### 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 but its rule is that these must be sigued, for publication, by the writer's real name.

SCRANTON, AUGUST 18, 1899.

The fact that Secretary Root has decided that Miles shall no longer be general in name only is another promising indication that the new official is on the track that leads to success.

The Latest Posture of Colonel Bryan. It will do no harm to be fair to Colonel Bryan, and those journals which are accusing him of cowardice because he has ceased to press the 16 to 1 is-

sue and has begun to put increasing emphasis upon anti-expansion are not entirely fair. We have no doubt that Mr. Bryan is still a free silverite. He has said nothing to indicate a modification of the beliefs expressed by him on the coinage issue three years ago. But as a political leader whose first need is votes he wisely adapts his issues to fit what he considers to be the prevailing temper of the time. The Republican party has no need to fear Colonel Bryan as an antagonist, whether the issue he one of currency

legislation or external policy. It is desirable that the sense of the people be ascertained by ballot upon the question of expansion and if by taking the negative side of that question Colonel Bryan can bring about a direct issue the result is greatly to be desired. The country has observed that Colonel Bryan has been in the past on the wrong side of leading issues. He was a free trader when the obvious best interests of the country demanded a for us? protective policy. Results have signully demonstrated that if the people of the United States had followed Bryan's leadership on this question they would have regretted it. He was on the wrong side of the currency question, as the extraordinary prosperity which has followed the victory for sound money makes plain to all. Reasoning by analogy it is plausible to suppose that he is none the less unfortunate in his attitude on the question of expansion and if he wants to press that issue to the front, by all means let him.

In challenging the external policy of the McKinley administration at a time when an alien foe is in arms against American authority, Colonel Bryan takes a political risk which effecutually absolves him from the charge of cowardice. To be sure, it is his only alternative if he would not disappear from view; but none the less is it a daring, one might almost say an audacious, feat. Let us not censure the man too harshly. He is built for leadership. Once having tasted the sweets of political prominence he cannot yield them up. Anti-expansion is the only issue which holds out to him

Anyhow, the ability of General Otis to "boil down" despatches demonstrates that he has qualifications as a telegraph editor.

### A Most Important Issue. (Philodelphia Press.)

What the United States pays to foreigners for doing its ocean carrying trade is to some extent a disputed question, Captain John Codman, the of protection to the American mer-666 annually. An estimate made by the from the best obtainable statistics also present communicationer of navigation is to agree on \$175,000,000 as a fair approximation. Several congressional committees which have investigated timutes from \$290,000.000 to \$250,000,000. every year when by just legislation we should keep at the very least one-half of it at home.

Sir Robert Giffen, the well-known dress, stated that the gross carnings and colonial trade in 1898 were about \$250,300,000. The official tennage of these vessels was 6,004,506 net tons. Including the coasting trade, with 700,-000 not tons, and the registered colonial steam versels, 500,000 tons, the aggregate of steam merchant vessels under the British flag last year was 7,-364.506 net tons. Excluding the colonial and the coastwise vessels, and the remainder, according to Sir Robert Giffer, earned \$380,000,000, which went far to make up the adverse balance of trade against Great Britain, to say nothing of the carnings of her billions invested in foreign securities and in

foreign enterprises Without going into the detailed one-lifth of the carrying dene in the foreign and colonial trade last year by British steamships was in the trade by sleam is carried on by Hritish show that they carned \$60,000,000 in gums, which would make \$150,000,000 as the amount paid to steamships in

our foreign trade. the foreign trade last year, including repeated voyages and excluding the ordinance which shall pass readings vessels on the Great Lakes, was 7,448,-618 not tons, or about one-fifth of the adopted. steam total. If these vessels earned as much as the steam vessels it would for the special things made for, and

bring the total up to \$210,000,000. But Hence an estimate of \$29,000,000 for the the foreign trade would probably be 000,000 for the steam and \$20,000,000 for sail vessels, or an aggregate of \$200,-000,000 paid for doing our foreign carrythe percentage earned by American vessels and it leaves nearly \$182,000 .-

000 as the sum paid to foreigners. If by legislation, as proposed at the last session of congress, we could save one-half that sum, \$91,000,000, annually, it can easily be seen what an enormous gain that would be to our prople. At least 90 per cent, of that sum would go to labor in building, mainwould give employment at \$2 a day to 130,820 men for every day in the year excepting Sandays. That money would the United States. That vast army of men would support families and the additional consumption of farm prowould be enormous.

for doing its ocean carrying trade, or shall we as a nation do at least onehalf of it ouselves and distribute the money among our own people? The Republican party is on record in favor of keeping this money at home. The bill before congress at the last session would in time have brought about that beneficent result. The highest amount that could be paid in any one year under that measure would be \$9,000 .-000. What protection has done for the coastwise shipping and what it has done in the iron and steel, tinplate and the other industries is known to all. The question is, shall we apply the same beneficent policy to our merchant marine in the foreign trade, or shall we continue to pay at least \$182,000,000 a year to foreigners to do that trade

The Boston Transcript suggests that Croker's flop to Bryanism is an indication that the boss is growing weaker. In intellect, yes.

### Indiana's New Township and County Government Plan.

An interesting innovation in township and county administration is about to be tried in Indiana in pursuance of a law passed at the last session of the legislature of that state. We are indebted to the Chicago Record for the appended synopsis and explanation of its details.

Taxpapers in Indiana will have two complete estimates on township and county expenses for the next year placed before them in itemized form in the weekly papers together with notice that these estimates will be accepted as the basis for allowances, rates of taxation and operation during the following year unless in open meeting beginning on the second Tuesday in September sufficient reason for their reduction or elimination is given by the taxpayers, or the township advisory or county council boards see fit to annul them. There will be two sets any conceivable hope and all that he of estimates submitted. One will be can win out of that he will be entitled by the township trustee, covering all tory to making a spring for anything township affairs, the allowance for in sight when the expected upheaval township officers' salaries, for wages of teachers, keeping up roads, improving or adding school facilities, floating and paying off indebtedness, and in fact every other item that will come up, even to purchase of school supplies and what they shall be and a close the close observer of events in the land estimate on cost. The second statement will be made up of estimates by every county officer on expenses for the ensuing year which will come

through his department. The estimates well-known free trader and opponent of each county officer shall be itemized even to stationery, printing, extraorchant marine, in a letter to the New dinary expense. The estimates of the York Times, under date of August 14. | clerk shall include even an estimate puts the amount so paid at \$200,000, for jurges' fees during the ensuing year, for changes of venue in docket-Treasury department some years ago od cases and for all expense of meeting criminality, charity and keeping fixed the amount at \$200,000,000. The the country's wards in different state institutions. The estimates shall also understood after careful investigation include the election expenses for the ensuing year, the estimates for taking the assessments, for hiring office and riding deputies, court expenses the question have varied in their es- and the smallest items of expense which shall come up during the ensu-But whatever the precise amount, it is ing year. The itemizing shall be so an enormous sum to pay to foreigners | complete that every taxpayer will be able to see what the demands of the county will be for the ensuing year, to ascertain the salaries paid, the estimated cost of supplies and the amount British statistician, in a recent ad- that will be demanded. In fact, these estimates are to cover absolutely evof British steamahips in the foreign crything except the regular obligations of counties to the state, which are always a certain per cent of taxes col- Astrolabe Cast: 1.05 a. m., for Friday, lected. August 18, 1899.

On the first Tuesday following the first Monday in September the newly created township and county boards that in majority of cases the poet's will meet. The county "council" will wife is obliged to split the kindling wood while the husband of feminine genius number seven. The counties have been cats soggy bread. divided into four councilmanic discouncilmen-at-large, who shall be a howl. elected by the entire county. The pay of these members, even in the largest counties, is nominal. In counties havpay is but \$10 a year, in counties up to steering gear. 75,000 it is \$15, and counties with popfigures it may be stated that nearly ulations above that \$20. Besides investigating and "auditing" all estimates, passing on all proposed improvements, even to court house repairs, they of the United States. The amount shall hear protests against published carne's by British steamships in this estimates that taxpayers may make. United States trade was \$50,000,000. The They shall finally make up the taxtreasury statistics of the United States rate levy for the ensuing year, bastrade for 1898 practically agree with ing it on the total estimates. All meetthe British statistics and show that lings shall be public, the auditor actone-third of our ocean carrying trade ling us clerk and the sheriff serving the same as to a court. The members steamships. As the British statistics may expel members by two-thirds vote, on any charges of sufficient nature. that trade last year, it is fair to as- No county councilman can purchase sume that the remaining two-thirds any bonds of the county or take any But you strive in vain gainst the shrill of the trade carned corresponding contract with the county. After completing their work of examining the estimates and passing on them, fixing the tax rate and instructing improve The tonnage of the sail vessels in ments, issuance of bonds and other business, they shall draft all into an

> and consideration as a whole before The appropriations shall be itemized

the county officers cannot overdraw HUMAN NATURE STUDIES suil vessels do not carry passengers any allowance; neither can they draw and mails and their freight rates are from one allowance and apply to anless than those of steam vessels, other. Should the commissioners permit any allowance to be overdrawn gross earnings of the sail vessels in they are held responsible and may be fined in a sum not to exceed \$1,000. fair. That would make the total \$180 .- | There are limitations, the most impertant of which is not to let indebtedness go over the 2 per cent limit, The purpose of this feature of admining trade on the average Deducting istration is to curtail the heretofore almost unlimited powers of the county commissioners, to submit to the people the county expenditures and give them an opportunity to protest, to guard against extravagant expenditure and to put a check upon the treasury departments. All unexpended appropriations revert to the general fund. It is held that by limiting the expense of the offices to very close figures countaining and running the ships. That ty efficers will work to the line and

there will be a great saving. The township advisory board is simply a step nearer democratic governbe distributed in about every trade in | mert. The trustee is to provide a similar itemized estimate, covering all expenses, and publish it three weeks previous to the sitting of the township ducts and manufactures of every kind | advisory board of three free-hold voters. His estimates are to be even more Shall the United States continue to in detail, if anything, than are those pay \$182,000,000 annually to foreigners | required of the county officials by the county council. On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in September the township advisory board shall hold its meeting. It shall be open to all and the intention is to make it rather a township meeting. Every taxpayer will have the right to protest or suggest. The advisory board then compiles its ordinance, making appropriations, passing on improvements and all other matters and finally setting the township tax rate. The trustee then operates on these instructions and allowances, following instructions regarding payments and all other matters. Special meetings may be called. The pay of the members of the advisory board

> is but \$5 avear. On paper this project looks attractive but it is well to remember that what is everybody's business frequently is nobody's business. The existing system is good enough if taxpavers will do their share, and if they won't do ing in wonder at Sir Bartle's apparently that, no system will give forth satisfactory results.

Many are finding comfort in the prospect that the blcycle will soon, to an xtent, be superseded by the automoblle, and that the nuisance of the crazy wheelman who rides over everything may in time be abated. The hopeful, however, should not count too nuch upon the automobile epoch. The machines are at present in the hands of careful and conservative operators. When the price will admit universal use it may be different. The automobile in the hands of the scorcher will e a greater menace to safety than any means of rapid transit ever invented, and shocking accidents may be looked for when the cumbersome carriage comes into general use.

The unsettled state of affairs in France has recently furnished many grains of comfort for the remnants of royalty that have been clinging to the part with the land. utskirts of toleration for years past. Many of the left-over princes are already polishing up their titles preparaplace. France is most singularly panion. cursed with an everlasting stock of restless mischief-makers who can always secure a following no matter what their title or creed may be, and of unrest can only remark: "Vive I' what next!"

Re-married Lily Langtry announces that she loves America, is coming here on another starring tour, and hopes that the papers will not say anything mean about her marriage, not even for advertising purposes. Lily's wishe: should be respected. The papers should

Results of the recent engagements in Santo Domingo have doubtless convinced President Jimenez that it wil be better to conduct his campaign by long distance telephone for some tim.

The recent war has shown that officers with fighting titles in times of peace can in some instances display nodesty during hostilities,

Augustus Van Wyck would be justified in remarking: Et tu, Crok!

### TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer.

9 2 200 A child born on this day will notice

When displayed with flour sack headtricts, each district being given one line in the yellow newspapers, labor's

member to elect. There shall be three mutter of discontent invariably becomes In spite of all the talk about room at the top almost everyone prefers to get in

on the ground floor. A good many political figureheads would ing a population of 25,000 or less their raise thunder if allowed to fool with the

> Many who attempt to throw mud simply succeed in smearing their own Ajacchus' Advice. In negotiating for a free puff, remem

### THE LOCUST.

ber that there is no way in which you can

folly the editor so quickly as to inform him that you have made a fortune in

advertising in newspapers.

There's a bug in the tree, with a harsh,

high note, Who tells of the fierce long heat; Tis a heartless song that he sets affoat. Its burden is far from sweet.

And you bravely strive to forget the pain And the sun that is blazing free

Of the bug in the maple tree.

There is many an hour that might still be fair
For some faltering toll worn friend
n spite of the care that he has to bear And the sorrow that will not end Were it not for some babbling and

thoughtless one Who prattles with gossip glee And from sun to sun lets his chatter run, Like the bug in the maple tree. -Washington Star.

Neighbor to a Chief Justice.

A family named Murray took up their residence very near that of Chief Justice Marshall, says the New York Sun. Both Mr. and Mrs. Murrsy had labored industriously but unsuccessfully to gain an entrance to the inner circle of the more exclusive set in society. They were rather coarse in manner, fond of display-ing the evidences of a lavish wealth, were aggressive and domineering in their in-tercourse with mentals and cringing and obsequious toward persons of social er professional distinction. One cold, winter day Judge Marshall, in his shabby great-coat, and with his gray cloth cap turned down over his cars, was standing the market house at a little distance rom a poulterer's stand, gazing in an abstructed fashion at the display, while Mr. and Mrs. Murray were purchasing a huge turkey. Murray observed the old man nearby, beckened to him, handed him a card, and said:

him a card, and said:
"Here, my man, take this turkey to
that address. Here's a shilling for you.
Now, hurry along!"
The judge took the turkey and the shilling and walked to the front door of the house, where he said to the footman: "Say to Mr. Murray that Chief Justice Marshall, as a neighboriy act, brought his turkey home for him, and that he de-cilines to take any pay for it," and he turned both turkey and shilling over to he astonished servant.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray hastened to call the purpose of apologizing, but failed secure an interview, and a long letter hatever from the judge.

Paul Kruger Out-quoted. President Kruger, as is well known, is ond of backing up his opinions by Scrip tural references. But it is not matter of common knowledge that His Honor's uctations from the Bible are often in irate. On this point a South Afri-correspondent of the London Daily News says: "I have often enough heard him quote passages to prove his points, but his quotations have been misquotations. When Sir Bartle Frere came down from Zululand, at the time the Trans-yaal was British territory, and just before the breaking out of the rebellion, he and Kruger had a conference. The men who were there tell me that at the beginning Kruger started quoting Scripture. But Sir Bartle had two texts ready for every one of his, and, not content with that. Sir Bartle carefully pointed out to him how each one of his texts was misquoted, and bore quite a different meaning from that he put on it. Finally, Kruger stopped altogether, and sat gaz-

### Knew a Thing or Two.

When a boy at school, the late Mr. Spurgeon took a prominent part in auswering all questions put to the class.
One cold day, however, the teacher i ticed that he was so very backward that he remained the whole time at the botom of the class,

This went on for some time, and puz-aled the teacher, until he noticed that the are was mar the bottom of the class. He immediately changed the class about making the bottom the top. He then had the satisfaction of hear-

ing all his questions fully answered by Spurgeon, and that young hopeful kept the same seat, the only difference being that he was at the top of the class instead of the bottom.-Spare Moments.

### An Honest Duke.

At one time the Duke of Wellington bought a farm lying near his estate, and heretofore very valuable to him. When the purchase was concluded, his steward congratulated him on having got such a bargain, for, as he explained, the owner was in difficulties and had been forced to "What do you mean by a bargain?"

asked the duke. "It was valued at \$5,500," said the steward, "and we got it for \$4,000," "In that case," said the duke, "you will be kind enough to carry the extra \$1,500 resulting from the Dreyfus affair takes to the late owner and never to talk to of spring wire, with a covering of leather me of cheap land again."—Youth's Com- or other material, the handle consisting

### One on Roosevelt.

Governor Roosevelt attended the last onvention at Cornell, and while there was entertained at one of the college fraternity houses. When he was about to leave one of his staff said to him: "Governor, the boys have an excellent library in the house and I think they would appreciate its enlargement by a copy of your 'Rough Riders,' " "Teddy," relates the Chicago Record, in an outburst of good-fellowship, exclaimed: "All right boys. I'll be giad to send you a copy with my compilments; the book would be a very small return indeed for your hos-pitality." Whereupon one of the boys replied, excitedly: "That's so, governor; I've read it.'

### It Was Time to Awake.

Judge Wheaton A. Gray, recently elevated to the Supreme court commission was hearing a criminal case in Fresno, Cal., on a warm day. At the end of a long harrangue by the prosecuting counsel, says the Columbian, he noticed one of the jurymen asleep. As soon as the argument was completed the judge addressed the jury in this peculiar manner:
"Gentlemen of the jury, the prosecuting
attorney has completed his argument. Wake up and listen to the instructions of the court."

### PERSONALITIES.

Samuel F. Langham has been coroner of the city of London for fifty years. Dr. Koch is said to have asked of the Cape Colony Government the modest sum of \$220,000 for his work on the rinderpest.

J. Pierpont Morgan, who amuses himself by keeping up one of the finest ken-nels in this country, has added to these a new breed of dog of his own growing. Oliver Iselin has designed for himself a new yacht which will combine the com-fort of the owner with a speed that will make it prominent in the New York Yacht club.

Arthur J. Baifour is so often spoken of as one of the younger English politi-cians that it comes almost as a surprise to find that he is 51. He was born on July 25, 1848.

The King of Greece delights in taking recreation in the fields. He can plow, cut and bind corn, milk cows and, in short, could, in a pinch, keep a farm going single-handed.

Henry James is probably the best swimmer among London literary men, with whom aquatic sports particularly obtain. He recently made record time across the Thames.

General Miles is an amateur photogra-pher of considerable ability, and has been engaged during the past week in developing plates sent him by a friend in the army from Manila. George Gould has completely recovered

from the fall he recently sustained while pursuing his favorite pastime of fox hunting. No serious results followed save a sprain of the right wrist. The Duke of Beaufort has definitely decided to have Chepstow Castle put up to auction early in October. This was one of the first five Norman castles built in the reign of William the Con-

queror. Carolus Duran, the famous French artist, has been engaged to paint a fresco for the dining-room of W. K. Vanderbilt's Newport house, which will include a pic-ture of the present Duchess of Maribor-ough, Mr. Vanderbilt's daughter,

Cornelius Vanderbilt, who has been cut off from much active life by his bad health, finds amusement in the phono-graph, which he has constantly at his side. This conveys to him airs from the latest operas, and into it he fre-quently talks himself.

### NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

The height of the rock of Gibraltar is bout 1,437 feet. Mormon missions have been established

in the Philippines. Six San Domingo dollars are equivalent to one American dollar. Lnad in England is 800 times as valuable now as it was 200 years ago.

More than 40,000 Americans have gone to Europe since the first of May. The finest shops in a Chinese city arore devoted to the sale of coffins. In Manitoba there are 2,500,000 acres uner crops, of which 1,00,000 is wheat. Music boxes for bicycles are now man

ufactured by a firm in Hamburg, Gerasts from May 21 to July 22 without in-

Metallic furniture is to be pieced on our nen of war as an additional safeguard A suit to recover 25 cents occupied the attention of the court in Geneva, N. Y.,

for two days. they are so free from crime that but one policeman is kept. The theft of electricity is no crimo at

present in Germany, there being no ex-press law against it. There are 2.284 foreign students at the German universities this summer, including 300 Americans,

It is estimated that the consumption in the entire world amounts to \$1,080,000,000 per annum. In Prussia 413 school children under 1 years of age have committed suicide within the space of ten years.

In the last 250 years 1,500,000 unfortunates have been condemned to exile in Si-berla by the Russian government. Over one hundred volumes of the Re ellion Records have been published by the government at a cost of \$2,600,000.

Half the ships in the world are Brit-ish. The best of them can be converted into ships of war in forty-eight hours. An artificial rubber, as good as the real thing, is now made of glucose and glyerine, mixed with sulphur oil, such as ichthyol

At Asti, in California, a cistern 194 feet ong by 34 feet wide and 24 feet deep has een made in a hillside for the storage Japanese workmen are obliged to wear

n their caps and backs an inscription stating their business and their employer's name. A clock is being constructed for Liver-

pool station in London. The interior of its case could allow five persons to dine comfortably, An electric lamp for use under water-

a consummation that has buffled elec-tricians for years-has been produced by a German firm. Twelve years ago one saflor out or every 106, on an average, lost his life by accident. Now the proportion has been

reduced to one in 256, Eight thousand men are engaged in mining lead and zinc in Missouri. The total output for 1828 was 74,000 tons of lead and 140,000 tons of gine.

The last of the thirteen trees planted by Alexander Hamilton to typify the thirteen original states in New York city are to be torn up by the roots and swept away. The nalls of two fingers never grow

with the same degree of rapidity. The greatest rapidty, and that of the thuml The famous Blue Grotto of Capri has

ow a rival in the state of Minnesota. It occurs in a lake, on the shore of which is a cavern of white limestone flooded with water. Extremes seem to meet in liquid air Applied in one way it can be made

freeze mercury solid, while in another is

is proposed to use it for the cremation of bodies so that not even a trace of them shall be left. In a new Indian club a frame is formed of a coiled spring, which imparts flexi-bility to the grip and allows the club to

be swung with greater ease. A western paper notes that the ship ments of planes to farming communities in that section have never been greater than during the last few months, and it pertinently says: "Farmers do not buy ianos when mortgages cover their

The American Agriculturist has gathered and compiled statistics which show hat of 52,000 students in nearly 200 colleges and universities in this country, nearly 21,000 are from the agricultural The farmer's boy still has a thirst for education.

Penholders can be held in position for writing without gripping them with the flugers by the use of an Illinois man's attachment, consisting of a piece of thir metal bent to fit the portion of the hand between the ball of the thumb and the base of the first finger.

A Massachusetts man has patented an anti-fouling coating for ships, consisting of a layer of paint, a layer of comminut. ed soft metal, a second layer of paint and an outer coat of comminuted copper, presenting a smooth surface closely studded with bare particles of copper.

In Cuba the kitchers are always on the roof or in the courtyards back of the ouse. Only twice a day does the Cu ban housewife or servant prepare meals-at 10 o'clock, when she enters the kitchen to make ready 11 o'clock breakfast, and at 6 o'clock to cook the dinner, which is served at 8.

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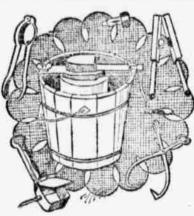
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