FREELAND TRIBUNE.

THOS. A. BUCKLEY,

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FREELAND, PA., JANUARY 28, 1892.

Report on Contract Labor.

Contract Labor Inspectors Conkling and Osborne, who were sent from New York to the mining districts of Pennsylvania to investigate the workings of the alien contract law, have sent their report to Secretary Foster, of the Treasury department. Their report states that they discovered evidences of wholesale violation of the law that was framed to protect American workingmen. In the mines surrounding Seranton it was found that nine-tenths of the miners at present employed are Hungarians, Italians and Slavs. Five years ago the miners there were nearly all Americans. At the mines mear Carbondale in 1886 there were 600 miners, all Americans. While the miners' strike was on in 1889-90, largenumbers of Slavs and Hungarians werbrought to the mines from Castle Garden under the protection of Pinkerton's detectives. At the last election out of 787 miners employed there just 68 werentitled to vote. The inspectors found that immigrants were brought over from Europe in droves, passed through the Barge office by an agent and taken to the mine to supersede American miners. There are several men employed by the mine owners, whose sole duty is to visit the Barge office by an agent and taken to the mine to supersede American miners. There are several men employed by the mine owners, whose sole duty is to visit the Barge office and get immigrant contract laborers passed through. The inspectors recommend more stringent scrutiny of immigrants passing through the different landing places, At present they say the law is practically useless, a contract laborers pass through by thousands without detection.

The coal operators and managers of large mining interests deny the allegations set forth by the inspectors, and some are very outspoken in their denuncation of the report. The Philadelphia Press, through its correspondents, interviewed several, and they all seem to the mater. The operators at Scranton and Wikes-Barre denied that contract labor was employed in those regions. Foreigners were employed, but they discontine the waster of t

Every one of these taxes (on commodities and buildings) the ostensible taxpayer—the man on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—Detroit Evening News.

Another Plea for Tax Reform.

Another Plea for Tax Reform.

The Lebighton Advocate raises its voice in favor of a more just valuation of coal lands, and calls attention to the plain discrimination made in assessing the lands owned by farmers and those of the operators. It says:

"The average rate of assessment of farm lands per acre is about \$42 while the average valuation of coal lands is but a little more than \$65 per acre. Is this fair? There is not a coal operator in Carbon County who would willingly sell, bargain or alien one acre of his coal land for the best farm in the county, and yet if the township or district assessor rates this priceless coal property at any way near a fair and square figure this greedy, grasping, avaricious operator with a swarm of special corporation attorneys and lick-spittle hirelings lift their hands in holy horror at the outrage on their feelings and pocketbooks and sweep down on assessor and commissioners with haste and fury only equalled by their feelings and pocketbooks and sweep down on assessor and commissioners with haste and fory only equalled by their feotit to chart the county and people out of their fair share of taxes. The fame of Carbon County's commissioners will live forever if they resist the coal operators and corporations in their effort to have their valuation reduced below what it is only an honest valuation of property that cannot be bought for any price."

The Advocate is on the right track, but it is doubtful if any benefit or relief can be had by striking so hard at the operators. They are only human, and, like the rest of mankind, take the advantage of every imperfect law that comes nother way. The tax laws, or rather the principle upon which they are founded, is where the difficulty is encountered when assessors try to make a fair return of land valuations. It is at the system the blows should be struck, and if all taxes were levied upon land values then farmers would not be paying aimost the saddled without the least trouble upon his own shoulders. The one tax that cannot be shift

The Bee does not say that it will be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it nauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances,—Sacremente (Cat.) Bee,

BRIEF ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Lehighton's borough treasury is bank-The D. S. & S. will be extended to Tombicken. Weatherly is still without fire apparatus of any kind. Pittston is building a knitting mill that will employ 500 girls.

Lansford has a surfeit of amateur theatrical companies. The Butler Valley tunnel has reached a distance of 1000 feet.

Shamokin will hold a big eisteddfod on Washington's Birthday.

The Philadelphia Press had thirty-nine columns of Chilean war talk on Tuesday. Hazleton sportsmen have organized to protect the game in their section of the county.

Wilkes-Barre's Methodist ministers were addressed on Monday by the Jew-ish rabbi.

The government pays the railroads of the country nearly \$30,000,000 a year to earry the mails.

Carbon's Republican County Com-nittee endorsed General Lilly for Consman-at-large The Central Pennsylvania Rowing sociation will hold its annual regattat Plymouth on Labor Day.

Lehigh Valley tracks near Yorktown wed in this week, and the course of the road had to be changed.

East Haven, the little town opposite White Haven, has been made a borough and the inhabitants are happy.

The parochial schools at Hazleton which were closed on account of the recent cave-in scare, have reopened.

A skirt dancer's dress is said to require 150 yards of material, and yet some people think she should wear more. D. J. Campbell, of Scranton, has been lefeated for M. W. of D. A. 16. M. T. Burke, of Carbondale, is his successor.

Andrew Surman, of Crystal Ridge has been missing since last Thursday. He had \$200 with him when he disappeared. Dogs from Plymouth and Hazleton fought at the former place Monday night or \$150 a side. Plymouth won in half

The West Lehigh mine fire, at Tama-,ua, which had been raging for some time past, is now under control and the mine will soon resume operations.

James McCoy was captured on Saturlay night while robbing a residence at Mahanoy City. He was from Hazleton. Squire Coyle, formerly of town, sent him to iail

Wilkes-Barre wants to annex a number of neighboring places and become a larger city. Bethlehem is also on the alert and wants to take in South and West Bethlehems.

Keck, the convicted murderer in Allentown jail, concluded to starve himself to death, but after a few days' fasting he reconsidered and since then he has taken his rations regularly.

A cow owned by G. M. Hadesty, of Gordon, gave birth to a calf having two heads of natural size and eight legs, four large and four small. It is still living and is in a healthy condition. William H. Reese, a brakeman, stole a cask of rum from a freight car and hid it in a pile of lumber at the Reading sta-tion. He visited the barrel too often and got arrested for carrying a "jag."

all the Methodist conferences in the church have voted on the eligibility of women to seats in the general conference. The result is as follows: For admission, 5,621; against, 5,135; majority in favor, 486.

In the almshouse near Wilkes-Barre a Polander has been sleeping for thirteen months. He gets up once a day and eats a hearty meal, but immediately falls to sleep again. His case has puzzled the doctors.

Altoona, Williamsport, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Read-ing and Allentown are towns spoken of to be in the State Base Ball League this year. If it is a go local talent may get a chance to display itself.

Hazleton is being handled without gloves by the newspapers of Luzerne, Carbon and Schuylkill Counties for its inability to suppress crime. Its county seat talk has dwindled down to a few occasional lines in the "new city"

Spreading the Light,

In Schuylkill County there are many around here. These are of a class that is continually complaining about high taxes, yet they refuse to assist or take part in any movement for the abolition of all unnecessary and useless taxes. The Ashland Record has the following to say of them:

There are many real estate owners in town who refuse to paint and otherwise improve their property for the reason, they say, that the assessors will increase its taxable value. And yet these same people call Henry George, who opposes taxing industry, a crank. If all taxes were placed on land values, every owner of property in the country who could affer ford to do so would improve it and the result would be that thousands of mechanics now idle would have employment. When once people learn that fining a man by taxing him for being a benefit to the community is an injustice, the single tax doctrine will become more popular."

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Good Accommodation For All. is the thing that stays in one place, and that is land.—New York Sun.

Lehigh Valley Railroad. ANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS. NOV. 15, 1891. LEAVE FREELAND.

5, 9.45, 10.35 A. M., 12.25, 1.50, 2.43, 3.50, 7.00, 8.47 P. M., for Drifton, Jeddo, Yard, Stockton and Hazleton, 15 A. M., 1.59, 3.50 P. M., for Mauch Allentown, Bethlehem, Phila., Easton Vork. w York. A. M. for Bethlehem, Easton and New

York.
7.38, 10.55 A. M., 12.16, 4.39 P. M. (via Highland Branch, for White Haven, Glen Summit, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and L. and B. Junction. 6.10 A. M. for Black Ridge and Tomhicken.
SUNDAY TRAINS.
11.30 A. M. and 3.45 P. M. for Drifton, Jeddo, Lumber Yard and Hazleton, Mananoy City, Shenandonk, New York and P. Drifton, Shenandonk, New York and P. Drifton.

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Ladies' good heavy grain shoes, \$1.00. Youths' good heavy shoes, laced or button, \$1.00. Boys' nailed mining shoes, \$1.10. Men's nailed mining shoes, \$1.25. Men's fine dress shoes, laced or congress, \$1.25. Youths' good heavy boots, \$1.25. Boys' good heavy boots, \$1.50. Men's heavy leather boots, double or tap soles, \$2.00. Men's felt boots and artics, complete, for \$2.00. Gum shoes: Children's, 20c.; misses', 25c.; ladies', 30c.; boys', heavy, sizes 2 to 6, 40c.; men's best, 50c.

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