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When space will permit, The Tribune is always sind to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 4, 1899.

General Wood ridicules the talk of an outbreak in Cuba. In the case of Cuba, as in other instances, the testimony of the man upon the spot generally disagrees with the long range theories of yellow journalism.

Work Before Congress.

NUSUAL interest is attached to the first session of the fifty-sixth congress, which begins today, not only on account of the many complicated questions that await its decision, but from the prospect that for the first time since the close of the fifty-first concomplete control of the executive and giance of several senators of free silver proclivities. The new members who which he was engaged might some will become factors in the deliberations of the body at the present session are lived, but his keen foresight and ability of political complexion, that will make the senate reliably Republican without the assistance of Silver Republicans. The Republican majority in the house, therefore, places the complete control of the machinery of the government in the hands of the party and its lenders will have to accept full responsibility for the use that they may make of their power. It is most fortunate for the regular business interests of the house that the speakership contest is already settled. Questions relating to membership promise to attract unusual attention. For the time being the right of a polygamist to occupy a seat in congress is exciting more interest among the members than questions relating to the Philippines or to monetary legislation. There are four vacancles in the senate, due to failure of the legislature to elect in the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, California and Utah. The senate has previously decided that in such cases the governor of the state has not the right to appoint. But Mr. Quay,of Pennsylvania, who desires to be seated as renator on the governor's appointment, will lead

a fight to have that ruling reversed. The all-important subject pressing upon congress for consideration is the relation of the United States to the islands which have come under its control through the war with Spain. The Cubans, or part of them at least, are clamoring for the carry establishment of the independent government promised to them. The Philippines and Puerto Rico await the formation of civil governments for them and congress must decide whether to direct the task itself or to intrust the whole matter to the president. The question of general permanent policy in the Philippines must inevitably come up for discussion. A bill for the organization of a movement in Hawaii ought to be passed at the coming session. The issue between the parties over the question of colonial policy must be clarified as a result of the deliberations of the coming winter and spring. The question of the maintenance of the standing army at its present size must be decided by the present congress at one of its sessions, for, according to the law of the last congress, the permission for the increase to 100,000 men runs only until July 1, 1901.

The indications are that a strong offort will be made to pass a monetary and currency bill early in the session; and the trust problem is expected to come up for discussion in many ways. Among other important subjects that will demand attention are the Nicaragua canal and Pacific cable projects; proposed postal savings banks scheme; the ship-subsidy bill and agreements with Great Eritain and Germany regarding the partition of Samoa.

The nearness of the next presidential election will give great political significance as well as national interest to the results of the deliberations of the fifty-sixth congress, and it is encouraging to note that there are no prospects of success before the obstructionist and filibusterer of the opposition, who has in past consumed much valuable time and cost this nation millions of dollars and also many lives on fields of battle,

In saving the life of Lieutenant Gilmore and his men Aguinaldo probably won the largest victory for himself of any during the campaign.

A Real Anti-Mormon.

T IS SAID that through the efforts of Miss Helen Gould about twenty tons of printed matter has been sent in protest against the seating of Roberts in congress. It is almost impossible to estimate the number of people thus reached, but the most conservative places it at 5,000,000. Clergymen all over the land have been urged to preach on the subject and a countless number of responses have been made to this request. All societles devoted to religious work have been approached and a petition has been received from Japan containing the signatures of 138 Americans who declare that the attempts of the missionaries to inculcate a higher standard of morals will be greatly hampered if it is known that an avowed polygamist can sit in our national leg-

islature. Miss Gould has not taken up this attle in the hysterical uninformed tate of mind which often lends women to expouse a cause. She has spent months in accumulating knowledge of the subject, and is probably today the best authority in the world on what really constitutes Mormonfam. She has a vast Blerary devoted entirely to that religion and in berry street police station, three blocks

her crusade has the valuable assistance | away. The little one was tire1 out of a son of Brigham Young, who by that time and the messenger boy loathes the system as propagated by his father. The menacing feature of tray. But he was cheered by the the Mormon faith she considers is to thought of having performed a worthy be found in the absolute belief exist- act. Imagine his disgust when the ing that polygamy is the vital point and in the blasphemous apostolic him, sharply, as he took the lost one teaching that Christ himself was a away from the boy none too gently; polygamist.

Reports from San Domingo indicate but the people are now dissatisfied with the administration of Jiminez. If | school lessons in future will probably the new president has carried out to fall upon that boy like seeds upon any extent the reforms promised when stony ground. he became chief executive, it is difficult to see how any cause for complaint can be fancied. Until further intelligence is received, therefore, it is safe to wager that members of the of eleomargarine has been a subject of Heureaux party may have brief control of the San Domingo end of the

A Purpose in Life.

HE DEATH of John I. Blair removes a personality which illustrates perhaps more significantly than any other of this period the unique character and possibilities of American civilization. Living through three generations, Mr. Blair's entire career was such as to have been a marvel in any other coungress the Republican party will be in try but this. A poor boy with no pros pects beyond those which lay before legislative departments of government. any farmer's lad, he has for the past Although the Republicans apparently half century been one of the richest had a majority in the senate at last men in the world, and in his own pecongress, their power for effective work | culiar way has influenced national hiswas neutralized by the uncertain alle- tory to a marvelous degree. Probably the infinite number of enterprises in

> to see opportunities led him to attempt things at the right moment and to thus be of more benefit to his fellowman and to his times than almost any officer financier who can be named. He caused the waste places to bloom and his aggressive methods made homes for thousands whose children are now enjoying the results of these pioneer efforts. If the man who causes two blades of grass to grow where but one grew before is a benefactor to his

pose in life. He made up his mind

to be rich. This ambition in itself

may not be the noblest in the world.

but its achievement has wrought bene-

fit to untold multitudes. He bent ev-

ery desire, every energy to that one

end and succeeded, as every man must

do if he concentrates his aim and cf-

forts. But in the pursuit of wealth.

which was expended on no personal

luxury, he has systematically aided

many causes, notably that of educa-

tion, which large benefactions have

constantly promoted. In his long life

and almost unprecedented success may

be found the text for numerous ser-

mons to young men who would gain

such a colessal fortune without his in-

dustry, his sobriety, economy and per-

severance. Incidentally it may be men-

ever known to fail. That was politics.

When a \$60,000 campaign failed to elect

him governor of New Jersey he never

again meddled with that expensive

The pernicious policy of leaving med-

ical remedies, in the shape of pills or

powders on verandas and at front

doors should be emphatically prohibit-

ed by the board of health. It is no in-

frequent occurrence that serious illness

among children results from devouring

these preparations and more than oc-

casionally is death recorded. Satur-

day a girl of 12 years died in Philadel-

phia from eating the contents of sam-

ple boxes of pills found at the door.

An autopsy revealed the presence of

a quantity of morphine, which was the

chief ingredient of these pain-killers.

It is reasonable that anything which

can almost instantly relieve a severe

headache must contain some principle

powders and pills are usually made up

of phenacetine as a special ingredient,

while in certain preparations mor-

phine is the quieting dose. It is said

that many women have grown to be

hopelessly addicted to the use of drugs

by first becoming dependent on the

sample boxes of powders for the cure

of neuralgic pains. This danger is,

however, a minor question as com-

pared to that of children who find the

"pain-killer" on the piazza and eat

Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamber-

lain has always been somewhat theat-

rical in his utterances. His famous

motto to the effect that "those who

sup with the devil should have long

spoons" and referring to Russia will

long be quoted, although it is a ques-

tion whether it was ever taken very

seriously except by the French people,

who have flung themselves into spasms

over the remark in Mr. Chamberlain's

recent speech regarding a triple alli-

ance. As far as America is concerned

there is no need for a triple alliance

and even the most unforseen circum-

stances to be imagined at the present

time would scarcely give an excuse

for such a step. The tie between

America and England is as strong to-

day as transfusion of blood and the

mighty influence of a great common

history can fasten its links. No formal

paper signed by the resplendant

names of either nation could serve to

add another cable to the closely woven

chain. There will be no official alli-

ance, triple or otherwise, but there

can be no question that the days of

suspicion and jealousy between the

mother country and this nation are

past and that toward England a friend-

ly feeling exists which future events

The life of the good Samaritan in

New York city seems to have its draw-

backs. A 15-year-old messenger bay

recently found a child 3 years old on

the streets, evidently lost. He 1-4 the

child to the bureau of information and

at that place was directed to the Mul-

are not likely to annihilate.

several doses.

form of advancement.

time have been promoted had he never

for the good will of the public. race, the man whose energy spans the rivers, levels the mountains and con-The fifty American cavalrymen who nects all points of a vast continent by 'rounded up" eight hundred Filipinos two shining bands of steel is one to at Bayombang the other day must whom should be accorded the respect have been cowboy recruits. of a nation with as much willingness as is given to the hero and the states

Sanguine persons still believe that John I. Blair's history shows the by the introduction of a cake walk at each performance grand opera can be possibilities that await any young made successful in Chicago. man who sets forth with a special pur-

was obliged to carry him most of the

door-man at the police station said to

"Here, you get out of this quick. If

you go 'round pickin' up kids, the first

thing you know you'll be arrested for

The manufacture and sale of oleo-

margarine continues to increase, in

spite of the opposition. The edibility

much discussion. The dairymen hold

that the bogus butter is made of hog

fat, soap grease and other unpalat-

able if not unwholesome materials,

while the manufacturers contend that

the article is but a preparation of puri-

fied tallow and is every bit as nour-

ishing as the high-priced creamery

butter. While it may be difficult to

give a decision as to the truth of the

arguments for and against oleomar

garine, the fact that the manufactur-

ers continue in business with increased

trade seems an indication that they

have the best of the debate so far as

Eastern cotton manufacturers have

been enjoying the benfits of increased

orders and high prices for over a year,

but the first announcement of the ad-

vance of wages has just been made.

On Dec. 11 about 28,000 operators will

receive an increase of 10 per cent. in

wages. This advance should have

been made months ago, but as the old

opera. There is no music after all so

pleasing to Chicago ears as the squeal

of the fattened pig in the stock yard.

The individual who would oppose

gallant Joe Wheeler's right to a seat

in congress evidently has no regard

adage intimates, "It is better late than

the masses are concerned.

kidnapping!" Good Samaritan Sunday

Couldn't Catch the Old Man.

HUMAN NATURE STUDIES.

Mr. Kuhn was thrifty in money maters and cared little for his own personal appearance. He had worn the same old shabby overcoat until his ions were ashamed of him, and tried to induce him to buy a new one.
"Oh, no," the old gentleman would always say, "I would rather have the

\$10 that it would cost." that if he could get one at a good bargain he would buy it, arranged with a tailor to sell him a \$10 coat for seven dollars and a half, they to pay the difference. They then went home and tioned that in only one thing was he told their father what a handsome coat would be to buy it. So the father went and looked at it, and after beating the tailor down to \$6, took it and started

> But when he reached the door he had no coat with him.

"Didn't you buy the coat, father?" "Yes; got it for \$6," replied the old

"Where is it?" "Oh! I was showing it to a friend on the street car, and when he offered me \$8 for it, I let him have it."-Col lier's Weekly.

Rejected with Thanks.

"Good-day, gentlemen." A very nice looking young man stood in the doorway of the editorial room. and gazed in a benign way at the occupants of the apartment.

"Would it be possible for you a story?" he continued.
"What kind of a tale have you ground out" asked the assistant sub-

of a powerful nature. These headache The story," said the visitor, "is one in which the triumph of love is de-"Well, let me hear how it comes out.

Read us your last gentence. The visitor seated himself and read as follows: "For answer Gladys' beautiful eyes dropped, but she gave him both her hands; and there, under the heavy-fruited trees, the golden bees flying all about them, and the air filled with their dreamy monotone, he drew her upon his breast, and, raising her long ringlets to his lips, kissed them reverently."

That's the last sentence, is it?" asked the editor. "Yes sir."

"I should hope it was." "Why, I don't see---" began the author.

"Of course you don't. Now, what do you think of a young man that would go nibbling a girl's back hair when she had her face with her? stories do not possess the fidelity to nature that should ever characteriza the works of genius published in our columns.

Too Much of a Good Thing.

"Now I want you to write me a letter every day," said his young wife, departing for a fortnight in the mountains. In a weak moment he promised to do so, though he knew at heart that letter-writing was not his forte. One day elapsed without a letter.

On the second he resorted to a desperate expedient. He summoned stenographer and dictated one goodsized affectionate letter. "Now, I want you to use that letter as a model," he said to the shorthand

writer, "and typewrite twelve others, all differently worded, but containing the same thing. Date each one a day ahead - the other, put each in an envelope properly addressed, and attend to the posting for me. Here's ten dollars for your trouble. Three days later the husband re-

eived a telegram from his wife, "Will be home on first train. Meet me." Time passed slowly, but at last the train arrived. When his wife stepped out of the train he grasped her and

"What's the matter, my dear?" The wife said not a word, but walked

opened her handbag and quietly hand-ed to her husband a bunch of letters. The typewriter had followed his in structions, but had posted all the letters on the same day.-Exchange.

Spoke Too Soon. Isaac Parker, of Fort Smith, probably sentenced more men to be executed than any other judge who ever lived, not because he was so relent ingly severe, but because he had the hardest lot of criminals to deal with that ever came within the jurisdiction of such an official, relates a writer in the Green Bag. one day the judge looked compassionately over his spec tacles at one young scamp and said: "In consideration of the youth and inexperience of this prisoner I shall

let him off with a fine of \$25-" Before the judge had done speaking the very fresh young man coolly ran his hand into his trouser pocket, re marking, nonchalantly, as he did so: "That's all hunky, judge, I've got that much right here in my jeans."
"And one year in the penitentlary,

continued the judge. Then, looking over at the convict in a quizzical sort of a way, he added: "Do you happen to have that in your

A Joke in Court. The other day Judge Arnold laughed heartly at a little episode which occurred in his court, says the Philadelphia Record, and which was relished by all who heard it. Representative John Fow was attorney for several people who had been charged with some trifling violation of the law. The real de-fendant was a man named Cannon, and as the matter was settled before the trial began Cannon did not think his presence necessary, and, therefore, left. As there were several others jointly accused Mr. Fow asked the court to discharge them. "Well," said Judge Ar-nold, briskly, "where's Cannon?" "Oh," replied the Seventeenth ward statesman, with a twinkle in his eye, "he just went off, and I'm trying to discharge Chicago refuses to support grand the rest of them, although he was the big gun of the party." Judge Arnold laughed heartily at the joke, and entered into the spirit of it. "Well, Mr. Fow," he responded, "where there is so much smoke I think there must have been some firing, but as Cannon has gone off I'll discharge the rest of them for you.'

Pleasure Was One-Sided.

Mandell Creighton, the bishop of London, has a horror of lending his favorite books, says a London correspondent. The bishop is a charming wit as well as a great scholar. A fellowclergyman once visited the bishop and took a fancy to an old edition of Shakespeare. He borrowed the volume, and did not think to return it for several months. Finally the minister re turned it with a letter saying:

I have great joy in returning the vol-ume you loaned me. The bishop answered:

All the jcy is mine.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

There are, it is estimated, about 5,000 Of the 600 clerks employed in Cuba by the postoffice department fully 500 are The Kimberley diamond mines pay

One day the sons determined that he should wear a new coat, and, believing that if he could get one at a good bar- London has 13.564 policemen, or 19 to every 1 of its 688 square miles. It per cent. of them are on night duty. Another of the periodical attempts to produce a universal language is contem-plated in connection with the Paris Ex-There have been more than 5,900 sut-

cides in this country during the last twelve months, which breaks the record for this or any other country. The Klondike Nugget is a semi-weekly paper, the subscription price of which is \$24 per year; single copies, 25 cents. Rough lumber is advertised at \$100 per 1.000 feet.

It has lately been reckoned that M. Paderewski is the quickest pianist on record. He has been known to strike as many as 1.030,300 notes in twelve hours, thereby outdoing all rivals.

Thanks chiefly to the use of the serum treatment, the mortality in Prussia from

diphtheria has been reduced from a rate of 15.5 per 1,000 in the years 1885-1894, to 7.6 and 6.2 in the years 1896 and 1897.

Already a half dozen American engl neering plants have been established in Europe, and some twenty more Amer-ican firms have the matter of building European plants under consideration. Australia offered a prize of £25,000 to any one who would rid the country of rabbits; but after several people had tried their hands 1.0 more satisactory solution was found than that of eating

According to a London journal, the number of stamps now current in the world is 13,811. England has 131, her colonies 3,843. The United States has 286 different kinds, the Republic of Sal-

vador 272. Under the Belgian law unmarried men over 25 have one vote, married men and widowers with families have two votes and priests and other persons of position and education have three votes. nalties are imposed on those who fail

to vote. The admission fee to the Paris Expoabout 40 cents, to the entire exhibition; between the hours of 10 a. m. and 6 p. m., on week days, 2 francs, while on

Sundays the fee is not to be raised for the evening hours. One of the most curious dresses ever made was probably that worn by a lady at a ball at Baltimore, it being entirely covered with postage stamps. The stamps, 30,000 in number, were pasted on a thin foundation and represented the postage

f every civilized country. With all his inventive genius and perfect machinery, man can move in a train at an outside speed of sixty miles an hour, and that he cannot keep up for great distances. Yet the swallow flics eighty, the duck 100, the gray crow (when migrating) 108; the swift 150. Important deposits of rock salt have been found in Louisiana, and prepara-

tions are being made to develop the mines on a large scale. The deposits occupy elevations of from 80 to 250 feet above being surrounded by low marshes. California promises to become one of the leading manufacturing states in the Its backbone, the Sierra Moun tains, is the home of innumerable streams, which are being harnessed to generate electrical power thirty to forty miles for light and power purposes. It is the opinion of a German occulist

that the use of the ordinary slates by school children tends to produce shortsightedness. As a substitute he recom-mends pen and ink or an artificial white slate with black pencil. The latter have en introduced in some of the German An odd monument was desired by an

an our maiden lady who died a few years ago in Athlone, Ireland. She left a fortune of \$125,000 to be spent in the erection of a church, provided that her body should be converted into ashes and used in making the mortar for building the edifice.

A correspondent in New Zealand reports a strange dislike to the medical profes-sion among the working classes there. They never apply to a doctor until all other means have failed, and then as-sume a hostile attitude, refusing to give the waiting room. Then she their symptoms and expecting the doctor

to find out what is the matter with them by simply looking at them. Gettysburg is now the most carefully marked battlefield in the world. Though the number of men engaged on both sides was 160,000, the position of every regiment, battery and squadron has been accurately located. In addition to mon-uments, stones have been set to define

actual positions.

The poulation of Greater London is more than six and a haif millions, of which about four and a haif millions are which about four and a nair millions are necredited to inner London, and about two millions to the outer ring. The whole area is equal to a circle having a radius of nearly fifteen miles.

Krupp, the great German gunmaker, recently completed a number of paper field pieces for the German infantry. Their caliber is five centimeters—a utile less than two inches—and the pieces are so light that a soldier can easily carry one. Yet they are stronger than steel cannon of the same size.

THE SEATING OF QUAY. From the Chambersburg Public Opinion

The question of seating Colonel Quay by the United States senate upon the apof mere personal or political considera-tion, but of national polity. For fully three-quarters of a century the senate has been averse to seating senators ap pointed by a governor in cases where the state legislatures had failed to act It often happened, in consequence, that great states like Pennsylvania, have been without full representation in the senate for one or more years. In this state, however, although there have been some bitter and prolonged contests there has een no fallure to elect, where the governor thought it necessary to make an appointment, except in the case of Quay t the recent session of the legislature. The question is not whether Colonel Quay shall be seated because he is Col-onel Quay, or because a sufficient number of votes can be obtained to seat him. but whether the senate is prepared to make a precedent that will govern its action in all similar cases in the future. In any event Colonel Quay's applica-tion will deserve and receive the serious attention of the senate. Against it is the almost insurmountable barrier of long usage. In its favor is the important con-sideration that no state should be without full representation in the senate at any time. It was the duty of the legislature to elect, but it adjourned without performing this duty. If it was called to-gether in special session it would in all probability be impotent to act. When congress meets next week the state will be represented by only one senator. senate will be called upon to decide whether it is better to allow the vacancy to continue until the legislature acts, or to fill it by appointment until such time as the legislature shall bring it to an end by an election. It is a question for the senate solely, as affecting its own privileges, and we believe it will be decided for the best interests of the states and the country.

SONG OF THE PATRIOTIC.

From the Utica Dispatch. The citizen who has been saving two ents and losing his self-respect every time he drew money from the bank on an unstamped receipt can now slap his breast and say: "I, too, am an Ameri-

Ornamental Parquet Floors and Borders.

Ornamental Floors, such as we offer have been in use in Europe for generations. They are no experiment,

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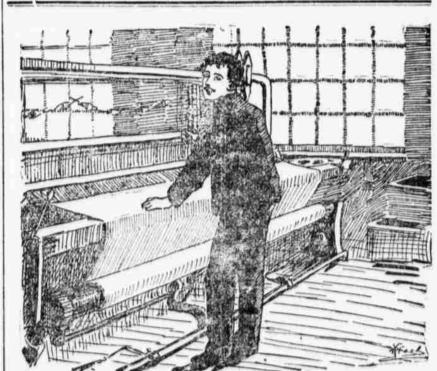
Letter Book No Water.

No Work. No Time. Any Ink. Any Paper.

A Perfect Copy. Reynolds Bros

Any Pen,

Office Supplies Our Specialty. 139 Wyoming Ave



A cotton-mill worker tells of some pretty expensive misery. "I am thirty-five years of age," he says, "and have been bothered with indigestion and dyspepsia about five years. Have had several doctors, but none of them ever helped me any. I spent several hundred dollars for doctors and medicines, but instead of getting better I got worse. Finally I heard of Ripans Tabules, and decided to try them. After I had used them two weeks I commenced to get better. In three months I was like a new man. I believe Ripans are the only sure cure for dyspepsia.

he packet containing TEN RIPANS TABLES in a paper carton (without glass) is now for FOR TENE SENTS. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical cartons (180 tabules) can be had by small by sendous forty-cight conts to the RIPANS of price Street. New York—ora single carton (SENTABLESS) will be cant for five conts. By and of grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at liquor stores and barber shows