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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Light rain; south to west winds.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, MARCH 29.

THE HEART OF THE MATTER.

The contention whether the Constitution "runs" in the newly acquired insular territories, or not, is a barren dispute. Congress has always exercised legislative powers over territory of the United States; but never has it assumed to set up tariff barriers between the territories of the United States and the states of the Union. Let it be admitted, if any one insists upon it, that Congress has Constitutional power. Then what is to be said of the use of that power as a policy, in treatment of our new territorial acquisitions?

But, it is said, if we admit the products of Puerto Rico and the Philippines free of duty we shall do wrong to our own producers. If this motive is to control us, we ought not to have taken the islands. But why isn't the argument as good against the products of Hawaii as against those of Puerto Rico?

The islanders need free access to our markets. Justice and good faith require that we accord it. The usual phrases of freedom sound well; but what are they in such a case, what can they be worth, unless we adopt and pursue a policy that will attach the islanders to us through care for their interests and conservation of their welfare? Sentiment cannot hold out against injustice. Proclamation of the most beautiful sentiments of freedom, when the practice that goes with them runs against the interest of the people to whom the proclamation is made, becomes the note of cant and hypocrisy, and the practice itself the synonym of oppression.

This must be amended, or we must abandon expansion as a National policy, and go out of the business. No disquisition as to the Constitutional powers of Congress, however subtle or elaborate, will meet the case. It is a matter of right, of justice, of good faith. No large National policy can be based on lifeless abstract propositions, supported in turn by a contention rooted in the selfishness of a "protected" class. We would better call our men and ships home now than to use them for these purposes of oppression; for if we persist in this wrong we shall fail at last, with ignominy and shame.

Free commercial intercourse is the bond through which alone these peoples can become attached to us. It must be the basis of everything else. What is the use of preaching liberty to a people whom you are skinning by your tariffs, or whose prosperity you obstruct by denying them access to your markets?

There is appeal to imaginary or pretended fears. One is the assumption that we must be careful to make such regulations as will exclude these peoples from our shores, lest, if permitted to come, they would inundate us by their numbers and do frightful injury to our labor. It is preposterous. No people from a tropical climate could meet the conditions of life and labor here, nor ever would atempt it. Another figment of the imagination is the fear, pretended or real, that manufactured goods from these outlying tropical possessions would compete disastrously with those upon which our own labor is employed, and thereby injure our own working people. But the heavy labor necessary in our great lines of production never could be performed in tropical regions. This assumption is as unfounded as the other. On the contrary, we should get many kinds of materials from the islands, and work them up here. And if, under free commercial intercourse, certain tropical products should become cheaper to all our consumers, could that be set down as a calamity? We have flour and lumber and many kinds of light manufactures that they want; they have hemp, sugar, rice, tobacco, spices, dyes and products of tropical forests that we want. Yet the country is asked to believe that this exchange, unless hampered by tariffs, will be injurious to the people of the United States!

It is evident that we have many men in Congress who ought to go to a school where elementary instruction is given. They are too narrow to act as legislators for a great country, and seem better fitted to make a great country appear small in the eyes of the world, and at the same time to bring disaster upon its natural efforts in the direction of expansion.

A SAMPLE TRUST.

In another column we print a discussion by George A. Macbeth, of Pittsburg, on the lead trust. It will be noticed that the controversy is a clash between rival interests. Mr. Macbeth, whose name is familiar in glass manufactures, buys lead, and he wants to buy it as cheaply as possible. On the other hand, the lead trust, of whom he has to buy, wants to get as much for its lead as it can. It might be well enough to look into this controversy and see whether it concerns anybody besides the two contestants.

The lead trust gets $4 70 per 100 pounds for its lead in New York, being protected by the tariff. But it will ship the same lead over to London, pay the cost of carriage, and sell it for $3 per 100 pounds. If Mr. Macbeth's factories use 40 tons of lead a week, he has to pay $40,000 a year more for his lead than he would if the duty should be knocked off and foreign lead was let in to destroy the trust's monopoly. Lamp chimneys would be apt to be cheaper through that saving. They might not, but that would be the tendency. Mr. Macbeth figures that the lead consumed in this country costs $5,000,000 more a year than it would with the lead trust subject to outside competition. If his assertions are true, and his position is such that he would hardly care to stand for misstatements, nobody is benefited by this tribute of $5,000,000 a year, except the lead trust. Abolition of the duty, then, would seem to be an expedient worth trying.

Mr. Macbeth writes, however, as if he might be something of a trust himself. It is well known that his firm has recently combined with several others, at least. If so, he may be in the same boat with the lead trust, for glass is protected. It's a poor rule that won't work both ways. If the lead trust doesn't need protection, neither does glass; for we exported in 1899 glass and glassware worth $1,500,000 and lamps worth $777,000. If we are to have free trade in raw materials of glass manufacture, let us have free trade in the finished product.

If we take the tariff off trust-made products, what is to hinder combinations being made between the domestic trust and the foreign trust? This is a question that may come up for consideration some day, but it need not deter us from doing what needs to be done now. We can tackle that after we have removed tariff support of the protected trusts. It is no excuse for the gambler that if he doesn't rob his victim somebody else will. There is no use talking about amending the Constitution so as to kill the trusts, so long as we continue to prop them up against outside competition by a tariff on their wares. If the lead trust can sell lead at $3 in London, it can sell it for $3 here.

THREE BRYANISMS.

Mr. Bryan has three blows he delivers effectually at the Republican party. He attacks its attitude toward Puerto Rico, he says the tariff fosters trusts, he derides the "international bimetalism" humbug attachment to the gold-standard act. His points are well made. There is no gainsaying them.

But what does he propose? He says truly enough that to hold the new dependencies as crown colonies to be despoiled for the home Government's benefit is imperialism, and not expansion; and he says truly. But the alternative he offers is equally impossible. We have the islands, and, as Dewey and Bishop Potter and President Schurman and Senator Lindsay have again and again said, the only thing we can do is to administer this trust with honor to ourselves and for the benefit and uplift of the islanders. Because the Puerto Rico programme would be a deviation from this high conception of duty, Mr. Bryan draws the conclusion that we should run off and shirk the whole duty. The way to discharge a responsibility with absolute perfection, he says, is to leave it entirely alone.

The tariff fosters trusts, and the Republican party is the great bulwark of Protection, says Mr. Bryan, and he says truly. But what can we expect from his party? It was chosen in 1892 to reduce the tariff, and from his seat in the House of Representatives Mr. Bryan's persuasive voice was raised on behalf of free trade. But what did his party do? They sold out. Gorman, Mr. Bryan's ablest supporter in 1896 and the brains of this year's fight, sacrificed revenue reform to save the Protected Interests. The iniquitous Wilson bill, conceived in "perfidy and dishonor," was the outcome. Gorman did it, and if Mr. Bryan should be elected, Gorman would do the same thing again. As long as the sugar trust writes Democratic tariff bills, as long as the United States Supreme Court is sustaining anti-trust laws like that of Texas, nobody is going to engage Mr. Bryan to fight the trusts from the White House.

The sop thrown to silver maniacs by the gold-standard law just passed by Congress is a piece of useless and meretricious humbug and demagogy, as Mr. Bryan says, and says truly. But what does he propose? Well, he proposes nothing but 16 to 1. That is, he proposes the silver standard. The gold standard with an apology is bad enough, but the silver standard is worse. And in proposing free coinage at 16 to 1, Mr. Bryan must know that he proposes nothing more or less than the silver standard. There is not a free-coinage country in the world today that is not on the silver basis. There is no other way for free coinage to operate but to give us a debased and fluctuating currency, distrusted at home and discredited abroad. There is no other way for free silver to affect industry but to destroy confidence, precipitate panic, curtail employment, reduce the volume and purchasing power of savings, pensions, insurance policies and wages.

It is well enough that mistakes should be pointed out, if haply they may be corrected. But the man who proposes to do the work better should not offer things infinitely worse than what we have. He is a poor reformer who advises to go backward. Free silver would be a sad relapse from the ground we have gained for the gold standard, and to abandon the Philippines would be a lamentable relinquishment of National expansion already secure. The remedy is worse than the disease.

THE SAILER'S OPPORTUNITY.

The largest sailing ship en route for the Columbia River at the present time is the British bark Juteopolis, which is reported to be owned by the Standard Oil Company. The same company is also credited with quietly picking up a number of other sailing vessels within the past few months, and placing them in their oil fleet to the Orient. But a very small proportion of the ships engaged in the oil traffic can secure return cargoes from the Orient, and as a result they cross the Pacific and take grain around Cape Horn to Europe. The peculiar significance of the Standard Oil Company's recent investment in marine property lies in the fact that they have purchased sailing vessels instead of steamers. Good, round figures were paid for these vessels, some of them selling for three times as much as they would have commanded a few years ago, when steam was all the rage.

At first glance it might be thought that this big corporation had been buying these vessels with the belief that the iniquitous shipping subsidy bill was to become a law, and the modest profits on oil could thus be increased by the contributions of the taxpayers. This may have been one of the reasons, but there are others. The sailing vessel is drifting back into popularity and profit, on a rising tide which cannot be stemmed by those who have discarded it as being too slow for modern methods. The Standard Oil Company has shipped many hundreds of cargoes of their products to the far East, by both sail and steam vessels, and its experience in the traffic has probably taught it that as an economical freighter the old sailing vessels cannot be beaten.

The increasing cost of fuel has been the principal factor in bringing the sailer again into favor, and it is not beyond the range of possibilities that this type of vessel will eventually cause the retirement from the ocean of all steam craft except the fast passenger and mail boats. At half a dozen ports on the great marine highway to the far East coal has become so scarce that it is only furnished to warships, and even to them at a greatly increased cost. To avoid the necessity of coaling at these high-priced stations, the steamers are obliged to carry an extra stock of several hundred tons of bunker coal. This naturally encroaches on the freight space, and reduces the profits on the cargo. The sailing vessel, on the contrary, can be filled to her utmost capacity with freight at a paying figure, and is not obliged to sacrifice space for fuel.

The sailing ships of the future will undoubtedly be much larger than those of the present day. In fact, Arthur Sewall is now preparing to build a couple, to sail under the American flag, which, with one exception, will be the largest sailing vessels in the world. The Sewall ships will undoubtedly be followed by many others under our flag, and by a big fleet from foreign yards. The coal famine in Germany at the present time is but a forerunner of what may be expected in other countries, as the rich coal mines are worked out, and the time is rapidly approaching, if it is not already at hand, when many of the great nations of the earth must husband their fuel resources, keeping them for industrial employments where they are indispensable.

Freight can be carried at sea without the aid of coal, but it cannot be carried on land, by any such economical methods, and as the supply shortens the price will increase. Then the "fittest survivor" will be the grand old sailer, and again will the "sailor of the sail" regain his lost prestige and the freight-handlers and enginemen of the tramp steamer give way to the original rover of the seas.

DEATH OF GENERAL JOUBERT.

The death of General Joubert, the leading commander of the Boer forces, is not entirely unexpected, for he was reported on the sick list more than once during the siege of Ladysmith. He was too ill to be in constant command for several weeks of the most important fighting in Natal before the final retreat of the Boer forces before the advance of General Buller's relieving force. General Joubert was a man of high courage and character, who had won an excellent reputation in the wars of the Boers with the Zulus, and he commanded them in the victorious campaign of 1881 against the English Army under Sir George Colley, which was so terribly defeated at Majuba Hill. He was a man of superior military talent of the sort that makes a daring, energetic and skillful leader of irregular troops in partisan warfare, but he was not a soldier of scientific education, nor can he be said to have been a man of native genius for strategy. The talent that selected the defensive positions, skillfully fortified them and trained the Boer artillery was represented by the educated graduates of the German and French military schools who had taken service with the Transvaal.

The power of General Joubert over his army was largely due to his moral qualities; his courage, his patriotism and his general personal worth. In the kind of warfare peculiarly suited to irregular troops, fighting behind intrenchments, natural or artificial, General Joubert was an ideal commander; like Andrew Hofer or Andrew Jackson, but the utter failure of his army to assume the offensive, even when all the circumstances were favorable, and still more the utter failure of his army to withdraw from Natal and reinforce Cronje in time to save him from surrender, prove that his military ability was not of a high or effective order when he was called upon to defeat strategy by superior quickness of concentration and suddenness of attack. When we remember how easily a few thousand Boers resisted the incessant assaults of General Buller upon their intrenched lines on the Tugela for two months before the relief of Ladysmith, it is clear that the bulk of the Boer Army could have joined Cronje after Magersfontein and driven Methuen to the Orange River, or at least could have reinforced Cronje before Lord Roberts turned his position in time to have saved Cronje's army.

During the whole Boer campaign not once have any of their commanders shown any capacity for that quick concentration and sudden offensive which great leaders of mounted riflemen, like General Forrest, showed in our Civil War. For these reasons, the death of General Joubert will probably have no influence upon the future conduct of the Boer struggle. General Cronje is a prisoner, but probably Dewett, Olivier or Botha are entirely competent to do for the Boer Army in battle or on the march all that Joubert could have done. If Joubert had lived, his army would soon have reached Pretoria, and the defense of Pretoria will be a work of military engineering and artillery fire defending intrenchments occupied by riflemen. General Joubert was not less than 65 years of age at the time of his death. He was originally opposed to President Kruger's policy, which finally ended in war. He was willing to concede the franchise and other privileges demanded for Uitlanders by the British Government, and earnestly deprecated war as unnecessary and calamitous. It is well for his happiness that he has not survived the war, for living under defeat would have embittered his few remaining years.

The charge that the wreck of the cruiser Charleston, off the coast of Luzon, was caused by the drunkenness of her officers, has, upon inquiry, been fully disproved. The strict rules and regulations which are known to govern the movements of naval vessels, together with the fact that the waters in which the Charleston went down are not specifically or accurately charted, stamped the charge against the officers of the ship as sensational at the outset. Of course, however, the Government could not ignore such a charge, hence the inquiry prosecuted under Admiral Watson, which resulted in the complete vindication of the commander and navigators of the vessel. While the loss of the Charleston is regretted, especially, perhaps, in the Pacific Coast ports, where she had been a frequent visitor, the positive assurance that she was not thrown away through the recklessness of her officers is gratifying. Built for the vicissitudes of war and of the sea, the gallant cruiser went down on duty, fortunately without loss of life, and clearly, as proven, without the loss of honor.

The Dowager Empress of China is a shrewd and implacable representative of absolutism in government. She represents the one-man power in a degree not possible outside of China, and the presentment she makes of it is calculated to astonish the world, which, outside of her dead realm, has been steadily moving for centuries toward individualism and enlightenment. Whether deposing by the simple weight of her decree the feeble Emperor, proclaiming an unknown boy his successor, or pursuing with warships for the purpose of capture, assassination or public execution certain of her subjects who have dared to suggest the advisability of putting China in touch with the civilized nations in specified lines calculated for its own advancement, she plays the tyrant's game with her own name in the title role with a daring and vindictiveness that was not eclipsed by Ivan the Terrible, Richard III, or even Nero, and the world looks on amazed at her antics. And yet the world, even the world of "far Cathay," moves, as witness the statement that her policy has aroused a great deal of hostility throughout the Empire.

Surely the Retail Clerks' Association may be held to be a power in the world of trade when it can induce even the milliners to close their places of business at 6 o'clock P. M. The one thing which women haggle about above all others (and it is said that they have been known to hesitate and chatter over the purchase of laces, silks, gloves and some other things) is the Spring hat. The effect of certain combinations by gas or electric light is particularly desired by many, and how can the hat be ordered at the last minute Saturday afternoon when the stores close at 6 o'clock all other days of the week? Truly, it takes courage and firmness to control this branch of business in the interest of the early-closing movement, and the purveyors of millinery and the regulators of business hours are to be congratulated upon their success in the matter. Doubly to be congratulated upon the victory are the "girls behind the hats," to whom long hours at "attention" have made the term milliner a synonym in the industrial world for that of drudge.

The insidious nature of the type of smallpox now prevalent all over the Pacific Northwest is seen in the fact that the latest of the relatively few cases developed in this city is that of an infant whose parents reside in a suburb, and who, with the mother, has remained closely at home for many weeks. The truth no doubt is that the disease is of an exceedingly mild type, readily taken for chicken-pox, and in some instances not given a name by physicians. Since it is plain from the frequent development of blind cases in isolated places that danger from the spread of the disease is imminent, it should not be necessary to urge upon prudent people the necessity of vaccination as a precautionary measure. A strict application of the rule requiring pupils to be vaccinated as preliminary to their attendance upon the public schools is strongly urged at this time—not to create alarm, but to fence against it.

Criticism can find plenty to do in discussing President McKinley's shortcomings, without overstepping legitimate bounds. Hence the censure of his action in drinking wine with his dinner, whether the latter is a public function or private meal, may be scheduled as "a work of supererogation," distinctly forbidden in the Book of Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for which ecclesiastical body his censors in this instance speak.

Germany has decided to spend $50,000,000 on colonial railways. The railway is a great civilizer, and a great colonizer. No German colony has ever begun to bring back the money it has cost, and there is no hope that any one of them will prove other than a burden to the imperial government, unless settlers can be attracted to it. Hence the proposition to make the colonial field of the Empire attractive by building railroads.

In public life, a man's success depends more upon his ideas, and upon his honesty, than upon his ability either to speak or write.—Colonel Bryan.

Evidently the Colonel realizes that his silver speech failed to bring him success in 1896. But nevertheless we shall not lose his resonant organ from the stump. Much as he may know the value of silence, he will not practice a virtue that is golden.

Colonel Bryan must have concluded, after pondering over the immense plurality thrown against him and his platform, that "16 to 1" did not "take" with the Nation; for he says that "a popular idea is an idea which the majority of the people believe to be conducive to the welfare of the country."

A business man may be counted among the successful one day, and he may be a bankrupt the next.—Colonel Bryan.

And when a man fails in business, or as lawyer, or as actor, he fumes about the Government and becomes a cheap-money politician.

The Real Imperialists.

New York Times.

Imperialism is no longer a myth in this country, and imperialist is a substantive that has at last found the thing it stands for.

Our imperialists are the Republican protectionists who want to put high-tariff taxes on the products of our new possessions imported into the United States. Only they are genuine—all others are spurious.

Imperial Spain treated her colonies as if they had no rights. She measured their taxes by their ability to pay, and took all she could extort. There was a time when the entire value of the annual products of Cuba was taken by Spain, besides what was stolen by the Governors-General, so that Cubans were considerably poorer at the end of each year than at its beginning.

Senators Hale and Frye are imperialists. So are Platt and Depew and the other Platt of Connecticut. Aldrich is a rank imperialist. They all want to bend the backs of the peoples we have emancipated by imposing the unconscionable duties of the Dingley tariff.

Some of these men have called themselves anti-imperialists, and have assailed the policy of governing the new territory without the consent of the governed. Dingley taxation without representation is certainly the most oppressive feature of that policy. Spain was not so cruel to her colonies. She had the decency to offer them a market for their products, although she piled on the taxes in other ways.

Imperialism and protection are both mediæval institutions. It is natural that they should find favor only with Bourbon Republicans.

THIS IS "TALL TALK."

Very Much Like Brag and Bluster, But Possibly Some of It Is True.

New York Sun.

Not long ago a man, now in New York, who has inspected more than once the fortifications of Pretoria and who negotiated the purchase of many of the guns which will be used in defending the Boer capital, told a reporter of the Sun about the Pretoria fortifications, and the plan of defense, should the British invade the Transvaal, and this is what he said:

"The world has, it seems, marveled not a little at the skill with which the Boers have withstood the attacks of the British, and not a little surprise has been expressed at the number of modern guns which we have been found to possess. There will be a greater surprise for everybody, particularly the British Army, when Pretoria is attacked. Then will be seen defensive warfare which, I believe, will never have been equaled. You must remember that we didn't undertake this war unadvisedly or in a hurry. We had been preparing for it ever since the Jameson raid, and for the past two years the preparations have been pushed with all care to completion.

"When the war began the Boers did not hope to keep the British from the Transvaal as long as they have, and they expected to have to do their hardest fighting in defending their capital. Accordingly the plan of defense was all figured out and the defenders have been ready and waiting, and not one of them has taken any part in the fighting so far. Pretoria is practically surrounded by hills. Between the hills and through them are narrow defiles. Every hill about Pretoria is fortified by the best modern guns that can be made, by the best European gunmakers, outside England. The guns that were not considered good enough for the defense of our capital are the guns which we have been using in the field. Therefore, you may get some notion of the care with which the Pretoria guns were selected. They were mounted under the direction of skilled military engineers, from the works, where they were made, and I very much doubt if there are better or more solidly mounted guns in any fortifications in the world.

"These guns have been so placed that they command every approach to the capital. Each gun is supplied with its own ammunition vaults, holding enough shells to feed the guns for at least two years. And, what is very much to the point, these ammunition vaults are full, not a shell having been taken from them since the war began. Owing to the topography of the country, a comparatively small force of artillerymen can serve these guns, and they will be so protected that one life will be the equal of about 10, were the guns placed in less favorable natural positions. Moreover, the nature of the country is such that we have been able to place the guns so that they will not be easily located by the enemy. We have figured on being able to annihilate a larger army than England has in South Africa at present, and still not be obliged to surrender.

"But the fortifying of our hills is not the only fortifying we have done. We have paid particular attention to the defiles in these hills, through which an invading force would have to send a good part of its troops. These defiles have been mined, and, should the necessity arise, should a British force attempt to pass through, the explosion of these mines will follow and England will then be able to count the cost of warring upon a free people. Our home guard is not so very large, but is quite large enough, we believe, to defend and preserve our capital.

"But it must be remembered, of course, that the first act in the defense of Pretoria will be the destruction of Johannesburg. This will only be done as a last resort, on account of the value of the property there. But Johannesburg cannot be defended to advantage. Little or no attempt has been made to fortify it. Therefore, as soon as the British get within striking distance of our metropolis, we will first cut off the water supply, and then, when the enemy is within the town, it will be destroyed by fire and dynamite.

"Of course, the question of supplies will enter into the defense of Pretoria. The defenders have made provision for a long siege, and, so long as the crops do not fail, so long as there is no drought, we can hold out indefinitely. If a drought comes, then we will suffer. If it continues long enough, may be we would be compelled to surrender. But we have considered these questions, and we have come to the conclusion that, in the event of a drought, the Boer would be living to tell about it long after the Briton was dead."

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FORTIFICATIONS.

A Victoria Paper Pokes Fun at Our "Hysterical Folk."

British Colonist.

They had quite a terrible time in the United States House of Representatives about a week ago, when Mr. Sulzer, of New York, brought up the Esquimalt fortifications for discussion. Mr. Sulzer read that rich and rare article which appeared in the San Francisco Examiner, wherein the opinions of the third deputy assistant cook, or some official of that grade, connected with a ship at Esquimalt, were put forward with all seriousness as exhibiting the designs of the British Government. Mr. Sulzer moved a resolution asking for information as to the fortifications in course of erection by Great Britain along the northern frontier of the United States, and especially along Puget Sound, and when the War Department sent the resolution back with the indorsement that Great Britain is "not trespassing upon the rights" of the United States, Mr. Sulzer's indignation knew no bounds, and he made the welkin ring with his observations. Unfortunately for him, the House was not inclined to take the matter seriously, and Mr. Sulzer had the mortification of seeing his resolution ignominiously tabled.

For the information of people of the Sulzer stripe, we may mention that the fortifications at Esquimalt are not on Puget Sound, and that from the outermost battery to the nearest portion of the coast of the State of Washington the distance is between 18 and 19 miles. All the navies of the world could sail up the Strait of Juan de Fuca and into Puget Sound without coming within range of the Esquimalt guns. If the navies aforesaid should think it worth their while to come over to this neighborhood, they would probably find the fortifications somewhat of an obstacle to their progress, but if Uncle Sam keeps his ships on his own side of the Strait, they will be perfectly safe. Representative Sulzer should recall this little story: "Father," said a small boy, "they say that fish bite now." "That's all right," remarked his sire, "you stay at home and bait them beans, and they won't bite you."

It seems an extraordinary thing that the representatives of a great nation will go into hysterics upon so little provocation as it takes to excite certain members of the United States Congress. We suppose the explanation of the matter is the amazing ignorance of some people in that country. For this the school system is largely responsible. That it is well to educate children about their own country before anything else may be admitted, but the misfortune of the United States system is that it ignores other countries. The consequence of this is that a very great many people grow up with the idea that everything done by any nation is inspired directly or indirectly by some consideration in regard to the United States. Great Britain has fortified posts all around the world. None of these is intended for purposes of offense against the countries near which they are situated. World-wide dominions and an all-pervading ocean commerce render it absolutely necessary that a great fleet shall be maintained in every quarter of the globe. A fleet without coaling stations and depots of stores, with docks where repairs can be made, would be shorn of more than half its usefulness. Hence the fortified naval stations of the empire. The reason for the establishment of a station at Esquimalt is two-fold. One is that there is no other station on the whole coast of America from Behring Strait to Cape Horn, and it would be folly for Great Britain to be without a dock and depot on the western shore of the continent. Another is that Esquimalt is on one of our imperial highways around the world. It may be mentioned that the drydock, which was the nucleus of the station, was originally a provincial undertaking. There was about as much hostility to the United States in its construction as there was in the building of the Moran ship railway at Seattle. Our esteemed neighbors fret themselves unnecessarily.

Two "Family" Failures.

New York World.

The surface causes of failure in the case of "Appletons" and in that of "Harpers" are widely different. But going beneath the surface do we not find close similarity?

Both "Harpers" and "Appletons" were "family" institutions. In both the central idea was to keep the firm in "the family," to found and maintain a "family" upon a commercial enterprise. Both attempts ended in disastrous failure. Young men of talent, developed in minor places, found that as they rose their opportunities for preferment diminished. All the best places, all the important executive positions, were reserved for members of "the family." The result was an inevitable withdrawal of the young men of energy and ideas who were not connected with "the family," as soon as better prospects and freer opportunities offered elsewhere. Presently came decay and then downfall.

The moral seems to be that while a "family" can be founded anywhere on landed or other property in which alert and "up-to-date" administrative skill is of secondary importance, a "family" cannot be founded upon a commercial enterprise subjected to the keenest competition and calling for the constant exercise of judgment, foresight, wise courage and all those other qualities which nature distributes with a supreme disregard of rank, birth and family pride.

The Lost Leader.

New York Evening Post.

Bishop Potter, not to be behind the President, has "changed his views"; and, with greater frankness than prevails in the White House, openly acknowledges that he has suffered a sea change. A few months ago he had and expressed grave doubts about the "right of a superior nation to govern a weaker." Now he sees that this is "inevitable." If what we hear of his having spent all of four days in the Philippines be true, he certainly has followed the Scriptural injunction, "Agree with thine adversary quickly." He may have had in mind, also, the Apostolic warning that a Bishop should not be a "striker"—which we interpret, under correction, as meaning what we now call a "kicker." But, without inquiring too curiously into these mysteries, we may at least express the hope that Bishop Potter, having changed once, may change again. After being ashore a little longer, and finding that there is a strong and growing body of opinion that we can get the Philippines off our hands without either scuttling or dishonor, he ought at least to recall his rash assertion that we are bound to stay forever in the islands, simply because "there is no way to get rid of them."

American Precedents for It.

New York Tribune.

The phrase "unconditional surrender"—which, by the way, Lord Salisbury does not use, though he means and implies it—sounds a bit harsh. But it is by no means unfamiliar to American ears, nor are Americans in a position to condemn it without condemning themselves. It has been a favorite formula with our best Generals, in several wars, great and small. Nor are we sure that it is as harsh as it sounds. Not only in our own wars, but in those of other nations, the terms imposed by the victor have been more just and in the end more satisfactory to both parties than those agreed upon by way of compromise. Certainly the result of the compromise by which the last Transvaal war was settled was not such as to encourage a repetition of the experiment. The British assume that any compromise now would be misunderstood and its opportunities misused, just as in 1881. Then the Boers thought the British had given them terms not through magnanimity, but through weakness and fear.

Not Yet Settled.

Boston Herald (Ind.).

Two dangerous financial heresies have been stamped out by the Republican party after long dallying and procrastination. One is the delusive unlimited issue of irredeemable paper money; the other is the dangerous free-coinage of silver at a ratio of value as compared with gold that would throw our trade out of gear with the commerce of the world, and ultimately produce havoc in our domestic exchanges. Mr. Bryan insists that the settlements achieved are not settlements, and is determined to try the issue over again. The more sincere and courageous he is in this regard, the more dangerous he is, and the more necessary is his defeat. We are not so sure of the virtue of the Republican Senate that we can wish to see it assailed by a demonstration that free silver coinage and unstinted issues of cheap paper money can receive even a quasi-approval in a presidential election.

Still Would Save It.

Philadelphia Record.

Blobbs—Poor Bjones has dyspepsia so badly that he says his life isn't worth living.

Slobbs—But Mrs. Bjones says he insists upon calling in the doctor whenever he has an ache or pain, all the same.

Sweet Sorrows of Parting.

Philadelphia North American.

"He no longer loves me!" cried the young wife.

"Why do you say that?"

"He used to kiss me whenever he came into the house; now he only kisses me when he goes out."

Arranged for a Pose.

Chicago Record.

"What makes this portrait of Aunt Hannah look so unnatural?"

"All portraits look unnatural."

"No, they don't; oh, I see now; she's got her spectacles on straight."

Shakespeare Lucky, Too.

Chicago News.

Smiles—I'm glad I wasn't Shakespeare.

Giles—Why are you?

Smiles—Because I should be dead now.

Giles—Yes, that's true—and Shakespeare would be forgotten.

A Life.

Theodosia Garrison in Kansas City Independent.

I saw the little maiden moon—
She was so shy, so shy,
She hid herself behind a cloud
Till all the stars went by;
As pure as sea foam was her robe
And white as ivory,
And lily-buds that blow on earth
Raised timid heads to see.

I saw the moon, the full-grown moon,
Leap from the ocean's hold,
And bare her beauty to the sky,
Fierce, glorious and bold;
And crimson was her flaunting robe
And red as sin, maybe,
And poppy-buds that blow on earth
Raised wicked heads to see.

I saw the moon, the dying moon,
Falter across the sky;
White faced she fell before the morn
That smiled to see her die.
No wave that kissed her feet of old
But mocked her misery;
Only the sere, blown leaves of earth
Might mourn for such as she.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

March evidently intends to go out like a duck.

The two sets of officials in Kentucky are maintaining an armed neutrality.

A palmist has read Bryan's hand, but if he discovered an itching palm he kept it to himself.

Agoncillo has to wake up and announce an alleged Filipino victory now and then, just to keep from getting into a state of inocuous desuetude.

One result of this Frick and Carnegie suit is to set people wondering how, with the limited money in this country, there is any left for any one else.

Secretary Hay has been accused of doing a good many things for the English, but no one has ever suspected him of writing any of Alfred Austin's poetry.

It is not likely that General Leonard Wood will be attracted by the offer of the Vice-Presidency. Those Rough Riders have led too strenuous lives to be content to be pigeon-holed.

Kansas City is getting jealous because the document to be known in history as the Kansas City platform has been already written in Lincoln. And she is in a position to get even on the delegates, too.

It is said that trout will become intoxicated if fed bread soaked in whisky. The average angler, however, usually fishes with bated breath, and has noted no such results.

The late General Sir William Lockhart was a most accomplished man, possessed of a singularly winning personality and handsome presence—in fact, a fine specimen of a man; while of his personal gallantry it need only be said that among the many decorations and orders that figured on his breast was a medal awarded to him for jumping, while in full uniform and with all his accoutrements, into the fathomless waters of the Morar Lake at Gwalior, in order to rescue from drowning two native women whose boat had capsized.

Indiana Congressmen are reminded by the Indianapolis Press (Ind.) that the independent voters in that state control the balance of power, and that the electoral vote of Indiana has not been cast for the same party's Presidential candidate twice in succession for the last 28 years. "It will not be safe or wise to ignore these facts," it says, "and cherish the delusion that the storm is over, and whatever may be done at Washington can be explained satisfactorily in Indiana by the men interested in having the explanation accepted. It will not be safe to neglect 'plain duty' and trust all the people to forget."

Besides the oldest sons of the Marquis of Dufferin, of Lord Roberts and of Viscount Frankfort de Montmorency, who have been killed, the heirs-apparent or presumptive to the following peerages are under orders for South Africa, or already there: The Dukedoms of Athole, Richmond, St. Albans and Westminster; the Marquessate of Lansdowne; the Earldoms of Abingdon, Arran, Beauchamp, Derby, Dunmore, Erne, FitzWilliam, Gosford, Granard, Lanesborough, Listowel and Rosse, and the Baronies of Bagot, Balfour of Burleigh, Ebury, Farnham, Iveagh, Leconfield, Loch, Lovat, O'Neill, Tweedmouth and Wimborne.

President Hadley, of Yale, has made a statement of the advantages of private enterprise as opposed to public ownership of industrial forces, which applies with singular fitness to the advantages of self-government as opposed to despotism or benevolent imperialism. "Where the arguments appear to be evenly balanced," he says, "there is one point which will generally turn the scale in favor of private enterprise; and that is, the higher educational character of a system which leaves people free to make their own mistakes and find their own correctives, as against a system which, producing a more widespread conformity from the beginning, may avoid abuses at first, but hinder progress in the long run."

Housekeepers are anxiously looking forward to a reduction in the price of butter. The price of the best butter at retail has been 65 cents a roll for a long time, which is a steep figure. It is now 60 cents a roll, though very good can be had for 55 cents. The fine weather of a week ago gave the grass a great start, and milk has been more plentiful since, and it is about time that the best quality of butter was selling for 50 cents per roll of full two pounds. Country women are bringing in fresh butter again, and endeavoring to pick up the customers they served last season. Some of them make very good butter, which some old-fashioned people prefer to creamery butter; but the art of making butter has been brought to such perfection in creameries that creamery butter is preferred by most people, especially where it can be procured fresh from the churn avery day; in fact, is "churned while you wait." It used to be the fashion, and probably still is, for crowned heads to have their butter made in a silver churn, while they were at table, but now they have but little advantage over ordinary people, who can see their butter churned at the creamery.

"BANANAZTENCENZEDUZON."

An awful cry full oft my soul hath stirred,
A wail of woe at Morrison and Third,
Some spirit from Plutonian realms doth yell,
In tones cacophonous—fell notes of hell,
"Bananazztencenzeduzon."

Infernal, strident, irritating, coarse,
Disgusting, nasal, brutal, vile and hoarse;
Affrighted air vibrates with echoes dire,
As swell those sounds, some demon must inspire,
"Bananazztencenzeduzon."

When comes that cry, I hope not for relief.
Alas! blind Fortune hath not made me deaf.
No compensations from her wheel doth come,
I am not deaf—the devil is not dumb!
"Bananazztencenzeduzon."

—Infelix.

The Wearing o' the Green.

Could he look down, that gentlest saint above,
Whom Erin honors with her ardent love,
How would he joy I ween
That Kelt and Saxon point to bless,
Forgetting the old bitterness,
In the wearing o' the green!

Heroes of war, who did for Ireland die,
Who lasting peace cemented, where they lie,
Brave men from off th' emerald sheen—
No longer stand estrange, apart,
British and Kelt beat heart to heart
In the wearing o' the green.

A common death for liberty 'gainst greed,
A common grief for their heroic deed,
From peasant and from queen,
Plant shamrock on their graves with wringing hands,
And ever join in common, love our lands,
Wi' wearing o' the green!

So shall St. Patrick's mystic tri-une leaf
Be emblem of our homage and our grief,
For Erin's warriors brave and keen,
Our faith and hope and love for them,
The sister-island's diadem,
The wearing o' the green!

Nashville, Or. —L. A. N.