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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Generally fair; west-erly winds.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

OFFICIAL MAN IS BUT HUMAN.

A man is a man whether he is a private citizen or an officer of government. Government has no essential charm whereby a member of it may acquire supernatural wisdom.

The average man conducts his business with as much foresight as human limitations allow him. His whole existence to one end, and it is reasonable to presume that he conserves the economic interests of society in his individual function.

The fact that a private industry makes money does not prove that the industry would make money under government direction, or that the change would lessen the burden of taxation.

On the other hand, it is safe to assume that a man knows more about his own business than about his neighbor's. He is a better conservator of that business than his neighbor would be.

CONGRESS AND THE CENSUS.

No aspect of the census of 1900 is more interesting than its bearing on the composition of Congress. Our 'strides in population manifest at least two specific tendencies whose effect on the next representation will be momentous.

Preliminary figures of the census show that within thirty of our cities reside a sixth of our entire population. Even this considerable fraction falls short of the whole impressive truth.

Some hint of the changes in relative political power of East and West may be gathered from previous apportionments. The table illustrates the change in twenty years:

1870, 1880, 1890, 1900. Maine 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900. New Hampshire 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900. Vermont 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900.

THE SCHURZ ROAD TO PROSPERITY. Advocacy of Bryan on monetary grounds by gold standard men appears as a unique and diverting array of evidence and logic.

Then we have the equally unanswerable arguments of Chairman Jones and of Bourke Cockran. Mr. Jones says Bryan can't overthrow the gold standard because "there is no very considerable stock of silver in the Treasury available for such a purpose."

It is a waste of time, perhaps, to answer these arguments seriatim, as Mr. Gage does so effectively in the letter printed yesterday morning.

The point to keep in sight is that these arguments, as large as honest and sane, offer the only hope of progress, as the arch-conspirator against financial honesty and industrial order. Do you want your sheep-fold guarded? Well, here is a wolf, whose claws are reputed to have been extracted, and one or two of whose most dangerous fangs are known to have been broken off by that doughty shepherd whom we warn you to beware of.

He will do all he can to overthrow it. He will do all he can to overthrow it. He will do all he can to overthrow it.

The situation in China is not altered. Everything depends on the final decision of Russia. Russia says that the rescue of the Ministers having been effected and the Chinese authorities fled, she proposes to retire from Pekin and resume negotiations whenever China shall have re-established an authority which other governments can deal with.

Popular impression ascribes some Constitutional restriction upon the action of Congress. There is no such thing as the cutting down of representation for decadent or stationary populations or the total number of Representatives of which the House shall be composed.

arbitrator of the situation, for her withdrawal, followed by that of the United States, would probably force the other powers to retire.

THE DIPLOMACY OF RUSSIA.

The action of Russia in proposing to withdraw from Pekin is in perfect line with her Chinese policy in the past. Within the last half century Russia has acquired about 500,000 square miles from China, including her present practical possession of Manchuria.

The South's interest in expansion is a body-blow to anti-imperialism in that section. Many Southern statesmen have come out for expansion. The straits into which the emergency drives the thorough-paced anti-imperialist are obvious.

The history of Oriental trade in the last few years completely overstates this theory of anti-imperialism. The only logical position for the true anti-imperialist, is to deny the facts.

The National Civil Service Reform League has sent out a searching letter to the chairman of both the Republican and the Democratic National Committees, calling for aid in observance of the civil service law forbidding appointment of Federal office-holders for partisan purposes.

Even the Populist-Democrats defend themselves against the imputation of 16 to 1. They say there is no danger of changes in the financial laws unless Bryan majorities are elected to Congress.

Elsewhere appears an appeal from Good Samaritan Hospital, which deserves the generous attention of all who are able to bestow of their plenty to worthy objects.

Lincoln said something like this: "You can fool some of the people all the time; but you can't fool all the people all the time." Maybe here is the secret of Bryan's success with some of the people.

Searching for the Missing Link. Professor Huxley, of Johns University, is about to start for Java in search of Pithecanthropus erectus. Not every one has heard of that object, and many who have forgotten it, but under the name of "missing link" it has become famous enough for our days.

purposed to be a mob by abolitionists till he had been to see by protection, which, Hinckley, is 'th' points name fr fracture in 'th skull.

"So there ye ar-re, Hinckley. An' what's it goin' to come to, says ye? Faith, I don't know an' th' nuygurs don't know.

COAL EXPORTS. Shipments During the Year Will Amount to \$20,000,000. WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Exports of coal from the United States during the seven months ending with July, 1900, are likely to reach \$20,000,000 in value.

Unappreciated Politician. A good one is told on E. J. Moore, of Olympia, who was in Seattle last week as a delegate to the Democratic state convention.

MEN AND WOMEN. M. Jules Verne, whose name was once on a conjure with, is reported at work upon a new book of travel. He is in his 70th year.

Exports to—France 7,497 tons, Germany 6,429 tons, Great Britain 4,400 tons, Other Europe 2,197 tons, British North America 3,253 tons, Mexico 212 tons, Cuba 114 tons, Other West Indies 14,516 tons, Santo Domingo 1,471 tons, Colombia 8,238 tons, Other South America 9,773 tons, Hawaiian Islands 1,810 tons, Other Asia and Oceania 24,700 tons, Other countries 12,490 tons.

The Confederacy's Dissolution. In all Southland there is perhaps no more interesting house than is to be seen in the quaint, aristocratic city of New Orleans.

The Fading Line of Blue. Mrs. Gustaf Anderson in Chicago Post. Come, let us stand with me a while. That through the window we may view, With eager eyes that weep and smile.

Commercial Expansion vs. Expansion. President McKinley is a commercial expansionist. His policy for four years has been to build up the country and to extend its commercial importance.

What is a Boss? The boss is a man who concerns himself with politics and with parties, and who is so much in clear, says Francis C. Lowell, in the Atlantic.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. Let's take another census today. If you don't think there are 30,000 visitors in town, count 'em.

Senator Clark is reported to be willing to bet heavily on Bryan. He is one of the few men who can afford to.

General Chaffee's conduct in China has been so exceptional that the Democrats have not yet decided whether they can make a campaign issue of it or not.

There is pleasure in June time when the crawfish creep and red. It served to all who ask for it at fifty cents a head.

Parade a-marche! through the streets! Bands a-playin' everywhere, Crowds of people walkin' round.

A Cautious Reply.—"Excuse me, but didn't I meet you in Chicago some time ago?" "Not unless there at the time"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

True Politician.—Magistrate (to elderly witness)—"What is your age, madam?" Witness—"Thirty and thirty—thirty months or years"—Chicago News.

Health and Automobile.—Patient—Your own health seems to be very much improved lately, doctor. Yes, I sold my horse and carriage, and bought an automobile recently. Patient—Ah! you attribute your improvement to that? Doctor—Yes, the walking has done me good.—Philadelphia Times.

The Haystacks. Frank W. Hunt in Boston Transcript. Heaped with their loads of fragrant hay, And drawn by oxen slow, You talk like somebody 'd been offering you de Vice-Presidency—Puck.