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TODAY'S WEATHER—Generally fair; winds mostly northerly.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Senate bill 120 is the bill introduced by Senator Smith, of Multnomah, for an annual per caput appropriation of $50 for support of each orphan or homeless or abandoned child in the state, the money to be paid in at homes maintained for support of such children, provided that no such home or asylum having less than five such children shall be a beneficiary of the act. Now, while an appeal to pity for homeless or abandoned children is one of the strongest that can be made to philanthropy and humanity, yet The Oregonian must interpose a word of caution against a measure that would be so liable to abuse as this one. First, let us say that there is reasonable provision already in every community for taking care of children whose condition entitles them to pity and nurture, and there is no sudden demand for radical change. But what is most to be feared, and what would certainly follow, would be wholesale abandonment of children to the state. This act, it seems to The Oregonian, would be but to set a premium on irresponsible parentage. Again, these asylums of Oregon would be filled with children sent from other states by persons glad to be rid of their charge. We think it unquestionable that within a few years thousands of children would thus be thrown on the state, and the abuse would be an ever-increasing one. Benevolent and humane as the motive is that prompts this proposal, yet even such motive should be guided by prudence and forethought. May The Oregonian suggest to members of the Legislature that they give attention to this proposal and careful thought as to its consequences?

The altogether remarkable antics of the opposition to Mr. Corbett leave that faction in a very unenviable light from the standpoint of party regularity. Here we are with only two weeks of the session left, with a Republican majority largely committed by tradition or specific understanding to a caucus or similar settlement of the Senatorial contest, and yet with the majority candidate gaining votes every day the minority refuses either to accept the majority candidate or go into caucus for the purpose of ascertaining who is the strongest man. Of the men elected to the Legislature as Republicans, Mr. Corbett has a majority, and a Republican Senator is to be elected. The Oregonian is not a party organ, nor yet an advocate of caucus, but it can see that those who are standing out to prevent an election are not only making trouble for the business of the Legislature, but shouldering a heavy load of responsibility in a party sense, which in future years they may well wish to be rid of. The determination with which Mr. Corbett's candidacy is adhered to finds abundant support in his generous withdrawal two years ago. His friends feel that they have the right to insist upon his remaining to the end, and, with his present strength, and his daily gains, the responsibility for the deadlock assuredly rests upon those who are unwilling to submit themselves to caucus and are unable to name an acceptable candidate. Their course is not likely to meet with much favor, either in the party or among the people generally.

Advocates of the iniquitous subsidy plan certainly have the better of the wrangle before the Senate about a vote on the bill. The truth appears to be that upon a vote the hesitating Republicans will be forced into line. Therefore, they, in dread of being put on record, join hands with the Democrats in delaying the vote by such implements of obstruction as are nearest at hand. This is not very high-toned or straightforward politics. It is analogous to the part played by Republicans in the Oregon Legislature of 1897 in defeating the re-election of Senator Mitchell. The remedy was unusual, perhaps indefensible, because the emergency was unusual, perhaps insufferable. As to the subsidy bill, the dissenting Republicans feel that duty requires them to defeat it, but another duty requires them to support it as a party measure. Doubtless their excuse would be, if pressed to the wall, that the majority had no right to put them in so embarrassing a position. The irregularity of their present course attests the old truth that forms are impotent, after all, to control living men and living issues when they block the way of what men regard as essential. No longer ago than 1896 we saw party ties of a lifetime unable to hold Gold Democrats or Silver Republicans. So today we see Republicans who foresee the inherent injustice and the suicidal policy of the subsidy proposals, unwilling to permit party discipline to hold them. They should be encouraged. Senator Simon's stand for sense and honesty in this matter is very ill-requited by the resolution passed at Salem in favor of the subsidy graft.

It is well known that the hostility of the natives of the Philippine Islands to the priestly orders is political and agrarian rather than religious. The friars are not very numerous, but they have considerable holdings of land. The Taft commission reports that there were in the islands at the outset of the revolution against Spain 1124 Dominicans, Augustinians, Recolletos and Franciscans of Spanish birth, who owned property, chiefly in farming land, of about 403,000 acres, which returned them an annual revenue in rents and crops of about $225,000 American, or a little over 50 cents an acre. Because the tenure of these friars was lifelong, while that of the civil officials was only for four years or less, and because the former alone were able to speak both the native and the Spanish tongues, they gradually absorbed all the civil and political functions, until they became "the pedestal of Spanish sovereignty in those islands." They were not only the "ghostly fathers," but the landlords, magistrates and tax collectors of the natives, and whatever oppressions the latter suffered were rightly chargeable to them. The first object of insurrection was to get rid of them, and of the original 1124 only 479 remain, the rest either having been killed or died, or emigrated to South America. The survivors do not exercise their functions, and their property is managed by corporations. Their holdings of land—403,000 acres—bear small proportion to the 73,000,000 acres in the islands, but they include much of the very best land. Our Government is bound to uphold their property rights, but not their authority, and it is suggested that the easiest way out of the difficulties is through purchase of the lands of the religious orders by the Government—the cost to be made a charge on the revenues of the islands, the land to be resold to the native tenants. The Aguinaldo gang wanted this job for their own enrichment, and this was the main reason of their resistance to the authority of the United States.

THE COLD STORAGE SYSTEM.

The cold storage system may well be reckoned among the wonderful commercial agencies developed in recent years. By means of its processes, as employed in the great market centers of the world, fish, flesh and fowl, in infinite variety, have all seasons for their own.

Birmingham, England, presents this method, perhaps, in its most complete and stupendous form. By it meat, six months or more from the shambles, is furnished upon demand in a perfectly preserved and wholesome condition. So important is Birmingham as a food-distributing center, that, as computed by the Post of that city, the tables of upwards of 1,000,000 persons are regularly supplied from its markets. While there is a rapid and extensive turn over every week in perishable articles, there is an immense stock kept in cold-storage chambers ready and sufficient for any emergency that will create a sudden and unusual demand.

There are practically endless possibilities in the utilization of refrigerating processes. What our ancestors deemed impossible have become matters of every-day simplicity, and are accepted as matters of course. Articles of luxury which with them were strictly confined to certain seasons of the year are now, owing to these processes, obtainable almost any day in the year. Cold production, as cited by the journal above quoted, was introduced to European markets by Professor Linde, of Wiesbaden, a quarter of a century ago. The system of cold storage was established in Birmingham half as many years later, and its part in feeding the multitude from thence is simply enormous. The foreign meat supply is constantly increasing, though it had, and to some extent still has, to make its way against public prejudice against frozen meat. Cheapness combined with good quality, however, have made way in its favor until now the frozen mution of Australia and New Zealand and the frozen beef of the United States form, in a large measure, the staple meat supply of the laboring classes of England.

In one room of this great cold-storage plant thousands of carcasses of frozen sheep attest the enterprise of breeders in Australia, New Zealand and South America. In another the quantity of pigs indicate the popularity of American pork. The growth of the Australian rabbit trade through refrigeration has been phenomenal. Upwards of 14,000,000 rabbits are, it is stated, received annually in England, boxes containing several scores of thousands being stored in the freezing chambers for the late holiday trade. Some of the animals were placed in the storage vaults fully six months before, and with fur as stiff as porcupine quills and skins like flint, awaited the demand that was sure to come.

The wide reach of trade rendered possible by this method is seen in great bins of Canadian eggs; tons of Danish and Siberian butter; large consignments of British Columbia salmon; an endless and ever increasing supply of turkeys from Servia; geese from France and Italy, fowls from Russia and hares from Belgium, which, in their daily recurring turn, find a place in these chilly storehouses. So vast is this trade and so suggestive of large possibilities for a market for the meat products of the United States that Consul Halstead, at Birmingham, has made a special point of presenting it through official channels to our people, leaving American enterprise to utilize the suggestions to its own and the producer's profit.

THE LAND CRUSADE.

In the something for nothing crusade that is being carried on in various lines throughout the country the desire to become possessed of Government land is most conspicuous. It amounts, indeed, to a greed that is practically insatiable. Witness the furious rush across the borders of Oklahoma a few years ago, the pell-mell dash into the "Cherokee Strip," accompanied by shouting, cursing, the beating back of the weak by the strong and the general pandemonium that was let loose in order to be first on the ground, by an army of people unversed in agriculture and generally untutored in the plain ways of industry. Another such scene is said to be in prospect over the expected opening to settlement by the Government of the Comanche, Kiowa and Apache reservations, in Oklahoma Territory. Though at the deliberate pace at which the Interior Department moves in a matter of this kind, it will be at least fourteen months before permission is given to settlers to occupy the surplus lands of this domain, there is said to be a large number of people already upon its borders, ready to rush in when the flag drops.

This land lies in the extreme southern part of Oklahoma Territory, bordering on Texas, and includes, all told, about 3,000,000 acres. There are between 2500 and 2000 Indians, who are to receive 160 acres of land each, while 480,000 acres of grazing land are to be reserved for their common use. The residue of the reservation will be offered to the public under the general land laws. Anticipating the rush to secure these lands, and profiting by its experience in the opening of Oklahoma, the Government is moving deliberately and systematically in this matter. Before the "flag drops" all the counties will be laid out, the county seats selected and other townsites located and platted. Reservation of land for public purposes will be made and county officers will be appointed in advance by the Secretary of the Interior. A proclamation has been issued warning "sooners" to keep out of the reservation and await their turn, as they will be allowed no advantage over their less eager comrades in this land crusade.

A notable feature of a movement of this character is its general lack of definite purpose beyond getting land from the Government. The home-building element; the "live on and cultivate" brigade; men who with their families at their backs are looking to this occasion as an opportunity to secure permanent homes and through industry and economy, a modest competence, are conspicuous by their absence from a hurried movement of this kind. Considerate, responsible men do not waste a year in camp on the border waiting the Government's signal to move in. The impatient, excitable, eager class whose entire energies are expended in "getting there," form the straggling lines of the disappointed and discontented who slowly wend their discouraged way back to old Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois or Tennessee after the rush is over and the excitement has died out. "The climate did not suit them," or "the Indians were too near," or "the poor man stood no show."

Men with a purpose, who work and wait where they have shelter and work to do; who, with definite plans for the future, move on and into the new district at the proper time will become the permanent settlers and responsible citizens of the new commonwealth.

PLEADING THE BABY ACT.

The theory is advanced by his friends to account for the defalcations of Norman Mills, the clerk in the City Treasurer's office at Tacoma, that he has been hypnotized by his paramour, a woman of the town, with whom he was endeavoring to escape to China when arrested. This plea of having been hypnotized by the woman was first made by Adam when he whimpered, "The woman gave to me and I did eat." It is nothing but a new form of "pleading the baby act." There is something admirable in a sinner like Macbeth or Richard III, who never "pleads the baby act" for sin. It is quite probable that Macbeth would not have murdered the gracious Duncan as he slept had it not been for the promptings of his wife, but while Macbeth was a villain, he was a manly soldier and a true lover. He bravely carried the cross of his great crime, and never begged for mercy, pointing at his wife and saying, "It was she; she hypnotized me; if it hadn't been for the spell she cast over me, Duncan would be alive today." Macbeth "carried his cross" in one hand and his sword in the other, and never tried to unload his infamy upon his wife.

When a sinning man pleads, "The woman gave to me and I did eat," he is only fit to be flogged to death by a lot of old women armed with broomsticks. A man might as well say that if God had never made any bodies of water nobody would ever have been drowned. If there were no temptation there would be no fall, no resistance, no repentance, no restoration, no conquest of good over evil that stands for character. A man that knows good from evil is medically and legally sane, and no plea of hypnotizing or fascination or whimpering denunciation of the woman ought to serve his turn, for this world would be made up of intellectual inebriates and immoral invertebrates if we allowed men to "plead the baby act" in the form of hypnotism for their crimes. It would be a practical end to the punishment of men for murder, or burglary, or embezzlement, or adultery, if the courts once accepted as a good plea of defense the undue influence of the woman, the hypnotizing, fascinating she who "gave to me and I did eat."

What a world this would be if there were no sober men until alcohol were extirpated from the world; if there were no faithful husbands until all the hypnotizing Cleopatras were eliminated from it. A man mean enough, cowardly enough, sneak enough and fool enough to pretend when he sins that "it was she"; that if she had not fascinated him he would never have been either a fool or a knave, is about as contemptible a man as ever abjectly whined for forgiveness from those he has wronged. The New York Medical Journal in a recent article denies that hypnotism can compel a person to the performance of any act otherwise morally impossible to the subject. We quote:

> If these absurd pleas of hypnotism are to be accepted, then in all forms of mob violence and crowd suggestions we must logically hold the doers of violence unanswerable for their acts. The man who is "hypnotized," the subject of "crowd suggestion," and the victim of morbid impulses, must commonly of the sexual type stand in the same category, and should all be judged by the same rules. Not all subjects of morbid perversion are irresponsible; neither are all people who plead "hypnotism" as an excuse for their crimes, nor all transgressors under the influence of crowd suggestion, as in lynchings, mob violence and the like. Such a plea should be received with the greatest caution, and in regard to hypnotism, as in the other cases, the entire morbid chain of perversion should be clearly demonstrated before the subject is held to be irresponsible and is absolved from the consequences of his crime.

Reopening of Nicaragua Canal negotiations means, of course, longer delay in construction. Senator Morgan doubtless speaks advisedly when he says Britain's failure to concur in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is certain to furnish occasion of fresh Anglophobic outbreaks in the United States Senate. Another impediment promises to arise if the Alaska boundary question should be coupled with the Isthmian canal negotiations. Neighborly discussion or amicable agreement on that subject is not desired by a section greatly concerned in the canal, that is, by the Pacific Coast. The people of the Coast, doubtless, would be glad to do the square thing, or even the generous thing by Canada in the Lynn Canal controversy; but it suits our politicians to imagine otherwise, and our newspapers too often reflect the selfish view of miners and townsite promoters. The prime fact about the Nicaragua Canal is, of course, that orderly diplomatic procedure in its behalf, based upon the treaty of 1850, is a matter of time, and as it has never been commenced, if we except Mr. Hay's efforts, its end is far distant in the future. The outlook is not necessarily discouraging, however, for Anglophobia and Alaskan stubbornness and railroad intrigue are, at their worst, merely the specific activities of the determined and fixed opponents of the canal in Congress. These are now known to be in a minority. Delay, therefore, while annoying, need not necessarily be long. The Administration seems sincerely desirous of seeing the canal begun under its auspices. If so, the rest can be readily arranged.

The news from Manila shows steady progress in pacification of the Philippine Islands. Armed insurgents are few, and collisions between them and the troops of the United States are infrequent. Participation of the people in the organization of civil government is invited by the authorities of the United States, and in the provinces where the population has an element that has made any advance toward civilization there is increasing co-operation with the efforts of the Americans to restore order and to end the disorder of anarchy and war. No doubt there will be some trouble yet for a good while, but it is certain that henceforward there can be no considerable resistance. Only to our antis is it bad news that the Filipinos are giving up their warfare upon the United States. It is harder for our antis to bear the defeat than for the Filipinos to surrender.

A danger to be apprehended from our new charter legislation is that it will get our whole system of street improvements into confusion and litigation again, involving the city in heavy losses and requiring 10 to 15 years to thresh out the lawsuits that will arise. There will always be owners of property who never will pay if they can help it; and such, we fear, are to be given free course to start new suits against the city. No fear but they will do it. Since now, after so many years of effort, we have certain lines established, through decisions of the courts, why reopen the whole business and start another decade or two of litigation, loss and obstruction? Bad politics in the charter can be borne, but bad business in the charter is costly and troublesome.

Mr. Markham's presentment before the House committee on railroads, part of which appears in the Salem news this morning, seems to be a fair statement of his case, and it is worthy the attention of the Legislature. He is familiar with this field, and has better knowledge of its conditions than anybody else. When a railroad declines to give information regarding its business, there may be reason to assume that the showing would be unfavorable to its contention; but in this case there is apparent willingness to disclose everything, and the Legislature need not proceed in the dark. Open relations between the railroad and the Legislature will promote justice and the best interests of the state.

It is the flag of the United States in the Philippines that represents freedom, enlightenment, civilization and progress. The American who doubts it dishonors his country. Talk that Aguinaldo is champion of the "holy cause of freedom" comes from men who are willing to discredit their own country by putting savagery or semi-savagery above it. It is the same notion that would have kept the West in possession of the native Indians, for the sake of "liberty." And as to South Africa—who is the truer representative of freedom, enlightenment, humanity, civilization and progress, the Briton or the Boer?

The Oregonian is requested by several persons to give exact information as to the ages of Mr. Corbett and Judge Williams. The record, it finds, shows that Mr. Corbett was born in February, 1827, and Judge Williams in March, 1823. Mr. Corbett will be 74 on the 18th of the present month; Judge Williams will be 78 on the 26th of next month. Both are in good health, and each has as much power of work as he ever possessed.

George F. Parker, in the February Review of Reviews, goes back to an English book published in London in 1795 for the possible origin of the phrase used by Lincoln, "government of the people, for the people and by the people." The full phrase is found in one of Webster's speeches, and it was also used by Theodore Parker in one of his famous anti-slavery sermons preached ten years before the Civil War.

Unable to defeat the Pan-American appropriation by open methods, its opponents have recourse to the underhand method of seeking to replace Governor Geer's appointees, who have been faithfully and efficiently at work for months, with creatures of their own selection. It is a scheme that only needs to be disclosed to be repudiated by every sincere advocate of the state's exhibit at Buffalo.

"There was not a semblance of lawlessness at any time during the progress of the smashing," is the comment volunteered by the report of a mob's destruction of saloons in Holton, Kan. That man ought to be regularly detailed to write up the lawful and orderly lynchings of Southern States.

When the session began, Mr. Mays was highly indignant at being reminded of the dilatoriness with which previous charter bills had made their appearance. With the session two-thirds gone, the political portions of his bill are as secret as ever.

The Oregonian has no doubt that Mr. Bingham's primary bill is the best one before the Legislature. He has doubtless forgotten more about ballot reform than his opponents ever knew. The Legislature will be safe to follow his advice.

THE LAUREATE'S LAUREL.

Alfred Austin on Victoria's Death.

May 24, 1819—January 22, 1901.

Dead! And the world feels widowed!
Can it be
That She who scarce but yesterday upheld
The dome of Empire, so the twain seemed one,
Whose goodness shone and radiated round
The circle of her still expanding Rule,
Whose Scepter was self-sacrifice, whose Throne
Only a loftier height from which to scan
The purpose of her People, their desires,
Thoughts, hopes, fears, needs, joys, sorrows, sadnesses,
Their strength in weal, their comforter in woe,—
That this her mortal habitation should
Lie cold and tenantless! Alas! Alas!
Too often Life has to be taught by Death
The meaning and the priceless ness of Love,
Not understood till lost. But She—but She
Was loved as Monarch ne'er was loved before,
From girlhood until womanhood, and grew
Fresh as the leaf, and fragrant as the flower,
In grace and comeliness until the day
Of happy nuptial, glad maternity,
More closely wedded to her People's heart
By each fresh tie that knitted Her to Him
Whose one sole thought was how She still might be
Helpmate to England; England then; scarce more,
Or bounded by the name of British Realm,
But by some native virtue broadening out
Into an Empire wider than all names,
Till, like some thousand-years, out-branching oak,
Its mildness overshadowed half the globe
With peaceful arms and hospitable leaves.

But there came to Her an hour,
When nor Scepter, Throne nor Power,
Children's love nor nation's grief
Brought oblivion or relief,
When the Consort at her side,
Worthiest mentor, wisest guide,
Was by Heaven's divine decree
From her days withdrawn, and She
As dethroned by her distress,
Veiled her widowed loneliness;
And, though longing still to hear
Voice so reverenced and dear,
All her People understood
Sacredness of Widowhood.

Then when She came amongst them yet once more,
She came in Autumn radiance, Summer gone,
Leaf still on branch, but fruit upon the bough,
Fruit of long years and ripe experience,
A shade of grave bereavement on her face,
Withal more wise, more pitiful, tender more
To others' anguish and necessities,
More loved, more reverenced, even than before;
Till not alone the dwellers in Her Isle,
But the adventurous manhood of its loins,
In far-off seas and virgin Continents
They won and wedded to domestic laws
And home's well-ordered household sanctities,
Hailed Her as Mother of the Mother Land,
Queen, Empress, more than Empress or than Queen,
The Lady of the World, on high enthroned
By right divine of duties well fulfilled,
To be the pattern to all Queens, all Kings,
All women, and the consciences of men
Who look on duty as man's only right.
Nor yet alone to those empowered to be
The subjects of her Scepter, proud to pray,
"God save our Empress-Queen Victoria!"
But those, our kinsmen overseas, that cling,
With no less pride, to Kingless government,
Honored and loved Her, hailed Her Queen of Queens,
Peerless among all women in the world.
And long and late this happy season wore,
This mellow, gracious Autumn of her days,
This sweet, grave Indian Summer, till we grew
To deem it limitless, and half forgot
Mortality's decree. And now there falls
A sudden sadness on our lives, and we
Can only bow disconsolate heads and weep,
And look out from our lonely hearths and see
The homeless drifting of the Winter mist,
And hear the requiem of the Winter wind.

But from that Otherwhere man's Faith and Hope,
And mortal need for, immorality
Invisibly conceive, I seem to hear
A well-remembered voice, august and mild,
Rebuking our despondency, and thus
Bidding us face the Future, as She faced
Anguish and loss, sorrow of life and death,
The fearful sadness at the heart of things.

"Dry your tears and cease to weep,
Dead I am not, no, asleep,
And asleep but to your seeing,
Lifted to that land of Rising,
Lying on life's other shore,
Wakeful now for evermore,
Looking thence, I still will be,
So that you forget not me,
All that, more than, I was there,
Weighted with my Crown of care,
Over you I still will reign,
Still will comfort and sustain,
Through all welfare, through all ill,
You shall be my People still.
I have left you, of my race,
Sons of wisdom, wives of grace,
Who again have offspring, reared
To revere and be revered.
Those on Mighty Thrones, and these
Doomed thereto when Heaven decrees:
Chief amongst them all is One,
Well you know, my first-born Son,
Best and tenderest son to me,
Heir of my Authority.
He through all my lonelier years
Tempered with his smile my tears,
And was, in my widowed want,
Comforter and confidant.
Therefore, trustful, steadfast, brave,
Give Him what to Me you gave,
Who am watching from Above,
Reverence, Loyalty and Love!
And these gifts He back will give
Long as He shall reign and live."

BRITAIN'S COMING CENSUS.

An Enumeration to Be Made on March 31 of the Present Year.

London Telegraph.

Under the direction of the local government board, the registrar general and his able coadjutors at Somerset house are already preparing for the census of the United Kingdom on Maech 31 next. As it happens, the date falls on a Sunday, and that has been chosen because most people are at home then. The people of Great Britain—England, Scotland, and Wales—will be counted simultaneously with those of Ireland. In both cases the arrangements are on identicel lines, except that Ireland will have a religious census, and the rest of the kingdom will not.

Prepartory to the census of ten years ago, England and Wales were parceled out into 34,000 districts, so that, allowing for the growth of the population, the number of districts next March will fall little short of 40,000. Each district will have an enumerator, his duty being to distribute, collect, and copy the householder's schedules. Institutions and establishments holding more than 100 inmates will be specially enumerated, in the majority of cases by the chief resident officers. Appointed about the middle of February, this army of enumerators will be under the immediate control of local registrars, these in turn being supervised by superintendent registrars. The enumerators will distribute the householder's schedules during the week prior to the census day and collect them on the Monday following. Within a reasonable period the returns must be delivered by the enumerators, so as to be examined and revised by the local registrars, before being passed on to the superintendent registrars, who in due course transmit them to the census office. Summary returns form the basis of a preliminary report, which is succeeded by a general report, and both are in process of time laid before the houses of Parliament.

When the results of the last census became known the fact that the population of England and Wales fell short of the official estimate by nearly 750,000 created quite a sensation, but the random charges of inaccuracy were not substantiated. England and Wales were shown to contain 29,002,525 inhabitants; Scotland, 4,025,647, and Ireland 4,704,750, making 37,732,922, the total for the United Kingdom. What increase is the forthcoming census likely to establish? According to the registrar general's estimate, the population of England and Wales in July of the present year amounted to 32,091,907; Scotland, 4,313,293, and Ireland 4,517,471, representing an aggregate of 40,921,371 for the United Kingdom. Seeing that the natural increase of the population amounts roughly to 112,712 every three months, the census of 1901 may be expected to demonstrate that Great Britain and Ireland contain no fewer than 41,259,507 people, or an advance of 3,526,585 since the census of 1891.

DELUSIONS AS TO CUBA.

New York Times.

The belief that our late war with Spain was a war of humanity, begun and carried on primarily to relieve an oppressed people and make them free and independent, is one of the common errors of the time. Men forget that the first step toward war taken by the Government of the United States was the unanimous vote of both houses of Congress on March 9, 1898, appropriating $50,000,000 "for the National defense and for each and every purpose connected therewith, to be expended in the discretion of the President." They forget that in his message of April 11, the President advised Congress that in his judgment it was our duty to intervene to stop the war, even though that course involved "hostile constraint upon both parties to the contest." They have overlooked the statement in his annual message of December, 1898, after the end of the war, that "the grounds justifying that step were, the interests of humanity; the duty to protect the lives and property of our citizens in Cuba; the right to check injury to our commerce and people through the devastation of the island, and, most important, the need of removing at once and forever the constant menace and the burdens entailed upon our Government by the uncertainties and perils of the situation caused by the unendurable disturbance in Cuba."

It was because we could not endure the disturbance, not because the Cubans found it unendurable, that we intervened to put a stop to it. The destruction of the Maine opened our eyes. National self-interest, the desire to protect ourselves, was the dominant motive, the only justifying motive. The promptings of humanity had their place, certainly, among the considerations that moved us to intervene, but they were secondary and subordinate. For humanity's sake alone, for the sole purpose of delivering the Cubans rfom the Spanish yoke, we should not have gone to war. A moment's consideration of the matter furnishes proof of that. If the Island of Cuba, ground under the heel of the oppressor, its starving people herded together by the cruel Weyler, and its appeals for liberty always ringing in our ears, had been an island of the Mediterranean off the coast of Spain instead of lying at our very doors, our pity would have been stirred, our sentiments of humanity would have been deeply moved, but we should never have sent troops and ships against its bloody masters.

Gratitude is a purely voluntary and spontaneous emotion. If the Cubans shall feel that they owe us something and shall be moved to acknowledge our valuable services by some present recognition of the conditions which we must impose, whether they approve them or not, upon their exercise of the privileges of independence, we shall applaud their good sense. But for decency's sake, let us not prate about their obligation of gratitude for aid rendered out of regard primarily for our own interest, not theirs.

It follows from these considerations that neither chivalry nor tenderness nor any honorable obligation constrains us to sacrifice the interests of our people or imperil our peaceful relations with the world out of respect for the wishes of the Cubans. Cuba stands now very much in her former relation to us, an island neighbor whose people we wish to see free, prosperous, and happy. But we cannot, we shall not be guilty of the amazing folly of permitting her to organize her new sovereignty upon a basis filled with the promise of new hells upon earth to disturb us with dangers and load us with burdens. One unendurable hell upon earth we closed up at the cost of hundreds of millions and the lives of many brave Americans. We shall not permit new ones to be opened.

Those rash counselors from whose narrow view all principles and policies save those of the Teller resolution are excluded would hurry us blindly into new wars and certain troubles. The other war they denounced as the crime of the century, but now they come clamoring for courses that will lead surely to the spilling of more blood. The sovereignty of Cuba was certainly promised by the terms of the Teller resolution. But that was not all. The Congress that adopted that resolution was asked "to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between Spain and the people of Cuba and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government, capable of observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility, the security of its citizens as well as our own, and for the accomplishment of those ends to use the military and naval forces of the United States as might be necessary."

For the accomplishment of that unfinished work, of those ends as yet not all attained, the President is still using the military forces of the United States. He will continue to use them, under the authority of the act of Congress, until a government capable of maintaining order and of observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, has been established in Cuba. The heedless counselors are teaching the Cuban people to believe that the Teller resolution is the sole and sufficient law of their future relation to us. The Administration, we may be sure, while keeping the pledge of that resolution, will not venture to disregard and nullify other laws of Congress of concurrent and equal force.

Edward Dickinson Baker.

Blaine, in "Twenty Years," Vol. I, pp. 321-2.

From the far-off Pacific came Edward Dickinson Baker, a Senator from Oregon, a man of extraordinary gifts of eloquence, lawyer, soldier, frontiersman, leader of popular assemblies, tribune of the people. In personal appearance he was commanding, in manner most attractive, in speech irresistibly charming. Perhaps in the history of the Senate no man ever left so brilliant a reputation from so short a service. He was born in England, and the earliest recollection of his life was the splendid pageant attending the funeral of Lord Nelson. He came with his family to the United States when a child, lived for a time in Philadelphia, and removed to Illinois, where he grew to manhood and early attained distinction. He served his state with great brilliancy in Congress, and commanded with conspicuous success one of her regiments in the war with Mexico.

The Whigs of the Northwest presented Colonel Baker for a seat in the Cabinet of President Taylor. His failure to receive the appointment was a sore mortification to him. He thought his political career in Illinois was broken, and in 1858, after the close of his service in Congress, he joined the throng who were seeking fortune and fame on the Pacific Slope. When leaving Washington he said to a friend that he should never look on the Capitol again unless he could come bearing his credentials as a Senator of the United States. He returned in eight years.

What Marshall Never Found.

(Chicago Record.)

Although John Marshall studied and construed the Constitution of the United States with the utmost care, he failed to discover that it was the purpose of that instrument to establish a means of acquiring revenue from all the people for redistribution among a small class of them.

The Congressional ship-subsidy advocates who joined in the exercises in his honor Monday are more "progressive" than was the great Chief Justice.

A Valentine.

C. Clayton Brown in the Smart Set.

Red roses, dear, I send to thee—
Not that their glory you may see,
But that this flower, which artists limn
As beauty's sweetest synonym,
May look on you with envious eyes,
And know that 'neath the ethereal skies
The fairest thing on earth that grows
Is you, sweetheart, and not the rose.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Mrs. Nation talks as wildly as she chops.

Kitchener keeps merrily on with the cheerful work of interring his reputation.

Today's Senatorial forecast—Slightly warmer, with indications of a change Tuesday.

The Governor of Ohio acts as if he had accepted a position as press agent for the Saengerfest fight.

Bryan gets out a new issue every week, but that is as nothing compared to his record when he was in politics.

The big fire in a Pittsburg cork factory Saturday will probably result in an unprecedented boom in negro minstrelsy.

Governor Beckham of Kentucky is going to put all the feudists of that state in jail. He has probably reserved the padded cell for himself and Colonel Jack Chinn.

Marie Corelli says she prophesied in one of her novels that we would one day talk with Mars. Has any one been telling Marie that we are talking with Mars at present?

Iowa robbers stole the safe from an express car and took it with them to loot at their leisure. The detectives are waiting at the switch until they come back for the car.

Not satisfied with charging King Edward with writing poetry, his enemies now accuse him of being a golfer. The fierce light that beats upon a throne uncovers a multitude of sins.

Mlle. Jane Derval, the winner of the "Gil Blas" beauty contest held in Paris a year ago, received $900 a year from a well-known dressmaker to wear his clothes exclusively and advertise them among theatrical folk. Her employer has just sued Madamoiselle for damages, claiming to hold proof that she received $2000 from a rival to propagate the idea that while she wore the garments made by the plaintiff on account of the salary paid her for doing so, she preferred his rival's gowns.

When in 1881, President Garfield succumbed to the bullet of an assassin, after a long period of suffering, the Queen wrote a personal letter to Mrs. Garfield, saying: 'I have watched during the last few sad months with admiration the patience and Christian fortitude of your gallant husband, and learn with great grief that he has passed away. I, too, know the sorrow of such unhappy desolation, and I ask you to accept my deepest sympathy in your bereavement. President Garfield was a good and noble man. May God sustain you in your hour of trouble."

The oldest English subject is believed to be Mrs. Elizabeth Hanbury, who lives with her son at Dynevor House, on the top of Richmondd Hill, and is now in her one hundred and eighth year. Her son, Cornelius Hanbury, who is the church-warden of Christ Church, Richmond, is well advanced in his eighth decade. Mrs. Hanbury is a member of the Society of Friends. Her faculties, with the exception of an increasing deafness, are still good, and her interest in passing events is well maintained. Until a year or two ago the old lady was in the habit of driving out occasionally, but she does not now leave the house.

The smallest claim ever presented to Congress was filed the other day. It was for $1, and Secretary Root, in a letter of transmittal, asked that it be included in the general deficiency bill. The claim is that of Mrs. B. N. Reuter, of Pomeroy, O. She says that the Government engineers, while blasting near her house, caused an explosion which hurled a stone through one of her windows. The stone did 50 cents' worth of injury to the glass and 25 cents' worth to a lace curtain. The remaining quarter is for the services of a glazier in putting in the glass. Mrs. Reuter first wrote a letter complaining of the damage to Major Bixby, the government engineer in charge of the improvements of the Ohio River. Major Bixby, after having the matter investigated by an officer, transmitted the letter to his chief, General John M. Wilson, chief of engineers, with the indorsement that the claim was a just one and should be paid. General Wilson, after allowing the claim to travel along the routine of his office, referred it through military channels to the Secretary of War. "That woman should be paid," was the comment of General Grosvenor, in whose district the claimant lives.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Incredible.—Stranger—Could you direct me to the Carnegie library? Citizen—Carnegie library! There is none in this town. "What!"—Indianapolis Press.

A Suggestion.—May—"Did you know that salt is being used as a heart stimulant? Clara—Yes. Why? May—You might get Mr. Faintheart to try it.—Brooklyn Life.

Says Socrates—"Heaven never helps the man who will not act." This is not a very encouraging prospect for some of the men we see upon the dramatic stage.—Boston Transcript.

"Did you get much of that old party?" asked one highwayman of another. "Got all he had," was the reply. "That is right. He who is worth doing at all is worth doing well."—Detroit Free Press.

After the Consultation.—Patient—Now, doctor, what's the matter with me, anyway? The Head Consulting Physician—My dear sir, do you suppose that if we knew what was the matter with you, we would have decided to hold a post-mortem?—Harper's Bazar.

Old Crusty on Sleighing.—"Have you been sleigh-riding yet?" asked Snaggs of Old Crusty. "Oh, no; if I cared for that sort of thing I could get all the sensations by sitting in the cellar with my feet in a bucket of cold water, and jingling a few bells."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Little Bobby has been forbidden to ask for dessert. The other day they forgot to serve him, and, as Bobby is very obedient, he remained silent, although much affected. "Josephine," said the father, "pass me a plate." "Won't you have mine, papa?" cried little Bobby, "It is very clean."—Tit-Bits.

Icebergs.

John James Meehan in the Criterion.

No port lamps gleam along our sides,
No banners float on high;
No human lookout raises glass
To scan our sea or sky.

No admirers above our decks
'Mid guns and gunners stand
In hidden sheath to send the sound
Of warlike, stern command.

Yet all the navies of the world
Our bows in vain assail;
We fear no smoking battle tower
That thunders through the gale.

By Captains gray our path is marked,
By sailors white and old.
For us the phantom rockets glare
And phantom bells are tolled.

In misty, unremembered ports
Our beacon lights were set,
By hands long gone from mortal view,
By forms that men forget.

And we may wander on our course
Till time at end shall be,
For in our breasts are locked the hulls
Of ships once lost at sea.