

The Scranton Tribune

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

THE PLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING. Table with columns for Display, Line, and Position, and rows for various rates.

There is no evidence to prove or reason to suspect that any governor of Pennsylvania ever took money for signing bills.

Truly Educational.

IT IS WORTHY of note that in the Junior Educational contest announced Saturday, involving a generous distribution of Christmas presents to the boys and girls of Northeastern Pennsylvania...

In searching the dictionary to find words built out of the letters in the words "Scranton Tribune" our young friends will naturally have this paper's name stamped on their memory...

Nobody connected with The Tribune knows how many allowable words can be formed under the rules of this contest. None of us has ever tried to find out. It will be an educational contest all around.

There is talk in Philadelphia of the Republicans naming for mayor one of the big retail merchants—Samuel D. Lit, for example, or Ellis A. Gimbel, if John Wanamaker could be induced to become the candidate of the opposition...

The Fate of the British Ministry.

NOT SINCE the evolution of that theory of constitutional government, that the cabinet is in name, as well as in fact, responsible for the management of the affairs of the British empire, has a ministry been placed in such an enviable position as that in which Lord Salisbury and his colleagues now find themselves.

When the Tory government, some seven years ago, turned out of office the Rosebery government, shortly after the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, and at the general election swept the country in its crusade against Home Rule, it had behind it not only an unprecedented majority of a hundred and forty votes on a division, but honest, and not unjustifiably, of hearing the intellect and a solid democratic majority of the electors of England.

Home Rule was dead, according to Mr. Chamberlain, and it only remained for Lord Salisbury to read its obsequies for it to be forgotten in the more pressing domestic and international affairs that awaited its oblivion.

and Chamberlain had the assurance to assert that the pro-Boers were not only the enemies of their country, but that they were responsible for the slaughter of their countrymen on the fields of battle, because they denounced the war as a politician's ambition and a nation's mistake.

The war was ended, it was believed, and Chamberlain not only claimed credit for the success of the undertaking but for its initiation. He little thought then that the war, so far from being ended, was only leading to another, if not more sanguinary, at least no less humiliating, harassing and expensive stage.

Few civilians will sympathize with the complaint in army circles at the head-jumping promotion of Captain Crozier to the chieftainship of the bureau of ordnance. It is admitted that he deserved it; therefore why should he not get it?

Common Sense About Indians. THE CONCLUSION announced by Indian Commissioner Jones that Indian education as now practiced does not pay and is practically a failure will astound many persons long accustomed to hear just the opposite from the Interior department.

There are now in operation, he says, "118 boarding schools for the Indians with an average attendance of something over 16,000 pupils, ranging from 5 to 21 years of age. These pupils were gathered from the cabins, the wigwag and the tepee. They were chosen not on account of any particular merit of their own, not by reason of mental fitness, but solely because they had Indian blood in their veins."

As if by magic, translated from a state of poverty to one of affluence. He is well fed and clothed and lodged. Books and all the accessories of learning are given him and teachers provided to instruct him. Matrons wait on him while he is well, and physicians and nurses attend him when he is sick. A steam laundry does his washing, and the latest modern appliances do his cooking. A library affords him relaxation for his leisure hours, athletic sports and the gymnasium furnish him exercise and recreation, while music entertains him in the evening. He has hot and cold baths and steam heat and electric light, and all the modern conveniences. All of the necessities of life are given him and many of the luxuries. All of this without money and without price or the contribution of a single effort of his own or of his people.

What should have been done from the beginning was to pay the ransom which the brigands demanded, not out of the pockets of the Indians, but out of the pockets of the Sultan of Bulgaria, and thus clear the way to the payment of the ransom from Bulgaria to Turkey, or, if necessary, from Turkey to Bulgaria. Colonel Dickinson is standing upon his dignity as a representative of a great nation. He might as well stand upon his head as he stands upon his feet.

What is the Macedonian committee about when we have heard so much? It is a political association to overthrow the Sultan's sovereignty in Macedonia, with the object of incorporating that stretched province into the Bulgarian principality. The Macedonians are a race of brigands. The whole population of the country take to brigandage as naturally as a duck takes to water.

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And certainly in Mr. Jones' conclusion many will share. "It is time to make a move toward terminating the guardianship which has so long been exercised over the Indians and paying them upon an equal footing with the white men so far as their relations with

the government are concerned. It is the opinion of the state to see that the Indian has the opportunity for self-support, and that he is afforded the same protection of his person and property as is given to others. That being done, he should be thrown entirely on his own resources to become a useful member of the community in which he lives, or, according as he exerts himself or fails to make an effort, the Indian should be removed from a state of dependence to one of independence. And the only way to do this is to take away these things that encourage him to lead an idle life, and after giving him a fair start, leave him to take care of himself. To that it must come in the end, and the sooner steps are taken to bring it about the better."

Fully rumors are now current as to why Collector Bidwell, of New York, was not reappointed. The fairest plan would be to make the facts public.

On Regulating Trusts.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that the industrial commission, which for a long period, has been taking and studying testimony bearing on the advisability of federal control of trusts, has concluded to report in favor of that proposition. It is convinced that great corporations practically controlling any industry should be made to submit their accounts to an inspection similar to that exercised by the government over national banks.

There would be two purposes in view in federal inspection; one, to guard the investing public against watered securities; the other, to prevent the crushing out of competition by jugglery with prices, as, for example, when competitors in one section are undersold while prices in other sections, where competition does not exist, are raised enough to make up. While it is not clear that federal inspection of books would be minute enough to do away with this practice, which lies at the bottom of most of the popular prejudice against large industrial combinations, it would at the least afford a check upon it and facilitate the disclosure of the truth.

To bring this system of inspection about it is thought that a national charter law will be sufficient to cover all industries engaged in interstate commerce. When it organized the national banking system congress levied a tax of 10 per cent, on the notes of state banks and offered special inducements to them to become national banks. Following this precedent, a federal charter act offering inducements for trusts already organized under state charters is suggested, which would make it undesirable for the trusts not to do this. It is proposed to place a federal tax, either on the products of a corporation with a capitalization above a certain figure, when sold in a state where they were not produced, or on the corporations themselves.

As officially described by Henry H. Nelson, of the United States Hydrographic office, the sea serpent is about 100 feet long, with three sets of fins, a tail lying crosswise like a porpoise, a head with blunt, square nose and nostrils capable of throwing a water spout three feet high. Henry saw all this at 11 a. m., on Oct. 21, in the Gulf of Mexico, about 120 miles southwest of the mouth of the Mississippi river. We shall have to take Henry's word for it.

For next year \$25,000,000 in improvements, including 19,000 new cars and 100 new locomotives, has been voted by the Pennsylvania Railroad company. These are Republican times.

On the Effort to Rescue Miss Stone

Editor of The Tribune—It comes as a very diplomatic shot made to release Miss Stone has not merely proved alive, but has tried to prevent her release upon terms which are reasonable and practical. The latest dispatch from Sofia indicates that Colonel Dickinson has left for Constantinople, but does not seem clear what good he can effect there. It must be assumed that he is acting according to his light, that he has some information upon which he can depend, and that he is determined to follow up. However that may be, it is abundantly clear from the progress of the negotiations entered into with the brigands since Miss Stone's capture that Colonel Dickinson must either be a very unscrupulous or a very incompetent field commander.

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fect them now, and who will shield them from the consequences of their deed if they murder this man.

Since the above was written a later dispatch says that Mr. Dickinson has returned from Constantinople to Sofia with \$100,000 in gold and the inevitable ultimatum. I only hope the brigands will accept the gold, even if in doing so they laugh heartily at the good man's ultimatum. The brigands are not fools. Very likely they are cultured Greeks who prefer to treat the Greeks in the classical Greek in which St. Paul wrote, and preached around the Temple of Jupiter to the Romans, than in a version of the modern Hellenic tongue.

A pound Turkish in gold is equivalent to about eighteen shillings in British money, or a little over four dollars. The brigands, if I am not mistaken, demand a hundred and twenty thousand dollars, or twice as much again as Mr. Dickinson has taken with him from Constantinople. Miss Stone's position is growing more precarious every day. Mr. Dickinson's great and estimable services are being rendered in a most commendable and heroic manner. He has been told by the Russian representative, who was ordered by his government to do everything within his power to obtain the release of Miss Stone, that he was only endeavoring to undertake the ransom of not a few of their countrymen under almost identical circumstances. Mr. Dickinson goes his own way, acting under his own sense of duty and sense of responsibility, upon his own personal responsibility. As I have already said, he might as well be thundering ultimatums at Mount Olympus as shooting them at the brigands. Miss Stone's safety and their power, and she will remain so until the money is paid or her life forfeited. —P. M. Greer, Scranton, Nov. 22.

PROGRESS IN PORTO RICO.

The commissioner of education of Porto Rico, Dr. M. G. Brumbaugh, professor of pedagogy at the University of Pennsylvania, from which he has been granted a leave of absence, in a communication to the dean of the law department of the university has enclosed a most encouraging report of the remarkable work accomplished by the commission.

He said in part that the recent gift of \$100,000 by Mr. Carnegie for a free public library was a great gain for Porto Rico, and has already produced many wonderful results. He spoke very enthusiastically of the commission's activity, and of the eager and wonderful enthusiasm displayed with Porto Rico in all educational enterprises. On Nov. 8, Dr. Brumbaugh and Dr. George W. Hunt, the governor, started on a tour of the island. Dr. Brumbaugh lecturing in numerous places on our American institutions, which is the first propaganda with the people of the island direct. On Nov. 8, Dr. Brumbaugh laid the corner stone of the Insular Normal school at Rio Piedras. This school building will cost more than \$50,000, and once its establishment entirely to the hands of Dr. Brumbaugh, who also planned every detail of this undertaking.

In an interesting report which accompanied Dr. Lewis' letter, the commissioner said, in part, that the average schools in Porto Rico is now nine months, which is higher than in many of the public schools in the United States. The average daily attendance for the last nine months, he said, was 75 per cent, which, he said, is a very good percentage for the Porto Rican system among the natives, the percentage of attendance being higher than in any other state in the Union, except in Massachusetts, which exceeds it by but a few per cent.

In speaking of schools he reports that under the military government they had only 612 schools; the number now exceeds 1,000 schools, in which, and eight more are in process of construction, there being only 100 good American desks for pupils on the island prior to his commission. During the coming year they expect to add about 2,000 additional desks.

The demand for new schools greatly exceeds the supply. Although one-fourth of the revenue from taxes has been set apart by the natives for the advancement of education, the \$1,000,000 in bonds and other securities recently placed, their being only 100 good American desks for pupils on the island prior to his commission. During the coming year they expect to add about 2,000 additional desks.

The local school boards this year for the first time will have money to pay all their debts, which is the financial status reached in 1900 year. Power alone was \$8,000 in arrears last year. The total cost to the insular government of a pupil in the schools established by the commission is only \$12 per annum.

Dr. Brumbaugh closes his report by commenting on the enthusiasm and educational spirit exhibited by the natives, saying that they would have had the support of public sentiment had they voted double the amount of the \$100,000 budget for the maintenance of schools.

ALWAYS BUSY. A child has been made a mistake when he sought to connect the Macedonian committee with the brigands. Perhaps it is so connected, but he should have known better than to try to have the Bulgarian government to control a political organization which might order the assassination of Prince Ferdinand and his ministers at will. Not only could it do so, but it would probably do so if the Bulgarian government raised a finger against it.

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Christmas Gifts for the Children



THE TRIBUNE'S JUNIOR EDUCATIONAL CONTEST

Gold and Silver Watches, Sleds, Skates, Games, Toys, Etc. Estimate the Number of Words. How many words do you think there are in the letters in "Scranton Tribune?"

To be given to the Boys and Girls of Northeastern Pennsylvania who succeed in making the largest number of words out of the letters in S-C-R-A-N-T-O-N T-R-I-B-U-N-E. Four Weeks of Amusement for Winter Evenings.

Prizes will be given to the boy or girl, under 16 years of age, building the largest number of words out of the letters contained in "Scranton Tribune."

Plurals formed by adding "s" or "es" not allowed. Only words found in the main portion of "Webster's International Dictionary" (edition of 1898) will be allowed. Proper names, or any other names appearing in the "Appendix" will not be allowed. Under this rule the words "Scranton" and "Tribune" are debarred.

Write your name and address, age and total number of words at the top of your list. Contest closes Saturday, December 21, at 6 p. m.

CONTEST EDITOR, Scranton Tribune, Scranton, Pa.

Employees of The Tribune Are Debarred from Entering These Contests.

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REMOVAL SALE

CARPETS WALL PAPER We will occupy our magnificent new building at our former location, 129 Wyoming Avenue, about December 1st, and have determined to close out at once prior to removal of our present stock. To do this we have decided to CUT OUR PRICES DEEPLY throughout our entire stock. Every article in our store has been purchased for this season's trade and this offering of NEW GOODS AT CUT PRICES will appear to prudent buyers who know the reputation of the store and the high class of merchandise offered. We can and will save you money if you but take advantage of this great sale.

GOODS STORED FREE OF CHARGE. Williams & McNulty, Temporary Store, 127 WYOMING AVENUE. RUGS