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 real name; and the condition precedent to ac-ceptance is that all contributions shall be subejct to editorial revision.

THE FLAT RATE FOR ADVERTISING. The following table shows the price her inceach insertion, space to be used within one year Run of Siding on Full Paper Reading Position

For eards of thanks, resolutions of condolence and similar contributions in the nature of an vertising Tie Tribune makes a charge of a cent a line. Rates for Classified Advertising furnished or

SCRANTON, JANUARY 8, 1902.

The renomination at last night's Seventeenth ward primaries of Frank S. Barker for school controller by a handsome plurality, after a spirited but friendly fight, is a satisfactory outcome. Mr. Barker has proved his worth in the school board, and it would have been unwise to displace him. Under the circumstances, his two competitors made very complimentary showings.

Public Baths.

UCH HAS been said, and much more ought to be be said, about the need of free public baths in This is a very real need in every large city. To supply it is as much within the proper function of municipal government as for the city to own its water works, sewers or

Next to free public baths in value to the community come baths under private auspices, at low cost. Indeed, there is good argument for not making municipal baths free, but for flxing the price at a figure which will make the enterprise self-sustaining with good management. Most cities having public bathing facilities now make small charges. The effect of them is to induce a more genuine interest on the part of the public, which is not inclined to value highly what is free.

We notice in a Philadelphia exchange that so successful has been the work of the Public Baths association of that city that it is to enlarge its facilities. It built a bath and wash house in Gaskill street four years ago, provided excellent accommodations with privacy for the small price of five cents a bath and soon did a land-office business. The average this last year was over one thousand baths a week. Thus encouraged, the organizers of this practical work of benevolence have determined to locate a new establishment on Wood street, in a section offering large promise of ready patronage. It will cost \$12,000 and give accommoda tions for 60,000 baths a year. The article from which these facts are taken does not say whether the baths are self-sustaining or a source of profit but the presumption is that no profit is made, if, indeed, the managers do not have to reach into their pockets to cover a deficit.

the unwashed in our large cities could has reached: be reached periodically by soap and scrubbing brush, many of the perplex- vinced us that one of the chief obing problems of city life would disaphow a kindly disposed man of large means, if desiring to leave some memorial of himself to the city of Scranton, could choose more wisely than to endow a series of conveniently located bathing establishments wherein that grace which is next to godliness might be secured upon terms tending to make It popular,

Of course the United States wants the best canal route; but it does not want such a delicate weighing of the question that it will be generations before a canal shall be built.

Unpublished History.

N PUBLIC discussions of our for-Civil war. The records of the state de- she pays her merchant marine. partment contain no evidence upon this subject; and yet, if we may credit a version of facts put forth by the New York Sun in a recent issue, the service which Russia rendered to this country on that occasion was of the first im-

In the "Life of Thurlow Weed" the distinct assertion is made that immediately after Louis Napoleon had invited Russia and England to join with France in breaking the North's block- instincts and with an unbroken record ade of the Confederate ports, and at the of intelligence and intrepidity on the height of the public and official excite- ocean, from Paul Jones to George ment in England over the seizure of Dewey, this is little short of a national But healthful labor makes muscles strong, Mason and Slidell, Czar Alexander II disgrace. In this age of steam and personally wrote instructions to the electricity 'the field is the world.' We Russian Sect, practically placing it at need fast mail ships as well as fast Though to peaks of song he no'er has seared, the command of President Lincoln in mail trains and the true principle of Or the wild bird's song he knows every chord. case any European power made a hos-tile move. This statement is borne out difference in cost of building and runtile move. This statement is borne out difference in cost of building and runat least to the extent that a Russian ning an American ship as compared But he hath a knowledge of his own.

fleet did lay for months in New York with a foreign vessel of equal class. Gained from the study of herds and flocks. harbor and one in San Francisco har- This is what the revised Frye bill does hor under sealed orders, and it was but it ought to go a step further and understand in certain circles in New include those ships of foreign build for Natur's voice comes swill and low York that the mission of these twin now owned by Americans who have fleets was not unfriendly.

letter Mr. Bigelow refers to another the cost of a ship, from the mining of letter, received by him from Mr. Sew- the ore to the weaving of the colors, and in the summer of 1862, before he is labor."

Ye and your lik the world could spare the ore to the weaving of the colors, and in the summer of 1862, before he is labor." ard in the summer of 1862, before he is labor."

in that letter, following a discussion of various matters, wrote these significant words, which in Mr. Bigelow's opinion bear directly upon the point in controversy: "Between you and myself alone, I have a belief that the European state, whichever one it may be, that commits itself to intervention any-

we are no longer alarmed by demon-

strations of interference."

Mr. Bigelow adds: "Shortly after my return from France in 1867, I spent a few days in Washington, during which recognition on the part of the Washthe czar toward the United States in '62, but I doubt if there was any member of either house of congress who supposed the government then had any other motive in the purchase of Alaska than to recognize its obligations to the

Accepting as true these interpretations of facts, there is yet to be explained the czar's motive. We should like to have an authoritative opinion on that subject.

as expansive as of yore,

Plenty of Time for Reflection. ARIOUS versions of the interview had by Admiral Schley with the president have appeared in print, all of them

doubtless guesswork. All that is known is that Schley asked for the interview that it lasted nearly an hour, and that at its conclusion the admiral said it was a friendly meeting, concerning which he could not talk. The drift of the newspaper gossip re

garding the matter is to the effect that the admiral, acting on the advice of his counsel and intimate friends. asked the president to review the evidence and thus virtually reopen the case. It is freely conceded that a refusal is anticipated. The fact that Schley is about to begin a tour of the South and West has raised the belief that a political turn is to be given to the matter. The Democrats are evidently eager to locate a new issue Their need of one is pathetic,

It is possible that if an election were to be held tomorrow with Schley in the forefront a majority might be returned adverse to the administration, but it is a long time until the next election; and before the Interval shall have been spanned time will have intervened for a lot of sober thinking by men who are not now in a frame of mind to deal calmly with facts.

The difficulty in proceeding against boycotters at present seems to consist in the fact that it is hard to prove that the boycotted have suffered to any extent from the seal of disapproval. The boycott appears to be more dangerous before than after tak-

An Intelligent Statement.

HE United States Export association is a non-partisan business association to widen American markets and Yet we can think of few ways in keep labor and capital profitably emwhich money intended for benevolent ployed. Its membership comprises purposes can be so wisely placed as in leading houses in 98 principal indusencouraging cleanliness. Cleanliness tries situated in 34 states. It has made of body is essential to cleanliness of a careful study of the ship subsidy mind and hear. If the multitudes of problem and this is the conclusion it

"Our study of this subject has con-

stacles to a larger export business is pear. It would be difficult to figure out the lack of an American merchant marine. Every ship is a missionary of trade, and steamship lines work for their own countries just as railroad lines work for their terminal points, It is as absurd for us to rely on foreign ships to distribute our goods as it would be for one business house to depend upon the wagons of a competing house to make its deliveries. A merchant navy is as necessary as a war navy and each supplements and helps the other. There ought not to be any politics in either. Political traditions and shibboleths should have no place here. 'It is a condition and not a theory.' Our competitors for the world's trade have built up their merchant marine by subsidies and even eign relations the statement has now are paying twenty-eight millions frequently been made and denied 'of dollars a year for that purpose, that Russia helped to prevent France has within a few days passed foreign interference with us during our an act largely increasing the subsidy

"We have built up our magnificent railway system by subsidies in land. money and mail pay until it carries our products for one-half the rates charged by the railways of other countries, but 'we have starved our merchant marine until from 90 per cent, of our exports once carried in American ships, it has diminished to 9 per cent. For a nation with a coast line greater than any other; a nation of maritime been ploneers in investing their money In corroboration of this assertion the in the ocean carrying trade, but not Sun now prints a letter from John extend it so far as to include others Bigelow, at the time our consul at yet to come. We want to use American Paris, and an intimate friend of Mr. | materials and employ American labor Seward, our secretary of state. In this in the future. Ninety per cent. of Ye are but combrances on earth letter Mr. Bigelow refers to another the cost of a ship, from the mining of

bad heard of the arrival of the Russian | There is no getting away from the

soundness of these conclusions. They point to a duty that the Republican majority in congress must not shirk.

Upon the supposition that Senator Platt, of New York, may not care to return to the senate, the problem of choosing his successor is engaging the attention of the Empire State Rewhere in North America, will sooner or publicans. The plain drift of preferlater fetch up in the arms of a native ence is toward former Governor Frank of an Oriental country not especially S. Black, and it is a natural circumdistinguished for amiability of manners stance, considering that Mr. Black or temper. " " " It might perhaps made one of the best governors the be well if it were known in Europe that state ever had, is a public speaker of extraordinary merit and has done service for the party farrly entitling him to advancement at its hands.

An interesting token of Russlan time I had frequent interviews with friendliness for the United States is Mr. Seward, and occasionally met at given in the Russian government's his house Monsieur Bodisco, the Rus- placing at the disposal of Dr. Horace sian minister at Washington. The pur- N. Allen, our newly-appointed minischase of Alaska from Russia had just ter to Corea, a special car to take him been consummated. Of course neither by rail from St. Petersburg over the Mr. Seward nor Monsieur Bodisco said Trans-Siberian railroad to Port Ardistinctly to me that that purchase was thur. Dr. Allen will be the first made purely and simply as a gracious American to make this journey, and it will be one well worth making, for ington government of the attitude of the service on this great Russian railroad is not surpassed anywhere on earth.

Last year the mines of the United States contributed to the world's wealth \$1,650,000,000. These figures convey little meaning to the mind. Maybe they will be more clearly understood when we say that if the products of American mining industries during the past year were converted nto silver dollars and placed in a row with the flat sides together, the string The smile of the Chinese dragon is of dollars would extend from New York to San Francisco and back again. This is a great country.

In the forthcoming or sixteenth annual report of the commissioner of labor of the United States, Hon. Carroll D. Wright, which is expected from the press in the course of the next few months, an exhaustive study of the strikes and lockouts of the past twenty years is to be presented. There is reason to believe that it will prove an eye-opener to workingmen.

Many of the farms given away to original settlers in Oklahoma two years ago, are now selling for \$10,000 apiece. With an area the size of Ohio, half a million good people owning property the assessed valuation of which is \$300,000,000, and having every modern convenience and comfort, it is going to be hard to keep Oklahoma from soon becoming a state.

Editor Meek, of the Bellefonte Watchman, who has been sued for libel by State Treasurer-elect Frank G. Harris, on account of the publication during the last campaign of slanderous attacks, threatens to subpoena every politician of note in the state and "lift the lid." Our recollection is that this threat has been made before.

Twenty years ago there were not more than 5,000 telephones in use in this country. The latest figures show that there are now in use more than 2,000,000 phones. When that Kentucky farmer gets his wireless phone system in working order, telephones will be a drug on the market.

To the unjudicial mind, it always seems as though there was something wrong with the "stop, look and listen" technicality that has been the means of saving so much money for corporations in case of accident.

Latest reports indicate that Webster Davis is becoming more moderate. He is now willing to divide the blame for the continuation of the Boer war between President Roosevelt and con-

It is feared in some quarters that the Saving Sale absence of red fire and ginger in President Palma's policy may make it unpopular with his constituents in the late insurrection.

The proposed bill against flirting, which has been introduced in the New York legislature, will, if enacted, probably open up a new field for expert testimony.

From long range, it looks as though the advance agents of the Chinese court began to put on airs rather early in the game.

It is pleasing to note that the Hanna and Foraker factions have promised to be merciful to cach other.

THE MAN WITH THE HOE.

For The Tribune. "The man with the loot" is a libel base On the noblest of the human race; For the noblest that the world bath known, They who have great merit shown, And the noblest that the world doth know, Are the sons and daughters of the man with th

Take all the pathways that lead to fame, And of the pilgrims ask whence they came, And you'll learn that they who the highest go Spring from the stock of the man with the ho Doth it accord with Nature's law That slanted brew and lockened jaw. Stolid, stunned brother of ox should sire Those whom the whole world doth admire? The man with hoe by his wholesome toil, Tis the man with the hoe who sows the sec-That a hungry multitude doth feed. Mankind would be both naked and cold, If the man with the hoe did not tend the fold. For the things that mankind cannot forego Are all the products of the man with the hoe. And a conscience clear helps him along. Thousands beneath its weight may fall. But his rugged frame survives them all. And trees, and rills, and fields, and rocks-To the willing ears of the man with the hos. Simply pions, and sternly just. He gives to God unquestioning trust,

OUR GREATEST NEEDS.

Sir: The following are a few of the many reasons why congress should pass a liberal ship subsidy bill immediately:

Hecause our tonnage of merchant marine is

ause our tomage of hierenam, manife, 5,524,218 grees toms, against Great Britain's 14,004,152,

Because we have only enough vessels to properly do the business of our likes, rivers, but bors and enasts.

Because we have only one line of mid-our

steamers crossing the Atlantic to Europe, only seven steamers crossing the Pacific to Asia, and only three steamers to Australia. Because, south of the Carribean sea and the istimus, there is no regular line of American steamers to either coast of American steamers to either coast of American steamers carried, only 8.2 per cent, of our exports and im-

orts. The lowest percentage in our history.

Because our position on the sea, except of
necessing many, is insignificant. Because Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy Japan and other nations have subsidized regular nes of fast steamers to North and South Amica, Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe, to the extent of \$20,000,000 annually.

Atent of \$20,000,000 annually.

Because the United States is the largest producer of steel and coal, enabling us both to mild and run many more vessels readily. Because, in a time of war and at all timos, inless our merchant marine is largely increased, we see, at the mercy of foreign nations for the carrying of 51.8 of our gigantic exports and im-

Very truly yours, -Walter J. Ballard. Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 7.

REBUKED BY THE BISHOP.

Bishop Whittle tells the following little story of the nervous meetings in a lonely mountain listrict," said the bishop. "The people were soor and ignorant, and had to come a long way o attend the services, but they usually showe up in time. One night I was feeling sick, nerv ous, easily rattled. Right down in front of the crowd facing me sat a handsome young woman with a child in her arms. The child began whim pering and crying. It kept on, every minute i threatened to yell aloud, and I could not its my attention on the audience for its wailing. Every word I uitered was punctuated by a cry or gasp and finally I became so rattled that I could en-dure it no longer. 'Madam,' I said, addressing the mother, 'will you not take your child out o the room. I find it useless to preach while it is making such a disturbance.'
"'No, sic; I will not,' was the reply. 'I have

arried this child four miles over a rough mo taln road in order to hear you tonight, and if had patience enough to do that you should hav enough to stand my child's crying.'
"Never was I so reproved," said the hish That ignorant woman gave me a lesson I have ever forgotten. The fatigue and discomfort sloudered in order to hear the word of God wa a rebuke to my display of nervous irritability and possibly the child, penned up in a close crowded room with strange faces around it, has

JUVENILE HUMOR.

"My ma syas I'm the best boy In all the town, you know: And I believe it, for you see, What my ma says is so,

"Does your father know very much?" asker one small boy of another,
"Well," replied the other, "he knows me
and I'm a good deal."

"Who was George Washington, Nellier" asked be teacher of a little girl in the primary de-"He was Mrs. Washington's second husband, as the truthful but rather unexpected reply, "Manema," said little Johnny at the breakfast ble the other morning, "this is awful old but "Why do you think it is old, dear?" usked hi

"Cause," replied Johany, "I just found

Little Clara tossed about in her bed, looking t the moon, which was beaming brightly through the curtainless window. Finally, being unable to stand it any longer, she clasped her hands is prayer and said: "Please, Lord, blow out your lamp so I can go to sleep." "Manama," said 4-year-old Bobby, "what is that white stuff on my berries? "That is what we call whipped cream," an-

A few days later Bobby dined at a neighbor's

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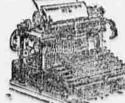
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