The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES.
Editorial Rooms....166 | Business Office....667

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
By Mail (postage prepaid, in Advance—
Daily, with Sunday, per month.....$0 85
Daily, Sunday excepted, per year..... 7 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year..... 9 00
Sunday, per year..... 2 00
The Weekly, per year..... 1 50
The Weekly, 3 months..... 50
To City Subscribers—
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted.15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included.20c

POSTAGE RATES.
United States, Canada and Mexico:
10 to 14-page paper.....1c
16 to 22-page paper.....2c
Foreign rates double.

News or discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertising, subscriptions or to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

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Puget Sound Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma. Box 955, Tacoma postoffice.

Eastern Business Office—The Tribune building, New York City; "The Rookery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special agency, New York.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 746 Market street, near the Palace hotel, and at Goldsmith Bros., 236 Sutter street.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

TODAY'S WEATHER.—Fair and warmer; northerly winds.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1900

"CONSENT," UNDER LIMITATIONS.

It does not lie in human nature, anti-imperialist or otherwise, to remain forever silent under the reproach that it criticises what is going on, but has no definite alternative programme to offer. This old argument against the infidel was a taking one in many quarters. Mr. Bryan himself was very loud and confident in his charges that the Republicans declined to announce just what they proposed to do in the Philippines. Now it so happens that a gibe of this sort has also been directed at the antis. If we turn this thing over to you, the inevitable inquiry is, How will you manage it?

Bryan's answer, formulated practically in his own words at Kansas City, is: First, a stable government; second, independence; third, protection from outside interference. This is very general in its terms, and suffers under the objection that even the Bryanite party might be tempted to prolong the stable government period indefinitely. But it is not specific enough to suit some of the antis, who have amended the declaration by inserting the word "republican." What we must first do, they say, is to establish a "stable, republican form of government."

We submit to the candid examiner whether such a programme will comport with the doctrine of the "consent of the governed." Suppose the Filipinos want a dictatorship, such as Aguinaldo has already proclaimed. Suppose they want a constitutional monarchy, even a limited monarchy, or an oligarchy, or a first-class despotism. Suppose they want a directorate, or a commune, or a triumvirate or decemvirs. How shall we sustain our performance if we go into the Old World, whose people have long been familiar with Kings and Emperors, Sultans and Khedives, Pashas and Maharajahs, and force upon their unwilling necks our Western machinery of Presidents and Cabinets, Legislatures and impeachments? Obviously, if we are to proceed solely upon "consent of the governed," it ill becomes us to prescribe the form of government of any of these numerous embryo republics, from Cuba down to Guam, that we have brought forth. What hollow mockery it were, to be sure, to say to the Philippines, for example, "Choose your government, but it must be a republic; you are to have free choice, but we will do the deciding!"

How do the antis know, to come at once to the heart of the matter, that the Filipinos want a "stable government," to which all Bryandom is committed? There is little evidence in support of such view. There are no proposals to ascertain their desires. The fact is that as soon as the antis set down one single stake of definite policy they will pursue with the archipelago, they throw away their whole case for "consent of the governed." If they say, "A stable government is good for you, independence is good for you, a protectorate is good for you," they repudiate at once the doctrine that the Filipino is to be the sole arbiter of his own destiny. As Mr. Horace White epitomized the sentiment of the celebrated Chicago conference, "self-government is better than good government." That dogma the Bryanite proposals irreconcilably contravene. It is of no possible interest or concern as to the quality of government, more stable or less stable in nature, republican or monarchical in form, protectorate or independent, Bryandom will force upon the Filipinos without asking their consent. When a programme is determined on, and choices made, in that identical act itself is the "consent of the governed" overthrown and "imperialism" set up.

"Anti-imperialism's" original demand was that we drop the Philippines like a hot potato and run home. Now nearly every noted anti will swear he said no such thing. So they will do with their present programme in due course of time. They are sure that what is going on is wrong, but their proposals never get very far in discussion before they hasten to disown them.

A REBUKE TO BACKSLIDERS.

In another column Mr. J. B. Ziegler, of Oregon City, attests his loyalty to the sacred cause of 16 to 1, and thus effectually rebukes the former champions of the cause for their lack of fidelity. It is no part of our purpose to answer Mr. Ziegler's arguments, cunningly arrayed in interrogatory form, but we desire merely to establish the fact that if the Bryanites of this section want to abandon silver for more congenial issues, they will have to reckon without Mr. Ziegler. He is not the man to desert a standard because it is unpopular or because it has become a source of weariness or even hilarity to its former devotees.

You can find in Mr. Ziegler's letter all the old, familiar faces and one or two new ones. There is the diabolical crime of '73, the demoniac policy of governments everywhere to make gold high and silver worthless, the fabled circulation of gold and silver under free coinage everywhere at a time when our only money was paper, the duty of the Government to do something for silver. The new acquisitions of the menagerie are the imaginary withdrawal of legal tender from silver, the enslavement of the people by their deadly enemies, the National bankers, the impression that the banks enacted the new currency law, and the stupendous vision of profits under that law's operations.

Having established these phenomena beyond dispute, let us for the present say no more, but commit Mr. Ziegler and his phantasmagoria to silent and solemn meditation. Such fidelity to principles and high-power, triple-expansion imagination deserve a more respectful treatment than their subjection to comparison with the facts and figures of a cold and dreary world.

ALTGELD AT TOLEDO.

Governor Altgeld makes a point in his Toledo speech, where he rebukes Roosevelt for his uncivil accusation against the Democrats, and probably another when he touches up the administration at Albany. Very few men who do things and talk bluntly are proof against criticism, and Roosevelt has not yet demonstrated himself to be an exception. As much cannot be said for the arraignment of events. Altgeld is sadly astray in his epitome of history and his diagnosis of our perils.

After the manner of his tribe, Altgeld locates the panic of 1893 before Cleveland's inauguration, and attributes it to almost anything but its true source, the overcoinage of silver. He clearly implies that it was due to the crime of '73, which was merely a coinage act, passed to do away formally with our silver dollars, which were undervalued in the coinage and never seen in circulation. He ignores the plain circumstance that 1873 was the climax of the silver regime, and that for twenty years following the celebrated crime business was prosperous. He reiterates the fiction that Great Britain has dictated our financial policy, and the only man he can find on earth who gets more for a dollar today than 20-odd years ago is the English holder of United States bonds.

It makes Altgeld wild to think we "carefully omitted" from the treaty of Paris a clause admitting the Filipinos to full United States citizenship, and we are left to conjecture what his rage would have been if so foolish a provision had been made. What were we to do? Bryan himself urged ratification of the treaty. We had either to grant or deny them full citizenship. If we had granted it, the antis would have objected to them, and correctly, as unfit. But we did not, and now they complain at the omission.

We have had trouble to meet in the Philippines. Should we send an adequate army or make a fool of ourselves by sending one ridiculously incompetent to the task? Well, we increased the army. Some think it wasn't made quite large enough, and Congress certainly did what it could to keep it from being efficient; but it was enlarged in the hope of efficient service. And Altgeld is justly incensed. It would have suited him to death to see 22,000 to 25,000 troops—those are his figures—sent to the Philippines and slaughtered by the Tagals. Why? Because the Army stands for law and order, whether at Chicago or Manila. To Altgeld and the rabble he seeks to please, anything that secures property and suppresses riot is subversive of our liberties.

It must take a good deal of nerve for a man of Altgeld's moral and intellectual equipment to get up in public and offer seriously reflections on "principles or systems of government." Give him credit for decision of character in that respect, and yet he should have had the grace to inform himself somewhat on the subject. A "principle" of government is not synonymous with "system," though Mr. Altgeld seems to think so; and his classification is fit for nothing but the most crude and ignorant partisanship. This is what he says:

> There are only two principles or systems of government known to man—government by brute force and government by consent of the governed. The one is applied from without and is repressive, and, in the end, destructive, because it arrests growth; while the other works from within, is evolutionary and progressive.

The whole thing is pure invention. It is unsupported and unsuggested by anything in governmental science or human experience. All government rests on brute force, no government can survive loss of the consent of the governed. Force, potential or applied, is all that keeps angry men from wreaking private vengeance every day on the streets of Portland, or makes them pay their blankety blanked taxes. And when the governed really give up their consent, they rise up and make the government look like thirty cents. Turn and overturn has been the process of governments, from the heyday of the Nile and the Euphrates down to the Cuban revolutions and the Uitlander's appeal from Boer oppression. It is a very pretty conceit of Altgeld's that "government by brute force" "arrests growth." He has forgotten apparently how vigorously the little mustard-seeds of protest had been maturing before Caesar fell in the capitol, or Louis XVI went to the guillotine, or Charles I lost his head at Whitehall. The law of evolution works everywhere, in physics or in government, and the outward forms are the most imperfect of guides to the nature of the structure.

One of the neatest hits in Mr. Altgeld's speech is his pen-picture of the panic of 1893. "Debtors," he says, "were ruined." Nothing at all, observe, about the creditor. The man who owed money and couldn't pay—he lost. But the man who couldn't collect what was due him and saw his securities swept away in the twinkling of an eye—he lost nothing. Would it have been asking too much for John P. Altgeld to say that creditors lost in 1893 as well as debtors? Yes, it would. For there is a man who has no higher aim in this life, no summit of achievement upon which he hopes to look back with devout satisfaction and gratitude at life's sunset, except that he was able to stir up discontent among the lowly and unsuccessful, except that he was able to employ the brain and voice Nature had given him for some inscrutable purpose, to set the masses on fire with rage and anarchistic hatred for everything that stands for peace and dignity and public faith. All that we need to get a despotism in this country is sufficient fertility in the race of Altgelds. When they are numerous enough to make it seem worth while, the Nation will call upon some man on horseback to gather up their rebellious heads in one capacious basket.

The speed, dimensions and equipment of the new armored cruisers for which bids are now asked will apparently make these big fighting machines the equal of any vessels of their class afloat. The United States has suddenly become a world power, and is meeting her increased responsibilities by providing for contingencies. Twenty-two-knot cruisers of 13,800 tons displacement and 2000-ton bunker capacity are potent influences for peace, no matter in what part of the globe they are steaming. Men and money have always been plentiful in the United States, and we soon can add "ships" to our list of war collateral.

WHAT WILL BE DONE AT PEKIN.

The authorities at Pekin, panic-stricken by the capture of Tien Tsin and the gathering storm of foreign justice, have been endeavoring to prevent an advance on Pekin by offering to deliver the Legations safely within our lines. This scheme has failed. Our Government with all the rest refuses to be duped by this transparent trick, and insists that free access to the legations must precede any other action or arrangement with the Chinese authorities. The Chinese Government, as represented by the Empress Dowager, has been the guilty party from the start, according to the latest news, and has only desisted from its atrocious assault on the legations from prudential motives, hoping to obtain a general amnesty for its crimes by a death-bed repentance. The foreign governments could not afford to grant this blanket amnesty even to purchase the absolute safety of the beleaguered legations, for punishment of the guilty officials of the Chinese Government is indispensable, if foreigners hereafter are to obtain any protection from massacre in any part of Asia or Africa.

The appalling crimes which the Pekin Government has permitted and approved call for justice and condign punishment of the guilty officers, high and low, at the Chinese capital, who deliberately turned Pekin over to the mob and have given up four provinces to their ravages. The day of reckoning is at hand, and civilization cannot afford to grant wholesale amnesty for this carnival of blood, even to save the Legations. When the relieving foreign army occupies Pekin, one thing is inevitable—the deposition, exile and imprisonment of the Empress Dowager. Her connection, direct or indirect, with the rising is too clear to be explained away. Her sex may be perhaps pleaded to save her life, but the male chiefs and executives of this conspiracy and massacre deserve death as completely as did the Afghans who were responsible for the murder of the British Envoy, and who were hanged by General Sir Frederick Roberts when he captured Cabul, in 1880.

When stern justice has been inflicted on the Empress and her guilty confederates, high and low, the next step was suggested by Lord Salisbury when he said that if the progressive Emperor is alive he and the party that supported him when he was deposed should be established and maintained in power at Pekin. If he is dead or unfit, then the next best representative of the dynasty should be taken as the nucleus of a stable and responsible government acceptable to both natives and foreigners. This was the mode of procedure when the British in 1880 brought order out of chaos in Afghanistan by placing on the throne at Cabul the present Ameer, Abdur Rahman Khan. When order was restored at Cairo in 1882, the British sent the leader of the insurrection, Arabi Pasha, prisoner to Ceylon, and made the Khedive a mere puppet sovereign of Egypt.

CREATURE PUGNACITY.

The stupid assumption that the Chinese are an unwarlike people, who could not be converted into steady soldiers, recalls the fact that the opponents of the organization of negro troops during the war spoke contemptuously of the fighting capacity of the African race. This contempt was silenced by the conduct of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts at Fort Wagner, and the behavior of our colored regulars at San Juan Hill was so gallant that hereafter none but ignorant men will doubt the pugnacity of the negro. The truth is that some of the negro tribes in Africa are peaceful, non-warlike races, while others are conspicuously warlike. The Mandingoes were peaceful negroes, and for this reason were warred upon and sold as slaves to the white man by their warlike negro captors. So in South Africa. The Hottentot is a peaceful, non-warlike negro compared with the Kaffirs, Zulus and Matabele.

In the 250,000,000 of people that inhabit British India there is the same difference of natural warlike aptitude. The Bengalee is not a fighter. He was never able to hold his own against the invasions of the warlike Mahrattas, and the flower of the Sepoys in the Anglo-Indian army are recruited from the Sikhs, the Rajpoots, the Jats and the Goorkhas. So in China; her 400,000,000 include some native Chinese who are conspicuously more warlike than others. The native Chinese of Hunan are fighters, and so are the men of Shan Tung. So are the people of Yunnan, whose "Black Flags" gave the French in Tonquin a very gallant battle; and so are the Chinese Mohammedans on the western frontier.

The truth is that the vast majority of sane, healthy men make excellent soldiers, when well armed, well disciplined, and above all when well led. Colors and races don't count nearly so much as leadership. Napoleon's armies included many thousands of men who were not Frenchmen by blood or even birth. The army of Hannibal was a mixture of all colors and qualities. If the Chinese ever find a great military leader, they will not fail in war for lack of fighting quality.

The new National currency law has not had the effect on Kansas banks that was predicted by National Bank Examiners when it was passed. They declared that within six months more than fifty state and private banks of Kansas would nationalize. Up to date only six have changed to the National system—the Bank of Commerce, of Garnett; the Stock Growers' & Farmers' Bank, of Ashland; the Caney Valley Bank, of Caney; the Northrup Bank, of Iola; the Bank of Nortonville, and the Citizens' Bank, of Lyons. About thirty state and private banks made application to the Controller of the Currency for charters, but many of them withdrew their applications before they were approved, and several whose applications were approved decided, after investigation, to stick to the state system. Two new National banks were chartered last month—the National Bank of Mount Hope and the Cedarvale National Bank. The first-named is now a private bank, while the latter is an entirely new institution, with I. T. Bradley, of Sedan, as the main backer. While the state system has lost only six banks up to date, with a promise of one more—the Mount Hope—going over to the National system, it has gained fifteen by the organization of new banks. This makes a net gain for the state system of eight since the new currency law took effect. It is not improbable that a similar state of affairs would be disclosed in Oregon if we had any official records of state and private banks, which come and go at their pleasure. Only two additions to the National system have been made under the new law.

Though this is the "dull" season of the year, there is little evidence of dullness in the Northwest. The lumber business is booming, the building trades are more active than they have been before for at least eight years, harvest hands are getting the highest wages paid since pioneer days, transportation lines are crowded with freight, the mines are worked with unprecedented industry, the salmon catch is picking up, and there is general prosperity. The grain fields are not verifying early estimates of a prodigious yield, but it will not be an unmitigated evil if farmers are driven to break the wheat bond and diversify their crops. Wheat and wool are moving slowly, but there is plenty of money to be had on pledges of either. The fruit crop is fair, in many places excellent. The mercantile trade shows slight seasonable dullness, which really means that people are busy taking care of the harvest or on vacation at the Summer resorts. Unusual activity characterizes most lines of industry in this "dull" season.

Replying to Roosevelt's St. Paul speech, Anarchist Altgeld inveighs bitterly against any increase of the permanent Army of the United States, and wants to know what good reason there is for it. Well, for one reason, there is now and then an anarchist Governor like Altgeld. This gentleman, while Governor of Illinois, permitted a mob to have its own sweet way in Chicago, in holding up the traffic of a continent, with accompaniments of riot, fire, dynamite and murder, till President Cleveland had to send United States troops to restore order. The United States Army comes handy, on occasions of this kind. Besides, we are grown to be a great Nation, and have need of more soldiers than fifty years ago, and our international relations are wider. But if we had a regular Army of 100,000 men the proportion of soldiers to population would be much less than in former times.

People who rushed to Cape Nome expected too much. They expected to scoop up gold by the hatful. They were disappointed when they found the place to be but one of many on this old mundane sphere, in no wise more sheltered than the rest of the world from human greed, from man's inhumanity to man. Late reports indicate that it is a very promising mineral region. But it must go through the process of development before its richness is available. This rational industrial development the rushing throng has no patience for, and the unreasonably disappointed are disposed to damn the country wholesale. Most of these might have saved themselves trouble by going back to their primers and chasing the ends of the rainbow for gold.

Ex-Mayor Abram S. Hewitt, of New York, is a lifelong Democrat. But he was compelled to vote against Bryan, on the money issue, in 1896, and now says he will be forced to vote against him again, on the same issue. He makes the following observations about the future of currency, credit and business, and about the Philippines also, in case Bryan should be elected:

> A President hostile to a sound system of finance could, if so disposed, even with the laws as they are at present, bring about financial convulsion and work almost irreparable calamity to the business interests of this country.
>
> If Bryan were elected tomorrow he would find himself confronted with conditions in the Philippines which would make it impossible for him to withdraw American troops from the islands.

The Seattle dispatches indicate that spectators of the Republican convention yesterday got a run for their money. The Governorship contest from King County is evidently to be carried to the state convention, and whichever side wins, the other will know it has been in a fight. The Oregonian will try to print the news of the trouble, merely expressing meanwhile its approval of all legitimate newspaper undertakings and all statesmanlike candidates for the United States Senate.

Little mystery is left about the cause that drew Li Hung Chang out of Canton. He was wanted to keep the allies from marching to the relief of their beleaguered countrymen in Pekin. And he has performed the service with reasonable fidelity. Thirty-five days have elapsed since Sir Robert Hart sent his appeal for rescue.

The reluctance exhibited in New York and New Jersey to aid in prosecution of Bressi's American accomplices, if there are any such, it looks like needless and unbecoming devotion to technicalities. Perhaps the assassination of a King is a political offense, but does the fact of his position prevent it from being murder?

According to Altgeld, the sufferers in 1893 were debtors. Didn't they have any Portland Savings banks in Illinois?

Altgeld gives Bryan a popular vote of 11,000,000 in 1900. Why not make it unanimous?

A German-American on Imperialism and 16 to 1.

Oswald Ottendorfer, editor of the New York Staats-Zeitung, is perhaps as fair a representative of the German-American Democrats as it would be possible to find. He was until recently disposed to support the nominee of his party in this election if he could do so consistently, but now he says he finds himself "discouraged and disheartened." He has studied the Kansas City platform and tried to convince himself that it is his duty to uphold it, but his judgment will not be pushed aside by sentiment, and he is forced to confess that he cannot honestly advocate the election of the Democratic ticket. In this connection he says:

> I believe that, while German-Americans dread imperialism more than anything else, they have an idea that it will take years to inculcate imperialistic notions of our Government. They also think that the rabid expansionists will not dare to go too far. But with free silver it is different. German-Americans always feel uneasy when the financial question is before the country. They are a saving people, and the uncertainty of the value of their savings is bound to agitate them. They insist upon a dollar of any kind of money being worth 100 cents—no more and no less. In fact, while they may know that free silver is dead for at least some years to come, they fear that Bryan's election would encourage the free silverites to continue their fight. They realize, too, that as long as one of the great parties stands on record as indorsing 16 to 1 it gives rise to an uncertainty about our currency, and business of all kinds is bound to suffer.

FAIR QUESTION OR NOT?

Awkward Dilemma in Which an Inquisitive Clubman Put Bryan.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

In Lincoln, Neb., there is a "Round Table Club," organized for the discussion of political and social questions. Mr. Bryan is a member. At a recent meeting the question related to the retention or giving up of the Philippines. The rule of the club is that each speaker shall be limited to five minutes, but Mr. Bryan was voted all the time he desired in which to present his peculiar views. At the close of the discussion, a member having asked and received permission from Mr. Bryan, put to the latter the following query:

"Mr. Bryan, we are of but little importance here, only an atom in the country, but there are millions who are interested in your views. Would you, sir, if elected President, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, order our soldiers to pack up and leave? Would you, sir, as Commander-in-Chief of the Navy, order our ships of war to steam away from Manila?"

Mr. Bryan at once became excited and replied: "You have no right to ask me such questions, sir."

The Washington Star (Rep.) is inclined to think Mr. Bryan was right in his refusal to reply, even in the face of the fact that he had previously invited a question. It says:

"The questions in the circumstances were unfair. He was present as a member of the club, and not as the Democratic candidate for President. The attempt thus to draw him out purely for political purposes was against good taste and good fellowship."

But the fact remains that it was only because he is the Democratic candidate for President that Mr. Bryan was allowed to take up the time of the meeting; also that his speech was a political one purely, defending the ground on which he appeals to the voters for support. The question was germane to the subject he had been discussing, and called for information of importance to every voter, Democratic or Republican. Furthermore, the orators of Mr. Bryan's party are vociferously proclaiming that if Bryan shall be elected he will do the very things named in the question put. If Mr. Bryan feels that he is being misrepresented by his orators, he should have been willing to make the fact known. If, on the contrary, he really proposes, if elected, to "scuttle out" of the Philippines, the people have a right to know it. Mr. Bryan is not entitled to gain votes on the one hand from Americans, who believe in keeping our flag afloat in the Philippines, and on the other from those who believe in the scuttling policy, by a refusal to make known his real intentions in case he is elected. It has heretofore cost him no effort to declare that he would pay the bonds of the United States, principal and interest, in silver dollars, regardless of consequences. Why shouldn't he be equally explicit on the question of scuttling or not scuttling from our island dependencies?

Up to the Supreme Court.

New York Journal of Commerce.

It is quite worth while to have the opinion of the Supreme Court on the question whether the Constitution is in force wherever the sovereignty of the United States exists, and the General Appraisers have passed along to the tribunal of last resort the question whether the United States can collect duties from imports from Hawaii between the annexation of the islands and the establishment of a territorial form of government. The question of duties since the territorial form of government was established is not involved in the case at bar, but it is involved logically, and it is the only question of much practical value because the territorial government will probably last a long time and is likely to be extended over Porto Rico also. On the main point at issue the General Appraisers say the decisions of the courts are at variance if not in inextricable confusion. This is rather to strong. The decisions are not in accord, but it has seemed to us that a very large preponderance of the judicial decisions as well as the executive acts of the Government support the view that the Constitution does not extend to territories acquired by the United States until Congress so orders. The action of the Polk Administration in the case of California was not judicial but executive and political, and in accord with the theory of the pro-slavery party, and the basis of the Dred Scott decision, that Congress could not exclude slavery from the territories because the Constitution, which recognized it, was in existence in the territories. But since the Civil War the Dred Scott decision has not ranked very high as a Constitutional construction.

Electoral Vote of 1896.

	Bryan.	McKinley.
Alabama	11	..
Arkansas	8	..
California	1	8
Colorado	4	..
Connecticut	..	6
Delaware	..	3
Florida	4	..
Georgia	13	..
Idaho	3	..
Illinois	..	24
Indiana	..	15
Iowa	..	13
Kansas	10	..
Kentucky	1	12
Louisiana	8	..
Maine	..	6
Maryland	..	8
Massachusetts	..	15
Michigan	..	14
Minnesota	..	9
Mississippi	9	..
Missouri	17	..
Montana	3	..
Nebraska	8	..
Nevada	3	..
New Hampshire	..	4
New Jersey	..	10
New York	..	36
North Carolina	11	..
North Dakota	..	3
Ohio	..	23
Oregon	..	4
Pennsylvania	..	32
Rhode Island	..	4
South Carolina	9	..
South Dakota	4	..
Tennessee	12	..
Texas	15	..
Utah	3	..
Vermont	..	4
Virginia	12	..
Washington	4	..
West Virginia	..	6
Wisconsin	..	12
Wyoming	3	..
Totals	176	271

The Transplanted Snob.

How Mr. Astor, the naturalized Englishman, is regarded in the land of his adoption appears in the following public comment on his conduct in the Milne case by the Earl of Hardwicke, a representative of the smart set:

> It is a gross violation of the etiquette and respectable traditions hitherto governing the British press. If the owners of newspapers were to imitate Mr. Astor by using their property to insult the individual with whom they have quarreled and advertise their own want of breeding and hospitality, our journals would sink to the level of the organs of the boulevards. We only regret that this gallant officer so far forgot his dignity as to accept a second-hand invitation to the house of a purse-proud American, whose dollars could not save him from the contempt of his countrymen. If Mr. Astor wishes his entertainments exclusive, his desire is likely to be gratified in the future beyond his expectation.

British Opinion.

London Spectator.

Mr. Bryan, should he be elected, may possibly begin by telling the people of the Philippines that he means to make them a free republic under the protection of the United States; but that we venture to think, will not get him out of the islands. While he is thinking of evacuation some incident or some piece of native treachery will require correction. The native will not tolerate that correction any more easily from his friend, Mr. Bryan, than from his oppressor, Mr. McKinley, and very soon the Democratic party will discover that they have to face the dilemma—"either we remain in the Philippines, or else the islands relapse into anarchy and barbarism." But to that there will only be one answer from America, whether it is being ruled by Democrats or Republicans. It will be the same thing in Cuba. The Democrats may talk, and talk quite sincerely, about evacuation, just as Mr. Gladstone and his friends quite sincerely talked about evacuation in Egypt, but they will find the task too heavy for them. The moment America made up her mind that Spain was incapable of ruling her colonies, and that she should be forced to admit it by means of war, that moment America undertook imperial responsibilities from which there was no drawing back.

PASSING OF THE PRAIRIE DOG.

Picturesque but Destructive Creature Whose Days Are Numbered.

Chicago Tribune.

The Agricultural Experiment Station at Lincoln, Neb., has just issued a bulletin which seals the fate of that picturesque little fellow, the prairie dog, the only object that gives vital interest to the monotonous plains of the far West. It is always a relief to run past a prairie dog town in the interminably dull expanse of cactus and sagebrush, but his time has come and he must speedily become an extinct animal, and the holes which have once known him shall know him no more forever.

The industrial forces of civilization are leagued against the prairie dog, and it is his own fault, for, innocent as he looks, he is bad. Like Artemus Ward's kangaroo, he is an "amoosin' little cuss," but he is destructive. He kills out the grass, and as that part of the country frequented by the prairie dog is almost entirely used for grazing purposes, his extermination has been ordered to save the land from his ravages.

The bulletin gives the fatal prescription in minute detail. First, dissolve three ounces of strychnine and one-half pound of potassium cyanide in one quart of boiling water. Then add two quarts of molasses and one teaspoonful of oil of anise. Stir. Then pour the solution over a bushel of wheat and while mixing it together sprinkle in four pounds of finely ground corn meal, which enables the grains of wheat to carry a larger amount of poison. It is a tempting menu for Cynomys Ludovicianus, but one teaspoonful at a hole ends the career of the whole family, and the proportion given above will dispose of a town of 500 acres, the number of families to the acre ranging from 90 to 150.

The bulletin further says that this year the poisoning is being done over a large range of territory, and with gratifying results, so that it is not improbable in a short time the last prairie dog will have disappeared. The railroad traveler, as he crosses the great plains will miss the sight of the little fellows who have added life and gayety to the otherwise monotonous scenery. But they should not have been bad. It is to be regretted that the learned bulletin was not sufficiently explicit. It does not tell what becomes of the prairie dog's boarders, the owl and the rattlesnake, who, though never seen, were once popularly believed to share with him the comforts of a home and to dwell together in delightful concord. Do they also partake of the tempting meal left at the door and pass away with the proprietor and his family, or do they expire of grief as they witness the sad tragedy?

Prohibition in a Maine Town.

Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

A Calais (population of the town by the last census, 7290) store was vacated lately, and immediately five applicants bobbed up and asked for permission to tenant it. And the astonishing statement is made that each man wanted to start a barroom. No, sir; the owner wouldn't let any of those persons have that store. No, sir! You see, within half a mile of the postoffice there are 17 places where liquor is sold, and the owner was afraid that with business cut up that way he wouldn't get his rent.

MEN AND WOMEN.

Jean De Reszke is to try the effect of hot sulphur springs for the benefit of his throat.

Hall Caine's new novel is called "The Eternal City," and Charles Frohman has bought the dramatic rights.

President Loubet, of France, according to Parisian rumor, is to pay a visit to St. Petersburg early in the Fall.

General Cronje, on hearing of the capture of Pretoria, is reported to have remarked: "It had to end so. I saw it from the first, and I think we all did."

Ex-Governor William J. Stone, of Missouri, is to take a Trans-Atlantic trip on a cattle steamer. He is overworked, and thinks the long voyage will be of greatest benefit to him.

Sarah Bernhardt is to revive a former play by Rostand, which, when acted before, met with but little success, but which will now try to shine with reflected glory from its successors.

Colonel Aaron S. Daggett, who is in command of the Fourteenth Infantry, has the reputation of being one of the most pious men in the Army. He does not smoke, drink, swear nor gamble. He is 63 years old, and is a native of Maine.

A copy of "Thomas' New England Almanack, or the Massachusetts Calendar, for the Year of Our Lord Christ 1775," has been presented to Nathaniel Wells, of Ogdensburg, by Lott Hall, of Gouverneur. It has been in the possession of the Hall family ever since the year of issue, and is in good condition.

Thirty-five years ago all England was ringing with the name of Governor Eyre; now he has completely passed out of public memory. This former Governor of Jamaica, whose suppression of revolt in that island created such a ferment in the England of the '60s, is not only alive, but hale and hearty, in his Devonshire retreat. He is 85, and has been enjoying the pension of a retired Colonial Governor for 26 years.

In the last five years that he has been in office Lord Salisbury has created 36 new peers, and of these 10 have been taken from the ranks of the lawyers. They are Lord James of Hereford, Viscount Llandaff (H. Matthews), Lord Rathmore (D. R. Plunket), Lord Kinnear (a Scotch Judge), Lord Ludlow (the late Lord Justice Lopes), Lord Brampton (Sir Henry Hawkins), Sir R. Webster, Sir P. O'Brien and Lord Morris, an ex-Lord of Appeals, who is now made a peer in the United Kingdom.

A Friendly Old World.

St. Louis Republic.

It's a simple and childish old world,
And good, when its weakness you learn;
It likes to be liked, more than anything else,
And it's willing to like in return.
We've called it hard names for so long,
And told of its faults without end,
That it's just a bit hardened and crusty on top,
But it's glad to be friends to a friend.

And, come to take stock of the world,
You've really no cause to stand off;
You're just like the rest of it, full of the faults
At which it's so easy to scoff,
And you'll find, when you're lonesome at times,
As along on life's journey you wend,
If you'll warm your own heart and be good to the world,
It's glad to be friends to a friend.

Yellow Prince of Lies

Cleveland Plaindealer.

Of all the liars of the East
Prince Sheng
Is easily the great high priest,
Is Sheng.
The bones of liars dead are stirred
When his mendacious tales are heard;
In falsifying he's a bird,
Is Sheng.

He has a style that's rather neat,
Has Sheng;
Each lie is rounded and complete,
Per Sheng.
But fate will catch this yellow bloke,
His gods in vain he will invoke;
A bunch of lies the throat will choke
Of Sheng.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

That mob that attacked Jerry Simpson probably thought he ought to be socked.

Of course the price a man pays for a phonograph or a megaphone is sound money.

If Emperor William keeps on at this rate, the Chinese will be reciting "Hoch der Kaiser."

Not being handicapped by Alfred Austin, England ought to do some great things in China.

"I have just invested $10 in change," said the man who returned for a brief excursion to the seaside.

Tacoma is not looking for a victory over Seattle in the matter of population, but she will make the most of her chosen few.

Com Paul is said to be worth $3,000,000, but he will find if he gets into the hands of his pursuers that he is not worth 30 cents.

Lord Roberts dined the other day with the wife of General Botha. As it was not Christmas, General Buller was not bidden to the feast.

Chicago is a radically expansion city. She hopes some day to annex Manila as a suburb, take Havana into the corporation, and make a park of the Hawaiian Islands.

O Li Hung Chang, you foxey chink,
These messages you're sending out
Don't say exactly what you think;
They leave us, so to speak, in doubt.
You say that you're attempting now
To get down to Pekin to try
To stop this bloody Boxer row,
And we, of course, believe you Li.

You say it fills you with regret
That China should be torn with war,
That you can stop it if you get
That march postponed just five days more.
But we are not inclined to stop,
Or let a single day go by,
To give your Boxer friends the drop,
Because, you see, we know you Li.

It is not generally known that Senator Mark Hanna has a strong vein of superstition in him. Living in Cleveland is an old German woman, Frau Gutekunst by name, who has wide local renown as a soothsayer. She does her soothsaying by means of a glass of clear water, and many remarkable prophecies are attributed to her. However that may be, it is well known in Cleveland that Hanna is one of her most constant patrons and consults her very often on matters of great importance, as do many other prominent business men of that city. Frau Gutekunst is most sparing in her favors, and it is a most difficult matter to get her to tell one's fortune if he be unknown to her.

The Duke and Duchess of York are enthusiastic cyclists and ride about the country roads near their lodge at Sandringham in very democratic fashion. Once while some distance from home one of the tires of the Duchess' machine got punctured. A young man, also on a wheel, was passing at the time and offered assistance to the party. He put matters right, and the Duke, thanking him, said: "No doubt you would like to know to whom you have done this kindness. This lady is the Duchess of York and I am the Duke." The young fellow stared at them fixedly for a moment, and, with a smile on his face, replied in a jocular manner: "Only too pleased to be of service to the lady. Perhaps you would like to know who I am, too; I am the German Emperor!" And with a somewhat knowing wink and a twirl of the head the cyclist jumped on his machine and rode off, no doubt under the impression that he had scored by his smart attempt at repartee.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Farewell.—Great Actor—I propose making a farewell tour of the provinces. What play would you advise? Critic—"Much Ado About Nothing."—Detroit Journal.

Mr. Flyhigh—Of course, you're well acquainted with the country round about here. Do you know Glen Accron? Native—Aye, weel. Mr. Flyhigh (who has just bought the estate)—What sort of a place is it, in your opinion? Native—Well, if ye saw the de'il tethered on't, ye'd just say, "Pulr bruts."—Glasgow Evening Times.

Safe.—"Well, sir," remarked the observant passenger after watching the conductor collect eight fares and ring up five, "you need never be afraid of being struck by lightning." "Why not?" asked the trusted employe. "Because," replied the observant passenger, "it is evident you are not a good conductor."—Philadelphia Press.

The Outward Signs.—The passenger in the sleeping-car, awakened by the stopping of the train, pushed aside the blind and looked out. "'Blitz & Schlatz,' 'Kumpff & Donnerwetter,' 'Schlegel & Knopff,' 'Leopold Schwartzenhelmer,'" he said, reading the business signs that met his eye. Well, I see we've got to Milwaukee."—Chicago Tribune.

Flank Movement.—"Say," said the man with the hobo appearance, "could you put something in the paper for me?" "What is it?" asked the easiest man on the force. "Well, let's see. You might make it a cheese sandwich, half a cold chicken, an' a quart of beer. If you don't feel like the trouble of wrappin' all them things in the paper, jis' gimme the price an' I'll tend to it meself."—Indianapolis Press.

His Assets.—"Yes, sir," said the colored citizen, with a wave of his hand toward the cabin. "I'se done broke. I reckon I's what dey calls a 'bankrup'." "What are your assets?" "Lemme see. Dar's me an' de three boys, an——" "You misunderstand; your assets are what you have hopes of realizing money on." "Dat's what I's gettin' to. My assets ain' nuffin' but fo' votes an' a mule."—Washington Star.

BACHELOR HYPOCHONDRIA.

The woman who tries to be interesting makes quite as big a fool of herself as the one that doesn't.

The only reason we can ascribe for Swiss or cheese-cloth over decollete is that perhaps it keeps off the flies.

We may have seen a more ecstatic spectacle than black corsets under white organdy, but our folks don't remember it.

When girls are confabing and a man is in hearing proximity it does beat all how loudly and confidentially they do talk.

A girl who wants to keep her fiance, for sundry and diverse unmentionable reasons, never lets him visit her at the seaside.

When a woman speculates in values, she is wondering just how much Mrs. Smith next door