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

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22

RAILROADS AND RIVER.

A word of explanation should, perhaps, accompany the statement of Assistant General Freight Agent Fulton, of the Northern Pacific, printed elsewhere. It will be remembered that Traffic Manager Campbell, of the O. R. & N., in the article to which Mr. Fulton makes reference, introduced the matter of switching charges from Portland to the grain docks at Albina, and extended to the Northern Pacific the offer of a rate of $5 per car for that service. This offer, it appears, is not satisfactory to the Northern Pacific, which submits that $2 per car is sufficient, and instances its own charges elsewhere in evidence. As The Oregonian remarked in connection with Mr. Campbell's statement, this offer concerning switching cars from Portland to Albina introduces a new element into the controversy; and as the Wallula arrangement has manifestly ceased to operate, the whole controversy practically simmers down to the difference between $5 and $3 a car.

The strategic purpose of the Northern Pacific in this matter is obvious. It seeks to place the O. R. & N. in the position of keeping its Albina grain yards practically closed to the Northern Pacific, and therefore to such shippers as may desire to use the Northern Pacific into Albina by way of Kalama, through a tariff of $5 per car for switching service across the river. The general public is not, perhaps, fully informed that the last few years have witnessed the practical concentration of Portland's grain docking facilities in Albina, where they are reached by the O. R. & N. tracks. Within a year past one firm has been doing business satisfactorily in West Side docks reached by the Northern Pacific. But the bulk of the business is done at Albina, where nearly all the facilities are. Such grain as comes to Portland, therefore, is in the natural course of things destined for Albina. It is the desire of the Northern Pacific, therefore, to reach the Albina docks as cheaply as possible, whether via Wallula or across the steel bridge in Portland harbor. It is the desire of the O. R. & N., on the other hand, to haul as much as possible of the Eastern Washington wheat over its own lines to Albina.

It is not The Oregonian's intention at this time to render a decision as to the merits of the controversy, partly because the evidence is not all in, and partly because railroads should be allowed to run their affairs without public interference except when they plainly contravene the vital interests of the community. It has endeavored to obtain the opposing views of the two roads, and to set their testimony before its readers with completeness and impartiality. Each of these roads is very jealous of its reputation as a friend of Portland. Each should receive credit for the good it does, and censure for the bad. The O. R. & N. is anxious to retain for its own lines the traffic of the country it touches, and in that sense it may truly be said to be working for Portland's interests. Yet the occasion may arise when Portland's interests and the O. R. & N.'s interests clash, and when that occasion arises the management of the O. R. & N. will stand by the road, for that is its duty.

The Northern Pacific, on the other hand, is interested in building up its Puget Sound terminals, and would be money in pocket if it could ship all the Eastern Washington wheat to Tacoma for shipment, without the necessity of bringing any of it on to Portland or paying tribute in any way to the O. R. & N. It would like to do this in such a way as to throw the odium of the transaction upon the O. R. & N. If the O. R. & N. says that $5 per car is as cheap as it can handle grain across the river without a loss, the Northern Pacific will reply that it is the duty of the O. R. & N. to stand by Portland and help it ship grain, whereas the Northern Pacific is under no profession of loyalty to Portland, and thinks its duty is done when it makes the same rates here that it makes to Tacoma.

Looming up behind all these questions is the portentous background of an open river to the sea. The great fact for Portland to beat into its hard old head every day is that a deep, open channel the year round is the sine qua non of shipping here. It makes little difference to grain exporters whether they load wheat here or at Tacoma. If the ship is at Tacoma, the wheat must be hauled there somehow. If it is at Portland, the railroads must haul the wheat to Portland. As to rates, they will be the same. Whatever price the O. R. & N. makes down the Columbia to Portland, just that price the Northern Pacific must make to Tacoma. The ships will go where they can do the best. The sure way to force the Northern Pacific to bring grain to Portland is to make this a cheap port, so that the ships will insist on coming here. Then there will be docks enough, East Side or West. If the O. R. & N. can build a dock at Albina, the Northern Pacific can build docks on the West Side. And maybe it will.

Mr. Stevenson, of Colorado, and Lee Mantle, upon resigning their places as chairmen of their respective Silver Republican state committees, in order to support McKinley and Roosevelt, pronounce "free silver at 16 to 1" an utterly dead issue. "Silver," asserts Mr. Mantle, "is no longer the paramount issue; the real issue is the supremacy of the flag wherever it is floating."

PROSPEROUS GERMANY.

Numbers of people in this country have imbibed a philosophy of trade that will render them dumb with surprise at hearing that Germany is prospering mightily, notwithstanding the tremendous volume of goods she is buying from the United States and other countries. How a land can be well fixed which we are continually despoiling with exports of foodstuffs and manufactures will seem strange to followers of extreme tariff apostles. Yet such is the painful and oppressive fact. Germany not only buys heavily from us, but she actually seems to grow fat upon the drastic medicine. Her imports are increasing in marked degree, and, like our own, they tend to show a decrease in fully manufactured goods, the growth being mainly in raw and half-finished materials for use in the process of manufacture. Thus, in 1897, the import of iron amounted to 31,856,000 metric centners, in 1898 to 35,166,000 centners, and in 1899 to 41,654,000 centners. Undyed woolen yarns rose from 24,287 centners in 1897 to 27,496 centners in 1898, and 32,314 centners in 1899.

These and other useful things Germany is able to afford from the world's market-places she pays for with increased production of various sorts. Between 1872 and 1879 the value of German exports increased about $82,000,000, or equal to fully 13 per cent. Between 1880 and 1888 there was an increase of about $115,000,000, or equal to nearly 14 per cent. Between 1889 and 1896 there was an increase of $124,000,000, or equal to over 15 per cent. That is to say, there has not only been a steady increase from the early '70s, but the ratio of increase has been growing more rapid. There was a slight increase in 1898 over the values of 1896, and in 1899 the value advanced $60,000,000 over that of three years before.

In the great staples of coal and iron, Germany is doing great things. In coal the average annual production of the years 1870-74 was 32,278,000 tons, equal to 0.79 ton per head of the population. Ten years later this production had risen to 52,192,000, or 1.15 tons per head of the population. By 1890-94 the average annual production of coal was 73,184,000, or equal to 1.14 per head, and in the three years 1895-97 inclusive it reached an annual average of 85,290,000, or 1.61 tons per head of the population. Comparing the annual production of 1896 and 1897, there is a growth of 29 per cent, but if the comparison be extended further, covering the latest decennial period between 1890 with an output of 70,238,000 tons and in 1899 with an output of 101,622,000 tons, there is a growth of 44.7 per cent. The growth in the production of pig iron has been still more remarkable. The average annual product of the years 1870-74 was 1,818,000, while by 1880-84 it was 3,219,000, and for 1890-94 the average had reached 4,920,000 tons. But this is very much below the production of the last two years, which shows for 1898 a total of 7,313,000 tons and for 1899 of 8,142,000 tons.

The empire's chief dependence, however, is on textiles. This industry employs nearly a million of persons, as against 640,000 in the manufacture of metals. On textiles Germany depends for the volume of her exports more than upon any other branch of her trade. It appears that in Rhineland and Westphalia the number of spindles in the cotton mills was 717,000 in 1888; it was 1,636,000 in 1897. They consumed 226,000 metric centners of raw cotton in 1885 and 470,000 in 1897. In the German carded woolen mills in 1888 there were 685,000 spindles, and in 1897 1,850,000 spindles. In the most important iron works and collieries in Germany the rate of dividends has shown a steady increase. There was an average distribution of 10.86 per cent in 1896-97, as against 7.59 per cent in 1895-96 and 5.45 per cent in 1894-95. The dividends paid in 1898 in a number of typical industries—iron, cement, etc.—exceeded by 1 per cent or more those paid in 1897. The growth of banking reflects these industrial activities. The business of the Reichsbank rose in value from 1,834,000,000 marks in 1876 to 6,066,000,000 marks in 1895, an increase of 231 per cent in twenty years, and the profits of the same institution showed an increase from 18,496,000 marks in 1895 to 28,018,000 marks in 1898. As between the total issues of German banks, amounting to 1,419,000,000 marks in 1894 and 2,697,000,000 marks in 1898, there is certainly an enormous expansion. It appears, also, that of the issues of 1894 96,000,000 marks represented investments in industrial shares, while out of those of 1898 the same kind of securities accounted for 477,000,000.

ANOTHER IN THE RACE.

Attention has frequently been drawn in these columns to the systems of direct primary nominations in use at Lincoln and Minneapolis. An effort will be made at Salem this Winter to provide such a system for the State of Oregon. One important state, however, is pretty sure to give us a close race for the first legal adoption of direct primaries. That state is Wisconsin.

The character of Wisconsin's citizenship is celebrated for its high standard, intellectually and morally. Its party organizations have vied with each other in putting forward worthy candidates and advancing sound measures. They are now declaring for direct primary nominations. The Republican nominee for Governor this year, Robert M. La Follette, is a man worthy the best traditions of Wisconsin public life. What he says about the Republican declaration for direct primary nominations is so pertinent and vigorous that we reproduce it entire. Mr. La Follette said:

> But, gentlemen of the convention, with all of your good work, nothing which you have done, nothing which has been done by any convention in a quarter of a century, will give to every man who has had a share in the work such enduring honor when it shall have ripened into statutory law, as the declaration made here today for the nomination of all candidates by direct vote at a primary election under the Australian ballot. The tests of experience will doubtless be required to perfect all the working details of a primary election law. It would be strange indeed if it were not so. But your great achievement is in having established the principle, and begun the overthrow of a system that is undermining representative government throughout the land. No longer in Wisconsin will there stand between the voter and the official, a political machine with a complicated system of caucuses and conventions, by the easy manipulation of which it thwarts the will of the voter and rules official conduct. No valid reason can be given for continuing the caucus and convention another day. If the voter is competent to cast his ballot at the general election for the official of his choice, he is equally competent to vote directly at a primary election for the nomination of the candidates of his party. It is his right as a citizen and taxpayer, and who will dare to gainsay or deny it?
>
> Inspired with confidence by the great reformation accomplished in our general elections through the Australian ballot, we advance the standards of reform and demand the application of the same method in making nominations, together with the sovereign right that each citizen shall for himself exercise his choice by direct vote, without the intervention or interference of any political agency.

Direct primary nominations constitute a forward step in self-government. The maintenance of conventions with delegates is no more necessary than is perpetuation of the exploded fiction that Legislatures can choose Senators or that electoral colleges can choose Presidents more wisely than the people. It is a reform that is coming in. Oregon should be at the head of the procession.

SPIRIT, NOT BLOOD, MAKES THE MAN.

Mr. Bryan, on the 15th inst., at Chicago, addressed a crowd of "Irish-Americans." So eloquent was his tribute to the Irish race that some one on the platform yelled, "Your name ought to be O'Bryan." Mr. Bryan replied that the original name was Bryan. Thus proclaiming his Irish descent, Mr. Bryan won the favor of his hearers and was roundly cheered. This is all very shallow stuff, but it is not a whit more stupid than the tiresome controversy between correspondents that has recently raged in the columns of the New York Sun as to whether President McKinley is of Scotch ancestry, or what is termed Scotch-Irish, or of plain Irish lineage. Of what sort of consequence is it of what lineage a statesman is? The question is not one of blood, but of spirit; not whether he is Scotch or Irish, but whether he is a true American. Examine the list of the public men who organized the American Revolution; who fought it to a victorious close, who framed the American Constitution and governed the country until 1824, when the younger Adams was elected President, and what do we find? We find men of various lineage but identical spirit. Washington, Adams, Madison, Marshall and Franklin were of English, Jefferson of Welsh, Monroe of Scotch, ancestry. John Jay was of Huguenot lineage; John Rutledge of Irish descent, as were Charles Carroll, George Clinton, Generals Knox and Sullivan. Alexander Hamilton was half Scotch and half French, born in Nevis, one of the West India Islands. Albert Gallatin, Jefferson's Secretary of the Treasury, was born and bred in Switzerland. William Wirt, Monroe's Attorney-General, was of Swiss parentage. Martin Van Buren was of Dutch ancestry. Calhoun, Jackson, Clay, Polk, Buchanan, Arthur, were of Scotch-Irish stock, that is, descendants of Scotch who settled in the Province of Ulster, consisting of the nine northern counties of Ireland, and who in the middle of the seventeenth century began to emigrate to America.

This Scotch-Irish emigration settled in Maine and New Hampshire in considerable numbers, but its great bulk settled in Pennsylvania and the Carolinas, and the overflow from these states settled Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee. Many of them became pioneers in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. General Anthony Wayne, Commodore Perry, Sam Houston, Winfield Scott, Patrick Henry, Tom Corwin, Tom Ewing, Robert Y. Hayne, McDuffie, Blaine, Robert Fulton, were all of this stock. But what of it? It is of no more consequence than the fact that Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Chauncey Depew, of New York, and Hugh S. Legare, of South Carolina, came of Huguenot stock, or that Stephen Girard, the American merchant and philanthropist, was of French blood. It is of no more consequence than the fact that Commodore Vanderbilt was of Dutch ancestry, while Collis P. Huntington, his alter ego in vast brains for business and industrial combinations, and generalship, was a Connecticut Yankee of English stock. It is of no more consequence than the fact that Admirals Farragut and Dupont were of French blood, while Admiral Dewey is of Puritan Yankee descent. It is of no more consequence than the fact that Grant was of Scotch ancestry, while Sheridan was the son of Irish immigrants, or than the fact that Governor Roosevelt is half Irish and half Dutch, while General Sherman was the child of a long line of Puritan Connecticut Yankees of English stock.

The names that stand for glory and the names that stand for shame in the history of either Great Britain or America are the exclusive property of no particular race lineage. Benedict Arnold had as good a line of Connecticut Puritan ancestry as General Sherman. Aaron Burr was of English stock. Thomas A. Hendricks was of Scotch-Irish stock; but then so is Adlai E. Stevenson, and just here we find the origin of the discord between orators who speak of the Anglo-Saxon race and those who dispute the propriety of such language. There is no such thing as an Anglo-Saxon race today in either England or America, but there is such a thing as the spirit of Anglo-Saxon civilization and institutions, as exhibited by both England and America. We are not Anglo-Saxons; we are Americans; and Great Britain is not Anglo-Saxon; her people are Englishmen, whether they are born north of the Tweed, on the banks of the Shannon or in the heart of Yorkshire, so long as they are loyal upholders of English institutions, law and government. Without reference to mere lineage, both America and England stand for what we mean by the spirit of Anglo-Saxon civilization, which predominates in both countries in distinction from the spirit of Latin civilization represented by France, Italy and Spain. Lord Roberts is an Irishman by birth and yet he is every bit as loyal an Englishman as if he had been born and bred in Devonshire. It is the spirit and the environment, not family descent, that make a man a true American or a true Englishman. The blood that courses in his veins may date back to the Latin race, but if his environment has made him a legitimate growth of American institutions, then he is a true American. One of the songs of the Grant campaign of 1868 included the lines:

> And should men ask his birthplace,
> Our sole reply shall be
> He comes from Appomattox and its famous apple tree.

This was enough certificate for Grant, without examining his genealogy. He had proved that he was a true American. It is of no sort of consequence whether Bryan is of Irish descent with or without the "O"; it is of no consequence whether McKinley is of Scotch or Irish descent; the only question is whether he is a true American.

The latest news from China seems to establish the important fact that the whole outbreak was a governmental one, wearing the face of the Boxer insurrection as a mask. The government troops made a desperate effort to force the defenses of the Legations the day before the army of relief arrived, and if the relieving force had been a day later the foreign envoys would either have been massacred or obliged to surrender. The confidential adviser of the Emperor was the leader of the Imperial troops that in eleven days threw 2000 shells at the foreign defenses. The letters of Generals Tung Fu Sian and Yung Lu avow the deepest hate for the "foreign devils" and the determination to murder them all with the assistance of the Boxers. General Tung Fu Sian says that China possesses cannon and rifles and plenty of well-trained troops, and that he does not fear the foreigners, whom he considers cowards of small populations and "entirely dependent on Chinese productions." Of course, this language is expressive of Chinese ignorance and conceit. Nevertheless, it makes clear the guilty responsibility of the Generals of the Pekin Government. The flight of the Empress under the circumstances is the most natural thing in the world; she knows her guilt cannot be denied, and fears to submit to the consequences.

It is certainly a pleasant thrill of excitement that visits the community in prospect of a railroad from Frankfort to Ilwaco, and perhaps another from Portland to Frankfort, by way of a bridge at Vancouver. It is not at all improbable that the future will see two railroads, one on each bank of the Lower Columbia. Whatever becomes of the Astoria Railroad, those interests not represented in its ownership will want a separate outlet down the river. Supplemented with realization of all its building plans in the upper country, a railroad to the mouth of the river would give the O. R. & N. perfect facilities for marketing the products of the Columbia basin and distributing merchandise throughout it from Portland as a center. The preliminary work of such projects is not likely to be delayed until plans are frustrated by rivals. Hence it is under way now, in good season. Competitive railroads are desirable in more places than one. When the Northern Pacific has its own tracks down the Columbia and ample terminal facilities at Portland, it will not be so anxious as it is now to build up its Puget Sound points.

The application of the fugitive Pekin Government for peace will be treated with no respect by the allies until they are in full possession of the whole of Pekin, and have taken into custody for trial the guilty members of its government, who are responsible for the recent outbreak of hostility against foreigners and its consequent murders and massacres of innocent, unoffending persons. The promise that the Empress and the Emperor will not be treated with personal indignity ought not to mean that the Empress will not be dethroned and severely punished. Cromwell did not treat Charles I with personal indignity, but nevertheless the King was arrested, put on trial and beheaded. While the Empress Dowager richly deserves death, it probably would not be good public policy to execute her, but she ought not to be allowed to continue to remain at the head of the central government of China.

Elsewhere we print the result of expert Government inspection of Oregon's coal deposits, including that of the Upper Nehalem country. It is earnestly to be desired that Portland might be interested in the development of its outlying coal fields. Here is a substantial deposit of coal, only 30 miles from Portland, susceptible of successful working only through a railroad. There is a possibility that the coal is not a commercial proposition as to quantity and quality. But the facts ought to be known. Cheap coal near at hand is one of the foundation elements of a great city here at Portland. If necessary, Portland should test the coal, and if it is good enough and plenty enough, Portland capital should buy the property, build a railroad to it, and develop the mines.

The death of C. P. Huntington removes one great obstacle to the construction of the Nicaragua Canal. Because of his Pacific railroad interests, which he erroneously thought would be injured by a canal, Mr. Huntington always threw his powerful influence against the construction of one. He had for years employed a former chief of statistics in the Treasury Department, Joseph Nimmo, to write and lecture against the canal, and he expended large sums in his opposition to it. His successors are young enough to appreciate the folly of wasting money in a useless effort to prevent the construction of a canal that would benefit the entire Nation, the Pacific railroads included.

The news that the wire between Pekin and Tien Tsin has been cut, and that Chinese troops are moving against the communications need excite no alarm, for the first German contingent of troops has arrived, which ought to prove ample reinforcements to secure the position of the allies at Pekin.

Lieutenant Wood's activity in behalf of a ransom for Arthur Venville reflects a public spirit and state pride, the more commendable from his being a newcomer. His example might well be emulated by many of the oldest inhabitants.

The Point of View.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

The humbug business of trying to make it appear that by talking for ten columns on anti-imperialism instead of free silver Bryan has transformed himself from a reckless and dangerous charlatan into a thoughtful and eloquent statesman, does not appear to be attractive to healthy and vigorous minded Gold Democrats here and elsewhere. Wheeler H. Peckham waves the nauseating dose aside with characteristic lack of ceremony, saying: "I have not read the speech, and I do not propose to slander any moments' leisure, as Shakespeare puts it, in reading such stuff as that." Senator Lindsay, of Kentucky, is equally unmoved. "By ignoring silver," he says, "Bryan will not gain the vote of the Gold Democrats, and in my opinion he will lose support among radical silver men." There are no signs that any Gold Democrat who had not decided to vote for Bryan before this speech was made has been influenced by it to go over to him now. It would be strange if any man were to be so influenced, since Bryan himself declares that his silver views have not been modified in the least by his views on imperialism. The average Gold Democrat is far less emotional and impressionable than the average anti-imperialist, for the latter needs only to hear his own views pouring back to him out of the mouth of Bryan to clasp his hands in admiration and exclaim, with moist eyes: "How eloquent, how beautiful and how true! How Bryan has grown in mental stature, literary grace and moral grandeur!"

BRYAN'S BID FOR IMMORTALITY.

Use of the Phonograph in Politics, Dispassionately Viewed.

Chicago Tribune.

No matter what may be the result of the election in November, William Jennings Bryan is assured of immortality so long as the phonograph remains in use. For the greater part of Monday afternoon, the Nebraska orator thundered into the business end of a phonographic recorder. These records are to be multiplied indefinitely and sent abroad all over the country, so that the faithful everywhere may listen to the inspired voice of the "peerless leader." It now remains only to start out a moving picture exhibition, which shall show Mr. Bryan reaping his five acres of wheat in overalls and big straw hat to complete the illusion. And even when the election day has passed the records made on Monday will not lose all their value. Long after the second term of President McKinley has gone into history one can imagine the "barker" in front of the phonograph exhibition-room shrieking, "Come in and listen to the ravings of John McCullough and the Indianapolis speech of William Jennings Bryan. Only 1 cent."

Incidentally, the mechanical campaign orator seems to possess many points of advantage over the usual article. It will never suffer from a cold in the head, for instance, or get hoarse from too much speaking. It will never get "mad" and refuse to speak unless it is given the best place on the programme. Most important of all, it will never wear out an audience by continuing its speech after the people have reached the limit of their endurance.

Hereafter when the first symptoms of impatience appear the chairman of the meeting will simply turn off the machine, remove the Bryan cylinder, and insert in its place an Altgeld or Webster Davis cylinder. Possibly before the campaign is entirely over it will be possible to get phonographic records from Aguinaldo and other Democratic spellbinders who are prevented by circumstances from taking any more active part in the campaign.

Altogether the phonograph departure in campaign methods is one of the most interesting made in recent years. It offers endless opportunities in the hands of an ingenious campaign manager. But it would hardly be fair to judge of its usefulness by the effect of its work in the campaign now beginning.

Does This Sound Familiar?

The Indianapolis Journal reproduces extracts from the Indianapolis Sentinel in 1864. Here are three of them:

"Have not the people daily evidence that Abraham Lincoln is assuming the power — the despotic power — to enable him to pay his debts and replenish his overdrawn coffers, exhausted by extravagance and ambitious strife for power?"

"More than eighteen hundred years ago Rome was governed by three men at the end of that republic. One was Caesar. They were all of noble blood. And we, too, have our triumvirate—Lincoln, Stanton, Halleck; but, unfortunately, neither of them can boast a very high descent. There succeeded an Emperor, who could fiddle when Rome was burning. We also have our Emperor, Lincoln, who can tell stale jokes whilst the land is running red with the blood of brothers."

"Should Mr. Lincoln be re-elected the revolution will be accomplished. This will be no longer a Republic of the United States, but a consolidated empire. Every safeguard must sooner or later give way. The limitations of the executive power will not be in the Constitution, but in the pleasure of the President. We implore patriotic and intelligent men to pause and reflect and give their verdict on Tuesday next. If the people will not save their priceless Constitution and Union it is lost."

These extracts were reproduced as an illustrative commentary upon similar attacks now being made by the same paper on William McKinley, in which he also is classed as the same sort of a Nero that it called Lincoln 36 years ago. In a tenth part of the time it has taken the Sentinel to learn that Lincoln was among the best embodiments of the spirit of liberty, and of the highest republican ideals, instead of the tyrant and monster it depicted him, it will learn to be equally ashamed of the hard names it now bestows on McKinley, and to recognize him as worthy to stand in history side by side with Lincoln as one of the great liberators of downtrodden races from tyranny and oppression.

What Bryan Stands For.

Carl Schurz, at Chicago, Sept. 5, 1896.

And at what price will the ultimate result be gained in case of Mr. Bryan's election? At the price of the most violent and destructive crisis on record, such a crisis as can only be brought on by a sudden subversion of the standard of values and of the whole business credit. At the price of indefinite business paralysis and distress. At the price of the ruthless spoliation of the savings accumulated by the toiling masses. At the price of robbing our war veterans of half the value of their pensions. At the price of greatly increasing the number of unemployed by discouraging enterprise and of curtailing the value of wages of those remaining at work. At the price of the respect of the world for our intelligence and practical sense. And worse, far worse than all this, at the price of something that has never been forfeited since this Republic was born—at the price of the greatest good a nation can possess and for the preservation of which it should shed its last drop of blood—at the price of our National honor. For the Nation, so rich and powerful, would stand before the world as a wanton, reckless repudiator, as nothing better than a fraudulent bankrupt. This will be the cost of the experiment. Are you willing to pay this price?

Fellow-citizens, it is a grave matter, a matter of vital import to the existence of this Nation. The public men who teach such moral principles to the people educate the people for the contempt and abhorrence of mankind. The nation that accepts such moral principles cannot live. It will rot to death in the loathsome stew of its own corruption. If the Nation accepting such moral principles be this Republic, it will deal a death blow to the credit of the democratic institutions, from which the cause of free government will not recover for centuries.

It Was Huntington's Offer.

New York Sun.

The death of Collis P. Huntington makes it proper to say now that he was the "Responsibility" who offered through the Sun a year ago the prizes of $700 in what was widely known at the time as "The Man Without the Hoe" competition.

The shallow and meretricious philosophy of Edwin Markham's verses provoked in Mr. Huntington's mind a desire to see the true dignity of manual labor asserted with poetical strength and grace of expression. He believed that no calling was more honorable than that of the man with the hoe. Himself a great captain of industry through many years of his extraordinarily active and successful career, he understood the opportunities open to the American who is not afraid or ashamed to work with his hands, when work for the hands is all that offers.

It will be news to many people that Mr. Huntington concerned his mind with questions like these. There is no parallel that we can recall to his generous offer to the poets; an offer inspired by a deep and genuine intellectual and moral interest in the suggested theme, and made under the express condition that the identity of "Responsibility" should not be disclosed, that he might not be suspected of any desire to advertise himself, or to seem to pose with patronage of any sort.

That Mr. Huntington's prizes did not elicit any poetical production adequate to his own ideal was to be expected. The incident, however, is not the less honorable to his memory.

A Fable for Editors.

London Academy.

By way of practical joke, a typewritten copy of Scott's "Ivanhoe" was recently sent round to the publishers under the title "When John Was England's King." It was returned in every case, among the letters of rejection being the following:

"Messrs. Macmillan & Co. regret to have to return 'When John Was England's King'; but they fear that interest in historical fiction is diminishing. Their reader's report of the story is in the main favorable, but he points out that the charge of imitating 'The Forest Lovers,' one of Messrs. Macmillan's recent publications, might, perhaps, be difficult to rebut. In his opinion, the author of 'When John Was England's King' would perhaps have made a better and more readable book had he studied Mr. Hewlett more carefully."

"Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton must decline 'When John Was England's King' in its present form, but if a few modifications were made, they feel that the story might be very popular and profitable. The author, they would suggest, might advantageously substitute a Christian girl for the Jewess, Rebecca. Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton having noticed, in their long experience, that there is more money in Christianity than in Hebraism, at any rate in books. They would also recommend an infusion of Scotch dialect; and a pathetic scene between Ivanhoe and his mother—if it could be arranged—would, they feel convinced, add to the story's vogue."

"Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co. would willingly publish 'When John Was England's King' if the author would make a few alterations. They beg to bring to his notice the accompanying works by Mr. Guy Boothby, an acceptable writer in their employ, and suggest that he should adapt the story to the minds of Mr. Boothby's numerous readers. By giving Ivanhoe more dash and address, by modernizing and accelerating the style, and removing much of the antiquarian padding, this effect would, they feel sure, be attained."

"Mr. John Murray begs to return the MS. of 'When John Was England's King' and to quote a passage from his reader's report thereon: 'I do not recommend this novel, although it is painstaking and thorough. The author would, I think, have been wiser had he chosen another name for his hero. Ivanhoe has already been used by Sir Walter Scott.'"

"Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. thank the author of 'When John Was England's King' for the offer of his story as a serial for the Cornhill Magazine, but are obliged reluctantly to return it, having made arrangements for a number of serials by Mr. S. R. Crockett."

P. S.—The foregoing correspondence is, of course, absolutely fictitious.

Couldn't Believe It.

Chicago Tribune.

"Who is this Lincoln that Bryan is talkin' about so much in his speeches?" inquired the grizzled old fellow who had come in from Snake River Bottom to hear the news.

"President Lincoln, of course," replied the country grocer.

"Not Old Abe?"

"Certainly. Why?"

"Nothin'," said the grizzled old party, taking a big bite of plug tobacco and crunching it savagely in his jaws, "only I've lost a shoat on it."

And Mr. Bryan probably has lost a vote.

A Gift to the Chinese Empress.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Dowager Empress of China was the recipient on the occasion of her 60th birthday of an interesting presentation from the Ministers of England and America. This consisted of a copy of the New Testament, bound in silver covers and enclosed in a chased silver casket, subscribed for by the Christian women of China. On one cover was a gold plate bearing the words, "Holy Classic of Salvation." The subscribers numbered about 10,000, and the cost of the presentation amounted to $1250.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The little King of Spain prefers bull-fighting to any imported sports. Some one recently asked him if he played golf. "I do not," he replied, "and I thank Heaven that I prefer the amusements of Spain to those of Scotland or any other country."

President Loubet, of France, is a musician—a fact scarcely known even in his own country—and not only plays the piano and violin with remarkable skill, but composes, so it is said, some music worthy of men who have given their life to that art.

A Washington stenographer who is often called in to assist the White House corps says: "President McKinley is the ideal man for a stenographer. He speaks just fast enough, with a perfect distinctness, and never hesitates for a word. Unlike most men, he evidently knows exactly what he is going to say before he tries to say it."

The Emperor of Austria is one of the most democratic of sovereigns, so far as his own personality is concerned. When in a city in other than his official capacity, he insists on walking about a great deal, and has thus made many friends who have to this day no idea that he is the ruler of the Austrian Empire.

Mayor Carter Harrison, of Chicago, tried to run an electric automobile recently, with results that were almost disastrous. He inadvertently turned on all the power, and the wagon dashed away at a terrible speed. Fortunately, however, it brought up safely against a telegraph post before any damage was done.

A pretty story is told of the late King Humbert and Queen Margharita. The Queen, it seems, had a strong partiality for white dresses, but with the advancing years she feared that they looked too girlish and affected, and asked the King what he thought about it. He replied that he would think it over. A few days after she received a box containing half a dozen white dresses fresh from Paris, with her husband's compliments.

Professor DuBois, one of the leading negroes of Atlanta, who is a doctor of philosophy at Harvard, and who has been collecting statistics of the education of the negro, says he found that there are 4214 negroes in the country who have received degrees from an educational institution of some kind, including 235 women. Reports from these show that they have an average assessed valuation of property of $2500.

The Hayloft.

Robert Louis Stevenson.

Through all the pleasant meadowside,
The grass grew shoulder high,
Till the shining scythes went far and wide,
And cut it down to dry.

These green and sweetly smelling crops,
They led in wagons home;
And they piled them here in mountain tops,
For mountaineers to roam.

Here is Mount Clear, Mount Rusty Nail,
Mount Eagle and Mount High;
The mice that in these mountains dwell,
No happier are than I!

Oh, what a joy to clamber there,
Oh, what a place for play,
With the sweet, the din, the dusty air,
The happy hills of hay!

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Closer time and shorter connection to North Beach are reasonably certain for next year.

Yes, Maudie, your friend in the Naval Reserve is quite right. The spar deck is where they box the compass.

The Milk Producers' Exchange of New York may fall down in its arrangements with the Milk Exchange. If such a calamity should happen it might strain the milk.

Goebelism is on the wane in Kentucky. Last November Campbell County gave Goebel 61 majority for Governor. On August 4, at a special election, it gave the Republican candidate for State Senator a majority of 170. The Blue Grass State is waking up to the deep-laid Democratic plot to rob it of the ballot.

February 14, 1901, will mark the centennial of the day when John Marshall, of Virginia, the first Chief Justice of the United States, took his seat upon the supreme bench. It is to be commemorated at the initiative of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, with the help of the American Bar Association, and ex-Attorney-General Wayne MacVeagh has been chosen to deliver the oration.

It is stated the Board of School Superintendents for the boroughs of Manhattan and Bronx has recommended the abolition of the vertical system of penmanship. The objection against the system is that it makes slow penmen. The advantage of the vertical penmanship is said to be that the attitude in which a pupil produces the vertical writing is far more healthful than for slanting writing. Roundness and legibility of vertical writing, as well as the usual angle in its execution, are asserted to be much more favorable to the eyes. If abandoned later for a more rapid style it is thought to be best to teach the child vertical writing as a foundation for his future chirography.

The weekly competitions of the Academy elicit good poetry occasionally. Witness the following sonnet on "China":

> The eyes of many nations turn on thee,
> Dark land of sleep! gauge-point of coursing Time!
> For thou art dormant while towards their prime,
> The younger peoples, better-nursed and free,
> With swift steps move. They shape thy destiny,
> Assail thy borders, bid thee awake, and climb;
> Or ring thy knell with loud, world-echo'd chime—
> Either to be renew'd or cease to be.
>
> But in the womb of chance what mischance lies,
> For thou art cruel in thy strength of sleep,
> Inert as death; yet in this seeming death
> Mayhap are hidden menace and surprise,
> To those who venture on an unknown deep
> And call up storms with one united breath.

The Democratic State Convention which recently met at Waco, Tex., refused to admit this bit of flamboyant rhetoric into its platform:

"Looking back upon the political crisis of 100 years back, we see the immortal Jefferson, like a Colossus in the midst of a storm of wrath, injustice and hate, striking for the right and liberty of Americans to control America upon the principles of self-government, independently of the wants and wishes, of the demands or dictates, of the entanglements or intrigues, of either or all the foreign nations. And today we see Bryan, the second Jefferson, at another crisis, leading the millions of patriots through the labyrinths of slime and slander, against countless pelf and plunder, on to victory over the combined cormorants of greed and gain of Europe and America, to revivify and establish eternally among us the principles of human liberty that this Government as a Republic shall live forever."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Amicus—So you have another baby at your house. What is he like? Eminent Critic—Well, he is not very interesting, but he is mighty convincing.—Life.

She—Of course, you have heard of the theory that Bacon wrote Shakespeare's plays? Cholly—Aw—yes—aw—the idea is that Shakespeare was Bacon's nom de plume, is it not?—Puck.

Good Suggestion.—"I wonder why they don't name one of the new ships the Mayflower?" "What for?" "Why, so that future generations can say that their ancestors came over on it."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Thermometer Proof.—"Little Jim, how can you rush around and play so hard in hot weather?" "Aw, ma, 'tain't hot at all; me an' Tommy Tibbs has bin a-playing camp-out in a blizzard."—Indianapolis Journal.

Brushe—Who is that solemn-looking individual? Penn—That's Graves. He writes patent-medicine "ads." A clever chap he is, too. He can describe a disease so that the healthiest man alive will think he has got it.—Tit-Bits.

"Pa, why do they formally notify a man that he is nominated for President?" "Well, mainly, I think, so that he can't get up after he fails to be elected in November and vow he wasn't in politics at all."—Indianapolis Journal.

The Rational.—"Run away and go swimming!" whispered the Tempter to the Modern Boy. "Rationally or unrationally?" asked the latter. "Unrationally, of course," said the Tempter. "I don't know how," sniveled the Modern Boy, and turned again to his books. This gives you some idea of the great work the Froebel associations are doing in the interests of the higher morality.—Detroit Journal.

There Are Others.

Denver Evening Post.

Dear, delightful little dude, if a man should be so rude
As to snicker at your charming girlish ways,
Don't waste an airy sigh, don't go off and try to die
In some quiet spot remote from public gaze.
If the fates were full of fun when they built you, little son,
Try to be resigned and patient, for, you know,
If you look around you'll find many others of your kind—
You are not the only monkey in the show.

As you strut along the street, looking ravenously sweet,
In the motherly protection of your cane,
As your dreamy larboard eye peeps so baby-like and shy
Through the crystal clearness of its window pane,
If a brute should send a jeer to your pinky little ear,
Don't you stagger 'neath the heartless, cruel blow,
But remember as a freak you are not at all unique—
You are not the only monkey in the show.

'Tis a selfish world, dea' boy; every measure of our joy
Is polluted with a dash of cutting pain;
There are clouds in every sky, sadness lurks in every eye,
Into every life must fall some chilling rain!
Bear your trials like a man, struggle on the best you can,
You were made for some wise purpose, don't you know?
Do not feel cast down and sad, there are others like you, lad—
You are not the only monkey in the show.

When you see more manly youths honeying 'round the beauty booths,
And their attitude is that of sneering churls,
Don't you seek a chawnce to flee, they are jealous, cawn't you see,
Just because you are the idol of the girls.
Though you never may achieve fame and fortune, don't you grieve,
Don't you flood your tender breast with rosy woe—
Nurse the thoughtlet in your brain (if you think 'twill bear the strain)
That you're not the only monkey in the show.