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TODAY'S WEATHER—Occasional rain; brisk to high winds from south along the coast.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, JANUARY 8

THE CROMWELL REVIVAL.

There is remarkable increase of interest in the study of Oliver Cromwell. His career, like that of Napoleon, is one of the perennial themes. It is not merely hero worship; for as a mere hero each of these great men and every great man has very sad limitations. The interest arises from perception of the fact that in the modern world the names of Oliver Cromwell and Napoleon Bonaparte stand for popular right against oligarchical rule. And this is true, though Cromwell overturned throne, church and parliament, and became sole master of the British realm, and though Napoleon imposed his single despotic will upon nearly the whole of Europe. Each in his way stood for the fundamental doctrine that all just powers in the state are derived from the people; and this is the explanation of the career of each, and of the perennial interest in their careers—though it be easy to assert and even to prove, upon superficial view and argument, that each was the head or center of as complete a despotism as ever existed.

Mr. John Morley, who has had something to do hitherto with Cromwell, has turned aside from his task of preparing the authorized life of Gladstone to a new study of the career of the Great Protector. Recent numbers of the Century Magazine carry the fruits of this new inquiry. In Scribner's Magazine for December Governor Roosevelt, of New York, began a series of illustrated papers on Cromwell. Last November a majestic bronze statue was unveiled in front of Westminster hall, in memory of the great man to whom partisan animosity had denied such recognition in England for the space of two hundred and fifty years. Yet it was as late as 1894 when Samuel Harden Church wrote in his "Oliver Cromwell—A History": "He has no monument in England, and he can have none with the sanction of the government, because a monument to Cromwell would be an official acknowledgment of successful rebellion." Movements of public sentiment often seem slow, and so they are in the formation; but in their consummation they are often surprisingly rapid, and it is not too much to say that, with the exception of an extreme tory and high church element in England, whose numbers comparatively are not large, the mind and conscience of the nation has gone over to a just view of the life of Oliver Cromwell, and to a clear and broad recognition of his supreme agency in making the British nation and empire what they are today.

First of living English historians is Dr. Samuel R. Gardiner. No writer has unfolded the Stuart epoch as he has done in his twenty-odd volumes, or given so comprehensive and impartial an account of the civil war and the commonwealth. Yet Dr. Gardiner, in his "Lectures on Cromwell's Place in History," delivers the opinion that the work of Cromwell was not positive, but purely negative, and he holds that nothing that Cromwell did survives him. This seems a narrow view for so able a man. It shows the tenacity of old prejudice and traditional opinion.

For, while Cromwell's government was unstable, simply as an expedient of the time, and while it was so soon to fade away, his work must endure while men inhabit the earth. Queller of parliament as he was, he yet made the conditions under which parliamentary government could be established and maintained as the government of a free and self-governing people. After Cromwell, there could be no return in England to the doctrine of the divine right of kings. Above all else, Cromwell destroyed the dangerous theory of a fundamental union between church and state, whereby the rulers assume the right to coerce the consciences of dissenters; and he broke in pieces an ecclesiastical system which promised to be as intolerant and tyrannical as that which he had displaced—for it was his might that made effective Milton's indignant declaration that "New presbyter is old priest, writ large." It was under the nourishing and zealous care of Oliver Cromwell's government that the absolute freedom of conscience and equality before the law which are so largely the principles of modern civilization, wherever they have had their birth, have flourished into healthy and permanent life. What then if his government did not last? The throne was, indeed, restored, but the monarchy could not be the same as before.

In "Past and Present," Carlyle writes: "Await the issue. In all battles if you await the issue, each fighter has prospered according to his right. His right and his might, at the close of the contest, are one and the same. He has fought with all his might and in exact proportion to his right he has prevailed. His very death is no victory over him. He dies, indeed, but his work lives, very truly lives. A heroic Wallace, quartered on the scaffold, cannot hinder that his Scotland become, one day, a part of England; but he does hinder that it become on tyrannous, unfair terms a part of it." Again: "Oliver Cromwell quitted farming; undertook a Hercules' labor and lifelong wrestle with that Lernean hydra-coil, wide as England, hissing heaven-high through its thousand-crowned, coronetted, shovel-hatted quack-heads, and he did wrestle with it, the truest and terriblest wrestle I have heard of; and he wrestled it and mowed it and cut it down a good many stages, so that its hissing ever since has been pitiful in comparison, and one can walk abroad in comparative peace from it; and his wages, as I understand, were burial under the gallows tree near Tyburn turnpike, with his head on the gable of Westminster hall, and two centuries now of mixed cursing and ridicule from all manner of men. His dust lies under the Edgeware road, near Tyburn turnpike, at this hour; and his memory is—Nay, what matters what his memory is? His memory, at bottom, is or yet shall be that of a god, a terror and horror to all quacks and cowards and insincere persons; an everlasting encouragement, new memento, battle-word and pledge of victory to all the brave. It is the natural course and history of the Godlike, in every place, in every time. The regular way is to hang, kill, crucify your gods, and execrate and trample them under your stupid hoofs for a century or two; till you discover they are gods,—and then take to braying over them!" Which seems sufficiently prophetic of the present Cromwell revival!

Cromwell's severities in Ireland are sure to come forward with every mention of his career and character. According to the standards of the present day they cannot be defended. No writer attempts it. Such excuse as they can have must be sought in the spirit of the times and in the usages of war, which continued in their severity till long after Cromwell's day. Even Dr. Gardiner admits that the severity of the Protector at Drogheda and Wexford was strictly in accord with the law of war as it stood up to the time of Wellington; and in a footnote he reprints from Wellington's dispatches the statement that "it was always understood that the defenders of a fortress could have no claim to quarter," but "the French have availed themselves of the humanity of modern warfare and have made a new regulation that a breach should stand one assault at least." So he says, regretfully, "The consequence of this regulation was the loss of the flower of the army at Ciudad-Rodrigo and Badajos. I certainly should have thought myself justified in putting both armies to the sword; and if I had done so to the first, it is probable I should have saved 5000 men in the assault on the second. I mention this in order to show that the practice of refusing quarter to a garrison which stands an assault is not a useless effusion of blood." What Cromwell did, then, was the law of war, atrocious as it was when judged by modern standards. He acted in the spirit of his times, in war, even though he was in many things far in advance of his times; and Wellington admits that he would have done the same thing in the nineteenth century, but for the law of war having just been changed when his necessity arose. Besides, according to the morality of that time, the terrible massacres of English and Scotch that had been perpetrated in Ireland a short time before were believed to call for vengeance; so Cromwell, when he went to Ireland, said: "We are come to take an account of the innocent blood that hath been shed," in "the most unheard-of and most barbarous massacre." The lowest estimate of the victims of these massacres was 40,000 persons. Not yet, nor till long afterward, had the world rid itself of the idea that justice required bloody retaliation. It is as unfair to judge the actors in war in former times by the humanity of the present times as it is to judge the church of today by the unspeakable atrocities perpetrated in its name in former centuries. That is not the way to read history or to use history with any profit. Men at the head of affairs must be expected to act, on the whole, in accord with the spirit of their times.

These remarks, begun with the thought of producing only a paragraph, have run to some length. We add only the single remark, that there clearly is deep significance in the new interest which the English-speaking world is taking in the historic mission, character and career of the Great Protector. Who could have supposed he would see the time when a majority of Englishmen would join Milton in hailing Cromwell their "chief of men"?

WORSE THAN ROBERTS.

It is one of the evidences of the sagacity with which the United States constitution was framed, that the strict constructionists usually find themselves wrong. When the necessary and inevitable thing to do seems in conflict with the constitution, there are always those who see in the letter of the law an inhibition of that necessary and inevitable thing. But the procession does not stop for them, and incidentally somebody indulges the intellectual diversion of proving them technically as well as practically wrong. This is what Senator Lindsay, for one, did for anti-Imperialism's protest that we cannot conquer and annex territory.

Another interesting illustration in point is the impatience of certain sound-hearted and practical-minded people with the defense made by Roberts, the Utah claimant in congress. The claimant is disposed to argue his case as a matter of interpretation of written forms, but his opponents express a diverting indignation that he seeks to ignore the main point, perhaps the only point, as Mr. Tayler, for example, understands it, "whether or not Roberts is a polygamist." But just there's the rub. If he is a polygamist, out he must go, maugre all his fine points about the rights of members and the limitation of the powers of the house, the purposes of the Edmunds act, the appointments of presidents.

It begins to look as if the senate might itself have to take some such short cut to the goal of right. It is certain that the Quay conspiracy and the Clark investigation will develop public opinion to a point undreamed of months ago, when the foundations of these scandals were being laid at Harrisburg and Helena. The senate is not a popular body. It prides itself upon its distance from the people and its answerableness to nobody. But it will perhaps find itself not so impregnable to the general conscience as it has fancied. The Montana business and the Pennsylvania iniquity may beget a popular indignation that will not be so easily ignored.

Which is worse, Roberts or the pair of senatorial claimants? One has transversed the letter of the law, the others have set at defiance no less a thing than popular government itself. The enthronement of resourceful and unscrupulous bossism—that is Quay. The embodiment of the idea that the senate is for the highest bidder—that is Clark. It makes no difference that one comes from a mining camp, and the other from unworthy descendants of Penn and Franklin. If there is any degree in the odium, Pennsylvania's fall is the greater.

If Quay and Clark were at the bar of the house, they would be sent home along with Roberts. The senate, from tradition and self-conceit, is disposed to make more of written and technical impediments in the way of what is right and true. This time they may hesitate to ignore simple justice. The committee's report on the one case and the determination to probe the other to the bottom are hopeful signs. So, also, is the reflection that unrestrained Clarks and Quays are the most effective possible arguments for election of senators by popular vote.

THE TREATMENT OF VAGRANCY.

A problem that is always with us—a "by-product," so to speak, of civilization—is found in the above words. Various methods have been applied to its solution—imprisonment; the bitter penalty of enforced labor; cheap boarding-houses; missions that supply the gospel of encouragement and strive to promote the gospel of cleanliness; religious influences, and, finally, all failing, the authoritative order to "move on," have all been applied and singly or combined have failed to give a satisfactory answer. The great army of the thriftless, the indolent and the destitute shows no diminution in numbers. The most discouraging feature of the case is that the vagrant, born and bred, is well content with his lowly, degraded estate, literally "owing no care and fearing no ill." A bivouac in his malodorous blankets wherever he can find room to spread them has no discomfort for him, and prison means shelter and food during stress or storm. Work is his only dread, and he is an expert in managing it so that it becomes a dread as well to the municipality that imposes it upon him.

Maud Ballington Booth, whose name is a synonym for earnest endeavor in the treatment of this moral disease, says: "I cannot see that we have yet found any remedy for vagrancy that will do more than afford temporary relief." She and her coworkers, as faithful, self-denying an army as ever strove persistently to subdue the hosts of evil, have found through experience that the plan of colonizing the idle and the destitute of the cities, with the expectation that they will remain permanently in the country and become contented and thrifty, is not practical. Even the houseless wanderers feel isolated when transferred from their populous haunts in the city to the quiet life of the country, and become genuinely homesick to return, regardless of their bettered physical and moral condition. It follows that they return to their old life and take it up again, with its squalor and destitution, its shifting and dodging of vagrancy laws, and are relatively happy.

City shelters as a scheme for curing vagrancy are equally unsuccessful. Having thoroughly, conscientiously and laboriously tried this plan, Mrs. Booth says: "I realize that the great proportion of the lodgers utilize the shelters for temporary convenience, and that this plan merely relieves and does not effect a permanent cure for vagrancy." Summing up the phases of this perplexing question, this competent authority says: "The class under consideration, in my judgment, should be treated as individuals, not in bodies. A large proportion of them have known no other manner of living, and have followed in the idle and vicious ways of their parents. Religious advice, in the form of addresses, no matter how forcible or eloquent, has no effect on such people. They are too deadened to realize its meaning. Only individual effort will benefit them."

In the light of this advice and the experience upon which it is based, the waste in money and energy that has ensued from the attempt to lift vagrants as a class in urban community life out of the idleness and squalor in which they prefer to pass their lives, is appalling. The effort to give them something they do not want and cannot appreciate must, in the very nature of things, represent mistaken endeavor and result in disappointment. The best, apparently, that can be done is to keep the vagrant class on the move, thus equalizing to some extent the expense which they entail upon thrift and industry, without increasing the menace which their existence entails upon organized society. This method, though at variance with the principle of the Golden Rule, is the general resort of municipalities the authorities of which have found it utterly impossible to solve the problem of vagrancy and have felt compelled in self-defense to accept this means for temporary relief.

SMALL HOPE OF ABATEMENT.

The melancholy reflection which always follows discussion of the gross abuse of our pension legislation is that things are likely to be far worse before they are better. The pension roll today demands an annual appropriation of over $140,000,000, with the prospect that it will reach $200,000,000 before its increase is finally checked. Of the 25,000 Spanish war pension claims already filed, most of them are submitted under that calamitous law of 1890, which never ought to have been enacted and ought to be repealed or at least radically amended. If the 25,000 Spanish war claims already filed under this act are all allowed it would mean probably an addition of at least $3,000,000 to our pension expenditure. Ultimately probably ninety per cent of all our volunteer army enlisted for the Spanish war will be borne on the pension roll, but this is not all.

The worst prospect before us is the passage at no very distant period of a service pension to every Union veteran. This measure was advocated by General Alger when the G. A. R. met in national encampment at Boston a few years ago, and he carried the majority of his comrades with him. Logically it is not easy to see how congress can refuse to pass such an act in face of the utterly indefensible act of 1887, granting a service pension to all survivors of the Mexican war who had served sixty days in Mexico or en route thereto. With this ugly precedent of a service pension for Mexican war veterans it is folly to expect that the vicious disabilities pension law of 1890 will ever be disturbed; it is far more likely to be supplemented within ten years by a service pension to Union veterans. This worst of all our pension acts, the Mexican war service pension swindle, has the solid South behind it. It was devised by the democratic party and was enacted under President Cleveland. Even the republican party shrank from the enactment of the very dangerous precedent of a general service pension bill, but Grover Cleveland signed it, in spite of his record as a pension reformer. There is small prospect that any of the present pension acts will be repealed. Revision of the lists without radical recasting of the present pension laws would probably not greatly reduce the roll; but the publication of the pension roll might drive some well-to-do pensioners into surrendering their pensions. President Cleveland's evil pension act of 1887 will probably bear fruit at no distant day in another service pension bill.

The position of The Oregonian is today what it has always been, that no man should receive from the government a pension to which he cannot show a moral title of poverty or disability that compels dependency. But under our pension laws, a rich man is allowed to establish a technical right to a pension for wounds in battle or inability through age or infirmity to support himself by manual labor, while in all moral equity the people ought not to be taxed to pay a pension for wounds or disability to a veteran amply able to support himself and his family. There are some kinds of service that cannot be paid for; there are some favors like the kiss of true love, that no money can buy and for which no money can be offered or accepted on either side. The intent of pension legislation, its spirit, is not that of a bounty. It is clearly intended to extend help to those veterans who need help, either at present or are likely to need it in the near future. It was never expected that a rich man would claim a pension, for his situation is not that of either present or prospective dependency. The sordid disposition to accept help from the government that in principle and in spirit was never intended to be sought for save by the helpless, has not only brought such veterans into just contempt as parasites with the people, but, what is far more deplorable, has brought indirectly into disrepute and contempt the whole mass of Union veterans, who inevitably suffer something by the satire deservedly shot at these black sheep.

Up to conclusion of the year 1863 the battles of the Union were fought by the million of men which Lincoln obtained by volunteering, men who enlisted for nothing but the small monthly pay and the government bounty of $100. The enforcement of the draft began in July, 1863, and the clause of the conscription act which permitted the furnishment of a substitute created a class of mercenaries who received enormous bounties from towns short of their quota and from drafted men financially able to bid for substitutes. The result was that between October 17, 1863, and February 4, 1864, there were furnished over 369,000 of this quality of eleventh-hour patriots. Under the call of March, 1864, we secured over 292,000 of these bounty-seeking and bounty-jumping mercenaries. We mustered into service for 100 days over 83,000 militia, who were never on the firing line. Under the call of July, 1864, we obtained over 386,000 men; and under the call of December, 1864, over 212,000 men. Then there were nearly 186,000 colored troops enlisted during the war; there were over 106,000 three-months' men, few of whom ever stood on the firing line; there were nearly 88,000 nine-months' men, the majority of whom saw little or no service, between October, 1862, and July, 1863. There were a few nine-months' men who fought well in the Chancellorsville campaign and at Gettysburg, but for the most part they never saw the firing line. Then there were over 16,000 six-months' men who never saw any field service. These figures indicate that unless we believe in the theory that of the Union veterans none but the fittest have survived, there must be a deal of very worthless trash on the pension roll today.

J. W. Cook has given substantial aid to the project to establish a technical and industrial school by the donation of seven acres in a high and sightly part of Albina as a site. The location is not only within a city that is coming into industrial prominence, but is within easy distance of industry itself. Close by, so close that the hum of the machinery can be heard, are some of the principal manufacturing establishments of Portland. Almost at the base of the rise on which it is proposed to build the institution flows the Willamette river, always alive with Portland's foreign, domestic and inland commerce. Mr. Cook wisely makes it a condition of his gift that distinction of race, color or religion shall have no place in the school. His observation that the best citizens are those from whom racial, religious and color prejudice is absent is worthy of a patriotic American. The industrial school project has been given a healthy start, and should now be taken up by public-spirited people and pushed to completion.

"It is said that Napoleon was inordinately fond of fried onions. This statement throws a new light on why he was banished to a lonely island." Thus the Kansas City Times. But there's no joke about this. After the great battle at Dresden, where he had won a triumph that dismayed his enemies, Napoleon had for his dinner a shoulder of mutton stuffed with onions. It gave him an acute indigestion and made him so violently ill that he was unable to direct operations for support of his lieutenants, who in the absence of orders failed to co-operate and were crushed in detail. It is the belief of many that the course of the history of Europe was changed by that indigestible meal.

It will make little or no difference, in Great Britain's future wars with powerful enemies, what course she takes now as to contraband of war. If she allow now that foodstuffs are not contraband, her enemies in future wars will not be bound by the precedent, if they believe they can starve her out by intercepting her food supply. She may as well go ahead, then, with her seizures of provisions destined to the Boer states. In her future wars her enemies will stop her importations of food, if they can.

The Oregonian is asked whether it has considered that free sugar from West and East Indies is to be a consequence of the policy of expansion, and the result on beet-sugar production in the United States. It has; and it thinks that even if sugar should become cheaper, which perhaps would be realized after a while, the consumers of sugar—that is to say, the whole population of the United States—would find a way to stand it.

Political trouble is brewing in Kentucky; civil war perhaps, for there is every probability that an effort will be made to put Taylor out of the governor's office and to put Goebel into it. But people of other states may as well refrain from hot controversy over it. Kentucky no doubt will be able to see it through. Her quotas in both armies were kept full during the civil war, and everything turned out well enough.

As to expansion and consent of the governed, the Florida Times-Union says: "Senator Hoar stands today where Southern statesmen stood in 1860, and President McKinley where Jefferson stood in 1804." In which remark lies much truth.

It is settled that our government will not tender its services as mediator between the belligerents in South Africa, unless both parties intimate a desire or willingness that it should do so. Till then we shall do well to mind our own business.

From the accounts of the war in South Africa it would seem that the British, not the Boers, were in need of the sympathy of mankind.

THAT QUESTION OF TREASON.

Held That It Was Settled by the Policy of Reconstruction.

Florida Times-Union and Citizen.

The article in the current McClure's on the impeachment of Andrew Johnson contains an admission of vital interest to the South, which has attracted no special attention, so far as we have observed. The impeachment proceedings marked a division in the republican party and the triumph of legal technicalities with which we have nothing to do, but Congressman George S. Boutwell, who was selected as chairman of the managers of the proceedings, says in the article: "The controversy with Mr. Johnson had its origin in the difference of opinion as to the nature of the government. That difference led him to the conclusion that the rebellion had not worked any change in the legal relations of the seceding states to the national government. His motto was this: 'Once a state, always a state, whatever might be its conduct, either of peace or war.'"

The republican party naturally took the opposite ground that the South was conquered territory; Mr. Stevens held the Southern states were "enemy's territory"—Mr. Sumner that the states by surrender became territories subject as such to the government of congress, as if they had been annexed from Mexico or Canada. Under Mr. Johnson's conception, a state could not secede, and could not levy legal war on the nation—therefore Davis and Lee were traitors. But several states reserved the right to secede when they entered the Union—Massachusetts declared that the annexation of Louisiana was a breach of the original compact, and thereafter any state could withdraw. This view was accepted by the nation—Davis and Lee were not punished because their states had seceded, and they had only obeyed legal authority.

Therefore, the war between the states was held by the republican party itself to have been no rebellion, nor civil war, but a struggle between sovereign powers, each fully capable in law of governing itself in peace and war.

Therefore, the Southern states must return as territories, and did, but this put a negative forever on any possible charge of treason—it established forever the claim of Southern statesmen that a state had a legal and moral right to withdraw from the Union at its option, and it should have left the two peoples without more bitterness than is inevitable between foreign nations that have fought each other fairly to the death. The article of Mr. Boutwell is the first authoritative expression of this view from the other side, and, therefore, is important—historians and teachers should immediately govern themselves accordingly. By the decision of the high court of impeachment, as well as by the supreme court of the United States, we may now conclude that this view is the legal and accepted one.

1900.

New York Sun, Dec. 31.

At midnight of tonight, the close of the year 1899, there will begin a special function in the Cathedral of St. Patrick, to usher in the year 1900, declared by the pope a holy year, a year of jubilee. As many people have acquired the erroneous impression that the universal decree appointing the celebration gave the authority of the vatican for regarding the coming year as the first of a new century, the 20th, we will reprint here the portion of the text that touches that point:

It is most becoming that we who are about to celebrate the commencement of the holy year, happily proclaimed by our Holy Father Leo XIII, should, in the depth of night, rise to greet the author of time and prostrate before his altars.

Since, moreover, at midnight of the last day of December of the coming year the present century will come to an end and a new one begin, it is very appropriate that thanks be given to God, by some pious and solemn ceremony, for the benefits received during the course of the present century.

The decree goes on to say that the mass tonight is to be celebrated "in order that the approaching year, 1900, may begin happily," and "that it may end, after a prosperous course, by ushering in a still more happy century."

The time for expressing gratitude for the century we still live in and hope for the century to come is not, therefore, in the Roman Catholic church limited to a night, but is spread over a whole year, 1900, the last year of the 19th century.

Discourtesy, Isn't It?

Boston Transcript.

What an astounding and enlightening piece of news is this that Congressman Boutelle has been located! It has been a long and breathless chase for the reporters, but they have hounded the sick man down at last in spite of all the barriers thrown up by his family to preserve their right to privacy, and in spite of the refusal of the physicians employed to divulge professional secrets! This information reveals a combination of news gathering, detective instinct and absolute lack of delicacy of feeling that is an up-to-date triumph indeed! If Congressman Boutelle had never held public office, and never done anything to bring him a measure of fame, he might now, in his helpless days of suffering, be allowed to spend them in a different manner than by dodging as for his life a paper-chase of athletic reporters. Supposing him to be in heaven's mercy oblivious of it all, his family might at least be guaranteed that sympathetic and charitable letting-alone that is at times one of the most precious gifts in the bestowal of friends. Lack of courtesy at the hands of those who would be disseminators of news public men have always experienced and probably always will, to a certain extent, but in a case of this kind making the family of the prominent one to suffer unwarrantably and unnecessarily, is nothing short of ruffianism, and stupid ruffianism at that.

Lesson From the Charleston's Loss.

Washington correspondent, Philadelphia Ledger.

The loss of the Charleston has set in operation on all the vessels in the Philippine fleet a systematic charting of soundings in all waters that are suspected. The reefs around the Northern Philippine islands are all volcanic, and the navigator has no warning nor means of informing himself of their proximity. The Charleston, acccording to the official reports, was one minute making headway in a roung sea, 400 feet deep. The next she had run one-third her length on a flat reef where the depth of the water was but 16 feet. This mountain top, for that is what these volcanic reefs are for the most part, was uncharted, and two miles from the nearest charted shore. The Spanish have not been as good sailors in the 19th century as in previous history, and their charts are grievously defective. To send our splendid cruisers over to the Philippines to do patrol duty close in shore is a risk that seems suicidal. The officers of the fleet, in their official reports, do not hesitate to criticize Admiral Dewey's course in sending more fine ships over there. Now every cruiser sent on patrol duty feels her way along, making records of soundings. By this course intelligent and trustworthy charts will soon be provided and the danger reduced. In especially bad and suspicious water they put their boats out well ahead of the ship. The naval authorities agree that around the large islands of the Philippines lie some of the most dangerous coasts in the world. When Captain Wilde, of the Oregon, was ordered by Admiral Watson to go on patrol duty in Cebu, on an almost uncharted coast, he made a protest in writing, which the admiral respected, and the ship went to Lingayen gulf. A large amount of patrol work is done by launches, but there is a scarcity of these boats in Manila, and the navy buys as fast as it can those that are offered in Hong Kong. This patrol system is just at this time a feature of the service which is much needed, and is receiving constant attention from the department.

The Kind McKinley "Takes Care Of."

Boston Herald.

The United States has been recently again humiliated through one of its foreign ministers. One W. Godfrey Hunter, of Kentucky, represents the country in Guatemala. The wife of the British representative there gave a reception to which Minister Hunter was not invited. The attempt was then made to convert this omission into a national affront, but it turned out that the character of Minister Hunter was so objectionable that this English lady refused to receive him. Further inquiry developed that he was odious to United States residents of this Central American capital as well, and that they had almost in a body petitioned our government for his recall. This man Hunter had been the republican candidate for United States senator in Kentucky, but was detected in having given a private pledge to a populist member of the legislature of that state to support free silver as the price of his vote. This exposure lost Hunter the election. He then appeared at Washington, soliciting an office from the administration, and received it in the place at Guatemala, with the results that we have above noted.

Widely Extended Operations.

The wide field covered by the American operations in Luzon is shown by recent events. Aguinaldo's wife and several rebel officers were captured at Bontoc, 253 miles north of Manila, and 150 prisoners and four rapid-fire guns were captured at Cabuyao, 67 miles south of Manila. The northern provinces having been cleared of armed rebels, the American troops are moving on the rebel forces in the provinces of Cavite and Laguna, south of Manila. In this last campaign against the rebels, the American troops are moving from Laguna de Bay on the east as well as from the north. Cavite is Aguinaldo's native province, and it has been the boast of the rebels that they would make their last stand in the rough lands of their leader's home province. This plan has suited General Otis, because it has enabled him to aim the last blow at the rebellion without sending his troops to distant provinces.

When the Last Century Ended.

Here is a curiosity. A correspondent of the Boston Transcript writes:

In reading Scott's "Life of Dryden," published in 1808, I have just happened upon a paragraph which seems almost too good to lose at this date. Scott says that Dryden was asked to write a masque for the Drury Lane theater, adapted to the termination of the 17th century, and adds the following note:

"Upon the 25th March, 1700, it being supposed (as by many in our own time) that the century was concluded so soon as the hundredth year commenced—as if a play was ended at the beginning of the fifth act."

Lest We Forget.

Chicago Journal.

The enormous benefactions of a Rockefeller, a Carnegie, a Pierpont Morgan, the Stanford, or the Crocker estate, do not excuse nor should they blind the people to the methods by which the millions from which these gratuities are subtracted were rolled up. Robin Hood, history tells us, dispensed his booty among the poor. Incidentally, it may be noted that some of these later freebooters have reversed the process and distributed among institutions intended for the use of the rich or comfortable classes the largess forcibly collected from the poor.

A Congressman's Idea.

Congressman Bibley in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"It has cost the people of the United States millions of dollars to have that roll called in the house of representatives, and I hope to see the day when a man can sit at his seat in the house and press a button which will record his vote at the clerk's desk; when the votes will be added automatically, so that the speaker can announce the result five minutes after the question has been put. It would cost us only $2500 or so, and it would simplify the work of the house a great deal."

Great Britain's Trial.

Boston Transcript.

Great Britain's prestige will be greatly lowered if she does not bring the war to a triumphant conclusion. Her future may and probably will invite a long series of annoyances, if not assaults, from jealous Continental powers. The British race would be more than ever on trial for its imperial life, and it is a race that has never yet shrunk from a fair field.

Fine Point, But Well Taken.

Boston Herald.

One of the fine points made by Mr. Godkin, in his reminiscences, is his remark that we have got into a way of taking material prosperity for good government, a delusion of which the bosses take advantage, and which, to most men, is the sweetest delusion possible. There is no such fosterer of indifference to politics as a good bank account.

The Cheerful Idiot.

Indianapolis Press.

"Then the heroine," said the youngest boarder, who has a habit of telling about the stories he reads, "discovers that her idol has feet of clay."

"And after that, of course, his name is mud," said the Cheerful Idiot.

A Forest for Tea Chests.

A large Glasgow (Scotland) tea chest company has purchased 10,000 acres of forest land in North Carolina, with 75,000,000 feet of stumpage, to use the lumber for veneering of tea chests. A factory to prepare it will be built at Wilmington.

Hamburg's Trolley Lines.

Hamburg, Germany's first seaport, has adopted the American overhead trolley on its street lines. Eighty German cities are supplied with electric railways, and American appliances are admitted to be beyond comparison the best.

Sensitive About Seeing Ghosts.

New York Tribune.

Mr. Edward Atkinson has written a letter in reply to General Lawton's dying message, which suggests that he is sensitive about seeing ghosts.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Taking Aguinaldo for all in all, we never shall look upon his like again—we hope.

It looks now as if it might turn out that the best British general will be French.

Perhaps that cannon is delaying its arrival in Portland because it knows it will be bored when it gets here.

Prisoners having grown scarce on the firing line, the Boers are now trying to get a few out of their corral.

"Sometimes I find," observed the footpad, "that in order to hold a man up it is necessary to hold him down."

"I've just finished my 20th century run," said the scorcher. And now he is wondering why they set upon and beat him.

Quay and Aguinaldo would be a team of presidential candidates which would at least have the approval of Senator Hoar.

Perhaps now the Boers are anxious to get the blacks to fight for them, they will condescend to allow them to walk on the same side of the street.

They say that when Aguinaldo's wife was told that the United States troops were coming and would be right on her in a minute, she exclaimed: "Goodness! is my hat on straight!"

Birds a singin' in the trees,
Sun a-shinin' in the sky,
People wearin' summer clo'es,
Just the weather for July.

Wind a-howlin' roun' the roof,
Drivin' sheets o' drenchin' rain,
Sky a-lookin' cold an' gray,
People chasin' home again.

Summer, winter, spring an' fall,
Chunks o' March, and chunks o' May;
Chasin' one another past,
All in Portland yesterday.

A young woman of Portland, who takes a general interest in the welfare of babies, thinks the new style baby-carriages, with two little wheels in front, are not fit to trundle young babies about the streets in. These babies, she says, have little or no backbone, and should not be expected to sit bolt upright, as they have to in these little trundle carts. A strap in front holds the little one in, and over this strap the tired babe throws its whole weight, while the thoughtless nurse feebly realizes the torture the little one is subjected to.

Cheap and rapid transit and a 25-cent rate between this city and Vancouver and Oregon City have practically made those cities suburbs of Portland, and enabled the women of Portland to place their friends in Oregon City and Vancouver on their calling lists, and calls are interchanged regularly. Now Astoria has been added to the list of suburbs of Portland, and the women of Portland have placed the names of their friends in Astoria on their calling lists, and vice versa, and calls are regularly interchanged, the distance of 100 miles cutting no figure while the fare is only 25 cents.

Portland police have been reporting very few infractions of the laws by wheelmen this winter, and the sidewalk scorcher is said to have well nigh disappeared. This welcome change is not due to any serious punishment inflicted on the bike riders, but rather to a sober judgment on the part of the wheelmen themselves. Early in the season the police stopped a good many scorchers and "read them the riot act," and these little lectures, it is thought, have been productive of considerable good. Occasionally some youth who does not realize his own danger is caught riding the sidewalks at night without a light, but he always promises to behave better in future, and most of them keep their word.

Municipal Judge Hennessy is still holding down that $40 throne which he purchased on his own responsibility without authority from the committee on health and police. The furniture-dealer declines to exchange the chair for a cheaper one, and the committee has not ordered it paid for, and the judge is becoming so tired of the situation that even the softly-cushioned chair fails to rest him. If the committee does not pay for the chair before long the judge will pay for it himself. If he is re-elected he can afford the luxury, and if not he will keep it as a souvenir of his judgeship. It would not be out of place for some of the religious fortune-tellers who were upheld by the judge to make him a present of the chair.

A citizen who lately returned from Rossland, B. C., and who chanced to bring along a number of Canadian silver coins in his pocket, complains of the discount made on them here. He says that in Spokane and the Sound cities these coins pass at their par value, as does American silver on the Canadian side of the boundary. Banks here discount Canadian bills 1 or 2 per cent, but a much greater discount is made on silver, and a Canadian quarter passes here for only 20 cents, a discount of 20 per cent, which is outrageous. Of course, anywhere along the boundary line the silver coins of both countries pass on an equal footing, for there is very little difference in their value, and people keep crossing back and forth across the boundary. Portland is so far from the boundary line that it costs something to send bank notes or silver across the line and get American money in exchange. American money being worth a little more than the Canadian coins of the same denomination, pass freely on the British side of the boundary line, but it would be well, in order to save loss and annoyance, for persons coming over the line into the United States to leave the Canadian money behind.

A wonderful adjustable gunstock, which can be arranged in a moment to fit the tallest man or the shortest boy, has been invented by O. O. Scripture, of Prescott, Ariz., and the Journal, of that town, gives it a highly commendatory notice. It is usually difficult for ordinary people to understand such inventions, but the explanation the Journal gives of this one is so lucid that he who runs may read, and he who never fired a shot may understand. Without entering into a detailed explanation of the invention, the following in regard to one of the points covered by the patent is given for the information of those interested in such things:

The combination with the butt section or rear section having a concavity at its forward end, of the barrel section or front section having a convex rear end to fit the concavity of the butt section, said convex and concave faces being formed with teeth adapted to interlock, a transverse pivot in the barrel section, a connecting rod mounted on said pivot directly and extending rearwardly through the butt section, the rear end of said rod being screw-threaded, and a nut held to revolve on the butt section and screwing on the rear end of the connecting rod.

Some may imagine that it would be cheaper and less troublesome to have a patent, double back-action toggle joint put on one's neck to make it fit any kind of a gunstock, and the invention is open to this objection, but those who imagine that their heads are put on right can patronize the adjustable gunstock.