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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

THE NAME "AMERICA."

Fondness for literary and historical mystification has led to fresh attempt to make difficulty over the origin of the name "America." Ricardo Palma, director of the National Library of Peru, has published a book which revives and reviews an old controversy as to the origin of the name of the Western Hemisphere. He contends that it was not named for Amerigo Vespucci, the Florentine, but that "Americ" is the native name of a mountain range in Central America, and as there was much search for gold along those coasts by Spanish adventurers, the name "Americ" became a familiar one, and so passed on into usage and gradually into written and printed accounts. Then the Florentine merchant's name was changed by a French printer to "Americus," in honor of his travels in the New World, and others carried forward the compliment until the name became fixed and Amerigo Vespucci carries the honor that should be borne by Christopher Columbus. This last undoubtedly is true; but the derivation from the name or supposed name of the mountain range is fanciful. The theory is not now original, but has been worked over many times, and little or nothing seems to have been added to it by the writer of Peru.

The bibliography of the origin of the name "America" is very extensive, but there is no difficulty in the solution. It is, indeed, an unsettled question how far the authority of Amerigo as to his voyages is to be trusted. In his letters which were printed in many languages and scattered over Europe he told of four voyages to the New World; but no original of these letters is extant, and such accounts as they may have contained are summaries by other hands. It has been settled with much certainty that the first of the voyages never took place; but the fiction may have arisen from the blunders of compilers or copyists who dealt with Amerigo's materials. There is historical proof of three voyages, but in none of them was Amerigo the commander. He is spoken of in the records as a pilot, and doubtless attained much authority as an explorer and navigator. He seems to have been assiduous with his pen, and as there was intense eagerness throughout the Old World to hear of the New, his letters, multiplied by the printing-press, then just coming into use, were spread far and wide. But he never claimed the name of the Western Hemisphere for himself. This fortune came to him through a printer in an obscure part of France, where an account of his voyages, apparently derived from his letters, was printed. Genuine copies of this publication are still extant. It was apparently compiled by the printer, Martin Walzmuller. Its date was the year 1507. The compiler seems to have been unacquainted with the claims of Columbus; so he wrote: "I see no reason why this fourth part of the world should not take its name from its sagacious discoverer, and be called Amerige or America." For this idea he goes on to adduce a fanciful justification. Both Europe and Asia had obtained their names from women; it is now the turn of the male sex; and the word "America" was forthwith written in large letters on the margin. This freak of an obscure printer indelibly stamped the New World with its destined name.

The name commended itself to the ear and was soon taken for granted. The work in which it appeared quickly ran through several editions. The original was in Latin, but it was soon translated into modern languages, and became the common property of Europe. It will be seen that the name which the New World thus acquired neither proves that Columbus was forgotten nor that Amerigo had usurped his fame, but that a new power had thus come into existence, greater than monarchs and councils, though capable of being set in action by feeble and obscure hands. The naming of America is but an illustration, though an early and striking one, of the power of the Printing-Press.

Twenty-five years ago the theory that the name was taken from a mountain range in Central America was brought forward by a French writer, Jules Marcou. It seems to have been original with him. Some years after his first essays on the subject he published a book, which, however, appears to have been about as fanciful as Donnelly's "Cryptogram" of Shakespeare. American historiographers give the theory no credit. It has, in fact, been useful only as a means of spreading the inquiry as to how America really got its name.

What is Bryan doing in Nebraska? Why does he own a house and lot at Lincoln? Does he not know he holds land robbed by imperialism from the attainted savage? Would he not argue more logically if he lived in one of the thirteen original states? For Bryan's father to be an oppressor of the negro was bad enough, although it was not imperialism; but for his son to be an imperialist in the West is preposterous. But why is Bryan in America, anyhow? Would it not be more consistent in him to return to Ireland and to bequeath his possessions to the descendants of those whom the white man's greed has ravaged?

LIMITATIONS OF PARTISANSHIP.

Senator Scott intimates that New York is in danger. He says this in order to spur the Republicans to renewed efforts. Probably he does not believe it. Probably he does not even believe that McKinley's vote will be 100,000 less than in 1896. It is a pity to have to print as news such palpable campaign ruses. Unfortunately, they are about all that may be had from either headquarters. Imagine Jones issuing a manifesto that Stevenson is an old woman, or Hanna announcing that Roosevelt talks too mush with his mouth!

It certainly begins to be a serious question how much of these prodigious labors of campaign managers can be regarded as worth what they cost. At every National convention one encounters a multitude of enthusiastic camp followers. They profess that the only hope of the country lies in the Republican (or Democratic) party. They regard Bryan (or McKinley) as the greatest living American statesman. This spontaneous outbreak of enthusiasm, shown in excited faces, deafening cheers and waving of innumerable flags, indicates a great popular tidal wave in the direction of Republican (or Democratic) principles. It shows that the specious phrases of the opposition can no longer deceive, and that the country is preparing to render an overwhelming verdict in November for the Democratic (or Republican) cause.

Nothing is more obvious than that many of these thorough-going partisans are sincere to a fault. But must there not be increasing numbers of them who sometimes weary of the whole business, and realize that the general run of busy, practical people who have no hope of political preferment, must be only slightly moved by these partisan demonstrations? Can't they reflect that for every man in their camp to whom the Republican (or Democratic) shield appears all white, there is a corresponding man in the other camp to whom it appears all black, and that the outsider must first be induced to put on the partisan spectacles before he can see objects in the partisan tint?

Fortunately, there is one unmistakable evidence of amelioration, and that is in the rise of an independent press. Once the every act of a Republican Administration was a master-stroke in Republican eyes, and a thing only execrable in Democratic eyes. Now the Republican papers are few that do not criticise the Administration when they think it errs, and there are few Democratic papers that do not criticise Bryan on some point or other where they think he errs. The journals that have sacrificed their independence utterly on the altar of blind partisanship are growing scarcer year by year. There are too many as it is, to be sure, but their mortal enemy is the American sense of humor. The thick-and-thin Republican (or Democratic) organ is without influence. It is unnecessary, and it would be unpleasant to mention names of local offenders in this regard. Their readers know them. Their influence would be strengthened if their editorial page should appear in unsullied white.

AN IMPRESSIVE WARNING.

Nothing has been said about Ingalls so true and so necessary to be said as this remark of the Milwaukee Wisconsin:

> Ingalls' life offers a lesson which the ambitious young men of the country should study. He cast away his life influence in order to retain the sweets of office. It was a perilous venture which he made, and it may be said he lost all upon the die.

The reference is to the turning-point in Ingalls' career. Through his brilliant mind, mastery of English composition, skill in debate, fervor in oratory, he had raised himself within a few years to National eminence. He was graduated from Williams College at 22, admitted to the bar at 24, secretary of the Kansas Territorial Council at 27, secretary of the Kansas State Senate at 28, State Senator at 29, United States Senator at 40. He served 18 years in the United States Senate, and was for four years its president pro tem. Then he fell.

As the Wisconsin trenchantly puts it, he threw away all his accumulations of honor and fame by a single grave mistake. He had acted with the Republican party for twenty years, and was sure to continue to be one of its most prominent leaders if he did not abandon its principles. But Populism, with its numerous fantasies and heresies, had taken quite a hold among the poverty-stricken people of Kansas, and the Populists had secured a majority in the Legislature on the expiration of Ingalls' third term. He had enjoyed the sweets of office, and had not the manhood to resign them when the Republican party was ousted from power in Kansas. He therefore made a deliberate proposition to the Populist majority in the Legislature to accept and carry out their principles, provided they would re-elect him to the United States Senate. Among these heresies was the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, which his Republican colleagues in the Senate had opposed and which he had opposed until he was looking around to see if he could not find some outside support to maintain himself in the United States Senate. The Populists rejected his proffer, and the indignation among Republicans in all sections of the country against Ingalls was intense, because his proffer proved that he was a mere political trader, and would join any party or support any party which would keep him in office. He soon realized the fatal mistake he had committed, for he repeatedly tried to get back to the Senate through Republican votes, but his popularity was so utterly broken that he could not carry a single county in the state.

Perhaps it would be true to say that history affords no more signal example of the sacrifice of a great future. Ingalls might have stood in the front rank of American statesmen. He had not only the accomplishments to which reference has already been made, but he had fine intellectual discernment, and his virtues of mind and heart are attested by the love borne his memory by family and friends, by the income he was able to earn at journalism, and even by his own request for a plain and modest burial. He missed the opportunity he sang in his celebrated sonnet. He nullified his great powers by recreancy to the truth.

How many such men we have in public life! How strikingly have we seen, even here in Oregon, the truth exemplified that trifling with great principles is the sure road to political suicide! The man that thinks great principles may be neglected or trifled with makes a great mistake. There is that in human nature which rebels against the man who betrays the truth. When a man knows what is right, but shows a willingness to compromise it for present reward, he falls from a height he can never regain. It is the plainest lesson of politics, but there are those who can never learn it.

A WORD TO THE FOOLISH.

A man will mortgage his home, levy contributions on all his friends, go to Alaska, ruin his health and reputation, perhaps starve to death, when he could live at home in comfort, sleep in a bed nights, eat three square meals a day, and have money in the bank.

Many a man has bought a farm in Oregon and paid for it with the first year's crop. Many a man has made $1000 in three months' fishing in the Columbia River. The farmers can't get hands enough, the hopyards can't get enough pickers, the lumbermen can't get enough loggers. A man can make and save money here in trade, in farming, in practicing law, pulling teeth, cutting hair or selling peanuts. And all the time he can dwell in as fertile a country and as salutary a climate as the earth affords.

If a man must mine, let him mine here. There is money in Oregon mines, for rich and poor. The men who sold the Bonanza mine for $600,000 to $1,000,000 were so poor once that a Baker City grocer refused to trust them for a sack of flour. The Sterling mine, in Jackson County, produces about $75,000 a year. The Red Boy, over in Grant, takes out about $480,000 a year. The Conner Creek mine pays about $300,000 a year. The Cornucopia group, in Union County, yields about $500,000 a year.

Poor men are getting rich every day in Oregon mines. Vince Cook and Henry Ankeny made $100,000 each, above all expenses, in the Sterling mine. The Wimer brothers, in Josephine County, have taken out $10,000 to $30,000 a year for the last twenty-six years. They have saved $100,000 at least. S. G. Reed and his heirs have made $500,000 out of Conner Creek. A Portland lawyer has made $75,000 buying and selling mining properties. These cases could be multiplied. Some of these miners were rich and some poor, some had experience and some none. But all of them had nourishing food to eat, a comfortable place to sleep, family life to solace and sustain them.

A man needn't go out of Oregon if he wants to get rich and needs to get rich at mining. But he cannot be accommodated quite so well anywhere else as in Alaska if he wants to be shipwrecked, to die of scurvy, to be murdered by Indians, or to be frozen to death.

BRYAN'S RESPONSIBILITY.

This statement, made some days ago by Senator Stewart, of Nevada, is worth repetition for the truth it carries:

> The United States went to war with Spain, urged on by the Democratic party. The popularity of the war was such that Mr. Bryan joined the Army. A treaty of peace was entered into, whereby the United States agreed to pay $20,000,000 and accept the sovereignty and public property of Spain in the Philippine archipelago. There was opposition to the ratification of the treaty. Mr. Bryan persuaded his Democratic friends to vote for it, and it was through his influence the treaty was finally ratified.

Speaking of the excuse made by Mr. Bryan for his advocacy of the treaty, that he did it because it would put an end to the war and make it easy to settle the Filipino question, the Boston Herald, an independent journal of Democratic leanings, shows that the excuse is obviously an after-thought; because the records of the Senate show that the argument of Democratic Senators who opposed the treaty while Bryan was advocating it was that, though the treaty would end the war with the Spaniards, it would not with the Filipinos. There were twenty-two Democratic Senators who voted against ratification, or, including two who paired, twenty-four Democrats. There were ten who voted in favor of ratification—namely, Messrs. Clay of Georgia, Faulkner of West Virginia, Gray and Kinney of Delaware, Lindsay of Kentucky, McEnery of Louisiana, McLaurin of South Carolina, Morgan and Pettus of Alabama, and Sullivan of Mississippi. If the influence of Mr. Bryan had not been used with a number of these Senators, they would have voted with their party associates in the negative, and, by so doing, the treaty would not have been ratified. But "at that time he wished to bring the Filipino people under the control of the United States, and with that end in view he did the most effective work he could possibly do." The Boston paper adds:

> If he had stayed away from Washington, no responsibility would have attached to him, but he not only went to Washington, but when there actively exerted himself to win over enough Democratic Senators to his way of thinking to give the treaty its needed indorsement. In view of this gratuitous action on his part, there is something sublimely audacious in the attitude he now takes of special champion of the Filipinos. For ratification of the treaty, no individual, certainly no unofficial individual, is more responsible than William J. Bryan.

The Oregonian should not have said yesterday, in reply to a correspondent, that it had no access to data of Rear-Admirals' ages and enforced retirement. Following are the dates of future retirements of Rear-Admirals now on the active list for age limit, under the law:

F. V. McNair, January 13, 1901; Albert Kautz, January 29, 1901; W. S. Schley, October 9, 1901; W. T. Sampson, February 9, 1902; B. J. Cromwell, February 9, 1902; J. A. Howell, March 16, 1902; N. H. Farquhar, April 11, 1902; B. F. Day, January 16, 1903; G. C. Remey, August 10, 1903; Silas Casey, September 11, 1903; Louis Kempff, October 11, 1903; G. W. Sumner, December 31, 1903; A. H. McCormick, May 9, 1904; J. C. Watson, August 24, 1904; F. Rodgers, October 3, 1904; A. S. Barker, March 31, 1905; F. J. Higginson, July 19, 1905.

Commissioner Evans says: "There is no law granting service pensions to any person for services rendered since the war of Mexico." The Mexican War veterans had to wait but forty years for a service pension, and it would not be surprising to see a movement for a service pension to Civil War veterans as early as 1905. It will come some day, soon or late, as has been the case with other wars, for the Mexican War pension act furnishes an excellent precedent. The Union veteran can fairly say that if Mexican War veterans, at least half of whom fought against the Union, are worthy of a service pension for fighting under the flag in Mexico, why are not they worthy of a service pension who never fought against the Union? The service pension is sure to come soon or late.

The American military force now in China consists of the Ninth Infantry, eight companies of the Fourteenth Infantry, Battery F of the Fifth Artillery, eight troops of the Sixth Cavalry, four companies of the Fifteenth Infantry, and four batteries of the Third Artillery—in all, about 5000 men. Our forces at Pekin are about 1500 strong. The original intention was to increase General Chaffee's command to about 12,000, but the orders of some 7000 of this number have been changed, so that from Nagasaki they will steam at once to Manila to relieve the volunteer regiments whose term will expire next July. The fact that the Government is sending two-thirds of the troops originally intended for China to Manila shows that there is no necessity for an extra session of Congress, since no increase of the Army is imperative, and there is no necessity for a declaration of war. President McKinley is acting entirely within the limits of his Constitutional authority, and since there is no urgent need of more money or more men, an extra session of Congress would be a political as well as an economic blunder.

United States Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, in his recent campaign in favor of the state liquor dispensary as more moral than prohibition, has presented a serio-comic spectacle. In his speeches he has quoted Scripture to prove that the use of liquor is not considered wrong in the Bible, except in Habbakuk, which he declares to be obsolete. From more than a hundred pulpits a stream of denunciation has been poured upon him, but the ministers have hardly been able to keep pace with Tillman's red-hot vocabulary. Among other things, Senator Tillman has declared in his speeches that, "of all things, I hate the hypocrite most, and I would not swap places today with any of the preachers for my chances in the next world." He has done more, he declares, for the morals of the people of South Carolina than all the preachers put together. "The preachers and the old barkeepers have formed an unholy alliance to break down the dispensary. The preachers may be honest, but they are weak in the upper story. They do not know."

The exigencies of partisanship now force the San Francisco Examiner to oppose expansion and denounce it as "imperialism." Yet on April 27, 1899, it said:

> We trust that Mr. Bryan will yet range himself in line with the National aspirations for expansion. The time has come, as it comes at intervals to every vigorous nation—as it has come to ours on several former occasions—when the old boundaries are too contracted for the pulsing life within them, and when the health of the body politic demands that room. The popular instinct understands the need for these periodical expansions, and every genuine statesman understands it, too. The popular instinct of a nation cannot be changed in 16 months, nor can a creature of expediency be converted into a statesman by an appeal to the truths of history. Mr. Bryan may think he is close to the people, and that his silly talk about "imperialism" moves them, but he will soon find out that Americans are as much in favor of expansion today as they were when they applauded the acquisition of the Louisiana territory by that noted imperialist, Thomas Jefferson.

We have received from a spook journal a scary discussion of premature burials, with request for editorial approval. We regret that we cannot comply. This community suffers not so much from premature burials as from those long overdue.

What has become of that terrible indignation we were wont to witness over the crime of '73? Is that crime not to be punished, after all? Worse, is it to be forgotten? Truth forever on the scaffold? Wrong forever on the throne?

Cleveland has been appointed member of the International Board of Arbitration. Now, Grover, can't you come out for McKinley and Roosevelt?

ITS ADVICE TO LABOR.

High and Honorable Counsel Given Editorially by Mr. Hearst.

Chicago American.

Here is a suggestion for the union men of Chicago who are now locked out by the contractors' conspiracy:

Fight as long as you can, and as you fight study the contractors and make up your minds which are your most persistent, cunning and unscrupulous enemies. If you can't win your fight you can at least remember two or three contractors who did most to defeat you. When the lock-out ends you can get together and, by united action, come so near to ruining those contractors that the difference between what they will get and utter ruin will not be sufficient to make them cheerful.

Whenever a strike is sucessful the leaders of a strike are blacklisted by employers and very often the leader who does the most for his fellow finds it impossible to make a living when the strike is won. It is perhaps time for workingmen to borrow from employers this very effective scheme.

If they will select one or two gentlemen from the contractors' conspiracy, and, by earnest attention to business, make each of them lose about $50,000 a year for five consecutive years it is certain that those particular contractors will never lead any other conspiracy to keep 50,000 men idle for a year.

You workingmen might think over this occasionally while you are wondering where your next meal is coming from.

"CONSENT" IN THE SOUTH.

An Anti-Imperialist Organ With Evident Misgivings.

New York Evening Post.

It is interesting to watch the development of sentiment in the South on Bryan's proposition to make opposition to imperialism the paramount issue, and "the consent of the governed" the rallying cry of the campaign. Before the Kansas City convention a large proportion of Southern Democrats had committed themselves in favor of holding the Philippines, on the ground that this policy would promote Southern trade. Pretty much all of them were also on record against asking the consent of the governed when it was a question of the colored race in their own states. A few weeks before Senator Tillman read the paramount-issue plank of the platform in the Kansas City convention, he had boasted in the Senate that "we took the government away from the blacks, we stuffed the ballot boxes, we shot them, we are not ashamed of it." A few months earlier, Senator Morgan, of Alabama, the leader on his side of the chamber, had declared himself against allowing any man with a black skin to vote in his state, no matter how good his character, how excellent his education or how considerable his property.

Tillman undoubtedly has assurance enough to come North and make stump speeches in favor of self-government for the Filipinos, after having taken it away from the negroes of his own state, but he is just now fully occupied in an attempt to defend his dispensary system, and is abusing the clergy of all denominations because they do not accept his views. Morgan is perfectly independent, now that he is assured of another six years in the Senate, and he took occasion the other day to declare once more his indorsement of the McKinley policy in holding the Philippines. A few Democratic newspapers in the South show some heart in opposing imperialism, but more are perfunctory in supporting this part of the Kansas City platform, and others openly reject it. One of the latter class is the Memphis Commercial Appeal, an influential Tennessee journal, which has been carried away with the expansion policy from the start, and which now says:

> There is no such thing as imperialism contemplated by any party. Legitimate and necessary expansion is an accomplished fact; talk of imperialism is arrant nonsense, and nonsense cannot be made a paramount issue any more than an elephant can be made an eel by writing on its trunk, "This is an eel." Tennessee's coal, iron and cotton must find a market in the Orient, and the people should be educated up to the point where they can see the utility and benefits of expansion.

Evidently Bryan would find ample field for missionary work in the South if it were not for the fact that its votes will be returned for him without any reference to the platform on which he runs.

SUBJUGATORS OF HISTORY.

Washington, Jefferson and Jackson Were Models of the School.

New York Tribune.

Did the members of the National Anti-Imperialist League ever read the Constitution of the United States? They are exceedingly glib in talking about it, but when in their great manifesto they say, "For the first time in our country's history the President has undertaken to subjugate a foreign people and to rule them by despotic power," they awake the suspicion that they are talking of something they know nothing about. What foreign people has the President undertaken to subjugate? The answer is found a few sentences further on in the manifesto: "He has taken to himself the power to press upon the inhabitants of the Philippines Government without their consent, taxation without representation."

It is clear, then, the foreign conquest is the subjugation of the Philippine Islands. Yet it happens that a treaty, duly made and duly ratified, which the Constitution says is the supreme law of the land, makes the Philippine Islands part of the territory of the United States, just as much as is Porto Rico, which Mr. Bryan and the anti-imperialists insist is under the Constitution of the United States, with its people citizens of the United States. If they are right, the Filipinos are citizens of the United States and not at all a foreign people. At any rate, the Philippines are territory of the United States, and their inhabitants are Constitutionally subject to the authority of the United States Government, and it is the President's sworn duty to maintain that authority.

What a usurper George Washington was! His subjugation of foreign peoples would seem to have been one of the deepest blots on the history of this country! By the treaty of 1783 a lot of territory without American occupants, inhabited by foreign peoples with their own laws and governments, was acquired by the United States, and George Washington on becoming President proceeded to conquer those foreign peoples and subject them to the authority of the United States when all they asked was liberty to rule themselves in their own way according to the Declaration of Independence.

In 1803 Jefferson by treaty acquired a great tract of country inhabited by many foreign peoples, and he and his successors ever since have been steadily working to reduce them to obedience to the American yoke without giving them citizenship or the privileges of the Constitution. The Filipinos are just as much a foreign people as the Sioux or Moquis or other Indian nations, whose territory was annexed to the United States without their consent, and whose obedience was demanded by this Government. They are not foreign people at all. The Supreme Court has declared them to be "domestic dependent nations," owing obedience to the Government, but not entitled to Constitutional citizenship. The platform writers who talk about the subjugation of the inhabitants of annexed territory as a novelty and call those inhabitants foreign peoples evidently know or care nothing about the Constitution or history of this country.

Direct Primaries Coming.

Chicago Times-Herald.

That was a vigorous and fruitful idea which the Wisconsin Republicans, in state convention, launched upon the sea of practical politics. The dissatisfaction with the present system of nominations has heretofore found expression in purely academic discussions, but henceforth, thanks to Mr. La Follette and his followers, it will take its place among the practical proposals which deserve the attention of progressive men, especially of independents in politics. The Wisconsin platform contains a specific plank in favor of abandoning the convention plan and making all nominations by direct popular voting at the primary elections. This is in accord with the spirit of the times, with the general feeling that, if the party system is to persist, National and state organizations should be made amenable to popular control. The thoughtful voter insists on greater responsibility of parties and enlarged power and opportunity for the disinterested citizen. The independent voters are obviously interested in restoring freedom of discussion and action. A party nomination should truly represent the preferences and wishes of the majority of the members. There are times when the voters force their choice on the bosses. Recent instances of this are fresh in the public mind. But when the citizens are not specially aroused the machine has far too much power in the convention. Direct primary voting for candidates, instead of for delegates, is coming into vogue, and it is by no means a bold statement to make that this method may before long be applied to gubernatorial and Presidential nominations.

What a Protectorate Is.

Sacramento Record-Union.

Mr. Bryan says that he and his party could first recognize the independence of "our late allies in the Philippines," and then establish for them a stable government, and that done protect it forever from outside interference.

All historians agree that the most offensive of controls is that of the enforced protectorate. It is but one form of monarchism. But that aside, if the one-sixth of the people of the Philippines whom Bryan would recognize as the whole, have the right to be so recognized, and to be free and independent, then neither the United States nor any other power has the right to establish over or for them a stable government. They have the right to do that for themselves and absolutely free from the dictation, judgment, control or protection of the United States. For flap-doodle logic and loose English, commend us to the Kansas City platform and to the Bryan-esque theories of government.

Akron Riot a Product.

Baltimore American.

The mob which was destroying life and property at Chicago, and which was restrained first by the courts and afterwards by the military, was not a whit more meritorious than the mob in Akron. It was this Chicago mob, and the squelching of it by the United States, which suggested Mr. Bryan's attack on the judiciary, and has made the basis of a plank in the Kansas City platform. Only yesterday Mr. Bryan, in his speech of acceptance to the Populists, referred with pride to this purpose of curbing the courts. It has always been a bitter day in any country, when, for political or any other reasons, the courts have been curbed; but under a popular government it would be the greatest disaster that can be imagined, and the evil would be most severe to the very people whom Mr. Bryan and his friends are pretending to help.

SPELLING OF PEKIN.

Weight of Authority Seems to Be for Shorter Form.

Kansas City Star.

A heated controversy is beginning to rage over the momentous question of the spelling of the name of the capital of China. The public is divided into two hostile camps, the party using the "ing" being apparently in the minority. Just now the advocates of the "g" have been powerfully reinforced by a letter from Minister Wu Ting Fang, which is triumphantly printed by the Utica Observer. The Minister writes: "My opinion is that Peking is correct; for, in the Chinese pronunciation, its final sound is that of 'ng' and not of 'n.' The French, I believe, write it 'Pekin,' because in their pronunciation of the word thus written the Chinese sounds are preserved. But the spelling in English should be 'Peking.' You observe that the Century Atlas has 'Peking.'"

The fact is that the Chinese syllable "kin" or "king" has a slight nasal sound which the English at times have tried to preserve by means of the "g." The schemes of pronunciation of nasals in the various systems of "French self-taught" are founded on the same plan. How painful are the results any one knows who has heard the apt pupil repeat the phrase "pendant mon absence," according to rule as "pangdang mong absangs." But the English speaking peoples make little effort to preserve the absolute phonetic spelling of foreign proper names, or even the spelling adopted by the city itself. "Paris" is not "Paree," nor is "Vienna" "Wien," nor "Florence" "Firenze." English geographies do not recognize the nasals in France, their great abiding place. It is "Caen," not "Caeng," and "Rouen," not "Roueng."

Ease of pronunciation, simplicity, brevity and familiarity to the eye are all taken into account in turning foreign names into English. These considerations count the more in the case of China, where there is no alphabet, but only a large collection of root syllables on which the language is based. Consequently, the official spelling of the name of China's capital by the United States Government is Pekin, not Peking. The geographical board, which has been in existence for 10 years, determines such matters. Its latest report, published in May, says: "Pekin: Capital city, Northern China. (Not Peiching, Peking, Shun-tien-fu nor Yen.)

Wandering Sheep Return.

New York Evening Post.

Bryan remarked in a speech at Wahoo, the county seat of Saunders County, Nebraska, yesterday, that he did "not believe you can find in this county any man who voted with us in 1896, and who understood the issues then before the country, who has changed his mind on those issues and now believes that the Republican party was right in 1896." We have no evidence about Saunders County, Nebraska, but there have been abundant proofs that in many of the states west of the Missouri River, where Republicans voted for Bryan on the issues of 1896, a host of them have since become convinced that the Republican party was right in that year and have returned to it. Washington, for example, gave Bryan almost 12,500 plurality in 1896 and elected two opposition Representatives in Congress by almost as large pluralities, while in 1898 it gave the Republican candidates for the House pluralities of several thousands. An important element in this revolution was the change of opinion among the farmers in the eastern part of the state, who had accepted the Bryan theories about silver in 1896 and rejected them in 1898. More conclusive still is the evidence furnished by Oregon. In the state election of June, 1896, the opposition polled 18,623 votes for one of their candidates and 26,135 for the other—a total of 44,758, against only 40,451 for the Republican nominee; whereas, last June the Republicans had a majority of more than 8000 over a fusion ticket, and that, too, on a platform which was "flat-footed" for the gold standard. Bryan is, indeed, living in a fool's paradise if he really believes that no voters have changed their minds about the issues of 1896.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The famous farm of the late Ward McAllister, at Middletown, R. I., is about to be converted into a Roman Catholic cemetery.

Alvinza Hayward, the California millionaire and mining king, still wears the style of beaver silk hat that was in vogue 50 years ago. For half a century he has had his hats made over the same block.

John P. Irish, once a well-known Western journalist, and now Naval officer of the Port of San Francisco, has one peculiarity—he will not wear a necktie. He once had throat trouble, and concluded it came from too much wrapping up of his neck.

When Arthur Maxon Smith finished his course in the University of Chicago on Saturday, and received the degree of doctor of philosophy, he was notified that, on the recommendation of Dr. Harper, he had been chosen president of Oahu College, Honolulu.

In a communication to the London Lancet, Dr. Eldridge Green remarks that, incredible as it may seem, shipowners are able to, and really do, employ color blind officers who have been rejected by the Board of Trade, and who may have been discharged by other companies.

It is said that the word "silhouette" originated from the niggardliness of a French Minister of Finance, named M. Silhouette. Under his rule the meanest tricks of economy were practiced, and the courtiers had their portraits painted entirely in black, with profile view, claiming that M. Silhouette had left them so poor that they could not afford anything more costly.

Miss Abbie Goodrich Chapin, representing the American Board and the Woman's Board of Missions, Boston, is a missionary by birth, for her parents were missionaries, and she was born in Tung Cho, North China, from which she and her associates were driven to Pekin by the mob or the soldiers. She was graduated from the Methodist University of Southern California, and embarked for the mission field as a missionary in 1893.

William H. Young, of Troy, N. Y., has been the treasurer of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for half a century, being nominated to that position February 5, 1850, vice Day O. Kellogg, resigned. Within Mr. Young's administration more than 1000 students have been graduated, and more than $2,000,000 has passed through his hands. He is now in his 83d year, and his connection with the affairs of Troy's great engineering school will always be remembered as one of the most remarkable terms of office in any institution's history.

A Summer Day on the Farm.

Chicago Times-Herald.

The cows are standing in the pool,
The colts, with sleepy eyes,
Beneath the trees are keeping cool
And switching off the flies.

The sun shines hot upon the hill,
The grass is dry and brown;
The restless poplar's leaves are still
And limply hanging down.

The dog lies where thick shadows fall,
The chickens doze away
In dusty holes beside the wall
Through all the weary day.

The wormy apples tumble through
The tangle of the leaves;
The doves, with nothing else to do,
Sit idle on the eaves.

The shocks of wheat, in yellow rows,
Like weary soldiers stand,
What time a dozen tired crows
Flap slowly o'er the land.

The sun shines hot upon the hill,
The grass is brown and dry,
Where hot, round pebbles gleam a rill,
In Springtime, babbled by.

The farmer's shirt is wet, and yet
What cause has he to holler?
Why should he frown or sigh or fret?
He doesn't wear a collar!

NOTE AND COMMENT.

And Chicago has not sued the census bureau for libel!

The yellow peril seems to be chiefly for the yellow people.

At this stage of the contest the circus is still in the ring.

A man who is looking for trouble never needs to ask his friends to join in the hunt.

The silver tongue continues to wag in the iron jaws of brazen-cheeked politicians.

One of the Chinese cities would be feeling like Omaha if they took a census about now.

Of course no section of the country can cry "riot" at Ohio with such good taste as the Sunny South.

The Chinese soldiers had better be careful. Count von Waldersee will go over there one of these days if they don't look out.

> He sought and won the maiden's hand,
> But ere he dared to ask it,
> He won her heart by giving her
> A shapeless Indian basket.

Senator Pettigrew will soon have an opportunity to ask a Congressional committee to investigate what struck the Democratic party.

> He who bathes and runs away
> May live to bathe another day;
> But he who tarries in the wave
> Will shake himself into his grave.

The police will have a good chance to spot pickpockets for the next two or three weeks, and when they are spotted they should be striped.

Emperor William is now trying to run an automobile. We shall soon hear that the manufacturer of the machine he uses has been jailed for lese-majeste.

> Now doth the festive Summer maid
> Contrive, with labor sore,
> To scrape from off her rounded cheeks
> The nut-brown hue she's spent three weeks
> In getting at the shore.

There is no probability of war among the powers on account of disagreements in China for a number of years. The first ultimata have not yet been exchanged.

Italy boasts that 500 people were killed in duels there last year. One Kentucky election can make that record look as if it had just suffered an attack of the bubonic plague.

> With fingers weary and worn,
> With eyelids heavy and red,
> A woman sat through the weary night
> Plying her needle and thread.
> Stitch, stitch, stitch,
> Till the oil in the lamp burned low,
> Stitch, stitch, stitch,
> Till the dawn began to glow.
> And why did she sew all the dreary night
> Till her brow was seamed with care?
> Because, forsooth, she was dressing dolls
> For the Blankstreeth-Street Church fair.

BACHELOR HYPOCHONDRIA.

The improper study of mankind is woman.

If the world had as many people of brains as bright babies there would be fewer fools in it.

The Summer practice of covering corsets with gauze or mosquito netting, although not artistic, seems to answer the purpose.

Why is it that whenever you meet a girl at the beach she looks so unconsciously self-conscious?

How very strange it is that there is so little beauty in the world when every mother who contributes a brat to it thinks her duckling a swan!

It has almost come to such a pass that the girl who does not indulge in surf-bathing has a reason for it.

Some Amazons do not reflect that if there were anything in the world more womanly than a womanly woman there would be no need of woman.

I may be mistaken, but it seems to me that if I were a girl and had red hair I would not dress in white, nor if I had big feet would I wear short skirts.

No matter how big a woman's feet are, they always manage to float, when you are teaching her to swim.

As soon as a woman enters the car stare at her if you can't bear critical examination yourself.

When a girl hunts huckle-berries in the groves at the seaside on Sunday afternoon she is not hunting huckle-berries.

In the extravaganza of our affections we used to love the Summer girl, but that was before we saw her arrayed in her paraphernalia and realized how our fond dream had duped us.

However far a woman may fall short of that indigenous comeliness which does not need the ingenious blinds of artful civilization, she can pass herself off well enough in Winter with putty, paint and paste, but these protections do not avail in Summer against ravages of sun, wind and tide.

NAMBY PAMBY.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

"Old Books Sold Here—Dam Cheap," is the attractive legend inscribed on a shop in a back street in Bombay.—Glasgow Evening Times.

Quinn—Strange, about the lack of fish yarns this Summer. De Fonte—Not at all; the fellows who usually spin them have all got jobs as war correspondents in Shanghai.—Philadelphia Record.

In the Darkest South.—First Citizen—The Chinese ain't so far behind the times as we supposed. Second Citizen—No, indeed! I reckon they could pull off quite a respectable lynchin' bee.—Puck.

With Regrets.—"The true editorial spirit," said the old-timer, "is declining." "I guess you're right," agreed the struggling author. "It certainly doesn't appear to be accepting."—Philadelphia Press.

He Surely Does.—Watts—It seems to be the tendency of civilization to put the dollar ahead of the man. Potts—That is done in order that the man may go after the dollar.—Indianapolis Press.

Full of Water.—"How do you feel now?" asked his rescuers. "Like a Jersey Trust," gasped the half-drowned man, faintly. Then they rolled him on the barrel some more, for they, too, were financiers.—Harper's Bazar.

Easy Enough.—"I," said the young man with the high brow and eagle eye, "would have my name in the mouths of men; some calling me accursed and others shouting my acclaim to the ringing welkin." "That's dead easy," said the gentleman with the grizzled beard. "Just bolt your party ticket."—Indianapolis Press.

The Important Question.

Town Topics.

When the rich and the poor are equal,
And merged in a mighty whole;
When there's neither Prince nor pauper,
And soul is revealed to soul;
When the North and the South are mingled
And there is no East nor West,
Nor time, nor tide, we shall see it—
That what has been done is best.

At last, with our senses sharpened,
Swinging from sphere to sphere,
We'll read the Book of Ages,
Our eyes made strong and clear.
We'll learn that, were dreams all granted,
We'd lose where we thought to win;
That this is a vain endeavor—
To long for the Might Have Been.

And then, dear heart, you will know me
As you never know before;
In my Holy of Holies enter
Through eagerly opening door.
You will know that I loved you, loved you
With a love that half confessed;
That I would have married you gladly—
Would your father have done the rest.