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## LIVY S. RICHARD, Editor. O. F. BYXBEE, Business Manager.

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When space will permit, The ribune is always glad to print Tribune short letters from its friends bear-ing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's real name; and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

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TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, MARCH 28, 1902.

The report that President Roosevelt contemplates appointing Jacob Riis the first governor of the Danish West Indies is one which we hope is true. It would be an ideal selection.

#### A Machine for Peace.

HE USEFULNESS of the National Civic Federation has received striking exemplifi-

cation in the successful issue of its attempt to bring together the mine workers and operators. From the riage, binding upon the railroad comstandpoint of the ordinary man it has never been clear why so much fuss court, the presumption would be in should be necessary to get the employing magnates and the labor magnates filed and approved. Thus the burden together. The amount of emphasis of proof would be sometimes on the placed on the purely technical question of recognition, both by those who want it and by those who act like schoolboys in their apparent fear of it, is one of those points in the industrial game which to the unbiased onlooker would be humorous if it were not in its practical effect so very serious.

would be difficult; the court, not the The bringing of these needlessly sepcommission, would judge of the reasonarated forces together, if only "inforibleness of a rate; but the commission mally," is a triumph of common sense would be the constant and watchful and a very large gain for the dependrepresentative of the interests of the ent community. All who have contribshippers. Where traffic conditions had uted to this end, and Mark Hanna eschanged to such a degree that a rate pecially, for he seems to be the giant power in the combination, are entitled or agreement originally just and reasonable had ceased to be so, the comto the fullest thanks of the American people. They not only are doing good mission might be authorized to instlfor the moment; they are paying the tute proceedings for its cancellation." The chief difficulty with this arrangeway to a time when big strikes will be ment is that it deprives the Interas unpopular and as infrequent as big state commerce commission of inherent wars. Since we live in an age of tremendous combinations that, when power. Its function would be chiefly abused, can do as greatly multiplied clerical. The great difficulty today is not so much with tariffs and agreeharm as they can, when rightly used, do greatly multiplied good, it is a first ments as they appear on their face as essential of peace and prosperity that it is with secret evasions and subthere should exist some effective terfuges. Unless the interstate commechanism for bringing hostile influmerce commission is invested with sufficient power to ferret out the rebaters ences together in a spirit of willingness to hear and be heard, to give and take. and to set in motion a machinery of This mechanism Mark Hanna seems to prosecution so adjusted as with reasonhave succeeded in evolving. It is a able certainty to bring about the adework of the highest importance and quate punishment of the guilty, the credit, therefore, should be freely ac- root of the trouble will remain untouched. There is need of legislation corded. The ice having been broken to a face making criminal those acts, whether of to face meeting of the rival magnates, railroads or of shippers, which pracwe respectfully suggest that they artically set at defiance the public authorrange to meet oftener, No doubt there ity as now imperfectly expressed in the are good and bad on both sides; but in interstate commerce law. Legislation the main the magnates in New York to this end is now pending and it will find that the magnates from Pennshould be enacted. sylvania and Indiana are just about as honest, loyal to those who trust them Sometimes justice comes high. The

perience keeps in these matters is ostly one; but the lessons learned in t are remembered. We have no doubt that there is enough good American pluck and grit in Peckville to pull the town together after this misfortune, rebuild in better style what has been destroyed, and then to safeguard it to the limit of the town's ability. quota of field officers to the volunteers Coincident with the announcement

that Cuba's first minister to Washingon will be Senor Quesada, who repreented it unofficially during the insurction, comes the guess that the first American minister to Havana will posed law, are accustomed to weighing be Fitzhugh Leo. This would illustrate the values of records, and are profeshe fitness of things.

### To Maintain Just Rates.

MONG the opponents of gov ernment supervision of railroad rates, including, naturally, most of the railway

duty.

magnates and big shipping interests which revel in rebates and "pull," this rgument is heard; "Let there be a omplete legal recognition of pools and reight associations, having central oureaus, with power to adjust rates in territory where traffic is competitive." Furthermore, as William A. Robertson writes in the Forum:

"Of course, all tariffs and agreements hould be filed with the Interstate Commerce commission, and should not take effect for a certain number of days after their filing. During such period of expectation, any party in interest should be at liberty to file exceptions and objections to the proposed arrangement. If these objections met with the approval of the commission, it should

be its duty to apply to the circuit courfor an injunction to restrain the comng Aguinaldo, General Funston says: pany from putting the rates in force or it might itself file objections and "They know a good deal more about seek an injunction. But if no objection was presented, the rates should be deemed prima facie just and reasonable ably the truth.

as against all future objecting parties A very unpleasant task has been imand should become legal rates of carposed upon the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Episcopal conference at pany. In any suit or proceeding in the knots in the Dr. Swallow case, favor of those rates which had been From the way the prices of beef ar idvancing, one would think that the railroad, as when seeking to substitute dear public was being called upon to a new tariff for an old one over the obsettle the expenses of a strike some jection of the commission; and some where along the line. times on the shipper, as when attacking the reasonableness of a rate aiready It is probably a good thing for th established. In this way, the rights of nerves of timid people that the live all parties would be protected. Sudden rabbit is not as terrible looking as the and unreasonable advances in rates

THE INFLEXIBILITY of the

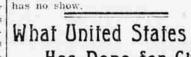
specimen created by the Easter sculptor. The capture of Noriel, another insurgent officer, shows that Manila, like South Carolina, has an inexhaustible tock of generals constantly on hand. From the testimony of Mr. Morgan it yould seem that a million or two looks like thirty cents in the eyes of the rall-

oad magnate, New York, while for five cents you can

worthy of careful consideration.

n the heart of suffering man.

get a feast. Yet they say a poor man has no show



teresting standard of excellence now expected of this journal of inspiration. One of its many timely features is a symposium on "shall We Keep the Philippines?" participated in by Repre-sentatives Jack, Weeks and Mercer on the affirmrevert to his place in the lineal list reating a vacancy in the supernumerary list to be filled as before. The extra officers, not many in number, availilive, and Representatives Bacon, Gaines and De Armond on the negative. Inasmuch as these men-have personally viewed the situation in the Philable for any duty consistent with their rank, will afford a small surplus to meet details in time of peace, and will ppines their opinions have more than o permit the regular army to furnish a

"The Black Cat Ciub." a strikingly illustrated publication of Funk & Wagnalls, embodies a charming series of humorous character studies in time of war, without depleting the regular regiments of officers. A board f negro life by James D. Corrothers, a rising of judge advocates is recommended bemaster of this form and field of literary expres-tion. By no writer has the negro been more cause these officers are absolutely independent of political influence, will occurately and yet gracefully and sympathetically activated. Undoubtedly Mr. Corrothers has a not be themselves affected by the promonifying future in American letters.

In its April issue the Century, apropose a the thirty-aventh anniversary, on April 9, o the surrender at Appointation, prints a sympos-tum on that event which embodies much inter-esting data not heretofore published. Two of the sionally distinguished for the judicial fairness and temperament so essential to the proper discharge of this delicate contributors are Generals Gibbon and Merritt, slio were two of the three Union generals desig-In Major Parker's opinion, this proposition "would deprive no officer of any nated to arrange the details of the surrender.

right, retain intact the seniority system, meet the actual needs of the serliate responsibilities, Senator Hanna has had to suspend for a time his series of papers in the National Magazine on "William McKinley as I Knew Him." But that doesn't interfere with vice, open a legitimate avenue for the promotion of deserving officers, stimulate ambition, foster originality and Editor Chapple. He continues to make his peri-odical the most original and snappy of the terenterprise, equalize rewards while at the same time securing appropriate ent monthlies

recognition for all specially meritorious All numbers of the Outlook are interesting, in service, and be a powerful incentive to tructive and exemplary, but the monthly maga-tine numbers are fast winning a place among the best of the high class magazines. A recent special zeal, energy and industry in the use of every officer in the service. improvement has been in the number and qual-ity of the illustrations. These always mean At a time when army reorganization is one of the vital issues, this plan seems omething.

Among interesting changes wrought by Arthur T. Vance since he became editor of the Woman's Notwithstanding the prominence Home Companion are the introduction of a series of nature studies, a page of humar, a noticeable freshening of the fashions department and a livening up of all other departments. ichieved by certain women who boast of being able to do men's work, the woman who can successfully perform

voman's work still has a warm place "How to Get Acquainted with God; or the Meaning of the Christian Science Movement" i the striking title of a small volume issued h Of critics of his method of captur-Funk & Wagnalls. Its anthor is Theodore F. Seward, better known as the originator of "Don't Worry" clubs,

he articles of golf than they do about A character sketch of "Golden Rule" Jones the articles of war." And that is probthe philanthropist and socialistic mayor of To-ledo, O., who has cut a wide swath in Ohio litics and industry in recent years, appears in Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly for April.

Not content with getting elected to the legis Methodist Episcopal conference at latine, Booth Tarkington, according to report, Bellefonte in the work of untangling to marry a handsome heiress. In literature a in other walks of life nothing succeeds like su

> Home and Flowers, published in the interests of a more beautiful American life, now has the exclusive services of Eben E. Rexford, the vell known writer on flowers and their

Richard Harding Davis begins in the April Scribner's his most ambitious work. It is ong novel of military life hinging principe's pon a revolution in Honduras

There are a number of cracking good short tories in Ain-lee's. This magazine seems t nave the call on the writers of fiction who ca laster human interest.

Booker Washington's autobiography has been translated into French, German, Spanish, Hin dustani, and a Finnish translation is now ir rogress

Who wouldn't have ambitions to own a suc cessful magazine: Frank A. Munsey saya Mun sey's Magazine netted \$608,000 in profits last year.

For an accurate insight into the far Easter Meals for a cent are now served in Face to Face," in the World's Work for April.

### IMPRESSIVE FIGURES.

From the New York Sun, Five years ago there were 5,200,000 savings bank depositors in the United States; now there are 0,400,000, an increase of 1,200,000, or at the



TZFY

and anxious to be fair as are the rep-Patrick murder trial in New York cost \$250,000, and ended in a verdict so difresentatives of the operators themferent from the evidence that it will selves. Recent events would seem to probably have to be tried over again. prove that they are pretty well matched in the matter of shrewdness, also. It Regarding Army Promotions.

has taken time to find these things out. At the first, suspicions were inevitable. But now that the better understanding has begun, let us hope that it may continue until a basis of industry shall be reached which will put far into the background of outgrown barbarities the cruelties and gross injustices of warfare by strike.

According to Bryan, Cleveland's last administration was "odious and odorous." . There is no way of telling what Bryan's might have been, but we can guess.



That Peckville Fire. demning the inflexibility of the present comes as a staggering blow plan whereby it can be safely and adto a little community none vantageously modified. The subject too rich in means of recuperis somewhat technical to the ordinary

ation. It is a calamity calling for the man of peace, yet his plan is worth most thorough investigation. Rumors quoting: "Establish by law a 'supernumerary

of incendiarism need to be accepted cautionsly until verified or disproved. list' of line officers, in each arm of the Of course, if it should be found that service, from captain to colonel, equal this costly blaze originated criminally in each grade to 10 per cent of the there would need to be relentless prosenumber now authorized by law in that cution of the criminal. But the more grade. Prescribe by law that all proimmediate and important problem is motions to this supernumerary list first to rebuild, and then to provide the shall be for distinguished or meritorious most efficient of available means to service, to be determined in a preprevent a recurrence of the calamity, scribed manner, and place all officers

It takes such visitations as this on frightful as it appears and is, to sharpsuch promotion. Prescribe that annuen the wits and freshen the energies. Small communities are liable, unless warned now and then, to grow careless arm of the service for each grade on in their provision against fire. Fires the supernumerary list in order of in them as a rule are few. Houses merit, as determined by consideration

freedom from danger. And the result that any officer in the service may is that often precautions which might make application for such considerabe taken through the organization of tion, or that any commanding officer volunteer forces and their liberal equip. may recommend any subordinate for ment, are neglected or not properly such consideration, each application or maintained. It is as true in relation to recommendation to be accompanied by

fires again is in relation to liberty that the official record of the service on "eternil vigilance" must be exercised if trouble is to be avoided.

stand from year to year in apparent

We are not informed as to what the for one year, and shall be considered conditions in Peckville were for pro- by the next annual board if they fail tection against fire; but it is true of promotion during the year, but that in many of the smaller communities in all promotions during the year shall be from the list of candidates in the order this neighborhood, as it was until recently true of as large and wealthy a determined by the annual board. Fincommunity as Scranton, that protec ally, let each officer so promoted be cartive measures have been notoriously ried on in his proper place on the lineal inadequate, when, by proper effort, register, without number, until he shall they might have been very consider- be promoted lineally to his supernu-

ably improved. The school which ex- merary grade, at which time let him Success for April maintains the remarkably it

om the Philadelphia Press, 7 ITH Secretary Root's order appointing 000,000 a year.

May 20 as the day when the government of the republic of Cuba assumes con-trol, jurisdiction and authority over the the interference of the United State Land aches its last stage. No conquest in history has a like record. egan four years ago with war. Not until three cars ago were the disturbing conditions of con-

fict over. The first elections were only possible a little over a year since. Yet the United States we months hence surrenders the island to the ule of its people, fulfilling the pledge with which interference began and which no European oberver expected would be kept. Kept it has been, and much more than was dedged accomplished. The United States received

e island after thirty years of intermittent i urection. For three years it had been blazin from end to end. An insurgent force was in th field of some 30,000 men, strong enough to reite Spain to send to the island nearly iole army of 180,000 men. The sugar planta ons were ravaged with fire and the sugar prod-t had fallen from 1,000,000 to 70,000 tons. All ade had similarly shrunken. Only the death te had grown. Yellow fever was endemi Einh ior it was epidemic. The deaths wer year by year three to four times the normal min

system of promotion by senier. Starvation in 1897 and 1898 swept off nearly ority alone which is now in sixth of the population, hended in milifar vogue in the United States sups whose mortality in many cases left dead ery young child. The island was without agri rmy, with a few exceptions, due to the shake up caused by the recent war, illure or industry, without security or trade and the only thriving calling was that of grave-diggers and trenchmakers, who were weekly has often been condemned by civilians, and as often upheld by army men, who burying more human beings that the war or

view in it a safeguard against favorit-No problem was absent from the work ism and the caprices of political pull. pacification. An insurgent army and government which had borne much, feared to lose all trui But in the Forum for April Major John H. Parker, one of the most intelligent of three years of conflict and exposure and thirt of the writing fighters in Uncle Sam's

irs of agitation. The cities were divided into stile Cuban and Spanish factions. The credi army, joins with the civilians in conof planters had gone with their plant. A va-mortgage debt, from three to five years in a ECKVILLE'S destructive fire system, and, what is more, suggests a trans, presed on industry and spriculture, ands and jungles swarmed with bandits, com ands of thirty years' standing. Pestilence wa in every handlet and the sudtary comlition of th les made every home a possible pesthouse,

Four years have pesed. The inaurgent ar as disbanded witho play and fair treatment satisfied all. The Insur gent government dissolved. The island enjo order than for a generation. Vellow feve as been excluded for the first time in four turies of his history. The death rate shows Cuba one of the most healthy tropical Islands. Schools have been opened. Teachers have been trained ou onerous charge and is free to all. Credit has been restored Sugar plantations are re-equipped and produce this year 635,000 tons, two-thirds a full crop, All agriculture has revived. Peace exists. Labo is employed. Every problem presented has been triumphantly solved. in the service on an equal footing for The record is without example. No land h me as this land has done. For our blood and

ally a board of three judge advocates our treasure in freeing Cuba we have asked no reshall select a list of candidates in each The island is freed from debt. Its security, its defense, its independence, its sanitary con ion and its economical administration are guarnteed by the United States. At the appointed our its liberator will commit its destiny into the hands of the Cuban people, and its prosperity will continue to be aided by the United States, of official records of service. Prescribe which freed the island and its inhabitants

## LITERARY NOTES.

The April Forum opens with an article in which ducy Brooks pertinently applies to our own a in the Philippines the les prominis in the Principality for results to be drawn from 'The Example of the Malay States' under British rule. Among other papers en questions affecting foreign affairs are 'The Angle Japanese Alliance,' by A. Maurke Low, and ''Prince Henry's Visit,'' by Prof. Paul S. Beinach. which it is based. Prescribe that the candidates so selected shall be eligible There figure also, in this month's contents inta of the attracting the attention of congress; and "The Amendment of the Inter-state Com Ast, and Balroad Pooling," by W. A. Robert-son: "Promotion in the Army," by W. A. Robert-son: "Promotion in the Army," by Major John H. Parker: "Shall the United States Lease its Grazing Lands," by John P. Irish: and "Pro-posed Amendments to the Constitution," by Honry Litchfield West.

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