

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 signed, for publication, by the writer's real name.

SCRANTON, AUGUST 17, 1899.

Mayor Moir has evidently forgotten what he said in his inaugural address about divorcing the police force from politics.

Rural Free Delivery. The city letter carriers, who just now have their minds full of Scranton and their coming national convention, will soon have professional competition, if present experiments in rural free mail delivery indicate correctly.

The best evidence that there was nothing in the French colonial minister's scare over the reported intention of an American syndicate to rescue Dreyfus is the fact that Dreyfus was not rescued.

Pensions. As was noted recently in the telegraphic dispatches, the turning point seems to have been reached in the volume of pensions paid on account of the civil war.

How the losses to the roll by mortality and otherwise have offset the increase in pensions may be seen in the table below:

Table with columns: Pensions, Not Increase on rolls, of rolls. Rows 1890-1898 showing pension amounts and changes.

For some years to come, if the war in the Philippines shall continue, the decrease in pension disbursements to civil war recipients may be counterbalanced by new pensions chargeable to the Spanish and colonial wars.

The Carter Case Contrasted with the Dreyfus Case. Announcement is made that Attorney General Griggs, to whom has been referred for review the testimony and pleadings in the court-martial of Captain Oberlin M. Carter, the officer of the corps of engineers of the United States army who has been convicted of defrauding the government to the extent of nearly \$2,000,000, has decided to withhold judgment until Wayne MacNeight, Carter's attorney, returns from Europe.

The proposal to enlist more colored men for service in the Philippines is open to but few objections from a general view, but in some sections of the South the scheme to take negroes out of the country would probably not be received with favor.

Reed and Croker in the anti-expansion calamity list furnish another illustration of strange loggers reclining on the same mattress.

July's exports were \$20,000,000 in excess of the exports of the same month last year. Expansion is no longer a theory, but a fixed fact.

The Jimenez revolution in Santo Domingo bids fair to prove as profitless as an average Klondike prospecting tour.

There is a suspicion that the silver leader is regarded in Kentucky as a sort of William Jones Bryan.

Bryan's friends think there may be dynamite in the cream puff of peace tendered by Mr. Croker.

HUMAN NATURE STUDIES

They Didn't Recognize Mrs. Catt. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, general organizer of the Women's suffrage party in this country, is a young and strikingly handsome woman.

Without Affectation. A simple couple, an Englishman and his wife, had driven out to one of the more famous suburbs of Stockholm, and had been particularly struck with the beauty of the country.

He Marvelled Much. He had been elected member for his native county, and had come up to the metropolis to take his seat in the house.

Asheep's Fable Over Again. A mischievous youngster at the Mission amusing himself with a vase, managed after several attempts to get his hand through the narrow neck, and was then asked to extract it.

SMILE PROVOKERS. Incessant. In the spring the little brooklets Bubble to a merry rhyme; But it's different with the gossips—For they bubble all the time.

Gene When Discovered. How long after your marriage was it before you found that your wife had a temper?

His Better Half. Gilback—Is it true that you don't spend as much money now as you did before you were married?

Impossible. First Girl—Cholly isn't such a fool as he looks.

Like an Egg. "My child, said the mother to her married daughter, "a man is like an egg. Keep him in hot water a little while and he may boil soft; but keep him there too long and he hardens."

Not Much of a Drawer. "I conclude," said a famous painter to Raphael, who had criticised his drawing of a cow, "I conclude from your remarks that you are no critic."

Appropriate. "That was an appropriate flower Lord Impeccable wore when he was married to Miss Nuggets."

Which. "I," said one candidate, smiling his broadest countenance, "shall make my office in the interests of rich and poor alike."

Hard to Suit. Housekeeper—How long did you remain in your last place?

Whimsical was she? "Indeed she was that. The first night she complained because I belted the top of the next morning she complained because I did not belt the coffee. This I left."

Her Question. "You're all the world to me," he cried, and she, with gentle mirth, And tenderness, said: "Have you told Papa you would get the earth?"

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

London's omnibus company employs 5,000 men. The annual receipts are about \$6,000,000.

An English traveler declares that the least interesting country in the world to visit is to be Korea.

A set of maps of the time of Ptolemy, the geographer, has been found in some ancient manuscript in the Vatican Library, according to the Tablet.

Referring to the recent report that a Russian forest had succeeded in raising blue roses, a Slavonian gardener declares that blue roses grow wild in Serbia.

About twenty-four women in 100 are stronger in the left arm than they are in the right; women, too, are more frequently equally strong in both arms than are men.

Old age pensions have been established in Korea, but are not a large item in the national expenditure.

A philosophical statistician calculates that in the world there will be 1,200,000,000 people who speak English, and that the other European languages will be spoken by only 200,000,000 people.

A new law has just gone into effect in Massachusetts forbidding the performance of the marriage ceremony by justices of the peace, unless they have been specially designated for that purpose.

Since January 1, ninety colleges, academies, and seminaries and eight art galleries in the United States have received gifts amounting to \$7,072,353, not counting contributions of less than \$5,000.

The authorities at Greenwich observed that at Kew, a greatly agitated fear of the construction of the electric lines in the neighborhood, which have been authorized, should disturb the magnetic recording instruments.

The sacred fires of India have not all been extinguished. The most ancient, which still exist, was consecrated at Voudwa twelve centuries ago, in commemoration of the voyage made by the Parsees when they emigrated from Persia to India.

For the contemplated telephone connection between Berlin and Paris, two lines are to be constructed, one a direct line from Berlin to Paris, and the other by way of Frankfurt, so that a complete breakdown of the service between the two capitals will be a remote contingency.

People marvel at the mechanism of the human body, with its 400 bones and sixty arteries. But man is simple in this respect compared with the carp. That remarkable fish moves no fewer than 4,321 bones and muscles in each of its breathes. It has 4,321 veins, to say nothing of its ninety-nine muscles.

Lord Kitchener is the fourth bachelor who has been elevated to the peerage in the last seven years.

Thomas Bain, now speaker of the Canadian house of commons, is the first farmer to gain that post.

George B. Lovins, of Texas, the promoter of the proposed Consolidated Cattle company, holds options over 600,000 head of cattle and 2,000,000 acres of land.

Professor William Somerville, doctor of economics at the Durham College of Science, has been elected to the newly established professorship of agriculture at Cambridge.

The father and brother of Elinor Root have both held professorships in Hamilton college, where they are known among the students as "Cute" Root and "Square" Root.

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The rapidly with which women are coming to the front in violin playing is illustrated by the fact that the much-coveted Sainon scholarship in London, held for three years by the successful candidate, has been awarded Miss Effie M. Southgate, who succeeds Miss Florence E. Moss, before whom no woman ever held the honor.

PERSONALITIES.

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Star Automatic Paper Fastener advertisement with image of the fastener and descriptive text.