district embracing the five districts contemplated for Lackawanna county in the suggested reapportionment measure.

It is, of course, possible for such a district to be carried by the Democrats, but only through Republican dissensions. Where the Republican nominee is acceptable to the party—and under the direct primary system this ought to be the rule—his election by a safe plurality need not be regarded as doubtful. When we remember how the present normally Democratic Second district has been carried repeatedly by the Republicans, thanks to popular nominations, thorough organization and zealous party work, it does not seem that there is much foundation for the fears expressed by those who object to the inclusion of the Twentieth ward in the new First district.

The Richest Man in the World.

THAT WAS certainly an interesting speech made by John D. Rockefeller—"the richest man in the world," the New York Sun calls him—on Tuesday evening before the young men's Bible class of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church in New York city, and reported at length in the New York papers of yesterday. Its subject was the best ways of giving, and the speaker told why, in his numerous donations for religious, educational or charitable purposes, he always makes it a condition of his gift that others shall give in total amount a like sum. His idea is to encourage liberality in others, to stimulate the habit of co-operation in worthy work. "Suppose," said he, "the pump that stores water for the city should work only the suction part. The water would soon become stagnant." That sentence surrounds the whole philosophy of giving.

But it was a personal touch in Mr. Rockefeller's little speech that we wish more especially to call attention to. "I believe," said he, "a gift which no other is more valuable is the gift of honest labor—giving a man steady work. I am not an orator nor an educator but just a business man. I did not come here to make a speech, but there is one thing upon which I would like to say a word. I am engaged in a business that for thirty years has paid out each working day an average of \$60,000 to \$70,000 in money, or about \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000 each year to laboring men. For thirty years of the forty that I was in that particular business the aggregate so paid was between \$600,000,000 and \$700,000,000. And that I regard as the best kind of giving."

Some of the American people, some living here in Scranton, have very foolishly, it appears to us—formed in late years the habit of viewing with distrust and a certain pretended contempt and enmity men who give largely to their fellow men in the manner to which Mr. Rockefeller refers. It has become the fashion in some circles to view in the employer of labor and in the director of enterprises that make possible the great conveniences and comforts of civilization, shared by the poor relatively to a greater degree than by the rich, a public enemy and a fit target for demagogic denunciation and ridicule. Mr. Rockefeller, "the richest man in the world"—who gets out of his great wealth only shelter and three meals a day, the rest circulating in business channels, where its activity is the means of employing thousands of men and of furnishing to mankind an article of household use which is better and cheaper under Standard Oil control than it was before that control was forced, and than it is in places where that control does not reach—has been one of the favorite

objects of this declamatory obprobrium and reproach. Yet it is the business skill of him and men like him that has in a generation made the United States the richest and greatest country on earth and that has brought about the marvelous economic and educational developments which, on the threshold of the new century, promise to make the sum of American opportunity not only the largest in the world, but infinitely larger than could ever be realized through the cranks notions of their blatherkite assailants.

The activity of J. Pierpont Morgan indicates that the Atlantic ocean will soon be in the trust.

The Decline of Religious Journalism.

ONE OF the most noteworthy signs of contemporary journalism is the steady decline in prestige, influence and circulation of the religious or denominational newspaper. There are still a large number of religious journals, or periodicals purporting to be so, in the United States. They were never numerous, perhaps, and never less influential. Three-fourths of their might might be swept away, without creating a void which would suggest the necessity of filling it as a commercial speculation or a pious obligation. A few denominational newspapers still sail against the wind of adverse times as the recognized or semi-official organs of the clergymen of the church which they nominally represent; but their influence among the laity is small and appears to be decreasing.

Yet papers of this class are ably edited, sometimes even brilliantly written. They are not arid; they are not splenetic; they are hardly polemical. They have buried the "odium theologicum"; they do not, as a rule, seek to exalt their tenets at the expense of other Christian associations. They contain many interesting articles on church, Biblical and theological subjects which should appeal to ecclesiastical support and lay appreciation; yet with all those advantages, the religious newspaper as such is decaying.

As there is no result without its predisposing cause, we have to seek one for this literary phenomenon. Where it is to be located is not exactly clear, but it is not wholly due to the secularization of the religious newspaper, it is almost so. The system of such a journal as the New York Independent has, naturally and inevitably transformed it from a religious journal into an admirable weekly review of current political, financial and social topics. It represents at the present day the army and navy quite as much as the church. The Independent does not stand alone in this respect, although it is the most notable example of the evolution of a religious newspaper into a secular periodical.

In entering into competition with the secular newspapers in their own field, the religious journals become neither fish, flesh nor good red herring. A rebash of the week's news in one form or another, can bring no intellectual enjoyment to the family that takes the daily newspaper, no matter how refined the editorial gilding may be. An insatiable thirst for news does not signify an appetite for ancient history. And yet it is to the sympathy of the intelligent family, with its one or two morning newspapers on the breakfast table, that the religious journal must appeal for support.

Another cause of the revolution in religious journalism has been brought about, it is supposed, by the more intense interest which the church is taking in social affairs—in what is known as the amelioration of the masses, spiritually and ethically, but above all, morally and socially. It is said truly enough that a degraded or hungry man has not the saving grace to be thankfully prayerful for his affliction. It is also said that until the church becomes more attractive than the saloon to those who are tempted to choose between them, the saloon will receive its full patronage; that it is as much the duty of the church to estimate the citizen as it is to mould the Christian, and that in such a disposition the religious newspaper naturally should be a mirror of the times. This is not fair to the church. There are some few ministerial exemplars of the strenuous life who transform the parish church into a parochial bureau, emasculate it of its spirituality and put in its stead a system of corporate altruism. That, however, is not religion in the sense in which St. Paul understood it, and may the time be long in coming when a church, rich or poor, shall be regarded as mainly a business concern.

Another fact which is accelerating the decadence of religious journalism is the large space willingly and eagerly devoted to religious news and theological intelligence by the daily newspaper. No nation who has an original thought for his brethren need confine its inspiration within the range of his voice. The columns of the daily press are open to him. Still, a religious newspaper which is really such, is invaluable, not as the inspired oracle of the home, as some so-called religious newspapers would have it, but as a convenient and eclectic medium of information and communication between members of the same creed. The daily press looks after the interest of the world, the flesh and the devil, and may be relied upon to do so. If the religious press is to maintain a share of what small influence it now commands, it will concern itself mainly with stimulating in the children of this world the spiritual graces.

Lieutenant Townley, of Manila, furnishes another glaring example of the man who has opened his mouth and put his foot in it.

The newspaper paragrapher who recently commented on Mario Correll's appeal to the American public to raise the five hundred pounds needed to strengthen Shakespeare's church at Stratford-upon-Avon, that Miss Correll, being a person of wealth, might give that sum herself, is she really cares for the

object in view, will have many to agree with him. But it certainly does not speak well for England that all Miss Correll's appeals to its public for the sum in question have met no response.

Building Houses of Sand.

THE distinguished agnostics in London who are proposing to establish a "free-thought institute" in that city and who, according to the reports sent over the cable, "mean to address themselves principally to women, since these make up the vast body of English Christians," do this to vindicate their own right and title to the name "agnostic." They evidently "know nothing" about the sex "last at the cross and earliest at the tomb"; not an atom more about it than they do about Christianity itself. That they always represent, as Mr. Leslie Stephen has just once more been doing, as basing its entire ethical teaching "on the expectation of reward in a future life." They choose to represent it as having no foundation in divine law or sense of duty. Then they wonder that, to quote Mr. Leslie Stephen again: "All our (their) ethical agitation, does not seem to come too much. We appear," he says, "to hasten very little the emancipation of the race from superstition—meaning thereby from religion and religious ideas. Personally he does not care much for the 'free-thought institute' and it is 'with reluctance' that he has permitted the use of his name in connection with it. To that extent he is, personally, wise. He says he shall dedicate his powers 'to constructive exposition of agnostic principles,' whatever that may mean. The constructive exposition of attempts at destruction may possibly mean something in topey-turvy-turvydom.

The secretary of the movement remarks that it is going to start a Sunday school where children will be taught the necessity of fulfilling all moral obligations apart from an expectation of reward in a future life. Moreover—and this is as clear as the average swamp mud—"the service will be of very much the same character as that usually held in churches, only the supernatural will be eliminated." After that the saying often quoted about the play at Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out may be recalled as dimly shadowing the "services" that "the distinguished agnostics" propose. "The women," or whom," says the eminent secretary, "the great bulk of church congregations consists," are to be attracted by means of concerts and dramatic entertainments and their allegiance then won by the force of argument.

These people are evidently unaware that trying to build houses of sand, and upon the sand, is the acme of folly. Their mere material building of brick or stone they may erect on a London street if they can raise the other \$75,000 on which one man's pledge of equal amount is conditioned. For the rest, they had better hearken to Mr. Leslie Stephen's frank admission of the failure of their attempts. Lady Joune speaks the word of truth and soberness when she says: "In so far as these free thinkers mean to destroy the Christian faith of our women, they will fail. English women are fundamentally and presentimentally religious. They love the Christian system. They have absolute confidence in the divine nature of its authorship. They will never trade their theory of God for the unconvincing dicta of the agnostics. It will be a sorry day for the British empire when it women lose their devotional natures and set the currents of their influence flowing toward cynicism." A day that can never come. Woman's "devotional nature" is as God made it—the God whom "the distinguished agnostics" refuse to know or recognize.

The trial of Captain Reed at Manila proves conclusively that all of the thinking during the campaign has not been done by the officers in pursuit of the dusky rebels.

The surrender of General Tinio and Colonel Calvo and others may force the command of the Philippine insurrection into the hands of Senor Atkinson.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Adelaide City: 11:15 a. m., for Thursday, May 2, 1901.

A child born on this day will soon look upon the shirtless letter carrier as a postal freak. With birds and blossoms here again. Their little love to me. Make these spring days ones of pain. I saw the blighted tender oak. It is a simple matter to figure out the scheme of living as a 29 week, but the problem of securing the ton with any degree of regularity is often puzzling.

People who claim that they get their rewards in heaven are often shot an eagle "rip." The weather ran again were in "Toll-you" expression.

THE SHOPPER.

Grin visaged, stem of face and men. She treats the earth to keep it down. From store to store she rushes on. Not looks behind, to right nor left. Her elbows swing and stab and jab. To clear a path, where all things would bar her way to windows decked with blue marked down to 49. A pair of shoes, a pair of shoes, a pair of shoes, or glass, or silk, or hat. The thing itself she little reck; The marking down—the price in red—Oh, that's the thing that has her bent. And never her limbs to straighten out. To lab and stab, and tread on coals. Of those who fret in line and crowd. Of colors, weights and shades and tags, she'll put them back in harshest order. For inches gained and bargains lost. Fine hat her strength, now falling fast. Must bear a load that is too great. The sign "Shop Women," a beacon light. Shows things in green and red and blue. All marks cancelled, some torn and soiled, but all marked "49 cents." Night falls. She reels, all spent and worn. A hat-wrapped, glow-ton, helpless thing. To clutch a strap on homeward train. And made in triumph by the countess. "A penny saved on this—oh! No, two, no three—how nice! And this? Oh, yes, one there, two here; let's see. That's right in all—yes, that's right. My doll is 21. My car fare was, oh, yes, 10 cents, 10 cents!"

Information and Entertainment, Too

WHEN England and Russia finally fight, as they must some day, it is the opinion of at least one person, H. W. Snow, the iron statistician that the real battle will be fought on the floor of the Chicago Board of Trade. He figures it out that the opponent of England, instead of running chances with England's navy, would simply cover the grain market and starve the people of his majesty's kingdom into submission. This is how he figures it: The urban population of England is about 55,000,000. This number at least 8,000,000 souls largely manage to exist under present normal conditions of food prices. The middle working class, who live in fair comfort on less than 10 shillings a week, consume steadily 4,000,000,000 bushels of wheat, 2,000,000,000 bushels of oats, 1,000,000,000 bushels of barley and 1,000,000,000 bushels of other grains. The total consumption of breadstuffs is 10,000,000,000 bushels, and this some 5,000,000,000 bushels is produced at home. The United States supplies the rest. The United States supplies the rest of the world with wheat. The United States supplies the rest of the world with wheat. The United States supplies the rest of the world with wheat.

Already generous in its contributions that relate to the Artes and oil-wells, Mexico, is now yielding up archeological treasures in the form of buried cities and palaces, some of which reveal an amount and quality of carving and constructive skill quite unexpected by the men of science who are employed in excavations.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE. Boston pays \$105,000 a year for its school janitors. California fruit canner ship 50,000,000 cans a year. Northumberland is the worst county for drunk eness in England. France has fourteen submarine boats built or completed, and eight more projected. The number of libraries endorsed by Mr. Carnegie is now eighty-five. More than a million people are treated in the hospitals of London each year. For the first time since the war there is not a negro in the North Carolina Legislature. The French are not supposed to be great travelers, yet the Touring Club of France has 50,000 members. There will be eighty-six new men in the next congress, 270 of the recent house having been re-elected. Rich cloth is out of fashion in England, the tailors offering quantities of it "at a ruinous discount." Some \$70,000 has been subscribed in Switzerland to a fund which is being raised for supplying a home in that country for destitute poor men, women and children, and for those who would like to come to Europe and settle there until the war is over.

Odd Pieces for the PARLOR. A new home frequently needs new Furniture, usually odd pieces, to fill the gaps caused by damaged articles or larger rooms. We carry a large line of odd CHAIRS—Reception Chairs and Rockers—and PARLOR TABLES in the very latest designs, (and there are some very pretty new styles this year.) Also those pretty Parlor Cabinets. While we carry all kinds of wood that is used for this purpose, we have an unusually large assortment in MAHOGANY, WEATHERED OAK and FLEMISH OAK—the latter is still very popular. Seven floors full of exclusive designs and new patterns in furniture.

Hill & Connell Washington Avenue.

Sale of Shoes Damaged by Water. Now Going on at The Newark Shoe Store. Corner Lackawanna and Wyoming Avenues.

Several years ago an agitation was started in regard to the economy and efficiency of producing and maintaining navigable channels through ocean and bay by means of dynamite instead of the usual dredging operations. In order to ascertain the truth Captain Gillette, of the engineer, tried the following experiment: He hoisted a number of ordinary eggs in the sand from on to three inches deep, and just washed at low tide. At high tide he exploded a one hundred pound charge of dynamite about a hundred feet from the nearest egg. The powerful blast forced the egg up to a certain depth, and a column of water and sand was thrown up into the air. Notwithstanding, it was found at low tide, that the nearest egg, the egg nearest the charge, had not only not been blown up, but had actually sunk to a depth of 100 feet. The dynamite had been working on the egg, thus producing a channel at low tide. The conclusion of Captain Gillette is that the work which actually costs the government on the dynamite plan \$24,000,000 could have been accomplished by dredging at an expenditure of \$18,750.

There is a story about the family into which Adjutant General Corbin is to marry and it is one that does you good to read. We give it on the authority of the Extra Press. The fortune was made in mining. The maker of it died and the widow and three daughters made Washington their home. The daughters had been carefully educated in foreign schools, but the mother, while by no means ignorant, was a plain woman with no pretensions to culture or knowledge of the ways of high society. She made no secret of her humble origin or the hard struggles through which she and her husband had passed in the pioneer days among the mining camps of California and Nevada. In one of the principal living rooms of her home she kept a large picture in her husband in his military uniform. She used to say that she was glad her wealth enabled her to gather around her and entertain fittingly agreeable and cultivated people, but she felt it necessary to come to her house under any misapprehension that she was a plain woman who had been compelled to work with her hands most of her life. She was not ashamed of that fact and preferred that the more cultured ladies in her society should know for herself or her family who could not respect their friends because of their humble origin, or who might feel they were condescending in accepting the hospitality of a hostess of people of low antecedents. This was the platform on which the Pattens began their social campaign in Washington, and it won.

How they order things in Venezuela is thus indicated in a specimen instance cited by Colonel McCain: Some years ago a number of Delaware capitalists bought a side-wheel steamer to navigate the Orinoco. It proved to be a profitable undertaking. No sooner was this demonstrated than the officials then in power closed the Maracaibo mouth of the Orinoco to navigation. As this was the only practicable route between Port of Spain and Ciudad Bolivar, the Delaware boat was compelled to tie up in the former harbor. A little later a proposition was made by an English merchant in Port of Spain, who represented high officials in Caracas, to purchase the American boat. A silly-silly low price was offered, but as it was a question of the safety of permitting the side-wheel steamer to get through the Orinoco, the Delaware boat was sold. The embargo against the navigation of the Maracaibo was immediately lifted, and the British ship named her trips under a monopoly which expired only last year.

The water lioness of Albany, New York, has been an object of considerable infatuation in regard to the average consumption of water in large towns of the United States. The direct result of this compilation has been to prove conclusively that water meters are very effective in reducing the water waste of water. The average daily per capita water consumption of 144 cities was found to be 127 gallons. Analysis of the data shows that those cities which supply 10 per cent of their water consumption by meters average about 153 gallons daily per capita, while those cities where only 50 per cent of the tap water is metered averaged only 65 gallons. Towns that sell by meter consume less than half as much water as those which sell by geyser flow.

carry 30 yards of thread. The amount of thread that could be wound upon these 80,000,000 spools would reach 2,000 times around the world at the equator and leave a little for mending.

ALWAYS BUSY. Our Oxfords. Low in cut. Low in price. High in quality. Ladies' from 75c up. Gentlemen's from \$1.25 up.

Lewis & Reilly, Wholesale and Retail.

THE ORIENTAL. Water Glasses 2 1/2c Each. If you have the least use for glasses that usually sell at twice the above price, it will pay you to attend our regular Thursday Bargain Sale, May 2, opening at 8:30 a. m. Should you require any other article, that ought to be kept by a first-class China Store, you'll find it here—with the right price attached.

Gruener & Co. 205 Wyoming Avenue.

TRY Clock's Best Union Made Tobacco. A Good Smoke or Chew. A Trial Solicited. Satisfaction Guaranteed. MANUFACTURED BY The Clock Tobacco Co., 644-46-48 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa.

P. J. HONAN, Merchant Tailor. 319 Lackawanna Avenue.

Sale of Shoes Damaged by Water. Now Going on at The Newark Shoe Store. Corner Lackawanna and Wyoming Avenues.

THE NEW WALL PAPER CO. Has no odd goods to work off. Every style is new and up-to-date. Our prices are lower than any others. 303 SPRUCE STREET, NEAR PENN AVE.

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FINLEY'S

Remarkable Sale of Taffeta Silks. An exceptional purchase of over two thousand yards of Taffeta Silks in all the new colorings, including white and black, which we offer for one week at unusually attractive prices. Taffeta silks as present in great demand for suits, jackets, waists, Petticoats, and Linings, and are rarely sold under the regular prices. For this reason this sale offers an unequalled opportunity to secure Taffeta Silks at prices that will be impossible to duplicate.

At 39c a Yard. A 19-inch wide, pure Silk Taffeta, in large range of colors, including white and black, regular value 60 cents. Price for this week, 39c.

At 59c a Yard. A 19-inch wide, fine finish and weight Taffeta Silk, complete line of colors, regular value 75c. Price for this week, 59c.

At 88c a Yard. A 27-inch wide extra quality Taffeta Silk, in large line of colors, regular value \$1.25. Price for this week, 88c.

At \$1.15 a Yard. Imported and domestic plain black Taffeta Silk, wear guaranteed, also "Bonnet" fine imported Silk, bright lustre and beautiful finish, regular value \$1.50. Price for this week, \$1.15.

At \$1.25 a Yard. Extra wide Black Taffeta Silk, extra heavy weight, wear guaranteed, also "Bonnet" fine imported Silk, bright lustre and beautiful finish, regular value \$1.50. Price for this week, \$1.25.

Foulard Silks and Satins. Ours are acknowledged the handsomest designs and largest assortment in the city. Prices, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

510-512 Lackawanna Ave. A Second-Class City with a First-Class Stock of Cut Glass, Sterling Silverware, Clocks, Etc. Suitable for Wedding Gifts. Mercereau & Connell, 132 Wyoming Avenue.

SCRANTON'S BUSINESS HOUSES

Grid of advertisements for various businesses including Gilhoole Wagons, Security Building & Savings Union, Farrell's Transfer, M.A. Friedlander & Co., James I. Quick, Dime Bank Barber Shop, The Linden Quick Lunch, M.F. Wyms, Peter Stipp, Ask Your Grocer, Money to Loan, Real Estate and Insurance, William G. Loomis, Commercial Quick Lunch Parlors, William J. Merchant Tailor, Alex. Hay, House, Sign and Decorative Painter, The Cheapest, The New Wall Paper Co., Frank M. Moyer, The Home Supply Co., F. Gross, James J. Murray, Paul Wende, McLane, Wolf & Wenzel, Easter, Millinery, H.A. Riefenberg, Dr. E.V. Beardley, Dentist, Mrs. Sara Allyn, Manicure, Chiropodist and Scalp Treatment.