The Times

(MORNING, EVENING, AND SUNDAY.)

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Sunday, July 30	20,928
Monday, July 31	42,207
Tuesday, August 1	42,266
Wednesday, August 2	42,152
Thursday, August 3	42,081
Friday, August 4	42,065
Saturday, August 5	42,451
Total	274,750
Daily average (Sunday, 20,928, excepted)	42,287

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By J. R. MASON, President.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1899.

Kruger to the World.

The manifesto of President Kruger of the South African Republic, which has just appeared in London, is there regarded, according to our despatches, as an appeal to the civilized world. If that was the object in issuing it we think that it would have been better left unwritten. It does not appear to be a document well calculated to excite much sympathy for the Boers.

In it Mr. Kruger states that it has become a fixed idea among his people that the British Government is determined to take their country. Mr. Chamberlain's proposal for a joint enquiry into the workings of the franchise act had not yet been rejected when the pronunciamento was sent out, but its writer said it would be "as the Government and members of the Volksraad regard the request as an infringement upon their right to administer their own internal affairs."

The real merits of the Outlanders' grievance question are touched lightly in the paper, as might be expected, Kruger contenting himself with some glittering generalities, and accusing unnamed persons connected with the British Government of interest in the capitalistic syndicates which, he says, are conspiring to loot the Transvaal. Evidently the main purpose of the manifesto is to serve notice on England and other countries whose citizens are resident or have made investments in the State that if the Boers are pressed any further they will not only go to war, but will indulge in some other diversions not usually resorted to by civilized communities even when in a condition of belligerency:

> Owing to the settled conviction that Great Britain will not rest until she has taken possession of the Transvaal, the Boers are determined to fight rather than permit the capitalistic element to rule them. The Transvaal, being the richest country for its size in the world, would form a bright gem in the British crown, and it may answer the purpose of Great Britain to acquire the whole country even at the cost of the mining industries. In the event of war the Boers will assuredly wreck the mines and by the loss of millions of pounds worth of mining plant the general body of shareholders in Europe will be irretrievably ruined and they should fully understand the price they must pay before authorizing the British Government to go to war.

The above paragraph is the meat of the proclamation. It is a cold-blooded and savage warning that, as soon as a column of invasion starts from the Cape or Natal the diamond mines at Kimberley and the vast gold mining plants in the Rand will be blown up, wrecked, and destroyed, and that the rich and populous Outlander city of Johannesburg will be laid in ashes.

Probably these are not idle threats. It is hard to know what not to expect from a wild, ignorant, and insanely bigoted and fanatical people like the Boers. But no doubt President Kruger hopes, if he does not thoroughly believe, that the threats themselves will be sufficient to keep the hands of Great Britain from his throat. It is plain that his blood, dynamite, and petroleum language is largely aimed at the British shareholders in Transvaal companies, who, he thinks, may take fright and exercise a resistless power upon Parliament in opposition to war. In this notion he is doubtless wrong. The shareholders may feel their knees knock together and their teeth chatter as they think of the ruin of their property, and, possibly, they may try to exert pressure to avert hostilities; but their number is small, while that of the British classes and masses who will be rendered furious by "Oom Paul's" desperate warning and defiance is very large, and dominates the situation.

If the manifesto is indeed intended as an "appeal to the civilized world" it is a dismal failure. The civilized world could only reply to it that a people capable of the barbarism which Kruger promises the Boers will descend to in the event of war are manifestly unfit to have a country, and that the sooner they are wiped out of existence the better it will be for civilization and humanity.

Devastation in Porto Rico.

Secretary Root is to be commended for his prompt action in appealing to the American people in behalf of the suffering inhabitants of Porto Rico. In his message to the mayors of all considerable cities in the United States, issued yesterday, he tells them that not less than one hundred thousand unfortunate in our Antillean possession have been rendered absolutely helpless by the fury of the hurricane. It is much to be feared that further advices will tend to much increase this estimate.

As Times readers know, the population of Porto Rico is almost entirely agricultural. In the interior, where the curse of Dingley tariff oppression has been most keenly felt, as the natives have been unable to market productions like cane, tobacco, and coffee, their chief reliance in the past, they have been compelled to subsist exclusively on fruits and vegetables. The storm has uprooted every tree and dug up and scattered every garden in its path, and the country today, as far as we can learn, is, from end to end, a foodless waste.

Since the Porto Rican people were first reduced to a condition where they had to rely upon the wild fruits of nature for sustenance, by American tariff inhumanity, their present plight appeals all the more directly to our citizenship. Unless there is a very speedy and liberal response to the circular of Secretary Root, a most appalling famine will occur in our new West Indian possession. The War Department will do what it can. Our news columns tell of the liberal orders which have been given for the purchase and distribution of rice and beans, and the arrangements made by the Secretary for the transportation of relief supplies. But the General Government can do little compared with what the occasion demands, in the absence of Congressional appropriations. The charitable among our people at large will have to see to it that the Porto Ricans do not starve.

The Carter Scandal.

Before the end of the matter is reached it will probably appear that of all the scandals connected with Mr. McKinley's Administration the one relating to the Carter court-martial case will be found most injurious to its record, and possibly to Republican party prospects next year. The general features of the story have been so often printed in these columns that we need not go over them again at length on this occasion.

Before a court which convened at Savannah on January 12, 1898, Oberlin M. Carter, Captain of Engineers, U. S. A., and American Military Attache at the Court of St. James, was charged with conspiring to defraud the United States; causing false and fraudulent claims to be made against the United States; conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and embezzlement of one million six hundred thousand dollars. On the 12th of May, 1898, he was found guilty and was sentenced to dismissal from the Army, to be imprisoned for five years and to pay a fine of ten thousand dollars. In addition, his name, crime, and punishment were ordered to be published in the press of his home town for a period of six months.

The record of the trial was approved by the Judge Advocate General of the Army, and transmitted to the President for final action on July 15, 1898. Carter is still a captain in the Army under full pay, and is at large, his technical "arrest" confining him only to the limits of the United States. No decision has been reached, or at least promulgated, by Mr. McKinley, although more than a year has elapsed since the papers were submitted to him. The Judge Advocate's approval was first ignored, and former Senator Edmunds was employed at a fee of five thousand dollars to go over the evidence and write an opinion, which practically admitted Carter's guilt, but suggested a new trial, as evidence on which he was convicted was "seized and placed before the court improperly." Now the trial records are in the hands of Attorney General Griggs, who is reported as saying that he will not trouble himself about the matter until after the return from Europe of Carter's leading counsel, Wayne McVeagh, who is over there ill, and may not come home for months.

All this delay and nonaction is the result of the social, financial, and political pressure the convicted man has been able to exert on the President. It is so strong that Carter, it is said, confidently expects to escape punishment altogether, and be allowed to resign honorably from the service.

In the foregoing hasty outline of the miserable affair we have omitted many collateral matters which add further to the culpability of the Administration in delaying and endeavoring to defeat justice. They are not germane to our present purpose, which is, to remind the President that the wickedness of the thing he has been permitting for over twelve months is not confined to the mere fact that one guilty man has gone unpunished. The law, to be respected, must be administered impartially. If the liability of a person to suffer for crime is to depend upon his ability or inability to control votes in the Senate, or to procure heavy contributions to campaign funds, there will be just ground for complaint among the large class of enterprising public servants who would like to conspire, defraud, and embezzle a little, but in whose behalf there is no chance that the Government would shut its eyes to the sentence of a court, or pay George F. Edmunds five thousand dollars to find a way to set it aside.

Since Carter has been found guilty of making away with much more than a million dollars of public money, and has been roaming at liberty and living in luxury, many less fortunate Government officers have gone over the road. For there is no hope of leniency or delay for the poor devil of a letter carrier who, in a moment of temptation, taps the mail for a few dollars! He quickly lands in Trenton or Albany penitentiary for as many years as Carter was to have served. And the deep-dyed villain who would defraud the revenues of this land of impartial justice by turning his little corn crop into a few gallons of moonshine whisky need not expect mercy at the hands of the outraged law, for not any will he get.

Does Mr. McKinley wish the country to think that, while stealing a few postage stamps, or sweating half a dozen gold pieces, is disgraceful, felonious, and worthy of a prison cell and hard labor, it is pardonable if not honorable to rob the American people of millions, when the robber happens to be a "good fellow," of high social position, and an intimate acquaintance?

American confidence in our new Cup defender, the Columbia, appears to be growing. The formation of a Wall Street syndicate which will wager one hundred thousand dollars at odds of ten to eight on the Yankee boat is an encouraging sign that the knowing ones are confident of her success. Now let us see if the bold Britishers will rise to the bait!

The anger and anguish displayed by Spain over the honors paid to Admiral Dewey in Italy are exceedingly Spanish. The Queen Regent and her Government ought to remember that when he was in the United States as a prisoner of war no man in the country was treated with more respect and honor than Admiral Cervera.

Constitutional Amendments.

(From the Pittsburg Dispatch.)

A contemporary sets up the contention that an amendment to the Constitution which cannot secure the approval of the Governor does not deserve to be put before the people of the State. This is queer logic, this giving to the Governor a power greater than that of the Legislature and people combined because of the Governor's presumed intelligence and fairness. And the peculiarity of the logic obtains point in the Pennsylvania case from the fact that the Governor has made an appointment to the United States Senate contrary to the provisions now in the Constitution for no other reason than to secure the political advantage of a faction.

THE SARATOGA CONFERENCE.

Former Senator Gorman Joins the Van Wyck Forces There.

Saratoga, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Former Senator Arthur P. Gorman of Maryland registered this evening at the United States Hotel. The first thing he did after dinner was to accept the escort of Freeman Rasin and Col. T. Lanahan, of Baltimore, to the apartments of Judge Augustus Van Wyck, at the Grand Union. At the informal conference which followed they met Judge Ralph Walker of Missouri, Fleming S. Dubignion of Georgia, Gen. W. H. Jackson of Tennessee, Col. M. J. O'Brien of the Southern Express Company, and a number of others. The conference is supposed to have been concerned with the Van Wyck movement. It was alleged that Mr. Gorman approved what was in progress. He declared, it is said, that he was familiar with the situation through the public press, and thought that Van Wyck would be a winning candidate.

When Judge Willett, of Alabama, arrives on Monday night a formal Van Wyck conference will convene at the Grand Union Hotel. The Southerners and Westerners renew their refusals to go into the conference with Richard Croker.

Former Senator Murphy is expected here tomorrow. Former Secretary W. C. Whitney may also come, but it will be contrary to any present hotel arrangements. The Young Democracy of Saratoga county, ordinarily neutral to pre-convention Presidential aspirations, has, under the leadership of Corporation Counsel Joseph P. Brennan, expressed a cordial support of Judge Van Wyck's boom.

THE KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN.

The Goebel Forces Will Begin the Fight Today.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 11.—Extensive arrangements have been made for the opening of the Goebel campaign at Mayfield tomorrow. Accommodations for 5,000 people have been made, and special trains will be run from all over the First district. Senator Goebel and former Senator Blackburn will fire the opening guns, assisted by Judge Redwine and C. Breck Hill, candidate for Secretary of State.

At the same time that the campaign is begun in western Kentucky by Goebel and Blackburn, Breckinridge and Settle will open in Bowling Green, a bolter's hotbed. Tomorrow night the same men will speak at Franklin. On the following Monday the State from end to end will resound with the voices of the Goebel orators.

Six more counties have issued calls for mass meetings to appoint delegates to the bolters' convention at Lexington next week. Meetings will be held tomorrow in Owensboro and Bedford. Monday the bolters in Lincoln, Bath, and Todd counties will hold meetings. Today at Jackson, Ky., the home of Chairman Redwine, a big meeting was held and delegates instructed for John Young Brown were selected. In all, over eighty counties out of 119 have called meetings. The indications are that the convention at Lexington will be fully as large as the one held in this city.

BARNETT DECLINES.

He Asks That No One Be Appointed to Succeed Colonel Hawkins.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 11.—A letter received by Governor Stone from Lieutenant Colonel Barnett, now at San Francisco, declining the colonelcy of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment, which recently returned from the Philippines, was made public tonight. Governor Stone had tendered the appointment to Lieutenant Colonel Barnett soon after the death of Colonel Hawkins, which occurred at sea while the regiment was homeward bound. Colonel Barnett says: "Colonel Hawkins had been colonel of this regiment for twenty years. It was the pride of his heart. A veteran of the Civil War, when the summons of his country again came, he led his men as gaily forth to battle as to parade, and under his leadership the Tenth Pennsylvania became known not only to the Union, but to the whole civilized world.

"When his health began to fail he still kept up like the stern old Roman that he was. His iron will served him right royally and he fought through the campaign of Malolos magnificently, when an ordinary man would have been on his deathbed. Compelled at last to retire from active duty, he fought for his life, inch by inch, facing the grim destroyer with a determination as intense as his own, until at last the unequal struggle ended on the tossing waves of the Pacific, and in death as in life he was with the boys he loved so well.

"I would be proud to hold a commission as colonel of the Tenth Pennsylvania, and did have that ambition; but under the circumstances it seems to me, as to those officers who would benefit by my promotion and to all the officers and men in this command, that the least we can do is to allow the name of Alexander L. Hawkins to be associated with the regiment during its entire time of United States service, the crowning period of its achievements, as its sole and only colonel.

"I therefore respectfully request that no appointment be made to the colonelcy of the Tenth Pennsylvania, United States Volunteers, but that the same be allowed to stand vacant in honor of the memory of Colonel Hawkins."

Figuring on Yachts.

(From the Boston Globe.)

The yachting experts on the other side of the water are figuring for all they are worth from voluminous reports gathered from the records of former trial races. Going back to the Britannia's matches with the Vigilant they assume to find a basis for estimating the comparative speed between the Britannia and the Columbia, and figure that the latter is nine minutes faster than the former in thirty miles. Then figuring from what the Shamrock has done with the Britannia they make it clear to themselves that the Columbia has thus far done nothing to show that she can hold the pace with her British antagonist now on the way over here.

Reasoning by analogy on the results of a yacht race is among the most inexact of methods. Nevertheless, the Defender sticks to the heels of the Columbia with a persistency that gives no small cause for anxiety. But it will not take long to clear up uncertainties as soon as the Shamrock gets on her racing rig on this side of the water, provided her skipper is not forbidden to "let her out" before she is let out in the deciding contests.

Aguinaldo's Appeal.

(From the Boston Herald.)

The statement that Aguinaldo's appeal for recognition by foreign Governments in his enterprise for taking to himself and his followers the government of the Philippine Islands creates little anxiety at Washington is, without much doubt, well founded. In reason there is nothing to be apprehended here. Aguinaldo's claim is not a new one. His controversy was first with the Spanish Government. It continued for two years, and it does not seem to have even occurred to him to ask for recognition during that time. The sovereignty of Spain was then on all hands acknowledged. That sovereignty has now been transferred to the United States, and this fact has also been clearly recognized. To say that it is not as firm in her hands as it was in those of Spain is manifestly absurd. This is clearly a case of bluff on the part of Aguinaldo, and the United States is not likely to look upon it in any different light, or the other nations of the world either.

Words That Sting.

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.)

One passage in the Queen's speech is calculated to arouse the wrath of the Boers. It is that in which Her Majesty speaks of "my grant of internal independence to that Republic." This is an express assertion of suzerainty over the Transvaal, and an intimation that it holds its independence, such as it is, only at Her Majesty's pleasure. If the British Government wishes to stir up strife in South Africa and provoke the Boers to open war, this language is well adapted to do it.

PERILS OF THE KLONDIKE.

Survivors Bring Stories of Hardship and Starvation.

Wrangel, Alaska, via Seattle, Wash., Aug. 11.—The Stricken River steamer Strathcona arrived here Monday with thirty survivors of the Edmonton trail. They are all Western men except C. Jefferson, of Asbury Park, N. J.; M. Veley, Ohio; J. McGillvary, London, Eng.; W. Reed, Canada; O. Reed, Canada; J. Levin, Ottawa; J. Hackney, Ottawa; M. Tall, Canada, nd E. H. Tall, Canada.

The unfortunates tell heartrending stories of hardships endured and comrades lost and abandoned, and strongly denounce the trading and transportation companies that so profusely advertise this route as a feasible one to the Klondike gold fields.

Several starvation cases are reported. About twenty miles above Devil's Portage two unknown men were found frozen to death last winter. A man bearing the name of Johnson, from New York, was found dead in a tent near the source of Mud River last fall. This poor fellow had as covering only half of a blanket, and in a diary still open in his hand were these words opposite the date of February 15, 1897:

"I died of hunger!"

SOLD CLAIMS FOR WHISKY.

A Klondike Manager Discharged for His Costly Blunder.

New York, Aug. 11.—Browne W. Webb and Bertram C. Wallis are here on their way from Dawson City to London to report to the officers of the Pioneer Trading Company of Klondike, Limited, who sent them thither. They will sail for Europe tomorrow. With ten other men they left London in February, 1898, carrying fifty tons of outfit.

They heard of the discovery of gold in the Atlin district, and took up eighteen claims on Pine and Spruce creeks, which promised well. But their objective point was Dawson City, and the manager would not let them wait to have the claims recorded. He sold three of the claims for a bottle of whisky, they said, and the others as cheaply. They have since proved the richest in that whole region. For this blunder the manager was dismissed by the London officers.

They staked twelve claims on the Bonanza and Post Chance creeks, and also acquired property along the other principal streams. They have not done much mining, but Webb and Wallis say the property acquired for the company is as valuable as any in the Klondike.

Four other men left London soon after the main party, intending to join them in Dawson City. They have not been heard of since they started, by the Edmonton route, over the Rocky Mountains, and it is supposed all perished. Webb and Wallis say they expect to return to Dawson City, starting in February or March next.

"There is great dissatisfaction in Dawson City over the apparent lack of method in the way the Government conducts its business," Mr. Wallis said today. "It is almost impossible to get a claim recorded in the gold commissioner's office, and there is strong evidence that those in charge of the office are not fair in their treatment of the miners. I do not think this condition of affairs is known in Ottawa. Affairs in Dawson City are practically at a standstill on account of this."

A NEW YUKON SCANDAL.

Miners Say That Officials Collect Bribes Instead of Royalties.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 11.—There is a new scandal threatened in connection with the administration of the Yukon that promises to eclipse in magnitude all that has gone before. Dawsonites arriving here tell about it with caution, as they do not want to affect their own interests injuriously, but their stories tally on all the essential details.

The scandal hinges upon the collection of royalty, and is to the effect that certain officials "have found in this collection the richest 'graft' in this country of 'squeeze pidgin.'"

One representative Dawsonite makes this statement: "It is not likely that royalty will be collected on one-third or at most one-half of the output of this season. If royalty is paid on $10,000,000 it will mean an actual production of more than double this amount, for, while some very few will pay in full, the majority will evade and have evaded the obligation by one process or another. Some conceal the extent of their gold harvest effectively, others take a bolder course, and there is where the 'graft' comes in.

"I have seen it worked myself and I know it to have been done in dozens of instances. Supposing that a claim owner owes the Government $25,000 or $35,000, or perhaps $50,000, on his output, according to the regulation scale, he goes quietly to the right official and lays down his check for $10,000, or $15,000, and then planks down a few thousand dollar bills in a little pile, say $5,000. That is all that's required. He gets a permit to move his gold instanter, and a complete discharge of his liability to the Government. This scheme, as it has been worked this season, is better than any claim in the district."

Considered Justifiable.

(From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.)

"Ye-e-es, there's some little risk about it," admitted a boiler inspector, speaking of his vocation. "When a fellow is inside a boiler that is coupled up to another one full of live steam, there's always a chance that some meddling fool will come along and turn a valve and reduce him to a fricasee before he can get to the manhole. Has such a thing ever happened, did'y ask? Well, yes, it has. The worst case I ever heard of occurred over in Alabama. It was like this: An engineer and a helper went inside a large boiler at a factory to make some repairs. The manhole was unusually small and difficult to wriggle through, and it was located at the end opposite to where they were working. While they were hammering away the engineer heard steps outside and then a peculiar click, and he knew instantly that a connection had been opened that would flood them with scalding steam. He had a sledge upraised at the time to strike a punch which the helper was holding, and without a moment's hesitation he brought it down on the negro's head and dashed out his brains. Then he sprang for the manhole and drew himself through, while clouds of white, hot vapor streamed out all around him. He was hideously scalded from the waist down, but he survived. After the steam was shut off and the boiler cleared they took out something that had once been the helper. Do I think the killing was justifiable? Of course I do. If both had tried to escape they would have choked the manhole and died like trapped rats."

Illegible Letter-Writing.

(From the Philadelphia Times.)

The art of private letter writing has passed away. The newspaper is now everywhere, and furnishes everything worthy of note from every part of the world at the breakfast table. Private letter writing is now very generally done in a haphazard scrawl, and the signature often entirely unintelligible unless the writer is well known to the one who receives the epistle.

This illegible letter-writing is especially a source of great annoyance in the newspaper office, where letters are received daily from persons with whom the editor or men in the business department are not personally acquainted. It is not uncommon for letters intended for publication to go into the waste basket because the editor cannot make out the names of the writers, and is therefore left without any means of ascertaining the reliability of the correspondents. And it is not uncommon to receive letters on the infinite variety of subjects about which newspaper readers address the editor for information, or for some kind office to the writer, in which the signatures are utterly unintelligible. This is unpardonable negligence, and every letter writer should be specially careful, when addressing anyone, to write the signature so plainly that none could mistake it.

A Dilemma of the Trusts.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

There is talk in Washington to the effect that Messrs. McKinley and Hanna want an early national convention next year, and that the platform will voice a strident anti-trust shriek. The trusts will make no great pother over the shriek, but they certainly would not look with favor upon a long campaign, since the more it should be prolonged the greater would have to be their contributions to the corruption fund.

THE PURPOSE UNKNOWN.

General Miles Considering the Transport Sailing Schedule.

Major General Miles yesterday called upon Colonel Bird, of the Quartermaster General's Department, for a copy of the statement prepared Thursday, showing the approximate dates of departure of the transports of the Pacific coast on a first and second voyage. Colonel Bird stated to a Times reporter that he did not know why the department wanted a schedule giving dates of departure from San Francisco of the transports on two voyages, as the transport fleet is fully able to carry to Manila before the 1st of December all of the troops now under orders for service in the Philippines, including the ten volunteer regiments being organized.

The first vessel to leave San Francisco according to the schedule submitted to Secretary Root and General Miles was the Morgan City, which left Thursday evening. The whole transport fleet will be utilized to carry to Manila the troops now under orders, the last one, the Indiana, being scheduled to depart from San Francisco about October 22.

With the arrival of the Indiana at Manila 18,000 men of those now under orders will have reached their destination and only about 1,000 will remain to be transported. Before the arrival of the Indiana, however, the Morgan City will have returned to San Francisco, and, according to the schedule, the Morgan City will be able to get away on a second trip November 8, arriving at Manila December 8. The schedule shows the probable dates of departure of each of the transports in the order of their arrival at San Francisco from Manila, about fifteen days being allowed for loading. Should each of the transports make the second voyage they will be able to take to the Philippines another 18,000 men, thus swelling the Philippine army 36,000, in addition to the regular regiments now there and the two volunteer infantry and one volunteer cavalry regiments now being organized.

Colonel Bird explained that as far as he knew the preparation of the schedule for a second voyage was merely to let the Secretary of War and the Major General Commanding know what the transport fleet can do in the event of more troops being needed than are now ordered.

Adjutant General Corbin declined to discuss the schedule except to say that at the present time no orders are out for the enlistment of any more than enough volunteers to fill the ten regiments as authorized by the President. It is stated at the War Department, however, that the President is greatly pleased with the rapidity with which men are enlisting for the volunteer regiments, and it would not be improbable if recruiting will continue until the full 35,000 volunteers authorized by Congress are provided for.

ATKINSON PERSISTENT.

He Purposes Sending His Pamphlets to Returning Officers.

Secretary Gage received yesterday afternoon a circular from Edward Atkinson, of Boston, which, according to a type-written statement across the top is being sent by him to every commissioned and noncommissioned officer returning from the Philippines. The circular states that Mr. Atkinson had attempted to send copies of his seditious pamphlets to the officers while they were in the Philippines, but was prevented from doing so by the United States postal authorities.

Copies sent to Admiral Dewey and others were held up in the San Francisco postoffice. Mr. Atkinson announces his intention to send to the returned officers copies of these pamphlets, and asks for them their careful consideration. He says he will print other copies of this circular, which is entitled the "Anti-Imperialist," and in the later editions he will print selections from replies sent by the officers, whether approving or condemning his stand. No attempt by the postal authorities to prevent Atkinson from sending these pamphlets to the returned officers is expected, although none will be permitted to go to Manila.

HORSELESS MAIL WAGONS.

The Postoffice Department Not Ready to Adopt the Automobile.

It is very unlikely the Postoffice Department will authorize the use of automobiles at any postoffice within the next two or three months at least. Applications have come to the department from all parts of the country, from postmasters desiring to introduce the automobiles and from firms desiring to furnish them and offering the use of different machines for experimental purposes. While the department has a fund out of which it pays for horse hire and allowances, which, it is believed, might be diverted to paying for the automobiles, it would not go very far at the prices now asked for these machines. At from $500 to $1,000 for each machine, the fund would be quickly exhausted.

They might be rented, however, if the department could save money and improve the service by doing so. Yet it is realized that the automobile has not yet passed beyond its experimental stage. Whether it would withstand the steady work entailed on the horses and wagons used by the department remains to be seen, and while the department is willing to co-operate with the manufacturers in testing the value of the vehicles for postal purposes, it will go slow on ordering them for the use of the department. Here and there a manufacturer has received the permission of the department to make a test of his vehicle by carrying a letter carrier around with him in the regular route of the carrier, and making collections at the boxes.

Such tests have not been official, however, and much more will be required before the department is willing to adopt any particular machine. The special agent in charge of the investigation into the advisability of using automobiles has been authorized to make an Indiana manufacturer an offer to use his vehicle in experimenting in an Indiana town where free delivery is soon to be established, and it is probable the proposition will be accepted. If the machines prove satisfactory they may then be purchased by the department and continued in use. There are no prospects that any automobiles will be placed in the postal service, except in the Indiana town as stated, for quite a while to come.

Not a Cause for War.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

Some of the Anglophobe Paris editors may shriek because one of the crew of a French fishing smack has been killed by a shot from a British torpedo boat. But if the facts have been reported correctly the affair is not one that will call for demands for explanation or reparation on the part of the French Government. The French boat was fishing too near the English coast in forbidden waters. When a blank shot was fired it did not heave to, but sought to escape. Then another shot was fired in earnest, which disabled the vessel and killed the helmsman. Had a British boat behaved in the same way in French waters it would have been fired on, but the aim might not have been so accurate and the consequences so serious. Generally when policemen on sea or land fire at runaway burglars or boats they display bad marksmanship. Perhaps it was only by accident that the English torpedo boat fired a shot which hit the mark and the commander of that boat may half regret his success.

Mr. Root's Hard Work.

(From the Cincinnati Enquirer.)

The Hon. Elihu Root has a hard job. His hands ought to be sustained by all patriotic citizens, even if he is obliged to make himself disagreeable to a great many people. He may even have to pique our amiable President occasionally. Let him comfort himself with the reflection that it is not always the most amiable public men who cut great figures in history.

Setting Up Republics.

(From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.)

Setting up Indian Republics would have been an utter absurdity, as everyone familiar with the character and habits of the red man will admit. Such experiments would equally break down in the Philippines. We must treat the inhabitants of that group according to their capacities, teaching them first of all that this country is not to be shaken in its purposes by armed attack.

A POLITICAL ENQUIRY.

Cuban Sentiment to Be Ascertained by the Census.

It has been determined to push the Cuban census as rapidly as possible and to have it completed by January 1, 1899. While the census is to be taken under the direction of the War Department, Gen. Joseph P. Sanger, of the Inspector General's office, having been detailed to have general supervision of it, the work of tabulating the returns will be done by the Census office.

The Cubans who have been appointed supervisors of the census have been in the city for several days, going over the schedules with Dr. Wines, Acting Director of the Census. Aside from the usual statistics as to the number of inhabitants, the crops, etc., this census is designed to ascertain, if possible, the attitude of the population toward the idea of a Cuban Republic. It is designed that a question shall be asked the sense of which is:

"Do you intend to become a citizen of the Cuban Republic or do you intend to claim Spanish citizenship while continuing to reside in Cuba." This question is of such a delicate character that the officials are having a hard time to put it into suitable Spanish. It is feared it will be very hard at the best to secure answers to such a question, and it is being framed with great care.

A meeting of the supervisors with Dr. Wines was held Thursday night, and another yesterday morning, after which the schedules were sent to the printing office. Proofs are expected tomorrow, when they will be laid before Secretary Root for his approval. In making the translation into Spanish it was found there were no equivalent words in that language for some of the words used in the English draft, and the form had to be changed in several instances.

The Cubans called on Secretary Root yesterday afternoon and will call again today. They expect to leave for Cuba as soon as the work on the schedules is completed, and arrange for the collection of the statistics.

There are three schedules, one for population, one for agricultural statistics, and one dealing with statistics concerning education and the schools. From these the President hopes to secure a general idea as to the wealth and resources of the island, as well as concerning the education and political tendencies of the people. It is feared the Cubans will decline to commit themselves politically until they are sure what the United States intends to do in the case of the government of the island.

NEW CENSORSHIP RULES.

Regulations for the Use of the Military Telegraph Lines.

An important general order regulating the transmission of telegraph information over military telegraph lines was issued yesterday afternoon. The order provides for a censorship of all despatches that may be considered suspicious. It says:

> The following rules, subject to modification by orders of the commanding general of the army in the field, will be strictly followed in the transmission of despatches over military telegraph lines, or lines under military control, during active military operations, and are published to the Army for the information and guidance of all concerned:
>
> Despatches will be sent in the following order of priority, due regard being had to the importance of messages in the same class: Those relating to the movement or administration of the army in the field, and of the Navy. Other messages relating to the Army, to the Navy, and to governmental departments or bureaus of the United States. Messages of State, Territorial, or other civil officials, relating to public business. Messages between diplomatic agents of neutral Governments. Press messages. Miscellaneous business, those relating to death or serious illness having priority.
>
> Despatches containing matter deemed to be injurious to the interests of the Army must be submitted to the commanding general of the army in the field for his orders relative to their transmission.
>
> Officers and soldiers are strictly prohibited from communicating except to commanding officers or under special authorization from proper military authority, information by telegraph relative to numbers, movements, or operations of troops, or details regarding fortifications, armament, or experiments made in connection with military matters. Neither shall they be permitted to file despatches containing opinions on military operations or other military matters relating to any part of the Army or command with which they are serving.
>
> Personal and press messages may, under conditions not interfering with military business, be transmitted free over field military telegraph lines that are closed to the general public.
>
> The use of any cipher is forbidden, except in communication to and from commanding officers and their superiors, or in cases of civic officers specially authorized. Personal and press codes, however, may be utilized for the economical transmission of despatches upon filing a copy of the code with the central office and under such other regulations as may be formulated by the general commanding an army in the field.
>
> The chief signal officer of an army operating in the field, or of a district under military control, in carrying out his general instructions, will formulate necessary regulations for the management and operation of military telegraph lines under his control. General rules should be reduced to writing, be clearly defined, and impartially enforced.
>
> Messages relating to military operations will be received and transmitted over the flying telegraph lines when filed by a correspondent in the field who is furnished with a written permission to serve in such capacity.
>
> Press messages when filed on military flying telegraph lines will be transmitted in the order of filing, but no correspondent will be allowed to monopolize the line. When special circumstances demand special regulations will be formulated, subject to the approval of the general commanding the army in the field to prevent monopolization.
>
> Signal officers should afford press correspondents in the field the fullest telegraph facilities consistent with the public interests.
>
> Unvarying courtesy and strict impartiality, indispensable qualities for successful dealings with non-military officials or individuals, are strictly enjoined on officers and men of the Signal Corps.

NO HOPE FOR HIS RECOVERY.

Former Judge Henry Hilton May Die at Any Moment.

Saratoga, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Former Judge Henry Hilton was reported to be a shade better today, but no hopes whatever are held out by his doctors as to ultimate recovery. He is described as very weak and worn almost to a skeleton, and suffering very much, bed sores on various parts of the body adding much to his uneasiness.

It is said that he may die from exhaustion at any moment, yet may linger for weeks.

Emperor William at Dortmund.

Berlin, Aug. 11.—Emperor William visited Dortmund today and opened the Dortmund-Ems canal. In a speech he declared that he was determined to insist upon the acceptance of a Rhine-Elbe canal bill by the Prussian Diet before the end of the year.

The San Fernando Fight.

(From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

General Otis' brief and unsatisfactory report of what would seem to the lay mind a rather serious engagement, fails to say whether the enemy can rally again or whether the Americans can hold the ground gained by garrisoning important points. If the enemy is still intact there is much in the situation to suggest that conditions have not changed since the opening of the rainy season, the American forces being practically in a state of siege, moving out from their works only when goaded into action by the "worrying" tactics of their vigilant adversaries and being unable either to smash their enemies or retain captured positions.

All the stories of the battle that have come to hand remind one unpleasantly of the "forward and back" maneuvres that have become so familiar in the past few months and inevitably raise a doubt as to whether any lasting advantage has been gained as the result of what was undeniably a clever stroke pluckily carried out by MacArthur and his men.

A Kitten Chokes a Calf.

(From the Indianapolis Sentinel.)

A remarkable story comes from Somerset. Scott Davis, the leading merchant of the village, had a fine Jersey calf, which he placed in a stall in his barn and was bringing it up by hand, the little animal being supplied with the best of milk for its sustenance. A cat had a litter of kittens in the manger and last night the calf endeavored to swallow one of the kittens and was found dead in the stall this morning, with the kitten fast in its throat.

PORTO RICAN STATISTICS.

A Statement of the Import and Export Business of Ponce.

The War Department gave out for publication yesterday the imports and exports from the port of Ponce, Porto Rico, for the month of June, 1899. The trade statistics of this port have never before been given to the public. Those published today show that the imports into Ponce from the United States are over five times as great as those from Great Britain; over three times as great as the imports from Germany; over twenty times as great as the imports from France, and over four times as great as the imports from Spain.

Imports from the United States for the month of June were $118,408; from Great Britain, $19,208; Germany, $35,143; France, $5,504; Spain, $27,624; Italy, $798; Belgium, $291; Nova Scotia, $14,895, and St. Pierre, Martinique, $200. During the month the exports to the United States were $88,363; to Germany, $9,081; France, $72,178; Spain, $37,537; Italy, $108,375; Cuba, $27,490; Nova Scotia, $17,701; Holland, $5,734, and to St. Thomas, $1,880. Total of imports for June, $231,576; exports, $368,879.

Among the heaviest articles of import from the United States were $24,812 worth of raw cotton; $12,923 worth of lard and tallow; $10,534 worth of meats; $8,402 worth of flour; $1,667 worth of copper manufactures; $8,249 worth of fish; $1,364 worth of butter; $1,570 worth of glassware; $8,537 worth of engines and parts of same; $5,316 worth of malt liquors and ciders; $1,645 worth of refined mineral oil; $1,854 worth of paper, etc.; $2,915 worth of cheese; $2,056 worth of rice; $1,128 worth of tools and implements; $637 worth of potatoes; $398 worth of wines and cordials; $4,262 worth of lumber and timber; $4,255 worth of unmanufactured wood; $1,356 worth of manufactured wood and enough of other articles to make a grand total of $118,408.

Among the imports England contributed were $3,651 worth of manufactures of copper, $243 worth of earthenware, $4,467 worth of raw cotton, $1,719 worth of bags for sugar, $795 worth of iron ingots, $2,312 worth of cheese, $1,088 worth of tools and implements, $708 worth of rice, $584 worth of paints, and $645 worth of oils. Germany contributed $1,493 worth of earthenware, $596 worth of raw cotton, $1,394 worth of malt liquors and cider, $1,275 worth of butter, $2,110 worth of cheese, $25,952 worth of rice, and $295 worth of glass and glassware. France furnished $3,102 worth of raw cotton, $599 worth of silk manufactures, $371 worth of brandy, $194 worth of wines and cordials, and $160 worth of chemicals. Spain furnished $7,468 worth of raw cotton, $1,300 worth of leather, $5,715 worth of shoes, $2,334 worth of paper, $1,171 worth of rice, $3,520 worth of wines and cordials, $247 worth of cabinet wares, $375 worth of vegetables, $195 worth of food preparations, and $342 worth of flannels. Italy contributed $281 worth of earthenware, $391 worth of breadstuffs, and $94 worth of chemicals. Belgium contributed $291 worth of manufactures of copper. Nova Scotia contributed $14,437 worth of fish and $414 worth of lumber.

The total exports from Ponce to the United States were $8,172 worth of coffee, $149 worth of fruits, $10 worth of glass and glassware, $893 worth of liquors, $22,993 worth of molasses and syrup, $54,409 worth of raw sugar, $46 worth of wood manufactures, $1,635 worth of leaf tobacco, $350 worth of cigars, and other articles amounting to $456.

The heaviest articles of export from Ponce to France were $70,067 worth of coffee and $2,063 worth of hides and skins. Germany also received $8,461 worth of coffee and $620 worth of hides and skins; Spain, $37,527 worth; Italy, $108,909; Cuba, $10,704, and in addition Cuba received $15,691 worth of animals. Nova Scotia received $17,143 worth of molasses and syrup from Ponce and $70 worth of coffee, while Holland received $5,734 worth of coffee, and St. Thomas $1,564 worth of sugar as her heaviests article of import from Ponce.

ARMY AND NAVY RIFLES.

Only the Sights of the Krag-Jorgensen Arms to Be Altered.

The War Department authorities have decided to make no further mechanical changes in the Krag-Jorgensen rifle. A flood of suggestions and minor inventions, all looking to improvement in the gun, has poured in upon the Ordnance Bureau since the war with Spain, and many of the ideas presented were, it is said, excellent, but not plausible at the present time.

The proposition to make the Krag-Jorgensen a clip-fed gun has been discarded, and even the mechanical device which permits of automatic ejection of a cartridge-holder has been cast aside. The only alterations which the ordnance officials countenance just now have to do with the sights.

There is a strong belief growing in ordnance circles that the Krag-Jorgensen gun will soon have to give way to a better designed piece. Ordnance officers are reluctant to admit this, and not a few stoutly deny it, but assurances from experts warrant the statement. The fact remains that the Spanish Mauser rifle demonstrated during the summer of 1898 an immense superiority over the Krag-Jorgensen, both in mechanical design and in shooting power, and reports from the Philippines state that the United States troops secure Mausers from the enemy for personal use whenever possible.

The Spanish Mauser was designed and issued to foreign services after the Krag-Jorgensen had been adopted by the United States, and so the United States authorities had no opportunity to test the weapon in the early competitive firings.

The Navy authorities have practically decided to give up the present Navy straight-pull rifle for the gun of the Army. The object is to secure the use of the same calibre ammunition. The Navy authorities are hesitating, it is said, to change at once to the Krag-Jorgensen in view of the feeling among ordnance men that the Krag-Jorgensen piece will soon be superseded by some other weapon. The main objections lodged against the Krag-Jorgensen gun just now deal with the magazine, its limitations and its location.

Coughlan Seen in Leadville.

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Chief of Police Kipley has received information that "Dan" Coughlan, wanted for trying to influence a juror, has been seen in Leadville, Col., and information is sought relating to the reward offered by Cook county for his capture. The chief of police of Colorado City telegraphed that he had been seen there. The police sent a detailed description to Leadville. President Irwin, of the county board, notified the searchers that the reward of $500 would be paid to his captors.

GOING TO CLAIM A FORTUNE.

A New York Tailor Expects to Get an Uncle's $700,000.

New York, Aug. 11.—James E. Cooney, who has a ladies' tailoring shop on West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street, is wondering whether he has $700,000 more than when he registered, a few days ago, in the National Motel, Far Rockaway, L. I., where his family is stopping. He received word unexpectedly that he was an indirect heir to a fortune.

Mr. Cooney says he had an uncle named Peter Cooney, who amassed a fortune in San Francisco, which he left to his father, John C. Cooney. James E. Cooney's father received a letter from the lawyers of his dead brother saying he was heir to about $700,000, but owing to his feeble condition told his son that if he made the trip to San Francisco he could derive the benefits accruing from his journey to the Pacific Coast. The son accepted the offer.

A Mule Routs the Police.

(From the St. Louis Republic.)

An angry mule at Atlanta, Macon county, Mo., put the entire police force of the town to flight the other day and killed one horse and severely injured another before it was finally despatched with a club. The mule belonged to an old darky. In the morning it lost its temper over something and proceeded to amuse the town sufficiently to call out the police force. During the first assault the officers used brickbats. Then the mule charged and one of the officers of the law saved himself by crawling under a house. The mule had things pretty much its own way for half an hour, but presently the arm of the law reached out and gathered it in.