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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7.

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY.

The republican state league takes pride in the record of the McKinley administration, and well it may. The mistakes of the president are so many and so plain that he who runs may read, but he has been the head of an administration that will live as one of the most noteworthy in American annals, and in the main his course has been correct and laudable. The president's lack of courage and decision as leader is measurably counterbalunced by his almost miraculous discomment in interpreting public opinion as a follower. His most grievous offenses have sprung from an excess of amiability. Kind and generous to a fault, President McKinley has lacked firmness to withstand appeals for unworthy aspirants for office, and he hes-Stated in the Philippines when he should have gone boldly forward. Many, perhaps most, of his mistakes he has faithfully sought to rectify, and a no small portion of his effort has been expended in endeavors to atone for blunders so execrable that, though they may be forgiven, can never be forgotten or condened. The political shrewdness which Presi-

dent McKinley has manifested in a degree truly wonderful has enabled him to command most admirable selections in his advisers. He has laid the best brains of the country under tribute for counsel and assistance. His Paris commissioners and his Philippine commissioners have attested their worth in the high character of the work they have left behind. The peace commission was wise and firm enough to compel the president himself to modify his original instructions to take Mantla only from Spain, so as to include the whole Philippine archipelago, and the Philippine commission has performed a remarkable service that would have been impossible for any men except just such as went there, as Schurman and Worcester did, opposed to "imperialism," but honest enough to see and

declare the truth as they found it. So with his cabinet. Every change has strengthened it. Time has emphatically approved the elimination of Sherman, and Secretary Hay is busy adding one triumph of diplomacy to another. Secretary Gage has loyally and efficiently served the cause of the gold standard and currency reform. The change from Alger to Root was late, but abundantly justified in its results, Secretary Wilson has done much in a practical way to advance the condition and enlarge the markets of our farmers, and Pension Commissioner Evans has proved to be the right man in the right place. No better appointments could be made than those of White at Berlin, and Horace Porter at Paris. We were as ably represented as any power at The Hague. In the war with Spain our best military counsel was promptly availed of in General Schofield, our best naval authority Captain Mahan, was promptly ordered home from Rome, and the bestequipped working diplomatic student, Professor J. B. Moore, was taken from Columbia university, was put to work at Washington and subsequently at Parts. With all the handicaps of Algerism, our generals managed somehow to avoid a single reverse, and if the admirals are quarreling, it is never

Nave for the honor of victories.

The quality of extreme mobility, whose display has humiliated us more than once, has enabled the president to adapt himself with felicitous celer ity to every change in our national With steadfast republican Joyalty he berated Cleveland in 1891 for striking down one of the sacred metals of the constitution, but today he will speak as good a word as anybody for the gold standard. He stood for years In the public mind as the incarnation of only one idea-high protection-and his speeches show that if he has such things as convictions at all, he must have worshiped protection as second only in sacredness to deity itself. But now he is enabled to write his messages to congress without reference to protection, and unreservedly asks congrees to enact free trade with Puerto He seems to have unlearned completely his old ideas about the home market, and to have been taken possession of by the wider conception of the markets of the world. Through his amiability of temper, extreme susceptibility of purpose and singular discomment in taking counsel, President McKinley has been enabled to steer his course in the main so correctly that those who have opposed his general policies, as distinct from his weaknesses and shortcomings, have been obliged to put themselves in the most discreditable and impossible situations. On the necessity of the gold standard. and on our plain course of duty in the Philippines, the main points of controyeary between the administration and its enteronists, the opposition has no standing whatever.

The qualities that have made Mr. McKinley far from an ideal but in the main a successful president, are not the highest qualities. They would not stand comparison with those of Washington, Jefferson or Lincoln. But they are past comparison with his chief op- of sausages, dried apples, peppers, cloquent culogy ever spoken of a der to show concessions to England, pines at the moose time, such a system of

ponent for his place. If the Boy Ora- bunches of sage and herbs. The cheesetor of the Piatte, with his cross of gold and crown of thorns, his "enemy's country" and his 16-to-1 idol, has any qualifications whatever for the presidency, they have not yet made themselves manifest.

MORTGAGE TAXATION AGAIN.

A bill is before the legislature of New York for imposition of a tax of one-half of 1 per cent on mortgages. It is urged as a sort of compromise measure, between the position of those who want to levy the same tax on mortgages that is levied on property in general, and those who maintain that a tax on the mortgage is merely a tax on the borrower, and therefore should not piace, the lender cannot be reached by any tax law, and second, that a debt is good for nothing unless there is prop-erty behind it, and if the property is there, then that already is taxed and it is all that should be taxed.

But the familiar plea is heard now in New York, as it has so often been heard in Oregon, that it is not right that the money-lender should escape taxation. Let that be granted; yet the statement remains an utterly barren one. The lender never can be made to pay the tax. He will make the borrower agree to pay it, or the borrowe will not get the money. Then if the law shall declare that the lender, not the borrower, must pay the tax, the lender will advance the rate of interest to cover the exaction. Terms are made by those who have the money, not by those who want it. The patent office has long been walting for an invention that would relieve the borrower at the expense of the lender.

The only possible consequences of a mortgage-tax law are the confusion of business relations, the imposition of further burdens upon those who need money, and an additional clog upon enterprises that require the assistance of borrowed capital. If deduction of debt be allowed, further inequalities of taxation follow. The deductions wipe out valuations far in excess of the mortgage assessment; the public revenues suffer, and mortgage indebtedness is manipulated in ways that throw unequal burdens upon those who keep out of debt. There is nothing practical or rational in it, from any point of view

Yet the singular fact is that in spite of all experience mortgage taxation is still advocated under the belief that the lender can be made to pay the tax. Though exploded so often by argument and refuted everywhere by experience, It persists as one of the strange delusions harbored in befogged minds. is, in fact, a question nowise debatable; for it is as certain that the borrower pays the tax on the mortgage as that the buyer pays the tax on trade, the depositor the tax on savings bank deposits, and the borrower the tax on bank discounts. The truth cannot be masked in the least degree from the man who opens his understanding to simplest and plainest facts. Every mortgage tax is a tax laid on the box rower of money, who is compelled to pay it directly by agreement with the lender, or indirectly by an obscure but not less certain movement in the market for credit, diverting lendable capital to other investments and putting up the rate of interest on mortgage loans

by diminishing the supply. But the indignant inquiry is, "Are you going to let the man who owns and lends money escape taxation?" escapes, without your permission. He can shift the tax, and he will do it. There is the property on which the mortgage rests, already taxed. Tax the mortgage, and in effect you make the owner of that property pay two taxes upon it, for he must pay the mortgage tax also, either directly or indirectly; and if you allow deduction of the debt, the door is open to extraordiown abmood The state who the affair between the borrower and the lender alone. It is their contract and solely their business. No effort to tax invisible and intangible property can be effective. Such effort only fuses business relations, injures those whom it is meant to serve, and introduces disturbance and disorder into the revenue system of the state.

"THE SAVING POWER OF OUR IN STITUTIONS."

As an offset to the figures furnished by practical farmers, both of Eastern Oregon and the Willamette valley showing that the expenses incident to putting a bushel of wheat upon the market absorb, or very nearly so, the profits of wheatralsing at current prices, it is well to urge the absolute independence of the out-of-debt farmer's life as compared with that of th artisan or small tradesman. The chief points in this independence are a shelter, the right to which no landlord minded man gone wrong; but we de can dispute; the comforts of a home which household thrift and economy can certainly secure; a table spread with plenty in spite of prohibitive tenuation or excuse for his injustice prices in dairy and poultry products; an abundance of fruit for home consumption, even in a year of scarcity; wholesomeness of environment; based ity to wear comfortable clothes, quite as good as one's neighbors wear and hands of her husband, who is a better suitable to the vocation, even when crops are short. In other words, the income being restricted by short crops or low prices, the individual and household expenses can be restricted accordingly without trenching upon family comfort or family pride-a thing which as every one who has tried it, or who has looked on observantly while others have tried it, knows to be impossible to the wageworker when the labor crop-his dependence-is short.

Hezekiah Butterworth contributed recently an article to the Review of Re-"The Future Value of the New England Farm," in which he gives as a reason for agricultural decay in rugged districts once peopled by a sturdy, free-handed, independent peo ple the simple word, "extravagance." The ancestors of the farmers who first mortgaged their farms and then allowed them to run down "knew well the duty of simple living and were proud of honesty, even if it kept them poor," says Mr. Butterworth, adding: "They lived before great fortunes were made by legitimate robbery to tiently what Hermione, Hero or Imogive charities to the paupers they had made. Their conditions in life were not hard. Their farms provided them with almost everything. In their cellars were bins heaped with all kinds of natural vegetables, barrels of beef and pork, and many barrels of apples and band she loved; Miranda might have some of elder. Their cribs swelled with corn, their meal chests were full of the duke, but we suspect Perdita meal ground at the mill. In the garrets could not have played her mother's

room was well stored, the cupboards were solid with jars of preserves; the eggs and poultry paid for the 'West Injy' goods; the butter and spring calves paid the taxes." It is scarcely necessary to add that these people "worked, throve and were happy."

It is said that such conditions of life are not possible today. It may be answered that they are possible, intensified and improved to meet the changed conditions exemplified in the word "progress." The simple basis of prosperity and independence, then as now, can be defined in obedience to the injunction, "owe no man anything." A revival of the hand loom and spinningwheel is neither desirable, possible or necessary. But the possibility of makbe levied at all, since, in the first ing the outlay for manufactured goods conform to the income is still with us. The cultivation of this spirit, together with an intelligent determination to diversify the products of the farm so that anxiety concerning the price of wheat will not rob the farmer's life of the serenity that is its due, are the elements upon which agricultural independence rests.

Nowhere has nature contributed more graciously to this end than in the Pa-cific Northwest. Neither climatic rigors nor unfruitful soil has here to be contended against, and the narrow market-the despair of pioneer agriculture in Oregon—is now wide and con-stantly widening. Figures showing that it costs 42 cents a bushel to raise wheat in one section of the state and 35 cents in another, present a condition which wise farmers will seek to im prove-not by joining in the political outery of demagogues against transportation corporations, capital, the gold standard and what not, and by seeking relief in debased currency, but by looking carefully to the details of their vo cation, the most ancient and honorab! in the history of civilized mankind, and turning its many opportunities afforded by a widening market to their advan-

tage. The study of the soll and how to make it yield its resources to the best advantage promises returns that will, If intelligently pursued and practically applied, restore to the farmer the independence that was his heritage from his New England forefathers. As Mr. Butterworth says, if you have a farm, keep it; if not, get one, for the time may come when this country will be largely divided into monopolists, dependents and farmers, and the farmer will be the most independent of all men, and the saving power of our institutions. There can be little doubt that the re-lief from the perplexing problems of time is a simple, honest, faith-sustaining life on the soil. There is promise in the attentive bent of the agricultural population as witnessed in farmers' institutes and congresses, fruitgrowers conventions and government experiment stations, that this relief is being systematically, intelligently and persistently sought.

"THE WINTER'S TALE."

"The Winter's Tale" keeps the stage ot because of its general merit, but ecause it includes two of Shakespeare's most lovely women, Hermione the wronged wife, and her charming daughter, Perdita. Every one of Shakespeare's women talks a different note, and her note, with true artistic sense, is subordinated to her environ ment. Leontes is a kind of jealous man that always inspires disgust, not sympathy, because he is a thoroughly stupid, sullen fellow. Othello excites sympathy because he has been imposed upon by a most subtle villain, a mar of positive genius for duplicity, for the villainy of Tago is suspected by nobody but his wife. He is "honest" Iago not only to Othello, but to Cassio, Roderigo, and all his comrades. Othello is duped by a man of Satanic craft, who ozens everybody, so that when Othell in his dying speech asks that he should be spoken of as "one not easily jealous, but being wrought perplexed in the extreme," he asked but justice, but Leontes is naturally a sullen, stupid, harsh, exacting man, who had no reaconable excuse for his jealousy. Leontes is a thoroughly mean man naturally, utterly unworthy the noble voman he repudiates without reason and whose child he stigmatizes as ille gitimate and dooms to death by expos ire. So utterly repulsive is Leontes in his commonplace, mean, unjust, cause less jealousy, that he is a figure of no dramatic power, like Othello; he is a creature capable of intense bitterness and heartless cruelty, but is utterly without the generous passion that makes Othello's lips, even in his wildest moments, a bubbling spring of commanding eloquence.

In the dire calamity that befalls Othello we sympathize with him, for we know him to be a good and noblespise Leontes as a cold-blooded, pettyminded cur, who put away his wife and disowned his daughter without ex-"The Winter's Tale," but for the maure beauty and noble temper of Her plone and the charming vivacity and delicate grace of Perdita, could no upon ample space; an abundance of hope to keep the stage. Hermione suffresh air and pure water, and an abil- fers the same wrongs that the lovely Imogen does in "Cymbeline" at the man with more excuse for his jealousy than had Leontes, but Hermione is much older woman than Imogen or Desdemona or Hero, and bears her cross with a superior dignity and calmness befitting her years, making her next of kin in quality to Katherine of Arragon when she nobly pleads against unjust divorce. The versatility of Shakespeare was never so wonderfully shown as in his capacity to make all these women suffer the same calamity, and all meet it nobly, and no two of them talk or act in the same way, Imogen and Hero bear some superficial esemblance in age and quality to Desdemona, and yet how different they all are in temperament; and how differently they all meet the same worst misfortune that can befall a good woma who continues to love a grossly jealous husband.

You cannot conceive of a fine woma the type of Olivia in "Twelfth Night," or Cordelia in "Lear," or Beatrice in "Much Ado About Nothing," or Rosalind or Juliet, enduring pagen endured. Ophelia might have endured it at Hamlet's hands, and possibly even so grand a woman as Isabella in "Measure for Measure" might have patiently played the part of Hermione, for the sake of an unjust hus done it for Ferdinand, and Viola for were looms, reels and hatcheis; strings part in her mother's place. The most

woman is spoken of Hermione in the famous lines:

Women will love her, that she is more worth Than any man; men that she is The rarest of all women.

Beatrice, Viola and Olivia stand for three very different types among Shakespeare's women; all charming in their distinctive quality, and yet there is another type of women more charming still found in Perdits, who is to "The Winter's Tale" what Rosalind is to "As You Like It," a charming shape, that most winning of all women, woman spontaneously, irrepressibly mirthful, witty, vivacious and withal sweet, modest, affectionate, tender,

courageous and true.

There have been many great writers among men who have been able to de-lineate correctly a bad woman and a heroic man; there have been man; great writers among women who have been able to delineate a noble-spirited fine woman, but only the great English writer whose brain was ambidextrous who could draw a bad woman or a noble woman, a bad man or a noble man, with equal facility and accuracy, was Shakespeare. Byron, Dickens of Thackerny can paint bad women, but when they try to paint good women we always get a wooden figure, Even Walter Scott painted but one great woman, Rebecca the Jewess, and even the artists of the Greek drama fall when they attempt to picture noble, natural woman. The only exthe Odyssey, who is drawn in as fine womanly lines as Rosalind or Perdita.

Senator Caffery is one of the few men n public life whose utterances always ommand respect, however mistaken his views appear in the light of facts. He is a man of convictions, and fearless in their advocacy. In the politics of all time there have been few more impressive episodes than the response given by him to the demands of his state that he vote for protection to its sugar interests, that he believed pro-tection wrong and could not violate his conscience by voting for it, though it cost him his sent in the senate. His position puts to shame the equivocation of Lindsay of Kentucky, and goes back for its counterpart to Burke's address to his Bristol constituents. It resen bled somewhat the celebrated refusal of Senator Dolph to obey the silver platform of Oregon republicans. Senator Caffery is wrong on expansion and wrong on the Nicaragua canal. But, what is of vastly more consequence, he has moral convictions and is true to them. It is to be feared Mr. Caffery is too good a man to be kept in the senate of the United States.

It is a matter of real regret that the desire of the people of Oregon to receive and inter within the limits of the state the bodies of the soldiers of the Second Oregon who fell in the Philippines is so difficult and apparently so impossible of achievement. If these bodies were not to be returned to the state that sent them out, there was no special reason for returning them. It is hard for a people accustomed for long years to the ways of peace to understand and accept the arbitrary rulings of military management in matters that touch their personal feelings and interests. Hence no stone will be left unturned to compass this, the natural desire of the citizens of the state, to secure the return for sepulture of the bodies of their soldier boys, "As

Mr. Watterson's statement about affairs in Kentucky was not a complete one. It ignored the real cause and whole gist of the controversy, namely, that the democrats, having obtained a majority in the legislature, proceeded to oust the republican state officials who had been elected, and to put the defeated democratic candidates in their places. For this purpose the Goebel law was made. It has been clear from the first that there was no remedy for this outrage, short of revolution, and this was not practicable. After this, every election in Kentucky must be merely a farce, for opposition to the party in power can avail nothing. Yet in many localities continual bloodshed may be expected; for there are many men in Kentucky who will fight, even if they know they fight hopelessly.

The disarmament idea has evidently not spread to Sweden. The new budget calls for nearly 150,000,000 kroner (about \$40,000,000), with which King Oscar proposes to purchase forty-six new batteries of artillery, 100,000 rifles and cartridges to correspond. In contrast to this expenditure for war is an item of 20,000,000 kroner for railways, these being under government control in Sweden. Such an expensive armament looks like supreme folly, since the state cannot hope to contend with its powerful neighbors in the game of war. It is no doubt intended, however, as preparation for the conflict which threaten Norway with her twin sister of the

The country barely escaped the con equences of a strike on the Great ected by the great railroad strike of fourteen negative votes by which the threatened strike was prevented. threatened strike was prevented. It may be hoped that the terms upon which the differences between the railroad company and its employes were settled are those of fairness, since only upon this basis can anything like a permanent settlement between these elements, each of which is necessary to the activities of the other, be made,

The new president of the Republican State League, like his immediate predecessor, is a man of affairs, and was gold-standard man in days when sound money needed every possible support in Oregon. The defeated candidate is likewise a man of standing, and would have received a heavier vote had not the idea gotten abroad that he was the representative of Senator Mc-Bride's interests

Thomas B, Reed has rendered his ountry many eminent services, but perhaps none so great as getting out of the way for the passage of the Nicaragua canal bill. It begins to look as if a bill might get through the present congress authorizing the construction of this long-delayed important en-

It is not necessary to read an alliance into the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in or-

The semi-official declaration that Great Britain gets absolutely no quid pro quo is a palpable untruth. The conc is in the neutralization of the treaty and the application of "the open door" to the canal. Maybe we shall want to do this very thing; but congress will not agree to it in a hurry. Mr. Hay has too heavily discounted future development of public opinion

Advance agreements as to the status of the Nicaragua canal in time of war are not worth fighting about. The canal in war will be for those who can hold it. That is why we shall need fortifications.

Taylor was elected. Otherwise, the argument seems with the Goebelites.

NOTE AND COMMENT. They seem to have buried the six-shooter n Kentucky.

It takes a very, very old friend to shake hands like a politician.

Sometimes a knot of politicians covers more ground than a league of clubs. A French judge has decided that French seets are mad, as they undoubtedly areat him.

This has been such a mild winter that ven the sun has spent most of his time

This senatorial contest bids fair to re-uce the number of reputations in Montana to the lowest terms. For the wholesculed brand of patriotiam, Republican Editorial Association is

the next thing to an Afro-American league Full many a stranger has arrived Within the city's gates, And some are helding office now

And some are nonling once now And some are candidates.

If Senator Peffer does not succeed in getting promised any job in Kansas, his whiskers will be a strong recommendation for a commission as a Boer general.

Lives there the man Who wisids a rhyming pen Who has not said That Buller and his men Marched up a hill And then marched down again?

Hush thee, my baby, though trusts would unde By hoisting the price of thy cab out of sight:

Don't lift up thy voice when these m pursue thee; Just wait a few months and 'twill turn ou For daddy has purchased too plant of the los

A red-painted cart and some tongs built of steel, till next autumn and he'll be a nice

man.
And baby will ride in an automobile.

The prize-ring is vigorously denounced by the pulpit, yet it furnishes it with forceful phraseology, as the following, from one of the sermons of J. Q. A. Henry, of
Chicago, will show: "There is a finish fight
between the church of the control between the church and the saloon." Mr. Henry might have added that the church, thus far, is doing most of the rushing, the saloon contenting itself with an occa-sional counter, and an uppercut now and then. He undoubtedly was reaching for the wind with that sermon, and the chances are he landed. But though the hairs of one's head are numbered, the rounds in this great mill are not, and probably will never he as look as white. probably will never be as long as whisky is distilled and pews rented. Mr. Henry is known in Portland, where he filled the pulpit of the First Baptist church for a time. There is a strong belief here that his first three names are John, Quincy and Adams.

The open season for tops has arrived the bodies of their soldier boys. "As well have allowed them to remain in Manila," says Colonel Summers, and this sentiment finds echo in the heart of every loyal Oregonian.

The open season for tops has arrived some time ahead of schedule, owing to the absence of winter. Marbies will soon be here, and will be followed by kites, if March winds justify the trouble of building the paper-fiyers. Just what has regulated the seasons for these important amusements is not clear, but they follow the followed by kites, if the seasons for these important amusements is not clear, but they follow the followed by kites, if the seasons for these important amusements is not clear, but they follow one another as regularly as the days of the week. And it is so all over the coun-try. No one ever sees marbles in top time, nor tops in kite time. Kites, of course, depend to some extent on the wind, but they are seldom borne on the strong wings of the November sales and only in March of the November gales, and only it are they the thing. Law regulates the time for killing game, necessity the sea-son for enjoying the fruits of the earth, weather and Paris the time and style of dress, but who shall eay by what unseen hand is guided the destiny of these boyish pastimes?

The Bostonians have gone, and Helen Bertram did not sing, "My Home Is Whege the Heather Blooms," the gem of "Rob Roy," and "Rob Roy" is a gem among operas, Mr. Warde left us without playing "Belphegor," and Mr. James will b here almost a week with all those mar "Francesca" unacted. These plotures in memory are, perhaps, the greatest bless ing the stage has for us. Long years after their seal was first set, its impress is fresh and clear. We wish sometimes it could be renewed, and, perhaps, for some of them, the original pleasure might be repeated. Others can have no renewing except in memory. Booth's "Hamlet, Barrett's "Lanciotto," Emma Abbott' Enuma Abbott's "Arline," the drolleries of "Old Hoss" Hosy, the singing dolls of Harry Kennedy—these are treasures of which the stage has been furever despoiled. Yet other delights are just as irrevocable, for the play, like the great oration, is partly in the audience. To be thrilled with Minnie Maddern's "Blue Alsatian Mountains," and to attr with sympathy for Armand in his infatuation for Modissies's "Camille" could hanation for Modfeska's "Camille" could hap pen in one's 30th year, but not again for graybeards who have grown, along with the actor of that time, no longer young. Pictures of glorious nights—let them hang undisturbed on the walls of memory! They cannot be made over, they shall not be replaced by any new. There are no plays sequences of a strike on the Great Northern railway. We have only to recall the serious inconvenience and great loss to which the public was subjected by the great railroad strike of heavily, just as we do now, when he recalls Beatrice Cameron in

Mr. Edmunds' Memorial.

New York Sun. The Philadelphia American League, a graft of the Anti-Imperialistic League, has nt to each member of congress a piemo rial asking that the fugacious Washing-tons and Hampdens of the Tagals be as-sured by law of the intention of the United States to help them set up a free and independent government in the Philippines. The memorial is said to have been written by the Hon. George F. Edmunds, who shows the demoralizing influ ence of anti-expansion by splitting his in-finitives. An extract:

finitives. An extract:

We respectfully submit that it is due to the ever-living principles of our government that an effort be made to immediately terminate the great destroction of human lives, both of our own gallant soldiers and sallors and of the people of the Philippines, and also terminate the great drain of the money of our people, of prolonged and indefinite duration under existing eventuation of the money of our people, of enditions, if this can be done by conceding the people of the islands such a system of self-government and independence as they shall prove capable of maintaining and by assisting and protecting them in the same.

As to which we respectfully submit: I. The war in the Philippines is about

II. It would have been ended before had not the reliefs been encouraged by the an-ti-imperalists, who are still feeding them with false hopes and misropresenting the will of the United States with regard to

III. Congress can be depended upon to provide for the inhabitants of the Philip-

of maintaining and as will best serve them and the rest of the United States. We respectfully submit, also that a man like Mr. Edmunds might employ his time

to better advantage than in encured states. DEMAND FOR FREE TRADE,

Republican Journal Stands Loyally by President McKinley.

Chicago Times-Herald. The senate committee which has the Puerto Rico bill in charge has decided to report favorably on the provision for a reciprocal tariff of 25 per cent between the island and the mainland. This it has dose despite the protests of the Puerts Ricans, who desire free trade, and it is intimated that its policy will have the support of congress.

In their attempt to thus commit the country the politicians have been influenced, it is said, by the tobacco-growers of Connecticut, the cane-sugar-growers of Louisana, and the American Beet Sugar-Growers' Association. Some comparisons which are suggested by the interests that

are involved follow.

Puerto Rico contains but 3988 square miles. The imports which have exceeded the exports include coat, fron, meat and

the exports include coal, fron, meat and vegetable produce and manufactured to-bacco. The exports, according to the latest complete returns at hand (1895) were: Coffee, \$3,79,781; tobacco, \$349,556; sugar, \$3,747,831; honey, \$317,746.

Coffee, which is not produced in the States, has no effect upon the lariff queetion, and honey has not been represented in the lobby, so that we shall confine the comparison to tobacco and sugar alone. The year that Puerto Rico's tobacco exports amounted to \$566,556 our crop of ports amounted to \$566,556 our crup of that article was valued at \$35,374,300. The same year, when the Poerto Ricc sugar output was 54,561 tons, the cane sugar

output was 14.881 tons, the cane sugar grown in our Southern states was about five times as much in quantily. At that time the production of beet sugar here was small, but it is increasing rapidly. In 1895 it amounted to nearly half the Puerto Ricco output of cane in 1895.

What, then, is the reason for the excessive fear of the small island? Manifestly the free import of its tobacco and sugar would hardly affect our producers, and having our other new possessions in mind there is little danger from the establishment of a precedent, unless it is proposed to knock out the Hawaiian territorial bill as it now stands. Though the Philippines produce nearly as much sugar as our caneas it how stands. Though the Philippines produce nearly as much sugar as our canesugar states, they export comparatively little of it to this country, and their total tobacco crop in 1834 was valued at only \$1,730,000. Moreover, a large part of the crop is always consumed on the islands. It would look, therefore, as though we were engaged in a picayune business when we dear. Desert Mice for the country of we deny Puerto Rico free trade.

The Poor.

J. Sterling Morton's Conservative, J. Starling Morton's Conservative.
The Conservative, by request, publishes the address of the supreme council of the American equal wage union. "The poor are neglected or considered only incidentally," saith the address. But powerly and wealth are relative terms. Who is a poor man?
Who is a rich man?
Preachers and politicians denounce the rich in one breath and in the next said them to give to the moor. The rich from

rich in one breath and in the next ask them to give to the poor. The rich, from the press and pulpit, are pounded for their wickedness every week. The poor are praised for being poor and congratulated upon their increased chances of getting into heaven easily, while the rich man is assured that a camel stands a better chance of trotting through the eye of a needle than a rich man has of outering the kingdom.

ontering the kingdom.

But the rich seem to enjoy being abused and to give all the more generously after a sound drubbing from the pulpit or a roast from the press. If all were poor and there were no accumulated riches in the country, how would taxes be gathered; how would government be sustained; how would hospitale, free colleges, homes for the indigent, aged and the incurably diseased be established and maintained?

The poorest "are the proper and legit. entering the kingdom.

The poorest "are the proper and legiti-mate objects of our first concern." saith the circular again. Whose concern? Who are the "poorest"?

England's Necessity.

Philadelphia Times. England has now no choice but to sur-render South Africa to the Boers or make South Africa an English colony. None who have studied the English character can for a moment doubt what choice Eng-

The Boer war now promises to be a termination for a year, and it is possible it may last for several years. England is equal to all the exactions that this war shall make upon her, and this country will profit by the conflict just in propertion as the war shall be increased in mag-

Anxious to Please, Harlem Life. "Pat, I thought I hired you to carry

bricks up that ladder by the day."
"Ye did, sor."
"Well, I've been watching you, and you've only done it a half a day today the other half you spent coming down the "Of'll thry to be doin' bether tomorry,

A High-Toned Affair.

Judge, Mr. Highcollar-Mrs. Cash just teld me that our church entertainment is to be a very high-toned affair. No tickets will be

Mr. Shirtfront-No tickets sold? How do you expect to make any money Mr. Highcollar-We shall allow patrons to purchase cards of admission.

As One Sees It. Tommy-Pop, what is vulgar ostenta-Tommy's Father-Vulgar estentation

my son, is the display made by people who have more money to do it with than we

Change of Plan. Chicago Record. "The Folderols have recalled their re-

ption invitations.' "Anybody sick?" "No: Mrs. Folderol changed her mind ed she would rather have the house painted."

Brave Bulley of Britannia. (Hipling's "Bulle".) Brave Buller of Britannia

Brave Buller of Britannia.

Had fully thirty thousand men;

He marched them up on Spionkop,
And marched them down again;

He crossed the big Tugels,
And at dark he orossed again,

Brave Buller of Britannia.

And his thirty thousand men. Brave Butler of Britannia

And Studebaker wagons Filled with bappines, choose and charte, With strategy be moves this train Wherever he can get. But Brave Builse of Britannia Is strategining yet.

Brave Buller of Britannia Is deep in Afric mud;
He's studying the topography
Across Tugeta's floot:
With thiry thousand Beitishers
Again he will attack,
Brave Buller of Britannia
Wires, 'There'll be no turning back."

Brave Buller of Britannia.
This message daily sent
To Chamberian and Wobeley
And to his perliament:
The troops behaved most splendidly;
The Bonte loss, swere;

We restred in perfect order From your own, Sir Redevers."

self-government as they shall be capable GOSSIP OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.- The bimetallie amendment reported by the finance com-mittee today is for the purpose of consi-lating the republicans who remained with the party, but who still represent free-aliver states. It is a concession which, when adopted as it will be, will anable these men to vote for the bill upon the ground that it holds out a bimetallic pledge to them. It is now well underood that the financial bill will be practically made in conference between the two houses, and that the bill which the senate finance committee reported will be amended very materially before it is finally adopted. There seems to be no doubt that this bimetallic amendment re-ported today will be eliminated from the nearure in conference. Some republicana say, however, that it means nothing, and will remain practically imperative, the same as the little rider that was put upon same as the little rider that was put upon-the repeal of the silver-purchase law. This little amendment also pladged the government to bimetalism, and many gold men voted for it with the understanding that it was a sop, as the himstallic amendment reported today seems to be. Republicans think that this amendment may save Wolcott, Carter, and Shoup, in Colorado, Montana and Idaho, and as it means nothing it may be amended. means nothing, it may be amended.

Canal Bill's Prospects.

Representative Hepburn, who is pushing the Nicaragua canal bill in the house. mays that he has no doubt that it will pass at an early date, though he has not yet received the guarantee from the speaker or the committee on rules that the bill shall have consideration. The Puerto Rico bill and the Philippine and perhaps the Hawalian bill may be pushed in ahead of the Nicaragua canal bill in the senate. A close canvass of the sen-ate shows that there is not now more than eight or ten members who are op-posing the canal bill, and if the friends of the measure make a fight they can get this bill in ahead of even the Fuerto Rice or other bills for the government of the various islands.

Serious Blow to Cinric.

Serious Blow to Clark.

The decision of the committee on privileges and elections, refusing to admit testimony tending to impeach the testimony
of Whiteside, is a serious blow to Clark
and his came. White-side is the main witness for the prosecution: It is upon his
testimony that the case against Clark
rests. If his testimony or his character
is not impeached, the case against Clark
will have a standing such as to give the
sitting member much concern. The decision srived at today would indicate that
the committee believes Whiteside.

For Sale of Umatilla Lands.

Representative Moody today introduced bills similar to those recently introduced by Senator Simon, providing for the sale of the useful portion of the Umatilia In-dian reservation, and confirming the illu-of mixed-blood Indians to all entries or allotments of land in severally heretofors made.

Naval Cadet Johnston's Standing. As a result of the semiannual examinstion held at the Annapolis naval scademy, Huntlegton Johnston, of Oregon, came-out in the 36th place, which is his stand-ing among the graduates of this year.

Hills by Shoup.

Senator Shoup today introduced a bill appropriating \$100,000 for sinking artesian wells in various sections of idaho for the purpose of ascertaining if there is a sufficient pressure of water under ground to rrights successfully needy sections of the

Senator Shoup offered amendments to the Indian appropriation hill paying an agent at the New Perces agency 1900 per annum; raising the pay of the physician there from \$1000 to \$500, and axtending to July 1, 1901, the time in which set-tlers who purchased and estiled on coded Indian reservations may make payments.

Mining Laws for Nome.

The public lands commilies of the house, which is giving its entire attention just now to Almska, is much in doubt as to which way to move. So far, the testi-mony before the committee has been diverse on most questions, especially with regard to the Cape Nome country. As heretofore stated, the Lacey bill will be defeated, and the scheme that now meets with the greatest favor is to extend to Alaska the placer mining laws of the United States, which are practically in force at this time. There is much unce tainty, however, as to whether or not to made, she has the power to carry it to its reserve a 50-foot roadway along the beach consummation. ed out that at Nome this beach is very ng struggle, and none can hope for its rich, and to prevent its being mined would rmination for a year, and it is possible work a hardship on many miners. At the same time, the proposition to preserve his roadway, but first allow it to be mined, provided this is done in a seasonable time, meets with much favor, and this time, meets with much favor, and this time. plan will likely be amended. Hearings will continue for some weeks before a satisfactory bill is finally framed.

Mr. Brynn's Confession. Nebruska State Journal.

I am the greatest man on earth. My greatness is in three parts Gail, gall, sall. I never read. I never think. never listen to advice. fost say a thing is so. And then it is. My greatness is mysterious. It seems to be a experiational gift. You cannot analyze it.
If a the the wind, of which it is created.
It comes when it down pleases.
You hear the sound of it, Washington? He was all right For those early times, But he couldn't make a speech. Grant made some good moves in was, But Grant was a silent men. And what's a silent man?

Webster? You Webster was in order. But he made only five or alx speaches in his riols Detime.

Eve made four thousand in five years.

What do you think of that?

Tes, Liscoin did very well as a starter.

He was a sert of John the Daptist. Of me. He made me little talk at Gettysburg that

as very good. Lincoln was like me in one re The common people loved him. That is, you understand, They did not dots on him. As they do on me. But they liked him farriy well.

I've helped his reputation out. I print his picture side by side Great hit for Lincoln! When they see his picture they chees

When they see mins-

The roof gree off. Tum Jefferson was obever with his pen-He wrote the Declaration of Independent Grand, Jafferson and

They had to read and dig for facts. And think. I just swell up with intuition, Then upen my menth and let'er Neither of those could run for pr Without a membration. I just ran on my own hook.

Veither of them could make more than One great speech in four years.
I can make forty in four bours.
Washington worked without pay.
I get gate receipts in every town What's the nor? Everybody concestes There's (bly one great man,

And that's ma-