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 its friends bearing on current topics but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name.

SCRANTON, AUGUST 2, 1899.

Beginning with August 1 the commanding general of the United States should command, If Miles is not worthy of trust get one who is.

Beyond the Limit of Patience.

The legal proceedings begun yesterday against the editor of the Scrantonian aim to test whether there is redress at law for those who are maliciously attacked by that crime in journalism. The law is supposed to protect the individual citizen and to draw a line around the liberty of the press dividing liberty from license. It is to determine whether this supposition is correct as applied to this particular community that the action is begun. We may add that it will be followed up.

The general testimony of persons who have made newspapers a study is that the Scrantonian since it came under the management of this man Little has been incomparably the lowest, meanest and most obscene publication ever printed in the United States. It has raked the sewers, scoured the slums and tried every device of peeping and snooping to get together materials for the salacious scandals and stenchful personal slander which Little has made its stock in trade. When it could not get any grain of fact or exhalation of foul gossip to serve as the nucleus of its polluting stuff it drew wholly upon its deprayed imagination, trusting in its power of abuse to terrorize its victims and protect it from punishment. This same power it has employed in the solicitation of advertising.

With reference to the suit begun yesterday it is proper to say that the plaintiff in this action sues more in the interest of public decency than from personal considerations. Abuse he is used to: the desire in the present instance is simply to see whether the law is adequate to suppress a festering public iniquity which has gone beyoud the limits of patience and reached a point where something has to be done in way of cure. Measures of redress exist apart from the law but it is the duty of good citizens to respect the law even when the provocation is strong to take by the scruft of the neck the human jackal who runs the organ of indecency and administer personal

The administration's credit for appointing Leonard Wood to the position he now holds would be enhanced by hig promotion to the chief command in

May Intervene in Santo Domingo.

intervene in Santo Domingo under circumstances which would probably mean a permanent protectorate is more probable than most casual readers of the current news now suspect. The national debt of the Dominican republic has for some time been under the financial control of a company dominated by New York financiers, who bought it in cheaply from a syndicate in Holland, which had been unable to collect the Interest. This American company took prompt possession of the Dominican custom houses and is now virtually the controlling power in the island. In addition to that, the leading steamship line is an American one, so that no matter what form of government exists down there, there is always a strong reason for American watchfulness.

Under the Monroe doctrine, not likely since the Spanish war to be challenged by any European power, the only government which could intervene for purposes of pacification is that of the United States. The sending of warships and marines to the vicinity of Puerto Plata means that if a responsibility of this kind shall come through native chaos it will not be shirked. The United States is not aching for any more mongrel tropcal wards, but if a further paternal oversight shall fall to it in the line of unsought duty the job will be accepted and completed with, let us hope, neatness and dispatch.

In one respect the London Times certainly owes General Alger an apology. Its assertion of fraud in war disbursement has not a leg to stand on.

A Lesson from Kentucky.

It is to the credit of the American people that notorious fraud in politics is invariably condemned by them, without distinction as to party lines. The revolt against Gubernatorial Candidate Goebel in Kentucky, which today at Lexington is expected to take the form of an independent Democratic state ticket headed by a former governor of Kentucky who was until recently chairman of the Democratic state committee, has occurred among as stiff partisans as are to be found in the United States. But these men, underneath their partisanship, are honest citizens who do not propose by their votes or by their silence

to sanction crime. Says a Louisville dispatch to the Washington Star, describing the existing situation in Kentucky: "From a defection that at first seemed of small moment the rebellion has grown into proportions that resemble an ocean ground swell, and the most sanguine of the Goebel men do not now shul their eyes to the fact that they have incurred the displeasure of an element that is mustering a surprising strangth. As an evidence of how the Democrats apposed to Goebel were stirred to enthusiasm by the news that their old leader, Governor Brown, was to lead the forces of 'old-time Democracy,' it is but necessary to mention the effect in one city. Owensbore, in

called Gibraltar of Democracy. A reporter in thirty-five minutes, taking men as he met them, in a visit to the principal points of business in Owensborn, secured expressions from seventy-seven life-long Democrats, who said that they were glad of an opportunity to support Governor Brown. Twenty men were found in the same territory canvassed by reporters who stated that they would support Goebel and thirty said they had rather not be quoted, but of these twenty are known to favor Brown. In Governor Brown's old home county of Henderson the Democrats will give him a support that will surprise even the Goebel leaders on the ground. The same can be said of most of the western and southern Kentucky Democratic countics. In central and eastern Kentucky Brown is almost as popular, and will poll a vote that will make him a formidable candidate in the three-cornered

While the effect of this revolt probably will be the election of the Republican state ticket, those who organized it properly prefer that to a Democratic victory won on a basis of gross injustice. Goebel was not the choice of the Democratic party in Kentncky; he won his nomination by audacious trickery and treachery through perversion of his powers as the presiding officer of the convention, and politically he stands for every element in public life which honest citizens should condemn. When an independent movement can split in two the once rock-ribbed Democracy of a state like Kentucky it is time for the politiclans to give ear to public opinion.

Prize money for naval captures saors of piracy but inasmuch as it was authorized by law one year ago Dewey, Sampson and their men should be paid what the government owes them.

General Alger's Statement.

Although it contributes to the public information nothing either startling or new, the farewell statement of the outgoing secretary of war makes plain in a dignified way the immensity of the task with which the war department has had to deal and leaves it to the public to judge how far its criticisms of General Alger, the individual, have been deserved. With his return to private life this criticism, so far as it is personal in aim or motive, should and will cease.

It remains for those who were until ecently associated with General Alger in official responsibility and for his successor in office to get to the bottom of the trouble underneath all this public clamor and present the evils which undoubtedly exist in a manner so plain that the next congress will not dare to pass them by without correction. General Alger as head of the war department was only an irritating personal incident of a situation honeycombed with abuses, weaknesses and shortcomings. He has gone and public anxlety is temporarily relieved; but the faults of the system remain and these can be remedied only through fearless and thorough publicity when the proper

time shall come. There must be, first of all, a complete and radical reorganization of the musty and inefficient staff system That the United States may have to under which promotion is by seniority solely and tenure of office is determined by other conditions than ability or fitness. The system which bred an Eagan and kept him in a place of great responsibility at a most critical time when his unfitness was so apparent as to amount to a public crime; the system which enables a clerical officer like the adjutant general to usurp the functions of the major general commanding; and, finally, the system which puts in the position of major general commanding not necessarily the best genera! in the service but simply the one whose commission dates furthest back, making the president of the United States, as commander-in-chief, dependent upon an army head over whom he has no power of removal or control save in case of crime proved pefore a court-martial-this is the system which has bred the ills for which Russell A. Alger stood personally responsible before unreflecting public opinion, although as a matter of fact ne had no more to do with its creation than the humblest bootblack in the land; and it is a system condemned by every principle of common sense as

> Alger has gone and there are good reasons why it is well that he should go. Though well-meaning he was weak; he had neither the temperament, the brain nor the gristle to cope with such a monstrous perversion of executive authority. His successor, they tell us, is strong in all these points-an organizer, a thinker and a fighter who has never known defeat. Let him cut open the carbuncles in the war office and demand of congress, in the name of the people, reorganization along the lines of cure.

well as proved notoriously faulty in

The attorney general of Maryland and a brother attorney had a fist fight the other day in front of the Baltimore Young Men's Christian Association, but it is believed this style of professional rivalry will not spread.

Has the United States Stopped Growing?

(Philadelphia Press.) The record of a rapid decrease in the American birth-rate was one of the notable results of the census of 1890 and the census of 1900 seems likely to show still farther decrease. Mr. H. T. Newcomb, a statistician in the Agricultural department well equal to the task, reaches the conclusion that the population in 1900 will be 74.489,860. This increase, 18.94 per cent. for the decade, is far below that of any previous decade. If the population had grown fast from 1890 to 1900 as in the decade just before, the population next year would be about 78 .-000,000. Taking the mean increase in the past twenty years the population

would be 77,680,000. Yet the population is tolerably certain to be 4,200,000 short of the corrected increase for twenty years, and, in round numbers, 4,500,000 short of the proportional increase in the ten years, 1880 to 1890. Of this loss some

gration, and this carries with it the decrease due to children which would be born to these immigrants. From 1880 to 1890 there were received 5,246,-211 immigrants. The immigration this decade, Mr. Newcomb estimates, will not be over 3.624.133. There remains a loss of from 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 in the population, if the increase 1880 to 1890 had kept up, due to a decrease in the birth-rate, black and white. In 1890 there were 1,800,000 less children under 10 years old than were expected, judging from the number in 1880. This decade promises to outdo this record. This loss in decenial increase has gone on for 100 years. Where the increase of our native white population a century ago was 35.10 per cent, from 1790 to 1800, from 1890 to 1900 Mr. Newcomb finds that it is likely

to be only 25 per cent. If this decrease were stationary !t would be a less matter; but it grows with each decade. The loss in negro increase decade by decade is, it is true, still faster; but the white increase is dropping fast enough to make it probable that there are those now living who will see the population of the United States as stationary as that of France. Our increase for our total population was 30.08 per ent. 1870 to 1880, 24.86 per cent, from 1850 to 1890, and promises to be but 18.94 per cent, for this decade. At this rate, in about twenty years the increase in this country will be about that of European countries like England and Germany. Deducting immigration, it is now about one-half larger. That families are smaller than once all see; but few are aware that this country is moving so fast to an European average. The simple fact is that the country has filled up. The land is now nearly all taken. population will before very many years approach its limit, and this will be far short of the predictions once made of the American aggregate.

The Klondike is responsible for one good deed. In 1897 W. H. Bard left Pittsburg owing \$50,000. Embezzlement was charged and detectives were put on his trail but they never found him. He now writes from Dawson that he has cleaned up a quarter of a million dollars and is coming home to wipe off the slate. Let us hope that he will keep the courage of his good resolution.

Gossip now credits David Martin with congressional aspirations. David Martin in congress would be a conspicuous figure.

"I believe," says old General Gomez, that all newspapers lie." Who has been sending the Scrantonian to

GLIMPSES OF HUMAN NATURE

Gomez?

Hon. Bill Reader's Debut.

According to the Kansas City Times, oliticians in Kansas are enjoying a good story at the expense of Bill Reeder, the new Republican congressman from the Sixth district. He went to Washington arly this summer, and Joe Bristow, of ter General, agreed to show him around hatted for awhile, and as Reeder arose | piano ruined."

"I beg your pardon, but I didn't catch 'Smith," replied the postmaster-gen

'And what position might you hold?"

I am postmaster general. "Ah, yes," said Reeder, as he backed ut awkwardly. Bristow was blushing like a schoolgirl Then they went to the war department, ad Mr. Bristow took the Kansan into cretary Alger's private office. Reeder it his hat down on the desk in front Secretary Alger after the introduction nd the three chatted for a while. When key started Eccder nearly stampeded

Bristow by asking the secretary: "What did you say your name was?"
"Alger-Russell A. Alger." "And," continued the new congress an, with the air of a man yet unenlighted, "what are you accretary of?

"Secretary of war," replied Alger, ruthfully, for he was than. During this seance Bristow stood firs one foot and then on the other Before leaving the state, war and navy sullding they ran into Vice-President Hobart. There was another introducon, and this time he remembered the Reeder, still thirsting for knowl-

"Do you reside here in the city, Mr. dge, asked:

"Part of the time," replied Mr. Hobart, out my home is in New Jersey."
"Well, I'm mighty glad to have saw ou," replied Reeder with cordiality, typ-cal of the boundless West. Later he sked Bristow "What does that feller o?" and when told that he was vice resident and therefore didn't do any

hing be was greatly surprised. Then they encountered Senator Cullom, nd after the introduction Reeder asked: "I didn't eatch your name, senator?" "Mr. Cullom," replied the senator.

Then, after an embarrassing pause: "What state might you be from?"
"Illinois," said the venerable senator "Glad I seen you," continued Reeder. Do you know, you look like the pictures

Abraham Lincoln?" Before the Illinois senator could recover om his astenishment Joe Bristow had eeder by the arm and was leading him ack to the postoffice department. They ad an engagement to go to the white louse together, but Bristow pleaded to se excused on the ground that he had a tremendous amount of work to do. In reality, he was afraid he would ask Mr. McKinley what state he is from, and

The Talkative Little Brother.

what he is president of.

"Mr. Sixaweek," inquired her little bro-er-he was entertaining the young man a the front steps of a Capitol Hill house

while she was "getting ready" upstairs—
"why don't you get two of them?"
"Two what, son?" inquired Sixaweek.
"Why, two skates," replied the delightful little boy. "Sis says she seen you n F street yesterday afternoon with on F street yesterday arterna a wonderin' harge skate on, and I've been a wonderin' why you didn't buy a pair. I ast Sis, and she said you must be up against it What are you up against, Mr. Sixa-

Sixaweek's reply was too evasive and articulate for reproduction.-Washing.

An Unwise Selection. A returned missionary, giving some ac-

count of his experiences in Jamaica, says hat he was once called upon to not as arbitrator between a man and his wife who had had a violent quarrel.

The couple came to the missionary's house a short time before the hour appointed for a prayer meeting to be held in the chapel in the missionary's door

The man and his wife both begon to talk at the same time, their tongues gothe account district, which is the so- 1,622,480 is due to a decrease of immi- ing fast and furiously and their tempers

rising until they finally came to blows and fought until the missionary was forced to use all his strength in separat-

ing them. He succeeded in calming them, and in-duced them to remain to prayer meeting After a hymn had been sung the mission-ary requested each person present to give quotation from the Scriptures, where upon the man who had the difficulty with his wife got up and said, briefly:

I have fought a good fight. The missionary had hardly recovered rom the shock of this when an old black yoman got up and prayed that "de min istah" might be given strength for "his week body and his feeble mind."-Detroit Free Press.

Knew What He Wanted.

A Chicago inebriate who had never timately was taken in hand by a friend given a season of liquor cure treatment, and on his return supplied with money for a fresh start in life.

He determined to commence with a neavy dinner. So entering a well-known restaurant he sat down at a table and egan to study the bill of fare while the

waiter waited for his order. He scanned the menu long and earnest-y, but could see nothing on it with which ie was familiar. Suddenly he laid the card face upward on the table, closed his eyes, and jabbed his forefinger down savagely at random on the printed list with the air of a man who had made up

"There," said he, "give me some of The waiter bent down and examined the line over which the finger rested. He looked pained.

That's Mayonnaise dressing, "Of course it is, Don't you 'spose I an read? That's what I want. Bring me some of it." "Certainly, sir. But what do you want it on?"

'Want it on, you chump!' shouted the man who refused to be corrected. "A plate, of course! What do you suppose wanted it on? The table cloth?"-Chi-

Boiling Eggs for the Bishop.

Bishop Paret (Episcopalian) of Baltimore, some time ago was the guest of an Episcopal family in West Virginia. Learning from the bishop that he liked hard-boiled eggs for breakfast, his ostess went to the kitchen to boil them

While so engaged she began to sing the first verse of the well-known hymn. "Rock of Ages." Then she sang the second verse, the bishop, who was in the dining room, joining in. When it was inished, there was silence. The lady herself came into the room a few minutes later, carrying the eggs, and the bishop

"Why not sing the third verse?"
"The third verse?" she replied. "Oh, that's not necessary." "I don't understand," replied Bishop

Paret.
"Why, you see, bishop," she replied. "when I am cooking eggs I always sing one verse for soft boiled and two for hard boiled."-Penny Magazine.

A Story of the Pope.

Cardinal Fleury, when he was very old, and was still clinging to the premiership In France, once dismissed an importunate suitor by saying: "While I live you shall have nothing." "My lord," was the answer, "I will wait." His holiness the pope is as placidly unaware of danger as ever was the cardinal. When a South American bishop, who was about to return to his diocese, expressed a fear that he would never again see the holy father. Pope Leo answered him sweetly, "Why not? You are still yong, and it is to be hoped that you will be able to return to us once again."-St. James' Gazette.

She Objected.

A certain Wilkes-Barre woman assured her husband that she never told him a lie and never would. He told her that he did not doubt it, but would hereafter and put him onto the ropes. The first place they went was into the office of Charles Emory Smith, the postmasters general. They were introduced and screamed, "I'm not going to have my

SMILES.

After the Honeymoon.

Wife-Ah, darling, what would your life e without me? Husband (with conviction)-Cheaper,-Meggendorfer Blatter.

No Admiring Spectators.

'You don't ride your wheel on the boul vard in the evening any more, Marle?"
"No; there are not enough people on the front steps to make it worth while. -Chicago Record.

A Shining Example. "I'm in favor of holding all we get,"

"Do you think that a good national 'It's the principle on which, I may say -hem!-my success in public life is founded."-Philadelphia North American.

On Dangerous Ground. "Why have you and Miss Beasley

'Oh, she has some queer notions. After she returned from Boston, a few week ago, she called me down because I spoke of a widow woman; and the next evening, while we were discussing the temperance question, she referred to Miss Anthony as 'a maiden lady.' . I asked her why 'widow woman' was any worse than 'malden lady,' and she took it as a personal insult."—Chicago Times-Herald.

Those Loving Girls.

Tody-Jennie tells me young Woodby roposed to her last night. Viola-I don't think I know him. Is ie well off? Tody-He certainly is. She refused him. -Chicago News.

THE DUEL.

The gingham dog and the colico cat Side by side on the table sat; 'Twas half past twelve, and (what do you think) Nor one not t'other had slept a wink!

The old Dutch clock and the Chinese Appeared to know as sure as fate There was going to be a terrible spat.
(I wasn't there; I simply state
What was told to me by the Chinese

The gingham dog went "bow-wow-wow," And the calico cat replied "mee-ow!" The air was littered, an hour or so, With bits of gingham and calico, While the old Dutch clock in the chim-

Up with its hands before its face, For it always dreaded a family row! (Now, mind, I'm only telling you What the old Dutch clock declares is

The Chinese plate looked very blue, And walled, "Oh, dear! What shall we But the gingham dog and the calico cat Wallowed this way and tumbled that, Employing every tooth and claw In the awfullest way you ever saw-

And oh, how the gingham and called (Don't fancy I exaggerate-I got my news from the Chinese plate);

Next morning, where the two had sat, They found no trace of dog or cat; And some folks think unto this day That burglars stole the pair away! But the truth about the cat and pup Is this—they are each other up!
Now what do you really think of that!
(The old Dutch clock it told me so, And that is how I came to know.)

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

Saws were used by the ancient Egyptians. One that was discovered with sev-eral other carpenters' tools in a private tomb at Thebes, is now preserved in the

In the year 1897 the United States shipped to the Philippines only \$663 worth of beer and no whisky whatever. Last year the shipments of beer amounted to \$11,635. and those of whisky 34,571. At Schweinfurt, Bavaria, is one of the

largest of the world's manufactories for bicycle ball bearings. The two factories there, belonging to one firm, turn out annually 2,000,000 grors of these little steel balls, and employ 690 men, working for a day of ten hours duration. One of the oldest bridges in Europe l

soon to disappear, under the demand for better navigation of the river it spans This is the stone bridge, with 15 arches and a total length of 294 feet, built across the Danube at Regensburg (Ratisbon), It Bavaria, by Duke Henry, the Superb, in The contract having been let en favor-

able terms for the excavating needed for

the improvement of the New York hat-bor, it is expected that work will begin

as soon as the necessary dredges are provided. The 22,000,000 cubic yards are to be excavated at a contract price of 10 cents per cubic yard, or about \$2,000,-France is trying hard to surpass Germany in the matter of red tape. Advertising posters must bear revenue stamps varying in value according to the size of the poster. A man who affixed a 15-centime stamp to a poster which should have had only a 6-centime stamp has just been fined 125 france, or \$25, for the

An aluminum raticoad hand car is being built by the St. Louis Aluminum Casting company, and the makers pro-pose its adoption by railroad companies to take the place of the ordinary muscle-taxing contrivance used by track workers. The new car will weigh no more than 150 pounds, or only about a third as much as the ordinary hand car and one man can lift it off or on the track. It is believed that two men can easily run it from 20 to 35 miles an hour for a limited time.

Manila, like the Cuban cities, has greatly improved in appearance under American methods of administration. One of the Kansas soldiers who has just returned from the firing line, writes as follows: "Coming into Manila, instead follows: "Coming into Manila, instead of the filthy town we left it four months ago, Manila is clean as a modern city. The merchants have opened their cycs and put in glass fronts, awnings of mod-ern variety—in fact, the changes are so many that it would be monotonous to mention all. A year more and the most careful observer would hardly recognize the spot at all."

Augustin Daly's Bible will be one of the rare books which the world will talk about a century hence. Henry Blackwell, who mounted all the pages, arranged the plates and bound the forty-two volumes into which the original one expanded, tells the story of how Mr Daly collected the material for the work He spent many years in collecting etchings, prints, engravings and drawing illustrative of the biblical text. In the end he secured over 8,000 of such illus trations and then gave them unassorted to Mr. Blackwell to arrange in harmony with the text to which they referred. Mr. Blackwell estimates that he spent 1,800 hours in merely assorting terial. The Bible cost Mr. Daly \$25,000.

PERSONALITIES.

Colonel John Hayes, of the Fourth Cavalry, who is so anxious to take a parin the cavalry operations in the Philippines, has worn a uniform since his en listment in the Fifth Cavalry at the age

Bishop Henry W. Warren, who has just arrived home from South America, where he had been inspecting Methodist schools says he regards Chili and Argentina as the most progressive of the South Ameri-

The common council of Detroit has sen an invitation to President co, to be the guest of the city after his visit to Chicago in October, where he will be present at the laying of the nev government building's cornerstone. Helen Keller, the deaf, dumb and

blind girl, is spending the summer at Wrenhiam, Mass., where she is keeping up her study of Greek and Arabic, writing her exercises on a typewriter machine especially designed for those langunges. The formal inauguration of President Hadley, of Yale, will take place Wed-nesday, Oct. 15. Among those who have accepted invitations to be present are

President Ellot, of Harvard; President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins; President Harper, of the University of Chicago, and Senator Depew. Charles E. Bessey, who has just been lected chancellor of the University of Nebraska, has, since he first entered col-lege, spent most of his time in botanica research. From 1889 to 1827 he was bo-tanical editor of the "American Natur-alist," and since 1872 has been editor of

Johnson's Encyclopedia. Samuel M. Jones, better known as "the Golden Rule Mayor of Toledo," is a native of Wales, born at Ty Mawr on Aug. 846. His parents came to this coun-when he was only three years old When a boy of 18 years he drifted to the oil regions of Pennsylvania, and in 1833 he made a fortune out of a patent sucker rod. He was elected mayor of Toledon an independent ticket, whose platform was municipal ownership and sociallsm and he is now an independent candidate for governor of Ohio.

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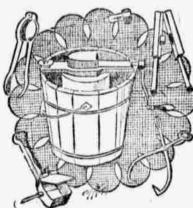
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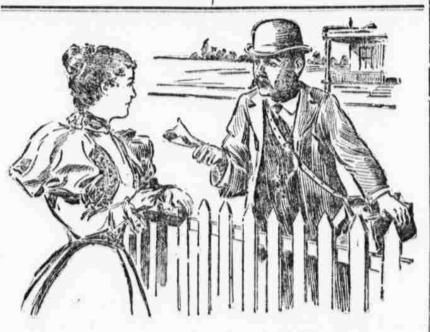
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A distributing agent, living at Catskill, N. Y., describes the severe case of a near neighbor who was completely prostrated with God only knows what. "She was just alive," he says, "and had been sick for over a year, and had paid out a great deal of money for doctors and medicines, but could not get any help. The doctors had given her up," he says, and thereupon he induced her to try Ripans Tabules, and after taking them one month she could ride out in a wagon, and after two months she was entirely well.

A new style packet containing ten alrans tabutes in a paper carton (without glace) is new for sale attends stored—non even the case assumed as, the desired stored—non even carton (its induces) can be had by mainly furry-eight cents to the iterass curry. Company, No. 16 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carbon (ran tabutes) will be sent for five cents.

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