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TODAY'S WHATHER.-Occusional rain, with

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21.

MAS ACHIEVED GREATNESS.

Ex-Consul Macrum continues his efort to induce the country to take him at his own valuation. His opinion of his own importance is high. From his tatements it is apparent what part he shaking of their position. ught to play in South Africa, and what part he now seeks to play in the United States. He desired to Interest ir own country in the war, and make showing which would induce it to inrvene or mediate. Hence he wanted be ordered to the United States, at he public expense. His desire, he ys, was to "lay the information beore the department as to the true department declined, and advised im that his presence was deemed necmry at Pretorio, for attention to the as of Americans, under the crital conditions of war. Again, when the war broke out, and

se British representative had found necessary to depart from Pretoria, nul Macrum was directed by his vermoent to look after British interts in the Transvaal-a proceeding alrether usual among nations in such cumstances. British ministers and very Spanish city and port, during ur war with Spain, But this galled sul Macrum sorely. He was thorwhile a partisan of the Boer states; sich is not at all surprising, for when ceived his appointment he certid that he was a native of Holland. at his legal residence was Pretoria. d that he was a naturalized citizen the South African Republic, What really wanted was to enlist both sympathy and the active effort of tch Afrikanders, at least in the form mediation or intervention. But the artment of state at Washington deed to call him to the United States e on his own account; and he seeks oriety by telling with what indighe, as the representative of the ited States, was treated by the Brit-

asserts that his letters were ned. This no doubt will be made a set of inquiry. It is possibly true; r he was known by the British aurities to be a strong partisan of doubt he was regarded as a fool beemit no precaution; so we should be surprised to learn that the Brit-Macrum. We may make this a their tariff-created privileges. vance, if we will; we may even ake it a cause of war upon Great itain. But it is altogether probable it Great Britain will explain or apolize, and may reprimend the officials o did it. It is plain that we were as an active partisan of one of the serve the United States, but to serve tements it is clear that what bented to do was to entangle the died States in this business. Yet it as his first and imperative duty, as representative of the United States, observe the rules of strict neutral

authorities in South Africa.

But let us have this whole busines versi by congressional and diplo tic inquiry. Let us ascertain what ignity has been put upon us, and ke action accordingly. It may turn t that no letter addressed directly to e consul was opened, but only letters fressed to other persons, in his care, the work may have been done by a vicesble official, for whose ac a apology will be forthcoming. Or in, as high-handed action is not unmon in war, the British governnt may answer that it considers the justifiable in the circumstances, ce Consul Macrum was their oper ny and known as an out-an-out tisan of the Boer states. When w Great Britain's answer we shall e more light. Then, if we feel that insuit is explable only through war can declare war with light hearts e many letters from distinguishe ters published in The Oregonia: e the trouble between Boer and ton began prove that we have a Ititude of citizens of resolute spirit i martial prowess, who are just sufng to get a whack at this old and te nation, and pay off old scores ar with these decaying European vers is but a light matter with us. what we did to Spain. We could any or all of 'em up as completely Gargantua devoured his pligrims in

A NEWSPAPER'S "STORMS." The Louisville Courier-Journal prints statement about itself and its busi-

for M. Othe Courier-Journal) has weath-by Storms. In 1890 it lost half its and nearly all its evenly circulation, but back the daily eleculation with some adton dollars. Yet it still lives, and or gradient pur missus the money

Courier-Journal. having "weathered many storms," is weathering this latest one also. In the circumstances it is impossible to blame it for seeking meiliation with the party, even under the direction of Goebellam; for "he who stands upon a slippery place makes nice of no vile hold to stay him up." The Courier-Journal is published in a community unworthy of it; and if it has been coerced, so was Galileo. But, like Gallleo, it knows that truth remains truth, just the same.

In another article the Courier-Jour nal says it is "riding on a boom at pres-ent, its circulation, large before, having, the last few weeks, actually dou bled." It will do good work yet, when the stupidity, intolerance and fury that ground it shall have exhausted their forces.

THE REAL POINT AT ISSUE.

By as much as the spirit of all law ranscends the letter, by so much is our policy toward the new dependencies be determined by what is right and ecessary to be done rather than by any nicroscopic inspection of the constitu tion, words and phrases of which, however grandly conceived and admirably ontrived, were framed for land clearly erritories and states in prospect, and not for distant possessions of a world pire the fathers did not foresee When the democrats in congress and the republicans, in unison with them est their case in opposition to "protective" tariffs against Puerto Rice upon the letter of the constitution, they are on very uncertain ground. But when they appeal to justice and considerations of high policy, there is no

We do not say that the constitution nperatively demands free trade with the dependencies because they are par of the United States. It is open to ar gument. Perhaps the weight of authority leans to the side of the repub ican majority report. Mr. Anderso and Mr. Carter both hold to that view and so does Senator Lindsay, one of the ablest demonstrators of the constitu tional right of expansion. But much is to be said on the other side. It is, at best, an obscure and complicated question, which most members of congress will comprehend no better than the masses of the people. That is to say, this crisis will be met and passed, as other supreme crises, are met and passed, not through hair-splitting over phrases and learned opinions, but through appeal to great ethic and moral principles. On these great questions the conscience of the people will speak and compel submission. Consuls had done the same for us at gress and supreme courts register their will, whether through ordinary processes, or, in the last resort, through

revolutions like the civil war.

If the republican party elects to go before the people as the champion of protected interests whose largesses from government favors have long outgrown all reasonable bounds, it cannot succeed. This hold-up of the dependencies at the behest of these wealthy corpora-tions is only one incident in the wide problem of special favors to those who United States on the side of the are abundantly able to take care of themselves. There are other aspects of the conflict. It has been proposed in congress that protection to trust products be withdrawn. The proposal is r this purpose, and put an end to his just, but we hear, instead of action, by relieving him of his only desire to get away from Washing-Deprived of opportunity to ton in vague fear of loss of partisan ne and so at public expense, he has prestige. The desire of Mr Hanna and his friends, if they have any desire regarding one piece of legislation other than the rest, seems to have been to push through the subsidy scheme, which has for its sole object the en-richment of shipyards and steamship ompanies that are already making enormous profits. Now the plain mandate of justice toward the unhappy and misgoverned Spanish islands is pror enemies, one of them in fact; and posed to be set uside at the behest of the Connecticut valley tobacco-growers, who are it is an open secretserving as a stalking-horse for the sugar trust, the tobacco trusts, and all the protected trusts, which will resist in common any encroachment on

These are questions, this is an issue that the people can understand, They will pierce to the core of the matter, just as they responded to a true instinct in support of the gold standard. The "infant industries," that we were wont to nurse and coddle, praying for the day when they would stand alone, ligerents. Macrum's desire was not have grown so great that their roots serve the United States, but to serve entwine and their branching boughs fellow-countrymen, who are at war spread over the markets and empori-th Great Britain. From his own ums of the whole civilized world. We sell our protected iron and steel, woolons and machinery, coal and copper, locomotives and bridges, in every country in Europe, Asia and Africa, in competition with resident factories on their own ground. And yet not one lota of their tariff protection must be withdrawn, and the paltry \$15,000,000 exported by little Puerto Rico annually all countries rouses this alliance of yrants, who must wreak their venge ance, even if it drags the party down

with them. It is a time for prompt and fearless action at Washington. Not by running away from the issue or drifting in vague hope of some lucky accident, is the crisis to be met. If we do not have action, and right action, on these matters, it will go hard with the republican party to elect its candidate in

THE WORK IN PUERTO RICO. The consolidated report of the board of charities for Puerto Rico for the week ending January 20, as attested by the chief surgeon of the United States army, shows the systematic progress of relief measures adopted by the government, the gradual diminution of the disbursement, the triumph of sanitary measures, and the extension of the gospel of work (to the extent of earning enough to keep base life afoot) among the able-bodied indigent of the island. Of the total of seventy municipalities scheduled, but twenty-four, or little more than one-third, are shown as having received relief in the form of rations issued by the government, durng the month. There are in the seventy municipalities a total of 956,779 persons, of whom 78,524 are classed as ndigent. Of these, 4286 were reported us sick during the month, and there were 264 deaths. There were 683,098 rations issued, and 8493 men were classed as "working for food."

The diligence with which the govern ment has taken up and is working out the problem, looking to the control of people and teaching them selfcontrol is shown in these figures. Under all the circumstances of inherited sloth, filth of surroundings, destitution | idea is firmly rooted among people who resulting from storms, and the inborn have long been contented poachers

satisfactory. The sick list, for example, is, all things considered, surprisingly small, and the death list phenom enally so, showing that sanitary regu lations are being enforced, whether sanitary principles have been instilled nto the minds of these people or not.

Practical people do not expect sudden siracles, but will be content if the miracle of growth, working in and out among these long-neglected children of Spain, is able in two or three genera tions to produce a clean, wholesome, thrifty people in Puerto Rico, who have solved the problems of self-support, good roads and good health, with a asonable degree of accuracy. The nurricane of last summer, which sowed desolation broadcast over many ovinces, by compelling the attention of the immediate government to its new province and people, gave an impetus to growth along these lines which otherwise would have been lacking. In this view the storm may be regarded as a blessing to the people, and in the end an advantage to the government, that hopes some time-when the les-sons of civilization shall have been sufficiently learned—to include them among its citizens, whereas they are now simply its untaught, stolid, hungry children.

LORD ROBERTS' TACTICAL TRIUMPH

Lord Roberts' turning movement began on Monday, the 12th inst., by the seizure of Dekil's Drift (ford), on the Riet river, west of Jacobsdal, by Genoral French, commanding three brigades of regular cavalry and mounted olonial contingents, with horse artilery. General French moved the next day from Dekil's Drift to Klip Drift, wenty-five miles distant, on the Mod ler river, with the main body of his orce. The sixth division of infantry ushed forward in support, and was the north side of the Riet river night of the 13th, and the seventh diision crossed the next day. General French, with his mounted force, dashed orward and reached Kimberley the afternoon of Thursday, the 15th. The Riet river flows into the Modder at the allway crossing on the way to Kimerley. From its junction it stretches outheastward into the Orange Free state, and it is about twenty-five miles up the Riet river that French won a orilliant tactical victory over the Boers. The object of this movement was to gain possession of the direct coad from Jacobsdal to Kimberley, so voiding the strongly fortified Boer positions on the direct line of march from General Methuen's Modder River camp. The distance of Klip Drift, where Gen eral French crossed the Modder river o Kimberley, is about twenty miles

The success of this movement lay is ts rapidity, and that it has been brillantly successful is seen in the facthat Lord Roberts, with his main column of invasion, is niready thirty miles west of Jacobsdal. The Boers that a week ago were holding the post tions between Modder River camp and Kimberley were cut off entirely from their communications with Jacobsdahl the late advance post of supplies, and have been forced to rapidly retire westward. Not only has Kimberley and unquestionably Mafeking been relieved, but the railway has already seen restored so that through trains are running from Cape Town to Kimberley. General Cronje's force is reported to have been overtaken and orced to accept battle at disadvantage from the pursuing cavalry of French moving from Kimberley, which it left on Saturday last, and the advance of under Lords Roberts and Kitchener, moving from Jacobsdal, is already reported thirty miles west of that point. The British occupation of Dordrecht, on their extreme right, indiestes that the Boers are losing their grip on the Orange river line, and the occupation of Colengo by General Buller, with the expulsion of the Boers rom the south side of the Tugela, indi-

o let go of Natal. Lord Roberts' double pursuit of the retreating Boers by cavalry from Kimerley and by infantry from Jacobsdal ecalls the famous pursuit of Lee's retreating army by Grant and Sheridan rom April 3 to April 9, 1865. Sheridan, with 12,000 cavalry and 15,000 infantry, urned Lee's right flank at Five Forks, April 1. The next morning followed the assault and breaking of Lee's intrenched line before Petersburg. The night of April 2, Lee began his retreat. The next morning began the pursuit. On April 5, Sheridan's cavalry reached Jetersville, Va., ahead of Lee, and by 4 o'clock in the afternoon there were 12,000 cavalry, with the Fifth and Sixth corps (30,000 infantry) planted across Lee's path. Sheridan would have attacked, but Meade was too cautious

and Lee got away. The next day, April 6, Sheridan, with his cavalry and the Second and Sixth corps of the army of the Potomac. rushed Lee's rearguard and captured t, some 7000 strong, at Sailor's creek. The pursuit continued until by the afernoon of April 8 Sheridan, with his avalry, again outmarched Lee and inercepted his retreat at Appomattox. In the night the Fifth corps and the Twenty-fourth corps and one division of the Twenty-fifth corps came up to Sheridan's support, and, with the Secand and Sixth corps in his rear, there was nothing left for Lee but surren der. But Grant's splendid cavalry and well-equipped infantry were pursuing the feeble remnant of a gallant army that had been without full food or sleep for a week, since the evacuation of Petersburg. Its provision trains had been captured and burned by our cavalry; its railway supply train had been intercepted and destroyed by Sheridan's

troopers at Appomatton station. To overtake Lee's army was far less lifficult for Sheridan and Grant than for Roberts and Kitchener to overtake Cronje, because Cronje's troops are al mounted and had a day's start of Roberts' pursuit, while Roberts' whole nounted force, with French, is not ver 7000 strong. If Roberts and Kitchener have succeeded in overtak ing Cronje and forcing him to fight at disadvantage, they have been very energetic or Cronje has been very dull. If Cronje is in real danger, the Boers must evacuate the line of the Orange river and of the Tugela in Natal, and go to his rescue

The process of weeding out the ponesident pupils from the public schools is, it is said, going to be quite a diffi-cult one. It is not strange, perhaps, that the "get-something-for-nothing" To the newspaper people of the coun-incapability of ages, the progress that upon the bounty of the taxpayers of States, at 35 he was appointed United | ten historical articles and breezy narra-

try it is highly gratifying that the has been made may well be considered this district, since all experience goes States judge of the sixth judicial circuit. Itivez of discovery and adventure are feao show that the spirit of mendicancy and dishonesty is easily fostered by indulgence, and is exceedingly tenacious of what it comes to consider the "rights" of its possessor. It may be admitted that every child in the comnonwealth has a right to free tuition n its public schools, but since for convenience and fairness the state is districted for this purpose, it is proper for parents an i those having charge of pupils to accept and abide by the contitions and send their children to the district home school, or pay their way

We have precise information now of the effect of the South African war upon the gold production of the Rand he figures for the last three months coming from the Transvaal government. The production for the first nine months was 3,912,816 ounces, and for the last three months only 155,356 ounces. But as the production in Nocomber was more than three times that of October, and the December production was a fifth more than the November production, it would appear that the Transvaal government was beginning to push the production; and it may have increased rapidly since December. The production for five years is as follows:

In spite of the war, the production last year was a quarter more than it was two years ago. Production is increasing in all other gold fields, and European monetary centers are much less nervous about the effect of the war than they were at first.

"Unless stable government and free trade with the United States are given to Puerto Rico, there is grave danger hat the residents of the island will peltition for their recession to Spain." Dr. Azel Ames, federal delegate from Puerto Rico to Washington, makes this statement, and Senor Tulio Larraniga, his colleague, concurs in it. They add: The people of Puerto Hico cannot understand why. If as now contended by administration parties, the constitution does not, as peopria vigors, extend likelf to the island, congress vigore, extend their to the island, congress should not at once extend its provisions. Nor can they see why, if Hawaii, which certainly is to be considered as much a precedent for the constitution of the constitutional exten-sion and territorial government with free trade, and Puerto Rico not. Unless Puerto Rico can edily have fixed and stable government ur der the constitution, the power to negotiate a territorial loan and free commerce with the United States, there will not be enough left o her to be worth anybody's consideration

Orchardists are very well satisfied with the result of the few days' freezing weather of last week. The fruit ouds received timely check, but no lamage, while it is hoped that the ranks of the insect pests will be decimated to some extent by the frost. this as it may, the setback to the buds is beneficial, and an abundant fruit rop, so far as damage by winter freez ng is concerned, is now assured. Late old rains are yet to be reckoned with, but only the chronic pessimist croaks at this distance of the possibility of disaster from this cause.

Fallure of the subsidy bill does not em to alarm the shipyards. At Bucksport, Me., a shipyard closed since 1891 is about to be opened with orders for three large sailing vessels. One of the Bath shipbuilding firms has been organized as a joint stock company, which is understood to mean an extension of its facilities on account of the the main infantry column of invasion growth of business, and there are renewed and more definite reports of a ombination of steel companies to establish a steel steamship plant near New York city.

Allen has been unable to deliver the goods. His appointment at Bryan's behest, over the head of Hitchcock, required as a quid pro quo that he should hold the national populist committee cates plainly that the effect of Lord for Bryan and fusion. The committee Roberts' victorious invasion of the Or- has broken up in a row. The country ange Free State is forcing the Boers is a gainer through the absence of Allen from the senate for a few days. Probably the net outcome will be another presidential nominee. We had only five in 1896. This year we may have six.

The Boers are so anxious for Godgiven freedom and liberty that they are trying to break into the German empire. It is well. The German institution of lese majeste is about all the Pransvasi needs, with its persecution of blacks and intolerance of Jews and Catholics, to make it an ideal republic Naturally, therefore, it would fiee from Gladstonian despotism to Bismarckian freedom.

Annexation sentiment in Cube was growing rapidly, till the proposal of injustice in dealing with Puerto Rico was brought forward. That has killed unnexation sentiment in Cuba. Thus we lose the key to the American isthmus, to the Gulf of Mexico, and to the passage between the two parts of the Western hemisphere. Are we fit to be only a petty and provincial nation?

Tongue of Oregon is among the reublicans of the house reported to be in pposition to the Puerto Rico tariff bill. He honors himself and serves the country by this course. The bigger question as to the Philippines, in which our Pacific states are vitally interested, is carried in this Puerto Rico bill

There is nothing strange in Senator urner's appearance as an accredited member of the democratic national committee meeting. Gravitation thitherwards is the natural thing in his case, and it will only be accelerated by all such phenomena as the present row at Omaha.

A FINE APPOINTMENT. Judge Taft Will Make a Fine Head of Philippine Commission.

Chicago Times-Herald. Professor Schurman having declined a Processor Schurman having declined a position at the head of the new Philippins commission, President McKinley has appointed Judge W. H. Taft, of Cincinnat, to the place. The appointment cannot be too highly commended, because the adge is the very type of man we need to naugurate American civil rule in our

was graduated second in his class, and pomessed besides an ascendency over his classmates which was not to be won by recitation marks alone. It was confi-density predicted that he would attain to seenery, places, the people and th more than ordinary success in life, and his career soon justified the prediction. famous battle-grounds, noted fortifi At the age of 30 he was judge of the su-perior court of Cincinati, at 23 he be-came solicitor-general of the United

This rapid advancement to honors sol-dom bestowed upon young men is indica-tive not only of precently but of high character and exceptional ability. It family influence may have had some share character and exceptional ability. If family influence may have had some share in it, since the judge's father had been a member of Grant's cabinet and minister to Austria and Russia, demonstrated capacity was the best recommendation for the successive promotions. We should refer to the family rather for the purpose of suggesting that the associations and antecedents of the new president of the commission are such as to strengthen the presumptions in his favor. The circumstances of his life have all combined to make him a representative of the best American citizenship, and we may be sure that he will go to the Philippines with a contempt for the low ideals of spoils politicians and a desire to further the interests of the natives in every particular. It is to the advantage of his effect that he still has the strength and energy of youth, for he is now only if years old, while his judical experience must prove of the greatest value in the special work that lies before him. Through this experience he has acourted not only a ferm hat lies before him. Through this experience he has acquired not only a firm hold upon the principles of our govern-men, but also a thorough insight into their practical application, which study alone

We must suppose, too, that when he re-signed that position on the bench which omised him honors, dignity and a competence for life, he was animated by a seal for the task he was about to undertake, and a laudable ambition to make the most of a great opportunity. All things considered, the country has reason to ex-pect that he will perform a splendid serv-ice for it in the Oriental islands.

CAFFERY'S LOGIC.

Will involve Its Author in Some Curious Dilemmas.

New York Tribune.

New York Tribune.

Senator Caffery is reported in our Washington dispatches as declaring that "it is absolutely assured" in his mind that the outlying possessions of the United States—the Phillipines were particularly under consideration—"cannot be governed by the contex of the unsurely will too of concaprice or the unrestricted volition of congress. They must be governed in accordance with the constitution, or congress will have to usurp powers of govern-

They may be governed by congress acording to its volition, restrained or unrestrained, and at the same time be gov-erned in accordance with the constitution, and there need be no usurpation in the ase. The constitution declares that "con cress shall have power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States." That is the constinal provision for the government of

Senator Caffery is also reported to have said that "under our constitution and Declaration of Independence we cannot wage a war of conquest."

The United States is not primarily a

onquest-seeking power. It is dcubiless epugnant to the genius of the nation to eek military and territorial conquests for seek military and territorial conquests for the mere sake of conquest. But we can perceive in neither the constitution nor the Declaration of Independence any or-dinance of self-abnegation by which the United States denies to liself any of the powers of a sovereign nation. As a matter of historical fact, this country has waged more than one war of conquest. We are ore than one war of conquest. no means sure that the war of the Revolution itself did not to some extent partake of that quality. There can be no doubt that the Seminole war and various other Indian wars did, and while there are some who consider that wars against red Indians "do not count," they must admit that they count at least as much as wars or other dealings with the Tagais of Luson. We are inclined to think that the sober judgment of the world holds the Mexican war to have been largely, if not entirely, a war of conquest, yet we are told that Senator Caffery does not think it was unconstitutional. And since Senator Caffery urges that we should cast the Philippines adrift to care for themselves, we should like to know if it yould be any the less conquest to take he islands forcibly from Spain and then w them away than thus to take them

and to keep them for our own.

Senator Caffery, finally, declares that
the people of the Philippines are citizens
of the United States, "entirely, completely, absolutely," They do not have to
wait for any action of congress to make them so. They are as fully citizens today as the secator himself. They became so automatically the moment the United States flag was raised above the Islands, for "that flag carries its citizenship wherever it floats.'

If that be so, would it not be a shock ng thing forcibly to deprive them of that itizenship and to expatriate them whole-What right have we to withdray mle? citizenship, once conferred, arbitrarily and without their comsent, from millions of our fellow-citizens? So much, if Senator Caffery's view of the automatic extension of citizenship be correct. But for our selves we cannot for a mement conced ts correctness. The flag of the United States floats over many thousands of Chi one and Indians, but it does not confetigenship upon them. The 14th amend ent to the constitution declares that "all persons born or naturalised in the United States, and subject to the jurisdicton thereof, are cliffens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. But surely Senator Caffery will not dis-pute the right of the government to prescribe who may and who shall not be naturalized. The people of the Philippines were not born in the United States. They ave not been naturalized in the Unite States. They do not even live in the United States, for those islands are not yet a part of this Union. They are not tigens of the United States.

It is of interest to recall that when Louisiana was annexed by the United States it was recognized that the people of that territory would not ipso facto b ome citizens of the United States: wher fore it was expressly stipulated in the ac of cession that they should be admitted t citizenship "as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution." Precisely the same thing wa ione in the case of Florida. thought, apparently, that the people of those territories would automatically be-come citizens of the United States the noment the flag of the United Sates was alsed above them. In the case of Call-fornia it was stipulated that Mexican In-nabitants who elected to become citizens of the United States should be admitted to such citizenship "at the proper time, to be judged by the congress of the United

Without going further afield for such examples, we should like to know on what principle the people of the Philippines are to be held superior and in with superfor rights to those of Louisiana, Florida and California? If they have no such superiority, they are not citizens of the United States, and will never be un-less congress shall at some time make them so by special act.

Uncle Sam's New Possessions The N. D. Thompson Publishing Co. of St. Louis, is issuing a pictorial presentation of the lands acquired as a result of the Spanish war. The book which is entitled "Our Islands and Their Peo plc. as Seen With Camera and Pencil," will be in twenty-four parts, each con-taining thirty-two large quarto pages, with extra inserts and colored maps, constitut distant possessions.

He had to begin with great native ability, which made him one of the most constitutions students of his time at Yale.

His scholarship is attested by the fact that ands constituting the Spanish group of the West Indies; the Hawalian group, and the Philippine and Sulu archipelations, public buildings, cathedrals, country villages, farms, mountains, valleys lakes, rivers and waterfalls. Well-writ-

tures of the work. "Our Islam Their People" is the most compre and authentic work bearing on the former Spanish possessions that has yet come

EXPORTS OF COAL

British Strikes Introduced Them, an Now They Are Increasing. New York Journal of Commercial

New York Journal of Commerce.

Coal is leaving Philadelphia at the rate of 1000 tons a day for Mediterranean ports, ostensibly for railway fuel, but it seems to be suspected in Philadelphia that it is for warships, and indicates preparations for hostilities. The more peaceful explanation is entirely probable. Within a few days it was noted that large amounts of American coal were sping to France, but days if was noted that large amounts as American coal were going to France, but entirely for railroad use, as the French mavy does not use our coal. The French mavy, however, as has been noted in these columns, has procured from its attache as Washington a report on American coal which indicated that it compared favor ably with the best Welsh, not at every ably with the best Welsh, not at every point but on the whole, and it was then intimated that the French navy was likely to order coal from this country. Last year England exported 48.108.568 tons of coal. Much of Europe depends al-most entirely on British coal, especially Mediterranean countries, those to which Philadelphia is now shipping so freely. British exports are reported to be reduced by the large nurchasse of the Admiralty by the large purchases of the Admiralty for current use, and the measures the gov-ernment is believed to be taking to pre-

ernment is believed to be taking to prevent large shipments of coal to possible
enemies. Wholly apart from the possibilities of war, a very slight decrease in Britlah exports would compel several European
countries to look for coal in this country.
What is a trifle of 30,000 tons a mouth in
the English exports of coal? A decrease
to this extent would scarcely attract attention, yet an increase of that amount in
the coal shipments of Philadelphia is a the coal shipments of Philadelphia is a commercial event of some magnitude. The price of coal has advanced very much in England. The London Economist thinks the impression that this is due to the war is an error. It says the war has diverted coal from certain points to others, and while the admiralty has bought more coal the steamship owners have bought ess. Bunkers, it says, cannot be filled at eess than 17s ed to 20s in Wales and 17s in orth coast ports. It believes coal has been forced up a great deal higher than there is any warrant for in the industrial situation. To these high prices it attrib-ures the checking of export demand and the increase of orders from America. appearance of a few cargoes of trans-Al-antic coal," it says, "should have a chas-ceing effect on our markets—at present stated and inflated beyond all reason."

The British coal strike of a couple of years ago led to considerable orders for American coal from the Continent and even from England itself. Thus Europeans secame acquainted with the quality of our coal, and our coal operators learned comething of the foreign market. The price of our coal was not quite low enough to compete with the English at normal prices at points distant from this country. During the Welsh straze, however, we were able to ship coal to the other side of the world, and we have long had the bet-ter part of the West Indian market. The Philadelphia Press mentions a large Brit-ish shipowning firm which has contracts for coaling its steamers at Gibraltar at M a ton, and at Philadelphia, put on board, at \$2.50 a ton. With coal at the latter price on board in Philadelphia, there is a considerable area within which we can ship coal at a profit. Our exports of coat for each of the last three years have been as follows:

Last year over 4,000,000 tons went to British North America, but 25,000 tons went to Europe, over 800,000 tons to Mex-to, and over 500,000 tons to the West In-

Counter-Attraction. Indianapolis Journal. "Andrew Carnegie gave our town a pub-

library. "That was fine."
"You think so? Well, we've asked him now to give us a skating rink, so the boys and girls will stop reading trashy.

The Thorny Path of Fame.

Chicago Record.
"I've just had a letter from our con-What does he want?" "He says be can't make a hit in public life unless some of us start a lot of politi-cal rumors for him to deny."

The Expert.

Judge.

"Let me see the letter," said Kilduff.
I am familiar with his handwriting." "But this is typewritten," said Tenspo "I can tell that, too. I know his brand of spelling."

Philadelphia North American.
"I shall make no apology for speaking to you thus at length," said Senator Wordy.

'Well, why not?" demanded one of the opposition.

Tonsorial, Boston Globs.

The Boers not only wear voluptuous whiskers themselves, but they are indicating an ability to beard the British lion

Chicago News.
Ostend (reading a book of poems)—Pa,
when was the romance age? when was the romance age? Pa-When I was 20, Ostend.

The Women of Britain, By Mrs. Arthur Harter

(The following poem is being restited by Mrs. Langtry in New York. It has made a great "hit" in England:)
A word for the women of Britain,
Who bid their beloved good-bye.
The husbands, the brothers, the sons who go torth To fight and to conquer or die.

A word for the women of Britain, Who part with the friend they love best, And fighting their fears, smile up through

When he, too, goes out with the rest. The hard for the women of Britain, Who stay when their warriors go, The men who set forth are eager and mad To measure their might with the for

For the men there's the pumion of peril That lightens the hardship they bear For what can't they stend with a comrade a hand, The death or the honor to share? for them there's the strain of the buttle

And the joy of the charge at its height, The cry of the clan, the shout of the man, And the fury and throb of the fight; n the clamor and clash of encou There is valor and glory—or death?
With the thought of the woman who loves them
To hallow their last dying breath. at what for the women of Britain?

Ah! they need our pity the most! In their desolate homes they are waiting for news
Of the dear one who dies at his post.
For them is the weariest trial,
Long vigils of pain day and night;
Sick at heart and alone, they pray at God's

For the men whom they love in the fight,

And this is the word for the women Whose loved ones are far, far away, That the work to be done for those who And this is the work of the women-Brave women of generous soul-To take such her share of the surrows they

And lighten the grist of the whole. The gentle are beloing the simple-Love and sympathy level all pride-and hearts find relief in the union of grief, When the men fight and die elde by side. All the women of British are equal, For the men share alike in the fray, And the rich and the poor are just sist In the bearts of the nation today,

NOTE AND COMMENT.

No. Arethusia, the early ross is not the

The Cuban laborers will do better to

say nothing and obey Wood. Kelly-Kenny may yet prove that his same is a corruption of Kilkenny.

The father of his country never told a e, which shows how little there is in heredity.

It may be necessary to appoint a special ensus agent to count the governors in Kentucky.

Pettigrew claims the senators for expansion are constantly giving the people taffy. He ought to make that stick.

The British have met with fair success n surrounding an occasional kopie, but thus far have not surrounded one Cronje.

A burglar was detected in Salem by seans of a Rible which he carried. And yet there are those who deny that it is a Rev. Mr. Sheldon has relaed the price of

his paper. But he said he was going to conduct it on a high plane, so no one can object.

Now doth the thin-voiced schoolboy / A yern about a natchet That hacked a cherry tree.

An Eastern paper offers a reward of \$50 to a man who will name the meanest town in the country. Here is a case where Tacoma and Seattle may have a chance to settle their differences in the courts.

While the "Daly power" in Montana may mye been checked by the election of Hark, the returns now coming in would ndicate that it required a good many hecks to attain the desired end.

A country correspondent says a strong man visited his town, hired a boat and pulled up the river. He must have been as succeedul as the man who went to a tree, sawed it down and then sawed it up,

At least 20 per cent of the persons who call at the courthouse for the purpose of registration, walk through the main hall with the big sign, with three-foot letters staring them in the face, reading, "Voters, register here," and ask, "Where is the registration office?" When the sign is pointed out, they apologize for having been so short sighted and stupid, and pass on. A parallel case is found in the experience of old Policeman Hudson, a few years ugo. He had just donned a brand-new uniform, and was leleurely patrolling his beat, a bright allver star pinned conspicsously on the breast of his cost, when a man approached and saluted him: "Hello, Hudson, what are you doing now? Are you still on the police force?"

Who now is to play "Putd'nhead Wilon?" Descent from sire to son was naural, and Edwin Mayo made, at least, a good substitute picture, though he lacked some of his father's dramatic gifts. Among the well-known American comedians and character actors where can we call to mind one who can play the quaint Mis-souri lawyer without elients. Certainly ot Sol Smith Russell, nor Nat Goodwin, or E. H. Sothern, nor W. H. Crane, nor Frank Daniels, nor J. Ir. Stoktart, nor H. M. Holland, nor John Drew, nor half a dozen others who have achieved success. Will the death of Edwin Mayo, reported yesterday, end "Pudd'nhead Wilson," just as "Lord Dundreary" died with the elder Sothern? It should not be so. The thumbwork detective to so original, so quaint and, withal, so interesting a character that the stage can ill afford to lose him. Fortunately, "Pudd'nhead Wilson" can not be removed from his place in American lit-

"The Absent-Minded Beggar,"

(A contribution to the cause of soldiers' families.)
(Reprinted by request.)
When you've shouled "Eule Britannia," when
you've sung "God Here the Queen,"
When you've finished killing Kruger with Will you kindly drop a shilling in my little

tambourine
For a gentleman in khaki ordered south?
Ho's an absent-minded began and his weak-nesses are great.
But we and Paul must take him-as we find

him; He is out on active service wiping something

off a slate, And he's left a lot o' little things behind him, Duke's son-cook's son-son of a bundred kings, (Fifty thousand horse and foot going to

Table Bay.

Each of 'em doing his country's week (and who's to look after their things!)

Poss the hat for your credit's mike and pay-pay-pay!

There are girls he married secret, sating no permission to.

For he knows he wouldn't get it if he did;
There is gas and coals and vittles, and the
house rent failing due.

And it's more than rather likely there's a

There are girls he walked with casual; they'll be sorry now he's gone. For an absent-minded beggar they will find But it ain't the time for sermons with the win-

We must help the girl that Tommy's left be-

Cook's son-linke's son-sen of a belief Earl, Son of a Lambeth publicars-it's all the

ame today:
Each of em doing his country's work (and
who's to look after the strill
Pass the his for your credit's sake and
pay-pay-pay!

ere are families by thousands far too proud to beg or speak.
And they'll put their sticks and bedding up the spout, And they'll live on half o' nothing paid 'em

punctual once a week.

'Cause the man that surned the wage is ordered out. pered out.

He's an absent-minded begger, but he heard his country's call.

And his regiment didn't need to send to find

He chucked his job and joined it-so the job Is to help the home that Tommy's left behind

Duke's son-cook's son-gardener, baronet, groomMawe or palmos or paper shop-there's gene one good away.

Each of 'em doing his country's work (and who's to look after the room?)

Pass the han for your credit's sake and

pay-pay-pay! manage so as jame we can look him in

And sell him—what he'd very much prefer-That while he saved the employer asved his piace.

And his mates (that's you and me) looked out for her.

out for her. He'se an absent minded begger, and he may forget it all; But we do not want his kiddles to remind

him
That we sent 'em to the workhouse while their
daddy hammered Faul,
go we'll belo the home that Tommy's left be-

Cook's home-duke's home-home of a millionaire-Giffy thousand house and foot going to Table Hay), E-ch of 'em doing his country's work-(and

what have you got to spare?)
Pass the hat for your medic's sake and

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