The Weekly Chroniele.

 TIFE HAGUE FIZZLE.
A dispatch from St. Petersturg yesterlay ssys that "the results of
the peace cooference have fully come up to the expectations of the zov-
erament." As a matter of fact, they ernment" As a matter of fact, they
have fally come up to the expectations of alt the rest of the worid. Io
other words, the peace confercuce
bas been a side-sphating farce from first to last. The principal object
for which the czar invited the powers to come togelter was disarmameni
They have all refused to disarm. adoption of a plan of arbitration,
but even this was only a partal success. The compulsory feature
had to be dropped at tre start. The convention upoa thls head, as it
reads, amounts to little more than reads, amounts to litte more than
a delaration that arbitration is
preferable to war. The aceeptance voluntary on the part of the powers propery sat sean from seterare, pro-
bibiting the use of ballets that expand or explote in the buman body,
the throwing of explosives bailoons and the use of asphyxiating projectiles, were not signed by al
the powers. The United States
sigued only the declarations against sigued only the delarations against
the use of asplyxiating gases and
the throwing of explosives from balloons, and the arbitration clause
with reservations; but the final ac-
ceptance of these by this country the senste, as none of the conventions ratifed by its treaty making power. refused to condemn the dum-dum
bullet, and the representatives of Germeny, England, Austria, China,
Italy. Japan and several mino powers refused to condemn the drop
ping of explosives from balloons or the use of aspbyxiating gases. The delegates from the Unite
States would not agree to prohib the use of the dum.dum bullet be cause they said they were instructe
not to assent to anything that would trammel the development of Ameri-
ean inventive genius. This is all folderol. There is as wuch objection
to an expandiug or explosive bullets as there is to the ure of chemicals batloons for tropping explosive from on high. There is no more with asphyxiating gases than in overthrowing him wilh a mangling bullet There is not much difference be There is not much difference be
tween a dangerous missile fired horizontally and one dropped from an arsbip. The discussions and been mere child's play. In order to save itself from the ference points with pride to the establishment of a permment board litigants may submit their controver sies. But such submission, as w have pointed out above, is purely voluntary, and the arbitrators are likely to have litite work to do. Th agreement-it the nations ratify itconters no additional rights or privi leges, for all vations at all thme disputes to arbitration. provision to colion. There is no forec, to accept the a nation, by arbitration board, and if there wer ratufy the agreement, as our never ratify the agreement, as our govera in an attitude which might bind to take part in an armed intervention for the pur
ropesn war.
There have been many exchanges of complimentary remarks betwee definite or final has been acquiesced in, and if war should break out lomorrow between some of the fal if a single provision in the pence
 A FALLACY IN FIGORING.
Tro reasons are offered by
Democratie paper in Virgian for the Democratie paper in Virgina for the
belief that Mr. Beyan will be a
formidable candidate wext year formidable candidate best year.
One is that he received more votes than were ever given any suceessfal presidential candidate before 1896,
and the other relates to the political bearings of trusts. The first only
need be exammed, for the Democratic need be examined, for the Democratic
party bas not, and never had, any monopoly of opposition to oppressive
business combinations. The Dem. veratic fancy continues to he
lazzed with the $6,502,925$ votes for Bryan. Four years betore, the arg
ment runs, Cleveland received ooly $5,536,918$ and was elected. Here
the figuring stops. If Bryan, who was defeated, received nearly a nillion more votes than Cleveland,
who was elected, then, it is held, Bryan ougbt to win next time. Be-
ides, it is pointed out, Bryan polled the largest Democratic vote on
record in all exeeft the New England record in all exeep the New England
and Middle States. Fiven Ohio, Mc-
Kinley's state, gave to Bryan in Kinley's state, gave to Bryan in
189673,379 more votes than Cleve-
land obtained four years betore and land obtained four years before, and
Cleveland secured one of the Ohio
electors. And so the Virginia paper, like many of its Demoeratic contem-
lien tion that Bryan presents pecoliar
advantages for the "second battle" he has confldently counted upon.
After recalling the $6,502,025$ vote for Bryan, why not go on and men-
tion the $7,104,779$ votes for McKin-
ley, and the immense MrKinley
flurality of over $60 \mathrm{C}, 000$ ? The iflurality of over $60 \mathrm{c}, 000$ ? The
phenomenally active eampaign of
189 C brought out an enormous total 1896 brought out an enormous total
vote and the Democratic increase
was more than matebed by the Re-
publican increase. Another essential point to remember is that Bryan was
supported by the Popullst party,
which in 1892 cast $1,041,028$ votes for cardidates of its own. He will
not bave united lopulist help next
year. One Populist faction has aiready made separate nommations.
It is valn to suppose that souna
money voters of 1896 will change from the wianinguto the losing ande
in 1900 . Naturally the drift will be
 have some influence, but good time
are here in ampler measure than wa
foreseen. The sudden change
Democratic fiont in 1896 and the extraordinary concessions for th
sake of fusion, were exciting an
sensational, snd brought out an an exsmpled army of voters. Bu
Demoerats are foollish to eall
mind only the marks of their ow mind only the marks of their own
igh tide.
Demoeratic papers can be found hat do not deceive themselves in
regard to the lessons of 1896 . They remember that, in spite of his 6,300 ,
000 votes, Bryan was nivety-five votes behind in the electoral college
The Baltimore Sun remarks thas Bryan will probably lose some state
he earried before, and adds: "I the South wams to lave the pleasur
of voting for Mr. Bryan in 1900 stould at least not indulge the hop that he can be elected on a silve
platform. There is not a practica politicana in touch with national entiment who does not know tha eated more decisively than in 1896." A chnse after the Bryan aggregate of votes three years ago is not a brigh fell hundreds of thoussnds short intelligent form of politics. M sryan is a popular man with bi party, but the platform on which he has tied himself is dead. It is a bad

tilemma and means a repeated and | Cavier Democratic defeat in 1900. |
| :--- |

## EUROPEAN UNION

## Formation of a European union

 gainst the United States has beeone of the fondest dreams of the ontinent for the last ten years, hence the visit of M. Del Casse, minister Toreign affalrs for France, is given cials, says the Spokesman-Review. The European union idea scems

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