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TODAY'S WEATHER -Fair, with westerly

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11.

#### WHERE MUNICIPAL REFORM BE-GINS.

What is to become of the modern city if we cannot more effectively control the public service corporation? This is the question which Mr. Edwin Burrett Smith suggests in his April Atlantic article, but does not answer. His diagmosis is very clever, however, and his proposals are promising. He shows us the municipal counterpart of the protected trust. Special privilege is the inequity in each case, but in the city the abuse takes the form of the public service corporation, providing such necesmary utilities as transportation, gas, electricity and the telephone. The public streets, existing solely for the people's convenience, are occupied by these corporations for the purpose of rendering service as necessary as water, pavements, etc. Only by virtue of this public necessity are they suffered on the streets at all, yet they often act as if the streets were theirs by vested right which society has no power to modify or guinnay.

Nor is this the worst of it, for they soon pass on to the point of not only owning the streets, but of dictating and corrupting legislation, "This conscienceless creation," says Mr. Smith, "is at once the main cause of municipal misrule and the chief obstacle to municipal reform." The question of the hour therefore is, he says, "whether the publie service corporation shall be controlled or destroyed." He thinks it can be controlled, and is certain at least that control should first be tried. By requiring revenue from the corporation in return for every privilege enjoyed, by making it a monopoly and thus preventing duplication of plants with resulting waste and corruption of officials by granting franchises only for of this corporation dominion can be minimized sufficiently to obviate necessity for municipal ownership. But if time proves otherwise, then welcome municipal ownership as an escape from insufferable ills, both economic and

moral.

We are persuaded that the chief value of this usefully suggestive essay lies in its analysis of corrupt corporation methods. We shudder at the prospect of adding employes to the city's payroll, but we are upt to forget the extent to which spolismen even now control appointments to office within these same corpgrations; we rarely understand how close the connection has grown between the corporation and the party boss who names our Mayors and Councilmen. The body of interested voters created by the corporation within the electorate is now almost as much a part of the machine as if actually on the city's pay-roll, possibly more so. Official puppets of party bosses come and go, with inconstant or corrupt purposes, while the corporation knows, through succeeding terms, just what it wants, and with its powerful political allies and the finest legal talent available, proceeds to get it. Coarse bribery is rarely resorted to, because its finer forms are usually sufficient; but when necessary votes are bought by unscrupulous persons whose kervices are highly paid and no questions asked, under the specious plea that the end of selfpreservation justifies the means, and if anything wrong has been done the highly respectable figureheads of the com-

pany do not know it. Every one concerned in urban comfort and probity should read Mr. Smith's article. He shows that until we have brought these great corporations under control, we can have no municipal reform worthy the name.

The creditable performance of the torpedo-boat destroyer Goldsborough on Puget Sound Monday, while it afforded unbounded satisfaction to her builders, was not a surprise. On her earliest trial the boat gave evidence of her qualities. and but for one of those unforeseen accidents which continually attend the trials of high-speed craft, she would have covered the measured knot at a greater speed than that required by the Government. Since that time several mishaps have attended the Goldsborough. Sometimes the coal proved of inferior quality, sometimes the crew lacked the skill and experience to get the best results out of the engines, and again weather conditions were unfavorable. But the Naval officers who constituted the trial board have all along been convinced that the craft "had the speed in her," and that under proper conditions she would fulfill the rigorous Government requirements. And, alnot been without a parallel, for the Farragut, a thirty-knet boat built by the Union Iron Works, made a score or | juror's oath is broken when a clearly | Sherman, that "he deserted the com- | position?

more of unsuccessful attempts to make the required speed before she was successful; the Rowan, built on Puget Sound, never did prove entirely satisfactory, and now the Perry, another Union Iron Works boat, is to be accepted at less than contract price owing to her failure to make the specified time, There is no reason to doubt that the Goldsborough, having broken the record in her class over a measured knot, will be successful in her second trial, and become as much of a credit to her enterprising builders, the Wolff & Zwicker Iron Works, of Portland, as were her two splendid little predecessors, the Davis and the Fox, which so far exceeded contract speed as to call the attention of naval constructors all

#### APPOMATTOX.

Thirty-six years ago yesterday the bleeding remnant of Lee's heroic Army of Northern Virginia surrendered to Grant at Appomattox. When the last great campaign began, March 29, 1865, Sherman was at Goldsboro, N. C., with over 90,000 veterans, facing Joe Johnston's army of some 35,000 men. Grant, with 120,000, faced Lee, who had some 70,000 men to defend his intreachments. thirty miles in length, before Richmond and Petersburg. On the 25th of March a formidable sortle was made against Grant's right at Petersburg, but was finally repulsed with severe loss. Sheridan, who commanded Grant's turning celumn of 10,000 cavalry and 12,000 infantry, struck at Lee's right and rear, and on April 1, after two days' hard fighting, smashed Lee's extreme right at Five Forks, under Pickett. Lee's lines had been stretched so thin that

they had finally been broken at last. The next morning, April 2, at day light, a general assault was made all along the line before Petersburg. The Sixth Corps, some 15,000 strong, and but 700 yards from the enemy, carried the works in its front for half a mile. This success, supported as it was by the victorious charge of the Twenty-fourth Corps, under General John Gibbon, declded the fate of the day. General Humphreys, with the Second Corps, and General Parke, with the Ninth Corps, successfully assaulted on the extreme left and right, and Lee at once informed Davis that he should be obliged to abandon his lines that night. The gallant Confederate, Lieutenant-General A. Pe Hill, fell this day under the fire of the skirmlshers of Getty's division, which led the charging column of the Sixth Corps.

The Southern Confederacy really fell this day, for the rest of the campaign was the mere hunt of the gallant quarry that, crippled and bleeding at every pore, resolutely faced its pursuers like a wounded buffalo bravely standing at bay before a pack of wolves in pursuit. On April 6, at Sailor's Creek, Lee's rearguard was overwhelmed and captured by the combined operations of Sheridan's cavalry supported by the Second and Sixth Corps. On April 8 Sheridan's cavalry cut off Lee's retreat at Appomattox Station, A rapid night march brought up the infantry of the Fifth and Twenty-fourth Corps to Sheridan's support, and at daylight April 9 Lee found himself with the road barred to Lynchburg by Sheridan with 30,000 men, while Meade, with the Second and Sixth Corps, was press-ing close upon his rear. Without food, without artillery, without hope of res-

cue, Lee was obliged to surrender. Of the eminent actors of this last great campaign on either side, all are dead save the Union Generals Getty, Merritt and Miles, and the Confederate Generals Longstreet and John B. Gordon. In this short ten days' campaign the Army of the Potomac lost not less | was carried down to his death in the than 10,000 killed and wounded.

he result of this last campaign was Lee. It was a fight on Lee's part against his judgment, but unless hampered by Davis' orders, Lee erred in judgment in staying too long in his lines before Richmond and Petersburg. His only hope was to have withdrawn at an earlier date, joined Joe Johnston. smashed Sherman, if there was a chance, or, failing that, to have retreated to the mountains. Sheridan in his "Memoirs" says that Lee lost his last chance of retreat to North Carolina and a junction with Johnston when he failed to brush Sheridan from his path April 4 at Jettersville, because he hesttated and dallied for hours until Meade came up with the Second and Sixth Corps to Sheridan's support.

# EXERCISE OF PARDONING POWER.

In a recently published letter Gover-

nor Geer seeks to justify his pardon of

Edwin L. Mims upon the ground that the jury rendered a verdict of guilty of manslaughter upon an agreement to recommend to the court for a minimum sentence, which was one year; that the Judge ignored their recommendation and gave Mims five years; that the jurors said that if they had supposed the Judge would ignore the request they would have never agreed to a verdict of guilty. There is no force in this plea, for no jury has a legal right under their oath to give any man a full acquittal fearing that the court would not be as merciful as the jury would be if they were the court. The law wisely binds the jury by oath to render a verdict in accordance with the evidence, and wisely reserves to the Judge the right to determine whether mercy should be extended to the guilty and what measure of mercy, which may extend to a suspension of sentence, but the jury has only to determine the guilt of the accused as a question of fact. They may acquit if insanity to the point of irresponsibilty is established; they may find the prisoner guilty with a recommendation to mercy, but it belongs to the court to approve or reject a recommendation to mercy, and to fix the measure of mercy if the court decides to grant the jury's prayer. It is not a juror's business to find verdicts which spell mercy illegally extended. It is his sole business to find verdicts according to the evidence and to recommend mercy. He must leave to the Judge the question of mercy and its measure. He is bound as an oath-keeping juror to leave the question of mercy. where the law wisely leaves it, with the court. To acquit a guilty man because the jury thinks the Judge may not be merciful enough is not the business of the jury, and the law, by restricting the jury to a recommendation of mercy, shows that its clear intention is to keep the jury down to the question of fact though it is more than a year since her las to the guilt of the accused, leaving first builder's trial, her experience has the question of mercy and its degree

guilty man is acquitted. So in this Mims case it was not the jury's business to fix the sentence of the court. Their responsibility ended with conviction and recommendation to while the Judge may approve the jury's recommendation to mercy, he is not under the slightest legal or moral obligation to do so. In this particular case the Judge did consider favorably the jury's recommendation to mercy, for he gave the convict only five years when he otherwise would have given him fifteen, and this jury has the efover the world to the firm which built the convict the minimum punishment of one year. What right had the jury to mercy would fix the term of sentence? cuting Attorney. For these reasons we deem the plea of the jury for a pardon to Mims absolutely weak and worthless; an ex-post facto excuse for stultifying their verdict by indorsing an application for pardon.

> The plea that Mims' continued incarceration was a source of private sorrow to worthy people who were connected with him by marriage is worthless, because, as Governor Geer confesses, on that plea 50 per cent of the prisoners could be liberated tomorrow. The truth is that when pardons are issued on the plea of personal sympathy for the prisoner's decent family, or on the plea that unless the prisoner is released he will die in tall, punishment is robbed of its strongest terrors. The reflection that it is painful to be separated from wife and children; that a penitentiary is a very disagreeable place to be sick and a disgraceful place to die, restrains many a man of criminal impulses from committing crime. A penitentiary should be made healthful, and the food should be sufficient and wholesome, but beyond this a penitentiary should be made so utterly austere and repulsive that no man would eyer leave it without an utter disgust and dread of a return to its gloomy walls. The only just rule in our judgment should befor the Governor never to issue a pardon, no matter who signed the petition, unless it could be shown with legal conclusiveness that the verdict was unjust and contrary to evidence. The desire, the willingness, the anxiety of a number of persons, be they never so worthy and influential, to obtain a pardon for a convict should never be respected. The state should right any wrong wrought by clear failure of justice in the trial, but otherwise there should be no mercy beyond commutation for good conduct.

### THE HEROIC IMPULSE.

Our Government has officially paid much honor to the memory of Lieutenant-Commander Roper, United States Navy, who lost his life at the naval station at Cavite, near Manila, on the 31st ult., while trying to rescue some of his men from a burning compartment of his vessel, the gunboat Petrel. Secretary Long and Admiral Crowninshield describe the dead officer as a hero who gave his life to save others in peril. This is not the first instance within or without the Navy when the heroic impulse to self-sacrifice has been exhibited. In our Civil War Commodore Craven, United States Navy, lost his valuable life when his ironclad was blown up by a torpedo at the battle of Mobile Bay, because he insisted on the pilot escaping from the turret first. "After you, pilot," said Craven. The pilot obeyed and was saved, while Craven was too late and iron coffin of his vessel. Of course, it is doubtless no surprise to either Grant or simply obeyed the rule that a captain is expected to be the last to leave his pilot offered his captain his chance nobody would have known, if Craven had taken it and been saved, that he owed his life to his pilot's magnanimity, save Craven himself. If the pilot had been drowned, Craven had only to hold his peace, for there was nobody left in the turret save him and the pilot.

While such impulsive acts of nobility are found in the annals of the armies and navies of every civilized country, they are equally common in the history of the merchant service. Indeed they are peculiar to no particular vocation, to no rank or class of legitimate work ers in this world; nor are they limited to one sex. The day before Commander Roper lost his life at Cavite, Professor Alexander Wheeler, of the Bridgeport (Conn.) High School, was drowned by the capsizing of his boat, but his companion was rescued by a sacrifice on part of the drowned man. The boat was small, and when it upset Wheeler told his companion, who could not swim, to hold on to the boat while he swam ashore, nearly half a mile distant. Wheeler was drowned in his attempt, but his companion was rescued. Wheeler led his class at Yale in 1897, Here we have the same heroic impulse to an act of manly self-sacrifice asserting itself on call quite as promptly in this gentle, peaceful scholar and teacher as in men bred to the military or naval profession. Thackeray says a mar never can tell how much his friend thinks of him until he asks him for the loan of a few pounds, and it is certainly true that you never can tell what manner of man will act unselfishly in a great hour of common danger until he has been confronted with it.

With the news of the loss of the great English ironclad, Victoria, ten years ago, came the announcement that "the Chaplain lost his life while trying to save the sick." That single sentence means that the Chaplain of the Victoria was one of the same heroic breed of men as Lieutenant-Commander Roper. He imitated his great master. Christ Jesus, and rose to the level of an act of supreme self-sacrifice. He threw away his chance of life to save the lives of others because he thought it his duty to stay at his post to the last, and because he thought that if he really believed the gospel of selfsacrifice he preached he ought not in the hour of general danger to raise the cry of "save himself who can." And yet, while it would seem more difficult for a battle-worn soldler or weatherbeaten sailor to rise to the level of selfsacrifice than a high-minded clergymap nevertheless in actual life Captains and Colonels and Corporals seem to rise as often to the level of self-sacrifice in the hour of a great common danger as men of gentler breeding and more refined spirit. General Grant once strongly obentirely to the discretion of the court, jected to favoring an old officer of the A jury ought to understand that a Army on the ground, as he told General

mand when it was prostrated with the cholera on the Nicaragua route because he was a coward, and he dodged field duty all through the Civil War because he is a coward." This was Grant's mercy. They knew perfectly well that rugged manliness; he and his comrade, Ledbetter, stuck by their command, not because they enjoyed living on the stricken men, who were dying with frightful rapidity, but because it was as have been to play coward in battle.

The frequency of such acts of heroism as that of Commander Roper among frontery to pretend that they would humble sallors, miners, loggers, men of have either acquitted the prisoner or all walks of life, is sufficient answer to delivered the principal address of the disagreed hopelessly if they had not sup- the pretense that heroism is a pagan posed that the Judge would have given creed outworn in our day or is only obeyed by a morbid person; that when anybody takes a chance to lose his life suppose that their recommendation to in the hope to save a life he is a crank or a "morbid" person; that is, that san-Surely not from the Judge or the Prose- ity is always selfish. A fine-spirited New York physician of Southern antecedents left his practice and went to New Orleans to help care for the sick at the last great outbreak of the yellow fever in that city. He caught the fever and died of it, but he was ready for this self-sacrifice, for when his family wrote him strongly of his danger he replied in substance that the best place for him was the post of the highest duty, and then quoted these lines from Shakespeare:

All places that the eye of heaven visits Are to a wise man ports and happy havens,

Ships now loading in Portland harbor will carry Oregon products to the United Kingdom, Mediterranean ports, Siberia, Japan, China, South Africa and South America, while down at the mouth of the Columbia a vessel is loading lumber for Australia. The fleet in port loading in the foreign trade includes five big steamships and twelve ence was hidden, nav. did disappear forsailing vessels, with a combined capacity of over 60,000 tons. Half a dozen ships have already been sent foreign this month, and others beside the fleet now in the river will follow. Portland has worked up this big business so gradually and with so little noise that its importance is not fully appreclated. Much of the work has been done in the face of obstacles which in the future may be removed. Seattle and Tacoma are both growing rapidly, but the man who asserts that their growth is to any appreciable extent at the expense of Portland is in error. This city has made heavy gains in business in all lines within the past five years, and the conditions for a continuation of this gain were never more favorable than they are at the present time.

A most sympathetic and worthy charity is that which supports the Old Ladies' Home in this city. There are many who believe that charity could not go far amiss if it confined its substantial ministrations to two classes of dependents—aged persons and children of the homeless class. Self-helpful aid his best preparation for his future career is due to a multitude of others, and may be properly and generously bestowed, but from these two classes, especially the former, no return is possible. Children, of course, are expected to become self-sustaining ultimately, and wise plans for their care look definitely to this end; but aged persons become each year more dependent and their care must be assumed with that understanding. The most gracious, therefore, and the most patient of all charities, is that which reaches out and gathers in the homeless of this class with the purpose to make comfortable the last stage of their life's journey. It is gratifying to note that this community is not behind in this good work, but is sympathetically mindful of the needs of homeless old people in its midst.

The right of school authorities to compel pupils to be vaccinated or to exclude them from attendance on school has recently been affirmed in two states. ship in event of disaster, but when the The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania upholds the Court of Common Pleas in declaring that the principal of the Keystone public school, of Philadelphia, had the right to refuse to admit an unvaccinated child. A Chicago Judge gave a similar decision in a mandamus case affirming the right of the Board of Edbe vaccinated or remain away from the schools. In the latter decision an exception was made in the case of a child with heart trouble, and who a physician testified would be harmed by the operation, but it was provided that this unvaccinated child must remain away from school whenever a smallpox epi

demic existed. The "antis" of Boston insist that Funston shall be cashiered and dismissed from the Army, because the stratagem he employed in capture of Aguinaldo was "unbecoming an officer and gentleman." It was deception, infamous deception, they tell us; horrifying to people of moral sense, such as live in Boston. These good people, if pressed on the subject, no doubt would answer that the American name was sullied by the way that Washington 'played it on the British" at sundry times during the Revolution. Nothing can excuse deception, even in the case of an enemy in war. But this transcendental idea of truth doesn't appear to have much vogue anywhere.

Lord Salisbury is sick; M. Waldeck-Rousseau is sick; Li Hung Chang is sick; Czar Nichołas is sick; the Shah of Persia is sick. Commenting upon this notable sick list, the Philadelphia Times remarks: "This looks like a case of Sic Semper Tyrannis all round." To be complete, however, the list should contain the name of Tsi An, Empress Dowager of China, the most unconquerable tyrant of the age.

The trial of Benjamin for the recent killing of Green opposite the Cascades begins at Stevenson today. This is commendable promptness in action Alken, convicted at Hillsboro Monday, committed his offense four months ago, Asfor McDaniel, nobody knows whether anything is ever to be done with him or not.

There are two primary election laws on the statute-book of Oregon, passed at the recent session of the Legislature. Each is confused and inexplicable; and it will be found that between them they make a mess of it.

General Young's objection to considerable withdrawal of troops from the Philippines is probably well taken. The British furnish us from South Africa with a warning which should not be in vain.

How would it do to have the President christen the Lewis and Clark Ex-

## ANNIVERSARY OF APPOMATTOX.

CHICAGO, April 9.-The anniversary of the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox was celebrated by the Hamilton Club this evening at an elaborate banquet, to which 3500 invitations were issued, and of which two-thirds were accepted. The same boat with a crowd of cholera- dinner, which was held at the Auditorium Hotel, was one of the most pretentious affairs ever given by the Hamilton Club. unmanly to leave the boat as it would | The chief speakers of the evening were Bishop Dudley, of Kentucky, and President Angell, of the University of Michigan. President Angell spoke on "General Grant in the Orient," and Bishop Dudley evening. He spoke as follows:

"I count it a happy omen for our cou try, Mr. President, and gentlemen of the Hamilton Club, that I am standing here tonight. You have bidden me, a Vir-Southerner, a Confederate soldier, to have part in your celebration of Appomattox Day, that I may voice the feelings of Southern men about the peerless leader, who, on that day did sheathe his stainless sword. You have bidden me because of your desire to make this your annual festival an influence to unify the once divided sections, and in this spirit I am come. Your courteous representative who brought me your invitation told me of the purpose to portray upon the menu-card of your banquet the figure of Co-lumbia with laurel wreath in either hand, for the victor and the vanquished, alike her sons, alike her glory, because of their heroism. He bade me come to speak almost the identical words I had addressed to a gathering of old Confederate comrades in a distant city; to utter with frankness and without restraint the feelings of our people in the Southland con-cerning Robert Lee, and therefore am I

"Joe Wheeler and Fitzhugh Lee are the honored representatives of the United States Government. Now God be praised for all this! God be praised that, when the beautiful image of Southern independever behind the storm cloud of battle, in its stead arose upon our tearful sight the vision, not of gibbet and prison-house and vassalage, but of old-time liberty and brotherhood and equality-the vision of Columbia with mother heart and outstretched arms, calling her sons of the Southland back to their places of honor and of service by the family fireside. And tonight, as we look upon all these wonders and marvel and give thanks.

"And so I come as your fellow-citizen, in this proud and mighty Nation to speak of him in whose memory I am bidden to speak. I speak of Robert Edward Lee, the patriot, the soldier, who, by the testi-mony of Scott, was his very right arm in the conquest of Mexico; of Robert Edward Lee, equally the patriot and soldier greater than before, who maintained for four long years, the unequal struggle, with overwhelming odds, for the principle that he had been taught, that his supreme allegiance was due to Virginia his mother state,

"Sprung from the loins of the Rupert of our American armies, the son of that Light Horse Harry of the first Revolution, he inherited as well from his mother the noble trains of the long-descended families of Virginian aristocracy; and yet came from the fact that he was a widow's son, upon whose shoulders speedily came the burden of responsibility, of tender care for those dependent upon his youthful headship. With this preparation he entered the academy at West Point, whence he came forth first in his class. I cannot believe that the degeneration of boyhood's frolic, tensing of its companions, into the cowardly brutality to which a Congressional committee has borne witness, been possible when Lee was Captain of Cadets, or when, long years after, Colonel Lee was superintendent of the academy. The boy was too brave to be cruel, and the degradation consequent upon such be havior, and of his responsibility for its continuance, for him to have been in ignorance, or patient, of its existence,

"The years pass by and bring the alliance with the maiden he had loved al-ways, and with it the connection and association with the family of the chieftain whose character he had made the model by which to fashion his own. Mexico comes with that marveious night ride alone, to gain the information which shall make victory a certainty. And then the dull routine of army service in one place and another till the clouds of coming etorm begin to darken the sky of our peaceful, happy America. The impossibility that this country should be onehalf slave and the other half free, Lincoln said, has seized the minds of the

people. "The propounder of this sentiment is chosen President of the United States, ucation in that city to compel pupils to and his election is deemed by the South-be vaccinated or remain away from the ern States to be fraught with calamity to them. They believe that it means the destruction of their peculiar civilization, the taking away of the property they have secured, and are holding under the laws of the Union, and, influenced by this opinion, they, one by one, in the exercise of a right which they believe to be part and parcel of the Federal compact, by an ordinance withdrew from the Union.

"What shall Lee do? He is come to the parting of the ways, and is in an agony of doubt-yes, in agony of doubt. Ren ber that by birth, by training, by service he is devoted to the Government of the United States. Read his letters to his sons and learn that his political opinions were of the Federalist school, that his conception of the course suggested by Southern leaders was that it was madness. He recognized to the full the necessary inequality of the contest between the North and the South, and also that such contest, long and devastating, was as sure and as necessary as its inequality. He loved the flag he had borne with an ecstacy of devotion, and yet, with such absolute recognition of the difficulties to be met, and of the probability of defeat in the undertaking to be begun, with grief that was speechless for the evil days on which his country had fallen, he wended his way across the bridge to the land that gave him birth.

"The dreary months passed by: the mills of the gods did grind exceedingly slow. But at last came the opportunity, and Lee was at the head of army of Northern Virginia, and there he rode supreme in the loyar devotion of his followers, and ever more and more in the confidence of all the people, until the long, thin line of gray was worn away and the surrender at Appomattox a necessity.

"I love to think of him, the great Cap-tain, worshiping the Lord Christ in the Christian congregation on every Lord's day; and I recall how he said to an aged Christian minister: 'Oh, if I could only learn to pray, for then I could help these, my college boys, as I should.' I love to think of him as the gentle, tender adviser of wayward boys, so many of whom do testify to his loving, fatherly remonstrance as the very means of their salvation from the ruin which comes from viclous conduct. I love to think of him as he rode his loved old war-horse through those quiet mountain roads, the recipient of courteous salutation from all, both white and black, the idol of the little children, who ran from their humble homes by the wayside to salute him and to hear his genial, merry words of reply. The soldier, greatest of his age; the patriot, unselfish and devoted to the right; the Christian, loyal to his God and Savior; the gentleman always, everywhere courteous and kind-oh! where shall we

It had been expected that Justice Harian, of the United States Supreme Court, would be one of the speakers, as well as Congressman F. W. Cushman, of Wash-

### ATTORNEY-GENERAL SWORN IN.

WASHINGTON, April 9.-Philander C. Knox, of Pittsburg, who succeeds At-torney-General Griggs at the head of the Department of Justice, was worn in at 10:30 this morning in the Cabinet-room of the White House. There were present President McKinley and Mr. Knox's youngest son. Philander C. Knox, Jr., and Justice Shiras, of the Supreme Court, who administered the oath. Justice Shiras is an old friend of the new Attorney-General. Mr. Knox was accompanied to the White House by C. O. L. Cooper, who was Attorney-General Griggs' private secretary, and who may continue with Mr. Knox. After taking the oath Mr. Knox remained with the President until the

Cabinet assembled. The Cabinet meeting lasted about an hour, and Mr. Knox was presented to his colleagues. No official confirmation has been received of the reported rejection of the Platt amendment by the Cuban Con-stitutional Convention. The matter was discussed, and it was considered strange that General Wood had not communicated

that important fact, if it were true. The Cabinet gave some attention to the subject of indemnity to be required of China, it being brought forward by Secretary Hay in connection with Mr. Rock-hill's dispatches received since the last meeting: Great surprise was expressed at the enormous total of the claims, which, being all before the Ministers at Pekin, approximate the vast sum of \$500,000,000. Moreover, at least one of the powers in-sists on keeping the account open until it elects to withdraw entirely from Pekin at a remote date to be fixed at its own will, thereby leaving the total of its claim to be increased greatly hereafter. The opinion of the other Cabinet officers completely accorded with that of Secretary Hay as to the desirability of securing a reduction of the claims.

G. W. Colvig Appointed Consul. On recommendation of Senator Mitchell of Oregon, the President has directed appointment of Hon, George W. Colof Grant's Pass, Or., as United States Consul at Barranquilla, Colombia. Mr. Colvig is a lawyer, and was a member of the State Legislature. For a number of years he was a member of the State Railroad Commission in Oregon.

Senator Mitchell Improved. Senator Mitchell's condition is much improved this afternoon, and with returning appetite he seems to be gaining strength. He is still confined to his bed, however, and is not allowed to receive any callers. His daughter, Mrs. Helmboldt, who has been with him during his illness, is suffering from an acute attack of tonsilitis.

Commissioner Hermann is also suffering from this popular malady, but is able to appear at his desk every day.

Prize Money for Sampson. The United States Court of Claims has rendered a judgment in favor of Admiral Sampson for \$330 as a bounty growing out of the engagements at Manzanillo and Nipa Bay, in Cuba, during the Spanish-American War. The court also rendered a judgment in favor of Fleet Captain Chadwick, who participated in these engagements.

Short-Term Bonds Offered. Secretary of the Treasury Gage today received an offer of \$1,000,000 short-term bonds from New York. The price was higher than he was willing to pay, and he therefore rejected the offer, The Goldsborough's Run.

So far as the standardizing trial goes, he torpedo-boat Goldsborough is believed to have broken all American records. dispatch received at the Navy Department the naval trial board, dated Seattle yes-"Goldsborough standardizing trials com-

pleted today over measured mile; average speed 30.84 knots. Official trial probably Thursday. The standardizing trials are over shorter distances than the regular official speed

trials, which require the boats to run steadily for two hours. Governor Allen Entertained. The President and Mrs. McKinley entertained at dinner tonight Governor Allen, of Porto Rico, and Mrs. Allen. Other invited guests to meet them included Secretary and Mrs. Wilson, Major-Generals Corbin and Young, and the latter's aids Captains Howard and Smedburg, and Misses Hitchcock, Phelps and Hanna.

### An Act of Courtesy. Philadelphia Bulletin,

The Administration has graceful act in ordering Admiral Remay, of the Asiatic station, to send a first-class warship to Melbourne to represent American good will at the opening of the Pariament of the new federated Australian commonwealth next month. ence of the cruiser New York will be a significant token of the interest which intelligent Americans feel in the birth of what is virtually a separate nationality at the antipodes. The Australians start out under favorable auspices, for they already possesses several important cities, with flourishing domestic industries, a high per capita average of wealth, and a population of at least 3,000,000, while there is ample opportunity for growth and development on their great island, which ulation of at least 3,000,000, while is almost entitled to be called a continent. It would not be surprising if his-torians 50 years hence should refer to the ceremony which takes place in May as an event of distinct importance in the annals of civilized mankind,

# Relief From Aguinaldo.

Letter in New York Sun. Take a piece of paper and write upon it the number representing your age in years, multiply by two, add 3800, divide senting your age, and you will have something before your eyes that you will never see again.

Forced by Our Heroes New Haven Register, We cannot condemn General Funston and immortalize Nathan Hale.

# PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

"Then what is your reason for marrying her?" "I have no reason. I'm in love." Philadelphia Times.

Accounted For.—"The Bimbersons keep a butler now." "Is that so? I've been wondering why the old man hates to go home to meals lately."—Chicago Record-Herald. Love in a Cottage,—Young Husband—Um! What/are these, my dear? Wife—Those are Wife-Those are apple dumplings. Husband - Er-my love, didn't you-er-dump them a sittle too often? -New York Weekly.

Magazine Editor-But, my dear madame, I have merely attempted to give you, in the kindliest spirit, a few hints on meter and construction. "Well, I wouldn't have such a nean disposition as you have for a thousand dollars!"-Life.

Lady Passenger-Do you know, Captain, I have never been able to enderstand how find your way across the ocean. Capt Why, by the compass. The needle always points to the north. Lady Passenger-Yes, I know. But supposing you want to go south?-Glasgow Evening Times.

Mrs. Mulcaby—Mike Mutdoon come home drunk again last night. O worm, but it must be hard for Mrs. Mutdoon. Mrs. Kilduffy— Divil a bit. The Muldoons belong to the shmart set, and the drunker Mike gets the rouder they are of thimselves .- Boston Trancript.

"Well, that's enough to try the patience Well, that's enough to the parameter of Job." exclaimed the village minister, as he threw aside the local paper. "Why, what's the matter, dear?" asked his wife. "Last Sunday I preached from the text, 'Be re therefore steadfast." answered the good man. therefore steadfast," answered the good man, "but the printer makes it read, "Be ye there for breakfast." "Glasgow Evening Times. A Living Saint.-First Cook (on Easter Sunday). There goes that plous Offen Fogarty, an' she's a Christian if iver there wor wan, Did yez hear av th' turrible pinance she imposed on hersilf durin' Lint? Second Cook-Oi did not. Phwat wor it? First Cook-She took a situation in Lonesemhurat lasht Ash ington, but they were unable to be pres- Winsday, an' shtuck t' it for th' hull forthy NOTE AND COMMENT.

April's smile has developed into a broad

When a Russian is in doubt he takes a thot at the Csar. The rumor of Aguinaido's death is now irculating in the camps of the Filipinos,

onded.

Kitchener has taken the Boer Capital. out Dewet contindes to draw the interest, Emperor William might not have made hat last speech if he had known it was

Spring fiction is now flourishing. The rout fishermen are whipping their favorte streams.

The patentee of the cyclone cellar ought o be able to do a good business with European rulers.

What time Kruger gets off from his ecupation of dying he devotes to renewing promises to visit the United States.

I'd like to be Fred Funston. And in Manila stand, And hear the girls may on the streat, Well, isn't he just grand?

If Mr. Carnegie has any of it left after establishing a national theater he might try his luck with a national racing sta-

What time the sun the morning sky dyes red, The tender infant gets into his head The notion that it's up to him to get The family aroused and out of bed.

It is a little quieter in Kentucky than sunl, but there have been no reports of failures of dealers in arms and ammunition up to date.

Aguinaldo says he does not want public office in America. He is probably afraid some one will get hold of him and make him Vice-President.

Now doth the happy urchin Drain life's most joyous cup, As from the yard he watches

kite

His There is trouble and care in the dull Today, But there never is time to sigh, For we all must journey, away, away To the Country of Bye and Bye. Where the Things to Do will all be Done,

And the toll and care will cease And the Prizes to Win will be fairly won, And the nights bring Content and reaco. Oh! the way is long and the hills are ricep, Through the Country of Duli Today, But there never is time to all and wasp. For we still must journey away

Ar ay from the Town of Long Ago,
And out of the City of Now,
Though the thunder rolls and the lempests blow From the rugged mountain's orow. Away over river and bill and plain,

Though rouble attend the way, and there be no shelter from wind and rain, ir the Country of Dull Today, When the sun shall sink in the painted west And his glory file the sky, We know we shall find the Night of Rest In the Country of Bye and By

If the present sunshing weather shall continue many days longer there is grave danger that the channel of Washington street between Sixteenth and Twentythird will become so shallow that many wicked reefs will be exposed. As it is not in the nature of things for the rain to continue forever, even in Oregon, the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council or some other body should take action looking to buoying these reefs and establishing life-saving stations along the shore near the most dangerous ones. The Oregonian has called attention to this serious state of affairs more than once, and it again utters the voice of warning. Thus far the water has failen rapidly, and navigation has closed so early that there have been no accidents, but in the case of a gradual subsidence trouble is sure to ensue.

If any citizen thinks there is nothing in a name he can derive valuable in formation from a brief consultation with Hon. Jacob Kamm, of the Lewis River Transportation Company. Mr. Kamm ated a | tached the opitmistic appellation of Mas cot to one of his Lewis River steamers and from the time she left the cradle some unerring instinct has led her through the densest fogs to the calamitous neighborhood of other boats, or piled her up on bars whose existence has been bitherto unknown. Monday she left the ways where the result of one of her previous exploits was being mitigated, and in the night she sank, presumably with the weight of her unfortunate name. Mr. Kamm is going to build some more steamers this Summer, but he will not call any of them Mascot

The fire demon attempted to get in his deadly work on an Eastern Oregon town the other day, but the fire laddles were too much for him, and his final finish occurred when the esteemed contemporary of that place paid its respects to him as follows:

Last Saturday afternoon at about 5 o'clock the wild ringing of the fire bell threw our citi zens into a frenzy of excitement. The resi-dence of F. M. Dial, through some defect in the flue, had caught fire between the celling and the roof, and was already enveloped in amoke and flames. The fire company, sum-moned by the bell, were rushing towards the scene of the fire ere many seconds had elapsed, and they soon had two large boss playing a steady stream upon the house. The fire had made considerable boadway when discovered, but, in spite of the smoke and heat, which was intense, the house was soon covered with men, desperately fighting the fire, which soon gave way under the perfect deluge of water from hose and buckets. It was a gallant fight made by the free company, and they deserve unstinted praise for the veteran-like manner which they combatted the "fire demon."

The spirited efforts of "our citizens," even though prompted by a frenzy of excitement, are tame when lined up alongside the graphic description of ye itor. Judging by the wild ringing of the fire bell as it peals from the burning page of the writer, and the desperate fight of the men who covered the house, it would appear that the chronicler was steeped in something of a frenzy himself.

### A Comparison of Conditions, Washington Star.

used to get disgruntled-like toward Pohick on the Crick, thought that luck had served me an uncom men low-down trick; I'd heard about how splendld European mon-

archs are, I longed to be a monarch, an' especially Czar. But now I'm gettin' wiser, an' I say it loud

an' plain, That I like this of spring wagon better than an armored train; An' this here faithful hat o' mine, whose brim

Gives me a heap more comfort than a fourteen karat crown.

I'd hate to wear a suit o' mail; they've gonclean out o' style. It's tough to do your dressin' with a monkey-

wrench an' file.

An' when our new alarse clock hadn't been adjusted right An' went off unexpected, why I'd simply die

o' fright. An' them courtly ceremonies which a sover eign enjoys, They'd leave no time at all fur swappin'

houses with the boys, Nor aittin' here upon the fence an' whittlin'

I bet the Czar u'd like to live at Pohick on the Crick.