

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

VOL. IX. NO. 93.

FREELAND, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1897.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

CLOSING OUT SALE.

We are giving up our Clothing Department. We want to dispose of our entire stock of men's, youths' and boys' clothing within 30 days, and in order to do so we are willing

TO LOSE MONEY.

60c on the dollar is what we were offered for the stock in a bulk, but we would rather give it to you at that price, for the simple reason that when you buy you will also see our

Fine Line of Hats and our Fine Line of Furnishings.

For to these departments we will devote our entire attention in the future. Come and get our prices. This space is too small to mention any.

OLSHO'S CLOTHING AND HAT STORE.
57 Centre Street.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE
Saturday, May 22.

Another production of the famous comedy drama.

"The Rag Picker's Child."

Under the auspices of St. Patrick's Cornet Band.

Numerous singing and dancing specialties will be introduced.

See the Grand Fire Scene and Frozen River, two marvelously realistic scenes.

PRICES:
10, 15 and 25 Cents.

Seats on sale at Woodring's.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE
John J. Welsh, Manager.

ONE WEEK!
Commencing Monday, May 24.

The Famous Macauley-Patton Company,
supporting the emotional actress,
Ida Florence Campbell,

in a splendid repertoire of standard dramas and comedies. New play each night.

Starting climaxes, elegant costumes, high class specialties.

Admission, 10 Cents.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE. Five 75-acre farm at Mt. Yenger, including large quarry of excellent stone, well-stocked, planted, and has good water and barn will be sold cheap and payment made easy for purchaser. Or will trade farm for real estate in Freeland or Hazleton. Apply for further particulars to Chas. Orion Stroh.

WANTED. Three wide-awake energetic men, bright young ladies, teachers or students, for special work in each county. Good talkers—well recommended—with team preferred. Liberal salary for whole time, or commission for part time. Address Business, Box 82, Philadelphia.

WANTED. Active, reliable man to travel and solicit orders for nursery stock; permanent employment; expenses and salary or commission. For terms address the R. G. Chase Co., South Penn Sq., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR RENT. House on Main street, below Washington; slate roof; water in kitchen. Six rooms and two on attic, all plastered; house in good order. Apply at Tribune's office.

FOR RENT. Six-room residence on Ridge street, below Luzerne; water, bath and all modern conveniences; low rent. Apply to Leonard Branz, Ridge street.

\$40 PER MONTH and expenses paid good men for taking orders. Steady work. Apply to Protective Nurseries, Geneva, N. Y.

FOR RENT. Fine seven-room residence on North Centre st. Apply to Mrs. S. E. Hayes.

FOR SALE. Two pool tables, sizes 18 and 21x36, will be sold cheap. John Shigo.

J. Bellezza has a very large assortment of ladies', gents' and misses' shoes.

AN EVIL AND A REMEDY.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF COMPANY STORES.

Coal Miners Should Be Paid in Currency for Their Labor and Not in Orders Good Only at the "Pluck Me"—How This Can Be Done.

From the Philadelphia Record.

While a committee of the legislature is pursuing its investigation of the condition of affairs in the coal mining regions of Pennsylvania it is a significant fact that none of the corporations interested in the truck store system has sought to make any defense or palliation of the abuse. Witnesses have testified in crowds that this nefarious system lies at the bottom of the misery of the coal miners, and in doing so they have fully described the operation of the system in defrauding honest labor of a large share of its earnings. But much the worse feature of the abuse is in its demoralizing effect upon the miners in encouraging a disregard of the value of money and in discouraging habits of thrift and economy. Although the gold standard is still maintained in this country, it can hardly be said to exist so far as the miners in Pennsylvania are concerned. Within the range of the truck store system the honest money standard for the payment of wages has been practically abolished. The only currency known to the miners is in the shape of store orders for truck or in the well-worn passbook.

To the charges concerning this abuse the mining corporations engaged in it have made no answer. Is this because the system is incapable of defense, or because the corporations feel so secure of the legislature that no defense is necessary? In chartering corporations with the privilege of despoiling labor of its wages the general assembly of Pennsylvania has flagrantly disregarded the primary obligation of the state to protect the weak and innocent from the strong and the guilty. But it is urged that after all the futile experiments to abate the "pluck me store" inquiry further legislation would be useless. This is a poor plea; and it is made only by those who have no sincere desire to suppress the abuse.

There are several means of grappling with this system which have not yet been fully tried. The first is a statute directing the courts of Pennsylvania to treat all contracts to pay wages in store truck as against public policy. A contract to pay a bet on an election or on a horse race stands on a far higher moral plane than a contract to receive wages in store truck, for no workingman in his senses would freely enter into such a contract. The next remedy is in an amendment to the general corporation act of 1874 to prohibit all mining and manufacturing companies from keeping a store in connection with their operations. This amendment, when rigorously enforced, would at least stop the propagation of the greed of "pluck me store" corporations.

The final remedy is to impose a mercantile license of \$2,000 on every store carried on by a mining or manufacturing company; and if this should not be enough to arrest the profitable iniquity, let the license be doubled. It will be said that such a license would be in violation of the constitutional provision requiring all taxation to be "uniform upon the same class of subjects." A mercantile license upon a class of corporations keeping store would be uniform, the same as is a high license fee upon liquor saloons or the taxation of insurance companies. Besides, the store-keeping corporations operating mines or factories would be put out of court by the statute declaring this branch of their business against public policy.

In its partiality toward a particular interest the general assembly of Pennsylvania not merely taxed out of existence but absolutely prohibited the manufacture and sale of a chemically pure and wholesome article of food in order to make bitter dear to the miners and other consumers. The courts have held this legislation to be a perfectly legitimate exercise of the police power of the state. Would not legislation to suppress the "pluck me store" abuse be an equally legitimate exercise of such police power, as well as a performance of the duty of the state to prohibit acts that are contrary to public policy?

The senior senator of Pennsylvania has chivalrously made the memorable declaration that he prefers to "enter the barricades with the men in blouses." Let our "Little Gavroche" mount the barricades with the blackened and begrimed men in blouses who toil in the coal mines, and help them to break down the system by which they are cheated and despoiled. Although the expropriation of the company store alone is not inscribed on the bed roll of reforms to which the Republicans in the legislature are pledged, it is worth any of the rest. The emancipation of the coal miners from a demoralizing servitude is a task that deserves the best efforts of the statesman.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Capitalists Have Their Troubles.

Trouble is brewing among the local corporations and unless a truce is declared within a short while a storm will break forth which will draw into it nearly all the concerns of town which do business under corporate franchises. The sinking of a cess-pool by the Silk Mill Company near the well of the Water Company has aroused the latter and a vigorous fight is promised if any attempt is made to use the hole for the purpose intended.

While at all appearances there are no reasons why an agreement could not be effected between these two corporations, it is known that many of the prominent people of the Water Company are stockholders of the Freeland Gas Company, a concern which naturally is not regarded favorably by the Electric Light Company, several of whose stockholders are connected with the Silk Mill Company. These connections have a tendency to range the water and gas people against the electric and silk mill men, and already a large amount of bitterness has been displayed. It is reported that the latest stroke of the Silk Mill Company in this miniature war was to withdraw its money from the Citizens' bank and name a Hazleton institution as the depository for its funds. The Freeland bank is controlled by men who are heavily interested in the Water Company and the gas project.

What the result of this general disagreement will be if the trouble that exists is carried much further can only be conjectured. Unless harmony is soon introduced in some manner the local corporations will be engaged in a struggle which will hurt somebody's bank account.

A Victory for James Finnegan.

The case of James Finnegan against Foster township, for damages for the loss of his wife's services resulting from injuries received by driving over an unguarded bridge near Upper Lehigh some years ago, ended yesterday by the jury awarding the plaintiff \$1,001 damages. The negligence of the township officials in not protecting the highways of the township had been fully shown in the damage case of Mrs. Finnegan, who two years ago was awarded \$1,900 for her injuries. The verdict was not so satisfactory to Mr. Finnegan as one might think. He expected a higher award, having refused, after his wife's victory, to compromise with the township for \$1,000 damages for himself. As it is, yesterday's verdict gives him but little more than he could have obtained without the trouble of the suit.

The taxpayers of Foster hope that this is the end of the Finnegan cases. They have been quite costly, one special tax levy having been made two years ago to cover the expenses and it is probable that another will be necessary to pay the costs of the second suit.

Board of Trade Meeting.

The Board of Trade met last night in the council room. The auditors appointed at the last meeting were not present and no report was received from them. H. E. Sweeney, chairman of the ball committee, stated that the silk mill would be at the service of the board after the machinery would be tested and advised the continuance of the committee, which was agreed to.

The secretary presented a bill for \$5 for postal cards. The bill was ordered paid with the understanding that no more would be purchased, as all members ought to know by this time when the meetings are to be held, without being notified every month.

There is still \$3,100 of silk mill money out which should be paid in as speedily as possible. Those who are holding back until the bonds are issued need not delay on that score, as they will appear in a short time. Interest will be paid from date of final payment. The receipts of the meeting amounted to \$4.

Painter Has a Narrow Escape.

Otto Zimmer, a painter working on the Wyoming Valley hotel, Wilkesbarre, had a narrow escape from death on Tuesday afternoon. While painting the observatory, the topmost portion of the hotel, a box somehow worked from under a ladder and Zimmer fell. He had fallen about ten feet, when he grasped a swinging scaffold rope which hung from the observatory rail. This stopped his downward flight and he managed to climb up the rope and reach the top of the window. The skin was torn from his hands by the friction when he grasped the rope in falling.

Incendiary Fire at Plains.

An incendiary fire at Plains early Monday morning destroyed the handsome residence of Dr. James Brooks and three other smaller buildings owned by Attorney John Shea. Dr. Brooks' loss is about \$3,000, covered by insurance. Mr. Shea's loss will be nearly \$2,000, partly covered by insurance. Four attempts had been made during the past few days to burn the building in which the fire started, but each time the fire was discovered in time and extinguished.

Don't buy shoddy when you can purchase shoes made from the best material at lower prices. Buy at the Wear Well.

Fresh eggs and genuine butter can be had every day at Oswald's grocery.

DRIFTON ITEMS.

The New York Journal of Tuesday had the following: "When Caleb Beach, the lock tender at the canal guard lock in Dover, N. J., tried to open the flood gate Monday morning he found the body of Charles H. Mohr in the water. Mohr was about forty-five years of age, and had worked at the Morris County Machine and Iron Company's works for the past two years. Coroner C. B. Gage at first decided that no inquest was necessary, and the body was removed to the morgue, but something has been learned since which makes the case look like murder, and an autopsy has been ordered." It is said that the dead man was a brother of Fred Mohr, who was employed here up to a few years ago.

The ball that is to be given on the 28th of this month at Freeland by the Fearnots Athletic Association, that aggregation of young men who have been so successful in defending the base ball reputation of this town, will in many respects be the equal of any ball that has been held there for a long time. As the young men do not charge admission to their ball games, and consequently have no means of getting money to purchase balls, bats and other necessary articles, the ball should be attended by every lover of the national game in the surrounding towns. Do not forget the date, May 28.

The ground under the company store settled several inches yesterday. No serious injury was done to the building, and the mine officials say there is no danger of it going down.

Peter Hockburg, the manager of the Fearnots base ball club, is naturally proud of his team.

Miss Annie Boner, who was injured by falling on a chair recently, is slowly recovering.

Miss Mary Gallagher, of Sandy Valley, is the guest of friends here.

Miss Maggie Gallagher, of Park Place, is visiting friends here.

UPPER LEHIGH NOTES.

Hon. John Leisenring is the latest victim of the bicycle craze. If he finds no more trouble getting the nomination for governor than he experienced in learning the tricks of the wheel, he will have an easy road to Harrisburg.

Mrs. H. B. Price and family returned on Saturday from Atlantic City, where they had spent three weeks at the Hotel Traymore.

Frank S. McLaughlin, of Oneida, called upon friends and old acquaintances on Sunday.

Patrick Gallagher, of Allentown, was a visitor here last week.

BASE BALL DOTS.

The Stars play at Hazleton and the Fernots at Lattimer on Sunday. Both North S's clubs expect to come home victorious.

Anthracite league clubs stand as follows:

Clubs	Won	Lost	Percentage
Hazleton	2	0	1.000
Freeland	1	1	.500
Drifton	1	1	.500
Lattimer	0	2	.000

Oswald's mince meat is pure, clean and guaranteed to be the best.

An Anniversary Remembered.

Rev. Thomas J. Brehony, pastor of the Eckley Catholic church, was surprised on Saturday evening by members of his congregation. The occasion was the thirty-third anniversary of his ordination as a priest, and the members of the Sunday school presented him with a beautiful brass bedstead complete. The church was crowded.

Better Ventilation for Prisoners.

Janitor Hugh Boyle, of the borough buildings, has placed a neat little device on the ventilation holes in the cells of the lockup, whereby the occupants can regulate the supply of fresh air to suit themselves during their incarceration. Heretofore boards were nailed outside the building over the air-holes in the winter, now the device inside makes such unnecessary.

Miner Killed at Hazle Brook.

At Hazle Brook yesterday morning Steve Laskier was instantly killed by a fall of top coal. He had not been in his breast half an hour when the accident occurred. The unfortunate man leaves a wife and three children. The funeral will take place from his late residence at Hazle Brook tomorrow morning. Services will be held at St. John's Slavonian church, followed by interment at St. Ann's cemetery.

Getting Ready to Throw Silk.

The first consignment of raw material for the Freeland Silk Company was received at the mill yesterday. The machinery has been tested and found to work satisfactorily, and it is expected operations will begin on Monday. The managers request all girls who are desirous of working there to be on hand at 7 a. m. Monday. It is not likely that all who apply will be put on immediately and kept at work, as those in charge want to choose only the most suitable applicants that morning. The other applicants will be given positions as soon as possible.

National Slavonic Convention.

The sixth annual convention of the National Society opened in Wilkesbarre on Monday with a big parade, in which forty-five societies from Luzerne and surrounding counties participated. The demonstration was a splendid one, over 1,500 men in uniform being in line. A short business meeting was held and arrangements made for the business of the week. The balance of the day was spent at Mountain Park, where the delegates and societies held a picnic.

On Tuesday President Rovnianek read his annual report, which spoke encouragingly of the progress made by the order the past year. Secretary A. S. Ambrose, of New York city, read a lengthy report, stating that there are 265 assemblies in the society, and that the society has been increased by 3,000 members since last year. The financial secretary, John Kadleck, of Pittsburg, read his report for the fiscal year, showing that during the year \$200,000 was expended for benefits, literary works, etc. The amount expended since the society was organized in 1889 was \$500,000. The convention will end tomorrow.

In the Interest of Naturalization.

From the Wilkesbarre Newsdealer.
The members of the P. O. S. of A. throughout Luzerne county have taken it upon themselves to fight the wholesale naturalization of foreigners, which has predominated so extensively in this county during the past seven years. A movement is now on foot to hold a convention in this city at an early date at which every society in the county will be represented. The members of the P. O. S. of A., as far as can be learned, have taken up the question and have given it careful consideration. No one who is entitled to papers will be prevented from securing them, but the fight will be against the foreign element, many of whom have secured the desired papers through perjury. What the outcome of this agitation will be remains to be seen. There are many able persons connected with this order, and it is believed the agitation will be of benefit.

Schuylkill Taxpayers Win.

The court granted the Schuylkill Taxpayers Association an injunction restraining the county commissioners and controller from rebuilding the wall in front of the prison and laying new steps at the approach thereto. The complaint sets forth that the commissioners and controller awarded the contract to furnish the stone and to complete the work to the Hummelstown Brownstone Company for \$1,500; that the specifications call for alterations and for additional work and material which will run up the cost, by extras and incidentals, to probably \$2,500 or over.

This, it is alleged, is excessive. It is alleged fraud was used in awarding the contract. The county's bonded indebtedness is \$600,000 and the floating indebtedness \$156,169, exclusive of outstanding orders.

Another License Muddle.

Mayor Nichols, of Wilkes' arre, in a letter to City Attorney McLean, claims that the city has no right to compel saloonkeepers to pay \$500 a year for a license, and that under the special charter they must pay only \$300. The mayor holds the license law says cities of the first and second classes should have \$1,000 license fees; cities of the third class \$500, and in all other cities \$300. The county treasurer and others who have looked up the law in the matter believe the mayor to be right. The mayor quotes a lot of law and opinions to uphold his contention. He is vigorously conducting the fight for making Wilkesbarre a city of the third class.

Two Orders May Unite.

At the annual convention of the A. O. H. Board of Erin, held at New York last week, a resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee to meet with a similar committee of the Board of America with full power to act factually and decisively on the union of both orders in this country. The following officers were elected: National delegate, Rev. E. S. Phillips, Plains, Pa.; national secretary, E. R. Hughes, New Brunswick, N. J.; national treasurer, John R. Wallace, Brooklyn; national organizer, Rev. P. A. Conway, Brooklyn. The next convention will be held in Brooklyn.

Real Circus Arrives.

Flying, with or without wings, has hitherto been deemed impossible to man, but the wonderful and daring male and female European, Asiatic and American aerialists with the combined Great Forepaugh-Sells Brothers' circuses appear to have artistically solved the problem. At all events many of their tremendous flights, dives, leaps, evolutions, catches and buoyant movements in mid-air seem far beyond the physical limitations of wingless creatures. Such a sensational and startling exhibition by such a number of great artists is without precedent or parallel. At Wilkesbarre, May 31.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fact is that Castoria is on every wrapper.

BRIEF ITEMS OF NEWS.

PARAGRAPHS GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE REGION.

Synopsis of Local and Miscellaneous Occurrences That Can Be Read Quickly. What the Folks of This and Other Towns are Doing.

The commencement exercises of the Mining and Mechanical Institute will be held at the Grand opera house on June 4.

Asa Rute, at present employed by the Electric Light Company, has been given the position of engineer at the silk mill.

A new ceiling is being placed in position and other interior improvements are being made at T. Campbell's grocery store.

The *Black Diamond* is the title of a new paper which will begin publication next Sunday at Mahanoy City. Thomas Joyce will be editor.

The masquerade ball of the Tip Top Club on Monday evening will be one of the events of the season. Yannes' opera house will be gaily decorated for the occasion.

For fashionable tailoring at the lowest possible prices call at Sipple's.

A surprise party was tendered Miss Maggie Dover at her home in Cox addition Tuesday evening. Many of the young lady's friends were present and an enjoyable time was had by all.

M. J. McGill, William Doggett, John McCole, Jr., and J. J. McMenamin left yesterday for Nanticoke to attend the annual convention of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of the Scranton diocese.

Judge Woodward has handed down an order in the Downing divorce case ordering the defendant, Burton Downing, to pay his wife, Elizabeth, \$75 a year alimony and pay plaintiff's attorneys \$300.

Commencing on Monday evening the Macauley-Patton Company will play at the Grand opera house another week. An entire new lot of plays will be produced. The troupe gave good satisfaction when here a week ago.

The second production of "The Rag Picker's Child" will be given on Saturday evening at the Grand opera house. The company is capable of giving a first-class show, and a large audience is confidently expected to be present.

Judge Craig, of Carbon county, has granted the petition of the residents of Beaver Meadow for a borough charter. The Republicans of the town are jubilant, as all indications point to Republican control of the borough offices.

It is said that the defalcation of John H. Hoffer, formerly cashier of a Lehigh bank and treasurer of the P. O. S. of A. state mortuary fund, amounts to more than \$10,000. No measures toward a criminal prosecution of Hoffer have yet been taken.

Delicious, wholesome pies can be made from the mince meat sold at Oswald's.

In the second series of the pool match for \$25 between Julius Dusheck, of Freeland, and Oscar Bittner, of Weatherly, in the latter place on Saturday evening, Bittner won, the total score being: Dusheck 270, Bittner 300. Dusheck won the first half in Freeland recently.

Lizzie Wassill, a fourteen-year-old girl, was sent to jail on Monday morning for stealing. She has been arrested several times and is quite a hardened criminal, despite her youthfulness. She is the daughter of "Terrible" Pete Wassill, of Duryea, who is now in jail under sentence of death.

PLEASURE CALENDAR.

May 22.—"The Rag Picker's Child," by St. Patrick's cornet band, at the Grand opera house. Admission, 10, 15 and 25 cents.

May 24.—Masquerade ball of the Tip Top Club at Yannes' opera house. Admission, 25 cents.

May 28.—Annual ball of the Fearnots Athletic Association at Yannes' opera house. Admission, 50 cents.

May 29.—Eighteenth annual picnic of the Tigers Athletic Club at the Public park.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Dr. N. MALEY, DENTIST.

Second Floor, Birkbeck Brick, OVER BIRKBECK'S STORE.

Hart, the English Tailor,

37 Centre Street. (Refovich's Old Stand.)

Hart is selling fine evening Pants for 98 cents; they are worth double this price.

Hart has the latest style Hare Silk Neckwear, 19 cents; usually worth 50 cents.

CHAS. ORION STROH,

Attorney and Counselor at Law and Notary Public.

Office: Rooms 3 and 4, Birkbeck Brick, Freeland.

JOHN M. CARR,

Attorney-at-Law

All legal business promptly attended.

Postoffice Building, Freeland.

M. HALPIN,

Manufacturer of

Carriages, Buggies, Wagons, &c.

Walnut and Pine Streets, Freeland.

MRS. S. E. HAYES,

Fire Insurance Agent.

Washington Street.

None but Reliable Companies Represented.

C. D. ROHRBACH,

General Hardware.

Builders' supplies of every kind always in stock. Wall paper, paints and tinware. Bicycles and repairs of all sorts. South Centre street.

PATRICK McFADDEN,

Carpet Weaver.

All kinds of plain carpet, single and double warp, woven in best of style. Only the very best yarn used. Prices reasonable and work guaranteed. Call at shop or residence. Opposite electric car terminus, Centre street.

R. DEPIERRO & SON,

Fine Tailors.

Centre street, near South.

We aim to give satisfaction in workmanship on all our suits and to give our customers the choicest selections in Spring material. We are prepared to make suits very cheap.

LIBOR WINTER,

Restaurant and Oyster Saloon.

No. 13 Front Street, Freeland.

The finest liquors and cigars served at the counter. Families supplied with oysters.

G. HORACK,

Baker & Confectioner.

Wholesale and Retail.

CENTRE STREET, FREELAND.

CENTRAL HOTEL

LEADING HOTEL IN FREELAND.

M. H. HUNSTICKER, Prop.

Rates, \$2 per day. Bar stocked with fine whiskey, wine, beer and cigars. Sale and exchange stable attached.

GEORGE FISHER,

dealer in

FRESH BEEF, PORK, VEAL,

MUTTON, BOLOGNA,

SMOKED MEATS,

ETC., ETC.

Call at No. 6 Walnut street, Freeland, or wait for the delivery wagons.

VERY LOWEST PRICES.

Condry O. Boyle,

dealer in

Liquor, Wine, Beer,

<