# The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Occasional rain; high south to west winds, decreasing in force.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, MARCH &

THE PERIL OF A PARTY.

We are told that President McKinley akes it clear to callers at the White House that his views as to free trade etween the United States and Puerto dico have undergone no change. But is unwilling to enter into controrsy with Congress or with members f Congress about it; therefore he has wen his consent to the nominal tariff posed by the bill, but deems it advisble to get the matter as soon as posble to the Supreme Court for an auoritative decision on the constituonal question involved. Moreover, he wishes the country to understand that ingress, not the Executive, is responble for the phase which the subject is now assumed. All of which is very

characteristic of Mr. McKinley. At first it was the intention of the publican leaders in Congress to carry out the suggestion of the President ls having that object in view were rmulated in the committees of the two houses. Suddenly the proceedings ere stopped. Unseen hands were at ork. Republican members halted, and then faced about. What was the influoe that arrested the movement and reversed it?

None other than the pressure brought to bear by certain protected interests, which center chiefly in the sugar and acco trusts. So plain is it that the whole country sees it. Even Repub lican newspapers in every part of the untry, hitherto supporters of protecon even in its extremest demands, fear the effect of this revelation upon the country, in this year of a Presidential election, and cry out against the render. Read, for example, the article from the Chicago Inter Ocean, printed on another page of The Orenian today. It is the universal cry of the press of the country. No wonder be President is startled by this mighty

What now should be do? Refuse to drift further, but employ such influas he can command-and the ower of the President is great-to enroe his original suggestion, by deeat of the bill in the Senate. He uld have prevented it from passing the House, by encouragement of oppoition to it; and this is what he ought to have done. He now has power to revent its passage by the Senate, and he ought to use it. Or, if he should fail in this effort, he still has the veto. It s not power to defeat this measure of greed and injustice that he lacks; is it

the courage to use the power? But it is said the President should ot try to "drive" Congress. A Prestdent should try to do right, and he should use all his influence and power to that end, especially in matters of great concern. President Cleveland was right when he "drove" Congress to repeal the silver-purchase law, and thereby rescued the country from financial and industrial ruin. "But," says the little politician, "look what happened to President Cleveland. He was eserted by his party, and ever since he has been execrated by it." This argument we find in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, addressed to The Oregonian It well befits a journal controlled by a indy politician who makes partisanship a pursuit, and seeking place in Congress and distributing offices from it a profession. But newspapers se entrolled, newspapers of that stamp, are not the newspapers that reflect, direct or represent public opinion. President Cleveland lost favor with the controlling section of his party, but he gained the hearty approval of the country, and his party went down to defeat scause it rejected his counsels. It was through his earnestness and success as "Congress-driver" that President Cleveland rendered a most important and remarkable service to his country; and President McKinley might render service to his country and save his party besides, by becoming a "Congress-driver" now. For he who takes note of the trend of public opinion on this great question of national policy in treatment of our new possessions and observes how universal is the sentiment against the course to which the House is committing the Administra-

tion and the Republican party, cannot

doubt that it is high time every avail-

able force in the hands of the President

were exerted in the direction of his

original recommendation. "Our plain

duty," he said, "is to abolish all cus-

tems tartiffs between the United States

and Puerto Rico, and give her products

free access to our markets," So only

can we attach our insular possessions

to us. We have done it with the Ha-

waitan islands; why not also with

Puerto Rico and the Philippines? Why

not bring Cuba to us, on the same

basis? Nothing but the greed of pro-

tected interests stands against this pol-

icy of national expansion, founded on

a true national interest, which never

can be inconsistent with honor, reason

and justice.

It is amusing to read again, even at this late day, the statement made by Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, three years ago, that "Senator John H. Mitchell, in the campaign of 1896, with unflinching courage and unwavering fidelity, carried his party flag to victory in Oregon, and it was expected he would be chosen his own successor." Unfortunately, Mitchell was not at that time in

Republican party. He had always been that the Boers will not be able to restrenuous advocate of free coinage of sliver; only a short time before he had flooded the country with his "Planet of Mars" speech, and wherever he appeared, extracts from this speech and others delivered by him in support of silver and against the gold standard, against even "international bimetalism" (for to do him justice he had rejected that fraud), were scattered be fore him through the crowds and on the platform, like leaves of Vallammisfit, and was a heavy burden to the the Andes and the other on the Gantion ridiculous-worse than useless t the Republican cause. Yet he had con-

brosa. In the campaign of 1896 for the gold standard he was a sad and sorry Republican party, instead of a help to He never came out for the gold standard, but essayed the impossibility of that colossal straddle-"one foot on ges." The severe logic of the contest between gold and silver made his postsiderable support in the Legislature, little or none, however, from disinterested motives. The whole framework of his support was the official patronage which he had commanded and which it was supposed he could still command. He had expected silver support in the legislature; but the silver ites had "got ostracised agin' him," as John White used to say, because he hadn't supported Bryan, as they felt that a man with his record was morally bound to do. So he fell between two stools. All this, however, is an cient history, spun out in this paragraph only because republication of a

end of the thread.

TWO WAYS, AND NO THIRD. The heroic battle waged by the late Fish and Game Commissioner, Hollister D. McGuire, against extermination of the native food supplies of this fa vored region is fresh in the memory of the people of Oregon. It appears that the violators of law have taken cour age since his death and gathered their forces together for a concerted onslaught on the cause Mr. McGulre so faithfully upheld. Whether they sucseed or not must depend very largely upon the mettle displayed by his suc essor, Game Warden Quimby. The ruthless despoilers of our fish and game heritage may have imagined that in Warden Quimby they should find an asy mark; but probably they will find they have caught a Tartar. The man who takes an oath to enforce a law and then sells out to money or fluence" must prepare to lose his selfrespect; and if Mr. Quimby is that kind of a man, his career so far has certainly concealed the fact with admirable skill. In matters of this kind the safest assumption to proceed upon, until the contrary is shown, is that the official is going to do his duty. This The Oregonian will assume, and, further, will say that if the fish and game laws are to be nullified, the result must be achieved without its aid and over its There are two ways, and only two

of dealing with fish and game. One is to save them and have them, the other is to give up the whole fight and consign them to summary destruction. There is no middle ground. Now the chief difficulty in enforcement of protective game laws is the ingenious subterfuges of market men and restaurateurs whose real or supposed interests will be served by evasion of the law. They are in favor of protecting fish and game, but they try in every conceivable way to circumvent the plain mandate of the law. One of these devices is just now in evidence. It is the demand for sale of fish and game brought hither from outside the state. The courts recognize that to permi sale of imported game in time of close season is to destroy the effect of the law. Most species are so nearly alike, native and imported, that native fish and game can be passed off as im ported, and this will certainly be done if interpretation of the courts gives countenance to the fraud. In Missouri, for example, it has been held that a law which prohibits the selling or keeping in one's possession of certain game within a certain portion of the year is valid even as to game imported from another state. Proof that a restaurantkeeper caused game to be served to his customers on a designated day within the period during which it was declared unlawful for a person "to purchas have in possession or expose for sale designated birds, will sustain a conviction, notwithstanding the proof tended to show that they were shipped from another state. And in New York it is held that time when or place where killed is not material; "that it was either killed within the lawful period or brought from another state where the killing was lawful, constitutes no

defense. It is obvious that procedure on this matter must depend a good deal upon the specific wording of statutes in various states. In one case brought in Mr. McGuire's term of office the Oregon Supreme Court felt constrained to sus tain the dealer because a contrary ruling "would have necessitated the destruction of vast quantities of salmon lawfully caught and canned during the open seasons." Prosecutions under our present statute, therefore, may demonstrate that the law as it stands needs amendment. If this prove true, a duty will devolve upon the next Legislature of making the statute more definite and certain. Meanwhile, offenders against the law should be promptly brought to book. And public sentiment, if any respect for law or appreciation of the value of our fish and game is left among the people, should range itself firmly in opposition to the lawbreakers.

#### BLOEMFONTEIN INCAPABLE OF DE-FENSE.

turned the flank of the forces in his front and forced them to retreat rapidly confirms the military opinion that Bloemfontein was incapable of defense, The Boers will be obliged to fall back on the line of the Vet River. But in tion. They will be obliged to leave a considerable force to hold Van Reen-Harrismith, in the Orange Free State, on the railway, is but sixty miles from Ladysmith, and if General Buller should ever force the passes into the the Boer left would be turned, and it is the Boer right can be turned by a and neither the economic forces of comcolumn of infantry and mounted men

moving from that point. ose in view, should the Boers be able to present a line of defense in the Or- sity presented by the situation and govange Free State impregnable to a ern themselves accordingly, while those position to serve either himself or the frontal attack. The present prospect is to whom, unhapply, self-indulgence

main long in the Orange Free State after Lord Roberts gets rallway communication restored between Bloemfontein and the Orange River bridges. It is fair to assume that the Boer retreat of yesterday means the speedy abandonment of Bloemfontein and its occupation by the English forces. With the railway restored to the south bank of the Orange River, Lord Roberts will be at Bloemfontein but 450 miles from the sea base of Port Elizabeth.

With Buller with 25,000 men and in mmand of the railways leading from Ladysmith to Harrismith via Var Reenen's Pass and from Ladysmith via Newcastle to the Transvaal, the left flank of the Boers will need to be carefully guarded, while with Lord Roberts ressing forward with 50,000 men from Bloemfonteln simultaneously with a large mounted force from Mafeking, the Boer right could not hope to main tain itself. The prospect is that as soon as Lord Roberts gets his railway communications restored he will soon force the Boers out of the Orange Free State.

#### PROTECTED, BUT NO TRUST.

An observant traveler throughout Western Oregon reports that the farmers are dissatisfied with the prices of harvesting machinery and agricultural implements generally, which they are inclined to attribute to the trusts and the protective tariff, and that they are thinking seriously of embracing the first opportunity to express their disapproval of the whole matter at the polls Obviously, the only way for such a rething said by Senator Burrows gave the buke to be administered is through votes against the Republican party, and whether such action would be wise must depend on all the issues presented, not on a single issue. It begins to look doubtful whether the menace of Bryan's party, involving financial dishonor and stupidity, and the socialistic portions of the Chicago platform, will e grave enough to counterbalance the desire of the country this fall to rebuke the Republican party's subservience to the protected interests. This remains to be seen. But as to the lack of neces sity for a tariff on the class of goods referred to, the farmers are correct eyond the shadow of a doubt. Section 460 of the Dingley tariff lav

reads as follows: Plows, tooth and disk harrows, harveste reapers, agricultural drills and planters, mow ers, horserakes, cultivators, threshing machine and cotton gins, 20 per centum ad valorem.

Here is a tariff of \$20 on every \$10 achine of the enumerated classes im ported into the United States. It keeps oreign competition out and reserve the home field to the American manufacturer. What is the need of the tariff? The indication that there is no need is afforded not only in the fact that there are no importations, but that we send large numbers of these ma chines and implements abroad, where they compete with foreign goods after paying the freight thither. The statistical publications of the Governmen are now out for December, 1899, and the latest issue includes comparative statements for the calendar years 1897. 1898 and 1899. The statistics of agricultural implements show exports as

1897. 1898. 1899. dowers, respers.\$3,140,025 \$6,551,741 \$ 9,739,122 'lows,cultivators 623,499 1,129,070 1,779,390 StherImplements 1,529,713 1,396,573 2,075,585

follows:

Totals .......\$5,302,807 80,073,384 \$13,564,524 Observe what a startling rate of inrease in the sales of our implements broad. The increase of 1898 over 1897 s 70 per cent, and the sales for 1899 are 257 per cent of those of 1897. Nobody grudges this expanding trade to the mplement men. Everybody rejoices at it. But why does the Republican party steadily refuse to abolish this unneces-

sary duty? It is certainly true as a general rule hat trust-controlled products should be put on the free list. But if the farmers imagine that agricultural im plements are controlled by a trust, they are greatly mistaken. No business could be so easily formed into a trust or combination to keep up prices, but in no business is practiced such demoralizing competition. The factories supply the jobbers and then send out men to try to sell to the farmers direct The farmer who proposes to cast a vote o break up the agricultural implement rust is barking up the wrong tree There are plenty other trees when there is real live trust game.

A PLAIN PROPOSITION. Anonymous letters are without hon orable standing, even among sensational newsmongers. Hence the charge contained in a letter of this kind re seived at the Navy Department, from Manila, to the effect that the cruiser Charleston was wrecked through the drunkenness of her officers, is entitled to neither respect nor credence, and will receive little of either. Still as in duty bound, the department will make immediate inquiry into the report, as it is of a nature too serious to pass with out notice. The man who drinks liquor to intoxication, and, indeed, the habitual drinker, even though able to per form his duties from day to day accept ably, has been practically eliminated from the transportation service of the country. Accurate knowledge of the effect of alcohol upon the human system, supported by the sudden and unexpected lapses into drunkenness, with disastrous consequences, of men who have been moderate drinkers for years have arrayed the prudential forces that control commercial life against the iquor-drinker, on the basis of self-interest. The result has been the complete elimination of the drunkard from places of responsibility in the transportation service, while the process of eliminating the habitual or moderate drinker therefrom is steadily going on. In working out the temperance prob-

em along the lines of public safety The news that Lord Roberts has and economic self-interest, the Government is not behind the forces of commerce. It cannot be so, if it would, so great are the interests of national honor, safety and finance involved. As a purely economic proposition, there to the line of defense north of Winburg. Is too much money invested in the most unimportant vessel of the new Navy any event, the Boers are in a bad posi- to permit a man whose nerves are un steady through habitual liquor drinking, or whose brain is en's Pass into the Orange Free State. thereby, to have control of its move ments. While this may not be the highest argument upon which to base temperance reform, it is clearly a most substantial one. All large transports Orange Free State or the Transvaal, tion companies are pledged to it upon the ground of self-interest. The Govclear that when Mafeking is relieved ernment is pledged to it on a like basis merce or of the nation can or will recede from the stand taken. Intelli Doubtless Lord Roberts has this pur- gent, self-contained men, young and middle-aged, will recognize the neces-

has become second nature, will be repudiated by the controlling forces of industry, the moving agencies of which are steam and electricity. The terms of this proposition are so simple and its statement is so plain that no intelligent man can fall to read it aright, and to recognize the fact that he must conform to its requirements or retire from the field of responsible industry which it dominates.

The farmers' meetings in the Chamber of Commerce are developing much of value to the agricultural, horticultural and stock interests of the state. The old days wherein farming in all of its branches was carried on by main strength, unassisted by brain power beyond certain limits fixed by the fathers, have passed away, and men have ome to the knowledge that, to make farming pay, the farmer must be a progressive wide-awake man, fully abreast of the times. When a congress composed of men of this class meets "to study and extend the markets for Ore gon products, and to gather and disseminate information concerning and encouraging the production of such things adapted to our soil and climate as we do not now produce," the event may be regarded as proof that old things in agriculture have passed or are passing away, and that new methods with good and sufficient reasons for their existence are coming rapidly upon the stage. This is as it should be There is no reason why the most ancient of all industries should not also be the most progressive. Farmers' institutes as precedent to the farmers' congress have shown that the farmers of today work with their brains as well as with their hands.

The newspapers of the country are being called upon to furnish a great deal of free advertising for an author of books named Sheldon, and a paper that sadly needs advertising, the Topeka Capital. In the main, they respond complacently, but there is such a thing as riding a free horse to death. The Oregonian has received a circular letter, offered for publication, in which the past and present of Missouri and Kansas are extensively treated, and deftly tucked away in nearly every paragraph is a covert reference to Sheldon and his newspaper venture. This well enough, but the opening phrase of the circular reads "From a Staff Correspondent." Now, it is a most patent untruth that this advertising circular, when printed by the papers to which it is addressed, is "from a staff correspondent." Somebody is engineering a plous fraud out of zeal for his holy religion, and in the name of Christianity The Oregonian protests.

The horrors of war are illustrated in the putrefying bodies of men and horses that line the road from Ladysmith to Colenso-half-buried or wholly exposed to the alternate rains and sun shine, ghastly witnesses of the struggle that had taken place in the Boe trenches during the long investment of the first-named place. More pitiful and scarcely less horrible is the condition of the emaciated troops that had formed the long-beleaguered garrison as they staggered past the trenches that had been defended to the death by the decaying bodies of these one time men. This is a phase of war be fore which humanity quails and con quest for the time being sinks into insignificance. It is an ephemeral stage lowever, in the upbuilding as in the downfall of nations, representing

wreckage cast up by the ever-moving

tides of human events.

The Senate shows great change from he days when it was the stronghold." Last Tuesday, the date of the final vote on the conference report on the financial bill, the "friends of the white metal" were too drowsy or indolent to use the time at their com mand in tragic declamation against the purpose of the wicked goldbugs to splinter the Constitution and imperiour liberties by striking down the dollar of our forefathers. In fact, mino measures had to be presented to occup; the time till the arrival of the voting our on the gold bill, while the champions of silver slept at their posts and allowed us to be delivered over to the merciless Money Devil. The times are sadly out of joint when the citadel of the cartwheel dollar becomes the dor mitory of its erstwhile doughty defend-

ers. Announcement of failure of the recirocity treaties comes from a source such as to leave no doubt of its sub stantial correctness. The news is to be received with mingled joy and regretloy for another rebuke to economic Humbug and regret that the Protected Interests have scored another triumph over broad national policy. The pill of freer trade had been disguised and sweetened by the name of Reciprocity. and in that form there was hope might be swallowed. But hides and silks, wines and fruit, will continue to pay the Dingley rates, and retaliation will be practiced by France, Argentina and the British West Indies. Tariff reductions for our own consumers and reciprocal concessions to American products seeking markets abroad are thus postponed indefinitely.

These remarks of ex-President Harison are not made, we may be certain, merely to relieve an overcharged breast. Nor will they be regarded so by the present occupant of the White House. Harrison, gold standard, anti-Puerto-Rico foolishness, pro-Boer, is a presidential possibility almost equal to the task of injecting life into the Philadelphia convention, now a foregone McKinley conclusion. Harrison would be a stronger candidate than McKinley, and would be elected. But the time is doubtless too short for the substitution to be carried out.

Who could have supposed that the ime would come when the Democratic leaders of Oregon would put up "nigger orators" to expound the principles and urposes of their party at "mixed" neetings? Well, well! The world do move. The Kanaka and the Filipino will lead the Democratic procession next.

# The Treasury's Big Balance.

New York Journal of Commerce As the Treasury makes daily and mont statements it might be supposed that the amount of money in the Treasury at any particular date could be easily ascertained. But it is not; very competent readers of the statements differ as to what the showing really is. The daily statement for February 27 shows "ayaii-able cash balance, including gold reserve." of \$300,216,545. But to obtain this result there is deducted from the money and ullion actually in the possession of the Treasurer enough gold and silver and cur-

rency to meet all outstanding certificates and enough money to meet outstanding checks and drafts, the National Bank 5 per cent fund, disbursing officers' balan-ces, the postoffice account and miscel-laneous items. The disbursing officers' balances amount to \$55,886,436, and are not outstanding liabilities, like checks and drafts and certificates, but simply portions of the general funds of the Treasury placed to the order of disbursing officers. There are funds in the Treasury available for all expenses of the Government, but not required to redeem checks, drafts or certificates. There are some other item that perhaps might be treated in the same way, but, disregarding them, the money in the Treasury in excess of outstanding obligations may be taken at least as the sum of the "available cash balance," and "disbursing officers' balances." \$356,102,962

### THE BETRAYAL OF A TRUST. Specimen of the Protests That Ar Appearing in the Republican

Journals of the Country. Chicago Inter Ocean, Rep.
The bill passed by the Senate on Thursday for the local government of Hawaii is in accordance with American ideas and American laws. It creates the Territory of Hawaii, and gives it a delegate in Congress. It extends to the islands our revenue, navigation, Chinese exclusion and contract-labor laws. It establishes a Territorial Legislature, Supreme and minor courts, a Governor, and other administra-tive officials. It grants manhood suffrage, with an education qualification to all save

This simple act of good faith to Hawaii would be accepted as a matter of course by the public were it not contemporane-ous with an act of downright perfidy to another land which recently has come un-der American rule. By an inevitable comparison of the Puerto Rico and Hawaii bills the people of the United States are enabled to see, at a giance, the whole infamy forced upon the Republican party by its representatives in the lower House last Wednesday.

Why do we redeem our pledges to extend liberty, prosperity and equal rights to Hawaii and not to Puerto R.co? Why do we open our arms to the islands of the Pacific and turn our backs on the island of the Atlantic? Why have we nothing but imperialism for an island a few hundred miles from our shores while we con fer the gift of territorial government upon the islands in midocean? Why do we wannly violate our promises and our obliga other? Why do we follow the traditions of the American people for our possessions to the West and cast them into the sea

with our possessions to the East?
Why to the Republicans in Congress thus stultify the Nation? Why do they do Aye, there's the rub. They do it, ity and avowedly, in full view of the hole country, for the simple and the sole reason that a bare handful of lobbyists, epresenting the sugar and the to terests in the United States, and thee interests along, have demanded this sacri-fice to the Nation's welfare and the Reublican party's future.

The atrocity of the situation needs only to be stated to be realized, and only to be realized to be everlastingly condemned. The spectacle of a Republican Congress yielding up results of the war, endangering the success of the whole expansion policy, and fastening upon a Republican Administration the stigma of bad faith or the one great question by which it must stand or fall in the next election-and all this at the behest of two protected mer cantile interests-is enough to make the nost steadfast Republican tremble for the future of his party.

No national organization in this country has ever been sufficiently powerful to resist long the force of the conviction which such a revelation must carry to the hearts of its members. No party which has sur-rendered itself body and soul to any one or two material interests—whether the interests of slaveholders or the interests of stockholders- has long survived the expo sure of its folly. And if through the blind-ness and perversion of its representatives in Washington today the Republican party bend the whole destiny of this country to the demands of two industrial enterprises, thrust back into the hands of the opperheads the very weapons which have een wrested from them at infinite pains by a loyal press and a loyal people, and eril the whole future of the expansion by stamping on it the trade-mark of oligarchical imperialism, then we may well fear that the time is at hand to write on the walls of the Capitol that this party has been at last weighed in the balance

and has been found wanting.

But we cannot believe that it has com to this. We cannot believe that the protests of the Republicans in the Middle West, which are now being hurried by the thousand to the Representatives and Sen ators in Washington, will be ignored. We cannot believe that either William McKinley or the United States Senate, in this emergency, will fail to heed the voice of the Nation, as they have heeded it day by day and week by week ever since the

Their responsibility is a grave one is responsibility that has in it the well est results for the future of the United States, and, it is not too much to say tremendous consequences for the Republi can party in this Presidential year. May they open their ears to the voice of the American people, grasp the altuation with the sagacity which has been theirs to the past, and wrench the cause of national expansion out of the reckless hands stretched forth to throttle it!

# THE GOEBEL LAW IN KENTUCKY.

Anylety of Democrats and Thei Urgency for Repeal or Revision. At Washington, D. C., a few days ag Mr. Henry Watterson, editor of the Louis pille Courier-Journal, who was in the city on a lecture tour, and was departing for New England to meet other appointments made the following interesting statements "I am satisfied that the Republicans propose to make of the Goebel law an offset to Republican monstrosity in Kenicky. Nor is this all. They expect tucky. pretext, to throw out the vote of Kentucky in the next Electoral College, The dearest hope is that the Kentucky Demo crats will neither repeal nor modify the Goebel law, and, therefore, it is the uni-versal opinion among Democrats in both ouses of Congress that the first duty of Kentucky Democrats is to defeat this sinster purpose by such a revision of the Goebel law as will cure it of such fea-tures as play into the hands of Republians, and may procure the defeat of the next National Democratic ticket, in the result should hang upon the vote of Kentucky. My opinion is that our friends the Legislature should address selves at once to this all-important ques tion. It is not a matter whether any Democrat is for or against the Goebel law per se. It is simply a matter of arithme tic and practical politics. In these latter regards there is not room for the least question among Democrats, and here among the Democratic leaders there is none whatever. The question is no longer a local, but a national one."

Chicago Tribune Since it became settled that the refunding plan of the Senate monetary bill is to become law there has been an advance of from 21/2 to 31/2 per cent is the selling price of most Government bonds. This is as cribed to the heavy purchases of bonds by New York banks, which intend to exchange them for the new 2 per cents and then deposit the latter as security for notes. If the banks are doing thi it is evident that there will be no diffi-culty about refunding a considerable proportion of the outstanding 3, 4 and 5 per cent bonds. And if a bank is willing to pay a premium of 16 per cent for a 4 per cent bond redeemable in 1907 in order to be able to exchange it for a 2 per cent bond, which is not redeemable for 30 years, it expects to make money by the transaction. The The faithful Woman with the Broom.

The Proposed Two Per Cent Bonds

may be received in exchange at a valuan not greater than their present worth to yield an income of 2% per cent per annum. Thus the holder of a 4 per cent bond which he can sell for \$115 will re-ceive a \$100 2 per cent bond and a bonus of about \$10. A bank can take out notes against that bond and make a good profit thereon. But it is hard to see why a savings bank could afford to hold any 2 per cent bonds if it had to pay par for them and pay I per cent to depositors, or why any private individual should buy them as an investment. The people of this generation have witnessed a remarkable decline in interest rates, but 2 per cent is what a capitalist would call painfully low. It is true that the security is per-fect in the case of a Government bond, but there are some railroad and state bonds which are as "good as gold" and yet pay more than 2 per cent. There-fore many will be surprised if all the outstanding bonds are refunded. The banks certainly do not need them all for special purposes.

### He Missed Omar Khayyam.

"You should have gone with me to hear the 'Persian Garden,' dear," chirped Mra. Bird when she found her bushand still at home the night of that concert, and he looked as if he had smoked too many strong cigars in her absence.

"Humph! I've sworn off from Persian and Egyptian and all sorts of gardens since the Midway closed."

"But this would have interested you," she assected. "It was Oriental in senti-ment and music and so poetic. Omar Khayyam must have written it to please some men's club. Didn't you ever hear the filles of some of the songs and reci

"No: what were they?" he asked with some show of languid interest.
"I can't remember but two," replied his
wife, musingly. "One was "The Earthly
Drinks Men Set Their Hearts Upon," and the other was 'The Bruised Mint That From Our Cups We Throw.' "What's that? Can't we go tomorrow

"No, indeed, sir. This was one night only. Your chance is gone until next

### The Compromise Unsatisfactory.

Indianapolis Journal. If it is a good measure, two years is short a time to develop its merits, and if it is a bad one, that is too long a time to impose its evils on a people already suffering for lack of markets and trade facilities. If the friends of the measure agree that it shall only remain in force two years, they confess to a doubt of its wisdom, and if its opponents agree to the proposition they virtually admit that their opposition is not well

### A Day of Reckoning Will Come.

Detroit Tribune. Congressmen, especially those from Michigan, have been bombarded with let ters and telegrams telling them to stanfirm for free trade with Puerto Rico and the honor of the Nation. It remains to be seen whether the people or the pro tected interests will conquer. The strug-gle is being watched by the people and there will be a day of reckoning for those Congressmen who capitulate to the capitalists when they come up for re-election

### A Monstrous Wrong.

Philadelphia Ledger. This monstrous wrong, which the Republican majority of the House has committee against right and justice and the funda-mental principles of our government, should be corrected by the Senate. There should be enough honor, courage, patri-otism and statesmanship in that body to undo the wrong which the House has committed.

### Seining an Island for Our Own Good

Indianapolls News.

If we are to pass this bill, the seizure of Puerto Rico was not for the benefit of the island, but for our own benefit, and we are going to use it as Mr. Littlefield said in his eloquent speech, like an orange for us to squeeze. We are going to make its people hewers of wood and drawers of water for the inhabitants of this country.

# Why Free Trade Is Plain Duty.

Utica Herald. That is why Congress should establish free trade with Puerto Rico. Not for constitutional reasons, for none such applies; but because it was promised, be cause it is right, and because there is tenable reason why the United States should fail to act up to fair promises made in its name.

# A Breach of Plain Duty.

Chicago Times-Herald. Whether the Puerto Rican tariff is 25 o per cent, indeterminate or for two years, makes not a particle of difference with its justice. It will not be acceptable to the American people because of the pleathat it is such a little breach of "our plain duty," as acknowledged by President McKinley.

# Their Fear of the Goebel Law.

Boston Herald. Both Joe Blackburn and Henry Watter-on appear to be sufficiently gifted in their perceptive faculties to see that the Goe bel law is something that may be made to cut both ways sooner of later.

> Easy Start. Indianapolis Journal.

"Arthur, we haven't had a quarrel for reeks and weeks." "Haven't we? Well, we can easily get one up by discussing who was the most to blame in the last one we had."

#### Keeping Up the Average. Chicago News.

Mistress-Jane, this floor doesn't look very clean. Did you sweep it today? Jane-No. Mum-I didn't sweep it to day, nor yisterday, but I sweeped it three times the day afore that,

Philadelphia Press. She-When the papers speak of the lower branch of Congress, what do He-It's pretty hard to say, just now,

The Free Trade Should Begin Nov New York Sun The essential justice of the situation de mands that the free trade of Peurto Rice

which the bill promises in two years should be made to begin now. The Woman With the Broom George Birdseye in Lealte's Weekly, "The Man With the Hoe" let others sing, and to him ready tribute bring;

Tell all his labor and unrest, The series of wrong that rives his breast; How on his Atlas back he bears The world, with all its toils and cares, His broken spirit wrapt in glo I sing "The Woman With the Broom, smiling, within her door she stands,

Her busy broom in willing hands; She makes the household wheels go 'round Without a jar, with scarce a sound. To her the ekies are always clear, And, moving with a breath of cheer, She sweeps away the dust of gloom This happy Woman with the Broom

And while she works she sings a song, While all life's joys together throng, Throughout her realm of "Home, Sweet Home Love's garden nestles 'round the door Where flowers of fond affection bloom And bow their rainbow heads before The radiant Woman with the Broom

Queen o'er the home her scepter sways; Her subjects walk in pleasant ways; They love her rule, protect her right Enjoy her sweetness, strength and light; And when, at last, she's called to rest, "Her children rise and call her blest";

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

The worst cases of plague in San Franisco are the Sunday newspapers.

It seems that Senator Carter, of Monana, had the hot end of the poker.

The horse must go, maybe; but so must the automobile, if it is to serve any useful purpose.

Nansen says that Andree is probably dead. The world now await with anxiety his opinion of Moses.

This is the stage of the same when the Boers can be thankful they are so well practiced in trekking.

If there is going to be much more weather like vesterday's there will be a demand for Harveyized umbrellas.

The one Portland man who had his boots blacked vesterday may have been drunk, but he was game. No one can charge that Mr. Sheldon,

when he took hold of the Topeka paper, overlooked a lot of free advertising. Now doth the honest farmer

Wax most uncommon wroth And yow to wreak fell vengean Upon the codiin moth. There have been a good many plans for

the employment of city prisoners, but the difficulty has been that none of them would work Old Simon Cameron was right when he

said he would rather travel 1000 miles than write a letter involving politics.-Thomas H. Tongue. Me, too .- George C. Brownell, Of course, "Bobs" is entitled to considerable credit, but it must be remembered

that he didn't accomplish much of any. thing till Rudyard Kipling arrived on the The zephyrs and gentle showers of yesterday were doubtless the equinoctial

gale which should occur a little later. It is only a dozen days to the vernal equinox, and as this is an early spring it is desirable to have this gale over with and out of the way. A Nehalem statesman asks, through the Astorian, what objection could be raised

to having the 14th section of the pending gold bill amended to read as follows: "The provisions of this act are not intended to preclude the accomplishment of an international railroad to the moon 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 traffic rate which shall insure permanence of relative rates between Mars and Mercury."

The night before his execution, a Georgia convict wrote the following letter to a friend: "Dear Jim: I send you five tickets to my hangin'. I want you to fetch all the family. Everything will be pleasant-weather permittin'. They've painted the scaffold my favorite colorwhich is bright red-like the dress Mollie Spilkins were when I took her to Zeke Hanford's party-an' I'm to swing in the middle of a green lawn, sprinkled with daisies. I'll ask the Sheriff to provide seats for you and your'n. I want you to hear my speech, which, if I do say it myself, is as good a piece of word-paintin' as ever I done. So he sure an' come, Jim, and bring all the family."

Wind and rain together, March and April, too, 'Bout the roughest weather Portland ever knew. Looked for your umbrella, Didn't find it, though; Some far-sighted fellow Swiped it weeks ago. Gentle zephyra tore you Nearly limb from limb, Dured not step before you, Leasen you could swim.

Signs and awnings flyin Through the leaden sky, Owners of 'em sighing', Wishin' they could fly; Nursemalds all a-pushis Babies homeward bound, Pressin' need o' rushin' March and April, too, Just a little weather Of that kind will do.

Fifty Years Ago.

Yesterday was the 7th of March, and on that day 56 years ago was delivered one of the most famous speeches in American history. Daniel Webster's "Seventh of March" speech, in support of the Clay compromise on slavery aroused intense indignation in the North, especially in Maschusetts. The most momentous relia of the occasion is this poem of Whittier, entitled:

ICHABOD. So fallen! so lost! the light withdrawn Which once he wore! The glory from his gray hairs gone

Revile him not, the Tempter hath And pitying tears, not scorn and wrath, Befit his fall. Ohl dumb be passion's stormy rage, When he who might Have lighted up, and led his age,

Falls back in night. Scorn! would the angels laugh, to mark A bright soul driven Flend-gonded, down the endless dark, From hope and heaven!

Let not the land once proud of him Insult him now, Nor brand with deeper shame his dim, Dishonored brow. But let its humbled sons, instead,

From sea to lake, A long lament, as for the dead, In sadness make. Of all we loved and honored, naught Save power remains; A fallen angel's pride of thought,

Still strong in chains. All clse is gone; from those great eyes. The soul has fled; When faith is lost, when honor dies,

The man is dead! Then, pay the reverence of old days To his dead fame; Walk backward, with averted gaze, And hide the shame!

Protectionists Revolt Against It. Chicago Inter Ocean. Men who are protectionists to the back-one, whose lives and fortunes have been

devoted to the advocacy of protection as a policy, will revolt and are revolting against the proposals to exclude the people of Puerto Rico from full and free participa-tion in the benefits of National trade and against a scheme to debar the people of United States from the advantages of free intercourse with American territory that has been won by expenditure of their blood and treasure.

# A Cold Snap.

Philadelphia Record.
"I haven't had a bite for three days," said the hungry tramp.
"Poor man," remarked the kind-hearted old woman; "I haven't any dog to set

### on you, but if you stay out long enough perhaps you will get frost bitten." Retuert Courteous.

Baltimore American, "Do you favor our policy toward Puerto Rico?" wrote the eminent states to the reformer.

The latter, who was a spelling reformer by trade, repiled: "I cannot suppuert it!"