

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 acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

Table with columns: DISPLAY, Run of Paper, Reading Position, Full Position. Rows include Low than 500 inches, 500 to 1000, 1000 to 2000, 2000 to 3000, 3000 to 4000.

SCRANTON, MARCH 21, 1902.

In view of the fact that a Republican administration is called upon to pull the chestnuts out of the fire, this wealth of Democratic sympathy for the struggling Boers; starving Cuban sugar planters, etc., is almost too touching for contemplation.

Meet the Issue Squarely.

IN their eagerness for something to howl about, the Democratic leaders at Washington have fixed upon the Crumacker movement to investigate the disfranchisement of voters and are now sounding the party tocsin with demagogical energy, evidently hoping to make up in noise what they lack in argument.

Well, we see no reason why the Republicans should modify their programme because of this outcry. It would hardly be expected that the Southern chivalry who are in congress by virtue of disproportionate representation due to nullification of the Fourteenth amendment would exhibit enthusiasm in welcoming an inquiry into the frauds by which they exist, politically.

The representative whites of the South, who are not dependent upon politics for a livelihood, freely admit that they would willingly lose representation if necessary to do away with the fear of negro political domination.

The ratifications of the Danish West Indies sale are coming in by every mail.

Society Not Degrading.

REVELATIONS in the Florence Burns case in New York have caused a shock in many circles and brought from the pulpit many stirring sermons. Undoubtedly these revelations are significant. The fact that a whole coterie of young men and women, coming from well-to-do homes and not driven to vice from corrupt surroundings or necessity, should deliberately have chosen to cultivate unlawful relations indicates a serious defect in their moral training.

Yet we refuse to believe that such episodes in the social life in our large cities are widely representative. It was Minot J. Savage who said, the

other day, that clean living never got into the newspapers, because it wasn't spicy enough. There is a great deal of truth in that. The wholesome ways of self-respecting men and women, whether married or unmarried, present no particular points of public interest, and the consequence is that the emphasis of type is saved for scandal and crime.

That the preponderance of publicity given to vice warns us not to be deceived thereby. No doubt there are a few Florence Burnes and Walter Brookses in every populous community and have always been since human nature began. If there were not there would be no particular reason why the millennium might not start at once.

The fact that men of supposed good morals can be found to stand up in congress and object to the passage of a measure for the better protection of the life of the president of the United States is one of the strongest arguments in favor of its enactment.

Restricting Immigration.

THERE has been introduced in the house at Washington with favorable recommendation from committee a bill which represents, we are told, the fruit of much study of the problem of how best to restrict immigration. It brings together in one act a number of acts in relation to immigration passed at different times by congress; and it also imposes additional checks and conditions.

Undoubtedly this act is satisfactory so far as it goes; but the question remains, Ought we not to restrict more comprehensively, at least for a time? There are a number of careful students of social and economic conditions who, without entertaining any prejudice against foreigners as a class or being at all in sympathy with nativist movements, believe with Dr. Francis A. Walker that it is time for the United States to take a rest from wholesale immigration, in order that the great unassimilated hordes already in many parts of our country may have an opportunity to become Americanized.

While a total suspension of immigration would not be practicable in the present status of international intercourse, it is worthy of careful thought whether there ought not to be a very marked curtailment for a time of the incoming tide. This is demanded by proper concern for the welfare of the American workingman, who needs protection against low-wage competition; but it seems desirable from the much broader standpoint of the social and political welfare of all grades and conditions of the American people. A resolute movement by congress toward such a condition of restriction, if made judiciously and without show of prejudice, would, we believe, be approved by a large majority of the substantial inhabitants of this country, both native born and foreign. It would not mean that immigration is unwelcome, but that it must adapt itself to the assimilative powers and capacity of the welcoming hosts. It is not inhospitability to suggest when the house is full and people are sleeping on the floor that the front door be closed until more room can be arranged.

An appropriation of \$500,000 for public baths has just been made in New York. We have no doubt that it is needed.

According to Professor Loeb, the Chicago scientist who has undertaken to reproduce life artificially, intellect is merely the establishment of mechan-

ical equilibrium. When the professor gets his process perfected for establishing equilibrium-let us hope he will let it become public.

A member of the "Telephone Club" company has joined the salvation army in hopes that she may in a measure atone for the sins of appearing in the play. This is a hint that the authors could contemplate with spiritual profit, the best as well as the worst of them, have printed more words about the doings of the telephone--its tragedies, vice and tumult--than about all the other portions of the metropolis combined, notwithstanding that the population of this center of capitalized sin is a small fraction of that of the entire city.

Turkey evidently does not wish to deprive the contributors of the fund to ransom Miss Stone of any satisfaction that may have accompanied the sacrifice.

There is some doubt just at present whether the government or the rebels at Columbia are in greatest need of Democratic sympathy.

This chilly load that lingers in the lap of spring is enough to make one countermand his order for early garden seeds.

Outline Studies of Human Nature.

Praying Large.

When Clifton Johnson was traveling in Ireland, he sat down one day in a cottage to talk with an old woman. After dinner he went to bed, and the old woman at once spread out her hands in supplication, crying: "God bless and save us and save his honor and save the people and all of us!"

A Story for Boys.

Prof. Fleming, having referred to the services of Helmholtz in connection with the science of sound, told his young hearers at the Royal Institution a good story of the great physicist when a boy. A Berlin astronomer had three beds at his house. After dinner he went down to the observatory to look at the stars.

Maintaining Discipline.

A quaint story of a master builder and a British workman is told by a trade journal. Having heard that the men did not start work at the proper time, the employer thought he would drop down about 6.30 one morning and see. Going up the yard, he caught sight of a fellow standing smoking with his hat on even though it was raining.

A Joke on Bishop Burgess.

The clergy of the diocese of Long Island are chuckling over what they regard as a good joke on their recently chosen bishop, the Rev. Dr. Frederick Burgess. It may be recalled that the recent convention at which Dr. Burgess was elected lasted from early morning until past midnight. Ballot after ballot was taken, and an elegantly had a majority. Finally Dr. Burgess arose and made a motion to adjourn.

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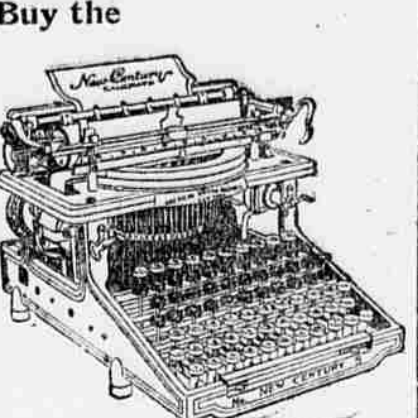


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