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TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy and threatening, with occasional showers; westerly winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1900.

ALL COUNCILMEN AT LARGE.

If we are going to have a reform charter, why not make its reforms thorough? The proposal to elect all Councilmen from the entire city instead of from wards has been voted down in committee, but that does not end the matter. There is yet time for the scheme to be incorporated in the charter, and this should be done.

The sections of a city do not represent the distinct separation and antagonistic interests which found reflection in the assignment of Senators to states and members of a State Legislature to counties. It is doubtful, indeed, to what extent good government is advanced by the log-rolling of various sections for appropriations; but there is no doubt that the scattered concerns of a metropolitan district will be looked after more wisely and honestly by a Council competitively withdrawn from the whole body of the community than by a set of fellows chosen primarily to advance the interests of their respective neighborhoods.

To dignify and elevate the Council has become, indeed, the problem of municipal reform. This has resulted partly from academic conviction that the Legislative function of the city should be rigidly restricted to this representative body, and also from practical collapse of the once popular notion of locating all possible power in the hands of the Mayor. As cities have grown, moreover, and their concerns multiplied and diversified, it has become apparent that the real business of the Councilman is not looking after his ward, but looking after the whole city. In an article in the North American Review for May, Mr. John Ford, a noted student of municipal problems, puts the acts of hte Councilman on general matters as ninety-nine to one act representative of his peculiar constituency. The conclusion is, therefore, that the effort should be to get good men for the whole city, rather than good men for each ward.

It needs no argument, but only the slightest reflection, to show that if a councilmanic candidate's claims be subjected to the scrutiny of the whole body of the voters, the process of survival of the fittest would be greatly strengthened. The license the low wards of every city now enjoy to nominate undesirable candidates and let the voters choose between them would be withdrawn, because every man on the ticket would have to run the gauntlet of the honest, intelligent vote in the other districts. There would be no more show for a tough to defeat a deserving man for Councilman than for Mayor or Treasurer.

A city is something few Americans know much about, and something people of a community the size of Portland know practically nothing about. The Nation is young, the far West is especially young, and we have all been living, to all practical intents and purposes, in the country. Municipal government must now become, however, no longer a toy to play with, but a business to occupy our serious thought. The problems of debt and taxation, franchises and public works, engineering and sanitation, schools, sewers, parks and streets, must be met with wisdom and decision. We must, imperatively, call to our aid the lessons of experience elsewhere. One of the plainest of these lessons is the high moral and economic value of electing all Councilmen at large.

STATEHOOD FOR CUBA.

Unaccountably taken with Senator Morgan's original advocacy of statehood for Cuba, the Philadelphia Record has obtained from him a long and careful argument in support of that novel and highly diverting project. We take it that outside of Congress and Cuba itself there is no opposition to the island's admission to the Union at which those who think with Mr. Morgan need feel alarm; but till those trifling obstacles are overcome, the subject is one of more value for its suggestiveness than for any immediate bearing on affairs.

It is a fortunate circumstance for Mr. Morgan's scheme that it comes before the country prominently at the very time when the Platt amendment has been rejected again, and thus has deferred hope of a speedy settlement of the Cuban problem. If Cuba demands concessions that Congress will not grant and Congress insists upon conditions with which Cuba will not comply, impatient people will be apt to turn to statehood as a relief from trouble. Any port in a storm. Mr. Morgan also dwells with emphasis and at length on the very topic accentuated in these latest Cuban negotiations. He says statehood for Cuba is the only method of saving the Monroe doctrine.

The plea is doubtless fanciful, but Senator Morgan undertakes to say that if Cuba is granted independence Spain may be expected to attempt reacquisition of sovereignty over Cuba; that she will insist on right of intervention on behalf of her subjects in the island—a right not excluded by anything in the treaty of Paris; that we are precluded from assertion of the Monroe doctrine concerning her; that Europe will support Spain in such a contention; and that if Cuba stands upon her rights under our declaration of war, there is no help for a bad matter but in statehood. Skillfully as he arrays the undeniably awkward situation into which Cuban negotiations have descended, the conclusion is no more tenable than any other imaginary but impracticable device.

Statehood for Cuba can be defended, doubtless, on ideal grounds. Fears of foreign elements in our body politic are chiefly a product of the imagination, and full admission to the Union would be at once a short cut to economic benefaction to Cuba and summary end of strategic dangers and instinctive dread of colonialism. But because of these very things, in their practical consequences, the thing is pragmatically impossible. Our members of Congress do not want free trade with Cuba. There is hardly a state in the Union but whose industries would exert powerful influence against the free entry of Cuban products. Senator Morgan himself is likely to hear from the sugar plantations of the South in unmistakable accents of resentment and alarm.

A PLAGUE-SPOT UNCOVERED.

The story of the rescue by the police of a white girl baby from a Chinese opium den has no doubt sent a thrill of horror, supplemented by a feeling of thankfulness, to the heart of every humane listener in this city. Succeeding this feeling of horror and thankfulness has been, we may well believe, one of astonishment not unmingled with indignation and execration for the woman who sold this helpless babe into a Chinese den, with its degrading surroundings, as the latter are known to exist, not only in this city, but in other cities of the Pacific Coast. "We have a good many babies in this business," said this insensate keeper of a "children's nursery," "and it is not possible to keep track of all of them." And so, with utter unconcern as to the future of this child, apparently unconscious that she had been guilty of the slightest moral dereliction in selling her to the keeper of a Chinese opium den, this woman babbled on of the mother of this baby, "who was a nice young woman," and asked, "Why are they making such a fuss about this child?" By comparison with this woman the Chinese foster-mother, who, according to her ideas, took good care of the child, and even the foster-father—proprietor of an opium den though he was and is—are shining lights in humanity and in morals.

But what about the traffic of which this dull keeper of a "children's nursery" in the very heart of this city, babbies so unblushingly—so stolidly? Is it true that there are "nice young women" (heaven save the mark!) in any such number in this city as to make possible and profitable the business of the baby-farmer? That a flourishing business is made possible by women who, to retain the appearance of respectability, find it necessary to conceal their social sins by the abandonment of their new-born infants to the tender mercies of this callous creature and give no thought concerning the disposition that she makes of them? To err is human, but deliberately to shift the consequences of error in a matter involving the moral and physical welfare of helpless innocents is diabolical.

The Chinese parents in this case are, indeed, the least of the malefactors connected with it. That they loved the little white child whom they had bought, paid for and taken into their home cannot be doubted. That they were bringing her up as their very own is witnessed in the finery in which she was clad and the fact that she had been well fed and housed, as they were fed and housed. They no doubt feel some natural pangs at parting with this darling of their otherwise childless lives.

The unavoidable conclusion from this case is that, bad as opium dens are, there are worse places in this city than these; that, demoralizing as they are, there is at least one place whose influence for evil reaches farther out in the subtle realm of human life than they. While they deal with mature minds and condemn the bodies of men and women to disease and death—moral and physical—the "children's nursery," instituted as a cloak for a social sin, dominated by a female dragon, condemns or may condemn, in its heedless, soulless, mercenary way, babies newly born or yet unborn, to lives of immorality, crime, disease, neglect and hopeless degradation. Of all the moral plague-spots uncovered from time to time in this city—and they have not been few or lacking in noisomeness—this surely is the most pernicious. Miscalled a "children's nursery," it combines sacrilege with diabolism and presents one of the most remarkable examples in our municipal annals of "borrowing the livery of heaven to serve the devil in."

CATHOLIC THEOLOGY AND PROTESTANTS.

The Paulist fathers who are conducting a mission at New Brunswick, N. J., recently found this query in the question-box: "Does the Catholic church regard Protestants as heretics, and does it not believe and teach that heretics should be punished, even with death, if necessary?" Father Harney's answer was:

> In a way, I say yes. Certainly the church does consider Protestants heretics, in a way. A formal heretic is one who knows he is perverting the truths of God, and the Catholic church. No man, by sinning himself, should be allowed to lead others into sin. I do not doubt, if they were strong enough, that the Catholic people would hinder, even by death if necessary, the spread of such errors through the people. And I say, rightly so.

The Paulist fathers are an American Roman Catholic missionary society which was organized with the papal sanction in 1858. Originally and for some years afterwards they consisted of men who, like their founders—Fathers Hecker, Walworth, Baker and Deshon—were converts from Protestantism. They were generally men eminent for learning. The founders and later Father Hewitt, who became associated with them, were ministers who stood high in the estimation of both Protestants and Catholics. They did not go about the country preaching that Protestants are heretics and doomed to eternal damnation. They treated Protestantism as a Christian creed and Protestants as Christians.

We do not know whether this Father Harney is a hereditary Catholic or a Catholic by conversion. His law for the punishment of heretics laid down at New Brunswick is so different from the teachings of Catholic theologians who are grounded in their faith that it is difficult to class him except as a bigot who would revive the stake and the Inquisition if he dared. Christians who accept the doctrine of future punishment do not hold that Catholics or Protestants are foreordained to hell because of their creed. Modern Catholic opinion of Protestantism is well expressed in a little book, entitled "Catholic Belief," by Very Reverend Joseph Faa Di Bruno, for many years a missionary priest in England, an American edition of which was published in 1884, with the imprimatur of Cardinal McCloskey. Father Bruno said:

> Catholics do not believe that Protestants who are baptized, who lead a good life, love God and their neighbor, and are blamelessly ignorant of the just claims of the Catholic religion to be the only one true religion (which is being called in good faith) are excluded from heaven, provided they believe that there is one God in three divine persons; that God will duly reward the good and punish the wicked; that Jesus Christ is the Son of God made man, who redeemed us, and in whom we must trust for our salvation; and provided they thoroughly repent of having ever, by their sins, offended God.
>
> Catholics hold that Protestants who have these dispositions, and who have no suspicion of their religion being false, and no means to discover, or fail in their honest endeavors to discover the true religion, and who are so disposed in their heart, that they would at any cost embrace the Roman Catholic if they knew it to be the true one, are Catholics in spirit, and in some sense within the Catholic church, without themselves knowing it. She holds that these Christians belong to and are united to the soul as it is called of the Catholic church, although they are not united to the visible body of the church by external communion with her, and by the outward profession of her faith.

The substance of Father Bruno's doctrine is that a Protestant who sees in the Catholic church the true faith but does not embrace it externally by profession, is in danger of losing salvation. Catholic opinion goes further than this. Rev. Louis A. Lambert, who edited the American edition of Father Bruno's book, wrote as a footnote: "A believer in one God who, without any fault on his part, does not know and believe that in God there are three divine persons, is, notwithstanding, in a state of salvation, according to the opinion of most Catholic theologians." Catholics now believe, even if the theologians do not preach it, that a Protestant in good faith in any Protestant creed will be saved whether he has seen the light in the Catholic church or not. When the excitement of the second Dreyfus trial was at its highest, an eminent Paris Jesuit was quoted as saying that Catholics believe that "even a Jew in good faith might be saved." Priests like Father Harney do not represent modern Catholic belief. If he had lived 200 years ago, his sentiments would easily have earned a bishopric for him, while Lambert, Di Bruno and Hewitt would have been sent to the stake or put upon the rack of the Inquisition.

THEORIES IN NEED OF A DRYDOCK

The theory that America's only hope for a merchant marine lies in the payment of a $180,000,000 subsidy to millionaire shipowners is receiving some pretty hard knocks at the present time. Cold commercial facts are making this theory appear so ridiculous that nearly all of the advocates of the gigantic job have temporarily subsided. About the only paper on the Pacific Coast that has had the assurance openly to advocate the graft since J. Pierpont Morgan bought up a good share of the British merchant marine is the private organ of a Washington political trickster. This organ is printed at Seattle, and for this reason, its advocacy of the shipping subsidy is all the more remarkable.

According to the theory of the Seattle paper, a subsidy is needed because it costs more to build and operate ships under the American flag than under a foreign flag. This theory is knocked in the head by James J. Hill, the patron saint of the Elliott Bay settlement. Needing a couple of mammoth steamers to run between Seattle and the Orient, in competition with the British, Germans, Norwegians and Japanese who were operating on that route, Mr. Hill, after receiving bids from foreign bidders, and carefully considering the relative cost of running them under his own or a foreign flag, let the contract to an American yard. This was not philanthropy or patriotism, but it was business, and the transaction is a fact so much in evidence that it carries more weight than all of the theories in Christendom.

Another of the stock theories of the Seattle paper is that which accounts for the marvelous growth of the American merchant marine as being solely due to the protection afforded it in the coastwise and lake trade. Here again a Seattle transportation company presents facts which make the theories of the paper appear simply ridiculous. The steamship Tampico, built on the Lakes and owned on the Lakes, is now headed for Seattle to enter the foreign trade out of that port. This steamer, which, according to the Seattle paper, will be followed by a number of others of the same class, steamed away from the prosperous Lake trade, past the protected zone of coastwise traffic, and out into the open ocean with the world for a field and the fleets of every nation on earth to compete with. Here are some "facts of recorded history" that are not easily explained away.

The Seattle paper in commenting on the Morgan deal, says, "American capital will thus receive dividends on steamship lines which have heretofore paid dividends to British capital," and yet it throws up its hands in horror at the thought that this mighty fleet of modern steamships should be given the right to fly the American flag and add glory to the country that supplied the money with which they were bought. The profits last year on the line of steamers purchased by Mr. Morgan were 14 per cent on a very liberal capitalization, a fact which removes the possibility of that gentleman's being actuated by charitable or philanthropic motives while making the deal. While Mr. Morgan can worry along on the 14 per cent net profit, he will not refuse his big share of the $180,000,000 present which the subsidy organs are trying to extract from the millions of producers for the benefit of a few shipowners. These ships are earning no subsidy under the British flag, and at the first opportunity they should be permitted to come under the American flag. Americans will keep on buying ships abroad so long as they are paying such big dividends as they pay now, and by so doing they are not depriving American shipyards of a single order.

As a matter of fact, the big shipyards of the country are now controlled largely by the same men who are interested with Mr. Morgan in buying up foreign fleets, and they have orders so far ahead that they cannot turn out work fast enough to meet the requirements of the trade. The oil business of Mr. Rockefeller gives employment to about 400 ships a year, and the steel interests of the same gentleman and his associates supply freight for a still larger fleet. It would be very satisfactory for Rockefeller if the Government would pay him a subsidy for carrying his own freight to market in his own ships, but it is unnecessary and should not be permitted. Mr. Rockefeller is entitled, however, to the privilege of American registry for the foreign ships which he is forced to buy in order to handle even a small portion of his freight.

Somebody at Astoria sends us this complaint:

> Noticing an article in my Daily Oregonian of Saturday, the 18th inst., giving an account of a white child being adopted by Chinese in your city. I wish to say if those officers of the law, Messrs. Hawley and Kerrigan, should take a visit down here they might find another white child, or more, decked out in Chinese costume. It is conspicuously paraded on the street every day, and is noticed by several people of this place. It is a shame that white children should be raised in heathenism in a country like ours. The Boys' and Girls' Aid Society should take a visit here.

Much as The Oregonian censures the Portland episode referred to—and on that head its views are elsewhere on this page set out—it has small sympathy with the Astoria complaint—no more, in fact, than it would have with Chinese who should be horrified to see Chinese babies being brought up by Americans, clad in Western garments, with loose shoes and short hair. It is not the nationality, but the criminal surroundings of the Portland baby and the circumstances of its sale, that arouse just indignation. Let us get over the idea that Chinamen are something less than human. White babies are being brought up in some respectable Chinese homes in Portland, and brought up well.

The Oregonian is a plain speaker. It is no admirer of mincing manner or meticulous style. It hopes it never may be. Everybody knows and every candid person admits that it was ill-advised on the part of the President to attempt a long and fatiguing journey of a public nature with his invalid wife. The Oregonian, as a plain speaker, has plainly said a thing that is in every one's mind. But it brings remonstrance and denunciation from certain little-minded people of the press, who attribute The Oregonian's remark to an alleged "hatred of President McKinley." Of course, this is an assumption utterly gratuitous and without foundation. The Oregonian finds better business than indulging hatred of anybody. But it is a plain speaker. It does not admit that there are sacred and forbidden subjects, pertaining to thinking and living, to topics of general concern, secular or religious, with which it may not meddle. The Oregonian is one of those journals which would lose their main function, should they renounce their habit of plain speech.

Mrs. McKinley's recovery now seems assured, and the President will hie him back with her to Washington with a thankful heart. The people of the Pacific Northwest have to some extent already gotten over the disappointment incident to his failure to complete his long-projected tour, and are cheerfully, as becomes reasoning human beings, turning the funds pledged to the entertainment of the Chief Magistrate into other channels of public profit and rejoicing. This is as it should be. The old saying, "What can't be cured must be endured," is as binding upon humanity now as in the old days when passive endurance was reckoned as one of the cardinal virtues. The spirit that dictated it has grown somewhat out of the doggedly submissive stage, and, as is befitting to an age of progress, has assumed an attitude of cheerfulness that is disposed to make the best of what cannot be helped.

Many will be inclined to sympathize with Moderator Minton, of the Presbyterian General Assembly, who, viewing the secularization of the schools, asks gloomily if in our fear of uniting church with state we have not "gone so far as to disunite God from the state"? The faith of our sons and daughters is involved, he says, and what threatens us is "not an organized skepticism, but a God-forgotten secularism." There is truth in this, but the fault does not lie with the schools, for their province is not to teach religion. Protestantism succeeded in secularizing the public schools, and it did well. If it has failed to pursue the equally necessary thing of instructing its children in religious truth the difficulty does not lie with the educational but with the religious forces.

Preaching against stock gambling is common nowadays. The rise in Northern Pacific stock on the day of the panic is said to have nearly broken up a clergymen's meeting in Philadelphia, and there comes from Milburn, Ill., the report that a Congregational minister has been suspended because he lost over $100,000 of money belonging to parishioners in disastrous stock speculations. This minister was formerly a member of the Chicago Board of Trade, and as many of his precious flock were disposed to hazard money in the market, he was considered a fit instrument to operate the pool, with the results mentioned. Now they blame him for their losses, and his suspension follows.

The Berlin correspondent of the New York Evening Post, writing under date of April 30, says that facts have recently become public "which go to confirm the opinion held by many keen observers—both medical and otherwise—all along, that the Kaiser is not of normal mind." There is a strain of mental infirmity in the family. King Frederick William IV of Prussia broke down with softening of the brain and was succeeded on the throne of Prussia by his brother, William, who is the grandfather of the present Emperor of Germany.

And now the machinists are to strike for a nine-hour day. Step by step labor seems to be coming up. Here it gets a raise, there it gets a shorter day—and all under the accursed gold standard, with the crime of '73 still unavenged and Bryan still a private citizen.

Business on the German Bourse "was wholly dominated by New York last week," the cable says, and the news from London and Paris tells practically the same story. It is a significant indication of the shifting of the financial balance of power

WHY DOLLIVER WAS LATE.

J. R. Rathom, in Chicago Record-Herald.

A bellboy at the "Aud," which in bellboy language, means Auditorium, has solved a sort of mild mystery by confessing his participation in a little adventure that happened during the national campaign last Fall. One night Senator Dolliver was billed to speak for the Republican candidate for President, and 5000 people had crowded into the big theater to listen to him. The reception committee waited on him in his apartments in the Auditorium Annex and offered to escort him to the platform, but he asked them to go ahead and said he would follow in a few moments.

The few moments lengthened into minutes, however, and the minutes into 20 before the Senator made his appearance, looking hot, flustered and very tired. The long-continued applause and the introductory speeches gave him plenty of time to recover himself, and when he rose to begin his address he appeared as calm and self-possessed as usual.

The members of the reception committee wondered in a placid kind of way what had happned to cause the 20 minutes' delay; none of them imagined that the speaker of the evening was within a few feet of them for most of that time doing an act that the vaudeville managers would have featured as the funniest of the year.

"This here's the whole thing," said the bellboy the other day, "from A to Izard. The big guy" (meaning the distinguished statesman) "sent down a call just after the reception comity went away over to the theater. He says to me that he would get all crushed up in the push around the doors, and asked me to put him onter an easy way troo to the stage. That was a dollar in it for me, so I led the procession and we started down the tunnel across to the Aud, and I slipped him in the wagon alley back of the stage door.

"Well, when we got that far I sayw to him that if he didn't want to crost the open stage to get to right side we would have to go underneath by the machinery an' come up that way. He says, 'I don't want to go over the open stage, not on yer life, sonny.' I begun to walk down the stairs with him ahead, and we got about half-way over when he says, 'Great Caesar's goat, wot's this?' It was a tub of red paint sittin' on the concrete floor, an' his nibs had run right into it, both his legs, patent leathers an' black dress pants.

'The Senator swore considerable an' said a lot of nice things to me, but he fin'ily got a move on an' told me not to stand laughin' there like an idiot, but to go and unstrap his valises and bring down a pair of pants, shoes and socks.

"When I gets back with the goods there was his whiskers standin' by the light of a little electric globe waitin' fer me. We could hear the mob up above stampin' an' whistlin' and the big organ poundin' out to fill in the wait. The Senator done a lightnin' change turn that night for his life. He whipped off his swallertail an' sat on the concrete while I handed him the things as he wanted them. Just as he got the first boot on there was a extra large roar from up above. Then the Senator says somethin' under his breath about it bein' enough to make Rome howl and the reception guys thinkin' him a blankety blank fool. He struggled with the other boot about four minutes, and then he remembered he had a pretty sizeable foot, and had to take both his shoes off while he pulled on his pants. While he was doin' this turn he said some more strong things.

"At last he got everything on all right. Then he says to me, 'Pick up all that stuff and take it to my room. See me in the mornin' and I'll give you another dollar, but if you ever talk about this affair to anyone I'll break your neck.' I showed him the way up the other side to the stage, and as soon as I heard, by the yawp, that he had got into the ring, I bundled up the clothes so as none of the paint drips would get on me and made tracks for his rooms.

"Well, he was the main squeeze that night, an' the papers said next mornin' that he cut the mustard in great shape. I guess his head was so swelled by it that he forgot the other dollar he promised me. Anyway, I never got it, and so the story's out."

McKinley Marriage.

Canton Repository, Jan. 27, 1871.

The audience-room of the new stone Presbyterian Church being nearly finished, the lady members resolved to have it ready for the wedding of Major McKinley and Miss Ida Saxton.

Promptly at the hour—yea, long before the 7:30 P. M. named upon the invitations—the house was filled with the expectant multitude. The scene at the church was novel and interesting. Here were a thousand people—all the building will hold—all on tiptoe of expectation to see. Professor Fister came in and entertained them by music upon the organ.

Some minutes after he commenced to play there was a sensation. Everybody's face was turned toward the door. Many stiff-necked old and young sinners nearly broke their necks at it. At length they came, first up the left aisle James A. Saxton leading the bride, his daughter. They were followed by Miss Mary Saxton, a bridesmaid, escorted by Abner McKinley. Upon the right aisle Major McKinley approached the pulpit, leading Mrs. James A. Saxton. Ushers and bridesmaids followed.

As to the dresses worn by the ladies, we shall be compelled, owing to our meager training in Jenkins' technicalities, to be entirely silent, except to say that they were faultless in taste and exceedingly rich and beautiful.

Arrived at the area in front of the pulpit, the parties disposed themselves gracefully and with perfect facility, the bride and bridegroom in the center of a half-circle, the former supported by the maids and the latter by his friends.

The Rev. E. Buckingham and the Rev. Dr. Endsley married the couple, using the plain and yet impressive ceremony usually employed by ministers of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches.

At the conclusioin of the ceremony the crowd waited respectfully until the newly-made husband and wife and their companions had passed out. Then tongues were loosed and the dumb spake and gossips became supreme, and all agreed that nothing could have been more gracefully performed than the first act in the life drama upon which the gallant major and his young and beautiful wife have just entered.

After the marriage ceremony the personal friends of the families partook of refreshments, which had been laid at the residence of Mr. Saxton. Major and Mrs. McKinley took the 10 o'clock train for the East and will make a bridal tour of the Eastern cities for three or four weeks.

Here Is Sense.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

The President came West accompanied by his official family, traveling as a public functionary, and primarily to take part in the ceremonies attending the launching at San Francisco of the battle-ship Ohio. Of course, a man of President McKinley's experience and knowledge of the American people might have anticipated the profound interest that would be aroused along his route and the keen disappointment and widespread inconvenience which would result from interruption of the programme. Under the circumstances it was a mistake of judgment to include his invalid wife in the party, but this is not a time to reproach him in harsh spirit. Granting it was a failing, the country will concede that it was a failing which leaned to virtue's side

All the Gods at Once.

New York Tribune.

J. Pierpont Morgan is undoubtedly the Jupiter of railroads. Is he to be also the Neptune of the seas? Are the amazing combinations of the steam highways of America to be followed by the domination of the ships? Are the trackless lanes of all the oceans to be governed by the genius that sets the hedges of the paths across the continents?

INSULAR CASES NOT DECIDED.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—The United States Supreme Court today adjourned until next Monday without announcing an opinion in the insular cases. The court will adjourn next Monday until next October.

The Supreme Court decided the case of the American Sugar Refining Company vs. the United States in favor of the contention of the Sugar Company. The case was a proceeding to determine whether duty should be collected upon the value of sugar when it is shipped or when it is landed, the value having increased while the weight decreased by virtue of its drying out while in transit. The court affirmed the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals for the second circuit, which held that the tariff assessment must be on the basis of the value upon arrival.

Kansas will be allowed to file its suit in the Supreme Court to enjoin the State of Colorado from deflecting for irrigation purposes the water of the Arkansas river to the injury of the former state. The decision of the court to this effect was announced today by Chief Justice Fuller, who also announced that the State of Colorado would have leave to plead, answer or to demur to the Kansas bill.

Colorado has sought to prevent the filing of the suit because of its effect on irrigation interests of the Arkansas Valley in that state.

The Court denied the petition of ex-Congressman White in his case involving the validity of the tax upon stock exchange "calls" under the war-revenue act.

OUR TRADE WITH AFRICA.

American Goods in Demand in Many Parts of the Continent.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Frederick Emery, chief of the Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the State Department, makes public today the second chapter of "Commercial Relations of the United States," dealing with the trade of this country with Africa. The chapter is made up of trade testimony from four United States Consuls stationed at favorable points of observation at all points of the compass on the continent. Consul Kidder, of Algiers, says:

"I am convinced that a more certain market for American products adapted to the wants of the country does not exist on this side of the Atlantic than is offered by Algeria. The commerce is controlled by European houses and the most improved farming implements are in increasing demand. The best tools at the fairest prices can be sold here, regardless of where they come from. American food products are sold to some extent through branch houses in France and are popular wherever used. A grocery dealing exclusively in our food products, with some one to demonstrate methods of cooking, would be a great success. In short, there is hardly an article of any growth or manufacture which would not be appreciated here if presented in the proper way. The greatest drawback to trade is the lack of a direct steamship line."

Consul Gibbs, of Tamative, says:

"American trade in Madagascar is increasing. Canned meats, corn, petroleum, etc., are arriving in larger quantities. Twenty truck wagons from Wisconsin recently reached here, consigned to one of the contractors engaged on the government roads."

Consul Williams, of Sierra Leone, says that place is destined to be the distributing center for European and American imports and the gateway to the interior of the continent. Imports from the United States are gaining; an agency for our goods has been established in the city.

Consul-General Stowe, of Cape Town, remarks that wire for fencing is being introduced from the United States in much larger quantities. There is a good market, he adds, for galvanized corrugated sheet iron. Our wagons for farm work and city hauling also supply the demand. American rubber goods stand the climate of South Africa better than those of any other country.

WANTED AMERICANS TO STAY.

Petition to General Chaffee Signed by Thousands of Chinese.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—The War Department has received from China a petition of several thousand Chinamen, who assembled in front of the office of the Provost Marshal at Pekin March 28 last, and signed by 5600 Chinese residents of that city, praying the retention of the American troops. The petition told of the good work performed by the American soldiers and of thousands of homeless people who had been fed by the American charity houses. Captain John C. F. Tillson, of the Fourteenth Infantry, the Provost Marshal in replying to the petition, said:

"It is needless to tellyou that the United States does not maintain an army for the purpose of furnishing the City of Pekin with good municipal government, and as a business proposition your appeal for the United States forces to remain longer in Pekin has little to stand upon. That you will need our protection there is little doubt and as the broader principles of humanity must frequentlyl sway the people of any country, your petition is not hopeless and I shall be glad to refer it to our Government. Whatever the result of your petition, whether we stay or go, it may be gratifying to you to know that the soldiers of the United States, who by force of circumstances came to China as your enemies, are now your friends and we hope that this friendship may endure."

Too Late to Object.

NEW YORK, May 20.—In the course of a long interview relative to the situation in China, cabled to the Herald from St. Petersburg, a Russian of high rank, presumably Count Lamsdorff, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is quoted as saying in answer to the question, "What About Manchuria?":

"The time to make objection was when the concessions was made years ago. Does any one suppose that any country is going to build a railway through such a country and leave it unprotected or to be wrecked)wherever wild hordes of brigands choose to operate? Besides, I consider that the Siberian railroad is of the biggest importance to the commerce of the world, especially to America. The Americans are a shrewd and clever race. They show it in their policy. The Siberian Railway being, so to speak, a belt of the world, is sure to be of great assistance to American commerce, which already flourishes here is a very successful manner."

Colonel Coolridge Returns.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 20.—Among the passengers on the steamer America Maru, which arrived from the Orient, was Colonel Coolridge, who was in command of the Ninth Infantry during the siege of Pekin. Coolridge took command after Colonel Liscum was killed and remained in charge almost up to the time of his departure for this city. Colonel Coolridge will be stationed at the Vancouver barracks.

Woodmen of the World.

COLUMBUS, O., May 20.—The Sovereign Camp, Woodmen of the World, today decided that in the future if members engaged in the liquor business they shall be expelled and camps refusing to take this action shall have their charters revoked. Heretofore the executive committee has been empowered to revoke the actions of the Sovereign Camp, but it was today considered that in future their acts must be confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the sovereign body in such cases.

Boers Dynamited a Train.

LONDON, May 20.—Lord Kitchener reports to the War Office under date of Pretoria, May 18, as follows:

"An armored train has been dynamited south of American Siding. Major Heath, of the South Lancashire, was killed."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Good morning. Have you seen the man who is predicting a flood?

In Kansas the song of the sower has drowned the stroke of the hatchet.

Richard Mansfield has a disposition that is worth an army of press agents.

Backward, oh, backward O time, in your flight!
You don't need to turn; this is April, all right.

The war cloud that has been hovering over Wall street has gone to West Point, via Albany.

In the meantime let us remember that we are going to have a fair of our own one of these days.

'Tis clear that plain pedestrians
Will never get on well
With scorchers till they learn to wear
A light and clanging bell.

A proposed new language is devoid of swear words. There is no likelihood that it will ever be used over the telephone.

We know that Summer's coming,
As the days go swiftly by,
When we hail the luscious shortcake;
So, farewell, dried-apple pie.

It has been raining oil in South Dakota, and Mr. Rockefeller is beginning to feel uneasy. He cannot see his way clear to buy up the clouds.

Just at present the yellow papers are unable to liven things up in dull times by scooping each other on the story of Aguinaldo's death.

Sir Thomas Lipton is afraid that the hull of the Shamrock is defective. This is much worse than if something was the matter with only a part of her.

The Hawaiian Legislature has been reducing the salaries of office-holders. The lawmakers over there are apparently lamentably ignorant of Republican institutions.

The Brooklyn colored brother who has been charged with conduct unbecoming of a minister probably neglected to leave his razor at home the last time he went to church.

Blunders will creep into the best regulated newspapers and this is the only excuse The Oregonian has to offer for an embarrassing piece of stupidity in Sunday's paper. Half-tone cuts of Colonel J. C. Bell and the late Louis Sohns were confused in a large mass of detail work Saturday night, and part of the Sunday edition was printed before the mistake was discovered and rectified. The Oregonian has only this inadequate apology to offer and requests the indulgence of its offended readers.

A London paper says that C. T. Yerkes, the American street railway magnate, now in London, recently received the following letter from a young woman: "Dear Mr. Yerkes: I have seen by the papers how rich you are, and also I have seen your picture, which looks kind. So I thought I would tell you that my parents are poor and depriving themselves of many comforts in order to give me a good education. Among my school friends there is a gymnastic club, of which I am a member, and all the girls wear silk skirts; and it gives me the horrors to feel I can't have one, when I hear the fascinating rustle of their petticoats. Would you send me $5 to buy one? Yours," etc. Mr. Yerkes received the unique epistle from his secretary, and, to the latter's astonishment, exclaimed: "Send her the money. It will give more pleasure than if invested in any other way." The money was sent, and the acknowledgment was as follows: "Dear Mr. Yerkes: Thanks so much for the money. I invested it, and can now rustle with the others."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

School Examiner—What is the meaning of false doctrine? Schoolboy—Please, sir, it's when the doctor gives the wrong stuff to people who are sick.—Tit-Bits.

Little to Say.—He—It may be wrong, of course, but I always make it a rule to say just what I think. She—You're not much of a talker, are you?—Philadelphia Press.

"Throat trouble, eh? And you are a musician? Music is often very hard on the throat. What instrument do you play?" "The bass drum, doctor."—Philadelphia Times.

He Pleads Not Guilty.—Mamma—Fighting again? Why, a good little boy wouldn't hurt a hair of another boy's head! Johnny—Well, I didn't! I just punched his nose.—Puck.

Took Himself Seriously.—"What did Gobang do with the money he earned by writing articles showing how to get rich raising chickens?" "He lost it running a chicken farm in New Jersey."—Town and Country.

How It Looked.—Farmer Greene—What's ole man Perkins' son studying fer to be at college? Farmer Axlegrease—A missionary, I guess! He keeps touching the ole man up fer "indemnity" every week or two.—Puck.

Just as Easy and Cheaper.—"Do you go away this Summer?" "No; we've taken a smaller house, and we think we can be just as uncomfortable at home as we can in a fashionable hotel anywhere."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Mr. House—It doesn't seem to me that our new cook is a great success. Mrs. House—Not as a cook, I grant you; but she has lived in nearly half the families in town, and her conversation is so entertaining!—Boston Transcript.

Poodle and the Proposals.—Mr. Simpson (showing agitation)—Miss Lucia, there is a communication—that is—I might say—there are words which I feel compelled to utter. Miss Lucia—Oh—don't let me interrupt you, Mr. Simpson—but wait till I put poodle out—he gets awfully mad if anybody—that is—he's so excitable.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Reliance.

Washington Star.

Along about las' Fall, when all de trees begin
to shed,
An' de wind it kep' a-blowin' fierce an'
strong,
De blossoms dey done wilted, an' we lef' 'em
all foh dead.
It's certain dey was treated mighty wrong.
An' de snowflakes took possession wif an irri-
tatin' air
Dat 'ud sho'ly make yoh indignation bile.
But dem blossoms dey jes' whisper dat dey
didn't mushly care,
Dey was boun' to git deir innin's aftuh
while.

Dem snowflakes dey done frolick like dey
gwinter stay foh keeps,
An' dey piled up snowdrifts over an' aroun'
De places whah de vi'let an' de dandelion
sleeps,
An' dey says, "We reckon dat will hol' you
down."
But hyuh dem blossoms is to welcome June
time at yoh gate
An' chahm de skies to give an answerin'
smile;
Dey knowed what dey was talkin' 'bout when
dey made bold to state
Dey was boun' to git deir innin's aftuh
while.

So when I sees de Happy Day a-goin' roun' de
bend
An' turnin' down de lane of bygone years,
I says, "Good-bye, ol' Happy Day, I knowed
we'd hafter end
Our 'sociation. Tain' no cause foh tears.
You is gwinter cut across lots or to travel
round about,
Whiles me an' Trouble goes foh many a
mile;
But I won' set up complainin', case I knows
wifout a doubt
You is boun' to git yoh innin's aftuh while."