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TODAY'S WEATHER-Fair, with easterly YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem-

perature, 43; minimum temperature, 20; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, FEB. 14.

A BRIEF REVIEW.

The Pierce bill, though there was a weak attempt to disguise it, was leveled at the Associated Press. The object was to compel an association that collects news by its own enterprise and at its own expense, for publication in newspapers owned by its members, to share that news with others-though it has no favors of any kind from government or from telegraphe, and has no means whatever of performing the functions of a common carrier.

The attempt has failed because it was irrational. More it was foolish and absurd. It was an attempt to deprive persons, by legislation, of their lawful and rightful property. It could not have succeeded had the bill passed, for the courts of the land will not permit such attacks on the rights of property to succeed. The most and worst that could have proceeded from it would be the annoyance it would cause to those whose rights of property and business had been attacked, and the impulse it would give to similar efforts in other directions. No legislative body could pass an act of this kind, and yet concede that any rights of private property re-

Though the Democratic members of the Senate voted for this bill, we assume they would not have done socertainly not all of them-could their votes have carried it. But they could save themselves from importunity or attack by yielding to the demand of a Democratic newspaper-or of those who are endeavoring to found one-by votthe bill; knowing that the bill wouldn't pass anyway. Let us do the Senators who stood for the bill the credit of supposing that they voted for this assault on the rights of private property and business, merely for parisan buncombe. These Senators would like to keep their own property, of course. But they couldn't if other perwere not allowed to keep theirs.

It has been shown that the news reports of the Associated Press are gathered, written and telegraphed entirely at the expense of the members of the association. Further, that neither this association nor any of its members have any advantage whatever in telegraphic rates over others. It is a field of enterprise or business open to all who desire to publish newspapers. Having no franchises, no preferential advantages, there is nothing in the Associated Press for government to regulate. Since it has be means of carrying news, it is

Senator Pierce began his statement with misrepresentation. He said: intent of this bill is to bring about conditions in the matter of news publication that exist in several states, notably in Nebraska, and in Illinois." In fact, no such conditions as the Senator as sumed exist in Nebraska, in Illinois, or in other states. The Associated Press operates in those states in precisely the same way as in Oregon. The decision he cites from the Supreme Court of Illinois is obsolete, because the conditions on which it was rendered no longer exist, As organized in that state, the Associated Press could have been a common carrier, as it had the right to build telegraph lines and otherwise to exercise the right of eminent domain—though it never had done so. The mandate that it should serve all papers alfke was based on this ground. The Associated Press of today is not amenable to this judgment. It is organized under the laws of the State of New York. It has no capital stock and no power to build or operate telegraph lines; its articles expressly declare that it is not to sell news, make profits or declare dividends This attempt in Oregon is the first yet made in any legislature to compel its members to share with others the reports gathered and written for itself and uri, in an elaborate opinion, in which all the Judges concur, has denied the demand of the St. Louis Star to a copy of the news reports of the present Assoclated Press. No court could hold anything else, so long as any right of pri-

Associated Press is not a public news agency. It doesn't gather news for the public, oor for public distribution. It gathers news solely for its own bers, for publication in newspapers owned or represented by them. This is the only object of its existence. It object changed to that of a collector of news for sale. This would destroy the whole purpose of its being. Had it any of news, there would doubtless be good reason to legislate it out of existence; but it has no feature of privi-lege or monopoly. Everybody may

vate property is to stand.

gather news, and everybody may telegraph it, on equal terms. No Legistature, of any state, is ever going to be so absurd as to declare that news reports are not the property of those who gather and telegraph them.

BRYAN AT COLUMBUS.

All agree as to the escape from the true Democratic fold. But the identity of the ninety-and-nine continues the theme of unavailing dispute and recrimination. Which outfit is really lost-the ten tribes of Bryanism or the Judah and Benjamin of Cleveland and Vilas?

It is a pleasure to refer this controversy, as the close observer must, to that ancient and honorable recipe-confusion of terms. The wandering Bryan has in mind and the wandering Cleveland has in mind are two entirely different wanderings. The state of being found and never having been lost is entirely different in the minds of the two factions. Hence there can be no agreement as to which specific phenomenon is referable to the general law,

In other words, while the Bryanites are wandering in the wilderness of in tellectual vacuity, the Cleveland band is lost in the desert of party irregularity. No Gold Democrat can contend that the Chicago proceeding of 1896 was irregular in form or invalid in procedure, however much he may deplore the menta and moral obliquity which guided it. And he would be equally precarious of position who should maintain that results have approved the course taken at Chicago in 1896 or at Kansas City in 1900. Dearly as Democrate love "principles," almost any of them can tell you how the battle of 1896 might have been won if he had been in control and directing it just a little differently. The Cleveland tribes bolted the party fold, the Bryanites jumped the fence of political prudence.

But the larger question arises as to which of the two wings has been the truer to Democratic "principles." Bryan is true to the principles of 1896 and 1900 which is not perhaps so heroic as it looks, considering the fact that he dictated them on both occasions. Bryan is simply true to Bryan, and for such fidelity he should not expect an immoderate measure of veneration. But it is the contention of the Cleveland element that the party itself got lost in 1896, and that it then turned its back upon traditional Democratic principles. In their view, therefore, this prolonged famine in the wilderness of no offices is the due punishment for the idolatry of 1896.

Unfortunately for the general peace of mind and that contentment which can only follow the settlement of vexed questions, the Cleveland contention is not susceptible of direct proof. It is true that many Democrate have been for ionest money. Bayard was, and Senator Francis Kernan. But Blaine and Haves stood for the gold standard and Pendleton was among the crazlest of cheap-money enthusiasts. Seymour is offset by Thurman, and the Bland-Allison law fitly enshrines in its name the equal culpability of the two parties. If Carlisle was once as strong for silver as McKinley was, where else shall we go for an interpretation of Democratic "principles" on money, unless to the platform of 1896, which came as the result of the fierce discussions that had raged ever since Cleveland was inaugurated in 1892?

There is no more ground for charging ecreancy to Democratic principles upon the platform of 1896 than there is in charging recreancy to Democratic principles upon the "anti-imperialist" utterances in the Kansas City platform of 1900. Bayard and Seymour were no more eminent exponents of honest money than Jefferson and Polk were as exponents of expansion. Cleveland is as far from Jefferson on expansion as Bryan is from Jefferson on coinage. It inescapable conclusion, therefore that Democratic "principles," on money or on any National policy, are subject to violent change without notice. There is nothing in the Cleveland contention that the platform of 1896 turned its back on anything in Democratic precedent which the Chicago convention was bound to respect; and from a party standpoint Mr. Bryan is strictly within his rights in his Columbus denunciation of the Gold Democrats. But from no other standpoint. There

s a higher standard than the standard

of party loyalty, and that standard is truth. A party is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end, and that end is the Nation's welfare. The party man that is worth while to his country is that man who, like the lover in the old poem, "could not love thee, dear, so nuch, loved I not honor more." The party man that is worth while adheres to his party not because it is his party out because he sees in it the instrument of advancing truth and promoting the welfare of his country. It is evident that Mr. Bryan is not this kind of party man. He is incensed with the Gold Democrate because they contrived his own defeat, and he confesses a loyalty to party that transcends loyalty to the truth. It is sufficient revelation of his intellectual extremity that he is compelled to resort to the ridiculous assertion that the free-silver declarations of the Chicago platform are true now as then. There is probably not a mature mind in the country but knows the as-sertion is false. The inevitableness of the gold standard is universally acknowledged by all but Bryan. His usefulness seems restricted to his function as a living monument to his own stupid-

A week ago Secretary Root in speech before the Union League Club, of New York City, confessed that negro suffrage had failed after a trial of more than a generation to produce the result expected when the fourteenth and fifeenth amendments were added to the Constitution. The failure of negro suffrage is not of and by itself an ominous fact; the ominous fact is the seem ing hopelessness of the elevation of the negro at the South, so far as it depends upon the intelligent aid and sympath; of the ruling white classes. An able South Carolina editor publishes in the Springfield Republican a long letter regarding the attitude of the South toward the negro. With that frankness and directness that is characteristic of Southern men, this editor bluntly says that the negro of the South is today essen tially a slave, and will remain so; that the only race freed by Lincoln was the poor white; that the white people as a whole will not tolerate the negro excepas a menial; that it has the power to keep him there, and will exercise that power at all hazards; that the negro is bound to mental service so long as he remains in any considerable numbers at the South; that equal industrial consideration with the whites is as much out of the question as equal social and

Brute force will be employed to keep

the negro down whenever necessary, and lynchings and murder will be occasionally resorted to, and finally this educated Southern editor with brutal frankness asks the negro sympathizers at the North what they are going to do about it. He says truly that our only recourse would be to renew war, We could not triumph save by extermination of the whites. The South knows perfectly well that the North could not afford to war upon them; the we could not if we would. All this is true. The North will not attempt to do anything about it, because the bitter experience of time has proved that nothing can be done for the negro except what the South chooses to do. The fate of the negro will be fixed by the South, and the ominous thing is that an able, educated Southern man should say that the immovable fate of the negro is to remain a peon at the South kept in a menial position by force, and, when necessary, by force in excess of law. Of course, so long as this determination is universal among the leaders of the ruling classes at the South, the negro will remain exactly what he is to-

President Lincoln, this Southern edior says, chattered the slaveholding aristocracy and distributed the black millions among the poor white masses, who are now winning wealth by the peon labor of negroes. The negroes work on the farms at 30 to 40 cents a day, and are multiplying the number of white landlords. All Lincoln did was to change the tenure of servitude, to sponge out the name of the bond but leaving the bond itself unimpaired. Is there anything in sight that promises anything better than the perpetuation of quasi-slavery and peonage at the South for the negro? The negro could not hope to resort to arms. A race too weak and ignorant in thirty years to use and courageously exercise the suffrage is not a race to put up a desperite, organized insurrection against "op pression." An appeal to public justice would be useless at the South, where the educated leaders of opinion hold "the negro treated in any other way than as a mental becomes a savage; his subjection by brute force is necessary to our own survival as a separate race."

If the negro is hopeless of an appeal to insurrection, if he is hopeless of an appeal to public sentiment, what is left him? There is left to him the appeal to the strongest force of all, to that of public policy. It will not take many years of government of eight millions of negroes by force to make it clear that such conditions as would result would not pay. The negro serfs and peons will gradually become either a pauperized class whose support will severely tax the state or they will become a class of desperate criminals, who will be found expensive to hunt down and destroy. The negro will eventually get equality in industrial opportunity and some share in the Government by economic consideration, for no state can afford to perpetuate conditions that are sure to breed paupers and criminals. The South cannot afford to hold the negro by force in a state of industrial and political subjection. It must ultimately abandon the attempt. An appeal to humane considerations may easily fail, but an appeal to economic considerations is not easily silenced, as it touches every taxpayer's pocket.

THE LAW OF ORGANIZED LABOR. If the anthracite inquiry has accomolished and is to accomplish nothing more than the present exhaustive discussion at Philadelphia, it will perhaps be worth all it cost in bringing the controversy out into the light of day, where intelligent criticism can deal with it and where public opinion can take prompted it. shape as to its attitude toward the em-Baer's long and in many respects admirable speech is a concession to public opinion very far removed from the laonic utterance "nothing to arbitrate," and his remarks teem with testimony that the questions of labor and capital are at last correctly apprehended by capital as matters of public concern and not mere details of private business to be adjusted in secret with no accountability from either side to society en masse. Very pregnant and engaging is this passage from President Baer's address:

In general, no one denies the right of men organize for any lawful purpose, but the right to organize and the power of the organization when organized must still be governed and con-trolled by the general law of the land under which our individual and property rights are protected. We concede to organized labor the same rights that we claim for organized cap-ital. Both must keep within the law. Ther-cannot be one law for citizens and corporations and another for labor organizations.

Our main purpose is to point out the fact that the status of organized labor toward the law is yet in a fluid state and cannot be appealed to as something fixed and known. But the quoted pass age needs a footnote or two to remove its possibly unintended fallacies. One s that citizens and corporations belong in one class and labor organizations in another class. Citizens are not to be set apart from either labor's or capital's camp. Observe also that Mr. Baer must be guilty of conscious or unconscious mental reservation when he extends to organized labor the same rights he claims for organized capital; for it is an exiom with the operators that the delegation of power to agents enjoyed by the officers of the coal corporation is inadmissible when exercised by agents of delegated power from the workmen. Few miners have ever talked with the owners of the mines for whon Mr. Baer is walking delegate; but the operators find it improper to recognize

the officers of the miners' labor trust, Mr. Baer says that the general law of the land must govern organized la-bor. Now it is perfectly clear that the only law he has in mind is the law against violence, and the only aspect of organized labor which he admits to his purview is its occasional outbreak. The law of the land does include riots, but it includes other things that might be mentioned-for example, the law of Pennsylvania against the company store and that section of the constitution of Pennsylvania which forbids railroads to own coal mines. To say that there cannot be one law for corporations and mother for labor organizations may mean simply that a corporation must not get up to the night and sandbag a nonunion miner-which would not seri ouely inconvenience either the corporation itself or its gentlemanly officials in Philadelphia. The laws controlling trusts will not serve to suppress lawless strikers, nor will the law against disorderly conduct reach conspiracies in restraint of trade. The law of the land s more comprehensive than Mr. Baer

ems to apprehend. But what is the law of the land concerning labor organizations? Well, it is very largely yet indeterminate. The law in its complete sense is not statutes

alone. It is a composite of common law, Roman, Teutonic, English; of statutor; enactments; of judicial rulings, and of public opinion. The source of law is not statutes. The source of law is experience. American life, like every growing national life, is full of institutions, in jurisprudence as in everything else, that are in a formative period. The status of these institutions in society is in a state of flux. We do not know what the law of the land is until the jury comes in or the United States Supren Court hands down its opinion, or the returns are counted in November. There s the law of the automobile, and of the trolley, and of the sky-scraper, and of fuel oil, and of wireless telegraphy, and of debts owed by Latin America to Europe, and of Precidential interference with labor troubles. Out of experience we shall in due time get a law of the land; but meanwhile it would be somewhat premature to dogmatize.

It is so with the law of the land regarding organized labor. What it is we do not, as yet, know. In general we know that the courts are leaning more favorably toward labor than they did a dozen years ago, just as they are leaning less favorably to railroad land grants, less favorably to trusts. In general we know that public opinion sets more store by the lowly and the poor and less by the rich and proud. In general we can see that society turns more expectantly to the man trained in poverty's hard school than to the ecion of aristocracy. In general we have keener eyes for the grievances of the striker and are slower to denounce him offhand as a pestiferous creature fit only for jail. But the law of organized labor is yet indeterminate, as is the law of organized capital. Mr. Baer himself has written one important provision of that law which will never be repealed; and that is that never hereafter as heretofore will capital undertake to impose its will upon labor without "a decent respect to the opinions of mankind."

The citizens of Anaconda, one of the

copper cities of Montana, are sorely afflicted with the stifling vapors that have ascended from the chimneys of the emelters. Loaded with the fumes of arsenic, antimony, zinc and sulphuric acid, these vapors have been anything but agreeable or healthful. Experiments looking to their elimination have been carried on for the past three months, and it has finally been discovered that by cooling the gases of the volatilized compounds they will condense, and by building fluce sufficiently large so that the velocity of the gases will be very low, the condensed particles will settle at the bottom of the flue, allowing only the permanent gases to escape. These are not injurious, either to vegetable or animal life, hence it is thought that the "smoke nuisance" the copper city can be abated. A flue eixty feet in width and twenty feet deep will be constructed at once in connection with the new smelter of the Ana conda Company, which will pass its games into a monster stack thirty feet in diameter and 300 feet high, delivering the permanent gases and products of the combustion at an elevation so high above the valley that no trace of their fumes will load the air of the town or the valley below. The expense will be enormous, but if there is a business that can stand it, it is the copper busi-The effort of the company to abate this disagreeable feature of its industry cannot be charged wholly to its regard for suffering humanity, since it was undertaken to quiet clamor raised against the location of its new reduction works. However, no one is inclined to ook the gift horse in the mouth, and the people will accept the relief promised without questioning the motive that

Pity for the sufferinge of the unsheltered, unfed flocks and herds on the great Wyoming ranges is intensified by late dispatches which tell of snow lying several feet deep on the blizzard-ewep plains of that state and literally filling the gulches, to which the animals had retreated for shelter from the biting blasts. The human negligence that sub jects dumb brutes to such suffering distills the very essence of cruelty. Against it law and public sentiment are alike powerless, both having been evoked in years past against it without avail. It was supposed that financial considerations would induce cattle and sheepmer to provide against the decimation of their flocks and herds by exposure to the blizzards of Winter on the ranges, but they probably argue that beef and mut ton will go higher because of ecarcity thus making good the loss of stock Hence the wretched brutes are left to perish by hundreds upon the storm swept ranges.

Chief Joseph's mission to Washington in so far as it relates to the restoration of the lands in the Wallowa Valley to his people, is hopeless. The time has gone by when white people can be dispossessed of their homes by Indians. This fact was made clear to Jeseph on his last visit to Washington; hence it is probably only the ostensible object of his present visit, the real motive being his human desire to be made much of in the official and social circles of the Nation. This is a perfectly legitimate desire, since it has human nature for its basis and the rulers of the earth are

Chief Joseph, disdaining the swallow tail, but majestically and gorgeously blanketed, attended the Army and Navy reception at the White House Thursday evening. The taciturn old chieftain of a vanished tribe is said to have been delighted over the attention shown him by uniformed braves of the conquering race, as well as by the sensation he created among the multitude of women who, doubtless to his primitive idea of the use of clothing, needed blanketing. All of which proves that vanity is neither a vice of civilization nor a trait distinctly feminine.

It is natural and reasonable that each of the soldiers of the Second Oregon should desire a copy of the history of the regiment. The order heretofore made would not furnish more than one third of the number of copies required. Hence the request that a sufficient number of copies be supplied is reasonable It will gratify the pride of the coldier and be a stimulation to the patriotis of his descendants.

Though granted an absolute divorce, it is said that the ex-Crown Princess of Saxony cannot marry Giron and get recognition of her marriage under the German law. Is there in this statement the lurking possibility that the pair may come to the United States? Liberty is a fine thing, but it subjects a people to sundry pains and perils at times from which they would fain escape.

SEMI-CENTENARY OF WASHINGTON Seattle Times.

Washington, formerly a part of Oregon

was organized as a separate territory under an act of Congress passed March 2 1852. The second day of March next will therefore he the 50th anniversary of the birth of the territory, now the 33rd state in population, and of the bestowal upon this commonwealth of the distinguished name of the Father of His Country. The coming semi-centenary of Washington should be celebrated with appropriate exercises and demonstrations. Less than three weeks intervene before the 2d of March but the Legislature of the state is on and there is ample time for preparations if the mater be taken up by the Legislature and state officers at once. The 50th anniversary of the establishment of the territory of Washington should be celebrated at the state capital Commemorative exercises should be held the Legislature and state officers attend ing in a body. Professor Meany, of the State University, the first authority in the state on historical matters, should be invited to deliver an address, and other eloquent and distinguished sons of the young commonwealth should be heard. The Governor of the state and the state Legislature should extend an invitation to all the surviving residents of the territory at the time of its organization in 1853, to assemble at the state capital on the 2d of March. Every early pioneer should be invited, not only to attend the celebration but also to contribute a statement of his or her personal experiences in the early days to the State Historical Society for preservation in the archives of that useful state institution. The next number of the Washington Historian, the occasional publication of the society, should be devoted to the semi-centennial celebration and to the historical papers then presented, and the reminiscences of the pioneers which this interesting memorial will evoke, should be given to the public in permanent form in the Historical Society's magazine sariy as possible.

It may be in order further to suggest to the Legislature and state officers and to the citizens of Olympia that a banquet should also be given at the state capital on the evening of March 2 in honor of the anniversary. Many citizens from various parts of the state would be proud to at-tend the exercises and participate in the celebration. Indeed, it would be quite in keeping with a proper regard for the im-portance of the event to be commemorates for the Legislature to cause the National guard of the state to be mobilized at Olympia on that day to participate in the celebration. Let the demonstration at the state capital be spontaneous, hearty and

ppropriate.

But the observance of the anniversary should not be confined to Olympia. The Governor should issue a proclamation call ing attention to the event which it is de sired to commemorate, and recommending a suitable observance of it in every com munity. The public school children of the state should observe the day with appropriate exercises in every schoolhouse. March the 2d, 1908, is a day worthy of a grand demonstration in every part of the proud state of Washington.

"Manywhere" Is a Good Word.

Chicago Tribune. Lord Avebury's suggestion about "manywhere" may be regarded as an attempt to restore ancient liberty to the English tongue. There once was a time when (Shakespeare) could say: "Hoy happy some o'er othersome can be!'
"Othersome" was a well-knit, forcible word, and was, therefore, a good word poet (Heywood) was even bolder Some like this kind of food, says Hey wood, and some like that kind, all somes none is displeased to be wel-The reception that wo given to "somes" by the purists and precistans who have since tried to prune and shave and stunt the English language can be readily imagined by any person who has been coerced or cajoled into reading "rhetoric" books, which contain a complete set of rules for elevating the writing of English from an art into a craft. The Elizabethans would have burlesqued such books out of exisence. What they want-ed to do was, by training themselves and which would please the reader and impress him. No rule would have seemed to them and-so thought or what so-and-so had been in the custom of dong, or what logic and etymology demanded, but, on the con trary, what the effect would be upon readers and hearers. An effective style is a good style. Usefulness is as good a test as usage. Anything that accomplishes anything justifies itself for being. If a word conduces to force, brevity, and intelligibility it is, or will become, a good word. "Manywhere" seems to be a word of this kind. It helps. It is shorter and more vigorous than "in many places."
Let us use it manywhere. It is as respectable as "otherwhere" or "otherwhile,

Habits of Orators. Manchester Guardian. The accident which befell Lord Re

bery's notes at Plymouth has set people discussing the practice of various ers in regard to the preparation of their speeches. The most inveterate writer out of speeches was the late Lord Derby out of speeches was the late Lord Derby, of whom a story went that the manuscript of one of his most statesmanlike discourses, being picked up from the floor, where it had fallen, was found not only to be freely sprinkled with "Hear, hear."
"Laughter," and "Applause," but also to contain a passage beginning "But I am detaining you too long (cles of 'No, no, and 'Go on.')" Sir William Harcourt weed to declaim his great orations in the used to declaim his great orations in the country from sheets of manuscript written within and without, with all the fam accessories of the penny reading-desk, covered with green baize, candlesticks, waterbottle, and all complete. Mr. Gladstone used to make fairly full and extremely distinct notes, but his splendid dexterity in the use of them made his hearers forget their existence. Mr. Bright hearers forget their existence. Mr. Bright used to say that the right way was to prepare a certain number of "islands meaning neat and pointed sentences and that one should then trust one's swim out by extempore effort from island to island, reserving always the best island for the peroration, Mr. Asquith's speeches, "faultily faultiless, icily regular," always strike one as being, like Macaulay's and the late Lord Sherbrooke's, learnt by heart and delivered from memory.

Charles G. Halpine. There are bonds of all sorts in this world

ours.

Fetters of friendship and ties of flowers.
And true-lovers knots, I ween:
The girl and the boy are bound by a kiss.
But there's never a bond, old friend, like
We have drunk from the same cantoen!

It was sometimes water, and sometimes milk, And sometimes applejack, fine as silk: But, whatever the tipple has been, We shared it together, in hane or bliss; And I warm to you, friend, when I think o We have drunk from the same canteen!

The rich and the great sit down to dine.

And they quaff to each other in sparkling wine.

From glasses of crystal and green;
But I guess in their golden potations they miss
The warmth of regard to be found in this—

We have drunk from the same canteen!

We have shared our blankets and tents gether, and have marched and fought in all kinds of

weather.

And hungry and full we have been;
Had days of battle and days of rest.
But this memory I cling to and love the
We have drunk from the same canteen;

For when wounded I lay on the outer slope,
With my blood flowing fast, and but little hope
Upon which my faint spirit could lean—
Oh! then, I remember, you crawled to my aide,
And, bleeding so fast it seemed both must have
died,
We drank from the

LESSLER, DOBLIN AND QUIGG.

Washington Post. Washington Post.

With all respect, we are unable to see that the report of the House committee on naval affairs has settled anything as regards the bribery alleged in the Lessler case. Mr. Lessler's front name, we be lieve, is Montague, and a mighty pretty name it is. We may say, indeed, that the conjunction represents most of the ma-jestic alliance now exploiting itself in Venezuelan waters, for Montague reminds us of the British aristocracy, while Less ler suggests the cautious, modest, self-sacrificing German. It is to be considered, also, that the Hon. Montague Lessler is the gentieman whose election to Congress deprived the Nation of the services of Hon. Perry Belmont. And that is worth thinking about, too.

But as we were saying, it is difficult to aliay our deep though perfectly natural curiosity by an examination—no matter how studious—of the committee's report. Mr. Lessler, not long ago, emitted a loud and piercing scream to the effect that his virtue had been assailed. He related, in accents choked by emotion, that some or had approached him with an offer of \$600 for his vote in favor of a submarine torpedo-boat, or something of that sort. He felt injured and alarmed by this implous, not to say feline, suggestion, and so, after some months of boiling indignation, he screamed. Of course, there followed an investigation. Mr. Lessler's virtue called for protection. Never, never, should it be said that innocence might remain the prey of wickedness. The agencies of purity were to raily around the trembling form of Lessier. Down South, Judge Lynch would have hastened fondly to his rescue. Here, in this home of the higher civilization, he must take cover behind the Moral Forces. Besides, there was Doblin-a dark, devious, and recondite agency. Doblin had offered Lessler the famous \$5000, and Doblin, it was said, had been instigated by Quigg-we all know Quigg. A party named McCullagh figured somewhere. And there were others, of whom it is not now necessary Under the lynx-eyed observation of the

committee Doblin leaked with great abundance. He said, in effect, that he had at tacked the virginal purity of Lessler with and he mentioned Quigg as the deus ex He did not have any \$5000 him self. He was simply promoting civiliza-tion at the instance of the opulent. There was consternation. But 24 hours elapsed, and Doblin returned, to say with regret and most becoming sorrow that he was a liar-if hard-hearted people choose to say say, a perjurer. And thus the committee were moved to the perfectly natural con-clusion that Lessler had been approached, but not by anybody worth mentioning whereas Quigg must be bowed out with deference, "plus blanche que la blanchermine." And McCullagh-whoever may be-escapes in the general rejoicing! This is beautiful and touching; but is it business? If Lessler was approachedand, after a prayerful contemplation of his features, we admit the possibility— who approached him? If Doblin, who first

acknowledged his crime and afterward denounced himself as a false witness and a sianderer-if Doblin says he didn't, what are we to think of the committee's report which says that Lessler was approached, but that nobody did it?

The German Navy and Our Own.

Harper's Weekly. Germany has 22 battleships in service where the United States has ten. She is building eight to our ten. She has four armored cruisers where we have but two, but she is building only three where we re building nine. In protected cruisers he has 19 to our 14, and is building three to our six. In unprotected cruisers she has 20 to our six. In coast defenders she has 11 to our 15-ours are of the monitor type—and is building no more, while we are constructing four. She has something like 140 torpedo-boats to our 22, but these vessels are already out of date, and neither country is building any more. She has 30 torpedo-destroyers to our 20. We have eight submarines to none for Germany. Altogether she has about 275 warships to our 140, but inasmuch as she has over 100 more torpedo-boats than we has over 100 more torpedo-boats than we -vessels that are useless-the present disparagement between the navies of the two countries is not so great as the total

One of the latest of the German battlegood unless it considered not what so- ships has just been launched. It represents the new type. It is not as large as the more recent of American battle-ships, but to compact and of the buildog order. Its name is the Braunschweig. It is 288.62 feet long, 73.80 feet wide, 25.10 feet draught. It displaces 13,300 tons, as against about 15,000 tons of the newer English and American battleships. It has a speed of 18 knots an hour, which is about the aver-age required of the largest vessels of this The new battleship carries 660

British Wires in the Pacific. New York Tribune.

While Americans are congratulating themselves on the completion of the first link in the American Pacific cable, Consul-General J. P. Bray, at Melbourne, Australia, sends a report on the British wires which now connect London and Australia with their stations exclusively on British territory. The sections are as follows: Vancouver to Fanning Island, 3240 nautical miles; Fanning Island to Fijl, 2003 miles; Fiji to Norfolk Island, 961 miles; Norfolk Island to Brisbane, 834 miles:

Power of New York State

Detroit Free Press. There are indications that the opinion of New York will weigh less in the political tory of the country. An "anything-tobeat-Roosevelt" campaign in order to be successful must have something more be-hind it than the greed and the vindictiveness of Wall street. Wall street may be able to swing the United States Senate in the absence of a concentrated public sentiment, but the nomination and election of a President are not to be achieved by angleworm processes.

Utica Observer.

In this country old names, many of them of aboriginal origin, are being replaced by names not nearly so attractive. not nearly so distinctive, not nearly so American. The nomenclature of a coun-try is one of its possessions that should be guarded with the utmost vigilance. It is something that comes down to it, an ancient heritage, from its earliest settlers. Respect for the pioneers, if nothing else. id prompt a retention of the early

One Comfort Is Left Us.

Detroit Free Press. Max Nordau inclines to the belief that the American people are degenerates. What makes his opinion the more interesting is the fact that he has gracefully narrowed this thing down until he now holds that he is about the only fellow in the vineyard who is not a degenerate, whereat the rest of the world seems somewhat reassured.

Helen Hunt Jackson.

Dear Foe, I know thou'lt win the fight.
I know thou hast the stronger bark.
And thou art sailing in the light,
While I am creeping in the dark.
Thou dost not dream that I am crying.
As I come up with colors flying.

I clear away my wounded, slain,
With strength like frenzy, strong and swift;
I do not feel the tug and strain.
Though dead are heavy, hard to lift.
If I looked in their faces dying.
I could not keep my colors flying.

Dear Foe, it will be short-our fightugh lazily thou train'st thy guns; Fate steers us—me to deeper night, And thee to brighter seas and sums; But thou'lt not dream that I am dying, As I sail by with colors flying!

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Now that the Lewis and Clark authorities have raised the wind the dirt will fly out at the fair grounds.

If you don't believe that the way of the transgressor is hard, look at the newspaper portraits of Hooper Young and John D. Rockefeller.

It is only fair to the country that it should know what Mr. Bryan thinks of the Democratic party. Twice we have heard what the Democratic party thinks of him.

Prineville, Or., Feb. 9.-Wheat for chicken feed has become so scarce in Crook County that one of our progressive scientists—Mr. Weiss, civil engineer of Benf, Crook County, Or —is buying and using alfalfa hay, steaming it to render it soft for feeding to his chickens, who respond to the toast by depositing as much as one egg per diem for each female contrib-utor.

S. J. NEWSOME.

Dr. Hillis in his sermon on "Success and Failure," published in the New York World of February 1, says:

In Western Oregon when the wheat train starts toward Portland an engine is put on to furnish the brakes, for the road runs down hill, and the wheat is carried by its own momentum. To carry the same wheat to Seattle means tha the train must be divided into three parts, and Now it is up to Senttle to prefer heresy charges against the reverend gentleman.

in the editor's sanctum. The man of many wees responded and received this inquiry in well-modulated feminine tones: "How's the prizefight getting along, please?"

"Ting-a-ling-a-ling," went the telephone

"I don't know." answered the weary man, "and I don't care."

"Don't care? Why, that's funny." "Maybe it is, madam, but I'm the religious editor and I don't give a d-n for prizefights."

At the Kilties concert yesterday: The incorrigible-Mamma, why don't hey all have on-"Sh-sh-h."

A pause. "Mamma, why don't they all have-"Sh-h, I say." Short pause "Mamma, why don't they all have-

"Sh-h-sh-h, do you hear?" Entr'act five seconds. "Mamma, why don't they all have on caps like that old man's down in front?"

Sweet Maid of Mists in yonder sky. I pray thee come and solace me; Three days I've been so chill and dry, And all my thoughts have been of theel Fain would I grab my coat of gum And emigrate to moister clime, My aching pericardium

Would have thee for its valentine Sweet Maid of Mists, just now so shy, We need thee here in Oregon. Thy gentle touch and meiting eye ild work quite a phenome Our home is bleak and parched and lone

When thou art far in Winter tim ome thou today and be my own Warm-hearted, Webfoot valenting

The appointment of Dr. Randall Davidson to the archbishopric of Canterbury is but another illustration of how the Scot is conquering south of the border. The Archbishop of York is likewise a Scotchman. In the British government 10 Scotchmen are drawing yearly £37,617 from the treasury, viz., Arthur Balfour, the Premier: Gerald Balfour, secretary of the Board of Trade; Mr. Ritchie, the Home Secretary: Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, Secretary for Scotland; H. T. Anstruther, a Junior Lord of the Admiralty; Hon. T. Cochrane, Parliamentary Secretary for the Home Office; A. B. Law, Parliamentary Secretary for the Board of Trade; Sir R. B. Finlay, Attorney-General; Graham Murray, Lord Advocate for Scotland, and Scott Dickson, Solicitor-General for Scotland. Moreover, the Earl of Minto, Governor-General of Canada, is a Scot, and Lord Hopetoun, until recently Governor-General of Australia, is of the same nationality.

Limerick Competition, No. 4. The fair contributor who is responsible for starting this Limerick competition is not to be outdone and has sent in another gem which we label No. 4. We hope it is not her last. She does not deny the charge of femininity and the chances are that if she were arraigned she would plead guilty without more ado. She doesn't even sign a pen name. Her communications are needlessly brief. She doesn't even say: "Mr. Note and Comment Man, Dear Sir-I liked your nice verse and here's another." No. She just sends in the verse as much as to say: "There, read that, It's much better than yours." Here

The man on his way from Cathlamet Said: "I can't tell how sorry I am it

it in:

Is on the wrong side That I chance to reside. The east side of the river Willamette."

The Sherlock Holmes editor was handed the pome and he immediately announced: The handwriting is that of a bookkeeper in a

small wholesale house. How do I deduce that?
The firm persists in using ruled paper and has no typewriter. She is not seeking fame. See how artfully she has cut off the top of the letterhead to conceal her identity. She has red hair. Don't you see the beautiful wisp of author. burn that was caught underneath the new George Washington stamp? There is also a clever cipher concealed in the verse which tells me that her name is Mamile. How do I know? Do you dare doubt Sherlock Holmes, Jr.? And just to show us that the versifying talent of the country could be controlled by no trust, he dashed off the following on his typewriter:

A dashing young miss who wrote rhymes On an editor called a few times. With the rushing Willamette oled Cathlame And he only paid her in dimes.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

He-My brother carries the brains of the fam-ily. She-Doesn't make him round-shouldered, does it?-Yonkers Statesman. Maude-So she married and did well? An-

nie-Yes. She gets \$25 a week now. Maudeney? Annie-No; alimony.-Judge. Dolly-Does Mrs. Torque like domestic ani-mais? Polly-Evidently, for she declares she is going to marry her second husband.—Palti-move Herald.

Briggs-Bilkins didn't get along with that rich girl he married, did he? Griggs-No. She went back to her family, and he went back to his creditors.—Life. "What's the matter, Bill? You look kind o' weatherbeaten this merning." That's exactly what I am. I bet \$5 it would rain yesterday, and it didn't."—Chicago Tribune.

"Your daughter tells me, Mrs. Kenwood, that the West Side is really terra incognita to her." "Yes. Margarite has got to be such a hand to

talk French since we spent that Winter in Paris."-Chicago Record-Herald. "Your pastor must be a financier." "I should say so! Why, he has a scheme to fund the church debt at 2½ per cent, and I believe that some day he'll capitalize the church and issue common and preferred stock."—Puck.

Mr. Hopeford-The date you have set for our wedding comes on Friday. Friday is supposed to be an unlucky day. Mrs. Lakeside (from the West)—So I've heard, but it can't be any more unlucky than the other days. I've all the rest .- New York Weekly.

Mrs. Newrich (in the art store)-What! A Mrs. Newrich (in the art store)—What! A tousand dollars for that little picture? Dealer—Yes, ma'am. You see, it's done in oil, and genuine oil paintings are rather expensive. Mrs. Newrich—Yes, I suppose so. The Oil Trust monopoly is certainly getting to be something terrific.—Chicago Daily News.