

**The Scranton Tribune**

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LIVV S. RICHARD • • • • EDITOR,  
O. F. BYXBEE • • • BUSINESS MANAGER.

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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. It is also the general rule that the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.**

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**TEN PAGES.**

SCRANTON, OCTOBER 30, 1902.

**REPUBLICAN TICKET.**

State.  
Governor—W. PENNYPACKER.  
Lieutenant Governor—W. M. BROWN.  
Secretary of Internal Affairs—ISAAC B. BROWN.

**County.**

Congress—WILLIAM CONNELL.  
Judge—A. A. VOSBURG.  
Commissioner—JOHN COURIER MORRIS.  
Treas. JOHN PENN.  
Mississippi—WILLIAM M. EVANS.  
ANS. DAVID T. WILLIAMS.

**Legislative.**

Senator—JOHN B. JORDAN.  
Representatives—  
First District—JOSEPH OLIVER.  
Second District—JOHN SHEAHER, JR.  
Third District—EDWARD JAMES.  
Fourth District—P. A. PHILBIN.  
Election day Nov. 4.

As a matter of information for Lynd's hot air Times, we make mention that the stenographer of the Orphans' court is not Mr. Connell's private secretary, but John M. Edwards, a native of Hyde Park, a first class stenographer and a good fellow. A better selection could not have been made.

**Aents of Civilization.**

THE PEOPLE of Scranton and of the community of which it is the center cordially welcome the coal strike arbitration commission and trust that its visit here may be pleasant as well as instructive and beneficial. The purpose of the visit commands itself to the good judgment of everybody—mine workers, operators and public alike. In a sense, the commission is the eye of the people, upon whose retina are to be registered the exact facts bearing upon the recent controversy. It will perform no better service than to serve as a means of enlightening the great third party in interest upon conditions with respect to which there have been much misunderstanding and a great deal of ignorance. By visiting not only the mines but the miners and mine workers in their homes, noting their social conditions, standards of living and opportunities for the education and advancement of their children, the members of this august tribunal, whose findings are to have the moral force of ultimate law, will be enabled through their final report to inform the anxious public at a distance and dispel misconception.

In the heat of controversy extreme pictures have been exhibited on both sides, not necessarily to mislead but actually tending to confuse the opinions of laymen. One extreme has represented the miner as without just grievance, a phenomenon of prosperity amounting almost to affluence, while on the other hand the idea has been conveyed to the outside world that he is a personification of abject destitution, residing in a tumble-down shack, ground down by odious tyranny and little less than a slave and a serf. We have no doubt that the commissioners will find instances in which some miners are very prosperous and others quite as notably destitute. Extremes of life are as natural in the coal fields as elsewhere. But we have equal faith that their observations will enable them to put the stamp of falsity upon much that has libeled the workers of this valley, and that when they shall have completed the exhaustive examination on the ground which is wisely included in the scope of their duties they will take with them upon departure a hopeful view of the conditions present and prospective in the anthracite territory and a belief that the opportunities here open to thrift, enterprise and fidelity in economic relations will sustain favorable comparison with those of any American community having similar complexities of population and intricacy of employments.

The distinguished gentlemen to whom the American people, through their patriotic and fearless president, have committed the solution of our industrial perplexities go to the practical part of their task secure in public confidence and entitled to the fullest cooperation. They signalize personality the triumph of reason over prejudice, passion and tendencies toward anarchy; and there is no more urgent public or private duty than to facilitate their labors and uphold their hands.

The anthracite commission evidently does not intend to be regarded as an ornamental body only.

**A Chapter of History.**

ON FEB. 10, 1892, a combination of the Reading, Jersey Central and Lehigh Valley railroads was announced, known as the "McLeod combine," and clearly in conflict with the Pennsylvania constitution, which, in Article XVII, section 4, says that "no railroad, canal or other corporation, or the lessees, purchasers or managers of any railroad or canal corporation, shall consolidate the stock, property or franchises" of such corporation with, or lease or purchase the works or franchises of, or in any way control any other railroad or canal corporation owning or having under its control a parallel or competing line."

Eight days later the governor of

Pennsylvania and his attorney general announced that nothing would be done about it unless formal complaint should be made. The day following, formal complaint was made, by A. J. Cassatt, of Philadelphia, and T. V. Powderly, of Scranton, whereupon the governor of Pennsylvania announced that he had referred the matter to the attorney general. This official went through some motions of activity in the matter, but nothing resulted, and it was left to the governor of Pennsylvania to say in his message of 1893 that the "combine" had been broken, not by the action of Pennsylvanians, but by that of a sister state, New Jersey. Two years later this same governor said in his message that the case against the coal combine had been dropped because the companies had promised to be good.

Who was this governor of Pennsylvania and who was his attorney general? You can see them both if you will go to the Lyceum tonight. The governor was Hon. Robert E. Pattison, whose present specialty is claiming that the Republican party is subservient to corporations; and the attorney general was Hon. William U. Henley, now a fierce arraigner of Republicans because it does not deal vigorously with trusts.

We charge that the "anti-machine" bosses deliberately cheated T. P. Hoban out of the nomination for the Orphans' court judgeship, taking advantage of his absence at the bedside of his dying mother. There's a topic for Marty Howell and we suggest its discussion tonight.

**Record of P. A. Philbin.**

IT ISN'T long but it is fast color and full width and length considered, it equals the best. It begins in a humble home where right influence prevails, guiding the future representatively through the trials of early poverty into a studious and self-respecting manhood. It tells of an education won by hard work and deprivation; of clear grit in the mastery of adverse circumstance; of steady growth in the esteem and confidence of his associates, culminating in the election two years ago to represent the Fourth legislative district in the general assembly, by a vote that was an eloquent testimonial of popularity.

Then came a test that proved the stuff that was in him. When seeking the nomination Mr. Philbin had pledged that if elected he would enter the caucus of his party and abide its result. It was a pledge voluntarily given and representing his conscientious view of party obligation and necessity. Arrived at Harrisburg, new to its temptations and poor in money, he was besieged by representatives of the movement to deadlock the senatorial caucus and told that by absenting himself from the caucus and pledging support to an insurrectionary program he could secure preferential committee assignments and a sum of money sufficient to make the average man rich for life. It was a cruel temptation to put before a young man just starting out in the world and it was one to which many a man of larger experience, realizing that it was made by professors of purity and reform, who had worked up a sentiment favorable to their spurious claims, would have succumbed. Patrick A. Philbin did not waver for a minute. The proposition was no sooner made to him than it was refused, and from that standard of official as well as personal honor he has not since swerved a hair's breadth.

In the last legislature there were men who did as others told them and frankly confessed their amenability to "orders." Mr. Philbin was one who took counsel and received suggestions and advice cheerfully, but took no orders. Nobody owned him. Nobody could deliver him. He did not set up as better than other men or pose as a superior example, but he did his duty as he saw it and went to bed every night with clean hands.

This is the record which he presents to his constituents for their review next Tuesday. It deserves to win and it will win.

For every poison there is an antidote. Republicans attending tonight's carnival of defamation at the Lyceum can get the bad taste removed from their mouths by hearing Charles E. Smith, a real orator, tomorrow night, in the same place.

**Robert Emory Pattison.**

BY COMING to our city to ask Republicans again to help him to the governorship of Pennsylvania, Robert Emory Pattison invites an inspection of his record in that office and it tells against him.

He went in twice upon waves of Republican dissension, promising in return for Republican help to purify and regenerate the politics of the commonwealth. Then, as now, the tenor of his song was that he was not a partisan but a pure spirit raised for the occasion to diffuse sweetness and light. But who does not remember with what swift and earthy voracity he seized upon the executive power to fill the starved bellies of his Democratic camp-followers and erect the state government into a Democratic partisan machine?

Don't misunderstand us. We make no complaint that Pattison, the Democrat, used official power in the interest of the Democracy. That is what politics expects and expects. But Republicans have a right to buck at being biomeeted, as they were by Pattison's promises of non-partisanship. He came before them as a lamb, to strip them of a wolf; and it was not fair.

Mr. Pattison personally is an admirable gentleman for whom we have unquestioned respect. His ability and eloquence command our enthusiastic admiration. But politically we are sorry to have to say in the interest of truth that he is what the boys would call a three card monte man, a shell game player, a dealer in green goods and a lightning rod agent rolled in one. His methods of beguiling the unsuspecting into political purchase of gold bricks are those of the confidence sharp, who, in other lines of enterprise, when found

out and caught, does not ask a place in the executive mansion but is glad to escape the penitentiary.

It is safe to guess that Mr. Pattison will tell his hearers tonight what a vicious state this is and how the government of it reeks with filth and corruption. That is one of his specialties, and he has been rehearsing it so long that he does it well. But it doesn't take a long memory to go back to the time when Pattison himself was at the helm, and was there any difference then? In the office-holders, yes. Though non-partism when seeking Republican votes, they were all Democrats after election, and some of them about as rank Democrats as grow.

The fact of the matter was and will be again, if Pattison is again elected, which is fortunately not probable, that Democratic management of state affairs is no better than of national or local affairs, for the obvious reason that a stream cannot rise higher than its source. Individually able Democrats may live themselves for a time above the general level, as Pattison tried to do when coached by the incomparable Cassidy; but in executive office the man cannot long hold up the mass but must adopt its plane. And with all respect for individual Democrats of ability and worth, it is a fact of history that the Democracy of Pennsylvania, taking it by and large, is not a competent or trustworthy institution and is the last thing on earth to attract the confidence of judicious Republicans.

Give Mr. Pattison a greeting tonight befitting his station and personal worth. Show him the honor due to any distinguished visitor. Let him not have cause to feel that since the halcyon days of the Scranton convention, when he sealed the old Roman, Wallace, Scranton hospitality has deteriorated. But don't let him fool you again, for that would be an indictment of Scranton's intelligence.

If Lynett knew how little influence his anarchist raved, we wonder if he would continue to waste ink and white paper.

**Fewer Frills, More Fresh Air.**

**S**UPERINTENDENT STEPHENSON'S view of the folly of loading upon the public school course a thousand and one fills and fancies, to the detriment of substantial instruction in the few but mighty important fundamentals, such as reading, writing, spelling and the ability to do sums quickly and correctly, is old-fashioned but eternally sound.

Our schools try to treat the pupil as the countryman treated the hotel-keeper, by eating everything on the bill of fare. The result is a form of mental dyspepsia, resulting from a lot of mincing and nibbling and not enough eating and mastication of good, solid victuals. Strong men everywhere are men of simple tastes and limited topics of knowledge mastered thoroughly. The product of the new-fangled school idea is like the shotgun loaded with birdshot and scattering over a tea-cup field, with only a ruffling of the feathers of the object aimed at, compared with the rifle that doesn't scatter but kills. The scatter-brain does well enough for show purposes, but makes a decidedly poor reliance in a time of stress.

Another thought put forth by Mr. Stephenson that is worth repeating is the need of outdoor school work. Perhaps the boys get enough exercise as it is. But outdoor instruction means more than exercise. It means the ability to see things near at hand and see them intelligently. Diggings in books or nibbling at them doesn't sharpen the eyesight, physical or mental. It simply loads a lot of raw material into the brain, to be utilized as chance permits. The beauties and wonders and inspirations of the message that nature has for us right here at home, among our dingy coal dumps and apparently bleak hills, would suffice, if properly interpreted, to comprise a very good and practical education, as well as contributing greatly to character and contentment.

True, what we need in our schools is fewer frills and more fresh air.

**Having Kelly and Newcombe on the bench, two of four, isn't it gall for the Democrats to ask Republicans to help them to elect a third judge, Sando, the recipient of a nomination stolen from Tom Hoban under circumstances particularly revolting? Put a limit upon their nerve by supporting Vosburg.**

Latest reports from the Pocono boarding houses indicate that the residents of the City of Brotherly Love can sometimes act like Kilkenny cats, when free from the environments of greater Philadelphia.

It is not likely that any will object to the coal combine that will put out of business the unscrupulous retailers who during the strike charged \$2 a ton for anthracite in New York.

President Hadley of Yale makes announcement that he is a Republican. Considering his intelligence, this oughtn't to be necessary.

Ex-President Cleveland seems willing to make political comments, but does not care to indulge in speeches.

The Colombian revolution, victory seems still to attend the heavier battalions.

Thanksgiving day jokes are now in order aent the Russo-Turkish controver-

sary.

**BAER AND MITCHELL AS WITS.**

One of the interesting little incidents of the meeting of the strike commission in Washington on Monday, which did not get into the regular press reports, is thus reported by Walter Wellman. It illustrates the pleasure side of the serious work of the commission:

The opening speaker was Mr. Baer acting as their spokesman, that it would be well for the commission to begin their work in the most northern part of the region.

"I am not interested," said Mr. Baer,

"in the upper part, but in the lower, I can't speak for the upper regions, as I am from the lower region," and Mr. Baer gave an expressive downward move of his hand to emphasize the point and made every one laugh.

"But at one time you did speak for the upper region," said Mr. Mitchell instantaneously, referring to Mr. Baer's celebrated interview in which he claimed partnership with Divine Providence.

Mr. Mitchell's rejoinder was even more warmly appreciated by every one than Baer's original remark, and the two men who seemed to enjoy it most were Bishop Spalding and Mr. Baer.

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