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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Occasional rain in  
the afternoon; wind to easterly winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

OUR OWN INDEPENDENT WAY.

We have large numbers of citizens,  
and residents not citizens, who are en-  
tering in a great deal of time and ap-  
parently much effort in denunciation of  
Great Britain. That may be good  
enough employment. It is a matter of  
feeling, and each one has a right to  
seek happiness or satisfaction in his  
own way. It often gives relief to un-  
pack the heart with words. Besides,  
when a great nation is the subject of  
objurgation, nobody in particular is  
hurt.

The British man just now has a tough job, now  
seems to be a good time.

But it is altogether unnecessary to  
scream against a "British alliance," or  
to protest and declare that "the United  
States never shall be an appendage of  
Great Britain." These are puerilities.

They who exclaim thus have but small  
opinion of the United States, for they  
talk as if they supposed there was dan-  
ger that the United States would in  
some way accept, or in some way be  
subjected to, the hegemony of Great  
Britain. These two great nations will  
remain separate entities, with no  
thought of alliance, and each will con-  
tinue to play its own part in the world  
of affairs.

But their mission in civilization is  
somewhat similar, and they need not be  
enemies. In the present posture of the  
world's affairs, it is hardly conceivable,  
indeed, that they could be enemies.  
Each has large and similar problems to  
face, and hostility between them, in the  
face of a world largely hostile to each  
and to both, would now be madness.  
Yet there will be no alliance, nor even  
co-operation; for each will pursue its  
own way and fight its own battles. We  
have been fighting our battle with  
Spain and with the insurgents of the  
Philippine islands. Great Britain is  
fighting her battle with the Dutch Afri-  
kander. She did not interpose in our  
war; we will not in hers.

Our exports of merchandise to Europe  
in 1898 amounted to a value of  
\$173,505,345. Of this total, the United  
Kingdom took merchandise valued at  
\$50,840,122, or nearly five-ninths of the  
whole. Our exports to all other parts  
of the world amounted to \$122,665,223,  
of which British possessions in various  
parts of the world took over one-half.

The British empire, Great Britain, in  
the course of its long history, has been  
in conflict with many nations and  
races, shall be engaged in serious war  
anywhere, many who have sprung from  
those nations or races would be glad to  
see that power beaten. It is a natural  
and human feeling. But of course this  
nation of ours, made up of people from  
all countries, cannot enter into the  
strife of any. The historic enemies of  
the Old World do not belong to us. We  
have our own mission, and must pur-  
sue it in our own independent way.

THE MODERN MOLOCH.  
Dabblers in "Christian Science,"  
"theosophy," "menticulture," and all  
the wide range of insane and pernicious  
imitations of the mechanical  
science, may find matter for reflection  
in the moving story Pittsburg contrib-  
uted to yesterday morning's dispatches.  
The three children of a family were  
attacked by that dread disease, diptheria,  
and the ignorant and criminally  
reckless father neglected to call in a  
physician, and when one was forced  
upon him by the authorities, he refused  
to administer the medicine prescribed,  
though one child was dead and another  
was already in the advanced stages of  
the disease.

No one who has seen a child in the  
agony throes of this most terrible of  
children's maladies can read this  
Pittsburg story without a chill of hor-  
ror at the little sufferer's fate and an  
exclamation of the unnatural parent who  
could watch the membrane gather  
thicker and closer in the tiny throat  
without an effort to stay its progress,  
under the brutal and idiotic pretense  
that he could not take the matter out  
of "the hands of the Lord." It would  
be the wish of Christian men, and  
should read some fatal news about him,  
yet I sought all the information I could  
get hold of to relieve my suspense. In-  
formation we got from the department  
was to the effect that my boy had been  
wounded, but was well, and had not  
been recovered. He was always a good  
boy, and wrote me constantly.

This false report of good news was  
sorry preparation for the truth, which  
was to fall next day like a thunderbolt.  
It took this form:

Manila, Jan. 6.—Secretary of Navy, Wash-  
ington: Gillmore, Walton, Vandell, Elsworth,  
Bullock, Anderson, Peterson, Edwards, arrived.  
Also Farmer, Burke and Herbert, of the Uta-  
hian contingent, unaccounted for. Last seen  
at Baler, June 15. WATSON.

Disappointments of fond and anxious  
hearts seldom fall as cruelly as this.  
Every heart knows its own bitter-

ness; but in these enlightened times no  
one hears his grief alone. Such com-  
pany as can be offered will not fall for  
bearers. Cultivation has been described  
as the capacity for entering into the  
feelings of others, and sympathy has  
never been as widespread as it is to-  
day. The case is far from hopeless, and  
the end of the story may yet be bright.

Perhaps the boy has fallen in with  
some other band of American troops,  
who may report him any day as an  
American captive. Or he may be de-  
tained as prisoner by some revolving  
band, that cannot much longer evade  
the American forces. Such fatalities  
as befall the prisoners seem to have  
grown out of the first attack upon  
them, in which Venville, evidently, was  
not wounded. Prisoners have not been  
killed by Aguinaldo's forces recently,  
but treated with ostentatious courtesy  
for political effect. There is no reason  
for supposing that the Sellwood  
mother may yet welcome her boy, as  
back from the dead, and certainly such  
love and devotion deserve such recom-  
pense.

Representative Hopkins declares that  
the war taxes will stand, so far as this  
congress is concerned, and utterances  
on this subject from him are doubtless  
ex cathedra. This assertion, coming as  
it does on the heels of a remarkable  
treasury statement, is strikingly sug-  
gestive of the profound effect develop-  
ing industry and the Spanish war will  
have upon our fiscal policy. It is too  
late to inquire as to the advisability  
of change or steps to ward it off. The  
old order has given place to new, the  
ancient landmarks have been removed.

We stand like Venice when conquests  
east of the Adriatic had brought her  
in face with her impending destiny  
and Oriental commerce; like Spain  
when the New World burst upon her  
view. The order of the day is readjust-

To take a single aspect of this trans-  
formation, our fiscal circumstances are  
to be all but revolutionized. No longer  
can we be contented with the income  
that once sufficed our comparatively  
moderate needs, when a billion-dollar  
conquest was thought fit to scandalize  
the country. It is evident, also, that  
the bulk of our incomes is no longer  
derived, as formerly, from customs  
tariffs. Taxation must be more direct,  
and business must brace itself to meet  
it. If we compare our treasury re-  
ceipts for 1894, 1897 and for twelve  
months at the rate now prevailing, we  
shall see the vast distance we have  
traveled in an economic point of view,

1894 Receipts.....\$373,000,000  
1897.....450,000,000  
1898.....578,000,000

If we recall the sources of government  
income in former years, we shall find  
them as follows:

Receipts.....1894.....1897.....  
Customs.....\$122,000,000.....\$176,000,000  
Internal revenue.....147,000,000.....147,000,000  
Postal revenue.....10,000,000.....10,000,000  
Miscellaneous.....20,000,000.....20,000,000

Totals.....\$279,000,000.....\$353,000,000

No longer ago than from 1894 to 1897,  
therefore, our internal revenue was  
about stationary at \$143,000,000 to \$147,  
000,000, while our income from customs  
tariffs was on the increase as compared  
with them. But since the war laid un-  
usual burdens upon us, the limited ca-  
pacity of the tariff to produce revenue  
comes out plainly, despite the increases  
of the Dingley law and the strenuous  
efforts made in the war revenue bill to  
raise from fees and other imports in-  
creased returns.

In the month of December, 1899, our  
customs tariff yielded \$19,000,000 and  
our internal revenue \$25,000,000. At this  
rate, if we eliminate the miscellaneous  
receipts, which are nominal, and the  
postal receipts, which are usually ex-  
hausted by the mail service, we should  
have to raise, for the annual \$670,000,  
000 of income required, no less than  
\$24,400,000 from internal revenue, and  
\$25,000,000 from customs tariffs. In 1897  
we drew 54 per cent of our income  
from the tariff; today but 43 per cent.

The simplest deduction from the asser-  
tion made by Mr. Hopkins is the  
perpetuity of the war taxes. We can  
indirectly see also that there is small  
hope of reduction in expenditures. Each  
little savings can be made in over-  
seas operations will be offset by increase  
of pensions and government undertak-  
ings of various kinds. It would not be  
surprising, therefore, if the congress, in  
about five years of increasing revenues  
before trying to reduce it. The tariff  
has about reached the limit of its effi-  
ciency in this respect.

Direct taxes must come more and  
more into vogue, and customs duties will  
be laid with a view to revenue rather  
than protection. Substitution of direct  
taxation is more apparent, but there-  
by more honest. Customs duties are  
often a cloak for trade favoritism. Elu-  
sive evasions can afford heavy taxes  
better than hampered trade can afford  
light taxes.

Our industrial development and the  
accession of our new dependencies will  
 exert a profound effect in lifting from  
trade the burden that heavy import  
duties had laid upon it. No one can  
foresee to what immense volume our  
trade may swell under these new con-  
ditions, to what vast proportions our  
shipping, our wealth and our sea power  
may expand, the building of the trans-  
pacific lines, the Panama canal, the  
threshold of one of the greatest em-  
pires, perhaps the greatest empire, the  
world has ever seen. It may not be the  
last, but its history will be worth the  
reading.

A CRUEL DISAPPOINTMENT.  
Real life has its pathos, equal to that  
of the romancer or the mimic stage.  
Most readers of The Oregonian, we  
fancy, have followed with more or less  
faithfulness and interest the concern of  
a Sellwood mother for her boy, one of  
Gillmore's party, long held prisoner by  
the Tagal bands, but at length rescued  
by a picked force of 150 American sol-  
diers. This mother's anxiety is no  
doubt merely a type of that of many  
others all over the country. She has  
written letters to The Oregonian con-  
cerning her boy, inquiries have been  
made at Washington and Manila, with-  
out definite response, until last week  
the story came of the rescue and the  
name of young Venville appeared in the  
press reports among the rescued. This  
good news was carried to the mother,  
whose joy may be imagined, for her  
suspense had been great. "I would  
sit," she said, "as the days went by  
and wonder whether my boy was dead  
or alive. I would open the morning  
papers with fear and trembling, lest I  
should read some fatal news about him,  
yet I sought all the information I could  
get hold of to relieve my suspense. In-  
formation we got from the department  
was to the effect that my boy had been  
wounded, but was well, and had not  
been recovered. He was always a good  
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hearts seldom fall as cruelly as this.  
Every heart knows its own bitter-

disproportionate share of these trials  
have been held on me appointed from  
civil life, which are always due to po-  
litical "pull" and favoritism. The only  
way to keep the army efficient is to  
keep promotion even and continuous  
from top to bottom; that is to make  
appointments at the bottom on the  
same continuous plan. General Miles  
decides like a soldier, and General Cor-  
bin like a military politician and dem-  
agogue seeking to make votes in con-  
gruence with his schemes.

The savings banks of the state of  
New York, together with those of the  
six New England states, hold 78 per  
cent of the savings deposits of the  
whole country, the share of New York  
alone being 38 per cent. The resources  
of the savings banks of the entire state  
of New York increased from \$45,000,  
000 in 1890 to \$223,000,000 in 1899, while  
the deposits in the banks of New York  
city and Brooklyn rose from \$38,519,000  
in 1890 to \$598,457,000 in July,  
1899. Their surplus grew in the same  
period from \$80,000,000 to \$80,000,000.  
Taken in connection with the indus-  
trial depression that bore heavily upon  
the class of people who deposit their  
earnings in savings banks during at  
least half of the period covered, this  
increase in the deposits and surplus of  
these banks may well be considered  
phenomenal. These figures attest the  
diffusion, not the centralization, of  
wealth, representing as they do the  
surplus income of labor, and the sys-  
tematic economy of thousands of peo-  
ple.

If England and Japan are attacked in  
Asia, we may have to help them out.  
If Germany pursues her designs on  
Brazil, we may have to repel her with  
words or warships. If the Filipinos  
continue obstreperous, we may have to  
send a considerable force there. If we  
defend an isthmian canal, we may be  
called to police it. If France proceeds to  
occupy Santo Domingo, we shall have to  
put her out. If Russia closes her  
Asiatic ports to us, we shall have to  
remonstrate. Some show of force may  
yet be necessary to secure our Alaska  
miners their rights or collect our bills  
from Turkey. These are prospects that  
may well cause the lazy man to be-  
come weary and the timid to hide his  
head. The genuine anti will want to go  
and die in the trenches, the craft may  
be faced. To do work and brave dan-  
gers and discharge responsibilities be-  
long to men, not to the ants, who have  
sunk in the tents of vigorous human-  
ity from the dawn of history.

Archbishop Christie probably made it  
clear to at least some of the wives in  
his audience at Mount Taber Sunday  
that retirement from the world in the  
capacity of a nun is not the only or  
most disagreeable form of submission  
to God or to man, or may be exacted of  
the subjects of his church. His Grace  
preferring his remarks upon this  
subject with the statement that he  
"desired to be practical," proceeded  
to draw a comparison between  
submission to an "ugly husband" and  
the submission of a recluse, in a way  
that could scarcely fail to score a point  
in favor of the estate of the latter. It  
is seldom that priest or preacher makes  
so strong a personal application as this  
of a theory that he is called upon to  
defend from the altar or pulpit. The  
incident is interesting, in its way, as  
Rose Terry Cooke's sketch, the labors  
of an honest New England parson.

The decision of the government to  
send a detachment of troops to the  
Cape Nome district as soon as naviga-  
tion opens in the spring is in the line  
of prudence. The estimate that 20,000  
people, largely of the aggressive type,  
will have congregated there by May 1  
is sufficient ground to fear trouble, un-  
less means are taken to avert it. In  
default of civil government, the mil-  
itary must be called in to enforce the  
law and keep in check. In this as in  
other things, the ounce of prevention is  
better than the pound of cure.

The statement of General Joubert in  
his published letter that out of a popu-  
lation of 170,000 Boers the South Afri-  
can republics have put into the field an  
army of 50,000, is explained by the fact  
that boys of 16 and men of 75 are now  
bearing arms in the Boer ranks. Dur-  
ing the last year of our civil war, boys  
of 16 and men of 60 years of age were  
no frequent in the Confederate ranks,  
and that General Grant, in his mil-  
litary reports, always said that the en-  
emy had robbed the cradle and the grave to  
fill their depleted ranks.

The military stagnation, so to speak,  
in South Africa creates a tension in  
the public mind not only in England  
but in the United States, which every  
day, with its ominous silence and grave-  
possibilities increases. Popular clamor  
has ceased, criticism has been hushed.  
The shock of battle is imminent, and  
ignoring in the crisis the underlying  
causes, humanity shudders at the av-  
ful carnage that will follow an onset  
which cannot much longer be delayed.

The Dreyfus trial (so evanescent a  
thing is popular indignation, even when  
invoked in the cause of justice) is not  
likely to affect the attendance or ex-  
hibit at the world's fair. A more po-  
tential cause may, however, seriously af-  
fect the former. Paris hotel-keepers  
have combined, it is said, to charge  
at the rate of \$5 a day for entertainment  
without meals—to all comers.

In the Worst Case.  
London Special Correspondent: It  
may be that a real disaster is still  
going to happen in South Africa, and  
that while General Methuen's force will  
be pinned in and starved out at the Mod-  
der, General Buller will be unable to re-  
lieve Ladysmith, and that it, too, will  
fall. We do not believe that either of  
these things will happen, for we believe  
that General Methuen can be relieved  
by the imperial force, while if the  
worst comes to the worst, General White  
can, by a night march, cut his way out  
of Ladysmith and join General Buller.  
He would have to sacrifice his past stores  
and general ammunition, and so will not  
move till absolutely obliged, but that he  
can move if he likes, we make no doubt.  
But even supposing our notions to be  
wrong, and that both General Methuen  
and General White are destroyed, the  
public here must stand firm. They will  
get in that esse plenty of suggestions of  
panic from South Africa, but they must  
not be moved by them. Even if we were to  
lose 15,000 men, we must still go on, and  
must begin to organize another army  
appropriate to the work in hand. When  
that army has been raised and organized,  
and organized the Egyptian army to re-  
conquer the Sudan, it must be used to  
beat the Boers. The Dutch have been  
years in the making, and are only  
just finishing that war. Probably, even  
if we have to endure the best reverses of  
the kind we are considering, we shall not

take 20 years, but the spirit of the Dutch  
in their overseas war is the spirit we must  
copy. Meantime, we see no reason to be-  
lieve that either Methuen or White will  
be unable to look after himself.

ROOSEVELT ON TRUSTS.  
Ill-Considered Laws Might Do More  
Harm Than Good.

Upon the question of trusts and mono-  
polistic corporations in the form of trusts,  
Governor Roosevelt's recent message to  
the New York legislature points out very  
clearly the harm which these combina-  
tions may do to weaker competitors, to  
the consumer and to the laborer. But he  
with equal clearness that hasty and ill-  
advised legislation may accentuate the  
very damage it seeks to repair. It is a  
question, he thinks, which should be at-  
tacked, not in any spirit of vindictive-  
ness, but thoughtfully, carefully and ten-  
tatively. As a first step he advocates the  
utmost publicity in corporate affairs which  
will be consistent with the protection of  
the corporation affected. He says: "The first  
essential is knowledge of the facts, pub-  
licity. Much can be done at once by amend-  
ment of the corporation laws so as to pro-  
vide for such publicity. The same work  
injustly as between business rivals.

"The chief abuses alleged to arise from  
trusts are probably the following: Mis-  
representation or concealment regarding  
material facts connected with the organi-  
zation of an enterprise; the evils con-  
nected with unscrupulous promotion; over-  
capitalization; unfair competition, result-  
ing in the backwash of the market, and  
the raising of prices above fair competitive rates;  
the wielding of increased power over the wage-  
earners. . . . Some of these evils could  
be wholly remedied by a modification of  
our corporation laws. . . . We should  
know authoritatively whether stock rep-  
resents actual value of goods, or whether  
it represents brands or plants, or if not,  
what does it represent, or if anything, it  
is desirable to know how much was actually  
bought, how much was issued free, and to  
whom; and, if possible, for what reason.  
In the first place, this would be invaluable  
to the public, and would be done as among  
the stockholders, for many of the gross-  
est wrongs that are perpetrated are those  
of promoters and organizers at the ex-  
pense of the general public who are in-  
vited to take shares in business organiza-  
tions. In the next place, this would en-  
able us to see just what the public have a  
right to expect in the way of service and  
results. There is no reason whatever for  
refusing to tax a corporation, because  
by its own acts it has created a burden  
of charges under which it staggers. . . .

"Where a trust becomes a monopoly the  
state has an immediate right to interfere.  
Care should be taken not to stifle enter-  
prise or disclose any facts of a business  
that are essentially private; but the state  
for the protection of the public should  
exercise the right to inspect, to examine  
thoroughly all the workings of great cor-  
porations just as is now done with banks;  
and wherever the interests of the public  
demand it, it should publish the results  
of its examinations. If there are in-  
ordinate profits, competition or public  
sentiment will give the public the benefit  
in lowered prices; and if not, the power  
of taxation remains. It is therefore evi-  
dent that publicity is a more sure and  
adequate remedy which we can now in-  
voke. There may be other remedies, but  
what these others are we can only find out  
by publicity, as the result of our in-  
vestigation. The first requisite is knowledge,  
full and complete."

EXPANSION AND PROTECTION.  
Parties Have Shifted Positions on  
Expansion—Will They Shift on  
Protection, Too?

Louisville Courier-Journal.  
The Courier-Journal has repeatedly  
pointed out that the expansion policy is  
democratic and not republican. It was  
inaugurated by democrats, and opposed  
by federalists, whigs and republicans.  
This late day the republicans have pitched  
their tents on the ground where the dem-  
ocrats established a camp in 1860.

This accession of the republicans to the  
policy of the democrats in the days when  
the latter were in power has not been  
made without some sacrifices. For gen-  
erations the democrats, in their efforts to  
protect the American consumer from  
spoilation, were met with the charge that  
they were bribed with "British gold."

The friendliness of democrats for Great  
Britain, commercially, as the chief buyer  
of our agricultural staples, was perma-  
nent, and in the evidence of corruption.  
Only a few years have passed since  
it was charged that the Cobden Club had  
contributed an immense sum to the dem-  
ocratic campaign fund, and that at a  
time when the club had not money enough  
to pay its very moderate running ex-  
penses.

All that is changed now. We pass by  
the fact that the republican adminis-  
tration is extremely friendly with Great  
Britain, for that is largely due to recent  
events in which the whole country is in-  
volved, and in the peculiar relation  
to international trade. What we desire  
to point out is that national expansion  
goes hand in hand, if not with free trade,  
at least with freer trade than we have  
heretofore had. The tendency of expan-  
sion beyond the continent is toward free  
trade, or at least to such measure of  
free trade as is possible consistent with  
the needs of the government. Every new  
bit of territory that becomes a part of  
the United States extends the area of the  
free trade that has always prevailed  
among the states and territories of the  
Union.

A Deput Story.  
Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.  
To illustrate the position of one of the  
great national parties during a campaign  
noted for its fiery partisanship, Mr. De-  
pew tells this story of the youthful poli-  
tician and the woodchuck:  
"The tutor in one of the smaller schools  
near my native town of Peekskill had  
drilled a number of his brightest scholars  
in the history of contemporary politics,  
and to test both their faith and their  
knowledge he called upon three of them  
one day and demanded a declaration of  
their political principles:  
"You are a republican, Tom, are you  
not?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"And Bill, you are a prohibitionist, I  
believe?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"And Jim, you are a democrat?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"Well, now, the one of you that can  
give me the best reason why he belongs  
to his party can have this woodchuck  
which I caught on my way to school  
this morning."  
"I am a republican," said the first boy,  
"because the republican party saved the  
country in the war and abolished slavery."  
"And Bill, why are you a prohibitionist?"  
"I am a prohibitionist," rattled off the  
youth, "because rum is the country's  
greatest enemy and the cause of our  
overcrowded prisons and poorhouses."  
"Excellent reasons, Bill!" remarked the  
tutor encouragingly. "Now, why are you  
a democrat, Jim?"  
"Well, sir," was the slow reply, "I am  
a democrat because I want that wood-  
chuck."  
"And he got it, too," added Mr. Depew.

The Dutch Afrikaner's Reasons.  
Kansas City Star.  
There are plenty of sentimental reasons  
for sympathizing with the Boers without  
resorting to claptrap. The Boers are  
fighting to prevent the strangers from rul-  
ing their country by securing citizenship  
and outwitting them and changing Boer  
customs to English customs. They are

not fighting for republicanism, but for  
oligarchy. They are not fighting for dem-  
ocracy, but to retain their identity by  
denying democracy to the stranger. They  
are, indeed, fighting for home rule, but  
for home rule by natives exclusively.  
They are fighting for the ballot, but a  
ballot for Dutch. They are truly fighting  
for love of home against the love of gold,  
but not for freedom, because freedom  
means equality of rights. They are not  
fighting for any church, except for the  
Dutch Reformed church, and they are not  
fighting for free institutions in the Amer-  
ica. The Boers are fighting for the rights  
of the first possessed against the later  
comers, and for the right to be left  
alone and against foreign interference.  
These are the plain facts, and they cannot  
be successfully controverted.

The Kaiser Holds Europe Down.  
Prof. Delbruck, University of Berlin, in the  
North American Review.

A strong and even passionate feeling of  
resentment against England prevails at  
the present moment over the whole con-  
tinent of Europe. The successes of the  
Boers have been greeted with exulta-  
tion, and further triumphs are awaited  
with eager suspense. This need not  
excite surprise, at any rate so far as the  
Russians are concerned, for they have  
long seen their greatest enemy in the  
English. France, until recently had di-  
vided her dislike between the English and  
the Germans; but ever since Fashoda her  
desire for revenge for that humiliation  
has thrown her antagonism toward Ger-  
many into the background. Hence the  
political situation of Europe at this mo-  
ment is that the people of Germany,  
the leading power of the triple alliance,  
are entirely in agreement with the mem-  
bers of the dual alliance, inasmuch as a  
sentiment of hate for England unites the  
whole continent.

However, it is of little avail to pass  
in review the reasons which are usually  
brought to the fore in consequence  
of the South African crisis. What I  
wanted to say is only that the feelings  
of the Continental nations of Europe at  
this moment are in an astonishing degree  
against England, and would greet with  
joy any measures that their governments  
should undertake against Eng-  
land. The man who restrains them all  
from common action is the German em-  
peror, and no doubt he will con-  
tinue to do so as long as English states-  
men and the course of the South Afri-  
can war may render it possible for him.

Loss of Life in Great Battles.  
Fortnightly Review.

We English have, happily, been so free  
from war of late years that the list of  
casualties after each engagement has oc-  
casioned painful public surprise. It is not  
easy to remember that we are not now  
fighting with savage tribes, but with the  
most formidable marksmen in the world,  
armed with the latest and deadliest weap-  
ons that money can obtain. Keeping this  
in mind, the losses at Alcazar, the French  
laagte are not, comparatively, heavier  
than those recorded in many battles of the  
Franco-German war of 1870. At Spicheren,  
when the Germans stormed the French  
position at Alcazar, they killed 10,000 and  
487 men. During the attack on St.  
Privat, on the 18th of August, 1870, it has  
been calculated that 690 men of the Prus-  
sian guard fell in the short space of 45  
minutes. The 1300 men killed during the  
capture of smooth-bore cannons and the  
Brown Bess, the casualty roll during the Pen-  
insular war was often quite as heavy. At  
the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo there were 30  
killed, and 1200 men killed during the  
assault. During the memorable assault  
of Badajoz, the British loss was 3500 out  
of 8000 engaged, and of these 3000 officers  
and 700 men were returned as slain, a  
record which would have satisfied even  
President Kruger's thirst for slaughter.  
Later on, at San Sebastian, 1718 British  
soldiers were killed, and 12000 men were  
killed in the final assault of that fortress.  
If these figures were worked out so as to give  
the percentages of losses to numbers en-  
gaged, they would show that the British  
casualties were not greater than might be  
expected under the circumstances of the  
fighting.

It is Dangerous Business.  
The London Times has a correspondent  
at Modder River who is certainly trying  
to do the best he can. Speaking of the  
British in battle he says: "But their  
careless causes much amusement among  
the British." It is a mistake to put guns  
in the hands of such nervous people, even  
for amusement. They are liable to lose  
control of themselves, and in the total ex-  
pense of a regiment of Highlanders or  
fusiliers who are being amused.

A Self-Imposed Disadvantage.  
The utter incapacity of the house au-  
thorities to understand the war problem  
concerning the utilization of convicts for  
their own maintenance. During the year  
ended on December 1, the gross earnings  
amounted to \$20,167, and the total ex-  
pense to \$18,847, showing net earnings  
of \$131,720. The prisoners are employed  
in farming, in the mining of coal and in  
the production of coke.

"Something Hot."  
Sir Algernon West's Recollections.  
D'Orsay was at a dinner at Disraeli's,  
which was not of a kind to suit the fas-  
hionable gourmet, and where everything had  
been cold. At the end of dinner there was  
brought in some half-melted ice in a dish.  
"Thank heaven!" said D'Orsay, "at last  
we have got something hot."

For Brotherhood of Man.  
M. X. Chicago Times-Herald.  
Again is England's power arrayed  
Against a foreign foe.  
Again is England undelayed,  
In the history of contemporary politics,  
and to test both their faith and their  
knowledge he called upon three of them  
one day and demanded a declaration of  
their political principles:  
"You are a republican, Tom, are you  
not?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"And Bill, you are a prohibitionist, I  
believe?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"And Jim, you are a democrat?"  
"Yes, sir."  
"Well, now, the one of you that can  
give me the best reason why he belongs  
to his party can have this woodchuck  
which I caught on my way to school  
this morning."  
"I am a republican," said the first boy,  
"because the republican party saved the  
country in the war and abolished slavery."  
"And Bill, why are you a prohibitionist?"  
"I am a prohibitionist," rattled off the  
youth, "because rum is the country's  
greatest enemy and the cause of our  
overcrowded prisons and poorhouses."  
"Excellent reasons, Bill!" remarked the  
tutor encouragingly. "Now, why are you  
a democrat, Jim?"  
"Well, sir," was the slow reply, "I am  
a democrat because I want that wood-  
chuck."  
"And he got it, too," added Mr. Depew.

Transvaal had the plucky Boer  
Meets death, defying fate,  
And bathed in blood and red with gore  
The British crest wait.  
But though they fight with prayerful hearts  
As best they know and can,  
They fight as bigots fight and die,  
Against brotherhood.

Forgive them, God, may that dawn break,  
Whose setting sun has brought down  
No more the trembling earth shall shake  
With mighty warlike tread:  
May ignorance and selfishness  
No longer break upon his purchased blood.  
That binds the earth to heaven above  
In brotherhood of man.

NOTE AND COMMENT.  
Oom Paul may not be an illiterate man,  
but he has been giving the English a bad  
spell.

The popular song in the British army  
just now is "There's One More River to  
Cross."

What the democrats need is a campaign  
fund large enough to hire Bryan to stay  
at home this year.

The rescue of the traitorous Brown from  
the hands of the Filipinos was a mistake  
which