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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Generally fair; westerly winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1900

Several of our newspaper contemporaries in Oregon and Washington (not very highly esteemed) assert that the editor of The Oregonian is "disgruntled because he has not been permitted to dictate the Federal appointments." Let us pass over the malevolence of this remark, to reach the humorous side of it. "Dictation," or even suggestion, of Federal appointments belongs to a branch of activity most alien and repugnant to this editor. He has not tried to dictate, nor even to suggest, a single Federal appointment, has not wanted to, does not want to. On some few occasions, when a recommendation of some person for Federal office has been brought to him, he has put down his name along with others, but always with reluctance and usually with protest. He neither wants nor has wanted anything to do with office-holding or office-getting, on any part of the line; and he trusts that matters are now in such shape that he will not again be asked even to "sign" for anybody. There is no office up or down the line he wants, has wanted, would have, or would have considered, any time these twenty-five years; and his views as to getting office for others have been precisely the same. This perhaps may do for final notice to several newspaper contemporaries, not very highly esteemed, and to sundry politicians who think of man only as an office-holding or office-seeking mammal.

It is evident that the people of Oregon deem the Constitution as it is better than the Constitution as it probably would be if they should open the door to the habit of amending it.

Yet there was a small vote on the proposed amendments—due to the knowledge on the part of the electors that a majority of all the votes cast at the election when an amendment is voted on is necessary to carry any amendment. For illustration, in the recent election for Justice of the Supreme Court, members of Congress and members of the Legislature, about 80,000 votes were thrown. A majority of all these—not a mere majority of the votes cast on any particular amendment—would have been necessary to carry such amendment. This is a well-settled principle, recognized by all lawyers and supported by decisions of courts of competent jurisdiction. Hence the opposition to the amendments, knowing it was declaring against them by not voting at all, was largely silent.

On the other hand, in support of each of the amendments there was a group of earnest persons who, for this reason or that, wanted one amendment or another to carry, and worked actively to that end. This was particularly the case with the woman suffrage amendment, which therefore received more votes than either of the others.

The vote on repeal of the clause that forbids negroes to come to Oregon would have been affirmative, had there been any need of it; but that clause of the Constitution is obsolete, never indeed was operative, and long since was wholly superseded by amendments to the Constitution of the United States. To strike it out of the Constitution of Oregon would be merely a perfunctory act, and the votes cast against it were thrown simply as a protest against the eagerness of agitators to amend the Constitution.

Of the registered vote of the state, which is a little over 100,000, the municipal indebtedness received about 18 per cent; the judiciary amendment about 15 per cent; the irrigation amendment about 16 per cent; the repealing amendment 19 per cent, and the woman suffrage amendment 26.4 per cent. Taking the vote actually cast as 80,000, the woman suffrage amendment received about 33 per cent; the repealing amendment a little less than 24 per cent; the irrigation amendment 20 per cent; the judiciary amendment nearly 19 per cent, and the municipal indebtedness amendment a little over 20 per cent. The people of Oregon do not want to amend the Constitution of the state, at least on these lines.

Another fact that appears in the vote on the amendments is worth remark. Except in the case of the amendment to repeal the obsolete prohibition against free negroes, the direct negative vote on the amendments was substantially the same. That against the municipal indebtedness amendment was 26,575; against the irrigation amendment, 25,325; against the judiciary amendment, 26,262; against the woman suffrage amendment, 28,402. The direct negative vote throughout would have been very much larger, but for the knowledge that it would count, whether cast or not. It may always be presumed that all who really want the Constitution changed in the way proposed by an offered amendment will vote for such amendment when it is submitted to the electorate.

It is declared to be the intention of the Boers to prolong the contest with the British till after our Presidential election. Then, of course, President Bryan will be expected to start for South Africa with an army of at least 300,000 men, to expel the British, and a naval armament big enough to sweep the British off the seas. At the same time, a leading topic in the Democratic journals will be denunciation of "militarism."

CAMPAIGN SPEAKING.

Hanna says McKinley will make no campaign speeches. This assurance is doubtless authentic, for no President who was a candidate for re-election has ever "taken the stump" for his party. But with Presidential candidates who are not tenants of the White House their appearance as campaign speakers has not been exceptional. Henry Clay "stumped" the country for his party when he was a candidate in 1844, going even into little Vermont. Winfield Scott made notably stupid and silly "serenade" speeches in 1852. Winfield spoke for his faction of the Democratic party in 1860. Horace Greeley made a number of campaign speeches during his Presidential campaign of 1872, and in justice it must be said that they were most admirable speeches, measured by force of thought and felicity of expression. Blaine "stumped" the country in his own behalf in 1884, from New England to Minnesota, and returned to New York City on his way home a few days before election with his battle apparently won. If he had gone through New York City to his home in Augusta, Me., and remained there until election day, he would have been chosen President of the United States over Cleveland. But he stopped over to dine with Jay Gould, and his meeting with a committee of ministers brought about the fatal Burchard incident, which cost him more than the 700 votes which would have changed the result in New York and made him President. It was a curious fact that Blaine, whose mother was a Roman Catholic and whose sister was a nun, should have been a victim to the prejudice excited by Burchard's idiotic blast about "rum, Romanism and rebellion." Mr. Blaine was a gentleman in his feelings, and he doubtless spoke the truth when he said that he never heard a word of Burchard's speech until he saw it in print. Mr. Blaine was too shrewd a politician to have allowed any disrespectful allusion to the religious faith of his mother and sister to go without protest, for he knew that the Democratic press would hasten to inflame the minds of Catholic voters against him by reproaching him with meek silence and seeming assent to the absurd anathemas of a superannuated clerical bigot.

Bryan "took the stump" for himself in 1896, and probably lost more votes in the Middle West and in the North Atlantic states than if he had remained as quiet in Lincoln, Neb., as McKinley did in Canton, O., speaking only to important visiting delegations. Bryan will be wise, if he does not play Presidential tramp orator this campaign. He has been speaking incessantly in his own behalf at every opportunity since his defeat in 1896, and the public has become so entirely familiar with his personality as an orator and "the unerring inaccuracy" of his methods of thought that he has fallen somewhat into contempt as a "tinhorn" political gambler.

THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE POWERS.

The more formidable the anti-foreign rising proves to be in China the more certain in the end that the powers of Europe will not be content with retiring from Pekin, as the English and French did in 1860, after administering severe punishment and exacting exemplary damages in shape of the payment by the Chinese Government of a large indemnity. If the world had not moved forward since 1860, the powers of Europe could afford to be content with the capture of Pekin and the exaction of heavy damages, but the time is come when they cannot afford much longer to respect the imperial integrity of China. In 1860 the Chinese were mere children in the art of war. They were nevertheless not deficient in courage. During the opium war, when the British in July, 1842, captured the City of Chin Keang, the defeated Chinese General, with his principal officers and many of his garrison, burned themselves to death in full sight of the victorious army, even as many of the defeated Jews committed suicide when the further defense of Jerusalem against Titus was hopeless. The suicide of this Chinese General and his garrison proves that the Chinese are not a people afraid of death. They are a proud-spirited people, who, under strong feeling, are capable of acts of desperate sacrifice.

Such a people ought to be a just source of dread to the powers of Europe. Given a people who are not afraid of death, who are industrious, patient, of extraordinary physical endurance, a people of great natural capacity for business organization and administration, and it is very certain that under an able military leader they could easily be moulded into a formidable army. The Chinese were made into admirable soldiers by "Chinese" Gordon, and by the American, Ward; while the Tai Pings carried all before them until their leader, the American Burgevine, was killed. During the battle of Manila Bay Admiral Dewey testifies that nothing could be more gallant than the behavior of the Chinese on board his fleet. There is not the slightest doubt that the patient, obedient, industrious, enduring Chinese could be made into an army that would be a terrific military machine. The tastes of the Chinese today are not military, but commercial; but their four hundred millions include thousands of Tartars and other fighting races. The only reason why the Chinese are not a formidable military people today is because their hermit government, in its jealousy of foreigners, has neglected to build railroads, to increase the means of rapid concentration by land and water, through which only the vast arms-bearing population of China could be mobilized with the same rapidity as the great armies of Germany and France. There were Chinese provincial Governors so intelligent and far-seeing twenty years ago that they officially urged upon the Pekin Government the importance of webbing all China with railroads, and of arming, drilling and disciplining the army after the most approved European methods. These progressive statesmen urged the complete Europeanizing of China in these respects, on the sole ground that otherwise China was doomed to have her imperial domain sooner or later divided and distributed among the powers of Europe. Their advice was not heeded, and when war with Japan came China was severely humiliated by defeat.

Since then, Russia, France, England and Germany have increased their pressure upon China, with the result of creating an intense hatred for "the foreign devil." For the purposes of the powers, it is fortunate that China has not Europeanized its army, has not gridironed its vast territory with railways, has not fortified its great cities and armed the banks of its great rivers. If China had done so twenty-five years ago, it would be no more possible to execute the partition of China or cast over it a foreign protectorate, than it would be possible to execute the partition of Russia or that of the United States by England, France and Germany.

The Chinese can make a more formidable resistance today than they could in 1842 or in 1860, because they have, in spite of their non-progressive policy, learned something of the arms and art of modern war. The powers cannot afford to wait until China has created a vast army of modern soldiers, and has ample railway transportation for their concentration or distribution. If they are wise, they will not give China another long lease of imperial existence before they occupy all the strategic points of advantage on the coast and along the great rivers with sufficient naval and military forces, and proceed to govern China by a protectorate, standing behind the nominal native throne at Pekin, even as Great Britain does behind the nominal native ruler at Cairo. The powers have already waited too long for the easy accomplishment of their purposes, and if they wait another twenty years China may surprise them by Europeanizing its military system and covering its empire with railways so completely that China will be dangerously likely not only to bid defiance to the foreigner, but evict him from his present spheres of influence. The powers, when they go to Pekin, should go there to stay, or they may never have a chance to go again as conquerors, but may go as suppliants.

DIVISION OF OREGON.

For three months past there has been thoughtless discussion in Eastern Oregon of a project to divide the state at the Cascade range and to create a new sovereignty from the area east of the mountains. The plan has found favor with a few who affect to believe that the two divisions have no similarity of interest, that the western section is given over to commerce, agriculture, horticulture, lumbering, dairying, fishing and manufactures, while East of the Cascades the principal industries are mining and stockraising, with agriculture in favored localities and lumbering where new settlements have created demand for building material. Arguments of this sort are not worth serious attention. Agriculture, horticulture, dairying and lumbering are local to all parts of Oregon, but a higher stage of development has been attained west of the mountains than in the eastern section. Commerce and fishing are peculiar to Western Oregon because of its large seacoast and water surface. Eastern Oregon leads in stockraising and mining, in the one because of its extent of range and cheap cost of food, and in the other because of its vast mineralized area. Still, stockraising and mining are extensively carried on in Western Oregon. In manufactures, the western division leads in production, but it is not a manufacturing community in the strict sense of the word, for, like Eastern Oregon, it buys from the Eastern states products that could be made at home.

Mere difference in climate and production, no matter how sharply defined, would not be sufficient for the erection of a new state east of the Cascades. Consent of the Legislature of Oregon and of Congress must first be obtained. Article 4, section 3, of the Constitution of the United States, provides that "new states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state, nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the Legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress." Western Oregon has always contained the bulk of the population of the state, and will for many years to come. For this reason, consent of the Legislature to a division of Oregon cannot be obtained, and, even if it were granted, there is no surety that Congress would add its consent.

Agitation for the division of Oregon had its origin in the Constitutional convention, and has been revived at different times since. When the boundary question was under discussion, August 24, 1857, C. R. Meigs, of Wasco County, moved that the eastern boundary of Oregon be the summit of the Cascade Mountains. He defended his motion by declaring that "we prefer to be for a few years under the laws of Congress and almost a blank in our situation rather than to have the territory west of the mountains hanging over us like an incubus for years to come." W. H. Watkins, of Josephine County, proposed that the people of Southern Oregon be given standing permission to form a new state with the northern part of California. Both the Meigs and Watkins proposals were overwhelmingly defeated, and Oregon's boundaries were made as they now stand.

The present talk of separation rests upon the fact that Eastern Oregon is growing rather more rapidly than the western section, and that the western part of the state has taken comparatively little hand in the development of its mineral resources. The interests of the two divisions are almost identical, and with extension of railroad service which may be expected to follow increase of population, they will be drawn more closely together than ever before. Even if a new state were created in Eastern Oregon, Portland would continue to be to it what it now is—the commercial and financial metropolis—and any separation would be one of lines and not of interests.

The states in which there will be no general election for state officers this year are Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey and Virginia. The states which have already held their state elections are Rhode Island, which chose a Governor and state officers in April; Louisiana, which holds its state election in the same month, and Oregon, which voted in June. The states which are to hold elections this year in advance of the November contest for Presidential electors are Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Maine and Vermont. Alabama chooses its Governor and state officers in August. Arkansas chooses a Governor and state officers in September. Georgia, in compliance with an old political custom, chooses its Governor and state officers on the first Wednesday of October, a month before the general election. Maine elects a Governor and other state officers (Maine has no Lieutenant-Governor) on the second Monday in September. Vermont chooses in the same month, but a week earlier than Maine, a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State and Treasurer for the like term of two years, and also two Representatives in Congress.

If David B. Hill is willing to pay the price, he can probably be nominated for Vice-President. The price is recantation of his views on silver, stultification of his record, and acceptance without qualification of the Kansas City platform. Hill has learned a valuable lesson in the past four years. It is that he cannot have sound opinions on public questions, and utter them, and still be a Democrat. He attempted a feeble compromise with principle at the last New York convention, when he presented an explicit declaration for silver, but permitted the delegation to be instructed for Bryan. He appears to have had some lingering notion that he could persuade the Democracy to listen to good advice; but he might as well attempt moral suasion on a mad dog. Just as the cure for hydrophobia is death for the dog, so the only way to restore the Democratic party to sanity is to crush it at the polls. Hill on a silver-riot-National-contraction platform would not be an especially admirable figure; but he would probably help the ticket in New York.

The Empress Dowager of China is described by the North China Herald as an "ignorant, timid, self-willed, avaricious, sanguinary usurper" of bad private character, who was responsible for the French and Japanese wars. In 1898 she usurped the powers of government, beheaded six of the leaders of the "New China" party, proscribed all the members of that party, and sentenced to imprisonment for life or banishment all who were supposed to be friendly to the Emperor. She offers a reward of 100,000 taels for Kang Yu Wei, dead or alive, and orders that his ancestral home be made a dunghill. She arrests women and children because their relations in America are supposed to favor reform. She has driven the Emperor from his throne, has locked him up in an island, and is slowly having him done to death, with the view of putting another child on the throne, so that she may have another period of regency.

The market for Oregon hardwood lumber suitable for agricultural implements is strong. The Corvallis mill has found a customer for all of this material that it can produce, in the implement factory at Benicia, Cal. The plant for turning this timber, a large body of which is situated in Benton County, into a marketable product has been enlarged recently, yet with their added facilities the millowners have all they can do, with large orders ahead. Properly handled, the oak timber, where found in the state, always of slow growth and not of wide area, may be made a source of considerable revenue. It may be hoped that care will be taken in cutting to prevent the wastage of supply that has practically exterminated many valuable woods in other sections of the country.

So far as reports have been received from the various agricultural sections of the state, the persistent rains of last week did not greatly damage the hay crop, while they proved a decided benefit to grain, vegetables and the later fruits. This might have been anticipated and much worry avoided. It is difficult, however, to look with calm trust from leaden, streaming skies to meadows ready for the mower or strewn with windrows of newly cut hay, or to find complete assurance of "no damage to the crop" in the records of former years. There is no disguising the fact that a June rain protracted for a week is full of menace, and all will rejoice when the clouds roll by.

Charley Towne pretends to be indignant at stories that he will withdraw; but he declines to say whether he will withdraw if he is not nominated by the Democrats. That is just what he will do. It is what he was put up for. In ordinary parlance, this would seem to be base betrayal of principle, a deliberate selling-out of party. But the Sioux Falls Populist Convention, which nominated an alleged Democrat for President and a Silver Republican for Vice-President, was in the hands of the Butlers, the Weavers and the Cyclone Davises, who are in the betraying business themselves.

The Porte is astonished that the United States continues to want that indemnity money. The surprise seems to be based on the Sultan's knowledge that everybody else expects him to pay nothing to anybody. Turkey's financial policy is, Get all you can, and keep all you get.

It is to be presumed that Mr. Bryan will not object to the full protection of American interests in China. Bryan is willing to afford the Nation every facility for upholding its honor and safeguarding its citizens except an army.

General Joe Wheeler says that as long as he is in the Army he will let politics alone. This is a heroic concession to the military proprieties, but the General was equal to it.

The newspapers of Seattle are guessing the city's population at 100,000 people. It remains to be seen whether the enumerators have also guessed, or counted.

The Social Democrats.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Debs, the candidate of the Social Democrats, is said to be very hopeful about the outlook for his party. Probably he has some justification for his confidence. He will undoubtedly poll several times as many votes as were cast for the candidates of his party in the past, and in all cases those votes will be drawn from his friend Bryan. This is a condition which is not calculated to make the Bryanite bosses favorable to their old supporter, Debs. Of course, the Kansas City convention will have an anarchistic plank in its platform, and an appeal will be made for the support of the extreme left of the populace. There is a chance, however, that Bryan's old admirer and co-worker, Debs, will get the votes of most of that element, and that Bryan's "6,500,000" of 1896 will be broken into in 1900.

Republicans in Louisiana.

New Orleans Picayune Ind.-Dem.

The turning down last night by the Republican National Convention committee on credentials of Wimberly, and the recognizing by the committee of Warmoth's delegation from Louisiana is a victory for the Sugar Republicans of this state.

It has cost them their ostentatious title of "Lily Whites," because before they could reach the point of vantage which they have at last attained, they were forced to fraternize with the colored brother just the same as did their bitterest opponents, the Wimberlyites.

It is impossible to see why there is any superiority of respectability in being led by ex-Governor Warmoth instead of ex-Governor Kellogg. That is a matter only for the followers of the former. But there will be a good deal of difference in the Republican party in this state if such men as Henry McCall, Thomas J. Woodward and others like them should be established in the Custom-House instead of the rank and radical gang that have so generally held the fort there under Republican National Administrations.

The day will come, doubtless, when there will be a respectable Republican party in Louisiana, but so long as it is compelled to choose its leaders from among the men who ravished and raided Louisiana so remorselessly in the old and infamous "reconstruction times," nothing can make it honorable and respectable in the eyes of those who have not forgotten history.

ROOSEVELT'S POPULARITY.

A Poor Politician, but the People Admire Honesty.

Chicago Times-Herald.

It must be a matter of mortification, perplexity and envy to the Platts, Quays, Tanners and the whole brood of political bosses great and small that the poorest politician in America today should be the most popular personality in Philadelphia. Without a single one of those smooth arts by which the politician aims to be all things to all men—brusque and explosive in his speech, outspoken to the verge of bluntness, incapable of subterfuge, wearing his heart upon his sleeve, placing his faith in men whose game is to deceive—how comes it that Theodore Roosevelt is a puzzle and a stumbling-block to politicians and the popular idol of the people?

The answer so difficult to political wire-pullers is easy to the common people. The straightforward simplicity, courage and honesty of his nature—his freedom from guile, his quick responsiveness to the simpler, nobler emotions of mankind, his scorn of subterfuge, his intense vitality and ceaseless activity, his virile manhood and buoyant youthfulness, all combine to win popular admiration and hold it.

Besides Theodore Roosevelt is an optimist and a fighter. And in spite of all the pessimists and peace-at-any-price doctrinaires all the world loves a fighter and an optimist.

Behind all that is impulse, bold and generous in his nature there are the sterling elements of common sense, wide information and large practical experience. For 20 years Theodore Roosevelt has been living a "strenuous life" in the sight of the American people, and through it all his face has been toward the light and his metal has rung true. His slips have been inseparable from his impetuosity, but he has gone steadily forward and upward in the esteem of his countrymen.

Is it any wonder that the politicians should wish to sidetrack such a man from first place in New York State to second place on a Presidential ticket?

Is it any wonder that the people throughout the Nation should have united in warning Roosevelt against their transparent machinations?

ROOM FOR COTTON MILLS.

European Countries Beat Us in Manufacture and Export.

Galveston News.

"Our recent exports are gratifying in every way, except in the matter of cotton goods," says the Atlanta Constitution. Take little Switzerland, where no cotton is grown. That country makes a wonderful showing. Here are some cotton goods exports from various countries:

Great Britain	$310,270,994
Germany	47,297,294
France	23,039,304
Switzerland	23,879,032
United States	21,027,678
British India	17,837,560
Holland	15,952,798
Spain	11,942,261
Japan	6,718,117
Belgium	4,317,410
Austria-Hungary	2,793,285
Total	$498,048,302

As the Constitution says, "This is a poor record of us. We have the raw material, cheap fuel, water power and labor, and yet several European countries beat us in the manufacture and export of one of our most valuable products." As the same paper points out, it is plain from any common-sense business point of view that we can never have too many mills in this country until they are ready to consume more than our product. The policy here should be to build mill after mill until we manufacture all of our raw material, and make the whole world our market. It is the height of absurdity, from an economic point of view, for England to take our best crop and market it after changing is shape. Build mills enough to convert every lock of cotton that you produce into goods, and then talk about too many mills. If we are able to sell all the cotton we raise we need have no doubt that it will all sell even more readily after it is woven into cloth. About this there can be no room for doubt. Build factories.

Oregon Still Points the Way.

Chicago Tribune.

The returns of the Oregon election are now practically all in, and they point to the result in November in no uncertain manner. In 1898 the Republican plurality on state officers was 10,551 and on the two Congressmen 8694. The latest figures give the head of the ticket 10,068 plurality and the two Congressmen 11,552. There are seven counties yet to be heard from, which will more than wipe out the apparent decrease on state officers since 1898, while the Congressional plurality is increased 2858. This result insures a large Republican majority in November on the Pacific Slope, and points the way to a National Republican victory.

When Battle-ship Oregon Arrives.

Troy Times.

When the battle-ship Oregon reaches Taku Americans will feel more comfortable. There is something about the big vessel that is calculated to inspire confidence. If the Chinese were better posted on the affairs of the world outside the mere presence of the Oregon would probably have an excellent effect. No intelligent men would willingly run up against a ship with her history, even though they might be in overwhelming force.

To Be Expected.

Troy Times.

The Democratic delegation from Hawaii to the Kansas City convention will be headed by Prince David Kawananakoa, a nephew of former Queen Liliuokalani. That the royalists of the island should join the Democratic party is not surprising in view of the fact that it was a Democratic President who attempted to bolster up the corrupt monarchy, while a Republican Administration sympathized with the movement to establish a republic.

Sad Plight of Cyclone Davis.

Minneapolis Tribune.

While "Cyclone" Davis, of Texas, is devastating the prairies of South Dakota with his scorching eloquence, the farmers of his own state are accumulating wealth at a most disgusting rate from a Populist standpoint. When he gets back to his native heath he will find that his occupation as a calamity howler is gone, and he may have to go to work raising something besides "hot blossoms" himself.

No Trouble From Pettigrew.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The next Vice-President need not fear that he will be tempted to throw his gavel at Pettigrew. That champion scurrier retires in March to take the shortest cut to oblivion.

TREK-BOEREN OF THE TRANSVAAL

A strong estimate of the Boer character, from "a woman's point of view," is found in a paper upon the subject in the Outlook of recent date. The writer is Mrs. John Hays Hammond, and she writes from knowledge gained by three years' residence in the Transvaal. With a woman's fidelity to detail, she introduces her reader to this strange combination of the nomad and settler, and makes him quite well acquainted with the habits, tempers and general characteristics of the Boer of the great trek. This acquaintance does not produce admiration for the Boer—certainly it does not deepen sympathy for the Boer cause—though it may intensify the pity which, on the simple basis of humanity, is felt for a people writhing under the bitter exactions of war, smarting under defeat. Mrs. Hammond expresses the sentiment of most intelligent, well-informed people when she says: "I do not believe their cause is the cause of civilization or real liberty; but my heart goes out to them in the awful distress the war is bringing to them."

The common conception of the Boer, which presents him in his steadfast adherence to the Bible as a survival of the Puritan of New England, is, she avers, very misleading. The Boers have very little in common with the Puritans, and lack, above all things, the capacity for orderly government. They have, indeed, proved restless under any form of government. Before the trek of 1836 they had earned the name of "Trek-Boeren," or wandering farmers, having chafed against the government of the Netherland East India Company, as well as that of Great Britain. In the environment of isolation, in which they found themselves beyond the Quathlamba range of mountains, they soon lost all habits of thrift which they may have inherited from their French ancestry, and all habits of cleanliness which may have come from their Dutch forefathers. In wandering into the depths of the wilderness, the "forstrekers" wandered deeper into a deeper night of ignorance and superstition. Thus we find in them today a curious example of arrested development. They are still the Boers of the great trek, more than 63 years behind their brothers of Cape Colony in civilization.

As a people, they have strong family affection, but, owing to their nomadic life, little attachment to home in a local sense. With the crude, inconsistent piety of a primitive people, they are strongly persistent in courage. Honesty and truthfulness are virtues seldom practiced by them, the explanation being that these are moral qualities developed by commercial life, and the Boers are not a commercial people. They are pastoral, and count their wealth in their flocks. Their free, open life on the veldt has made them, like other frontiersmen, hospitable.

Of the Boer women, it is said "they are inert bodily and mentally, are very prolific, quickly grow old and very obese; they are shrewd, but ignorant, and superstitious; personally uncleanly and unattractive and poor housekeepers." The most revolting feature of the Boer's character is his cruelty to natives and to animals. These are subjugated and used as beasts of burden (being equally regarded as soulless), beyond the pale of humanity.

There is something ludicrous in the assumption of similarity in purpose and in the institutions of liberty as existing in the Transvaal Republic and that of the United States. There is, in fact, no parallel between them, but in the name. Neither in our National code of morals nor in the ethics of equal rights, which underlies individual freedom, is there the slightest similarity between the two governments. Our democratic form of government represents in the highest degree individual liberty and freedom, as far as consistent within the rights of others. The Boers have carried the desire for liberty to the extreme of license. Collectively and individually they are resentful of control, being especially antagonistic to attempts to raise revenue by taxation. With their ineradicable hatred of governmental control, their great aversion to being incorporated into the body politic, making them liable on account of community interest to tax levy for government expenses, their absolute lack of responsibility and obligation in a community sense, this writer asserts that the Transvaal Boers would not find in an asylum in this country conditions at all suited to their tastes or habits of life.

Prudent citizens may well doubt the wisdom of encouraging these people to immigrate to this country. There is no room upon the American Continent for a dogmatic, nomadic race, with an exaggerated idea of their own rights and importance, and a contempt for the virtues and graces of civilization. This country has troubles enough of its own just now in dealing with strange peoples. Having subjugated the Boers, England is competent to deal with them to the best interests of all concerned, upon African soil. It may and probably will take generations to work the discontent and restlessness out of their blood and make them peaceful, responsible, moderately progressive citizens, but it will be done more quickly and with less friction where they are, and by the British Government, than anywhere else on the globe and under any other power. There are some things that we may justly envy England, but her task in dealing with the "Trek-Boeren" of the Transvaal is not one of them.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The only Unitarian to receive an LL. D. degree from the Methodist Syracuse University is Rev. Samuel R. Calthrop, of that city, who was granted that degree last week.

Mrs. Ruiz, wife of Dr. Ricardo Ruiz, the American citizen who was butchered by Spaniards in Cuba in 1897, is soon to receive $5000 from the United States Government, which took over all the claims against Spain at the signing of the peace treaty.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland has a miniature farm, the produce of which goes to the poor or the hospitals. Her Swiss chalet is stocked with the toys of her childhood, and here she has learned to "keep house" in the most approved Dutch style.

Edward Downes, who was United States Consul at Amsterdam during Cleveland's second term, and has twice served as City Clerk of New Haven, has been ordained to the priesthood in Rome. He is a brother of Alfred M. Downes, private secretary to Mayor Van Wyck, of New York.

Eminent English medical authorities, including Sir J. Crichton Browne, believe that consumption in the United Kingdom will, in the ordinary course of events, disappear in 60 years. The above-named specialist thinks, however, that with caution in the nursing of patients the disease might be got rid of in half that time.

The Gaunt family, of Australia, is versatile. The father is a Melbourne Judge; a daughter Mary is a colonial novelist, who has made a considerable reputation in England; a son in the Navy (Lieutenant Gaunt) distinguished himself during the recent fighting in Samoa, and now comes news that Captain Cecil Gaunt, another son, attached to the Fourth Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, is among the heroic defenders of Ladysmith.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The office really did seek Governor Roosevelt.

Advice to Kentucky law enforcers—First catch your Governor.

The Boxers are fighting as viciously as if Alfred Austin had been writing poetry about them.

Perhaps the patriotism of Kansas City will prevent her from adopting a Chicago-made platform.

The showers that were scheduled for early yesterday morning were evidently delayed in transmission.

The man who don't know he is loaded will be one of the necessary evils of the Fourth of July celebration.

It's a dull day in the railroad business when more people are not killed than lose their lives in a Chinese war.

If Web Davis gets up a red hot plank sympathising with the Boxers perhaps he can get it through the Kansas City convention.

It was a mean trick in the Oregon to wait till after Scott was beaten in the Philadelphia convention before she broke another record.

The Prince of Wales smokes cigarettes. He might as well give up any hopes of ever becoming an employe in the United States weather bureau.

With a Major and a Colonel on the Republican ticket, a Colonel holding the majority of stock in a cinch on the Kansas City nomination, and one vacancy left, all eyes naturally turn to Kentucky.

Chinamen when furnished with proper guns can shoot about as well as any one, and the powers who are endeavoring to "restore order in China" are beginning to find this out. A case in point is that of one Lum Chung, formerly employed in Hume's cannery. He provided himself with a Winchester rifle, and during his leisure hours learned to shoot very well. He has only one eye, and so was not bothered about shutting the other when he took aim, a thing which often troubles novices in marksmanship. A few years ago Lum Chung went home to China and stayed there some time. While there he went one day with two friends to sell a lot of hogs, for which they received a considerable sum of money. Eight robbers, who had secured information of what business they were in, followed them in a boat to rob them. Lum Chung pumped lead into the gang with his Winchester till he killed seven of them, and allowed the other to escape, that he might carry the news to the remainder of the gang, and strike terror to the souls of the heathen. Napoleon said that, if ever the Chinese learned the art of war, other nations would do well to stand from under, and if many of them are like Lum Chung, Napoleon was right.

The Taku Forts.

Captain Sigsbee, chief of the Office of Naval Intelligence, has issued the following note concerning the Taku forts, recently captured and destroyed by the allied naval forces of the powers:

"Taku is situated at the mouth of the Pei Ho River. The object of the fortifications is to defend the bar at the mouth of the river, which is accessible for deep-draft ships only at high water. The defences consist of three forts, one large one on the right shore and two smaller ones on the left shore. All the forts are armed with guns of the most diversified types and calibers. The large fort has three bastions, equipped with large caliber guns for firing over the parapet. In the construction of all the forts of this region the soft clay of the coast has been used, which in the dry season cracks and easily crumbles. For this reason the garrisons of these fortresses may be seen constantly at work repairing them, as otherwise serious injury would threaten the forts even from their own guns.

"At Taku is stored the material for closing the mouth of the Pei Ho River. In the forts there are mines for the same purpose. The inner fortifications, extending along the Pei Ho River from the sea to Tien Tsin, consist of all forts and fortified garrisons (impans) of the Li Hung Chang army. These are from east to west as follows: Lutaj, Sing Tschou, Sjao Tschang, Ma Tschou, Taju Ljang Tschou and Tin Tsin. The only one of these worthy of notice is Sing Tschou, being the only one armed with modern guns. All the forts are connected with Tien Tsin and the sea by a gravel military road."

Treacherous Natives.

Army and Navy Journal.

Spaniards, who know well the nature of the Filipino office-holder, place little reliance in the oath of allegiance which he takes under the folds of the Stars and Stripes. All the civil officers of Tarlac, capital of the province of that name, numbering 11 persons, have been arrested and charged with plotting treason, and two insurgent agents have been captured at Malabon with incriminating papers and $4000 collected from the natives.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Johnny—Paw, what is a blackmail? Paw—Mourning envelopes.—Baltimore American.

Reward of Bravery.—"So Belle is engaged to a one-armed man?" "Yes; she says she admires him for the way in which he went to work to win his way single-handed."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Were you down South during the recent solar eclipse?" "Yes, and I saw something funny." "What was that?" "Why, men that had been smoking tobacco all their lives were smoking glass."—Chicago News.

In Chicago.—Mrs. Porkchops—Omar Khayyam? Why, he is one of those foreign literary persons, Mrs. Stockyard—Oh, to be sure! I suppose that, sooner or later, he'll come to this country to lecture.—Brooklyn Life.

His Symptoms.—First Waiter—I reckon Sam is gone crazy or got religion or somethin'. Second Waiter—What am de mattah wif him? First Waiter—Why, he treats dem what tip an' dem what doan' tip jes' alike.—Puck.

The Soldier's Life.

Folger McKinsey in Baltimore News.

Only to stand in the red of the fray,
Only to battle for glory—you say,
Only to leap to the bright song of death,
Murm'ring, "My Country!" with fast-fleeting breath—
This is the life of the soldier, you dream,
Wreathed with the flag in the battle's red gleam!

Night on the road, and the mud to his hips!
Visions of little ones leaning with lips
Just to be kissed through the dream and desire—
Sweetheart and home hearts and love by the fire!
This is the life of a soldier—to fare
Far from the tenderness waiting him there.

Morn on the march, and the war-drums ahead,
Beating the call to the battle—the tread
Of legions gone down in the ranks in the van,
On to the front! ile by file, man by man.
Soldier, so valiant, so brave, and so true,
Honor and glory to yours and to you!

Noon on the field, and the battle's fierce heat
Flamed to the faces unfaltered, that meet
Death in the flash of the shot and the shell,
The crash of the cannon, the red, roaring hell;
Still 'neath the folds of the flag doth he fight,
True to his country and true to the right!

Night on the hills—and, oh! the wide eyes
Under the shadow and grief of the skies!
Night in the hamlets where broken hearts wait
In vain for the heroes that fought against fate!
This is the life of the soldier—sometime
A wreath for a tribute, a rose and a rhyme!