the Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, NOVEMBER 18, 1899.

No wonder that Aguinaldo chases himself, now that he has been deserted by the Scranton, Penna., Times.

The Water Question.

HE DISCUSSION of the water question in another column by Mr. Gould, the hydraulic engineer, considers simply the reasons in favor of the use of meters. These are incontrovertible. If the furnishing of water is to be a private business, as the furnishing of milk, lemonade or beer, it is fitting that the purchaser of the water should pay for what he gets. The meter system will undoubtedly prevent waste of water, necessitate good plumbing and tend to teach people to appreciate better the bountles of

nature. All of this is beyond dispute. The criticism heard against the Scranton Gas and Water company, as we understand it, does not aim at the meter system, but at the rate charged, The idea of paying by measure would no doubt be entirely acceptable provided the rate of payment were satisfactory. But when the business firm which used to get for a certain price all the water it wanted has now to pay nearly twice as much, complaint is natural. Unquestionably a great deal of water is wasted in Scranton. It is a habit of most of us to neglect the economies in such things. But, after all, the point is: Is not the rate now charged too high? The impression is very general that it is.

Secretary Long thinks that if he were about to resign he would know something about it. Not necessarily, The Schley claque is perfectly willing to save him that trouble

The Only Way.

HERE CAN BE no gainsayal of the proposition advanced by Mr. Hannah in yesterday's issue that the multiplication of new laws relating to election crockedness will be ineffective in reducing fraud unless re-inforced strongly by public opinion. It is in the power of a majority to enforce its will at any time under our form of government, even though chicanery at the polls seeks to perpetuate minor- | thought the court would send for me. ity rule. When a majority is in earnest in wishing to clean house, it can

The situation alleged in Philadelphia unto questionable characters because to bother with. By this same kind of is dominated largely by a class of men whom no private employer would entrust with the management of a peanut stand. Thus city funds are apportioned by rule of pull; city franchises dealt with as matters of open speculation; public conveniences neglected until necessity forces repairs at enormous waste; schools run by intrigue; the police moved about as pawns in games of factionalism or personal spite and bankruptcy courted by a hundred eriminal extravagances in the use of other people's morey.

There is no patent remedy. The men who say there is are like the quack doctors who promise miraculous cures of disease. They are after notoriety or money; they are not animated by or money; they are not animated by Since then there have been but few con-unselfish motives. The only cure is tinuances asked for, and, when granted, for the honest element to assert itself; and this, nine times in ten, it won't do.

of Cecil Rhodes is but another illus-

An Important Principle.

credits to Admiral Dewey the remark that if Leonard Wood had been in command at Manila there would have been no war; or, if there had been, it would not have lasted six weeks. This opinion, to the extent at least of its implied compliment to a most successful official, will not be seriously disputed; and it is, therefore, with regret that we read the following in the Washington correspondence of the Times-Herald, usually very accurate in its state-

known that the president would like | Lord Rosebery's publisher. are Wood's seniors, while General Wilson is a volunteer brigadier general. These officers do not like the idea of a man much their junior being so signally bonored, and in view of this opposition the president has been carefully considering whether it would not self. be better policy to appoint as governor a man who is not at the present time connected with the Cuban administracould be justified on the ground of

promoted over the heads of keneral

General Wood, very fortunately, is would not necessarily follow, should he Cuba would be poorly governed by the man of the president's final selection. But is unpleasant to think that the Issue for or against Wood's selection for this place may turn upon the question of army traditions. The president of the United States ought to assert the right vested in his office to select for places of this kind men whom he deems best fitted to do the work required, regardless of their anecedents; and we do not like to entertain the idea that Mr. McKinley would shrink from this duty because of the teelings of a few army offiers, whose first duty is obedience, and who are the servants of the government, not the masters.

The principle of selection at stake n this matter is such that it might be wise to appoint Wood, other things being equal, simply in order to set a conspicuous demonstration before the young men of the United States that they are not to be denied the opporunity to advance in accordance with proved merit because men older than them in certain branches of the federal service are in the line ahead of them. If a better man than Wood is available, he should be named, regardlessof his age or rank but if Wood is the best man in sight, judged in the light of demonstrated fitness, he ought to have the promotion, army traditions or no army traditions. This view is likely, we imagine, to receive full consideration and weight from the president, assertions to the contrary

notwithstanding. Uncle John Wanamaker and his friends have already trimmed their dark lanterns and are holding secret anti-Quay meetings in Philadelphia.

An Excellent Example.

UDGE HALSEY, of the Luzerne bench, as we learn from the Wilkes-Barre News, has taken a salutary position with reference to the habitual requests of lazy attorneys for continuances of cases which could just as well be carried to trial if the attorneys would bestir themselves. Our contemporary thus narrates a recent spisode in that coun-

Judge Halsey was on the bench and a ng present, ball was forfelted and the had not proceeded far when the attorney in the first case bustled into court, up to the bar, and as though expecting everything else to be dropped for his ac-commodation, said: "May it please your ionor, we are ready to proceed. "Your case has been disposed of," said judge Hulsey. "The bail has been for-

The lawyer's countenance indicated his amazement. "The case has been called! the ball has been forfelted!" he gasped as though struggling to catch the meaning of the words-"but I was at my of-fice with my client and witnesses and

Judge Halsey cleared his throat and in distinct voice said: "The court is sitest in wishing to clean house, it can ting for the disposition of the cases as do so and no power under heaven can they come, and they will be disposed of without sending for anybody. It costs and much valuable time cannot be taken exists by grace of the honest citizens up in sending to offices for attorneys, who surrender the running of politics. The attorneys ought to know when they have cases on the list and be prepared to answer when they are called. Too much time has been wasted in waiting for de to bother with. By this same kind of fendants to appear when they pleased, grace the city government of Scranton. They were held in recognizance to anewer and it was their duty to do so Hereafter when defendants are called, if they fall to answer, their bail will be forfeited and a caplas will be sent out to bring them into court. Furthermore, a forfeiture of bail in the future will mean just what it says—the bondsmen will be proceeded against and the ball collected, inless very good reasons are given for its remission. And in this connection it may be stated that the court has agreed ure, as they make more trouble than myone else when forfelture is demanded. There has been a rule of court prohibiting lawyers from going ball, but it has not been enforced. Hereafter the rule will be studiously observed, and moreover, forfeiture of bail will not be the farce that it has been in the past." The particular lawyer referred to heedoclates who heard the judge's words.

good reasons were shown. The practice which Judge Halsey vetoed in Luzerne county is by no The mystery as to the whereabouts means unknown in Lackawanna. It costs just as much to waste the court's tration of the fact that the agitator is | time in Lackawanna as it does in Luusually absent when the real fighting | zerne-about \$1 a minute. There is no reason why avoidable waste should be permitted. The local judges now have the advantage of a good example HE WASHINGTON STAR and can earn just credit by tightening the reins.

> It is to be hoped that sympathy for the Boers will not spread to an extent which will inaugurate a relief fund enterprise in the way of emateur theatrical entertainments.

Copyright Kinks.

OME TIME AGO Lord Rosebery, the English statesman, collected for publication in book form a number of ments concerning the administration; speeches which he had delivered at "It looks now as if army traditions | various times. He used in part the and prejudices are likely to prove too stenographic reports printed in the strong for President McKiniey and London Times at times of delivery, lead to the appointment of another and the publishers of that journal than General Leonard Wood as civil promptly claimed a copyright over governor of Cuba. While it is well these reports and sued to restrain

to appoint General Wood to be civil | The contention of the Times was governor of Cuba, he may consider it sustained by the judge, and the pubinadvisable because of the opposition lisher enjoined from issuing the book which has already developed and which without settling with the Times for will become more powerful if the ap- the copyright. The court held that the pointment is made. To appoint Wood person delivering a speech or address means the setting aside of three offi- had not proprietary interest in either cers now in Cuba, two of them his his ideas or his words, unless he had superiors in the regular army, one his reduced them to manuscript before deequal in rank in the volunteer army. livery. one copyright rested with the General Brooke and General Ludlow person who reduced his ideas and words to writing. Lord Rosebery had spoken ex tempore, or at all events had failed to produce evidence of his having written his speeches before delivery, therefore he could not transfer to another what he did not own him-

This queer decision did not suit his lordship's publisher, who appealed and has just won a reversal before the aption, a civilian whose appointment pellate court. The court of appeals very sensibly holds that a man's ideas his fitness for the place. This would are his own, whether expressed orally not offend any of the officers now in or in writing; and that the man who Cuba, and who resent the idea of a reports those ideas, if by a phonocaptain of the medical corps being graphic process involving simply the

exact transcription of spoken language, has no property in the transcription after it has been given to the not the only good man in Cuba and it | public, the proprietary interest, if there be any, residing in the original author, not be made civil governor, that The Times threatens to appeal, but there does not seem to be any hope

for it. The point is more curious than important, but it is well that these conflicts do not occur frequently in the United States, otherwise many men holding high reputations as orators would be caught red-handed in the most audacious cribbing, both of ideas and of language.

On this day, if the schedule is carried out, a man will assume a flag command in the United States navy who stands accused by the head of that navy of disobedience of orders, vaccillating conduct and the faisification of the correspondence of a brother officer. He is believed to be the only officer in our navy who, under such a stinging indictment spread on the permanent records of the government, would sit still, waive his right to demand a court of inquiry, and rely on political pull and sentimental gush to even things up. The man to whom we allude is Rear Admiral Winfield Scott schley.

A suspicion is dawning upon the minds of some of the Dewey president makers that the admiral is not entitled to classification in the 'easy" list.

For a dead man, General Plet Joubert seems to be pretty much alive.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 4.68 a. m., for Saturday, Nov. 18, 1899.

4 A child born on this day may soon have to breathe through a metre, acording to the trend of events. The individual who can invent some apparatus that will enable capitalists to

et a franchise on rain storms is now

It nome persons were half as large as they imagine that they are they would not leave elbow room on earth for the rest of humanity. The man who devotes his energy to

the effort to injure others has a more dismal time than his victims. Many a man with a grievance has in he enu discovered that it was dyspepsia.

THE WATER QUESTION.

Editor of The Tribune-

Sir: I find that Scranton is going through an experience similar to that which sooner or later overtakes all our large American cities in regard to their water supply. I refer to the question which has come up, as to how the water furnished to industrial establishments and to private consumers is to be paid for. Much has been said in your papers to the effect that water should be "as free as air." This, of course, is a mere figure of speech. It is well understood that nature provided for the free circulation of air, but not for the free introduction of water by means of pipes and faucets into our dwellings and workshops. It may be at once admitted, therefore, that the water supply is to be paid for, and the question with your city, as with so many others all over in what way is the consumer to pay for the water furnished and used.

The first essential point in settling upon a system of rates for water is that it should be an equitable one. It is by no means fair that one person should be furnished with a larger amount of water for the same or a less amount of money than another. This is a self-evident proposition. which would not be openly disputed even by the favored individual him-There can be no doubt whatself. ever that in the sale of water, just as in the sale of any other commodity, the price paid should be in proportion to the quantity furnished. No merchant would think of doing business in any other way. No gas company would think of doing business in any other way. In all other uses for which water is furnished, for irrigation or for power, the consumer gets so much water and pays for so much. On the grounds of equity and fair play there can be no valid argument against applying the same rule to the water supply of a city.

The only way in which this result can be accomplished is by the use of the meter, by which each consumer is charged for what he takes. It is to observed, also, while speaking of the equity of this system, that the very large consumers, factories, breweries, hotels and other public houses, etc., derive a distinct and often considerable revenue from the use of water which they consume, without which they could not carry on their business. The private citizen, who only uses water for the indispensable requirements of nourishment and cleanliness derives no pecuniary profit from its use. And yet, under any other system than that of meters, he pays for more in proportion than his manufacturing neighbor, who makes money out of the water which he uses.

Another great advantage of the meter system is that it checks waste. It is, in fact, the only certain way of preventing waste. Waste benefits no one and is a distinct public injury. Waste has to be paid for by somebody, and in point of fact has to be finally paid for by the whole community, because the cost of furnishing the extra amount of water wasted must be collected from the consumer, and it does not enrich the party furnishing the water, because it merely represents interest on money which is generally borrowed. Perhaps your citizens do not fully understand the far-reaching evils of waste of water. So long as the consumption, including waste, is small in comparison to the supply, these evils are not apparent. But as the city grows and population increases; as old industries become enlarged and new ones established, the question whether the supply is going to be sufficient for these increasing needs becomes a very anxious one. Many of our cities, and nearly all of our very large ones, are today confronted with this ques-Water, like money, can be squandered with impunity as long as there is a supply in the river, or a balance in the bank, but when these are exhausted, what then?

The great question which is asked when it is contemplated establishing an industrial concern needing a great deal of water in a new location is: Is there plenty of water? The slightest suspicion of the possibility of an inade-

quate supply of water is sure to give pause to any such contemplated en-terprise, and will often divert them from one locality to another. At present the supply of water in Scranton is sufficient to permit of a large amount of waste, without danger of incurring a water famine. But this will not always be the case. The evil day will come to you as it has already come to New York and very many other cities when it will be necessary to carefully count up your water reources. This evil day can be almost indefinitely postponed by taking immediate and consistent steps to reduce the waste and even the unnecessarily lavish use of water. The sooner the system is inaugurated the easier and better it will be. Later on, when the need is greater, the difficulty will be greater also. This is a point upon which, in an intelligent ommunity, there should be no division of opinion. All are interested in the measure, and no one is thwarting it. The growth of the city is of as much vital importance to the water company as to any other company in town. They have water to sell and are not likely to take any steps to drive consumers to other cities. Their interest lies in furnishing as good, as abundant and as cheap water as can be found elsewhere, and a fair and unprejudiced investigation of the water resources of other cities will prove that they are doing so. A move elsewhere would, nine times out of ten, prove a case of "going further and

The strongest and most convincing argument in favor of the meter sys-tem is that its use is becoming more and more extended every day all over the country. This is true in the case of both private and municipal owner-It is the system to which all are tending, and which the recognized factors of the problem will sooner or later render universal. You are simply going through the usual preliminary stages of misconception, misstatement and prejudice, and will pass, like so many other towns of your size and importance to the stage of common sense and public spirit. The consensus of opinion, all over the country, is in favor of the meter system a being the best, fairest and wisest for all concerned, and later on, you will find yourselves on the side of the ma-E. Sherman Gould, jority.

faring worse,"

Scranton, Nov. 17. [Mr. Gould is the well known hy-draulic engineer of Yonkers, N. Y., who helped to instal the Croton aqueduct, the Havana water system and many other large water plants in various parts of the United States. He is in Scranton at present on a business mission.]

HUMAN NATURE STUDIES.

Lee and His Prisoners.

General Sheridan destroyed so many supplies going forward from Richnd to Lee's men in the Wilderness, in 1864, that for a while the latter were in danger of starvation. At a conference in Lee's quarters one of his generals became greatly excited over the matter and said hotly, as General Lee turned toward him:

"I was just saying to these officers, general, that if I were in command of this army I would notify Grant that I had no rations for his prisoners, and if he wanted to save them from starvation he would have to send some to them."

Lee's eyes flashed and his rebuke was sharp. "The prisoners that we have here, General ----, are my prisoners," he said; "they are not General Grant's rations at all I shall certainly share

Evening Post, He Apologized.

them with my prisoners."-Saturday

A prominent New York lawyer is noted for his ready answers and skill in repartee. When a young practitioner he appeared before a pompous old judge who took offense at a remark the lawyer made criticising his decision.

"If you do not instantly apologize for that remark, Mr. Flank," said the judge, "I shall commit you for contempt of court."

"Upon reflection, you honor," in-stantly replied Mr. Bland, "I find that your honor was right and I was wrong, as your honor always is." The judge looked dubious but finally said that he would accept the apology, -Exchange.

General Lee in Battle.

During the progress of the battle at Spottsylvania court house, General Lee was watching the formation of his troops when builets from the enemy's guns struck the ground close about him. One of his staff, perceiving the danger, exclaimed: "General, this is no place for you; do go some where else"

"I wish I knew where my place is on the battlefield," replied General Les with a smile, but in a half-complaining manner. "Wherever I go some one tells me it is not the place for me to be," But he remained where he was But he remained where he was, entirely heedless of the flying bullets. -Saturday Evening Post,

LITERARY NOTES.

In a neat volume of 424 pages Rev. E. Edwards, of 636 Tilghman street, Allentown, formerly of Minersyille, Schuylkill county, has recently published the essay which took the \$600 prize offered at the World's fair eisteddfod in Chicago in 1893. It was the author's intention to put this volume within reach of the public at an earlier day, but the business depression of 1894-5 interferred. As now offered, the book has suffered nothing from the delay, for in addition to the main essay there are seven interesting appendices, all dealing in topics supple-mentary to the theme of the principal treatise, namely "Welshmen as Civil, Po-litical and Moral Factors in the Forms tion and Development of the United States Republic." Rev. Mr. Edwards has dedicated his volume to "his lifelong acquaintance and friend, than whom few Welshmen are more highly and de-servedly esteemed." Benjamin Hughes, esq., of this city, and offers an excellent portrait of Mr. Hughes as the frontispiece. Among the numerous other truits in the volume we note that Hon, H. M. Edwards, Hon, Morgan B. Williams, and Daniel Edwards, esq., a ossessing special interest in this locality. As for the subject matter of the book, it is not too much to say that it embodies in the most succinct from the clearest resume which we have seen of Cambro-American influences and agencies, and to all to whom this theme a peals it can be cordially recommended.

A Corner of the West is the title of A Corner of the West is the title of the new novel by Miss Edith Henrietta Fowler, the sister of the brilliant author of "A Double Thread" and "Concerning Isabel Carnaby." It is issued by D. Ap-

pleton & Co.

"The Reminiscerces of a Very Old
Man. 1808-1867," is the quaint title which
the distinguished engraver, the late John
Sartnin, gave to the attractive volume
soon to be published by the Appletons.

Mr. Sartain was born in London, where as a boy he witnessed the peace jubilee, and saw many picturesque phases of old London and its life which have since dis-appeared. He studied under Variey and Richter, and began to engrave in Ottley's school. In this country his association were literary as well as artistic. knew Washington Irving and others of the Knickerbocker literary circle, and his close relations with Edgar Allan Poe form the subject of a most interesting chapter. His "Reminiscences" include chapter. His "Reminiscences" include personal phases of the development of American art and letters for over sixty years, and the unpublished history which he presents is of most intimate interest. The illustrations include reproductions of rare old prints of London scenes it the first quarter of the century, together with American portraits and pictures which have a lasting historical interest.

Teaching in this country is so largely dependent upon the text books used, that publishers have an important place in all efforts for the improvement of education Fortunately, American publishers of school books are the most enterprising in the world. A notable instance of this enterprise is the announcement of the Twentieth Century Text-Books just issued by D. Appleton & Co. Nearly one hundred volumes are in preparation, and they will cover the entire field of in-struction in high schools, academies, and the lower college classes, embodying the latest results of pedagogical and scientific investigations. The books are prepared by eminent American scholars and teachers, who represent over forty of the foremost educational institutions in all parts of the country. A unique feature of the plan is a complete series of texts for commercial schools, the first of the kind ever presented in this country.

In view of coming expeditions to the Antarctic, Scribner's for Christmas will contain articles by Dr. Frederick A. Cook and Albert White Verse, giving an accomplished in that field of exploration and what it is still possible for her to accomplish. The articles are illustrated from Dr. Cook's photographs taken dur-ing the recent "Belgica" expedition. Mr. T. Gallon, author of "Tatterley,"

one of the most promising of the new English writers, has finished an import-ant novel called The Idol of the Blind, which will be published immediately by D. Appleton & Co. WAR.

Private Smith, of the Royals; the veldt and a slate-black sky, Hillocks of mud, brick-red with blood, and a prayer-half curse-to die

A lung and a Mauser bullet; pink froth and a half-choked cry. Private Smith, of the Royals; a torrent of freezing rain; A hall of frost on a life half lost; despain and a grinding pain,

And the drip-drip-drip of the Heavens to wash out the brand of Cain. Private Smith, of the Royals, self sounding his funeral knell; A burning throat that each gasping note scrapes raw like a broken shell. A thirst like a red-hot fron and a tongue

like a patch of Hell.

Private Smith, of the Royals; the blush of a dawning day; The fading mist that the sun has kissed— and over the hills away The blest Red Cross like an angel in the trail of the men who slay.

But Private Smith, of the Reyals, gazed up at the soft blue sky— The rose tliged morn like a babe new born and the sweet-songed birds on

With a fleck of red on his pallid lip and a film of white on his eye.

-Herbert Cadett, in London Chronicle.

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A new style quelet containing the rantiles in a paper carten (without glass) is now for sale at some draw-row even course, this low-prices surk is intended for the poor and the economical. One doesn of the two-cent cartons (10 tabulas) can be had by mid by sending forty-sight control the largest Caranta, Con-wary, No. 16 Spring Street, New York—or a single carton (rms rashias) will be send for five cents.