

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics.

When the war department is put in charge of a man who commands their confidence and respect, as seems now probable, heaven be praised, the people will not be so skittish, Mr. President.

Russell A. Alger. The man does not live who could have filled the office of secretary of war during the past fifteen months without exciting or receiving sharp criticism.

Yet General Alger could have weathered this storm had his temperament been different. He was sensitive, fretful, irritable; he stroked the public fur the wrong way; he had, it would seem, no conception of the finer qualities of tact, patience and good humor.

The minute strikers use violence and deny to others right to claim for themselves, the minute they touch the fuse to their own undoing.

The Peace Congress at Work. The information which the public has received in cable reports from The Hague relative to the work and workings of the Peace congress has necessarily been meagre; a public service has therefore been performed by the Washington Star, in conjunction with certain other papers, in securing from a most efficient correspondent, Edward Marshall, one of the heroes of the Santiago campaign, a series of letters by mail giving ample and interesting details.

Mr. Marshall gives this picture for a starter: "Every important nation represented at the peace conference, excepting only Germany, had a war on its hands when the delegates talked peace. The United States was fighting in the Philippines, France was fighting in Algeria and had by no means secured peace in Madagascar. England is never without its little wars in India and in others of its colonial possessions.

Russia inside of three weeks had three small insurrections to put down and was fighting the natives in China. Holland for twenty-five years has been conducting war in Sumatra. While the French delegates sat and calmly discussed means of wiping out international warfare, some of the most prominent and influential of their countrymen in Paris were trying to overthrow the republic at home.

President Loubet found it necessary to call out 15,000 soldiers to guard him while he drove less than five miles to a race track. Besides these actual warlike disturbances there rose on the horizon a black cloud indicative of an armed struggle between the English government and the Boers in South Africa—a cloud which has by no means been dispelled as yet.

Truths Which are Obvious. It is perfectly true, as Adjutant General Corbin says, that in time of war the status of newspaper correspondents is precisely that of camp followers. They are subject to military law and can be shot by the commanding officer at his pleasure.

To Americans it will be agreeable to learn that the American delegation was the subject of profound interest at The Hague. Mr. Marshall on this point testifies as follows: "I have been much in Europe and much with European diplomats. I know that while their feeling toward America has, in the past, been friendly enough, they still failed to take us seriously.

center of interest around which the peace conference revolved. Not even the Russian delegates, representing the monarch who called the conference, were regarded by the others with the interest shown in the Americans.

As to the work of the conference, it was done mainly in committee. Apropos, Mr. Marshall tells of a circumstance which we do not remember to have been mentioned in the cable dispatches.

He tells us that in one of the first committee meetings that the delegates from those European countries which had endeavored to conspire against us at the time of the Spanish-American war showed their hostile hands for the first and last time.

General Wood isn't saying much down at Santiago but the vital statistics show that he is doing a heap.

Mr. Robinson Made a Mistake. City Treasurer Edmund J. Robinson's refusal to give the collector of poor tax his accustomed place in the treasurer's office will place him in a very embarrassing position for the poor tax man will have his usual desk room there, notwithstanding Mr. Robinson.

One of the strong arguments used in favor of the erection of a city hall was the centralization of city business that would follow and the great convenience which a centralization would be to the taxpayer.

Mr. Robinson does not quote the authority by which he would banish the poor tax collector from his office. He contents himself with saying he does not want him there.

When de trumpet im a tootin' an' de stabs dey am a shoutin' an' de owls im a hootin' in de trees.

When dey fol' deir wings an' rally in de golden river valley ain't halla-uh-hally de de Lam'.

When de sheep an' been chosen from de goats, what yo' uppoin', wikeed sinnah, what yo' gwine to tell de Lawd?

When de dar'ness am a fallin' an' de buzzards am a squallin' an' de angel am a callin' yo' to so.

When de sun hab gut its shinin' an' de brack wolves am a whinin' an' de mou'nchs hy repolin' on de soil.

When yo' see de righteous swingin' up de road an' all a singin' twot de ear'd'll be a ringin' wif de psalm.

much as has been said of late of the destiny of the Anglo-Saxon to be the chief agent in spreading enlightenment and progress throughout the earth.

MILES FOR MANILA. From the Washington Post. The officer who should be sent to Manila and placed in supreme charge of our military operations in the Philippines is Major General Nelson Miles.

INDIA AND ONE. In India only one male in ten and one in 100 are able to read.

INTELLIGENCE. The value of American exports from Newport News increased \$22,000,000 in the fiscal year of 1897, and \$30,000,000 in the fiscal year of 1898.

THE "CHURCH ARMY". A "Church Army" tea saloon has been opened at Atlantic City, N. J., with many of the characteristic decorations of the ordinary liquor saloon.

THE TOTAL LENGTH OF RAILROAD IN THE UNITED STATES WAS 122,000 MILES.

THE CUBANS HOLD THE MAJORITY OF THE CLERKSHIP, AND ARE BEING SUBSTITUTED FOR SPANISH WHERE A BETTER CUBAN CAN BE FOUND THAN THE OUTGOING OFFICIAL.

NOTWITHSTANDING RECENT COMPLAINTS OF CUBAN JOURNALISTS THAT THE SERVICE WAS OVERLOADED WITH AMERICANS DRAWING HIGH SALARIES, AN OFFICIAL LIST COMPILED SHOWS THAT THERE WERE ON MAY 2, ONLY THIRTY-TWO AMERICANS.

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Continued Spread of English Speech. From the New York Sun.

IN SCHOOLS now opening in the Philippines, under the auspices of our government, the pupils are required to study English.

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When de y'all de vial' broken an' de wrathful fury token with its awful flames, de chokin' in de sky.

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Reynolds Bros. STATIONERS and ENGRAVERS. Hotel Jermyn Building.

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PERSONALITIES. C. P. Huntington's hobby is chemistry and like Lord Salisbury, he spends much time in his private laboratory.

THE LONG GREEN. Laid around the house, or the little patch of grass in the dooryard, require constant attention to look beautiful.

GUNSTER & FORSYTH. 225-227 PENN AVENUE.

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DUPONT'S POWDER. A Kentucky school teacher who had for years endured what she describes as "perfect martyrdom."

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Wash Jap Silks in plain and cord effects—"colors absolutely fast," which we are closing out below cost.

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