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TO-DAY'S WEATHER—Fair, northwesterly winds. PORTLAND, MONDAY, MARCH 19.

LET THEM STAND ALONE!

The Republican leaders are reported as greatly exercised as to how the country will regard the party's attitude toward the trusts.

So far as the trusts are concerned, it begins to look very doubtful whether the people will be disposed to insist on indiscriminate prosecution and persecution of trusts simply because they are trusts.

If aggregations of capital are able to secure unjust advantages through favoring legislation, it makes little difference whether the trusts are trusts, partnerships or immensely wealthy individuals.

Soon after the formation of the Federal Union our infant industries appealed to Congress for support through tariff legislation, and in 1816 the history of protection began.

There is a tariff on soap of 20 per cent ad valorem, on castile soap of 15 cents a pound; yet our exports of soap reached 25,000,000 pounds in 1897.

Perhaps the heaviest beneficiary of our tariff laws is the iron and steel industry, which exported, exclusive of iron, \$62,725,000 worth of goods in 1897.

The once infant industries that stood a humble suppliant at the door of Congress have grown like the white man

in the Indian's speech, until they have spread out their parchment over the whole and say "It is mine." Our millions of consumers realize that the burden of higher prices they have so long been carrying for the manufacturer's products is at length being safely laid down.

THE FARMERS' TRUSTS. Though the attention of the various political parties in Oregon may be drawn to the abolition of hop-growers and nut-growers, it is safe to assume that no thunderbolts will be launched against these combinations.

Is there a gleam of light here on the trust problem in general? Probably there is; for, though the politician is mindful of the farmer vote, his forbearance in this instance has reason behind it.

It is exceedingly doubtful whether the Boers will make an effective stand for any length of time this side of the Vaal River. They are preparing against a British advance from the southwest into the Transvaal, and a camp has been established at Bloemhof.

It is the season of political amenities in Alabama. The Selma Times wants Governor Johnston elected to the Senate; the Montgomery Advertiser supports Senator Morgan for re-election.

RECOGNITION OF A JUST DEMAND.

A bill to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service is now before both branches of Congress, with excellent prospects of favorable action.

The result of this apparent hopelessness which stares the young men in the face is a lack of interest in the service which has a general inclination toward stagnation. In time, unless remedial legislation is secured, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to secure the class of men required for this important duty.

Several newspapers of the machine type say that "if McKinley shall be renominated The Oregonian will have to eat its words, and a nice dish of crow it will have." Such is the machine idea of politics in journalism.

The captain of a revenue cutter is compelled by law to land a party to quell a disturbance of any kind whenever called on by the civil authorities of a port. In many of the new towns on the Alaskan coast this authority will be about the only kind that will be recognized by the lawless element which is always found with the vanguard of

civilization. The bill in question will undoubtedly bring the efficiency of the cutter service up to the high standard needed, and it is to be hoped that the favorable recommendations of the House commerce committee will be acted on.

THE GREAT SACRIFICES OF THE WAR AND THE NECESSITY OF MAKING PEACE ON A BASIS THAT WILL PRECLUDE FUTURE WAR.

The great sacrifices of the war and the necessity of making peace on a basis that will preclude future war are rendered it impossible to suppose reasonably that Great Britain will make any terms with the Boers that do not start from the basis that the national independence and political autonomy of the South African Republic and the Orange Free State are to be extinguished.

It is probable the Senate will continue to insist on our right to fortify the Nicaragua canal. Yet Admiral Dewey says the talk about the "necessity" of fortifying it is pure nonsense.

We all learn new things as we grow older. Now we discover that Senator Mitchell was so grieved over the defeat of Senator Dolph that at last he indignantly accuses Senator Simon of having brought it about.

A PITIFUL DEFENSE DISPROVED.

General Davis telegraphs from Puerto Rico that the stocks of sugar and tobacco now on hand are owned by the producers.

The San Francisco Examiner, Democratic organ, says that the "free-silver" terror has been eliminated by enactments of the gold-standard bill.

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AMERICAN AUTOMOBILES FIRST.

According to the New York Herald, American inventors are about to invade France with automobiles that promise to eclipse, both in speed and endurance, anything yet produced in Europe.

The Republican leaders rest secure in the belief that the people will soon get tired of howling about Puerto Rico and "come back to protection." It is a vain reliance. There has never been a day since 1888 when high tariff could carry the country.

"UTOPIAN AND VISIONARY."

"Consent of the Governed," From the Confederate Standpoint. Memphis Commercial-Appeal, Dem.

On the question of expansion, Colonel Bryan was perceptibly less intense and radical than formerly, but still Utopian and visionary. He speaks of the Philippines on grounds purely sentimental and had much to say on the subject of "the consent of the governed."

Does the labor of this great country need such "protection" against a little Puerto Rico? Not at all; but there are some special "gratias" in Connecticut and New York that demand it.

pressed they may strike near home. Let them uplift the Orientals, teach them the ways of Western civilization, and the South will sell them cotton clothes to wear.

ARMAMENT OF THE BOERS. Their Complete Preparations for the Present War. New York Times.

It was not in 1899, or because of anything done by Englishmen in that year, that the Boers determined to try their luck with Great Britain. In the comparative former year, 1898, they and his people bought \$500,000 worth of big cannon in Germany, and spent the same large sum in Austria for rifles.

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we should treat the interests of this people as our own, and I wish most strongly to urge that the customs duties between Puerto Rico and the United States be removed.—Secretary of War Root in his annual report.

GOVERNOR TAYLOR OUSTED.

Final Consummation of the Conspiracy in Kentucky. Philadelphia Times, Ind. Dem.

That Colonel Taylor, the Republican candidate for Governor of Kentucky, was elected to that office by the people of the state is hardly disputed by even the most violent opponents. The Goebel election law placed the whole political power of the state in the hands of Taylor's political enemies, and they have wielded it to the uttermost.

It has been a costly crime for those who planned and executed it, as Senator Goebel, the author of the infamous election law, was assassinated just as he was about to resign from his office.

THE CASES ARE PARALLEL.

Philadelphia Record. Senator Simon, of Oregon, has very recently taken action providing for a connecting link between Clark of Montana and Quay of Pennsylvania.

"A Matchless Titan." This phrase is used by Professor Trent in an article in the International Monthly on Balsac. He says Balsac was "a matchless Titan" and not "an Olympian" like Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, Milton.

They are not spiritual documents like the Browning letters, or documents dealing with the amenities of friendship and social life like the Stevenson letters; and it may be doubted if, in translation, they would appeal to one-tenth of the readers that the two epistolary collections. Yet they set before us a far greater man than either Browning or Stevenson, and their value will increase with the years.

TO THE SENATE.

The United States is a Republican. It does not need the vote of Quay for any party measure. If it deliberately violates law and defies the popular will by seating Quay the people will hold the Republican party responsible for such violation of national decency.

SENATOR DAVIS.

What is the reason that this tariff rate, anomalous, unheard of, unprecedented and temporary, should be applied to Puerto Rico while the other day a bill was passed in the other House appropriating \$2,000,000 for Puerto Rico from the Treasury.—Senator Cushman K. Davis.

SPEAK UP, EVERYBODY.

Louisville Courier-Journal. So Debs, too, has been nominated by something or other for President. If there is anybody who has not received one of these nominations yet let him come forward. There are still a few left.

GENERAL MILES' PROMISE TO PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico under the American flag will enjoy the same privileges and the same immunities as the citizens of the United States and territories of the Union.—From General Miles' proclamation on invading the island.

SENATOR HOAR.

A duty on exports is forbidden by the Constitution, and the proposed duty of 15 per cent on goods from the United States and Puerto Rico would be a violation of that prohibition.—Senator George Frisbie Hoar.

EX-SENATOR EDMUNDS SPEAKS.

I believe that the Puerto Rican tariff bill is clearly unconstitutional and violates all our agreements with and pledges to the Puerto Ricans. If I were in the Senate I should certainly vote against it.—Senator Edmunds.

UNDER ONE FLAG.

Our flag does not mean one thing here and another thing in Cuba or Puerto Rico.—President McKinley in 20,000 Methodists at Ocean Grove on August 25, 1899.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

It begins to look as if Pettigrew had talked himself out of the Senate.

Bryan never lacks for wind, but of what avail is wind to a sinking ship?

In a few weeks now, pedestrians will be able to resume the use of sidewalks.

The Topeka Capital has been, of course, supporting the church-social democracy.

By striking, the local carpenters are by no means likely to hit the nail on the head.

The theory of the indestructibility of matter gets a pretty hard rub in the steam laundry.

We are getting our Spring medicine in allopathic doses, and we can stand a good deal more of the same kind.

Little Jack Horner out in a corner Thumping a Christmas pie. But the Harvested crust he in vain tried to bust.

And he gave up the job with a sigh.

A teacher in the Philadelphia Girls' Normal School tells a story of a girl of humble parentage who gave her name as Bridget when she was first enrolled. During her first year Bridget changed to Bridgetta. During her second year the first syllable was dropped and she became Eta. That developed into Marguerite, and when she received her diploma her name was Marguerite. From Bridget to Marguerite seems a far cry, but they do such things at the Normal School.

A person who had a room on Washington street in New Orleans and was not using it, sold it to a local club of Democratic politicians for a month for \$20. When they vacated the room, it cost \$20 to get it cleaned out and put in decent condition. The victim made no complaint, but says he would pay \$20 more to know how the club managed to get the room in such a condition in so short a time. Some member of the club possessed the desired information can sell it for a good price.

They are telling a story in Chicago about an advance agent for the Thomas Orchestra who recently went to New Orleans to book dates for concerts. He was told, however, that it would be well for him first to talk to the manager of a wealthy woman who is a leader in the musical circles of the city. So he called at her residence, a great, old-fashioned brick mansion surrounded by a high brick wall. The gate was locked, and a ring brought out an old negro, who took the caller's card, on which was printed the legend, "Representing the Thomas Orchestra."

Presently a young woman came to the door, holding the card in her hand. She did not seem to know the name on the card. The agent attempted to explain, but was cut short by the young woman, who said: "I don't think we want any music today."

T. Brook White, in a communication published in The Sunday Oregonian, urging bicyclists to select as their candidates from among the nominees for all city and county offices, habitual riders only, but was cut short by the young woman, who said: "I don't think we want any music today."

Mr. Justice Grantham, of England, celebrated by an odd judicial act the announcement of the relief of Kimberley. He was presiding in Liverpool at the trial of a man charged with assaulting and killing his brother-in-law. It seems that in a quarrel over Spinkop, the prisoner struck his brother-in-law with a poker so that he died a week later. The prisoner expressed "great contrition," and pleaded guilty, whereupon Justice Grantham said: "The war was an all-absorbing topic, and as very satisfactory news had been received that day as to the relief of Kimberley, he thought Justice would be met by giving the prisoner the benefit of the good tidings." The prisoner was thereupon discharged. A similar case was tried in 1864, before Chief Justice Peck, of the Vermont Supreme Court. A discharged Union soldier was violently assaulted by a deserter from the English Army in Canada, and shot his assailant to escape being thrown off a high piazza. It was proved on the trial that the Englishman had provoked the quarrel by cursing the American flag, reviling Lincoln and denouncing the Union Army. Judge Pierpont, in his charge, told the jury that in a time of war, when patriotism naturally became passionate in its intensity of feeling, an ex-Union soldier would naturally be provoked beyond restraint by the offensive language used by his antagonist concerning the flag, the President and the Army, and that the jury had a right to consider the extreme provocation to anger the prisoner had received before he was assaulted. The jury promptly acquitted the prisoner.

THE RIPENING.

W. M. Gamble in Atlantic. O vast, untidily land of ours! Like some huge Titan boy thus art, Whose young blood surges through his heart In a crude strife of powers.

Until some tingling moment when One cry wrings all true souls and then Thou standest in the strength of wrath and years—Thou gatherest all thyself to tower above thy peers!

These new-born far beyond the main, God cradles in the womb of time, And these, thy Europe's dreams sublime, Might not seem all in vain!

Hope, mawkish at thy birth, Thrilled the crowd, and sang of earth To brief ecstatic joy. How long in thee Shall they behold the pledge of one Humanity?

The nations, ay, the nations wait, Thy ripening. Shall they lift their eyes To see thee knit thy threads and rise, One grand and great?

Not sooner for the bugle-call, Not sooner for the sound of all The cannonades that rear beneath the sun, Knowledge and Love and Truth shall slowly make thee one.

What ev'g shall hang in far-off morn? What ev'g shall hang in sweet and wails By Europe's rich-voiced nightingales, Bredding against a thorn?

Come, new-world, come, future evers! In thy strong chanting men shall bear Love dominant, through the triumph hymn of Life.

While host-lestrating drums beat the dead march of strife.

WRITING WILL UNDO A MAN.

Chicago Journal. Mr. McKinley still believes in our plain dress, but he wishes he hadn't put it in the message.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR'S VIEWS.

The highest considerations of justice and good faith demand that we should not disappoint the confident expectation of sharing in our prosperity with which the people of Puerto Rico are so justly transferred their allegiance to the United States, and