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## FREELAND TRIBUNE.

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FREELAND, DECEMBER 21, 1896

### A Spasm of Virtue.

From the Wilkes-Barre Leader.

For three months the Chicago *Tribune* and a number of papers of its class were frantic in their defense of the policy that made gigantic trusts possible. But these newspapers have suddenly been seized with a spasm of virtue that threatens dire results unless proper treatment is administered at once. As long as the trusts were going over other people and paying liberal assessments into the campaign fund that aided the party supported by the *Tribune* and its copartners, those newspapers had nothing to say. Now, however, the *Tribune* and its assistants have been fitted with a trust shoe that pinches dreadfully, and they are weeping and wailing and nursing their bruised toes in a manner pitiful in the extreme.

A new trust has been formed and it deals directly with a product that enters very largely into the manufacture of the *Tribune* and its fellow trust-defenders. The paper trust now being formed deals directly with the paper upon which the newspapers are printed, and it will raise the price so as to increase the receipts of the paper mills \$5,000,000 a year without increasing the output. This will call for several thousand dollars from the *Tribune* and its assistants, and the howl they are sending up sounds like the wail of despair from the throat of a steam-fitted lost soul.

So long as the trusts were content with pinching the common people these tariff organs were content to remain active supporters of the policy, but when the trusts concluded to pinch their best friends there was a wall. The paper trust, while an immense steel, promises to be of benefit to the people at large. It will alleviate the affections of a lot of newspapers and force them to enlist in the ranks of the newspapers that fight the trust from principle.

Of course the *Tribune* and its echoes will not fight the trust from principle, but from motives of self-interest, therefore they will be closely watched and prevented from betraying the cause should opportunity offer. But "venal" seems to be the incorrect use of that word when used in this connection. Drafted or coerced would fit the case much better. At all events the *Tribune* and its assistants will have to stop defending the trusts for a little while, and for this the people may be truly thankful.

Perhaps the school teachers of Foster township, and other districts throughout Pennsylvania which have not yet received their appropriation from the state treasurer, might get paid if stocks would advance in price. It is said that somebody took a plunge in Wall street with Pennsylvania's school money some time ago, but they got on the wrong side of the game and until the steel jugglers mark the figures higher the money will stay tied up, unless John Wanamaker comes to this defaulter's rescue, as he did to Philadelphia's big embezzler last summer. It is decidedly rough on the pedagogues that they should suffer for this, but it is quite proper, of course, so long as the culprit is a Republican official. Do you notice how he is shielded by every G. O. P. and Hannacroite paper in the state? They dare not mention "shortage" and "Harrisburg" in the same column.

It begins to look as if the object of placing a cavalry troop of the National Guard in Hazleton has more in it than appears on the surface. The gentlemen who went to Harrisburg last week to impress upon the state officials the claims of our neighboring town made a hit, according to press reports, when they showed the "necessity" of a troop at Hazleton. Just what is meant by "necessity" is not clear, but if the read or will keep in mind the fact that the coal corporations of this region are taking more than a passing interest in the movement, the "necessity" may be construed to mean some queer things. As a matter of principle, the young men who intend to join the troop should steer their organization clear of the National Guard and let the corporations seek elsewhere for free police.

### Chinese Cheap Labor.

Of late years there has been a constant cry against "Chinese cheap labor." Whatever may have been the price put upon Chinese labor when the great railroads of the west were built by these people, to-day it is evident to all who have studied the question, says a writer in *Century*, that there is no such thing as "Chinese cheap labor." Chinese laundries charge higher rates than domestic laundries. Chinese laundrymen command higher prices than laundresses of other nationalities. A Chinaman earns ordinarily from eight to fifteen dollars a week and his board and lodging. The white or colored laundress makes from four to ten dollars a week, without board or lodging. The Chinaman works from eight o'clock in the morning until one or two o'clock at night. Sometimes he washes, sometimes he starches; sometimes he irons; but he is always at it, not tireless, but persevering in spite of weariness and exhaustion. Other laborers clamor for a working day of eight hours. The Chinaman patiently works 17, takes care of his relatives in China, looks after his own poor in America and pays his bills as he goes along. In the Chinese store ten dollars per week is the lowest sum paid for a man-of-all-work. In a Chinese restaurant the lowest wage paid to a kitchen boy is \$20 per month and board. Chinese cooks will not go to American families for less than \$40 per month, and they rarely ever stay for that sum. This, then, is Chinese cheap labor—a cheap labor of which ordinary people cannot avail themselves.

A recent meeting at Liverpool, called to protest against the continued massacres of Armenians in the Turkish empire, was addressed by Mr. Gladstone, who spoke with his old-time vigor. He urged the necessity of strengthening the weakness of diplomacy by the utterance of the nation's voice, and ridiculed the idea that war would result from England's action alone in giving an ultimatum to the Porte. He declared that England has a right to coerce Turkey, and that the first step should be the recall of the British ambassador at Constantinople and the dismissal of the Turkish ambassador in London. Mr. Gladstone's suggestions have aroused fresh discussion in the English press, but the prevailing tone is that of apprehension regarding the consequences of independent action.

While returning home at night from a political meeting in Portsmouth recently, a resident of Bennett's Chapel, Ky., was attacked at Morton's Hill by two footpads. One seized the mule's bit, and the animal retaliated by seizing his hand. The other ran to his companion's assistance, but was kicked over an embankment. The man was thrown off his mule on to the first footpad. The robbers took fright and fled, and Moore, after a little trouble, recaptured the mule and rode home without further molestation. That's the right sort of a mule to have, if a man has got to have a mule.

Louis S. Chanler, a very rich young lawyer, a relative of the Astors, has devoted much of his time to defending, without pay, criminals who seemed to have gone wrong more through misfortune than criminal intent. Recently in the New York supreme court he was appointed to defend a wife murderer, and forced to go on with the trial when unprepared. The latter circumstance didn't save him from some caustic remarks by the judge, which rankled so that he has given up his philanthropic work, in which he is said to have been as earnest and painstaking as lawyers who work for pay.

Dr. Arthur MacDonald, the Washington criminologist, thinks that every man, woman and child in the country should be measured according to the Bertillon system and the resulting data preserved by a government bureau, with branches in every township. This, he says, would not only almost put an end to crime by making detection practically certain, but it would be of service in scores of ways among perfectly respectable people, like lawyers, bankers, insurance men and all others to whom questions of identity are of great importance.

The proposal has been made seriously in New York city to form a doctors' union, which shall see to it that medical remuneration in the metropolis is kept up to a certain standard. It is alleged by the promoters that certain brethren have reduced the healing art to a mere trade.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.  
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.  
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.  
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

### FIGHT WITH A SNAKE.

While Hunting in New Jersey Mr. Osmun Had a Narrow Escape.

John Osmun and Walter Mayberry, well known sportsmen living at Port Murray, N. J., had a thrilling experience with blacksnakes in "wolf hole" the other afternoon. "Wolf hole" is at the summit of Karsville mountain and is a barren waste of land upon which nothing grows except thick bushes.

Osmun and Mayberry were out hunting partridges and squirrels and while Mayberry was chasing a squirrel Osmun sat down on a rock to wait for him. Osmun was presently startled to see a huge blacksnake coming directly toward him, less than ten feet away. Osmun grasped his gun to shoot the serpent, but before he could fire the



MAYBERRY APPROACHED.

reptile leaped in the air and sprang upon him. The snake wound itself around Osmun's neck several times with crushing tightness. The gun fell from his hand and he sank to the ground suffocating.

Fortunately, at this moment Mayberry came up. Osmun was lying motionless upon the ground. The serpent, with its body wrapped around the man's neck, had reared its head about a foot over his face and was gazing steadily at him. It was "spitting" with its tongue in a frightful way, evidently waiting for its victim's death. Mayberry approached cautiously until within a few feet of the serpent, pulled the trigger of his gun and shot the snake's head off.

The contraction of the snake's body during its death throes tightened its grip around Osmun's throat and Mayberry hurriedly uncoiled the snake. It would not have taken more than a minute or two more for the snake to have strangled Osmun to death.

### DEAF-MUTE WEDDING.

Two Loving Hearts United Without the Usual Verbal Ceremonies.

A marriage ceremony under difficulties was performed by Justice Hall, of Chicago, the other day. The justice was sitting in his office after the morning grind had gone through his mill, when William Humphries and Miss Kennell Bonenfant, both deaf mutes, came in and signified their desire to be married. It was the first time Justice Hall had ever been asked to officiate in a ceremony of that kind, and he was puzzled. He held up his fingers and motioned that he could not hold a digital conversation, and wanted to refer the young people to the eloquent Justice Foster. The prospective groom, however, invented a way out of the dilemma. He wrote a note requesting the justice to conduct the ceremony by



A QUIET WEDDING.

means of written questions and answers, and to this the latter consented, after consulting Greenleaf on Farm and Blackstone on Quarry to see if such a proceeding would be legal. He made the form as brief as possible, accepting a nod whenever the interrogation permitted. As soon as he had finished he pronounced them man and wife for the benefit of the witnesses and gave them a certificate. He did not have his little joke until they had departed.

"No danger of any divorce suit between that pair," he remarked. "They will not talk each other into a fight."

### Mushroom Weighing Eight Pounds.

One of the most interesting specimens of vegetable growth ever seen in the vicinity of Litchfield, Conn., is now on exhibition in the yard of Mrs. J. H. Hubbard. It is an edible gigantic puffball mushroom, measuring 43 inches larger circumference, 23 inches smaller circumference, 14 inches larger diameter, 10 inches smaller diameter, and weighing 8½ pounds. A slice cut from it would be larger than a big sirloin steak.

### Sweans Off Smoking at 107.

After smoking 50 years or more Mrs. Hannah Chard, a famous Gloucester county centenarian, has thrown away her pipe, with the determination never to smoke again. Although she is 107 years old, she has been convinced lately that the use of tobacco was shortening her life.

### Putting Out Fire with Cider.

A fire at a farmhouse near Axminster, England, was put out recently by pumping in it cider from hogheads, as there was no water to be had.

### WHIRR OF THE WHEEL.

A rubber-tire trust has been formed with a capital of \$50,000,000. The intention is, of course, to maintain prices.

A Buffalo girl reports having ridden 1,400 miles this year without a puncture. This speaks well for the improvement in tires.

It is said that the output of iron from Swedish mines, from which the best steel tubing is made, has been sold for the next four years, and only a fixed quantity can possibly be delivered.

At last the English makers are beginning to use wooden rims, but very cautiously. It will take a long time to conquer their prejudice against this American innovation.

It is amusing to see a cyclist carrying a bundle on a wheel. Small packages that can be strapped to the frame will do well enough, but there is no limit to what riders attempt to carry. A carpenter with his tool box, a messenger boy with a basket, men with long poles trailing behind them—these are only a few of the sights to be witnessed on a crowded city street.

There is a \$5,000 bicycle on exhibition in Philadelphia. The frame is heavily ornamented with gold, the hubs and pedals are gold, the handle grips are of pearl, and diamonds are set in the handle bar. It probably would not ride any easier than a hundred-dollar wheel, and doubtless is not intended to be ridden at all; but some one will buy it, just to say they have the most expensive bicycle in this country.

### ABOUT WOMEN.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett gave the Londoners a glimpse of the American authoress in a new aspect—that of a witty after-dinner speaker—the London journals being full of praise of her speech at the dinner given her by the Authors' club.

Liliuokalani, the dethroned queen of Hawaii, has purchased a large plot of ground in Austria, not far from Vienna. Foreign papers say that she will live in Austria permanently. A palace will be built upon the grounds, it is announced, which will be in keeping with the occupant's former rank.

The northwest possesses a story-writer of rare ability in Mrs. Carrie Blake Morgan, whose home is in Portland, Ore. She is the sister of the poet and story-writer, Elie Higginson. Mrs. Morgan has furnished some of the brightest short stories that have been written by any western story-writer of late years.

It is becoming a favorite occupation with the widows of great men to "write for the press," as the contributions to daily newspapers of Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher, Mrs. Custer and Mrs. Logan would indicate. Mrs. Logan is the latest of these to take to the form of literature, and during the past six months she has written some graphic letters of foreign travel for a Chicago journal.

### ETIQUETTE NOTES.

It is in very bad taste, when calling, to look at one's watch. When two gentlemen are introduced, a bow is sufficient.

When walking with two ladies a gentleman should take the outer side. The simplest form of introduction is: "Miss Calvert, allow me to present Mr. Brown."

A young man may, with perfect propriety, ask permission to call upon a young lady.

The lady to whom it is desired to show most honor is taken to dinner by the host, and sits at his right hand.

A gentleman in meeting his wife would raise his hat when greeting her, and would raise it again when leaving her.

Calls and letters of condolence are acknowledged by cards sent by post. The calls are returned in person one year after the death of a parent or husband.

An entire slice of bread should not be buttered; instead, a small piece is broken off—as much as one would put in one's mouth—buttered and conveyed to the mouth by the fingers.—Ladies' Home Journal.

### HOUSEHOLD INVENTIONS.

An attachment for kerosene lamps which gives a much increased illumination has recently been patented. It is said to give a light four times greater than any burner will do originally.

A combination cooking utensil has recently been patented. It combines a preserving kettle, food cooker, steamer and colander, in which it is said any and all foods may be cooked, steamed and strained, without burning or wasting of food or scalding of hands.

A flat-iron has been invented that is designed to be both labor and fuel saving to the busy housewife. They are, by a very ingenious contrivance, self-heating, and the fuel only costs one cent for three hours. Think of it, you housewives who have done the family ironing beside a bright fire all these long, hot summer days! It is also claimed that the irons keep a very perfect heat, will never scorch, and give a much better gloss.

### DINING-ROOM HINTS.

Ice cream may be eaten with either a spoon or a fork.

One vegetable is usually served with the entree.

The usual hour for the formal luncheon is two o'clock.

Canvasback ducks are in season from September until May.

At informal dinner parties there is never a formal procession into the dining-room.

Caviare is sturgeon's roe preserved in certain condiments and then allowed to ferment.

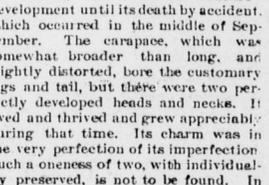
When sherbet is served as a course at dinner it comes after the entree and before the roast.

While at table a good and safe rule to follow is always to do that which will attract least attention.

### TWO-HEADED TORTOISE.

Odd Freak of Nature Discovered in a Connecticut Marsh.

A young tortoise, hatched but a day or so, having two heads, was found in the marshes bordering West river, New Haven, Conn., early in June by E. M. Barbour, who watched the creature's development until its death by accident, which occurred in the middle of September. The carapace, which was somewhat broader than long, and slightly distorted, bore the customary legs and tail, but there were two perfectly developed heads and necks. It lived and thrived and grew appreciably during that time. Its charm was in the very perfection of its imperfection. Such a oneness of two, with individuality preserved, is not to be found. In



DOUBLE-HEADED TORTOISE.

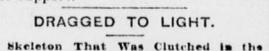
one carapace there were two alimentary systems, two nervous systems, two respiratory and circulatory systems, two muscular and bony systems. Each was double, in part at least. There were two wills, for the heads fought continually for the rights of their common shell and for their food. There were two dispositions; the one quicker, more timid, and more irascible; the other stolid. Each head could hear, see, eat, drink and breathe independently. Though afterward acquired, there was originally no concerted action between the right side and the left. However, with surprising frequency, the two did act in unison and simultaneously, as if there were coordination by a common nervous system.

They might or might not each drink, sleep or swim, as each willed. When one side, with its organs and appendages, slept or was inert, the others, with its dead weight as a center, could but describe a circle—a course which it found endless. Here then arose a beautiful example of adaptability. It learned to drag itself sideways, wherever it would, over the whole yard. This was the right half (never the left) which has been spoken of as having a timid, quick and irascible temperament. They swam together very well, but walked together awkwardly. As they walked the forelegs acted simultaneously, so in turn the hindlegs, leaving alternately the front and back of the shell without support.

### DRAGGED TO LIGHT.

A Skeleton That Was Clutched in the Roots of a Tree.

Over half a century ago Nathaniel Eliott died at the age of 78, and was buried in the family private burying ground on the crest of a little hill that rises in the center of Ellicott City, Md. At the head of the grave in which Nathaniel was laid away a tiny little cedar was just beginning to rear its head, and it was left to stand as a sentinel over the old man's last resting place. As the years went by the cedar grew, and as it grew it thrust its long, slender roots down into the grave at its feet. Slowly the tendrils wrapped themselves around Eliott's coffin and even



IN THE CLUTCH OF THE ROOTS.

pierced the decaying wood itself, growing all the time in size and strength, until at last they became great roots, gripping their grim prize with their skeleton fingers as fiercely as the skinny-handed miser clutches his gold.

When the recent great storm came, and, after many furious gusts, fairly wrenched the great cedar from its anchorage and hid it prone upon the ground, even then it would not relax its hold, and the Baltimore American tells how it was stretched out its full length on the turf, but holding aloft in the air, fast in the clutch of its clinging roots, the mouldering coffin of old Nathaniel Eliott.

It was with great difficulty that the coffin was disentangled so that the few bones that it still contained could be collected by the surviving Eliotts and reinterred in the family burying-ground, whence, it is hoped, they will never again be dragged to light.



THEY LET HIM SMOKE.

The thing is rare, but once in a while a man gets the better of a woman. A girl down in New Jersey was wooed by a youth. She told him she wouldn't have him because he smoked. Some women lecturers had told her that you couldn't trust a man that smoked. "Well," said he, "I'll quit." And quit he did. But the other morning after the wedding and the wedding breakfast the groom pulled out a cheroot. "You promised you'd quit smoking," said she. "Not forever," said he. "I thought I could trust you," said she, "when you stopped smoking." "You can't trust any man that has stopped smoking," said he. "You'd better let me smoke," so she did and they have lived happy ever since.

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