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TODAY'S WEATHER: Rain; southeast wind.

NEW PHASES OF WAR.

Some months ago an article by M. Bloch, a noted war expert of Europe, was published by most newspapers of the world. It contained statements about war, under modern conditions, which appeared to be revolutionary.

THE SHAFER REWARD BILL.

There is a bill now before the House of Representatives whose purpose is to revise General Shafter from the rank of Major-General, instead of a Brigadier-General, which latter rank he now holds.

UNFAIR CRITICISM REBUTED.

In passing again, at the request of the President, upon the army canteen law, Attorney-General Griggs took occasion to administer something of a rebuke to the members of the W. C. T. U.

THE EARLY SEMITIC RELIGION.

Professor C. H. Toy in International Monthly, of the Semitic civilization, the oldest of which was the Babylonian, which is already well developed when we first meet it in historical records.

that retirement, upon his present rank, with the pay and privileges that belong to it, is all that the services of General Shafter merit.

A FINAL NOTE OF FOLLY.

The disappointing feature of the gold bill reported by the Senate and House conference committee is that which stipulates that "the provisions of this act are not intended to preclude the accomplishment of international bimetalism whenever conditions shall make it expedient and practicable to secure the same by concurrent action of the leading commercial nations of the world, and at a ratio which shall insure the permanency of relative value between gold and silver."

While this provision will not endanger the stability of the gold standard, it is a concession to folly which the country had no reason to expect from advocates of the gold standard like Senators Allison and Aldrich, conferees on the part of the Senate.

AN ADDITIONAL WORD.

It is altogether probable, as asserted by Professor Sumner, of Yale, that "not more than ten per cent of married people, looking back at the end of their lives, can honestly say they have realized all the happiness and all the ideals with which they began married life."

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The good women of the W. C. T. U. should see and acknowledge this, and if they still feel constrained to work for the betterment of the army canteen—a work which is clearly within their province—they should change the base of their operations, attack the law at its source, and not in its interpretation.

GOBELINISM IN MISSOURI.

Missouri has trouble on hand with the Neblit law, a measure founded on the principle of Gobelism. Like the Kentucky statute, the Missouri law proceeds on the theory that the mere existence of a majority for an opinion on political or fiscal matters is little or no justification of any measure that will effect a change.

PROTECTION OF SPECIAL INTERESTS.

Dangers That Lurk in the Puerto Rican Tariff Bill. From Washington the Boston Transcript has an impressive dispatch on the proposed Puerto Rican tariff.

THE NEW GOLD BILL, AS AGREED ON BY THE HOUSE AND SENATE.

The new gold bill, as agreed on by the conference of the two houses, provides that all United States and Treasury notes, when presented at the Treasury, shall be redeemed in gold coin, and that such notes so redeemed shall not be reissued except in exchange for gold.

General Cronje's Army Still Defends Its Position.

General Cronje's army still defends its position, but it appears to be held in a vise, without power to move. In this situation General Cronje has been held for a week, and apparently cannot extricate himself—else he would have done so heretofore.

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is evidently not very confident of getting a majority for the bill. The Monthly Bulletin for February, 1897, and only 22 last year, so that this source of revenue is insignificant.

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Old Testament that it required several centuries to establish Yahweh firmly in Israel (for example, Elijah's visit to Horeb, and the fact that we do not find proper names compounded with Yah till Saul's time). In the postexilic period, historical details are almost entirely lacking till the latter part of the fourth century, B. C.

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the afflicted Puerto Rican, and there are some Democrats who, "influenced by local considerations," intend to vote for it. To pass this measure, at the instance of a handful of misguided domestic tobacco-growers and high protectionists, would be a lasting disgrace to this mighty Republic.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

A sign of spring—Keep off the grass. It is singular that some people are never loath in their morals till they are tight.

Bryan says he prefers not to be called Colonel. It looks as if he was sure of Kentucky, anyway.

The first thing the new police in the Philippines will probably do is to arrest Aguinaldo for fast riding.

Cronje has the reputation of being a stern and unyielding old fellow, but Bobbets seems to have got around him.

It is suggested that the man who hanged himself in Salem the other day was legally executed, because he met his death on the gallows.

Secretary Root is wondering if he has a war on his hands. Chamberlain is not perplexing his brain about any such question.

Tombstones and coffins are now on sale in the Chicago department stores, which will convince St. Louis that business is dead with their hated rival.

One question has been brought up by the Transvaal war which is hard to solve, and that is, how, on two islands of divided area, there has been room for all the major-generals that are fighting under the British flag.

Quite a number of petitions for private permits to erect a number of rather sections of streets, in front of the petitioners' property, have lately been presented in the Council, and, as usual, granted. It is, of course, desirable that streets should be improved, and if it is done under private permit, the property-owner, of course, has to do the work in accordance with the City ordinance.

The mind of man is constantly seeking out new inventions, and now a citizen of Portland has discovered a method of extracting gold from water. It is said that traces of gold, silver, copper, etc., can be found in the water of creeks or springs in mineral regions, and this man has discovered a method of precipitating the metals in such water.

A man who stood listening to a street-hawker a day or two since, and noticing the energy and verbiage he displayed, remarked that the young man raised in the East never made a bad thing out of anything in Oregon. A bystander took exception to this statement, and went on to say that there were young men raised in Oregon who were as thoughtfully provided with gall and gab as there was any necessity for.

Robert Morris was not a Jew, and we have met with no record that a Jew supplied money to Christopher Columbus.

Callahan-Poor Casey is worried to death. After losing both arms, he was left with a tricycle-car he took down with aplomb, and he was not a man to be trifled with. He was in the hospital during the Revolutionary war, was a Jew or not? Also, what Jew, if any, advanced Christopher Columbus money for his expedition.

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