the Scranton Tribune

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SCHANGEN, APRIL 7, 1899.

The resolution with which Mayor Moir is enforcing the bicycle ordinance is thoroughly commencable. It is high time that reckless riding should be dis-

The Czar's Peace Congress.

The delegation which has been appointed to represent the United States at the international congress which is assemble on May 18 at the capital of Holland upon invitation of the ezar of Russla for the purpose of considering measures for a general disarmament of the powers will, Americans may rest assured, compare favorably as to character, ability and eminence with that of any other nation there represented. Ambassadors White and Newell and President Low typity the finest elements in the civil life of their country and Captains Crozier and Mahon, for the army and navy, will adequately represent the technical knowledge necessary to such deliberations. The delegation in its individual views stands for the highest possibilities of a Christian civilizaton, but it is world-It wise enough to distinguish between theories which are ideal and conditions which are inexorable.

The dawn of the millennium is a bong way off and until it is reached ft is nothing less than picturesque folly to advocate international abandonment of the arts and sciences of war. Human existence itself is war. It is from birth to death a war against the world, the flesh and the devil, and no success over comes save through hard and painful fighting. The lighting may not be with fists or bludgeons or muskets, but the underlying principle of oitting strength and cunning and wit against the qualities of the opposition is the one pervasive characteristic of human history and it will be so as long as the earth shall last and the heavens unfold above. Recognition of this truth is essential to a just comprehension of the practical possibilities of the peace movement which, in the exar's congress, is soon to record one of its notable man-Meantlons

Yet, as mankind, in the long course of social development, has gradually been educated to subordinate in some degree individual will and impulses to the common restraint as exercised through institutions of government. best carrying personal differences into court before picking up a club and braining the contrary neighbor; and as, in the aggregate, this slow substitution of the processes of reason for the processes of passion has by its improving results commended itself. to the better judgment of the better people of the earth, it is in line of logic to hope that a time may come when nations, drawing lessons from individual experience, will take steps to try their own causes at issue by the principle of a court and jury, and use the sword very much as the policemaa uses his baton-in execution simply of the larger police duties of civiliza-

Let us not be too optimistic. It is not probable that any man now alive will live to see the end of war as an Instrument of progress. Wars, it has been well said, are the thunder storms of civilization. They are occasionally necessary to clear away accumulated injustices and to put into vivid relief the elemental morallities. Such a war was America's last one as righteous a war as any in the sacred records when the Supreme Ruler of the universe appeared to men's consciousness as a veritable war Lord of hosts. The czar's congress could provide no machinery of international adjudication that would have been effective in doing in years or in centuries what that one brief flash of conflict did in six months' time in ripping out the dev rot and in letting the pure air and the sunlight into Spanish-American civilization. Wars such as these will recur from time to time so long as the devil goes about unchained, and sensible men must expect them and prepare for them, must provide good guns, good powder and good beef and clothing, so that when the call comes. civilization may get through with us surgical work as quickly and cheaply and withal as successfully as possible Any talk of disarmament which over looks this necessity is the idle prattle of children or the vain babble of fools,

Nevertheless, the police duties of civilization do not require standing armies that in time of general nears continually crowd each other for elhow room; nor do the better judgments of the times suggest and sametion the prevalent attitude of bullyis a among the great powers, where chips are kept poised on national shoulders. naval watchdogs used to track each other's footsieps and the rule obeyed

Let him grab who has the might

And let him keep who can, Here, if at all, disarmament talk is timely and here, if at all, is where the corner stone of reformation must be

The Philadelphia Press suggests that the new capitol building at Harrisburg could be utilized between sessions as an hospital for the insane. Why only between sessions?

The Problem's Pivot.

"There shall be guaranteed to the Philippine people," so runs the proclamation of the United States commissioners, "an honest and effective civil service." "Upon the carrying out of this provision." says the Syrasuse Post-Standard. Longs the whole problem of the same a of the United States in its manage and of its Island possessions. Solely because the civil service of the Spanish government in

rupl and inefficient has its colonial power fallen in ruins.

"It was the same story everywhere. From Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philipplaces to the smallest of Spain's dependencies, colonial office-holding has been only another name for unspeakable soffshness, oppression and exploitation. It was turn and turn When one Weyler had sufficiently fattened upon the substance of the people whose rights and lives he was supposed to guard, another Weyler was appointed. Colonists were only a means of subsistence for officeholders, and so finally there fell one lightning boll and the whole rotten offfice crashed to earth. We should blind indeed if we failed to see nd profit by Spain's example. We cost guard the civil rights of these trange children of the tropics even more vigitantly than we guard our Without hesitation and withort n. out thought of political spoils we must a hopest and efficient in our managenent of their affairs. Otherwise,

That the administration under which the Spaniards were expelled should send such men as Schurman. Denby and Worcester to represent its policy in the Philippines is in itself a pledge that so far as this administration is concerned the best strength of the nation shall be put forth there; and that these commissioners should solemnly avow that bonest and effective civil service is the guarantee of this nation to the people of the Philippines is sufficient assurance of a Republican duty recognized and assumed."

In spite of the arguments of people who are against war and favor arbitration, it is evident to almost everybody that the recent rapid and effectual thrushing that Spain received at the hands of the United States has tione more to prevent war in future than a dozen years' talk on arbitra-

Dust.

According to Professor Wiley, the chief chemist of the agricultural department at Washington, if it wasn't for dust man would have to devise a new plan of existence. The professor enthusiastically adds: "You could not have a garden or a farm without dust. It would not be possible for a crop to grow unless the soil contained an organism capable of converting ultrogenous matter into nitric acid. Nitrogen is indispensable as plant food, and plants can assimilate it only when preented in the form of nitric soid. That is incapable of auto-locomotion and can be distributed only through the dust which falls upon the soil and upon the leaves of trees and plants. Hence dust is essential to the pursuit of agriculture, and if it wasn't being carried about constantly on the breeze through the air we would simply have to quit farming; animals would have nothing to feed upon, and we would have neither meat nor bread nor vegetables,"

Going deeper into his theme, the po-fersor informs us: "The soil is ontinually being revived and enriched from the particles that are floating about in the atmosphere. They come from two sources; first, atoms of the earth's surface caught up by the wind and distributed elsewhere, and, second, what we call cosmic dust-that is, mineral matter of meteoric origin. The heavenly bodies are constantly shedding tragments of iron and other mineral substances, which fall with great velocity, and when they reach the atmorphere that surrounds the earth are heated by friction and catch fire by contact with the oxygen. They are then burned to ashes and scattered in ninute and invisible atoms. Some of the larger pieces that become detached from the stars reach the earth without being entirely consumed. We call them meteors: but the little particles that Prom a Letter by Charles E. Fisher, M. D. in the Chicago Record. permeate the air, because of this perpetual and violent bombardment from the stars, are composed of phosphorte acid, potash and other chemicals, which are absolutely essential in renewing the restial dust is also of great importance is almost entirely composed of particles that have been left there by the winds. The clouds are water dust. For s a mixture of water, coal, terrestrial and meteoric dust. The dust from the streets of cities is of a composite na-

germs of all kinds." The complaining citizens of Scranton who during the recent brief glimpse of spring have been strongly tempted to profanity by the clouds of dust that for his interesting and sympathetic explanation; and hereafter, when they are inhaling these innumerable and trrepressible germs we trust that they that it is a necessary sacrifica to agri-

When the Filipinos have been convinced, it would not be a bad idea to forward a proclamation of some sort to pacify the baked-bean dyspeptics who are hissing at the administration from classic Boston.

Figures That Surpass Fiction.

Statistics of trade may be dull reading to persons who see in them nothing more than a lot of thesome figures. but to imaginations educated so that each figure stands for vital human activity and means, among other things, employment to labor, increased comfort and conveniences, homes made happier and life brighter, they are the most fascinating kind of literature. There have recently been published at Washington by the bureau of statistics in tabular form some figures relative to the phenomenal growth of the toreign commerce of the United States which, properly interpreted, heat the imaginings of a Jules Verne or a H.

G. Wells. The table shows that a decade ago France, Germany and the United Kingdom exceeded the United States in their exports, those of the United Kingdom being more than double our own. In 1897, the last year for which methods of doing business of governthese islands has been criminally cor- full comparison can be made, those mental island and municipal matters

those of France or Germany, and but .. per cent, less than those of Great Britain, while now our exports of domestic merchandise exceed those of Great Britain. From 1888 to 1897 our exports increased 5t per cent., while those of the United Kingdom fell off L4 per cent.; France showed an increase of but 10.8 per cent.; Netherlands, 33.6 per cent.; British Australusia, 5.9 per cent.; Belgium, less than 1 per cent., and Russia., a decrease of 8.1 per cent. Germany showed a gain of 13.5 per cent. from 1891 to 1897, the figures for earlier years not being in form to permit an accurate and just comparison. In imports the United States showed an increase of but 5.6 per cent, from 1888 to 1897, while the United Kingdom showed 16.3 per cent. Netherlands, 34 per cent.; and Rusincrease of 10.5 per cent, from 1891 to 1897; France, Belgium and British Australasia showed a slight decrease in their importations from 1888 to 1897. China increased her imports 18.4 per cent, from 1888 to 1897, and Japan increased hers 121.9 per cent., while in exports China increased 18.1 per cent, and Japan 63,1 per cent. No other country shows so large an increase in exports and so small an increase in imports meantime as does

the United States, while no other is able to present a record such as that which ours has made in the fiscal year 1898-of exports double the amount of the imports. The uniform report of Americans returned from abroad that the business

interests of continental Europe are alarmed at the extraordinary inroads of American competition and are casting about vainly for protective expedients is better appreciated after careful study of the foregoing figures. As the United States steps over the threshold of the twentieth century she is, without exaggeration, the strongest power on earth, although by no means full grown.

Near Galesburg, Ill., on Tuesday nomineefor school controller, beat Mr. James Mansfield, the Republican nominee, by an overwhelming majority; but James is doubtless consoled by the reflection that the office remains in the family.

An English hotelkeeper who was sued for refusing to serve refreshments to a eyeling viscountess clad in bloomers has been acquitted and this is another argument for an Anglo-American alliance.

Democrats should not be too hasty in forming conclusions on the situation until it has been ascertained positively what price Prof. Cleveland will pay for his Jefferson dinner.

Mechanies are now at work upon a new home for the Washington Star which is to be the finest building for exclusively newspaper purposes in the world. The Star deserves it.

The lack of news from Dreyfus leads to the supposition that the chaining of Satan during the Lenten season must have also corked up the Devil's Isl-

Notwithstanding the pigeon season is on, very little is heard of "Wolfert's roost" these days.

Altgeld, of Illinois, like the great John L. Sullivan, went into the ring

The Difficulties of Yankees in Cuba.

WING to the fact that there is no anomalous situations are conto agriculture. In many places the soil proclamation continuing in force and must be paid, nor where, nor when, effect the civil and penal codes, with such modifications as military occupancy demanded, until a stable governing the starry flag of the freest people what may be the logical outcome of the with satisfaction and complacency the of our reveilles and the calls of our will curb their annoyance by reflecting bugies and feel that they are safe in with the civility rightfully their due, and are made to bow obeisance to the very laws their soldiers fought to overtortions, injustices, exactions and crim-

inal inquisitions. 2for is this the only anomaly. There are three governors from the United States holding appointment over Hav-Yet in municipal matters Ameri-ADD: cans are finding it necessary to humble subjection-to an additional governor for municipal edicts. The situations are so intricate and complex that the ordinary citizen from the states hardly knews just where "he is at." Governor-General Brooke is supreme milltary and civil authority for the whole Havena is a part of It. General Fitzhugh i.ee is military governor for the province of Havana. The city Best Bicycle Built is a part of it. General Ludlow is govrnor of Havana, the city likelf. But his is not all. There is a Cuban civi governor-Governor Mora-who is chief executive of civil and legal affairs for Havana, while there is also a mayor-Mr. Lacoste-who administers municipal laws. As there seems to be an interminable admixture under Spain's

of the United States were greater than it can be seen at a glance that the conditions are worse than confounded. General Brooke, though not claim to being a statesman, lawyer or politician, is yet engaged in attempting to transform the Napoleonic code, penaand civil, into an Americanized system. General Lee seems to have become a mere figurehead through having beet side-tracked in an office carrying with it distinction, perhaps, but absolutely no opportunity to display his ability in functions of statehood. Governor-General Ludlow is making a most excellent military governor of Havana, preserving the peace under conditions full of dangerous possibilities and putting the city in better saultary condition than ever before. But it is strictly within the limits of truth to record that he is being called upon to perform duties of a nature belonging to the constitutional lawyer rather than to the military officer. There are many Americans in Havana, accustomed to sla 51.4 per cent. Germany showed an civil governmental affairs, whose personal observations go to convince them that some such commission as was sent to Honolulu should be sent to Havana at once to take hold of the numerous complexities of the situation and bring order and discipline out of the confusion now existing.

> Our people were received with re-Joleing two months ago. Already they are being tooked upon with suspicion and autagonism. Arbitrary methods and the confusion and distrust arising out of the complications referred to are largely the cause of this change of heart. Prospectors and investors have come to believe that they are considered legitimate prey. seems to be a great deal of friction. Complaints are heard on every street corner and people are returning to the states disappointed with the way things are being conducted, and crying "Not yet" when asked about the advisability of investing in the island. It seems to the observing onlooker as If Mr. McKinley might conserve the best interests of both peoples if he could spare some of his experienced statesmen and jurists to come to Cuba and set things going upon a legal and business-like basis at the earliest possible moment.

Life is made up of little things. The flea is more annoying than the ele-Mrs, James Mansfield, Democratic phant. In Cuba's business affairs little things irritate and annoy people and thus cause irritations of greater proportions. An American citizen engaging in a highly creditable business project received a delivery wagon a short time ago. The municipal tax for operating it is \$17 a year. The fiscal year was eight months gone, but he had to pay the full amount for the four months use. It would have been the same had he brought it in the last day of the year. The case was taken before the military authorities, but that's the way Spain did business. Mr. McKinley has proclaimed Spain's law in force, and the imposition stands. The city license for a retail drug store is about \$180 a year, payable in four quarterly payments, at the end of each quarter. Not even if a man wishes to pay in advance may be do so. And since, under this regulation, the last quarter's tax is not collected during the quarter, an interest charge of 6 per cent, for the three months immediately falls due. Under the old regime the railway employes paid 10 per cent, of their salaries to the Spanish government. The Spanish government has been driven from the island but the laws have been continued, and this tax is still being collected. It is also required that a merchant give a gist, for instance, is required to give bond in the sum of \$5,000 that he will do no wrong. The bond secured and accepted, this ordeal being attended by many annoyances, and the license being paid, he has yet to pay 5 cents tax for every letter on his shop. If he buys out an old business he must pay for the old letters as well as for the new ones which take their place This is the way Spain did it, and her laws still govern Cuba. The medical profession pays a sum of \$2,000 per annum to the government. The doctors meet toward the end of the fiscal year and the honest ones report the amount of business they have done The others name whatever sum they please. Upon the aggregate amount the \$2,000 is assessed, each paying his established government in Cuba, proportion. If the doctor is disposed to be niggardly he has had a hard stantly arising. Some of these year. There is also a nominal city are ludicrous, some annoying, some out- tax amounting. it is stated, to about fertility of the soil. What we call ter- rageous. When Spain surrendered the \$60 a year, payable quarterly. No one island President McKinley issued a seems to be able to tell to whom this

A physician is languishing in an "incomunicado" cell under a charge of ment could be organized. And it thus criminal malpractice. He was a conhappens that there is a country float- tract surgeon during the late war and upon being discharged decided to loon earth, yet being operated under cus- care in this city. Almost immediately ture and carries all sorts of fragments toms and laws belonging to the middle he was arrested for practicing without and atoms in various stages of decay, ages and a defunct monarchy. Some a firense and for wearing his uniform It has a high degree of agricultural kind of law has to be followed, to be after having been discharged. His designificance, because it is loaded with sure. Cuba has no government of her fense was that he had not received own, with power to unmake and make his formal discharge; that his civillaws. Nor was our conquest one for lan clothing had not yet reached him possesssion of this territory, no matter from the states, and that as the Amercan flag was floating he presumed he illogical situation. Therefore prospect- had a right to practice until some govors, investors and permanent incomers commental regulation should make it sector eyes and hose and ears should find themselves doing business in Spain, necessary for him to procure a perfeel deeply indebted to Professor Wiley in so far as the regulations and liberties init. Upon these explanations his case of the island are concerned. They view | was dismissed and he was admonished to leave the island. Not accepting the star-spangled banner overhead, hear admonition, not believing the military the beating of our drums, the sounding authorities had the tight to order an American citizen away from Cuba, he continued to practice. Last week he engaging in legitimate businesses to be lost a case following some slight operonducted on principles governing busi- ation. He was again apprehended for ness in the states. Yet when they come practicing without a permit, and while to engage in their pursuits they are being held on this charge was arrested sent to people whose tanguage they charged with the death of the patient know not: they are not always treated and with having made an attempt to secure the power of attorney of the deceased that he might administer his business affairs. With the merits of throw-laws burdened with Spanish ex- the contention the American colony are not especially interested, but there exists the greatest indignation that an American subject, a physician who went to war that he might give succor to the wounded and sick soldiers for the states, should be placed "in comunicado." where he can see neither wife, attorney nor friends for three themselves in submission-some call it days while the government is making up its case. If the military governor for the general laws and a civil mayor has no power to set aside such barbaric practices it should be quickly vouchsafed unto him. If he stready has such power it ought to be exercised The right kind of a commission clothed with authority to remove all such causes of friction as they arise



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on the troubled waters down this way.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

The possibility of the spontaneous com The possibility of the spontaneous com-bustion of coal when stored in large quantities in closed pockets, as on ship-hourd, is now so well recognized that in a Boston electric light station now under construction an unusual arrangements provided for ventilating the coal so a preclude this possibility. The pocket designed to have a capacity of 2,000 tons, and at every column around the coal pocket is a square pipe, with bell and spligot end, something like a sewer pipe, utached with the bell end downward, to the inner flange of the columns. A space is left between the spigot of one pipe and the adjacent bell end of the pipe above The projecting and overhanging bell provents the coal from entering the pipe, but cliows gases that might distill from the coal to find their way to the atmospher through the ventilating pipes.

SONG OF THE SHIRT WAIST.

Hark! the pipes of Pan are pleading-ke a sweetheart interceding-in behalf of lazy fellows newadays-for the proud and painted tulip-and the meek and minted julep-are a-bloom again along life = arid ways!

Yes, it works a chap's undoing-when he knows that nature's wooling-from the uplands and the lowlands and the meres When the mountide glows in splendorwhen the nights are soft and tender-and the captivating shirt waist reappears

When the liver pad is wilting-and the illy pad is tilting—on the breeze bedimpled bosom of the pool—Wien the ripe red rose comes pleasing—and the ripe red nose stops speezing-and the little boys play hookey from the school. It is lawful to be lazy-when each dear old-fashioned dalay-breathes a message from the fragrant yester years-When the fields are sweet with clover-and the still my heart) moreover-When the alry,

When the violet blossems bappy-on the coatlet of the chappie-When we hustle bee holds wassall-in his honeysuckle astle-when the troubadour is tuning uta

fuity shirt walst reappears!

When that tired, transcendent feelinginto every heart comes stealing-sweetly pensive. like a sunny maiden's tears-When the bird choirs lift their voiceswhen, in sort, all earth rejolees- and the immemorial shirt waist reappears! -New Orleans Times-Democrat.

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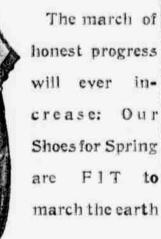
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