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HOUSTON DAILY POST.

TEN PAGES.

XVTH YEAR—NO. 130. HOUSTON, TEXAS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1899. PRICE: 5 CENTS

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NEW CROP CALIFORNIA DRIED FRUIT.
We will unload tomorrow Fancy Evaporated Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots and Pears, in 25-pound boxes.
H. THOMPSON & CO.
Houston, Texas, August 8th.

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Talk to him on the TELEPHONE and you have an . . . IMMEDIATE ANSWER
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supercedes all others for DRY KILNS and other buildings where chemical and acid fumes, smoke, etc., escape.
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Kansas City, Mo.	90	.00
Memphis, Tenn.	90	.00
Montgomery, Ala.	86	.00
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New Orleans, La.	[illegible]	T
North Platte, Neb.	[illegible]	.00
Oklahoma City, O. T.	[illegible]	.00
Omaha, Neb.	[illegible]	.00
Palestine, Texas	[illegible]	.00
St. Louis, Mo.	[illegible]	T
St. Paul, Minn.	80	.00
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Mexican Tele. Co. Stations—		
Tampico, Mexico	88	.00
Vera Cruz, Mexico	81	.00
Coatzacoalcos, Mexico	87	.00

Observations taken at all stations at 8 a. m., 75th meridian time:

	Temp.	Rainfall.
Havana, Cuba	80	.00
Santiago, Cuba	76	3.98
San Juan, Porto Rico	80	.00
Barbadoes, Barbadoes	82	.04
St. Kitts	82	.00
Kingston, Jamaica	80	.30

Cotton Region Bulletin.

Cotton region bulletin for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 p. m. yesterday, 75th meridian time:

	—Temp.— Max.	Min.	Rainfall.
Galveston	87	80	.00
Abilene	100	*74	.00
Ballinger	100	69	.00
Beaumont	100	80	.00
Beeville	101	71	.00
Brenham	96	74	.00
Columbia	92	76	.00
Corpus Christi	88	76	.00
Corsicana*	101	75	.00
Cuero	98	74	.00
Dallas	102	74	.00
Dublin	100	70	.00
Hearne	95	80	.00
Henrietta*	106	74	.00
Houston	93	74	.00
Huntsville	94	76	.00
Kerrville	99	78	.00
Lampasas	100	70	.00
Longview	105	75	.00
Luling	98	73	.00
Palestine	94	74	.00
Paris	107	72	.00
San Antonio	[illegible]	72	.00
San Marcos	97	68	.00
Temple	99	72	.00
Tyler	101	74	.00
Waco	99	76	.00
Weatherford	103	73	.00
Means	97.2	74.9	.00

Number of stations, 22.
*Not included in means.

District Average.

Central Station—	No. Stations.	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.	Rainfall
Atlanta	11	96	72	.16
Augusta	10	96	70	.64
Charleston	5	92	72	.50
Galveston	22	98	74	.60
Little Rock	12	100	72	.03
Memphis	16	98	74	.00
Mobile	6	94	72	T
Montgomery	8	98	74	.22
New Orleans	12	98	72	.02
Savannah	11	96	72	.18
Vicksburg	7	98	72	.00
Wilmington	10	96	72	.08

OFFICER A PRISONER.

Supposed to Be Major Rockefeller, Who Disappeared Some Time Ago.

Washington, August 11.—The following cablegram has been received from General Otis:

Adjutant General.

Manila, August 11.—From Southern Luzon reports come that an American officer is held there prisoner and description given indicates Major Rockefeller. Otis.

(Major Rockefeller is the officer who disappeared several months ago shortly after his arrival in the Philippines and nothing has been heard of him since.)

WEATHER INFORMATION.

The West Indian Hurricane Is Approaching the Florida Coast.

Washington, August 11.—8 p. m.—The West Indian hurricane is now apparently to the southeast and near Nassau and will probably reach the Florida coast by Saturday morning. Hurricane signals were ordered this evening on both the Southern Florida coasts and storm signals on the Northern Florida coast at Savannah and Charleston and all shipping interested fully warned.

Probabilities.

For Texas—Fair Saturday; Sunday probably fair in northwest; showers in southeast portions; continued high temperature; brisk to fresh west winds.

For New Mexico—Fair and continued high temperature Saturday and Sunday; south to west winds.

For Oklahoma and Indian Territory—Fair and continued high temperature Saturday and Sunday; south to west winds.

General Observations.

Observations taken at all stations at 8 p. m. United States weather bureau, 75th meridian time.

	Temp.	Rainfall.
Galveston, Texas	98	.00
Corpus Christi, Texas	92	.00

CHEAP RATES
—VIA—
Southern Pacific,
TO MEXICO AND RETURN.

	MEXICO CITY.	MONTEREY.
HOUSTON	$31.30	$11.80
BEAUMONT	33.85	14.35
ORANGE	34.45	14.95

Tickets on sale August 14 and 15. Limit for return 30 days when reading to Mexico City, and 10 days when reading to Monterey.
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SPECIAL TRAIN.——DINING CAR. Etc.
GEO. D. HUNTER, City Passenger Agent. 217 Main Street.

WORST EVER KNOWN

First Reports of the Storm Were Far Underestimated.

LOSS OF LIFE HAS BEEN GREAT

There Were 500 Persons Killed and Drowned at Ponce.

BODIES OF TWO HUNDRED RECOVERED

The People Are in Dire Distress for Want of Food.

STARVATION THREATENS THE POPULATION

The War Department Will Forward Transports with Rations for the Sufferers.

Washington, August 11.—The weather bureau has issued the following hurricane bulletin:

11:40 a. m.—Hurricane center apparently approaching Nassau, Bahama. Storm still increases in intensity upon reaching the gulf stream and will probably reach the South Atlantic coast towns of the United States tonight.

Williams,
Acting Superintendent, Weather Bureau.

San Juan, Porto Rico,, August 11.—It is now said that 500 persons lost their lives at Ponce during the hurricane. Terrible distress prevails there.

Arroyo, on the south coast, has been destroyed.

Sixteen lives were lost and the town is still submerged in water. At Guayamo the houses are still standing. Seven persons were killed there. A number of houses were pillaged, squads of soldiers were unable to maintain order and starvation threatens the population.

The water supply of San Juan has been stopped. The Comno Springs hotel has been wrecked. It belonged to the Porto Rico company of Philadelphia.

Ponce, August 11.—The worst storm ever experienced here struck this place Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock and lasted two hours. It came from the northeast. Ponce was flooded at midday and 300 persons were drowned. Two hundred bodies, mostly those of poor people, including many children, have been recovered. All the buildings are damaged and hundreds have been destroyed. The soldiers and firemen worked all night heroically saving lives.

There is no drinking water, gas, ice or electric lights. The commissary stores at Playa were destroyed, the city is short of food and the army officers are distributing rations.

Fifteen vessels in the harbor were driven ashore.

The weather bureau predicted the storm, but it is claimed Ponce was not warned.

A mob of 1000 persons threatened the Alcalde Porrator Doria, but they were dispersed by the Fifth cavalry. The alcalde has been deposed on account of the negligence.

Major Myers of the Eleventh Infantry is acting as alcalde in response to popular demand.

The sum of $5000 will be needed to clean the streets. The sanitary condition is serious and assistance is needed.

All the crops are totally ruined, the wires are all down and little news is obtainable from the interior. Abonita, including the barracks, has been destroyed, but no lives were lost there.

Juan Diaz has been destroyed. Forty-six lives were lost there. Arroyo, Guayama, Salinas and San Isabel are reported to have been totally demolished. The railway between Ponce and Yauco is destroyed and the military road is impassable. The river is flowing over the road for two miles.

Mayaguez escaped without permanent injury. The peons have gone to San Juan and its vicinity, which is comparatively uninjured.

Washington, August 11.—The war department today received a cablegram from General Davis, giving the fuller details of the damage done in Porto Rico by the hurricane. General Davis says a famine is impending and asks authority to issue rations to the destitute.

The message is dated yesterday and says: Later reports show that the hurricane was far more severe in interior and southern parts of the island than here. Data for estimate of number of Porto Ricans who have lost everything is deficient, but I am forced to believe the number on the island can not fall below 100 souls and a famine is impending. I ask that 2,500,000 bushels of rice and beans, equal quantities of each, be immediately shipped on transports to Ponce. Some here. Urgent appeals to all post commanders for food for the destitute. Am I authorized to relieve distress by food issues? Rice and beans only desired. There have been many deaths of natives by falling walls. So far only one soldier reported dangerously injured. Several towns reported entirely demolished. As yet have reports from only four ports.

Complete destruction of all barracks at two and two others, one company of each, had barracks destroyed. Troops are in canvas. No reports yet from the largest posts, Ponce and Maguez, but they were in the vortex of the storm. At least half of the people in Porto Rico subsist entirely on fruit and vegetables and storm has entirely destroyed this source of support. Davis.

The war department has taken prompt action on General Davis' report and the army transport McPherson has been ordered to sail from New York to San Juan and Ponce next Monday with supplies to relieve the destitute in Porto Rico. Acting Commissioner Schwan has ordered the purchase in New York of 600,000 pounds of rice and 600,000 pounds of beans to be shipped on the McPherson. Such other food supplies as may be obtained at the time the McPherson sails will be sent on that ship.

The following dispatch addressed to General Schwan has been received at the war department today:

San Juan, Porto Rico, August 11.—My country is devastated. For God's sake help us! Captain Luego Vana.

This captain is one of the Porto Ricans whom General Schwan met during the campaign.

Washington, August 11.—Secretary Root has prepared an appeal to the people of the United States for aid for those who have suffered in Porto Rico by the recent hurricane. This action was taken upon receipt of telegram from President McKinley, suggesting that it be done. The subsistence department of the army in Porto Rico has been directed to render such temporary aid as it can until supplies arrive.

Seattle, Wash., August 11.—Captain Mason of a steam whaler confirms the reports of damage to the shipping in the storm which raged around and off Michaels Island on July 11. The wrecks of thirty river steamers thrown indiscriminately on the banks of the Island Bear is testimony of the fury of the gale. Of this number Captain Mason says twenty-five were wrecked beyond repair. The full damage, he stated, exceeds $300,000. He saw $20,000 steamers offered for $2000 and the other wrecks for $100. The city of Scuawa was overflowed. The captain could not remember the names of other wrecked vessels.

Washington, August 11.—The war department today took prompt measures for the relief of the hurricane sufferers in Porto Rico. When the press dispatches and General Davis' advices made known the extent of the disaster, steps were immediately taken to send supplies and the transport McPherson was ordered put in readiness to sail from New York on Monday next. She will carry rations and other necessaries.

Secretary of War Root this afternoon sent the following appeal to the mayors of all cities of more than 150,000 people: "Sir: The governor general of Porto Rico confirms the reports that upon the 8th instant a hurricane swept over that island, entirely demolishing many of the towns, destroying many lives and reducing so far as he can estimate not less than 100,000 of the inhabitants to the condition of absolute destitution without homes or food. Unless immediate and effective relief is given these unfortunates will perish of famine.

"Under these conditions the president deems that an appeal should be made to the humanity of the American people. It is an appeal to their patriotism also for the inhabitants of Porto Rico have freely and gladly submitted themselves to the guardianship of the United States and have voluntarily surrendered the protection of Spain, to which they were formerly entitled, confidently relying upon more generous and beneficent treatment at our hands. The highest considerations of honor and good faith, united with the promptings of humanity require from the United States a generous response to the demand of Porto Rican distress.

"This department has directed the immediate distribution of rations to the sufferers by the army in Porto Rico so far as it is in the power of the executive, but in the absence of any appropriation we must rely largely upon private contributions.

"I beg that you will call upon the public spirited and humane people of your city to take active and immediate measures in the exigency. The government transport McPherson will be sent directly from the port of New York to Porto Rico on Monday, the 14th instant, to carry all supplies of food which can be obtained. Further transports will be sent at future dates, of which public notice will be given.

"Any committee charged with the raising of funds will receive full information and advice upon communicating with this department. Very respectfully,

"Elihu Root,
"Secretary of War."

A report has been received at the war department from an officer at San Juan, Porto Rico, estimating that the number of killed amounts to 500. The same officer says a very serious condition of affairs exists at Ponce.

Washington, August 12.—The West Indian hurricane tonight is rapidly approaching Nassau, Bahama Islands, where the barometer has fallen considerable since morning, and the wind had increased to a velocity of thirty-six miles an hour at 5:40 o'clock this afternoon. Rain has been falling all day. There is still a possibility that the storm may curve out to sea. The officials of the weather bureau now express the opinion that it will be felt tomorrow morning. Hurricane warnings have been sent out over the State by telegraph and telephone and every measure taken to put the inhabitants on their guard.

The maps on file in the weather bureau show the course which has been followed by the August hurricanes for the last twenty-one years, but there appears to be very little consistency in the direction which they have taken. The storm is now traveling much slower than during the early period of its existence, the total distance covered having been about 12,200 miles. Its center now appears to be a little southeast of Nassau.

A report received by the signal office from Major Glassford, stationed at San Juan, Porto Rico, states that the telegraph wires in the island are down and that the offices have suffered from the storm. Considerable money will be required to restore them to their former condition.

Weather bureau officials are surprised to hear that the town of Ponce was not warned of the approaching storm, as stated in press dispatches from that city. San Juan, the capital, is the distributing point for the island of Porto Rico, and prominent notification of the approaching hurricane was given to the weather bureau officials there.

DE ROULEDE ARRESTED.

The Parisian Agitator Will Have No Chance to Demonstratee.

Paris, August 12.—M. Paul De Roulede, founder of the League of Patriots and a member of the chamber of deputies for the Angolument division of Charente, was arrested at 4 o'clock this morning at his estate at Croissy, near Paris.

TRIAL OF DREYFUS.

The Question Is Between the Generals and the Prisoner.

IT IS JEW AND PRETORIANS.

Mercier Hopes to Absolve Himself in the Excitement

WHICH HE WILL ATTEMPT TO CREATE.

The Secret Dossier If Made Public Would Cause Dishonor.

FIGHT BETWEEN HONOR AND THE ARMY

Officers of the Latter Have Become Dupes and Are Now Trying to Conceal Their Stupidity.

London, August 12.—The Times correspondent at Rennes says: Four days of examination have revealed the utter flimsiness of the secret dossiers. The diplomatic dossier contains proofs of Esterhazy's treason, attested by foreign agents.

(Special to The Post.)

New York, August 11.—A special cable from Paris to the Herald says: Clemenceau, in Aurore, expresses regret that Esterhazy did not appear as a witness in the Dreyfus case, but says that for the demonstration of the truth he will be advantageously replaced by Mercier, whose only service has been to kill 600 French soldiers by criminal neglect of duty.

"The question is," says Arthur Meyer, "between the generals and Dreyfus. This proves that the Jesuitical spirit desires, not to prove the innocence or guilt of Dreyfus, but to exercise a pressure on the court martial. It is thus formulated: These are the judges between the Jew and the Pretorians. Mercier, who is haunted by his terror, says, 'Him, or me.'

"This is another stupidity. The guilty Dreyfus would not absolve the crimes of Mercier.

"No one has a right to condemn the man, whoever he may be, on accusations of which he is kept in ignorance. No one has the right to produce forgeries as evidence.

"This argument is above the comprehension of Mercier, or else he hopes to save himself in the excitement he is about to create. The near future in this case may convince him of his error."

M. Cornely, in the Figaro, writes:

"So this secret dossier will occupy, till Saturday next, the time of the court.

"The dossier, which will be the stupefaction of future centuries when the time will have come when all Frenchmen will understand what justice is and cease to obey that national instruction which causes them to see a guilty man in every one accused, which prevents them from admitting that a tribunal can be deceived; yes, this secret dossier, when history comes to be written history disfigured today by gentlemen of the pen who would make excellent hangmen's assistants, will cause a scandal and dishonor to the epoch through which we are passing.

"This is why, if we were men, if we were citizens, if we were not slaves disguised as sovereigns, who have taken the whipping post between each vote, we would rise up and demand communication and public discussion of every document without exception which has connection with the Dreyfus affair.

"What! Would we risk war? And why?

"Where is there a sovereign man enough to make war on us apropos the document proving that he attempted to find out our secrets as we seek to find out his?

"What people would be stupid enough to follow this sovereign?

"Would Europe permit such unjustifiable aggression?

"No, no.

"Partisans of closed doors do not tremble before war. That argument was exploded years ago.

"Today we have no longer to fear them. They tremble before the burst of laughter which would shake the world if the sun should light up the stupidities before which the army, which costs us a milliard a year, bows.

"They fear showing the army how certain officers became easy dupes, stupid gossips, and then persist in their error from vanity, that abominable fault which ruins, and will continue to ruin men.

"Enough of mystification. Out with the secret dossier."

Rennes, August 11.—The Dreyfus court martial concluded its secret sessions at 9 o'clock this morning, when M. Paleologue, of the foreign office, completed his explanations of the secret dossier. The court will meet again at 6:30 tomorrow morning.

The London Times' statement this morning of the late Lieutenant Colonel Henry's treason caused considerable sensation here and was much discussed among the newspaper men and all others interested in the trial. The affirmation of Henry that Esterhazy was his accomplice is only a confirmation of what has already many times been stated. But what was regarded as important is the fact that the Times announced it in such categorical terms, demonstrating, according to the views of the friends of Dreyfus here, that the Times people have actually seen documents, submitted to them by more than one of the general military attaches presenting the strongest proof of Henry's guilt, and, moreover, that this announcement can not preclude the publication by the Times of the actual documents.

The correspondent here of the Associated Press spoke to Major Firzinetti, who was governor of the Cherche Midi prison during Dreyfus' incarceration there and who was cashiered on account of his declarations favorable to Dreyfus' attitude while in prison.

Forzinetti said: "The Times' statement confirms my own views. I was convinced of Henry's complicity from the very first and always regarded him as the real culprit."

Regarding the court martial he said: "Tomorrow will undoubtedly be the most important day of the whole proceedings, as General Mercier and M. Cassimir-Perrier, former president of France, will be confronted and a most dramatic scene is inevitable, as the declarations in certain matters differ on essential points."

FROM THE OUTSIDE.

The Trial as Viewed by Mrs. Emily Crawford.

(Copyrighted, 1899, by Associated Press.)

Rennes, August 11.—All the notable Dreyfusites here are satisfied with the result of the examination of the secret dossier. They have urged their newspaper friends in Paris to clamor for full publicity, knowing that if it be granted the military and nationalist parties will be utterly disgraced.

They are convinced that the diplomatic and war office dossiers teem with forgeries. Of course their impressions are derived from the five counsels present at the examining of these precious papers.

Publicity would mean the pillory for General De Boisdeffre and company. They would be pelted with their own foul eggs, while Captain Dreyfus would be cleared in the face of the whole world.

The royal caste here is furious at the turn things are taking. The correspondent of a Russian paper told me today that in a cafe frequented by officers he unfolded the Dreyfusite aurore to read. All the military men nearby scowled at him in a marked manner and after coughing and otherwise showing their disapproval went in a body to the other end of the cafe, as if the Russian were a leper.

All the officers at the Military club came out on the club balcony when a bundle of Dreyfusite journals was being burned in the streets and they approved the performance by unmistakable gestures. One now sees the wisdom of the order forbidding officers not attached to the garrison to stay here during the trial.

I hear that in unclean imaginations, the secret military dossier exceeds the worst topshelf literature. The scribe who worked for Henry and his friends did not hesitate to forge letters from high diplomatic personages. Nearly a score of love letters from a lady high in the diplomatic sphere are supposed to have been seized in the dispatch box of an embassy during transmission to Berlin. The person whom she is represented as having had as a correspondent was an attache of an embassy there and much younger than the lady, who is made to appear impassioned, "quite an Eloise." Of course she mentions the Dreyfus affair and asked the attache to help whitewash the unfortunate captain.

M. Jaures expects that there will be a great exposure of a conspiracy against the republic and that the high handed measures of the present government against certain generals will be more than justified by the coming revelations.

The examination of the diplomatic dossier was concluded this morning. Dreyfus, on leaving the Lycee, looked brighter than he has ever previously appeared. Tomorrow's proceedings will be memorable in the history of the affair.

M. Demange has lost no opportunity to conciliate the seven judges. He has let himself be interviewed in order to say nice things about them. That astute advocate understands human nature. He remembers that the seven judges are ignorant of law, always ready to sacrifice equity to authority, quick to scout at the rules of evidence and are members of a caste who think they have been attacked by Jews, cosmopolitans and foreigners. Some of them boast of not having read the report of the inquiry before the court of cassation because they thought it was published at the cost of a syndicate and intended to cast odium on the army.

M. Labori is naturally sanguine and has always hoped, but I can gather that both counsel still see that the judges are deeply and strongly prejudiced against the prisoner and will try to condemn him on his looks, if all legal evidence breaks down.

All the officers now read the Petit Journal, which they had never looked at before the Dreyfus affair. The venom and vitriol of the Intransigeant are grateful to them because employed against their enemies, real or supposed. They devour the Gaulois, Echo de Paris and Eclair because these papers respond to their own sentiments.

I have just learned that the secret dossier contains shocking reports of the spies of a German prince who has filled high situations under the empire during the last twenty years and one of them in Paris, a city he often visits.

There is only one prince answering to this description—Chancellor Von Hohenlohe.

The police spies who informed the intelligence department at the war office of the prince's secret designs did not attempt to establish a connection between them and the Dreyfus case. But one must suppose that the sole object has been to prevent the dossier ever being published. It would be necessary to go to Scutonis for parallels of the horrors with which this famous or infamous collection of documents seeks.

As matters stand I think that M. De Mange now thinks that the two dossiers furnish him with a case too strong for even the officers to resist. Any way he looks really hopeful. Emily Crawford.

WILL IT BE WAR?

A Steamer Has Arrived at Delagoa Bay with a

CARGO OF MUNITIONS OF WAR

Consisting of Cartridges and Other Supplies for the Transvaal.

ACTIVE PREPARATIONS BEING MADE.

Troops from India Making Ready to Go to South Africa.

A THREAT MADE AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN

In Case of War, the Boers Will Wreck the Mines and Ruin the Machinery.

Lorenzo Marques, Delagoa Bay, Aug. 11—The German East African steamer Reichsrath has arrived here from Hamburg, Naples and Mombaza with 400 cases of cartridges and other war stores for the Transvaal.

Bombay, August 11.—Preparations are about completed for the dispatch of 10,000 troops to South Africa. A number of transports are in readiness in Indian waters and in the event of war troops will be embarked simultaneously here, at Karachee and at Calcutta.

London, August 11.—The Boer organ in London, the Standard and Diggers News, today publishes a Johannesburg dispatch threatening Great Britain in event of war, saying the Boers are determined to wreck the mines and irretrievably ruin the general body of shareholders by blowing up millions worth of machinery, adding that war will mean the absolute ruin of Johannesburg, both as a town and as a mining center, and saying:

"While it will doubtless end in a victory for England, the price of that victory will be the ruin of thousands who ought to consider the price they must pay before authorizing the government to declare war."

Another Johannesburg dispatch, however, predicts further concessions and says: "The reply of the Transvaal to the proposal for a joint inquiry is being delayed until the government has prepared a scheme granting the Uitlanders immediate and substantial representation, as, then Transvaal will make every effort to avert intervention in the interior of the country."

London, August 12.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail says: I learn from a prominent ex-reformer, that the Transvaal government has prepared warrants for the arrest of prominent reformers whenever the condition of affairs at Johannesburg provide an excuse. The presumption is that President Kruger means to secure the leading Uitlanders as hostages.

Italy Wants a Railroad Concession.

Pekin, August 11.—The Italian minister has asked the Tsung Li Yamen for a railroad concession to an Italian syndicate. The request will probably be refused, as Italy has lost prestige since the San Mun affair.

WHERE MR. BRYAN STANDS.

A Very Clear Statement in Few Words Shows His Position.

Chicago, August 11.—The following telegraphic correspondence passed today between the Tribune and William J. Bryan:

W. J. Bryan, Petersburg, Ill.:

Chicago, August 11.—Correspondents at Pana and Lithia Springs, Ill., report you as saying you do not care whether you are the democratic nominee for president one year hence or not if the precepts of the party are carried out. Will you kindly wire the Tribune what you did say and your exact position in this matter?

The Tribune.

The Chicago Tribune:

Petersburg, Ill., August 11.—Have not seen the report mentioned. Whether I shall be a candidate depends largely on the platform. The platform should fit the party, and the candidate should fit the platform.

William J. Bryan.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.