PERSONAL.

Dr. Charles H. Tilton has returned from his camping trip.

Mrs. H. Cramer left yesterday afternoon for Richfield Springs, N. Y.

Attorney A. J. Colborn has returned from a business trip to New York city.

Miss Hannah Hughes and Miss Dorothy Thomas are visiting at Sulphur Springs, N. Y.

John Raphael, of the Gubin Diamond company, is back in the city, after spending several days in New York city.

Mrs. H. Kramer and Miss Kramer, of Wyoming avenue, left yesterday for a four weeks' stay at Richfield Springs, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Niece, who have resided in this city for some time, have left for New York city, where they will permanently reside.

A. S. Leacroyd, division freight agent of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western company at Easton, was a visitor at the Lackawanna station yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Belmont Reese, of New York, are being entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barrowman, of North Washington avenue.

George D. Taylor, George M. Keefer, M. J. Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Flynn and F. L. Crane were registered at the Hotel Albert, in New York, this week.

Joseph D. Lewis, formerly of this city, but now of Washington, D. C., is spending his vacation here. Mr. Lewis is in charge of one of the divisions of the census bureau.

BRAVE SAM EDMUNDS.

Story of a Dramatic Rescue in a Coal Mine in Wales of Local Interest.

The following interesting story given below appeared in a recent issue of the South Wales Echo. The Sam Edmunds referred to was the father of Mrs. James R. Evans of North Scranton:

The following stories (writes "Morien") relate to the first colliery explosions in the Rhondda Valley. The first to happen was that at Walter Coffin's Dinas colliery, on Monday morning, Jan. 1, 1844, and the other at Insole and Son's, at Cymmer, on June 15, 1856. In the first twelve lost their lives; in the second 114 men and boys perished.

These thrilling stories were given me by a veteran who was present at both explosions. It would be a loss to leave them uncharonicled. I recollect in the days of the entombment of miners in Tynewydd, Rhondda Valley, in April, 1877, one day receiving a letter with enclosure of £20 from the late Earl Crawford and Balcarres from Palermo. The money was placed in my hands for rewards to whom I might deem most deserving of "the bravest of the brave."

While all were valiant I could not distinguish one case more deserving than the other, and I in consequence placed that and many similar sums—in all about £50—in the hands of the local committee, of whom the late Rev. D. W. Williams, M. A., Fairfield, was chairman. But what I was going to say was the following. One of the sentences in the noble earl's letter ran as follows: "I rejoice to learn from your thrilling reports in the Times that the ancient heroism of your Kimmerian Briton race is still the same as in the days of old."

This is the story alluded to. In 1856 there dwelt at Havod a remarkable man named Sam Edmunds. He was the father of Mr. Edmunds, manager of Pentre colliieries. "Sam" (as he was called by his intimates) was the best known man in the valley. He had himself studied deeply, and his incessant efforts were urging the rising generation of young Welshmen of the valleys to engage in the study of scientific books and other literary branches.

The then rising choral singing classes were its delight. In short, he was one of those mysterious class of Welshmen, who in his early days would walk half a dozen miles to some quiet country village to impart lessons in singing to country youth of both sexes in "Yr Ysgol Gan," without any other reward than the pleasure of witnessing the success of his efforts. Sam was from Hendreforgan, Glynogwy, and was known by that name as a surname, in accordance with a very old Welsh custom. In early youth Sam had been attracted by high wages to Dinas collieries, then the property of Mr. Walter Coffin, uncle of Mr. Arthur Williams, late M. P., Coed-y-Mwstwr.

On Monday morning, Jan. 1, 1844, the first explosion in the Rhondda Valleys took place at Dinas, at the shaft just below Dinas T. V. R. Station, across the River Rhondda. The pit was worked by water power. The gearing of the pit, divided in the middle by a partition, as a downcast and upcast airways, had been shattered to atoms by the awful tornado which had shot through from below. As soon as possible a rope was coiled round the whim, the drum being standing horizontally around a stout upright beam. The end of the rope was passed through a hole in the gable of the house over the pit's mouth. To this end, dangling over the awful smoking abyss of the shaft, a triangular chain and narrow iron bar, the latter as a seat at the base of the triangle formed by it, and the two small chains described.

But now came the test of valor. Who would dare descend to Hades, the sheol of Wales, on that slender bar? All the local community—the only one then in the entire Rhondda—were there in tears. Who would dare, not the Excelsior heights in snow and ice, but the eighty-four yards through the smoke, and in possible fire, below. Who? Who? Who? There stepped forth from the weeping wives and mothers a stalwart gallant son of old Siluria. It was Sam Hendreforgan. "I will go," quoth he, "God helping me."

He was soon seated at the end of the slender hempen rope. He was going alone through the valley of death, without the shadow thereof. He was the earliest of the heroes of the coal mines of South Wales. "Ready," cried authority, and off shot the horse on his circular round, around the whim track, shaped like the ring of a circus. At the same moment valiant Sam disappeared into the deep. Thoughts were now too intense for tears. The attitude of the horse attached to the whim was long remembered. He seemed to understand what had happened, and the urgency of the moment. He galloped at such a rate around, proud that his belly was nearly touching the track. He seemed to feel the descending triangle and its precious load, for the moment it touched the bottom the gallant steed stopped suddenly of his own accord. Sam alighted on the top of hundreds of tons of debris.

In total darkness he crawled wearily down the Alpine height. Below he could hear painful groans and other sounds. In a few minutes he met D. Thomas, head manager, father of the late Edmund Thomas, Maindy Hall. He had just reached the bottom of the shaft when the explosion occurred, and had been blown in an opposite direction, and had now just recovered consciousness. He ascended on the iron bar. Sam, fresh from above, entered the workings. He was nearly done up, when he came to a door standing on an unused track, which had not been touched by the thundersome blast. The track was used as a short footpath from the interior of the workings.

On the other side of the door, which, alas! he was unable to open, he overheard the voice of prayer in Welsh. It was that of Thomas Rowland, the first man to start a Sunday school, by the invitation of Vicar Prichard, in Ystradyfodwg. He was the head deacon with the local Calvinistic Methodists. Sam was compelled to retreat, and went back to the surface and told the eager throng he had overheard Thomas Rowland at prayer.

The scene which ensued was overwhelming in its pathos. It appeared as if he had heard the voice of Cranmer bidding farewell to his country from the fires of martyrdom. Some days later Thomas Rowland was found dead on his knees, with his two little boys, one on each side of him. Thus the three had ascended "O'r dyrne anialwch, i'r beraidd baradwys i fyw." His grandsons reside at Tonyrefail.

On the morning of June 15, 1856, Sam, accompanied by his little boy, descended into Porth-Cymmer pit. He worked upwards of a mile beyond the bottom the shaft, attended by his boy. All the morning after the explosion people in all directions were asking, "Has Sam escaped?" About 3 o'clock in the day the explorers, including Daniel Thomas and T. T. Morgan, Penygraig, came upon twenty-four dead miners lying on their backs, having succumbed to the after-damp.

Among them was "Sam Hendreforgan," with his stiffened arm, like an iron band, around the frame of his dear little boy. After much difficulty the boy was taken from his father's tight embrace, and both were placed in a tram, which was pushed towards the bottom of the shaft. "Sam," said my informant, "was placed in a sitting posture, and as the tram traveled the shaking caused the bent arm to shake also. The movement of the arm was like one eagerly beckoning the rescuers as if saying, 'Give me back my boy.'"

A MODERN OTHELLO.

Wild Deeds of Jealousy Committed by Peter Marsincavitch—Tried to Mar Wife's Beauty.

Immortal Shakespeare has transmitted to posterity the sombre tragedy of Othello, the Moor and his blind, unreasoning distrust of the pure Desdemona, which culminated when the erstwhile gallant soldier and lover slew his blameless wife, but it remains for a twentieth century poet to chronicle the wild deeds of jealousy of a resident of the classic precincts of Ferdinand street, North Scranton.

There for many months dwelt one Peter Marsincavitch, known unto fame as "Polish Pete," in peace and harmony with his wife, the beautiful Rosalie. She was fair and virtuous, and her husband, strong of arm and brawn, was rightly fond of her. Three months ago Peter kissed his wife farewell and left for the soft coal region, whence he returned two weeks ago.

He found his home peaceful, clean and quiet as of yore, his long pipe waiting him on the shelf and the bottle in the closet. But in his wife's greeting the mighty Peter detected something lacking. He gazed at her long and then it donned upon him that perchance her loveliness might be as visible to others as to himself. Straightway the green-eyed monster entered his soul, and ere long Peter had worked himself into a veritable Berserker's wrath, as he thought of a good looking young boarder in the house and made him the Cassio of this modern Moor of Venice's frenzy. In his anger he vowed that Rosalie should not retain that beauty, which was causing him the loss of his happiness.

One morning, about a week ago, he awakened her long before sunrise and led her out into the woods near the Brisbin colliery. There he drew a knife and, holding its keen blade under her white throat, held out out in his other hand the bark of a tree, which he bade her swallow, lest she would die. The effects of the bark, he knew, would be to cause a swelling and discoloration of the lips, which would effectually alter the handsome contour of his wife's countenance.

The poor woman pleaded hard, but her obdurate husband commanded her to eat or die, and when she had obediently swallowed the bark, he exclaimed fiercely and abruptly, in Polish: "That is not enough. Sit down and I will cut those accursed locks, which render you so fair to other men." He then roughly cut her long tresses, and walked home with her, uttering fierce threats all the way, once when neighbors remonstrated, angrily shouting that if he so desired he would cut Rosalie into small bits and stow her away in a chest.

Last Sunday he beat her so cruelly that friends, hearing her cries, notified the police and "Polish Pete" was placed under arrest. Rosalie then informed Patrolman Hockenberry of the barbarous treatment afforded her and pointed out to him the tree, of which she had eaten the bark.

Peter was committed to the county jail last night by Magistrate Fidler, after a hearing at which the prisoner's father corroborated the wife's statements. Three hundred dollars bail and a $10 fine were imposed on Marsinavitch, who denied the charges.

IT'S UP TO THE COUNCILS

PRESIDENT SCRANTON WRITES TO THE RECORDER.

Announces That He Has Tired of Waiting for Councils to Ratify the $12,000 a Year Contract and Withdraws His Offer, with a Further Announcement That the "Temporary" Rate Will Be $15,000 a Year. Agitation for Municipal Water Plant May Be Started.

The expected has happened. President W. W. Scranton, of the Scranton Gas and Water company, having tired of waiting for councils to force the ordinance providing for a five year contract for the supply of water to the city, yesterday sent a letter to Recorder Connell withdrawing the company's former offer of $12,000 a year, and setting a new temporary figure of $15,000 a year until councils are willing to enter into a new agreement.

The full text of Mr. Scranton's letter, which makes most interesting reading, is printed below:

THE SCRANTON GAS AND WATER CO.

Scranton, Pa., July 29, 1901.

Honorable William L. Connell, Recorder of Scranton.

Dear Sir: On Sept. 28, 1900, I wrote Mayor Moir, calling his attention to the fact that the last of the city's contracts with us for water expired Oct. 1, 1899, and that, owing to the growth of the city and the enormously increased use of water for street washing, flushing the sewers, etc., the previous rates were no longer equitable, and suggesting a new contract more in accordance with existing facts.

NAMED LOW FIGURE.

Later in the season I met by request a committee of the select council appointed for the purpose, and, by order of our board, named a very low figure, compared with the prices paid by other cities of about this size, at which we would agree to furnish the city government with water for either five or ten years at its option. This price of $1,000 per month we understood to be entirely satisfactory, both to the committee and the councils. At the special request of Mr. Roche, new director of public works, we also, in order to show our good will, agreed to continue the then existing rate till April 1, 1901.

Although the matter of a new contract could easily have been put through in the two or three following meetings of councils, many months have now passed and the city authorities have yet brought the matter to no conclusion. On one pretext or another the matter has been held up till it is quite evident to us that for some reason or other unknown to us, the city does not desire the contract agreed upon. We also learn that the councils are considering the imposition on us of a special license tax, amounting to 5 per cent. of our gross receipts. Any thinking man, who will reflect that water rates in Scranton are about 25 per cent. lower than at any other place in this region from Forest City to Nanticoke, and who knows anything of the cost of supplying water in these coal regions, will see that the only way in which we could meet such an increase of our expenses would be by raising our rates, either to the city government, or to our other customers, or to both, to the level of other places in this valley. Under these circumstances, we request your honor to notify the councils that our late offer for water to the city is hereby withdrawn.

Should the councils choose to take the matter up again, we shall be pleased to meet, at their convenience, such committees as may be appointed. Temporarily, beginning Aug. 1, we will supply such water as the city government may need at $1,250 per month, provided our bills are paid promptly. I beg to call your honor's attention to the fact that our bills for April, May and June are not yet paid.

Yours truly,
W. W. Scranton, President.

ORDINANCE HELD UP.

The ordinance providing for the $12,000 contract, referred to in Mr. Scranton's letter, was first introduced in select council last summer and had not been passed when the councils reorganized last April. The result was that a new ordinance had to be introduced. This was done, and the measure was quickly passed by select council. It went over to the common branch and has not been seen or heard from since.

As far as can be learned, it is still in the hands of the light and water committee. Just why the common council has been so dilatory in considering the measure is not known, but ask anybody in city hall and a couple of dozen of different reasons will be advanced.

The company's bills for April, May and June, referred to in Mr. Scranton's letter, have not been paid for the reason that Recorder Connell, in the absence of a contract, has refused to countersign any warrants for their payment. These bills are at the rate of $1,000 per month.

The action of Mr. Scranton in announcing an increase of the rate by $250 per month provoked no end of comment yesterday and served to make one very prominent member of the select council desirous of starting once more the agitation for the establishment of a municipal water plant.

"I think that just about one more letter along similar lines would create a public sentiment in favor of the establishment of a municipal water plant," said he, "which would enable us to secure an overwhelming majority at the polls, if we could ever get councils to vote on the proposition."

HE HAS STATISTICS.

This councilman stands ready to bring the question to an issue, if he can secure the support of a few of his fellow-members in the select council. He has a series of statistics in his possession showing the approximate cost of bringing water to this city from the Susquehanna. These figures are based on surveys made by certain interested parties some few years ago.

The estimated cost of bringing the water within the city limits and of constructing and equipping a pump house is $385,000. The councilman in question believes that the issuance of $500,000 worth of bonds at the outset would be sufficient, allowing, as he does, the sum of $115,000 for the laying of distributing mains.

Recorder Connell will send Mr. Scranton's letter to select council Thursday night.

PRINCES OF BAGDAD.

They Conducted Election of Officers Last Night.

The Princes of Bagdad met last night and as is their wont were merry at Malta hall. The annual nomination, election and installation of officers was held, the ceremony being entirely of a public nature and witnessed by a large number of spectators.

Many ladies were among those present, the occasion being, in fact, ladies' night. After the initiation services, refreshments were served and a general social session ensued. Thomas Stewart was re-elected sultan, and the other officers are: Caliph, Frank Reese; khedive, J. M. Jones; pasha, T. H. Henshaw; vizier, Henry Moore; oriental guard, W. S. Bartlett; scratcher, E. T. Bone; grasper, Fred Myers; inside guard, Ira P. Ives. The initiation rites were principally of an amusing nature.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS.

They Will Be Held in This City Oct. 19.

Departmental civil service examinations will be conducted in this city Oct. 19, and all applications for positions must be filed with the civil service commission at Washington, D. C.

The positions to be filled are apprentice book binder, book typewriter, clerk qualified as stenographer and typewriter, compositor, electrotyper, elevator conductor, guard, internal revenue messenger, messenger boy, press feeder, pressman, promotion to clerk, stenographer, stenographer and typewriter, stereotyper, tagger, typewriter and watchman.

WILL CEASE OPPOSITION

Select Councilman Chittenden Is Content to Have Railroad Alley Sewer Constructed.

Select Councilman C. E. Chittenden yesterday announced that he would make no further objection to the passage of the ordinance providing for the construction of a $12,000 sewer on Railroad alley to relieve the Lackawanna avenue sewer.

Sunday night's heavy rain and its attendant results demonstrated to him, partly at least, that his plan of turning the water from Adams, Jefferson and Madison avenues into the sewer running down South Washington avenue, would not sufficiently relieve the Lackawanna avenue sewer as to prevent the flooding of basements. When seen yesterday, Mr. Chittenden said:

"Yes, I have decided to make no further opposition to the ordinance providing for this new sewer. The money is there and I'm about convinced that we might as well use it for this purpose as for any other. The water that came into these basements didn't do much damage, but as long as it keeps coming in we'll continue to have a general complaint from property owners, and if we can prevent this it may be for the best. I'm not altogether convinced that my plan was not the best, as Sunday night's rain was a phenomenal one and we may not have another like it for years."

City Engineer Phillips, with whom Mr. Chittenden had such a discussion regarding the new sewer, said that Sunday night's rain proved the truth of his conclusions.

"The flooding of the cellars along Lackawanna avenue," said he, "proved that Mr. Chittenden's plan was not worth considering. I consider that my arguments are more than borne out by the results of the storm and the only thing I'm worrying about now is whether my plans for the new sewer provide for one of sufficient size."

Mr. Phillips sent out several of the members of his corps yesterday morning with instructions to visit every business place on Lackawanna avenue below Wyoming and compile a list showing the height of the water in the basements of all those which were flooded by the backing up of the sewer water. The list given out yesterday afternoon, with the height of water in each, was as follows:

J. D. Williams & Company, 6 inches; Four Cent Store, 1 inch; Goldsmith's Shoe store, 1½ inches; Scranton House, 5 inches; Cassese's hotel, 4 inches; Lohmann's hotel, 6 inches; New York Department store, 7 inches; Krotosky Brothers, 6 inches; Hotel Scott, 8 inches; Coyne House, 6 inches; Fred Durr's, 4 inches; Myer Davidow's, 4 inches; Hotel Carroll, 4 inches.

Some of the "strict constructionists," who oppose the construction of the sewer, say that it cannot be legally constructed. They maintain that the wording of the sewer bond ordinance provided for the issuance of $12,000 worth of bonds for "the enlarging and reconstruction" of the First district main sewer. It is contended that the construction of an entirely new sewer is neither "the enlarging or reconstruction" of the present one, and maintain that it cannot be done.

UNIQUE FISHING POLE.

Presented to Superintendent Robling by Lieutenant Murphy.

Thomas P. Murphy, of West Scranton, ex-lieutenant in the Forty-ninth Volunteers, yesterday visited Superintendent of Police Frank Robling and presented him with a unique souvenir of the Philippines. When in composite form it appears to be merely a quaintly carved, rather bulky cane, but when in working order is really a splendid fishing rod, about eight feet in length.

It consists of four sections, all made of strong, light bamboo, and is about as neat a specimen of the skill of the Filipino wood-carver as has been seen in this section.

SCHWENKER THREE AHEAD

HE NOW HAS A CLEAR TITLE TO SECOND PLACE.

Miles, Buckingham and Lewis Also Brought in Points Yesterday in The Tribune's Educational Contest. None of the Young Ladies Heard from—Leaders Are Progressing Slowly—Still Time for a Few Earnest Workers, but They Must Begin Before August 15.

Standing of Contestants.

TABLE NO. 1.

If this was the last day, these would win:

		Points.
1.	Meyer Lewis, Scranton	556
2.	Henry Schwenker, South Scranton	366
3.	Miss Wilhelmina Griffin, Providence	363
4.	William Miles, Hyde Park	289
5.	Garfield Anderson, Carbondale	208
6.	Ray Buckingham, Elmhurst	142
7.	Miss Norma Meredith, Hyde Park	111
8.	Miss Vida Pedrick, Clark's Summit	99

TABLE NO. 2.

How many of these will be in Table No. 1 on the closing day?

		Points.
9.	August Brunner, jr., Carbondale	95
10.	Frank Kemmerer, Factoryville	63
11.	David O. Emery, Wimmers, Pa.	45
12.	Arthur C. Griffis, Montrose	39
13.	W. H. Harris, Hyde Park	23
14.	Miss Minnie Wallis, Carbondale	20
15.	E. J. Sheridan, Hawley	6
16.	Miss Jennie Ward, Olyphant	6
17.	Robert Campbell, Green Ridge	3

Henry Schwenker has a clear title to second place in The Tribune's Educational Contest this morning, as he leads Miss Wilhelmina Griffin by three points. It looked last week as if Miss Griffin would easily take second place away from Mr. Schwenker, but she has not turned in any points since Friday and the young man is again drawing ahead of her.

None of the young ladies scored yesterday, but William Miles, Ray Buckingham and Meyer Lewis increased their scores materially. Mr. Buckingham is gaining on Garfield Anderson, he being fifteen points nearer that young man than he was three weeks ago.

While there is just now a sharp contest for second place, still the leaders are not going ahead very rapidly, and there is a good chance for some new contestants to enter and forge rapidly to the front. The contest does not close until August 31, and new contestants will be received until August 15, but entries will positively close at that time. Anyone who is interested should send a postal to "Editor Educational Contest, Tribune, Scranton, Pa.," and full particulars, including a handsomely illustrated booklet, will be sent by return mail. If you wish to enter the contest, address the same as above and a book of subscription blanks will be sent so that you can begin work at once.

HE SPRAINED HIS KNEE.

E. B. Sturges Suffered a Painful Accident While Crossing the Ocean.

Word received by friends in this city has made known the fact that E. B. Sturges, of Green Ridge, the tireless head of the Municipal league, suffered a serious accident on shipboard, as a result of which he has been partly crippled during his entire journey.

It was first rumored that Mr. Sturges had broken a leg, but the authentic information is to the effect that he painfully sprained his knee, and as a result had to have his limb encased in a plaster cast. Mr. Sturges, wife and daughter, left New York June 20, on the Deutschland, and it was during the first few days of the outward trip that he slipped on shipboard and sustained the injury. Since then the party has visited Venice, Dresden, Berlin and other European points of interest and will leave for home Aug. 15.

SEE THE SCOTCH DANCING.

At the New Armory Next Monday Afternoon and Evening.

When the famous Kilty band opens at the new armory next Monday afternoon and evening they will no doubt be greeted by a large sized audience. There will be excellent music; music that will compare with anything ever heard in this city; singing by a vocal choir of considerable ability, and last but not least, several numbers of the programme will be Highland dancing, by dancers of national reputation. Don't fail to see this great aggregation of Canadians, that have been taking us Yankees by storm. The Buffalo Express spoke as follows of their concert in that city:

A warm welcome was given to the kilted musicians. The audience was of good size and very enthusiastic. The band is large and gives fine evidence of careful training. It gave a splendid programme. Realizing that a continuous flow of band music is apt to pall on the senses, the management interspersed the bill with characteristic dances of Scots and with chorus singing.