

The Washington Times.

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The Navy Department Witnesses. The Navy Department at last has furnished Admiral Schley's account with a "tentative" list of witnesses...

The Asphalt Joker. It is rather amusing to read in the columns of a local Administration paper that our Federal authorities do not believe it possible that the asphalt deposits of Venezuela will cut any figure in the action of this Government on the Isthmus of South America.

Expansion vs. Imperialism. Whatever differences of opinion may have primarily existed as to the propriety and expediency of our taking the Philippines, the fact may as well be recognized by all that the islands have been taken over under the sovereignty of the United States.

France and Turkey. The "Vienna Tageblatt's" Constantinian sensation yesterday does not appear to have excited much surprise in London, where the strained relations of France and Turkey have been taken more seriously than elsewhere.

The Fear of the Trusts. The "Kansas City Star" is quite accurate in its statement that the people fear the trusts more on account of the enormous power which is vested in big corporations than any abusive exercise of the power up to the present time.

Unsanitary Bakeries. In several of the large cities of Europe health officials have submitted reports of the unsanitary conditions in some cellar bakeries.

Foreign Topics. Many are the tales and anecdotes which come from Raccagnoli, where the Italian sovereigns are passing the summer, about their daily life and doings.

PERSONAL. Henry Arthur Jones, the dramatist, has two London residences, one of which is a house in Regents Park.

PERSONAL. The Cardinal's hat has been conferred upon Agostino Riboldi, Bishop of Pavia, who is well known for his work in physics and especially in electricity.

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had kept pace with the supply of other things prices would not have fallen. But whatever theories may be advanced as to the causes which have led to the fall of prices since 1873, it is very certain that the trusts are not the cause of any part of the trouble.

It is not a question of how the prices of today compare with those of twenty-five or thirty years ago, but how prices compare with what they ought to be. When we consider the enormous dividends paid by the leading trusts, and the huge fortunes that trust magnates are building up, it is ridiculous to claim that they are not holding prices at higher figures than is just to the consumers.

The result of the commission for the investigation of affairs at Fort Sheridan has been set forth by its secretary, S. B. Dexter, in a little book which he calls "Cant and the Canteen."

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With this change of conditions increased care on the part of the municipality and the government in general becomes necessary. In the old times it was a man's own fault if his food was adulterated; for the reason that they cannot regulate the demand. Hence, when the demand falls there may be a decline of prices to some extent in spite of the trusts.

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The King himself drives the Queen about the large estate. This is their first visit to this part of the country. Through this arises very many ludicrous incidents, as the peasants do not know their Majesties by sight, and are evidently unprepared for so little pomp and ceremony.

The projected visit of the Czar to France has been preceded by a curious exchange of opinions between well known Parisian and St. Petersburg papers in regard to the increase of German influence in Turkey.

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KING EDWARD'S LIBRARY.

Among the countless treasures at Windsor Castle which form part of the personal inheritance of the King is the precious collection of books, prints, and MSS. which he has gathered together.

When the two libraries formed by George II and George III went to the British Museum the castle was for some years without any literature at all. But under William IV forgotten collections were unearthed at St. James's Palace, Hampton Court, and elsewhere.

Early in the reign of Mr. Holmes changed to be one of the keepers of MSS. in the British Museum, and he introduced his son Richard as an assistant, and for sixteen years the younger son was busy preparing himself unconsciously for his life's work.

Colonel Holmes is a short, dapper, trim-bearded bibliophile, whose ruddy geniality reminds one irresistibly of Mr. Fred Burnard. His luxurious taste proves him to be a man of a ready pen, and that he holds a ready hand is shown by his illustrations for Mrs. Oliphant's "Makers of Venice."

Queen Victoria—always a typical woman—would never have been a novelist of the moment to encumber her shelves, although there are one or two first editions of Kipling and some presentation volumes.

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SOCIETY.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ellinger celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of their marriage last night with a linen reception which was in pretty keeping with their silver wedding of five years ago.

Mrs. Ellinger welcomed her guests in a handsome and becoming toilet of grass linen in national colors, trimmed elaborately with Arabian lace in leaf design—the dress being of a former Mrs. George W. Williams H. Sturges.

It seems that the Chinese Minister surprised everybody at Newport by dancing the ball given by Mrs. Fish. If his visit could have been longer than there is nothing in a social way that Mr. Wu can do.

Mr. Robert J. Wynne, 168 Rhode Island Avenue, is spending the month at the Berwick, Atlantic City, where she has been for the past two weeks.

The marriage of Miss Isabel McRoberts, daughter of Mrs. N. H. McRoberts, and Mr. Robert Williamson Tunstall, Professor of Latin and Greek at the Jacob Tomes Institute, Fort Detrick, will take place September 3 at the bride's home, the old Sturges' mansion, on C Street, near Third.

Miss McRoberts is a granddaughter of Edith Jane Johnson, a former Mrs. George W. Williams H. Sturges, and a cousin of Matthew Fontaine Maury, the eminent scientist. The invitations will be issued.

It is a wise prophet who can tell what will happen on a New York evening morning, for instance, Mr. Harry Lake's bow-wow dinner was the talk of the place; by evening the entertainment had been transformed into a dog circus, which Mr. and Mrs. Lake's children and their children. Prizes are to be awarded the cleverest dogs.

The special interest of Narragansett now centres around the Chinese Minister, whose picturesque garb and graciously extended hand have attracted the observation of all observers at the Pier.

Dr. Thomas J. Jones and family, who have been spending part of August at Ashbury Park, will be leaving for their home, Rutledge Lodge, Massachusetts Avenue, extended.

Mr. Albert L. Jackson and friends are enjoying a cruise around the islands of Casco Bay on the private yacht of Mr. Benjamin W. Jackson, Jr., and his wife. A beautiful summer home is on Cushing's Island, Me.

After an absence of several years in California, Miss Clara Brashear has returned home and is with her sister, Mrs. E. M. Brashear, at the latter's residence.

Henry M. Flagler and his bride have arranged to leave for Beach Lawn, their country seat on Orienta Point, at Manarone-on-the-Sound, on Saturday on an extended cruise on a steam yacht which Mr. Flagler has purchased. They will visit Newport and Bar Harbor and may go as far as Maine.

POLITICAL COMMENT.

Admiral Howison, whether or not he has any bias or commitments in the Sampson-Schley controversy, might cordially refuse to act as a judge in the case. It is not only a matter of honor, but of the Board of Enquiry should be impartial, but that they should be free from suspicion and free from partisanship.

Prof. Trigg may yet develop audacity enough to declare that Rockefeller is a greater man than Hanna—Atlanta Constitution. Senator Hanna has not heard that there is a steel strike. His ears are confused by the buzzing of the Presidential bee and there are many things he cannot hear.

For the "spot cash" he pays the Sultan of Turkey certainly gets in excitement many times his money's worth—New York Tribune. A casual glance at the doings of the nation during the past few days shows that we will convince almost anyone that the equatorial nations are again suffering from what might be called the equatorial disease. In other words, they are high-jinks with themselves for no actual reason that the human eye can make out.

Like all first matters, Acting Secretary Hackett is getting more kicks than praisures—New York World. The steel workers are beginning to strike against the domination of President Sherman's New York—New York Tribune. Mark Hanna has been sowing in the Republican spots of the South not dragons' teeth, but bank notes, confidently expecting them to rise up in men armed with clubs and stones at the National Convention. Such votes have been nominated candidates for President, but should be represented in the electoral college the right way—Chicago Chronicle.

A POOR EXCUSE.

In obedience to the law the Secretary of the Treasury makes every American returning from Europe swear to an affidavit of all the goods in his possession above the value of \$100 purchased abroad. And in execution of the law as laid down by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, he assumes that they are all persons and turns out and turns out and shakes out the contents of the trunks, suitcases, and other articles of personal property. Instead of exercising discretion as the law directs, he exercises the utmost insolence of despotic authority.

In excuse for him his subordinate pleads that many "prominent persons" who go abroad are as a matter of fact peacemakers and smugglers. Mr. Gage searches all after swearing them because, as it claims, they are not persons who have been detected in attempts to beat the law.