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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Continued threatening and unsettled weather, with showers probable; westerly winds.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.

Reversion of office to the people is a very different thing from the spoils system, and Rev. C. E. Cline, writing in yesterday's issue of The Oregonian, confuses the two. It is true that in a democracy "official duties have to be learned in every public position. The remedy is oligarchy, with its settled bureaucracy"; but it is not true that this utterance "is a complete refutation of the civil service fad, whereby a whole army of officials, small and great—mostly small—are fastened upon the people in direct violation of the genius of a republic."

Perhaps Dr. Cline does not know that an army of incompetent officials are fastened on the people by spoils-mongering Senators and Representatives in Congress, and that the Civil Service Commission is trying in vain to get them out and supply efficient help in their place. Yet such is the fact. It is just as important to get poor clerks out as to get good clerks in. Each of these undertakings is resisted by our political bosses of both parties.

The difference between the spoils system and civil service reform is in the purpose behind the act. One seeks public office as a private snap, the other as a public trust. One conceives official station as the spoils of political victory, the other wants to have the people get honest service for the salaries paid by the Government.

Under our republican form of government, responsible administrative offices revert to the people at the end of certain convenient stated times. It is not too much to call this practice a fundamental principle of our Government. It is the guarantee of popular control. Nobody thinks of relinquishing it, least of all the intelligent patriots who have striven for years to purify our civil service. In fact, the worst enemies of popular choice of officers are the political bosses who sometimes fancy the Government they control, Federal, state or local, is theirs in perpetual fee. But this principle of reversion of office is grossly perverted when it is sought to apply it to the army of subordinate clerkships charged with routine labors. The heads of great commercial establishments are changed upon occasion, and with them frequently the principal posts of administrative responsibility. But this would not excuse the new manager who should at once throw out all the force of faithful and experienced clerks, so as to fill their places with new hands, his friends, perhaps, but inefficient. The Government ought to have equal discernment in treatment of its employes.

It is every man's privilege to aspire to office, high or low. But when appointive office is made the reward of political dirty work, the moral effect upon the people is calculated to make the stoutest quail. In a city like Portland you can meet at every turn once promising young men who have been broken on the wheel of politics.

FROSTS ON THE FRUIT.

This is a good time to bring again to the notice of fruitgrowers the fact that it is practicable to prevent injury to orchards from unseasonable frosts. Many times has this been put before the public before, but the farmers and orchardists who would save much by putting into practice knowledge of this kind are slow to learn, slow to make the slight effort necessary to protect their growing crops, slow to advance with the world; quick to charge against outside influences their own losses or failures that might, by prudence, easily have been avoided. The farmer who prepares the soil and plants the seed and then sits and sees the growing plants choked to death by the weeds is not more foolish than he who, through heedlessness or inaction, lets his growing crops be cut down by frost.

The State Board of Horticulture has cause to feel discouraged when its work and recommendations are so persistently ignored by those whom they are intended directly to benefit. Are not our farmers and fruitgrowers sufficiently intelligent to take advantage of the work of agricultural experiment stations, of the weather bureau and other scientific agencies to promote their personal welfare and the business by which they gain a livelihood and feed the world? Is it their only privilege and duty to grumble at the payment of taxes that support such institutions?

It is to be hoped that the fruitgrowers are in a receptive condition of mind, and that the lesson will now be learned that untimely frosts may be guarded against, without money and without price. How it may be done is told in another column of this paper. It is also to be hoped that this will open the eyes and minds of many agriculturists to the fact that they are habitually ignoring valuable agencies for promoting their best interests. Medieval agriculture cannot thrive in these times of progress and enlightenment—in Oregon or elsewhere. The man with the hoe merely cannot survive competition with the man who also has a brain and uses it to apply his hoe to best advantage, and he should not. Too many tillers of the soil are fatuous believers in ill luck, too prone to expose their labor to blighting frost and to let their affairs fall into disorder and then "blame heaven for the tangled ends and sit and grieve and wonder." Too many reject the aids that are freely offered on all sides and insist on being weak and miserable. A frost is always looking for them.

HOAR.

Mr. Hoar is a Republican, a venerable and self-respecting citizen, a scholar and a statesman. But for all that his oratorical temperament is identical with Bryan's. His speech is full of sounding phrases that are without basis of coherent or accurate thought.

For example: "In every accession of territory this country ever made, we recognized fully the doctrine of the consent of the governed, and the doctrine that territory so acquired must be held to be made into states." These are strange assertions to be made, when they are without a particle of supporting evidence in history. Consent of the governed was not only not "recognized fully" in acquisition of Louisiana, New Mexico, Alaska, Puerto Rico, but it was never broached. No more was statehood. The only claim a possession has for a territorial government is that it is fit for territorial government. The only claim a territory has for statehood is that it is fit for statehood. What sort of a spectacle would the Indian Territory present if it should appear before Congress with the deliberate claim that the Indians consented to our conquest of their land, and that statehood is their right under contract?

Suppose the Philippines will some day be states; when will they be states? Obviously, not till they are fit. And if they are fit for statehood, wherein will lie the danger of their admission? You will have to admit the islands to statehood as soon as they are fit, says Mr. Hoar in effect, and when you do they will not be fit for statehood, for they will endanger our civilization. If you buy that wild colt you will have to break him, and when you do that, how can you keep your horses quiet with an unbroken colt among them?

Mr. Hoar seems to be in doubt as to whether we own the Philippines or not. On the one hand he argues against the power to acquire and govern unless we purpose making states of them. In that case they would not be ours at all, and the treaty of Paris is void. Then we have no business employing our Army and Navy there, and Congress is out of order in its present deliberations. On the other hand, if the "anti" contention that the Constitution already extends to the islands, "ex proprio vigore," is correct, where is the Constitutional warrant to alienate them? Senator Hoar would regard it a strange proposal if the Republican caucus brought in a bill to put Massachusetts out of the Union. It's a painful dilemma. The Senator is excusable for dodging it.

Mr. Hoar says we should treat the Philippines as we have treated Hayti, Mexico and the South American republics. If we had driven the Spaniards out of those countries, then bought them besides and suppressed disorder, the cases would be parallel. As it is, the Philippines are in the case with New Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico. The case is not parallel with Cuba, because there was no pledge of self-government. Mr. Hoar is incensed that we made no pledge, but he argues that the situation is the same as if we had. If we had promised to give little Willie a Christmas present, we should be bound to redeem the promise. Not having promised, it is our solemn duty to give him a present anyhow.

The worst perversion of truth in Mr. Hoar's speech is his misrepresentation of the insurgent uprising. Everybody knows it was rebellion. Hoar affects to consider it an unwarranted and unprovoked war of extermination on our part. Why does he do this? In order to shield himself. He and his coadjutors are responsible for the war in the Philippines. Their speeches fomented the uprising, kept it alive, killed Lawton, and even now sustain what little life is left in it. Wherever this speech goes in Luzon, some guerrilla will take another shot at an American soldier, and the bandit leaders will be emboldened to embarrass still more the difficult task in which our representatives there are engaged. This is why Mr. Hoar finds it necessary to declare that the Tagals had won their independence, and to set up his unsupported assertion against the testimony of Dewey and our officers of Army and Navy alike.

Mr. Hoar's comparison of Aguinaldo with Joubert, Nathan Hale, etc., would have more pertinence if that fleet-footed Achiller of Luzon had ever lingered within rifle shot of the American lines.

The gold mines of Jackson County, known and worked as far as the primitive appliances and isolation from the centers of population would allow while yet the vast stretch of the Eastern Oregon country was unpeopled by white men, are still adding in yearly increasing volume to the gold output of the state. Though wanting in the popular attraction that belongs to newly discovered mines, and being entirely, or relatively so, free from the excitement that belongs to a mining boom, these mines make gratifying returns to their owners, and in a wider sense to the state. The statement that the output of the placer mines of Jackson County will be four times greater than that of any year in their history, added to the fact that the history of these mines extends somewhat intermittently over a period of more than forty years, gives some idea of the extent and seemingly exhaustless quality of the gold-bearing ledges and hillsides that form the Southern Oregon gold belt.

According to "Cyclone" Davis, the Texan ranter and all-round agitator, the bondholding aristocratic class of the United States hold a debt of $516 a head on every man, woman and child in the Nation. And yet these oppressed, debt-ridden people go on marrying and giving in marriage, eating, drinking, earning and enjoying themselves generally, unconscious of the dire misery and utter hopelessness of their lot. And worse than all, they refuse to be aroused to the appalling conditions that make personal liberty a myth, by the ringing words of their self-constituted champion. Insensate creatures! This man would be fully justified in going home and leaving them to their fate—the fate of slaves and underlings, stupidly unconscious of their misery.

The return here for burial of the body of James Harrington, a soldier of the Second Oregon, who lost his life near San Isidro, Luzon, is evidence of the Nation's regard for those who fall in its service. No demand was made by relatives of this brave soldier for the return of his body, for the simple reason that he was without kindred ties. He fell in discharge of a soldier's duty, and was buried by his comrades in the San Isidro cemetery, they, even to his devoted Chaplain, believing this to be his final sepulture. But the Government took note of his services and of his right by virtue of these to a grave in his native land. As a result, Colonel Summers has received notification that the body of the brave scout of his late regiment is at the Presidio and will be sent north at once. The sequel will be another soldier's funeral in Portland and another body laid to rest in the burial plot of the Second Oregon in Riverview cemetery.

FAST DAY AND PATRIOTS' DAY.

Today is Fast day in New Hampshire, but is Patriots' day in Massachusetts, for it is the anniversary of Lexington and Concord, and of the firing upon the Sixth Massachusetts Union Volunteers in Baltimore, April 19, 1861. Fast day was once as much a New England institution as Thanksgiving, but when it became a mere holiday filled with sports, Massachusetts wisely abolished it. Governor Rollins, of New Hampshire, is a kind of pious pessimist, who has become greatly alarmed at the falling off in church attendance and church membership in "the Old Granite state," and in his proclamation appointing Fast day he makes an appeal for such an observance of the day as shall coincide with the practice of the fathers. Among other things he says:

> Instead of abolishing Fast day as a worn-out and useless custom, I would call our people to a renewed observance and a better appreciation of the real significance of the day. I would ask that large body of men who seldom, if ever, cross the threshold of a church to kneel once more where they knelt as children, and see if the church has not some message for them.

Governor Rollins' appeal will be in vain. More than fifty years ago Fast day in New England had become largely a popular holiday. The young people generally devoted it to maple sugar parties, to equestrian excursions, to baseball, whose asperities were generally softened by the periodical imbibation of egg-nogg. In the days of fierce anti-slavery excitement, between 1850 and 1861, and during the Civil War, the churches generally obtained a large congregation, because the sermon was sure to be political and sensational; but after the Civil War, Fast day became as much of a holiday to the majority of the people as Memorial day has become to those who did not belong to the generation that saw the Civil War and comprehended its sacrifices. It is too much to expect that average human nature will rise above the strenuous life of the present hour. To the Puritan, who had been recently skinned and scalped by the ferocious Indians, days of fast and thanksgiving were filled with solemn memories of fearful suffering and terrible bereavement. To the people of the North during four years of costly war, fraught with enormous consequences for National weal or woe, the days of fast and thanksgiving were days of deep feeling and solicitude, for they came home close to the business and bosoms of men. But to perpetuate the ancient New England Fast day solely on the strength of its observance as a religious day of extraordinary church-going is an effort that is more honored in the breach than in the observance, for Fast day has become as obsolete in New England as the Sunday law, which prohibits the letting of a horse for driving save on an errand of mercy or religion.

You may be sure that the people of New Hampshire who live near the Massachusetts line will help Massachusetts celebrate Patriots' day, while the rest of the people of New Hampshire, who have not yet reached the age of physical or mental incapacity for outdoor recreation, will enjoy the day as a feast rather than as a fast. Some will take their wives and children and go to the "sugar bush," where the day will be spent in recreation with friends and neighbors; some will go trouting, some will play baseball, and few will go to church. The average man believes in letting the dead past bury its dead, and the survival of the ancient New England Fast day seems to him about as absurd as it would to perpetuate any other ancient usage which had survived its present interest and usefulness. Massachusetts has in her superior progressiveness chosen the better part in abolishing a day of annual fast which is invariably treated as a holiday of universal public hilarity and noisy recreation. Patriots' day can safely be made a legal holiday, because the justification for its observance appeals to all good citizens, church-goers and non-church-goers, rich and poor, Protestant or Catholic, Gentile or Jew. The ceremonies of Patriots' day include military music and parade. They are of a sort always of interest and recreation to both strong men, who carry the burdens of society and the state, and to the growing boys, the gristle of whose youth will become the bone of manhood.

Patriots' day appeals to things whose memory is the very life of the state, and it is celebrated through object-lessons of stirring speech and inspiring ceremony that are part of the essential education of every great people. Fast day is as dull as a funeral is to a man who neither hated nor loved the dead living, and who has no reason to believe that he is a beneficiary by the will of the deceased. Governor Rollins, of New Hampshire, is a Boston banker, and, like most bankers, is probably not half so solicitous about "laying up treasure in heaven" by extraordinary church-going as he pretends to be. Let him cease worrying about church-goers and non-church-goers; let him give the New Hampshire boys and girls their holiday next year by omitting the solemn farce of an annual Fast day. He might as well give up the Fast day in form, for the boys and girls are always sure to make it a holiday in fact.

It is a very mild statement of the truth that some time ago ex-Mayor Nickeus "had some trouble at Tacoma which his enemies are bringing forward as a reason why he should not be appointed Consul-General at Yokohama." Nickeus emerged with no credit to himself from direct charges of attempted blackmail. He should be obliged to stay out of the public service for its good.

Louisiana went Democratic because that is a way Louisiana has. The negro disfranchisement law was simply a device to make colored voters less troublesome. It looked for a while as if the opposition might be formidable, but it collapsed through sheer inability of the so-called Caffery Republicans, the Populists, the regular Republicans and dissatisfied Democrats to get together. The fusion candidate for Governor was a son of Senator Caffery, and the Senator himself took part in the campaign in his behalf. Louisiana wants protection for sugar, is for the Nicaragua canal and expansion, and is indifferent to silver; but with all that its citizens do not easily get over the habit of voting the Democratic ticket.

They say the little Populist fellow, Lieut. Gov. Dannels, of Washington, has an interest in a gold mine in Ferry County, that state, which is very promising and which he thinks will make him very rich. Oh, what infidelity to silver! Enriched by a gold mine, he will recover his common sense. He will see then the importance of a standard of money or stable measure of value; he will no longer be a Demo-Populist politician; he will recover the sanity into which he was born in Old Yamhill. He may be heard of no more, but he will no longer be a shrieking agitator and a fool. A successful gold mine will cure his political strabismus. He will be like the Texas patriot, who was for free wool as soon as he had sold his sheep.

The courage required to march up to a cannon's mouth is discounted in quality by that which it took to enter the private den, after having passed through the gloom of the more spacious entrance chamber, of the Lake County grizzly that was dispatched a few weeks ago, and in the dark and silence, broken only by his ominous growls, prod the monster of the cave into active resistance. Jeff Howard, a hunter and frontiersman of the Southeastern Oregon region, is the man who performed this valorous part in the crusade against the grizzly that had for years been the terror of the cattle ranges, and he is well entitled to wear the monster's scalp at his belt.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, leading Quay organ of Pennsylvania, admits that the Senate has hitherto refused to admit appointees when the Legislature has had opportunity to elect; but it says, frankly, "As a matter of fact there is no such thing as a precedent in an election case"; and hence, "Though Quay and Penrose opposed the seating of Corbett," that "counts for nothing," for "in recent cases partisanship has ruled, and the Constitution, except by individual Senators, has been practically ignored in the voting." This, though shameless, nevertheless is plain. It is Quay politics, without disguise.

Spokane has a lot of noble patriots who are pro-Boer sympathizers. But English and Canadian investors in mining shares have not been much impressed by their generous and disinterested sentiments, and the stock market has been badly shaken. The Englishman is keeping his money in his own insular waistcoat until he knows exactly where he is at, and also where his enemies are at. Meanwhile we have seen no mention of a flood of Boer money in Spokane to replace the British gold that has been withdrawn.

Possibly, when the Sultan is confronted by the business end of an ultimatum, he may pay up. Possibly, also, he may take time to reflect on the amiable character of the Administration at the other end of the ultimatum, and conclude that another promise to pay will give him a new sixteen months of grace. Possibly, too, he may find Mr. Hay conducting the negotiations, and that it will be wise for him to pay first and reflect afterwards. There will be no war if the Sultan can help it.

The proposed independent ticket for this city and county contains a choice lot of noble patriots who are mightily concerned about the public weal. Their concern was vastly augmented by the fact that they sought nominations on the Republican ticket, and failed.

The invitation for Bryan to attend the sessions of the Trans-Mississippi Congress was a work of supererogation. It has not been for several years anything but a mouthpiece for the silverists. That is why its career of usefulness is at an end.

It is interesting, if not important, to know that Senator Turner guaranteed Bryan's expenses for his Northwestern trip. Of course, somebody with a sack guaranteed them. That is Bryan's personal view of the utility of Bryanism.

The Populist statesman who landed in jail at Tacoma by paying his debts with bogus checks continues to have his private reasons for being agin' the Government.

The Populists and Democrats of Washington will fuse under the Democratic name, but it will be the Populist party just the same. Watch for the platform.

Abdul Hamid is the prince of Populists. He pays in promises to pay.

THE NEW CURRENCY LAW.

Statement of Some of the Results Already Experienced.

Secretary Gage in Collier's Weekly.

The effect of the new law has been quickly felt with respect to changes in the National banking act. Already there are applications on file in the Controller's office to charter some 200 new National banks, and probably that number will be doubled by July 1, by the provision of the law which permits banks of $25,000 capital to be organized in small places of 3000 inhabitants or less. The law as it formerly stood permitted no bank of less than $50,000 capital to be organized. Another change which was made in the National banking law will lead to an immediate increase in the circulation of National bank notes approximating $24,000,000. When the National banking act was formulated our National credit was in nothing like the strong position that it is now, and in order that there should be adequate security behind National bank notes, the banks were permitted to take out circulating notes to only 90 per cent of the face of the bonds deposited as security for the payment of these notes. That discrimination against our own securities has ever since existed until the new law went into effect. It is now considered, when 2 per cent Government bonds are selling well above par, that there is no necessity for having greater security back of National bank notes than an equal amount of Government bonds, and the banks will hereafter be permitted to issue notes to the full amount of their capital, upon a deposit of an equal amount par value of Government bonds. As there are now some $240,000,000 of bonds deposited to secure circulation, there will probably be an immediate increase of about $24,000,000 in National bank notes.

The course of Government credit as outlined in the last three issues of United States bonds offers a most interesting study in the confidence of investors. There was an issue of $100,000,000 4 per cent bonds in 1896, when our revenues were deficient, and the sale of the bonds was necessary to provide gold with which to carry out our promises for the redemption of United States notes. The average price obtained for those bonds was 111.166; that is, a $100 bond brought $111.16. Making deductions in the interest so as to provide a sinking fund to absorb that premium by the time the bond matured, when the holder would receive for it only $100, that price would leave a net interest rate for the investor of 3.394 per cent. There had been an issue, under similar circumstances the year before, when the bonds sold at a price which would realize to the investor as high a rate as 3.75 per cent. In 1896 there was doubt in the minds of investors as to what the Government meant when it said it would pay interest and principal of these bonds in "coin." Two years later, while we were in the midst of a war, and before the most optimistic guessed how early would be its conclusion, $200,000,000 3 per cent bonds were sold at par, and the struggle to get them was so great that the total subscriptions footed up $1,400,000,000 and 320,000 individuals applied for the bonds. This marked the lowest interest rate at which any government had ever sold its bonds in time of war. The third step in this progress of the investor toward absolute faith in the obligations of the United States has now been taken, and we are in the midst of a successful funding operation where the new bonds that are being put out bear so low a rate of interest that the bond dealers had no tables with which to calculate prices. Not only is this rate of 2 per cent lower than that at which any nation ever put out a new issue of bonds, but the market price has from the first moment indicated such a premium that the net return to the investor who buys the bonds in the market is only 1¾ per cent. When one compares a 2 per cent bond at 106 with prices of European issues, a better view of its significance is had. Of course, England's credit, next to the United States, is the best of all nations, and England has just floated a loan bearing 2¾ per cent, and has sold it below par, the price being 98. Quotations for French 3 per cent rentes are 98 to 99. The German imperial 3½ per cent loan is quoted at 98.75. The Russian 4 per cent rentes, of which there are 2,190,000,000 rubles outstanding, are quoted in the market at 96.50. Dutch 3 per cent bonds have been selling at 92, and Austrian 4 per cent bonds below par.

Foreign and Lake Commerce.

A growth in our foreign commerce from $1,000,000,000 in 1872 to $2,000,000,000 in 1900 is remarkable, and an increase of our exports from $444,000,000 in 1872 to $1,227,000,000 in 1899 is even more striking, but that is insignificant, when compared with the growth of commerce on the Great Lakes.

Since 1872 the vessels passing through the "Soo" canal have increased from 914,735 tons to 21,958,247 tons in 1899, an increase of 2000 per cent, as against an increase of 100 per cent in our total foreign commerce and 200 per cent in exports. The chief articles entering into commerce of the lakes are wheat, flour, coal, iron and lumber. In 1872 1,376,705 bushels of wheat passed through the canal, and in 1899 58,297,335 bushels, or more than 40 times as much as in 1872.

The receipts of wheat at Buffalo increased from 14,000,000 bushels in 1872 to 83,000,000 in 1898, while the total receipts of all grain, including flour, increased from 62,000,000 bushels to 267,000,000 bushels. Meanwhile the exportation of wheat and wheat flour increased from 39,000,000 bushels in 1872 to 282,000,000 bushels in 1899.

The transportation of flour through the "Soo" canal has increased with even greater rapidity, growing from 136,411 barrels in 1872 to 7,114,147 barrels in 1899, while other grain than wheat increased from 445,774 bushels in 1872 to 20,000,000 bushels in 1899.

The coal carried on the "Soo" canal increased from 80,815 tons in 1872 to 3,940,827 tons in 1899. The iron ore shipments increased from 383,105 tons in 1872 to 15,328,240 tons in 1899; copper from 14,591 to 120,000 tons, and lumber from 1,742,000 feet to 1,038,057,000 feet.

Puerto Rican Officials.

The following is a list of the official positions to be filled in connection with the organization of a government in Puerto Rico:

Governor	$8,000
Secretary	4,000
Attorney-General	4,000
Treasurer	5,000
Auditor	4,000
Commissioner of the Interior	4,000
Commissioner of Education	3,000
Chief Justice of Supreme Court	5,000
Associate Justice	4,500
Associate Justice	4,500
United States Marshal	3,000
United States District Attorney	4,000
United States District Judge	5,000
District Marshal	3,000
Collector of Customs	3,000
Collector of Internal Revenue	3,000
Commissioner to the United States	5,000
Commissioners to revise laws (three)	5,000

Five members Executive Council, salary not fixed.

Thirty-five members of Legislature, $5 per diem.

Clerk of Supreme Court, salary not fixed.
Interpreter Supreme Court, salary not fixed.
Clerk District Court, salary not fixed.
Interpreter District Court, salary not fixed.

All of these officials, with the exception of the members of the legislature, who are elected, and the clerks and interpreters of the courts, who are selected by the judges, are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Various local judges and other court officers are appointed by the executive council.

It is the purpose of the President to select native Puerto Ricans for these offices as far as possible, but it is probable that the first lot will be men of experience in administrative affairs in the United States.

Mrs. Dewey's Candidacy.

Chicago Evening Journal.

Judge Hazen, of Meeker, Colo., once a brother-in-law of Mrs. Dewey, says: "If the people do not desire to place the destiny of this country in the hands of a woman, it is best to let the Admiral remain where he is." Probably the Judge has been in a position to learn something of Mrs. Dewey's disposition and can tell whether she or the Admiral would pace the bridge of the Ship of State and which one would attend to coaling the furnace.

But how does the Judge know the people don't want to trust the destiny of this country to a woman, just for a change? It is true they defeated Belva Lockwood by quite a safe margin, but that was before Mr. McKinley.

A Campaign Ditty.

Denver Post.

Respectfully submitted as a sample for the use of the fellows who will write the songs for the coming campaign:

He sunk those ships at fearful rate
Just off Manila landing,
And now the gallant ship of state
He soon will be commanding.
Mark and his Mack will have to tramp,
We'll knock Billy Bryan silly,
And in the White House we will camp
George Dewey and his Millie.

The Shoemaker Talks Shop.

Chicago News.

"Yes," remarked the funny shoemaker, "I'm in favor of women's rights—also her lefts."

"Is that your last joke?" asked the leather drummer.

"Shoe-er," answered the shoemaker, "and it's awl right at that."

Snuffed.

Chicago Record.

"Estelle, I don't see why you buy two of those expensive pairs of antique snuffers when we have only one antique candlestick."

"Well, mercy me, Edgar, can't I buy another candlestick?"

Not Altogether Slow.

Philadelphia Press.

Merchant—I think I'll have to fire Polk. He's frightfully lazy.

Friend—Slow in everything, eh?

Merchant—Well, no, not everything. He gets tired quick enough.

GOSSIP OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, April 14.—A letter has been received by a gentleman in this city from an officer in the Forty-seventh Infantry, now in the Philippines, which gives a very good insight into some of the situations being faced by our troops last February. The letter comes from Legaspi, where the Forty-seventh was stationed. After describing several movements of the regiment, this officer says:

"The priests are leaders of the insurrection, and the resources of the church are used to aid Aguinaldo, hence nobody feels any compunctions about taking churches and holding them as fortified works. We have found them of great service, both in sheltering the men from bad weather and as a protection from the attacks made nightly by the Tagals. All of the churches are stripped of their contents by the priests, and when we get into them we always find them absolutely bare."

Describing the country in that vicinity, this officer says:

"This is a marvelously beautiful country, very fertile and rich, and exceedingly healthy. The vegetation, of course, is tropical, but not rank and dense, as in Cuba, and everywhere that we have been we have found a great deal of open country. The province is said to be the richest in the island, and everywhere there are evidences of the truth of this claim. One of the peculiarities of these islands is their difference of climate. This is shown by the fact that while in Manila about 120 miles north of us the dry season has been on for several months; here we are in all the vigor of the wet season, and we get heavy rains all the time. In fact, there has been no complete cessation of rain for a week until today, when we have had the sun several times for an hour or so. It would be a delightful place to live."

In pointing out how well prepared the Filipinos are, he says:

"There were some well-built trenches to the left of the town, flanked on either end by groves of palms, and it was here that the insurgents were waiting for us. The boats hung onto the side of the steamer while she started ahead at good speed, turning around and going as near the shore as she could. The Filipinos opened on us before we got to dry land, and we were obliged to wade through the water waist deep before we could be sure of our footing. We had the trenches at our front, about 400 yards away, with a rice paddy to cross before we could reach them. A paddy is a peach, especially when you want to get across it in a hurry, and are conscious of not having a complete change of clothes with you. The ground is first plowed up and then watered, planted and watered several times over. The rice grass grows rapidly, and soon hides the mud and water, which are never less than ankle deep for a man of ordinary weight, and frequently are waist deep in the dirtiest kind of black mud.

"Everybody was thoroughly wet and thoroughly dirty when we scrambled and floundered out on the far side and took the trench, at the same time clearing the palm groves on either flank. All the while the Filipinos kept up their fire. But they generally shot high, and we cleaned up the town and drove them back two or three miles, leaving one company to prevent their return, and taking the rest of the command back to act as firemen to put out the fires that had been started in a number of the buildings. The net results were 42 dead Filipinos, and 11 prisoners, with one American wounded in the fleshy part of the arm. Among the dead Tagals were a Captain and a First Lieutenant, the latter formerly an officer in the Spanish army.

Filipinos Respect English Flag.

"During our advance we had seen English flags, which turned out to be on warehouses of a large English hemp firm, and the residence of their agent. He had $300,000 worth of hemp stored in his warehouse, awaiting shipment, and was a trifle anxious, fearing that the insurrectos would burn it. They only succeeded in burning one house, a very fine residence, belonging to an old Filipino, who had advised against fighting, and was anxious to have the Americans come in. He and his family were carried away to the mountains by the Tagals, as were also all the Spaniards and other Europeans, except the lone Englishman, whom they left alone, for fear of an English gunboat then on the coast. The town had been stripped of everything of value that could be moved, and in the large and handsome church even the marble fonts had been carried away and the altar stripped. The priests, as a matter of course, are all in the mountains with the army, said to consist of 6000 men, who propose to clean us out. They will have a fine time doing it, although we have only 500 men."

Democratic Votes for Puerto Rico.

It was observed on the final vote in the House on the Puerto Rican bill that three Democrats were recorded for it or paired for it, which meant that they favored the tariff carried in the bill. They were: Sibley of Pennsylvania and Davey and Meyer of Louisiana. Sibley does not pretend to be a Democrat now, however, and probably he should not be so classed, although the Congressional Directory still maintains that he was elected as a Democrat, which is true. Still, he has said to his Democratic colleagues that they might "constructively" consider his seat on the Republican side, as he did not believe in any of the cardinal principles of the Democracy at the present time. Davey and Meyer are as much Democrats as ever, although it is doubtful if Meyer has any faith in free silver. In fact, it is more than likely that he is opposed to free silver, and although he has voted for it at times, and supported the Democracy in its opposition to the currency bill, he was during the days of Democratic ascendancy a sound-money man. These men, however, both represent that class of Democratic sugar protectionists which exist in Louisiana. McEnery is their representative in the Senate. Davey and Meyer come from sugar districts. One of them represents a district which was at one time filled by a Republican, but the last Republican from Louisiana was in the 51st Congress, and since that time protection Democrats have been elected from that state. That is, they are protectionists on the sugar issue.

Another Bogie Man Killed.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

That promising bugaboo of Filipino cheap labor competition, relied upon so hopefully by the anti-imperialists to swell their ranks by the addition of the American labor vote, has received a knock-down blow from Arthur Hugh Frazier, late of the United States Volunteer Signal Corps, who has returned from duty in the Philippines. He quotes the remark of ex-Governor Boutwell that the "Filipinos can manage a bank or run a laundry with a certainty of success that cannot be foretold by any other people, whether English or American," and says of it: "An ex-soldier feels tempted to rub his eyes and wonder where these commercial paladins concealed themselves during his sojourn in their midst." He goes on to say that the soldiers whose time in the Philippines has expired returned home with the "impression that the able-bodied workers, the trusted, confidential clerks and bank tellers were Chinese; the merchants and planters, Spanish, English or German, leaving to the natives undisputed sway in the hack-driving similar intellectual pursuits." But what is the opinion of these returned soldiers worth? Has not Irving Winslow, the secretary of the Anti-Imperialistic League, laid down the broad general principle that a man who has never been in the Philippines is a far better judge of the condition of things there than a man who has? That covers all such statements as Mr. Frazier makes, and covers also his concluding observation that "any one who believes that Orientals can compete with the skilled American mechanic or artisan, working shorter hours and at vastly higher wages, is either ignorant of recent experiments or else a victim of self-deception." Why not be a victim of self-deception if you cannot continue doing business in any other way?

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Seats in the Senate are going up almost to Sarah Bernhardt prices.

Senator Clark does not pray give us this day our Daly witnesses.

Of course, Bryan never thinks. He cannot stop talking long enough.

Nothing much is heard from Kentucky nowadays. They must have put on a press censor down there.

If Dewey continues to reduce his popularity the Queen of the May may be restored to her throne this year.

When Great Britain gets through with her Boer hunt she is likely to find good sport tracking the Bear in her Indian possessions.

The William Reid who is on the so-called "Good Government Committee" is not the William Reid formerly interested in local railroad and banking enterprises.

The profound philosophy of Paul, which Senator Hoar attributes to Aguinaldo, does not have the same effect as it did on its original possessor. Paul was not afraid.

Some of the Boers are already beginning to beat their swords into plowshares. They keep an anvil handy, however, ready to beat them back at a moment's notice.

The United States Consul at Bombay reports to the State Department that the famine area in India covers 200,000 square miles, with a population of 40,000,000. Lord Curzon's wife is appealing for aid in Chicago, her old home.

We are waiting, Abdul Hamid, for that hundred thousand $.
But we shall not keep on waiting, till the crack of doom, not we.
We are mighty fond of Turkey, but the way we like it best
Is when roasted to a finish, after it's been killed and dressed.
It is commonly sufficient to the wise to say a word,
And to keep on dunning, Abdul, would be needlessly absurd,
So just ask your secretary if he'll write us out a check,
Or you'll wake some Summer morning to receive it in the neck.

In July, 1895, Henry Robertson was arrested in Clarke County, Virginia, charged with attempted assault. A mob gathered and would have lynched him, but Governor O'Ferrall sent a company of soldiers in time to prevent the lynching. Robertson was regularly tried and convicted and sentenced to 14 years in the penitentiary. A little more than three years after that time some citizens of Berryville discovered that the convict was innocent, and a petition for his pardon was numerously signed and sent to Richmond, and one of the first acts of Governor Tyler after he was inaugurated was to pardon Henry Robertson, an innocent man, who had been saved from the mob.

Now that things has come your way,
General Bobs,
You are bound to have your say,
Ain't yer, Bobs?
And of course, in consequence,
Some of these here swelled-up gents
Soon will look like thirty cents—
Won't they, Bobs?

They would put you on a shelf,
Would they, Bobs?
They could fight that war theirself,
Could they, Bobs?
Well, they tried it for a while,
And they made the whole world smile,
For they didn't fight your style,
General Bobs.

Don't take any of their chin,
Little Bobs;
Now you've downed 'em, rub it in,
Won't yer, Bobs?
And old Buller and the rest
Won't be throwin' out their chest
When your views is all expressed,
Will they, Bobs?

In the recent discussion in the Commons on the proposition to increase the tax on beer, to provide revenue for military purposes, Sir William Harcourt delivered a suggestive little speech on the beer question in the United Kingdom. He had observed that there were only two manufactures that paid in the Queen's realm. One was the manufacture of beer and the other was the manufacture of Maxim guns. And both of these stood at about 500 per cent premium. A statement recently issued showed that the consumption of beer per head in the United Kingdom was 31.3 gallons; in the United States, 13 gallons; in the Australian colonies, 10.6 gallons, and in Canada, 3.6 gallons. A similar proportion was shown in the amount of spirits and wine consumed.

A short life of Edward FitzGerald has lately appeared in England from the pen of Mr. John Glyde, who tells, on the authority of the late Mr. Quaritch, the true story of FitzGerald's best-known work:

> In 1859, Edward FitzGerald went to the shop of Mr. Bernard Quaritch, in Castle street, Leicester Square, and dropped a heavy parcel there, saying, "Quaritch, I make you a present of these books." The parcel consisted of nearly 200 copies of the first edition of the "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam." Mr. Quaritch tried to sell the books, first at a half crown, then at a shilling, and, again descending, he offered them at a sixpence, but the buyers were not attracted. Then, in despair, he reduced the book to one penny, and put copies into a box outside his door, with a ticket, "All these at one penny each." At that figure he disposed of the lot, and in that way a masterpiece in English literature, worth infinitely more than all the diamonds at Kimberley, was given to the world. Fortunately, a copy fell into the hands of Mr. Swinburne, who read the poem to Mr. Meredith, and its supreme merit was gradually spread abroad. It was not until 1868 that a second edition appeared, but from that time to this the familiar quatrains have grown into a part of every educated Englishman's mental treasures.

Don't Let the Song Go Out of Your Life.

Kate R. Stiles in Boston Transcript.

Don't let the song go out of your life;
Though it chance sometimes to flow
In a minor strain, it will blend again
With the major tone, you know.

What though shadows rise to obscure life's skies,
And hide for a time the sun;
They sooner will lift, and reveal the rift,
If you let the melody run.

Don't let the song go out of your life;
Though your voice may have lost its trill,
Though the tremulous note should die in the throat,
Let it sing in your spirit still.

There is never a pain that hides not some gain,
And never a cup of rue
So bitter to sup but what in the cup
Lurks a measure of sweetness too.

Don't let the song go out of your life;
Ah! it never would need to go,
If with thought more true, and a broader view,
We looked at this life below.

Oh, why should we moan that life's Springtime has flown,
Or sigh for the fair Summer time?
The Autumn hath days filled with psalms of praise,
And the Winter hath bells that chime.

Don't let the song go out of your life;
Let it ring in the soul while here,
And when you