The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon

TELEPHONES. Editorial Roome 166 | Business Office. REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES. lly, Sunday excepted, per year 7 50 lly, with Sunday, per year Meekly, per year The Weekly, 5 months To City Subscribers— Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted the Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included 20c

The Gregorian does not buy poems or stori m individuals, and cannot undertake turn any manuscripts sent to it without solic on. No stamps should be inclosed for this

News or discussion intended for publication The Gregorian should be addressed invariably "Editor The Oregorian." not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertising. be addressed simply "The Oregonian." Puget Sound Bureau-Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma. Box 955.

Eastern Business Office-The Tribune build ing, New York city: "The Bookery." Chicago the S. C. Beckwith special agency, New York.
For sale in San Prancisco by J. K. Cooper,
746 Market street, near the Palace hotel, and
at Goldsmith Bros., 226 Sutter street. For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co.

TODAY'S WEATHER -Occasional rain; high

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MARCH

OUR OWN COLONIAL HISTORY. Taxation of our new "colonial" possions brings under comparison and review the causes of the revolt in America against the system of taxation employed by the British Ministry in our own colonial days. It was not the amount of this taxation that produced the trouble, but the innovation it introed, with infringement of rights to which the colonists had always been accustomed, and which they held indefeasible. Besides, it was apparent to them that they were to be treated as assals and sacrificed to the demands of the parent state. The fact is, a constitutional change had been going on in England for a century or more, with which the colonies had not kept pace, and the English theory of colonial rights had become very different from that which had been implanted in America. Needless to say, however, Great Britain does not pursue that theory now. She makes proper distinction between the theoretical right to do a thing and the policy of doing it.

This lesson in the historical progress of the constitution of a nation is brought out with great clearness by Hon. Hannis Taylor in the introduction to his volumes on "The Origin and Growth of the English Constitution." His introduction is an essay on the English origin of the Republic of the United States. For such as may not recall Mr, Taylor without inquiry, it may be as well to say that he is a citizen of Alabama, and was Minister of the United States to Spain during President Cleveland's second term, His book on the English Constitution is an

original and able production. The English colonies in America had een established through royal charters and the sarles form a direct legislative control to which any of the onies were subjected, in the form of dinances or instructions from their government, emanated from the ordaining power of the King in council. There links firm d from deer charters, valca, as between themselves and the crown, were irrevocable contracts; and the validity of the acts of the colonial upon the anproval of the English Parliament, but apon that of the Governor, who stood as the direct representative of the King. So, as Mr. Taylor develops it with a clearness and force we have not een elsewhere, the crown had everything to do with the organization and direction of the political systems of the colonies; the Parliament practically nothing. The crown, then, was regarded by the colonies as the only tie that ound them to the mother country; to each one of them the King stood in the direct relation of chief executive; to him alone duties were due, and the only proper mediums of communication between the crown and the colonies were the royal Governors and the colonial Parliaments. In their local Legislatures the colonists had learned how to tax themselves and how to regulate their home affairs through laws of their own making. But through a long course of political changes in England the omnipotence of Parliament had been practically established; and, losing sight of the great change that had been effected in the English system since the work of colonization began, the colonists adhered to the earlier conception, which regarded the home assembly as the legislative organ, both for themselves and for the mother country, and stoutly protested against Parliamentary taxation as a tyrannous innovation. Hence they held that Parliament had no right to invade the turisdiction of their colonial assemblies in order to legislate directly upon their internal concerns. Moreover, the acts of Parliament for taxation of America came forth in such manner and form as to cause the colonists to believe that they were to be exploited or the benefit of the mother country; and this, in addition to the innovation

This explains with perfect clearness why the ministry and the colonies so completely misunderstood each other. Their points of view were wholly different. The colonists stood on a theory that constitutional changes in England taking no account of the fact that the colonists had not participated in this change, or in the events that attended it, treated colonial opposition as mere rebellion. The lesson here for all countries that undertake the government of outlying dependencies is "writ large." The indispensable basis is knowledge of conditions, history, habits, usages, antecedents and general character of those who are to hold the colonial relation. Above all, the appearance or

and the invasion of their ancient rights,

was more than they could abide

Finally, therefore, as Mr. Taylor states

it, "out of the conflict which arose be-

the Imperial Parliament over self-gov-

Crown."

than anything that appears in it, because it is intended also as a precedent for the Philippine Islands.

DEPOSIT OF TREASURY FUNDS. The Forum consistently sustains, in ts March number, the role of defender o the McKinley Administration. The specific task this month falls to the Director of the Mint, Mr. George E. Roberts, who acquits himself well of an assignment to vindicate Secretary Gage's deposit of treasury funds in New York banks. The article is a valpable one not so much for what Mr. Roberts says as for what he quotes, and the voluminous extracts that make up the bulk of his paper form an instructive exhibit in the theory and practice of government finance as expressed in

the Subtreasury. No very thorough financial education necessary to understand that unlimited accumulation of Government funds in various forms of currency will tend to contraction of the circulation and threaten if it does not precipitate grave ommercial disaster. This was foreseen by Daniel Webster as early as 1840, when, in discussing the proposed Subtreasury, offered as a substitute for the United States Bank President Jackson destroyed, he said:

The very first provision of the bill is in kee ting with its general objects and the general character. It abandons all the sentiments of civilized mankind on the subject of credit and onfidence, and carries us back to the Dark ages. The first that we bear is of safes and aults and cells and cloisters. From an inter-netual it goes back to a physical age. From commerce and credit it returns to hoarding and hiding; from confidence and trust it retreats to bolts and bars, to locks with double keys, and o pains and penalties for touching hidden tress re. It is a law for the times of the feudal system, or a law for the heads and governors of the piratical states of Barbary. It is a mes fit for the times when there is no security in law, no value in commerce, no active industry among mankind. Here it is altogether out of time and out of place.

What Mr. Webster foresaw, of ourse, was that whenever circumstances so combined as to accumulate large sums in the Subtreasury, thus withdrawn from circulation, the currency supply of the country would be impaired and the only way the banks could raise money would be to force payment of loans with consequent inconvenience to business and impair ment of confidence. This, in fact, hapbened; and it was given to Mr. Webster himself, eight years later, to deplot the fulfillment of his prophecy, which he did in these words:

I find that on August 25 last the com banks in the City of New York had in their vaults \$5,800,000 in coln. That was the base upon which they made their lauses for the ac podation of the mercantile world. The Subtreasury had at that time in its vaults, in the same city, \$1,400,000. In the course of events, within one month, that relation was greatly changed, for on September 28 tise banks had but \$4,000,000, while the Subreasury had increased its amount to \$2,400,000. Thus, in a few days more than a month, the banks parted with \$1,200,000 of specie, and the Subtreasur tained the additional sum of \$1,000,000. The noney in these respective depositories at one created a great scarcity of money. All prac-tical men understand this. If a bank lows ounts, not to the same extent, but to thre r four times that extent. This very ope then, led to the necessary contraction of \$3,500, 000 or \$4,000,000 in the commercial business of 000 or \$4,000,000 in the the City of New York.

This is precisely the undesirable situation that has prevailed in the United Scates for months past, and that would have been disastrous had not Secretary Gage availed himself of authority granted in 1861 and more fully in 1864. Secretaries Sherman, Folger, Fairchild and Windom, under whose administration a surnive arese in the Trescuer had this same difficulty to contend attractive. Some excuse has been made with, met it in the same way, and en-

countered the same fierce criticism, The remedy for the difficulty is conceived by Mr. Roberts and by currency reformers generally, to be the free de- purposes, but this does not fully explain posit of Government funds in banks, the absence of the tramp. Something where its deposits and checks will come and go just as those of business firms added to the world's supply since Portcurrency supply of the country. This freight regulators, two years ago, and would involve substitution of a new plan for the Subtreasury system, or, failing in that, at any rate a recognition that the policy of our Secretaries is sound and best, and desirable of its largest possible extension under the world, but Pacific Coast grain men are

present law. The Oregonian has taken no part in the heated controversy that has raged over the administration of the Subtreasury by Secretary Gage; and it does not now purpose to do so. It has full sympathy with the reformers who urge abolishment of the Subtreasury system, and no sympathy whatever Administration. But it is not persuaded that the time for a revolution in this matter has come, and it is confident that the popular aversion to intimate relations between the Treasury and the banks is not to be dismissed as a relic of the Dark Ages. The appeal of the demagogues is base, but the instinct to which they appeal is sound. This is that favors between banks and Government should be religiously avoided. It is a case where we should steer clear of the very appearance of evil. It is better that such a popular instinct as this should be the sake of consistency in currency theory. And it is also true that if rev enues are skillfully contrived to needs. inordinate surpluses will seldom arise, be used in payment of Treasury obli-

NO SERIOUS LOSS OF PRESTIGE. The pro-Boer journals pretend to beleve that Great Britain "has lost prestige as no power has lost it since ries as to the practical omnipotence of France was overwhelmed at Sedan. This exaggerated view of the situation erning communities beyond the seas, is absurd. The loss of Sedan not only grew the war of the Revolution and neant the loss of the French army of loss of the colonies to the English 100,000 men surrendered, but it meant the loss of Bazaine's army of 175,000 men shut up in Metz, hopeless of relief. the ultimate surrender of Paris and the utter humiliation of France. Sedan cost France Alsace and Lorraine and an enormous sum in war damages assessed and levied by the victor. But reverses suffered by the British the last four months at the hands of the Boer army will not cost Great Britain

any serious loss of military prestige. Great Britain has been through far nore humiliating experience at the hands of her foes without any permanent loss of prestige. At the close of our American Revolution Great Britain had apparently suffered a serious loss of military and political prestige, but ten years after Yorktown Great Britain was the most formidable power in suggestion of measures which would Europe, measured by her navy and the give any color to the idea that the col- size of her army chest, and from ony is an estate to be worked for the Waterioo to the present date Great efit of the sovereign country, is to Britain has suffered no permanent loss

the Boers. In 1839 an English army of 30,000 men retreating in the winter from Cabul to the Indian frontier was utterly destroyed by the enemy in the ountain defiles. It is as absurd to speak of the repulse of the British unier Buller and Methuen as inflicting a serious loss of military prestige upon Great Britain, as it would have been to describe Abercromble's disastrous repulse by a few thousand French and Indians at Ticonderoga and Braddock's defeat as involving a serious loss of England's military prestige. The British regulars defeated in the "Old French War" were splendid troops that had distinguished themselves at Minden, and yet they did not fare any better assaulting breastworks defended by French and Indians than Methuen did at Modder River or Buller at Co-

So far from England's suffering any loss of prestige, there is not an educated soldier in the armies of France, Germany or Russia who does not know that no infantry in Europe is superior to the English infantry in courage steadiness and dash. There is no reason to believe that any power of Continental Europe, with the same number of men, could have put up as gallant a fight against the Boer intrenchments as did the troops of Methuen and Buller. The English lacked nothing of stout soldiership; they lacked a General for nearly four months, and now they have a General, who is the ablest commander England has furnished to his tory since Wellington. Great Britain is a nation of brave men, and her soldiers have always been of superior fighting quality, but since Cromwell, Great Britain has had but two great military ommanders of the first rank, viz. Marlborough and Wellington, Since Wellington's day, Great Britain has produced no General of his scientific quality and genius as a tactician and a strategist. It is not too much to say that Lord Roberts is of the Wellington quality of military talents, and under him there is no danger that Great Britain will not quickly recover any military prestige she may have lost,

THE "DOOM" OF THE SAILER.

energy and executive force.

Yes, and increase it. She has endured

her transient humiliation and suffer-

ing with calmness, resolution and con-

stancy; she has shown great moral and

spiritual endurance, as well as mental

The doom of the sailing vessel, which has been so often pronounced since England commenced selling her fleet of sailers and investing in steam, is apparently yet some distance in the future. The charter of the British bark Glenard for the round trip-Antwerp to Puget Sound and return, at 50 shillings would have been considered good business in the palmiest days of the sailer. This particular case, as mentioned in yesterday's Oregonian, is for distant business, and for near-by business the position of the sailing vessels is even stronger. Yesterday there was not a single disengaged sailing vesse suitable for grain loading at any port on the Pacific Coast, between Mexico and Alaska, and at every port along that 2000 miles of coast line freights were ruling higher than for years.

The tramp steamer, that we have

een taught to regard as the "boxis man" of the sea, and that was eventually to frighten all of the sailers from the ocean, is not in evidence as a round-the-Horn trader this year, and its absence is not due to the fact that rates are not sufficiently high to be for the non-appearance of the steam freighters this year, on account of the emands made by both the American like 2,000,000 tons of steam vessels were come and go, without disturbing the land was using tramp steamers as as the demands of war have thus far only taken up a little over 1,000,000 tons of shipping, there is still a big surplus available if it were wanted. Rates are high, to be sure, in other parts of the unable to use steamers at the present time. The foreign market is dull and depressed so much of the time that even small, handy-sized sailing vessels on which the wheat can be warehoused free for from four to six months in the voyage around the Horn, are very difficult to sell. A steamer large enough to be profitable in the round-the-Horn with the demagogic assailants of the grain trade must carry at least 5000 tons of wheat, and as there are but comparatively few ports in the Old World where 5000-ton cargoes can be disposed of to advantage, they are not

wanted at all at the present time. Steamships came into the Pacific Coast grain trade two years ago because the French crop was almost a total fallure, and wheat was needed in that country in large quantities, and as quickly as it was possible to get it there. Until such circumstances again prevail, we shall be obliged to depend on the saller. It is a matter of doubt in the minds of many who have made respected, rather than overridden for the question a study whether the completion of a canal across Central America will ever be the means of diverting much of the wheat from the round-the Horn route. Under the present system and when they do, accumulations can of transportation, the heavy offerings of wheat which are always in evidence immediately after harvest are rushed by steamer to Europe from the Atlan tic Coast and Gulf ports, filling the immediate needs of the foreigners, and frequently reaching proportions which cause weakness. It is three or four months after the first American wheat reaches Europe from the Gulf ports before any of the slow-moving sailers from the Pacific Coast get round to Queenstown or Falmouth for orders with new-crop wheat, and by that time the first rush of the new-crop offerings is over, and there is a good market for Pacific Coast wheat, which would sure ly have suffered from competition had t been rushed by steam through the

> The sugar and tobacco trusts, having got what they wanted in the shill to compel the Puerto Ricans to pay duty to get their products to market in the United States, can view with much omposure, in fact with benevolent aprobation, the proposition to take a few millions from the public treasury

canal, and reached the market at prac-

tically the same time as wheat from

the Middle West and South. Steam

may drive the salling vessel from a few

short routes where it formerly thrived,

but for long distances, over which

large quantities of freight must be car-

ried, there is no sign that the sailing

ship will ever be dislodged

than have been inflicted upon her by the money directly to the sugar and tobacco trusts, instead of going through the expensive circumlocution of paying it to the stricken islanders in order that they may pay it back in duties imposed for the benefit of the trusts? Of course, these trusts are aiming at the Philippines, and possibly Cuba, when they hit little, distressed Puerto Rico in this instance; but this tariff is for their benefit entirely. And all this with the sanction of a President who wrote three months ago that "our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariffs between the United States and Puerto Rico"!

> The very complete report of the busiess of the Albany creamery, presented yesterday morning, leaves hardly a word to be said in favor of that industry for Oregon. Not only is the profit the creamery business clearly shown, but it is with equal clearness shown that in Oregon the profits are materially larger than in Minnesota, though in Oregon it is a new business and in Minnesota it has become highly developed and nicely organized through years of experience. It is not to be said that conditions are exceptionally favorable in Linn County, for the reorts from creameries in Tillamook and Clatsop Counties for the year 1899 show even better returns for butter fat, hough those reports do not go into the subject to such a degree of detail. In the development of the creamery business lies promise of great prosperity for Oregon agriculture, greater than it has yet known.

A Linn County Grange undertakes to say that the adverse report of government experts on the proposed improvement of Yaquina Bay was due to Portland influence. This is a serious charge to make, and one that should not be made without evidence at hand to support it. The Oregonian hereby tenders its columns to the Linn County Grange for publication of any proof it has of the truth of its assertion. If the assertion is true, let us have the facts. If it is untrue let its authors. by fallure to prove it, confess their error. Come, gentlemen, your evidence!

It is astonishing that people who are colding meetings here and there in our country to urge the Government of the United States to offer mediation in South Africa cannot see that such offer if made would surely be repulsed, or at least declined. Great Britain is in such position that she feels under absolute necessity of seeing this contest through. And she will see it through No mediation will be accepted, and any attempt at intervention would mean war. Have we not business enough of our own. And isn't it serious enough?

Senator Carter, of Montana, says he shall vote to seat Quay, because Quay has been persecuted, was indicted and tried, and completely acquitted. Mr. Carter omitted, however, to say that Mr. Quay pleaded the statute of limitations before the jury and was acquitted on that plea, under the instruction of the court. Evidently Mr. Quay is a politician to Mr. Carter's liking; for Carter was one of the most venmous of the opponents of Mr. Corbett,

"The Gold Standard in Japan," by S. Uchida, Japanese Consul at New York, is the latest issue of "Sound Currency," sold at 5 cents a copy by the Sound Currency Committee, 52 William street, New York City. The pamphlet is one that should be in the hands of every one interested in the money question. Reference was made to the subject-matter of the document in our editorial columns yesterday.

Because the paper trust has put up the price of printing paper to an unonscionable figure, Representative De Vries, of California, has introduced a bill to repeal the duty on printing pa per and the material of which it is made. It is very well; but there are about forty more big trusts that have help through protective tariff and should be dealt with in the same way.

Mr. Simon's reply in the Senate yes terday to Mr. Carter, of Montana, was highly effective. Our special report covers all the leading features of Mr. Simon's speech. Nothing that has been spoken in the Senate from Oregon for years has received so much attention, here or elsewhere, as this speech will obtain.

The Oregonian wishes the two mem bers of the House from Oregon had been in that list of Republicans who voted against the Puerto Rico bill. And it thinks this wish is general throughout Oregon. No discrimination should be made in legislation against any population covered by the flag of

Isn't Senator "Billy" Mason's resignation considerably overdue? He ought to be satisfied by this time that Congress will not condemn the policy of National expansion. Possibly he has concluded to forgive Congress and hold on to his office.

Bad Faith and Bad Politics.

Chicago Inter Ocean. The Republicans of the House have tariff for Puerto Rico. One hundred and sixiy-eight of them voted for the bill, and six of them against it.

Just what motives influenced the 168 it is not now necessary to state. Suffice it to say that, in voting as they did, these men defied the common sentiment of their party. For once an insignificant minor ity of six members had behind it the almost unanimous support of the Republi-cans who made William McKinley President. All honor, then, to William Lori-mer of Illinois, C. E. Littlefield of Maine, E. D. Crumpacker of Indiana, S. W. Mc Call of Massachusetts, J. P. Heatwole and L. Fletcher of Minnesota, who, to the last

enstitutional justice for Puerto Rico. This is a time when sound statesman-ship is the best politics. It is no time for shifty buncombe. Any man who, fall ing to realize this, attempts to solve the present problem of expansion by campaign trickery, is not fit to be even a door keeper in a house of national legislation.

Boston Herald. February has but 28 days this year, not withstanding the fact that the year 1900 is livisible by 4. Under the ordinary rule, this would be a leap year, and the month should have 29 days. The explanation is somewhat familiar, but it is worth repeating. When Pope Gregory XIII re-formed the Julian calendar, he found that the legal year was 10 days behind the solar year, so he ordered that the day after October 3, 1582, should be October 14. And to prevent the legal year getting so far behind the solar year again, he ordered,

not be leap years. That is, we borrow rom the future II minutes each year for years, and rather more than pay them back in three centurial years by having to leap years, and on the fourth centuria having ear even matters up again by having leap year. The borrowing and paying ack under Pope Gregory's rule, are so day in 2323 years; when that period has elapsed, the legal year will be one day hind the solar year.

LEGAL BARS TO LOQUACITY. The Limits in Various States to the Length of Legislative Sessions,

New York Sun. What the five-minute rule, restricting to that period the speech of a member of a deliberative body, is to parliamentary pro-cedure the session limit established by aw is to statesmen empowered to adopt "statutes," "resolves" or 'ordinances," as they are variously called in the different states. In a few states-New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts-which have not adopted the biennial system, there is no limit fixed for the sessions of the Legslature, and as a consequence legislators meeting in January may protract their deliberations until July or August, with no visible benefit to the state and at heavy expense to the individual members, who receive a stated sum each year-\$1500 in New York, \$750 in Massachusetts, and \$100 In most of the states, however, a differ-

ent plan has been adopted. Legislators are paid, not by the year, but by various sums, from \$3 a day in Oregon and Kan-sas and among the states having blennial legislative sessions, to \$8 a day paid in California. Some of the smallest states have the largest Legislatures, and this item of expense, therefore, would, if un-restricted, become a considerable burden. The South Carolina Legislature, for instance, is made up of 165 members, whose pay is fixed by law at \$4 a day. This is \$600 a day in salaries alone, irrespective of other items of expense for clerks, mes-sengers, stationery and other expenditures poldent to sessions of the Legislature. The law of South Carolina limits the ses-sion of the statesmen at Columbia to 40 days, which foots up \$25,460 for salaries ollectively during that period, but a see on of 90 days, which is about the rule in New York, would bring up the total to nearly \$99,000, a difference of \$33,000, which in a small and frugally managed state like South Carolina is an item of considerable

The Vermont Legislature is composed of 276 members, and should its sessions be prolonged unduly, the cost to the people of that economically administered com-monwealth would be heavy. In New England generally it is not the custom to limit legislative sessions by statutory emactent, but rather by what is known as unwritten law, the law of frugality in public expenditure, to which legislators, in a matter relating to their own pay, are held rigidly to account. Massachusetts has no such limit; neither has New Hampshire. Maine. Connecticutor Vermont, but Rhode Island has established one, and without it the expense of legislative secsions would be an onerous one (there are 119 members) if Rhode Is'and paid liberally for the services of statesmen-which it does not.

Pennsylvania has no limit on the sessio of its Legislature; neither has Ohio. The former state compensates its legislators at the same rate as New York pays—\$1500 a year; Ohio pays only \$600, Kentucky limits the legislative session at Frankfort to 90 days; the limit in Tennessee is 25. There is no limit in Texas, but in Ar-kansas, where the fund for political elouence is decidedly less, there is a limit days. California, land, Minnesota and Virginia are the five states which fix 90 days as the limit, and as all five are states the Legislatures of which meet biennially, a session of 90 days equivalent to 45 days a year.

West Virginia has a limitation of 45 days, but 45 biennially. Delaware, Flor-ida, Georgia, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, Utah and Washington have 60-day limits. Mishas 70. Alabama has 50. There is no limit in Wisconsin. Wyoming's limit is 40 days, at the rate of \$5 a day for its legislators, who are only 57 in number. Long sessions usually mean many laws. Short sessions est, brief.

COWARDLY SMALLNESS. The Action of the House on the Puerto Rican Business.

Louisville Courier-Journal Nothing smaller was ever fathered by a great political party than the Puerto Rican bill, passed by the House of Representa

ives yesterday. Puerto Rico, by force of arms, has been taken from Spain and incorporated in the erritory of the United States, but the ower branch of the Congress of the Inited States says that it shall not have the protection of the Constitution of the United States, and that its products must s discriminated against by levying upon hem a tariff tax.

A few weeks ago the President and the chairman of the ways and means commit-tee said that free trade was the only policy which should be adopted with ref-erence to the products of Puerto Rico, and bill accordingly was drawn up by the committee chairman. But some Connecti-cut tobacco growers heard of this and raised an objection. The result was that nstead of free trade a tariff of 25 per ent of the Dingley rates was proposed for Puerto Rico. So vigorously was this opposed by some of the Republican Conresumen that in order to pass the bill the tariff rate of 25 per cent was scaled to 15 per cent, and the life of the tariff was

Imited to two years.

Thus the Republicans of the House say to Puerto Rico: "We take you, whether you will or not, into the United States; we deprive you of your former trade ar-rangements; we deny you the right to make your own trade arrangements, and we place a penalty upon any trade which ou may wish to carry on with the United

And as these great statesmen could no pass a permanent 25 per cent tariff law, they compromised on a 15 per cent rate for two years!

The smallness of the whole proceeding s appropriately capped by the section the act deciaring that it is "intended to meet a pressing present need for revenue for the island of Puerto Rico."

That is as petty a lie as was ever sanc-tioned by a vote in Congress. The act is intended for no such purpose. It is intended to placate a few people in the United States who fear that to allow United States who fear that to allow Puerto Rico to trade freely in the United States, of which it is a part, might take a few dollars from their own profits. Depew's Broad Views.

New York Times, The fears daily expressed by Senators of dis

petrous consequences to ourselves from the pr fuctions and industries of these telands have no justification in the long experience of othe nations. Great Britain has found her best man kets in her colonies and no invasion of her in dustries from them. The came is true of the growded, highly organized and sensitive indus-trial interests of Holland. The people of the temperate zones govern all tropical countries outside the Americas. The northern races are the migrators, the colonizers, the rulers, and the organizers of the productive energies of the world. There is a closeness and contact between all parts of the lands and peoples which

are under one general government.

Though Great Britain has no greater comme cial advantages with her colonies than oth and competing countries, yet she furnishes 43 per cent of their imports, and if analyzed so as to select only the articles she produces the pro-portion would be greater. The rapid develop-ment of wants and ability to gratify them created by civilization and stable government will enormously increase the consumption and pur-chasing power of the inhabitants of our island possessions.—Senator Depew's speech.

be avoided. Here is the evil of the proposed legislation for Puerto Rico-legislation which is more objectionable greater losses and deeper humiliation from the public treasury and present

| Depending to the pro| Dep

to the bob-tail clam Yankees from the tobacco-growing regions of Connecticut, that if the new possessions are to be made worth possessing they must beme so by industrial and com reiopment. We cannot build them up by orbidding them to trade with us and with the other nations of the earth. Spanish

Brief Essay on Mobility.

Baltimore Sun.

President McKinley's extraordinary
"mobility of character," as a friendly
Dregon newspaper recently described his ability to accommodate himself to circumstances, may enable him to sign a bil directly in conflict with his recommenda tions to Congress. His "mobility" may, indeed, be so great that, after having urged free trade with Puerto Rico, he possibly insisted, as reported, upon the im-position of duties as a party necessity, under threat of "punishing" Republican members of Congress who withheld their with less "mobility" and more individuality and determination would not hesitate to veto such an unjustifiable measure, if not for constitutional reasons, at least upon the ground of humanity. Is it pos-sible Mr. McKinley's "mobility" is such that, in order to maintain "harmony" in his party, he will swallow his own victions and heap burdens upon a starving people?

Not Acceptable.

New York Herald. If there were to be a tariff it is ob vious that the people could bear it after two years better than at this time of prostration. All pretense of adherence to principle is abandoned in this proposition. It is obviously designed, first, to establish precedent, and, second, to pla-Connecticut tobacco-growers, and their high protectionist allies in view of the approaching campaign. High-minded Re publicans who place principles above party and humanity above political expediency will refuse to accept any such compromise with conscience, and with the aid of Democratic votes should defeat the bill, and do justice to the islanders now heid flag of those they greeted as deliverers.

It Wins Admiration.

New York Sun. Such is a hasty but fair summary the opinions Mr. Olney advances in his article in the Atlantic Monthly for March. We are sure that no one can read it. no matter whether he agrees with Mr. Olney or not at every point, without in-creased admiration for the energetic intelect and character of this interesting statesman, patriot and expansionist,

May Soon Have Revolt on Our Hands. Indianapolis Journal.

The way to make the people prosperous happy and loyal to the United States Government is to until their hands and give m free access to our markets, Their revenue will increase fast enough and taxes will be paid willingly, whereas, if we adopt a sordid instead of a just policy we may soon have another revolt on out

Morals, National Honor and Decency.

New Haven Register. There is no politics involved in the resoition declaring Puerto Rico entitled to the political rights and trade privileges of a territorial form of government. It is a tional honor and common decency. It depends upon Congress whether it shall later become a political issue.

Barring Sure Winners.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. "How is Jack coming on with his grand ternational footracing tournament?"
"First-rate now. You see, he soon found that he'd have to alter his prospectus so it would read, 'Open to all the world-except Filipinos!' After that he had no trouble in getting all the entries he could handle.

Just the Man.

Harlem Life. Mrs. Belgrave (en the Bermuda boat)-Are you one of the stewards?.

Bill Roling-No, marm. I'm cap'n of th'

Belgrave-How nice! spin it for little Chauncey, won't you? He's almost bored to death.

Above Party Interest.

New York World. Upon party grounds, the Democrats could wish for nothing better than the imposition of a trust tariff upon the suffering and helpless Puerto Ricans. But as defenders of the Constitution and friends of freedom they should stand solidly against this outrage,

The Wrong Side of the Question.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Puerto Rico belongs to the United States. and it is so vastly important to our Na-tional future that it should be treated as part of the United States that no Con gressman can afford to publicly record his vote on the wrong side of this great American question.

Cannot Be Compromised.

 Philadelphia Ledger.
 The Republicans who have opposed this ndefensible measure for principle's sake cannot advocate it in its new form. It 's still un-Republican, unconstitutional and un-American. They cannot agree to any compromise which involves a sacrifice of

honor and justice. It Would Be a National Shame, Keokuk (Ia.) Gate City.

This Government is strong enough to do what it will with the Puerto Ricans, They are helpless in our hands, but to refuse them the benefits of this Government, to deprive them of their own independence,

and yet refuse to let them have ours, is a National shame. Appreciated Ancestor. Cleveland Plain Dealer. "You come of an old family, Bigsby, and I suppose you have a great deal of respect for your ancestors?"

Yes, indeed. One of my grandfathers left me fifty thousand." "L'Angelus" and "La Terre." Richard Monckton Milnes (Lord Houghton

Against the sunset glow they stand, Two humblest tollers of the land, Eugged of speech and rough of hand, Bowed down by tillage; No grace of garb or circumstance Invests them with a high remance, Ten thousand such through fruitful France, In field and village.

The day's slow path from dawn to west Has left them, soll-bestained, distrest, No thought beyond the nightly rest-New toll tomorrow Till solemnly the "Ave" bell Rings out the sun's departing knell. Borne by the breeze's rhythmic swell

O'er swathe and furrow. O lowly pair! you dream it not, Yet on your hard, unlovely lot That evening gleam of light has shot A glorious pressage; For prophets oft have yearned, and kings Have yearned in vain to know the things

Which to your eimple spirits brings That curiew message. Turn to the written page, and read. In other strain the peasant's creed, With satyr love and vampire greed How hearts are tainted. Read to the end unmoved who can, Read how the primal curse on man May shape a fouler Caliban Than post painted.

And this is Nature! Be it so; In needs a master's hand to show
How through the man the brute may grow
By hell's own leaven;
We blame you not; enough for us
Those two lone figures bending thus,
For whom that far-off Angelus
Spake hope and howen. Speaks hope and heaven,

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Kentuckians are arming as actively as if they had just held a peace conference. All who sow the wind do not reap the whirlwind. Bryan will undoubtedly reap a frost

Perhaps the Senate will allow Clark, as a badge of his wealth, to write X before his title.

Joubert needs a hair-cut so badly that he will probably be gratified to learn that he is next.

It is not to be wondered at that the gentlemen from Montana are spoken of

as silver Senators.

They are having a white March in the East, and yet no one has accused it of coming in like a lamb.

Brigham H. Roberts has three wives, but it is to his credit that none of them are of the post mortem variety.

If the Yaquis will ask and need the advice of Aguinaldo, it is not likely that they will invade Uncle Sam's territory.

A press dispatch says that the Boers' front covers 18 miles. What a race of commercial travelers they will make when they are conquered!

People who live on the New England Coast like to use ocean driftwood as fuel in an open fireplace. It is impregnated with copper and ocean salts, and when burned gives out the most brilliant-colored flames. It is asserted that a New Bedford dealer has orders for the wood from all parts of the country, and even from Europe, and ships hundreds of barrels of it yearly. Various attempts have been made to imitate this wood by artificial process, but without success. Long submersion in the sea water is necessary to produce the brilliant flames

A commercial traveler in the agricultural implement line, who has just made a tour of the Williamette Valley, reports the farmers generally as very much discouraged. They can get only a low price for their wheat, and complain that the price of about everything they have to buy, notably harvesting machinery and agricultural implements of all kinds, is unreasonably high. They attribute the high prices to the trusts and the protective tariff, which work together for the penefit of manufacturer and the ruin of the farmer, who gets no protection, and when they have a chance their votes will express their ideas on this combination.

Major Ford H. Rogers, of Detroit, says that the late General Clinton B, Fisk was once addressing a Sunday school convention. One of the speakers had reminded the children that it was Washington's birthday. "Children," said General Fisk, "you all know that Washington was a general. Perhaps you know that I am also a general. Now, can any one tell what was the difference between General Washington and myself?" know, sir," piped a small boy in the back part of the room. "Well, what was the difference?" said General Fisk, smiling at the lad's eagers...ss. 'George Washington couldn't tell a lie, sir," cried the boy in exultant tones. Shouls of laughter followed, in which the General joined heartly.

The New York Commercial denounces what it calls "the arrogance" with which the Bell Telephone Company "treats every suggestion that a reduction of rates is in rder." Instances are cited of low rates in small cities where the business is much less profitable than it is in New York. In Jacksonville, Fla., a company serves 786 patrons, the charge for business-houses being, only \$30, while for dwellings it is but \$30. This is because of competition Four years ago the rates were \$68 and \$48. but there was then only Jacksonville. "Here in New York," it is added, "it could not only hold its present patronage, but could secure hundreds of additional subscribers by simply accepting he inevitable. Does the Bell Telephone Company believe that it can act as indeendently today as it did when all its patents were new and it enjoyed a monopoly hedged about by law?"

Wheelmen who reside on the west side of the river have observed with some conern that all of the bicycle-tax money in the hands of the County Commissioners has been expended in the construction of paths on the East Side. While admitting that the face of nature on that side of the river is better adapted to wheeling than hat on the West Side, they point out that the St. Helens road offers one of the most beautiful and available sites for a bicycle path around Portland, and they are anxous that the commissioners do not overlook it this year. The road has been newly graded, and is in excellent condition for a path, while its course along the river furnishes it with a stock of scenic beauties which are found on no other road in the vicinity of Portland. The ride to Linnton, thence across the river by rowboat-ferry and home via St. Johns is one of the most pleasant imaginable, but cannot be enjoyed except when the roads are in the pink of condition, which is about three weeks in the year. With a path down the St. Helens road, it would be possible to make this trip whenever a fine day is mandwiched in among the showers, and without regard to the dust that follows every three days of fine weather. It is to be hoped that the Commissioners may bear this route in mind this summer and devote to it a part of the money contributed by wheelmen, more of whom reside on the West Side than across the river.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune writes that "Private" John Allen, of Mississippi, is no longer the funny man of the House of Representatives. The speeches he has made at this session of Congress have contained no humor, but have been as serious as a book of statistics. Not very long ago Mr. Allen was a candidate for the United States Scnate. He made a brilliant canvass of his state and for four months delighted throngs of Micelesippians with his genial humor and nimble wit. But when the time came for the people of Mississippi to make known their wishes in regard to the Senatorship they selected a man not ad-dicted to humor. Defeat was a great disappointment to Mr. Allen, and, bearing in mind the experience of the once famous Proctor Knott, it is said he has determined to keep a curb upon his wit and to speak most seriously when he feels most humorous. A funny speech which attracted attention throughout the country is reputed to have been the undolng of Proctor Knott. Ever since be delivered his panegyric upon Duluth 25 years ago, he has been struggling with political adversity. It is a pity that so genial and genuine a humorist as "Private" John Allen should be transfermed into a "serious person." Wit and humor should not disqualify a man for high station. A statesman can be useful and respected, and still crack jokes on occasion. Abraham Lincoln was not always sections and Zebulon B. Vance was "excruciatingly funny" when the spirit moved