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derstanding of the case to realize that it was hopeless. At least one of them, according to Mr. Bratton (the correspondent), testimony, was honest enough to state this fact plainly to her friends. As a last resort the Christian Science "healer" was called in. If he knew anything of the nature of the disease, knew also that her life was nearing its close. That he was ignorant of this fact is attested in his assurances, both to the patient and her family, that she would get well. Herein, as appears from the testimony, was his great fault. Either he did not have the knowledge requisite for the diagnosis of a disease, or the honesty to proclaim what this diagnosis revealed. Just here is where Christian Scientists fail. To employ their own terms, they "claim" more than they can "demonstrate." Aliments, largely subjective, frequently yield to the simple magic of their cheerfulness, dogmatism and hope; distinct or incurable disease—never.

THE CANAL IN DANGER.

The Oregonian's Washington correspondent gives it as his opinion that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is reasonably certain to endanger or postpone the Nicaragua canal bill. There are, unfortunately, good grounds for that belief. The blame for this untoward situation is not to be attached to the treaty, but to the narrow views of certain advocates of the canal. We are shown in the opposition to a neutralized canal the same provincial, exclusive spirit that joins hands with anti-imperialism to defeat expansion because unwilling to see expansion effected with its logical tariff policy.

The old idea of the canal has been that of an exclusive American waterway, owned and controlled by United States citizens and the United States government, surrounded by a United States zone, fortified against all outside influences. The canal, in this view, is shown in the opposition to a neutralized canal the same provincial, exclusive spirit that joins hands with anti-imperialism to defeat expansion because unwilling to see expansion effected with its logical tariff policy.

There are two reasons why this old idea must now be abandoned. One is, it can't be carried out, and the other is, it wouldn't be wise if it could. We can't fortify the canal because Nicaragua and Costa Rica will not consent to it. If they had sufficient idiosyncrasy to enter into such an act of self-imposition, there are nevertheless treaties in operation between them and European states which would prevent extensive fortifications and involve us in acrimonious disputes and strained relations with Continental Europe. The idea that the defense of the canal, that is, prevention of its use to our enemy in war time, depends on fortifications, is natural, but of very limited scope. We must destroy our enemy's ships at sea, not from batteries at Greytown or Brito, and if self-protection, which is the paramount law of all procedure, compelled us to block the passage of the canal, we should do it by sinking a vessel in its mouth or blowing up a lock, just as quickly as we should cut a cable.

A protective tariff in peace and exclusion in war must be pronounced not only impossible in fact, but inadvisable in policy. We come now upon the general view of the canal in its international bearings, and the first thing to remember is that Uncle Sam is no longer a hermit in his desert cabin, but a citizen of the world. Dewey did the business at Manila, and gratulations or regrets are alike ineffective now. We can no longer treat the nations as neighbors, but we must treat them as neighbors. We want to do business with them all; we are a world empire on which the sun never sets. A decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that we should lay down our arms before the Central American soil shall be subjected to some degree of considerations of the welfare of our neighbor Germany, our neighbor Australia, our neighbor China, our neighbor Russia, our friend Great Britain. The interests of commerce, of civilization, of art and literature, of humanity in every relation material, mental and moral, require the greatest possible use of the isthmian canal, consistent with its self-support or at least with its greatest earning capacity.

Trading along on the weary road of advancement, through heavy clops and grievous ruts, with valleys of depression and occasional hills of widened horizon, we have come at last to a peak where we can see a noble prospect spread out before us. It is the creation and maintenance of the great isthmian waterway fulfilling the visions of great navigators from Columbus to Mahan, and realizing the plans of our statesmen in all our history; a waterway to which no man can unarmedly give the entrance of the corporations of other states into its own limits for any purpose other than interstate commerce, except on terms that would put such corporations on a basis of equality with the corporations of that state; and that license be required for such outside corporations, placing them under the close supervision and regulation of the state. By that convention it was believed that the states, each selling for itself, could subject the treaty to closer review than congress ever can—unless the constitution of the United States be so amended as to remove this whole subject from the jurisdiction of the states—measure that would go far toward blotting the states out of existence.

It is useless for any set of politicians to debate this subject with a view to partisan advantage. The subject is much too large for such treatment. Partisan strife over it will contribute nothing to its solution. These industrial and trade combinations are, at bottom, the results or tendencies of a great economic movement, not to be controlled by hasty legislation. Nobody yet has been able to say how the subject could be dealt with effectively, and the theories of flippant politicians who merely want to get votes for their party are sure to be the worst of all suggestions.

A TRUST'S PROFITS.

The present capitalization of the Standard Oil Company is \$110,000,000. It has grown from an original capitalization of \$10,000,000 by the absorption of minor companies and the usual scrip dividends, more than 100 of these having been taken in since the original organization in 1864. At first it was a trust, and was officially called such; but in 1890, in an attempt to avoid conflict with certain new laws in Ohio, it began a process of liquidation and reorganization, which was kept up till 1899, when it finally came out as an ordinary New Jersey corporation, and now professes to feel secure against any anti-trust legislation.

Its profits have been and still are fabulous, beyond anything else known. In 1899 its dividends aggregated 35 per cent in 1898, 30 per cent, and from 1881 to 1895 inclusive, 12 per cent annually. This last dividend of 20 per cent, payable the 15th of next month, is the third that has been declared during a fiscal year that has still several months to run. The other two were mere trifles of 3 and 10 per cent, respectively; together they make dividends of 33 per cent in nine months. The stock has tremendously advanced. In 1896 it sold as low as 17 1/2; then it went up to 30 by leaps and bounds; then an "accident" rumor sent out during an accumulation of stock by insiders it broke to 25; during last year the range was from 25 to 45, and on the announcement of

the 20 per cent dividend a few days ago it rose to 57. In ten years this stock has paid \$21,000,000 in dividends, besides more than quintupling its selling value. It is a remarkable record. The stockholders are comparatively few—less than 900; and a few great holders control the vast majority. It was one of the original trusts, and has been the most successful of them all. Its vast profits stand for injustice to the consumers of the country, and scandalize our civilization.

TURNING MOVEMENTS IN WAR.

The report that Lord Roberts will soon make a strong movement, whose object will be the turning of the Boer position at Magerfontein and the relief of Kimberley, is probably well founded. The occupation of Kimberley would not be worth undertaking for the mere sake of the garrison, which was originally only 2700 strong, but the planting of a large force at Kimberley would effectively threaten Bloemfontein, from which Kimberley is not more than eighty miles distant. Kimberley is the railway, and would furnish a splendid base of operations for the over-running and occupation of the Orange Free State. For this reason the Boers have from the start most desperately resisted the British advance by way of the Modder river. The reported aggressive movements of the Boers against General Buller in Natal and against General French at Rensburg doubtless designed to balk Lord Roberts' advance on Kimberley by forcing him to turn his communications in Natal and Cape Colony.

Lord Roberts has men enough by this time, and it would seem that the combined brains of Roberts and Kitchener ought to be equal to break the grasp of the Boers at some point along the line of the Orange river. It does not seem probable that the Boers, whose forces stretch from Kimberley to Colesburg, can keep their line intact against the force of Lord Roberts' advance at his command. Estimating General Buller's total forces in Natal at 25,000, and allowing 40,000 for the protection of Lord Roberts' communications in Cape Colony, he must have at least 75,000 men that he could mass against the Boer army for a turning movement and a direct attack. If, as we assume, Lord Roberts has a movable force of 75,000 to 100,000 men, he ought to be able, if he has 10,000 mounted men, to press his enemy stiffly in front while attacking from the rear. This is what either Wellington or Grant would do.

There is a false popular impression that Wellington was a mere British bulldog in war. On the contrary, Wellington was a great strategist and maneuverer. It was because of this quality that he was able to foil Napoleon's ablest marshal, Massena, in Spain in 1810-11. Massena could not force Wellington into a field engagement; Wellington retreated within the fortified lines of Torres Vedras. Massena assaulted him at Busaco and was repulsed, even as Methuen was at Magerfontein. If Roberts has any of the Wellington craft and science in his make-up, he ought to be equal to his opportunity. He ought to be able to use his superior numbers as Grant used his superior numbers before Petersburg. Lee had 75,000 men behind his entrenched lines, ample to repulse any frontal attack that Grant might make, but not enough to hold his thirty miles of intrenchments from about Richmond to Hatcher's Run, beyond Petersburg, against a stiff pressure in front and a powerful turning movement of infantry and cavalry. To meet this turning movement, Lee had to detach so large a force of infantry and cavalry that he had not men enough left to hold his attenuated lines.

Grant sent Sheridan with 12,000 cavalry and 15,000 infantry to find and turn Lee's right flank at Fort Forks. This movement was successful. Lee's result in the result in Lee's thin line the next morning forced the defenses of Petersburg and compelled Lee to retreat. Lord Roberts, with his superiority in numbers, ought to be able to practice these tactics against the Boer army, if he has taken pains to secure at least 10,000 to 15,000 mounted men, which are indispensable to success in a great turning movement against an army composed of mounted men. Otherwise, the infantry movement will be slow, and the Boers will always find a new intrenched line facing them. Sheridan, with 12,000 veteran cavalry, could ride around Lee's flank, seize a position and hold it until the infantry support came up, but if Sheridan had undertaken to turn Lee out of his position with infantry alone, he would probably have been foiled. If Lord Roberts has from 12,000 to 15,000 fine mounted troops, he ought to turn the Boers out of position; but if he has only numerical superiority of infantry, we do not believe he will succeed.

The peremptory halting, detention in quarantine, cleaning up and fumigating of the Japanese packet Nanyu Maru by the quarantine authorities at Port Townsend probably prevented the introduction of an Oriental filth disease into Puget sound ports that bears sufficient resemblance to the bubonic plague to cause the danger of contact with it to be shunned with horror. The vigilance that keeps diseases, the germs of which are perpetuated and multiplied in the filth of tropical cities, at bay is a part of the "white man's burden" in dealing with his new and ever-widening responsibilities. To shut out a filth disease is much easier than to stamp it out. The people of the whole Northwest coast breathe easier in the assurance that this packet is still in quarantine, and will not be released until all danger of infection from her passengers or cargo has passed. A clean bill of health and a clean ship were never more rigidly demanded as preliminary to the docking of a vessel in any port of the United States.

As the Oregonian has foreseen, the proposal to "protect" certain interests in the United States against the products of Puerto Rico is alienating Cuba from the United States. A Washington correspondent writes: "The proposed imposition of the tariff against Puerto Rico and the withdrawal of constitutional safeguards has wounded the death knell of the American movement for Cuba. The proposed officials there assure that nothing but independence will satisfy the people now, and that annexation at this time is a matter of the past." "Likewise, if we are to apply this rule of spoliation to the Philippines, it will be a crime to hold them. Their connection with the United States will simply be one of bondage and servitude."

The Atlanta Constitution intimates that the mantle of Lincoln has fallen on the shoulders of W. J. Bryan. Oh, what a fall was there, my countrymen!

Lord Wolesley now has a chance to use some of the criticisms he made on the conduct of our civil war in his instructions to his subordinates in South Africa.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale says he is happy to say that 15 cents aside under his front porch. Any one else but Dr. Hale would be preparing to commit 15 murders.

Mrs. Lewis, the sister of Olive Schreiner, of Premier Schreiner, Cape Colony, thinks that the Boer republic ought to be brought from the face of the earth because of their atrocious treatment of the African tribes.

can tribes. One of Mrs. Lewis' counts in her arraignment is the introduction of spirituous liquors among the natives.

According to the annual treasury report, at the Boston custom-house it costs 4 cents to collect duty on 100 lbs. of sugar at Chicago 24 mills, at San Francisco 33 mills, and at Tampa, Fla., 61 mills. These are the lowest. The cost at the other ports is increasing until it reaches some custom-houses where it costs 100 to collect a single dollar.

On the gate of the cemetery in Rio Janeiro is a notice in Spanish, French and English, that no dogs are admitted unless led by the owner. This is how the announcement is made in English: "No dogs are admitted unless led by the owner. No dogs are admitted unless led by the owner. No dogs are admitted unless led by the owner."

When Cupid, with his deadly bow, Had set the mortals by the ears, And made the region here below, One chaos of love and tears, O'er the great earth he was shipped, And hid behind St. Valentine.

Whereon they delegated Mars To lead the ranks of the warrior; Until his eyes were more aware, Than ever shown on any night, But Cupid by a friend was tipped To drop his bow and brand design, And like a prudent boy he slipped, And hid behind St. Valentine.

Since then he's blithely shattered hearts, Behind the pretty saint concealed, And from the victims of his darts, Old Valentine has been his shield.

Evans P. Howell, of the Atlanta Constitution, says that some years ago a Southern man brought to the South Carolina railroad for damages to his property. He lost the case in the superior court, but insisted upon carrying it to the supreme court, where he represented his case. He began his argument by saying whimsically: "May it please the court, there is an old French adage which says, 'A man who is his own lawyer hath a fool for a client.' The next week the supreme court pronounced the judgment which was adverse to the Southerner. He was in Augusta at the time, but received the announcement of his second and final defeat by the reading of a telegram sent to him by a prominent judge who was an intimate friend of his. The telegram read as follows: 'Judgment for defendant in error. French adage affirmed by supreme court.'"

A DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. Chief Demand Probably Springs From Needy Politicians.

The success of the bill of foreign commerce of the department of state in utilizing consular reports for the benefit of the export trade of the country has suggested to some of the advocates of an extended foreign trade, the creation of a new "department" of "commerce and industries," and a new member of the cabinet to preside over it. Senator Frye has introduced a bill to give effect to the suggestion, with the approval of many manufacturing and commercial interests. There is to be, according to the bill, a "secretary of commerce and industries," with an assistant secretary and a large corps of clerks of bureaus, and a number of assistants. Something for the new officials to do will be provided by transferring to their care various bureaus and "departments" that now exist under the control of other members of the cabinet. The several bureaus of the department of the treasury known as the lifesaving service, the lighthouse board, the marine hospital service, the bureau of navigation and the United States shipyard, together with the bureau of statistics, are to be transferred from the department of the treasury to the department of commerce and industries, together with the department of labor and the bureau of statistics of the department of state.

The bureau of statistics of the department of state is the largest bureau to be consolidated with the department of labor, and out of the three is to emerge a new bureau, to be called the "bureau of statistics of commerce and industries," but it is a consolidation of the bureau of statistics of the department of the treasury, the bureau of statistics of commerce and industries, together with the department of labor and the bureau of statistics of the department of state.

The editor of a Yaphill paper has taken the trouble to write to Colonel Bryan to inquire if he favors the initiative and referendum. In reply, the editor receives from Bryan's secretary a copy of the platform adopted by the silverites of Nebraska last August. This platform is a masterpiece of emotional and irrational that does not appeal to his type of mind.

The Boers, it is said, if they catch Cecil Rhodes, will demand \$100,000 as the price of his release. The lord of Rhodesia is what may be termed a decidedly rich picking, in a field which has picked industries for some years. The only thing between him and the realization of this rich pick is embodied in the familiar adage, "First catch your hare." Truth to say, they do seem to have the net very carefully spread for the game. Whether they make a live haul or not depends.

General O. O. Howard, at the dinner of the Pine Tree State Club, in Boston a few days ago, said: "If Dewey gave us a new world, my boy gave me a new world to protect it, and I cannot afford to throw such a dearly-bought heritage away."

There are 200,000 British troops in South Africa today. If, as reported, General Buller has less than 40,000 in Natal, Lord Roberts must have at least 100,000 footsore for a movement against the Boers from Cape Colony.

The best it is possible to say for the democrats in the Kentucky legislature is that they propose to take advantage of a legal right to do a moral wrong.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Some men are actually mean enough to deserve the comic valentines that are sent them.

Roosevelt appears to regard the vice-presidency offer as a gaudy and glittering gold brick.

It will take a very virulent epidemic of smallpox in Kentucky to cut much of a figure in the death rate.

Bryan is in the South, and yet he tells us that there is no South. What a coward the popular impression that he is powerful.

If his wife ever cuts off his allowance, Count Bond de Castellan can make a good living by posing for designers of comic valentines.

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Mrs. Lewis, the sister of Olive Schreiner, of Premier Schreiner, Cape Colony, thinks that the Boer republic ought to be brought from the face of the earth because of their atrocious treatment of the African tribes.

"My papa says, you d—d English are killing the poor Boers!" "My papa says you English catch the Boers and cook and eat them!" "My papa says, you English take the poor Boers on the ships and throw them into the sea and drown them."

THE SEATTLE MORNING PAPER.

John L. Wilson Says It Is Controlled By Himself.

Wallis Wallis Statesman.

During the election the Seattle Post-Intelligencer has been owned and controlled by many men, and has been run in all sorts of interests, chiefly those of the notorious "Kink