

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.

SCRANTON, AUGUST 11, 1899.

Dictator Aguinaldo seems to forget that his alleged victories over Spain did not amount to much until the arrival of Dewey.

The Canadian Boundary Dispute.

Replying to an inquiry we offer the following as our understanding of the boundary dispute between the United States and Canada affecting the Alaska coast.

In 1825 Russia, then the owner of Alaska, and England signed a treaty which, in Article III, gives the line of demarcation between Russian and Canadian territory in these words: "Commencing from the southernmost point of the island called Prince of Wales island the said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland channel as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude; from this last-mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast, as far as the point of intersection of the 41st degree of west longitude of the same meridian; and, finally, from the said point of intersection, the said meridian line of the 41st degree, in its prolongation as far as the Frozen Ocean, shall form the limit between the Russian and British possessions on the continent of America to the Northwest."

Article IV of the same treaty stipulates (1) that Prince of Wales island shall belong wholly to Russia, and (2) "that wherever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast, from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 41st degree of west longitude, shall prove to be at the distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast, which is to be ceded to Russia, as above mentioned, shall be formed by a line parallel to the windings of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom."

Article V provides that "British subjects shall not form any establishment either upon the coast or upon the border of the continent comprised within the limits of the Russian possessions." The remaining articles relate to specific privileges or concessions based on the understanding that all territory within a line paralleling the windings of the coast but ten marine leagues from that coast is Russian territory absolutely.

The American position is that under this treaty, which by our purchase of Alaska, became binding as between the United States and Canada, the whole strip of land lying inland within a ten-mile limit from the windings of the coast is United States territory. Acting on this belief American settlement have been established at various points along this fringe of territory, the validity of which under American sovereignty was not questioned by Canada until the discovery of gold in the British Klondike region, when Canadians suddenly saw the desirability of securing an open port on the coast, connecting by river or canal with the Canadian gold-bearing territory in the interior.

How did Canada go about securing this port? Did she ask Uncle Sam in a spirit of friendliness to give or lease one to her? Not a bit of it. She suddenly trumped up the preposterous claim that under the treaty provisions quoted above the term coast, and the windings thereof, meant a line drawn from promontory to promontory—that is, that the farthest outlying points on the coast determined by a connecting straight line the line of the coast, and that ten marine leagues toward shore from this outlying line formed the line of Canadian jurisdiction. By this claim Canada hoped to secure a large part of the actual shore line, restricting American territory to a few isolated headlands or capes, obviously valueless in a detached position. Then, having raised this preposterous claim, manifestly without a syllable to stand on in the specifications of the treaty, she demanded that we submit the matter to European arbitration, evidently counting on European prejudice against the United States to influence a decision in her favor. The United States agreed to arbitrate before a neutral American power, as, for example, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina or any of the South American republics, but declined absolutely to submit a just and an on its merits, an impregnable title to the jurisdiction of a tribunal likely to be biased from the beginning against it and thus inherently unable to administer impartially.

Of the negotiations now in progress between Ambassador Choate and the British foreign secretary we cannot speak since their terms have not been made public. The general understanding is that they look to some temporary arrangement whereby we should leave a port to Canada in return for some equivalent privilege elsewhere. An arrangement of this kind would offer a sensible solution; but inasmuch as it would dispose of Canada's absurd interpretation of the northwestern coast line the Canadian authorities stubbornly resist, and the Canadian premier solemnly tells his countrymen that there must be "arbitration or war." There will, we may feel sure, be no war; and if there is arbitration it is reasonable to demand that it shall be fair arbitration and not a sham-shirking set-up for the purpose of "doing" Uncle Sam by bogus pious of a plain right which no nation would care to seize by force.

Municipal ownership will be one of the questions argued at the convention of the League of American Mu-

nicipalities to be held at Syracuse in September. There is so much to be said upon this subject that it could occupy the entire session with many things undemonstrated.

In declaring horses which the United States desires for use in the Philippines contraband of war, China has practically recognized the belligerency of the Philippines. It would seem that China has troubles enough of her own without acquiring the ill will of Americans. However, this may be one of the results of uncounted war news that has been furnished by the yard for general circulation in Hong Kong.

The World's Congress of Women.

What was the woman's international parliament and what did it accomplish? These questions doubtless have occurred to many casual readers of the news which by cable recently told that a congress of the women of the world was sitting in London, that it had elected as its new president a charming American woman, Mrs. May Wright Sewall, and that prior to its adjournment its 2,500 members were accorded the exceptional honor of a personal reception at Windsor castle by the good queen of England.

In the North American Review for August the Countess of Aberdeen, prominent in the cause of advancing womanhood, undertakes to answer the questions asked at the beginning. She informs us that the chief aim of the International council which convened this congress is to promote greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose amongst women workers of different nations; that the congress was constituted from delegates duly chosen by local or federated organizations of progressive women in each of the more prominent and intelligent nations, and that the deliberations of the congress were planned, not in the interest of any particular doctrine, idea or fact but with a view to evoking the fullest interchange of opinion upon all subjects bearing upon woman's progress, in the hope that from a multitude of counselors truth will issue—a hope which she seems to think the congress abundantly fulfilled.

As an example of the specific good which the congress accomplished she cites the movement—since practiced by men by the way—to provide in the city of London respectable and sanitary cheap lodgings for women wage earners who, until lately, were handicapped greatly by the scarcity of such accommodations within the range of their limited means.

On this humanitarian or philanthropic side it is easy to believe that the congress, so far as it went or inspired actions in others, was a success; for here, indeed, is woman's natural sphere, in which she progresses along the lines of least resistance. But what of the congress as an intellectual demonstration? Another writer in the Review, Cassandra Vivaria, does not on this point share the Countess of Aberdeen's enthusiasm. She speaks somewhat wearily of the "automatic succession of lifeless speeches" which impressed her as in the main "youth and amateurish and beside the mark," and in their general drift tended to "merge the individual work of eleven women into a kind of collective fanaticism, to bring to the front too many of the women only capable of mediocrity and to isolate the work of woman from the work of man." The standard of the speeches, allowing for brilliant exceptions, was, she assures us, not high; the tendency was to "lower the increased scope of woman's work, which is a fact; and much that was said "sounded illogical towards nature and was intensely feminine in the calm ignoring of facts that have governed the world and that unless not social prejudices but physical laws can be reversed, must go on governing it." Want of foresight, narrowness of mental horizon, and an absurd lack of the sense of due proportion characterized the intellectual activities of the congress, if we are to believe this critic, and the little of lasting good which was achieved contrasts disappointingly with the large impetus given to the emotional and hysterical presentation of the cause of woman as in some occult way necessarily a cause in antagonism to the natural interests of the other sex.

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

California Civilization. From the San Francisco Call. The thirteen colonies, which in the first instance formed the union, largely owed their origin to religious persecutions.

Aguainaldo is a fair sample of the man who can write as he runs.

The Democracy is proving a disappointment to Aguinaldo.

Goebel in Hard Luck. From the Troy Record. Candidate Goebel, of Kentucky, is having a run of hard luck.

Whipsawing the Market. From the Chicago Record. With Democratic conventions in some states endorsing Bryan and silver, and others ignoring or even opposing him, will await the result of this fall's elections with much interest, to see which course is productive of the better results at the polls.

THE BOY ON THE FARM. Under a spreading apple tree The boy with bare feet staid; He has ten apples in his hands— Some more are in his hands— Beneath his waist of calico His tummy-tum expands.

His hair was shingled by his ma, Who cut it straight behind; He has a lurid color that Is due to sun and wind— He's lost the teeth he had in front, But doesn't care to mind.

Week in, week out, from morn till night He hears around the place, With briar scratches on his legs And tickles on his face, The neighbors candidly admit That he's a hopeless case.

He wears his trousers at half-mast, He rises with the sun; He chokes his busy father leaves For him are seldom done, Are errands to be run.

He goes on Sunday to the church And staves the Sabbath school, And, by propounding questions, makes His teacher seem a fool; He catches smaller boys than he, And learns the golden rule.

His mother sits up every night To patch the clothes he wears, And every night he takes them off, With more emphatic tears— He falls from trees and into wells, And smokes and chews and swears.

The frightened chickens duck their heads And cackle when he goes, With ugly stiles upon his eyes, And brass on his toes, He eats things with his knife, nor cares For any wind that blows.

You gorge with undeveloped fruit, Which is a foolish plan; No poetry is in you, but Know this, my little man: I tell you more than you can stand To stand the things you can.

—Chicago Times-Herald.

ON THE TROLLEY. The red is melting in the river, The red is dying in the sky, The evening stars begin to quiver, And twilight tapers in the eye, Come let us follow, follow, follow, And find how fine it is to fly.

By pine woods where, when noon was sunny, The air with spicy balsams flowed, By gardens full of sweets and honey, Where summer-long the rose has glowed, By weary wife and loitering lover, Come, flash along the river road.

The forest wall across the river, Darkens within the curling tide, The fragrant winds about us shiver, And every night we take them off, Thrilled with the sweep of airy notion, And glad because the world is wide.

Corn No Populist. From the Philadelphia Inquirer. Out in Kansas the corn crop for the year is estimated at \$200,000,000. The danger of further being at an end, To the average person this news will come with a greater meaning, as it does, in the additional fact that Kansas farmers, during the year 1898 the latter paid off so many million dollars' worth of mortgages that the local

statisticians grew tired computing them, and the great yield of the current year will enable them to get rid of such obligations as still remain. This might be called the social side of the question. Its political significance lies in the effect, through the Kansas Populists and their tireless allies, the Kansas Farmers, the doctrine of this western combination have had upon the minds of thoughtful men, and now that all classes are sharing in the still bettering times they have scarcely any believers at all.

Gross Negligence. From the Philadelphia Bulletin. Gross negligence was the cause of both the terrible disasters which brought mourning into so many New England households yesterday.

Not 'Sectional. From the Louisville Courier-Journal. But, after all, it is not mainly a question between North and South. The lawlessness in both sections appears to be in the South is not entirely confined to cases where there are outrages upon women.

Talks Like Astor. From the Troy Times. Croker talks just like Astor. He complains that the New York newspapers are constantly prying into his private business.

Spot Is Too Distant. From the Troy Times. Yellow journalism is as fraudulent in its illustrations as its facts, news, pictures and public opinion.

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NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

There are in the United States over 600 distinct secret orders with more than 70,000 members. In 1890 our production of cheese was 100,000,000 lbs. In 1880 it was 226,750,000. At present it is estimated to be about 280,000,000 pounds.

A grape-growing association in a central county in Alabama is shipping grapes to the north from a vineyard of 600 acres. The vines are three years old and bearing handsomely.

Secretary Barnes, of the Kansas Horticultural society, says that the Kansas orchards now contain 7,533,377 apple trees, 191,500 pear trees, 4,633,762 peach trees and 52,341 plum trees—all fruit-bearing. Moreover, Kansas has 6,241 acres of vineyard.

Several months ago a Waterville (Me.) girl wrote her name and address on a piece of cotton. The cloth of the day she received a letter from a woman in Arizona, who said that the fabric had been bought by Uncle Sam and was being put up for uniforms for a school for the Apache Indians there.

Fifteen years ago the annual catch of lobsters along the New England coast exceeded 100,000,000, and over 10,000 men were employed in the industry. Of this business Maine furnished more than one-half; but today over 90 per cent. of the fished lobsters are brought from the British provinces.

It will cost \$82,520,022.93 to run the government of Greater New York for the forthcoming fiscal year, according to the report of the financial committee. This includes a deficiency of \$7,475,505.83. The amount to be raised by general taxation is \$67,508,751.65. It cost \$7,475,684.77 to run the city last year.

"Widows are the champion marrying women," says Victor Smith in the New York press. "In every hundred marriages eleven of the women will be widows. One widow in every four tries wedlock a second time, marrying at the average age of 28. For every 1,000 bachelors that marry spinners 1,025 marry widows."

The alphabet may be varied so many millions of times, that if a man could accomplish the impossible task of reading every word in the English language, it would require four thousand six hundred and fifty millions of men to read those words, according to the above hourly proportions, in twenty thousand years.

The Hollanders are perhaps of all the northern people those who smoke the most. The humidity of their climate makes it almost necessary, and the moderate cost of tobacco show how deeply rooted is the habit. It is enough to say that the boatmen of the trekschuit, in equatorial diligence of Holland, measure distances by smoking.

Brookville, Pa., has a crow hatchery, said to be the only one in the world. The birds set black head makes a handsome trimming for ladies' hats and milliners are credited with paying 25 cents for each head. The eggs of crows hatch in an ordinary chicken incubator in four to ten days and in eight weeks the birds are big enough to be guillotined.

The city of Washington has found that it is much cheaper to clean the streets by labor employed by the street department than by contract. The cost is 19.13 cents per thousand square yards by direct labor, while the contractors' charge was 22 cents for the same area. At the same time the laborers employed by the city received 25 cents more per day from the city than from the contractors.

Scientific knowledge has been perverted to the use of blackmail by a medical student of Graz, Austria, who endeavored to obtain 10,000 florins from a rich old lady by threatening to open a bottle of assorted deadly bacilli in her room if she should refuse to "pay up."

The famous clock in the Palais de Justice in Paris dates from 1870 and is the only one of its kind in the world. It was the gift of the city of Paris, whose turret clock is the earliest of reliable record. The carved figures of Plety and Justice and the angel supporting the royal coat of arms were executed by Germaine Pilon. It is believed that it was the bell of this clock that rang the signal for the massacre of St. Bartholomew in 1572.

After eleven years of litigation the appellate court of New York has ordered a new trial in the case of William H. Townsend, who is suing the proprietors of a drying press because they polluted a stream running through his property in such a way that his ducks, which went into the stream white, came out red, blue, spotted and other colored, according to the job the defendants happened to have on hand.

The house in Washington in which President Lincoln died is being renovated to preserve it from decay, congress at its late session having appropriated \$4,000 for that purpose. The building will not be altered, but only such repairs made as may be necessary to protect it against the elements. The room in which Lincoln died will not be touched. This modest little house is yearly visited by thousands of tourists from all over the country.

The schooner Polly, now lying in the port of Bangor, Me., sound and seaworthy in every way, is said to be the oldest American vessel in existence which is still sailing. She was built at Amesbury, Mass., in 1805 and had an adventurous career. During the war of 1812 she was a privateer and captured eleven prizes from the British. She was also captured once herself, but was retaken. She is a vessel of 45 tons and is now engaged in the coasting trade.

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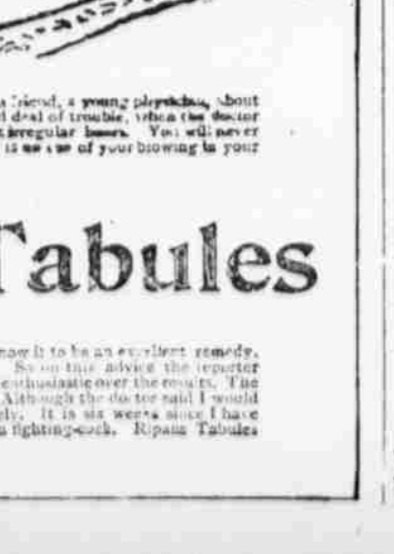
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A newspaper reporter in St. Louis reported his friend, a young physician, about a stomach difficulty that had raised him a good deal of trouble, when the doctor told him to get a box of Ripans Tabules. "There is no use of your bowing to your money for doctor's bills. What you require is

Ripans Tabules

I have been investigating the formula, and know it to be an excellent remedy. The Tabules will do for you all that I can. So on this advice the reporter called for a box of Ripans, and soon became comfortable over the result. The work of these little Tabules was marvelous. Although the doctor said I would never be well, they have cured me completely. It is six weeks since I have had any trouble at all, and I am feeling like a right good fellow. Ripans Tabules are a wonderful remedy, wonderful!