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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Fair and continued warm; winds mostly northerly.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, JUNE 17.

SOME CRANKS AND THEIR CROTCHETS.

Obliviousness to the most palpable physical facts is a characteristic both of the rock-rooted conservative and the most ardent reformer. Different in everything else, they unite in this—that for them no truth is or can be so true as the violent preconception of their own mind. For the prohibitionist, for example, evidence and reason exist in vain. He has determined for himself, once for all, and independent of mere physical considerations, that liquor-selling and liquor-making must be extirpated by law, and all there is left for him to do is to explain the facts of the physical universe in accordance with the hypothesis. His fixed idea becomes to him a "higher law," impervious to the vulgar considerations that appeal to the ordinary mind in proportion to their respective weight. The prohibitionist's contention resolves itself, accordingly, into a sort of religious dogma, and he would as soon think of inviting evidence as to whether he should be faithful to his wife or dutiful to his children, or as to whether hell be not after all a more eligible goal of attainment than heaven, as to reason calmly about the fact as to prohibition in practice or seek to learn the truth about the canteen. Liquor should be absolutely forbidden everywhere, is the prohibitionist's axiom, and he will entertain nothing that clashes with it, however well attested. Such evidence as controverts his axiom he knows must be false therefore maliciously invented, therefore a conspiracy. Better that all the men in our armies should perish in grog shops adjoining reservations, or of venereal disease in the Philippines, than that the sacred axiom derived from pious meditation should be discredited. They err, therefore, who address argument to the prohibitionist. His conviction is built on ground unapproachable by so prosaic things as fact and logic.

The religious world is full of such prepossessions. Probably it would be impossible to induce a majority of Catholic and Protestant communicants to examine the historical basis of the story of the resurrection. The matter is one, in their minds, not open to argument. It is accepted as the basis of their religious belief, of their moral character, of their hope in heaven. Disloyalty to all these seems to them bound up with historical inquiry into the truth of accepted tradition. To question whether Jesus was divine is not, to their minds, an act of intellectual necessity, but an act of apostasy, a moral falling away, a sin. The candid inquirer is not met with evidence and reason, but confidently rebuked for moral turpitude. How many Catholics, for doubting transsubstantiation, how many Presbyterians, for hesitancy at predestination, have been chided by their superiors as guilty of a moral lapse in even presuming to test those sacred traditions by the profane standards of ordinary evidence and reason! Here in Oregon the passionate devotion to the Whitman myth is a noteworthy instance of the religious prepossession. The more insecure the "saving" appears under the light of investigation, the more rapturously do the Whitman devotees hug the delusion to their souls as something precious of which the student is trying to despoil them.

We have been reminded of these high-souled and determined enthusiasts by the action of the International Arbitration and Peace Association in setting on foot an inquiry as to the ability of nations to annex territory by force. The opinions of celebrated international lawyers are to be sought and collocated. It is a significant manifestation of "anti-imperialism's" implacable resistance to the necessary exercise of sovereignty. The absurdity of the effort to cite the American Constitution in opposition to annexation is disclosed in the further effort to discredit annexation by the British Government, which has no such specific constitutional restrictions as we have. The cry here is that annexation of the Spanish islands is unconstitutional, but the attempt to deny annexation of the Boer states to Great Britain springs from exactly the same impulse, though its promoters do not appear to see any incongruity in the dissimilarity of the two situations. A government is going to do what it finds necessary to be done. There is no power in peace associations or international lawyers to resist it. There is a power that can resist it, and that power is the armed forces of opposing nations. The spread of virile races over the habitat of nerveless populations is a vital expression which no misgivings of theorists can withstand or impede. The "fixed idea" of the anti plants itself against progress. It is impossible to deal with it, for it is as inaccessible to reason as is the darling prepossession of the religious enthusiast. It must be suffered to exist in its harmless way, interesting as a phenomenon, negligible in the world of affairs, thought-productive, perhaps, to the student, and a welcome reminder of Nature's infinite diversity.

ANYBODY'S RACE.

Elimination of McKinley as the Republican nominee of 1904 discovers a field of candidates fairly well balanced. It is a refreshing contrast to our habit of recent years. Prior to the Chicago convention of 1896 there was a brief interregnum of uncertainty, but except for that our ante-election campaigns have made a dull series of foregone conclusions.

The manifest strengthening of the Democratic chances by return of many Gold Democrats, and even of expansion Democrats, since the issues of 1896 and 1900 seem to be thrust aside, is apt to revive the old argument in favor of a man from New York, and unless present signs fail, the most spirited contest will be in that state. Secretary Root and Governor Odell have both given evidence of great ability and force. Mr. Root's triumph in the Cuban negotiations has been no less signal than that of Mr. Hay in the Chinese imbroglio. He would make a strong candidate for President, and might be able to prevail by his personal fitness over the Democratic candidate, even on a strong tariff-reform platform, with silver tabooed and "anti-imperialism" duly subordinated. Doubtless Mr. Root could get the delegation from New York if the time were here for choosing it, but meanwhile Governor Odell is advancing rapidly in popularity, having gained the enthusiastic praise of such hard-to-please papers as the Evening Post, Brooklyn Eagle and New York Times. If Governor Odell sustains his present record, he will be a strong probability for 1904, unless he should prefer to run again for Governor.

Roosevelt has probably seen his brightest days as a public figure. It was a hard fate that forced him into the Vice-Presidency, for that is one of the few places in the world that can successfully bind down the most ambitious talents. All that has ever been necessary is for Roosevelt to be measured up against some great task, and then the absence of greatness in his make-up could but be apparent. For great man he is not. Brave as a fighter, and stubborn as a reformer, he is at once versatile and shallow. His books are without thorough scholarship, his administrative conduct is flighty, and his bearing smacks of cheap swagger. His nomination will be practically impossible, and it is doubtful if he could be elected.

The dispatches said the other day that Allison is 55. In fact, he will be 75 in 1904. There is no reason why he should not have been President, for his service has been useful and his accomplishments are high. He is strong with his people in the old, true sense, and Governor Shaw reflects credit on himself in offering himself in Allison's behalf. Yet Allison, like Cullom, is doubtless too old for availability. Spooner's capacity is of high order, but his merits are of a sort better appreciated by the few than the many. Four years of new developments have reduced the once heroic figure of Thomas B. Reed to local and almost humorous proportions. Foraker can hardly expect Ohio to be favorably recognized again, Fairbanks is a poor imitation of statesmanship, Lodge is an impossibility, and Hanna is a palpable absurdity. The McKinley coterie has had four happy years, and as it prepares to stand aside, there is hope that in some such man as Root or Odell we may enjoy once again a higher order of independent and firm-rooted statesmanship than comes out of the truckling, trimming school of Ohio politics.

TRIBUNE'S UNNECESSARY ALARM.

The Chicago Tribune finds in the unsuccessful attempts of the Government to dispose of its discarded transports another reason why Portland should not try to retain its place as a seaport. It decides that, "though the ships are in as good condition as when purchased, nobody wants them, either for freight or for passenger business. The former owners have filled their places with more modern and more economical vessels. There is a tendency to build ships of greater size and draft." Instead of being an argument against the waterways of the country, this allusion to the transport business only calls attention to the unbusiness-like manner in which it was conducted. The fact that the Government could buy ships at two or three times their actual value should not be taken as a guarantee that they can sell them for any more than they are worth. Ships which the Government could have purchased for transport business three years ago will sell under the hammer today for just as much money as they commanded then, the advance in freights and earning capacity of the ship being enough greater than it was three years ago to make up for the depreciation in the ship. The fact that the Government was the innocent purchaser of a large and varied assortment of marine "gold bricks" was pretty generally known wherever ships are built and sold. Consequently it occasions no surprise in marine circles that the vessels cannot be disposed of except at a heavy loss.

The Tribune also quotes a railroad man as saying "for the railroads to carry freight 100 miles farther to a point is a little thing, but to run an ocean steamer inland 100 miles is a serious matter." This is not a serious matter; it is simply a matter of relative expense. The last Government transport to load at Portland carried 6160 tons of cargo. She made the run from Portland to Astoria in 6 hours and 45 minutes. It would have required ten locomotives and about 400 cars to have moved this cargo from Portland to Astoria, and the actual expense would have been many times greater than that of the ocean carrier. The tendency of the times is not for the "wharves to seek the vessel," as the Tribune says, but exactly the reverse, and the internal waterways of the world are receiving more attention today than ever before. The rivers and lakes of a country form commercial highways which are forever beyond the grasp of the monopolies. Rail routes are for the exclusive use of the big companies owning them. Water routes give the same right-of-way privileges to the humble flatboatman as are enjoyed by the millionaire shipowner, no tribute being exacted from either. In eliminating internal waterways from the transportations problems of the country, the Tribune says: "Such a change of policy would not only transfer Portland's ocean traffic to Astoria, but would have its effect all along our three coasts, and would modify the whole scheme of internal waterway improvement." There is some truth in this statement—enough to stamp the theories about the wharves going to the ships as the rankest kind of balderdash. This "change of policy" would move Seattle, Tacoma and Everett down to Neah Bay or Clallam Bay.

It requires less time for an 8000-ton steamer to go from Portland to Astoria than from Tacoma to Clallam Bay, and yet we hear no serious talk of the Commencement Bay seaport moving any nearer to the Pacific. For the same reasons that Seattle and Tacoma will continue to remain where they are, Portland will continue to do business at the head of deep-water navigation. The Tribune, in quietly "knocking" the Chicago trans-Atlantic enterprise, has overlooked the fact that there is nothing in common between that experiment and Portland's established prestige as a seaport. This city passed the experimental point many years ago. It is a first-class seaport, and will maintain the prestige which it has won in spite of the disreputable tactics of enemies at home and abroad. Incidentally it might be remarked that the men who are investing millions in the Chicago line of steamers to Europe may know as much about their business as is known by the Tribune.

THE NEW HOPE OF THE SOUTH.

Mr. Stuyvesant Fish, president of the Illinois Central Railroad, in a letter to the chancellor of the University of Mississippi, draws a striking contrast between the growth and present condition of the two States of Mississippi and Iowa. Mississippi was admitted to the Union in 1817; Iowa in 1846. In 1850 Mississippi had more than three times the population of Iowa, but at the present time Iowa's inhabitants exceed those of Mississippi by half a million. Iowa has 25,428,899 acres of improved land, while Mississippi has only 6,849,390. Iowa has 612,000 people living in cities, towns and villages, while Mississippi has only 138,000. The explanation of Mississippi's sluggish growth has been slavery, the persistent repudiation of her old state debt, the Civil War, carpetbag rule, the drift of her best-educated young men into the learned professions to the exclusion of commercial, manufacturing and other productive employments, or their emigration to the cities of the North and West, and the absolute control of all civil offices and political power by one party since the overthrow of carpetbag rule in 1876. The fact that in spite of these drawbacks Mississippi has grown after four years of war and ten years of misrule is fairly quoted as eloquent testimony to the fertility of the soil and the industrial capacity and energy of her people. She has abolished the ruinous "factor" system of farming since November, 1890, and the farmers are generally out of debt. Mixed farming and fruit culture have been introduced, which, during the Spring and Summer months, furnishes the cash with which the cotton crop is now so largely grown.

All that Mr. Fish says is true of Mississippi, both in praise and friendly criticism. The preference of her best-educated young men for the professions is natural, and their emigration, in the absence of a large field for practice, to other states is natural and commendable. It is exactly what takes place in many other states, and cannot be prevented. The advice to Mississippi to remove the stigma of repudiation by some settlement with its creditors is sound in morals and business policy, but while it will be followed some day, it is too soon to expect it of a comparatively primitive people. Minnesota once repudiated her railroad debt, and many years elapsed before her highly intelligent and progressive people could be persuaded to make an honorable settlement. Nor can we soon expect that there will be two strong political parties in Mississippi vigorously contesting with each other for the control of the civil offices and political power. The new suffrage laws of Mississippi have resulted not only in a largely decreased vote, but in a state of chronic indifference on part of the great mass of the whites to the exercise of the right of suffrage.

Nevertheless, Mississippi and all the Gulf States of the South promise a remarkable industrial development, because the people, who stood for the poor white class before the war, have gone to work as operatives in the manufacturing plants so generally and so successfully that the South is sure to be very rich within the next fifty years. This old-time "poor white" class is comparatively a new quality of labor in the South. Nineteen years ago there were only 667,000 spindles at work in all the cotton states. Today there are 7,000,000 spindles in actual operation, and another 1,500,000 planned for, and the looms have more than kept pace with the spindles. The aggregate of workers has grown in a score of years from 20,000 to 250,000, representing four times that number depending on the fruits of their labors. These operatives in the new Southern factories are all white; children of the tenant farm, the cotton field, the hillside corn patch and the mountain cabin. They are a strictly agricultural or pastoral people for many generations, that have been suddenly converted into a manufacturing population. They are all native Americans, as pure in blood as their grandsires, sprung from a fine English stock, and are possessed of the rugged virtues and barbaric vices that are characteristic of the Southern "poor white" rustic class. The valor and hardihood of the Confederate armies is eloquent testimony to the fact that in the fundamental qualities of manly strength, endurance and courage the "poor whites" of the South were not a degenerate people in mind or body.

As late as 1872 the attempt to introduce cotton manufacturing at the South was regarded as doomed to failure, upon the ground that the South had no mechanic class, no laboring class save the agricultural, which was not considered convertible into textile operatives. The manly instinct of self-preservation overcame the ancestral instinct and personal predilection for agriculture when the small tenant farmer faced cotton fallen to a price that meant ruin and starvation unless the South was able to manufacture its own staple and obtain living prices for the finished fabric. Cotton factories multiplied on every side, the tenant farmer white class broke ranks, resolved to attempt the new occupation that promised to keep the wolf from the door. The young men and women came first, then the widows and orphans, then the tenant farmer himself; and finally the hill country, or mountaineer, class. In these Southern mills fair weavers earn from $7 to $9 per week, which to these people of large families, including as many as eight workers to a single household, means $150 a month, a great deal of money to a family that under the old conditions was fortunate if it had $100 in cash accumulated at the end of the year. The rent of the family cottage is $4 to $6 per month, fuel is a small item of expense in the cotton states, dairy and garden products and grain are cheap. The mill managers find this class of labor excellent, and a large proportion of the operatives are more than satisfied with the new conditions because of the social privileges that have been opened to themselves and their children; the access to good schools, to Sunday school and church.

These operatives just at present are an illiterate people, for only 82.8 per cent of the adult workers in the factories of North Carolina can read and write, and the showing is much worse in Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi. For this illiteracy no schools, or the "three months" county schools of the past, are responsible. Now a free school with an annual term of from five to ten months is within reach of all, and religious privileges have been equally enlarged. This industrial revolution which has transformed the pauperized agricultural white class into well-to-do factory operatives is the newest and best hope of the South. The decent, industrious negro will amply replace him in the cotton field culture.

Professor Young's proposal of an academy of literary and scientific men to promulgate information and discussion relative to the Lewis and Clark Centennial and its commercial features no one can decry, and yet hesitation might be felt in accepting it, inasmuch as the favors would seem to be all on the side of the donors, the recipient exposition being a grateful beneficiary. It would be hard to overestimate the good work that such an organization would effect in bringing the exposition to the knowledge of a class of persons that might not be reached through the ordinary channels of advertising. It would also be a fitting accompaniment of the historical character of the event, and a desirable recognition of the part the Historical Society played in its inception. We can see no reason why one of the exposition buildings should not be constructed with a view to its use as a permanent home for the Oregon Historical Society. There is no better place for its library, which will be great in time, than Portland.

We commend Mr. E. B. Piper's letter on negro problems, written from Beaumont and printed in yesterday's Oregonian, to the attention of those who have been restive under The Oregonian's tacit approval of negro disfranchisement in the South. Mr. Piper is a Republican without guile, but he says that negro disfranchisement is not only better for the Southern Democrat, but it is better for the Republican party, both South and North, and better for the negro himself. As Mr. Piper puts it:

> When the South accomplishes its self-imposed task of disfranchising the negro, the whole Southern political aspect will change, and there will be a division of the parties and lines that now separate them in the North. The solid South will not be permanently broken up until then.

Other trained observers have seen the South and reached these same conclusions. However disconcerting they are to preconceived ideas of "liberty" and "justice," nobody need have any doubt of their essential truth.

The United States Legation guard left by General Chaffee, United States Army, in Pekin is now the only representative of our Army in China. General Chaffee, in detailing Major Edgar B. Robertson for the command of this guard, instructs him "that the troops under his command are stationed in a foreign country with which the United States is on terms of friendship. The guard therefore is not to be used aggressively, unless in defense of the American Legation or of the persons and property of American citizens in its immediate vicinity." The guard consists of Company B, Ninth Infantry, 153 strong, including officers. Supplies, including 100,000 rounds of ammunition and accouterments for 180 men, a small but complete train and hospital containing twenty beds, are left in Pekin with the guard.

"The situation is such that those who would maintain the tariff on trust-made goods are on the defensive," says the Republican Inter Ocean, of Chicago. "This situation," it adds, "cannot be altered by ignoring it. The conflict between those who would keep protection at any cost and those who would sacrifice protection in the hope of disciplining the trusts is irrepressible. The present drift of that conflict against the Republican party is evident. To overcome that drift, the party must at once enter upon a campaign of education. And unless the party does this, the rising tide will sweep away not only protection but also the other Republican policies with it."

These Mazamas are a hard-hearted crowd. Here are our two Congressmen and Senator Simon planning to climb Mount Hood as the only way of breaking into the society. It's sad there is no way of climbing Mount Hood by proxy.

Danger From the Fetich.

Chicago Chronicle.

Representative Dalzell, who represents the gigantic industrial infants of Pennsylvania on the ways and means committee, is badly frightened.

When Mr. McKinley assured him that the Babcock bill and similar measures would amount to nothing he replied: "They will split the Rrepublican party. They amount to that much at least."

Therefore, Mr. Dalzell is urging all Congressmen who look upon the Dingley fetich as toc sacred to be touched to meet him in Washington, that they may take counsel together.

It is safe to say that Mr. McKinley himself is not so confident as he pretends to be. His outgivings for the past two years and more to the effect that we must seek foreign markets by means of reciprocity treaties show he perceives the danger to the fetich. He sees that something must be done to pacify such Republicans as Mr. Babcock, who are able to see the connection between monopoly combines and the tariff, and who think the people can see it and will make trouble unless something is done to remove the great bulwark of the confederated monopolies.

UNITED EFFORT DEMANDED.

Baker City Republican.

Importance of certain great conditions may be so pointed, so cogent and universal that a special occasion is necessary to appreciate them. Like the theory of some ancient philosopher, that the spheres in motion produce sweet music, which, however, is lost to mortals because eternally in their ears. We might say that men become unconscious of the most pressing and universal requirements.

Appointment of a delegation to represent Baker in receiving the members of the river and harbor committee of the House June 28, at Portland, is a pointed reminder to this part of the country that the Columbia River is not open for navigation. This fact is widely known and doubtless appreciated by many. Random mention of lost benefits appear in the press, and commercial bodies deplore occasionally the obstruction of Nature's highway.

Congressmen and state Legislators awaken to the stupendous undertaking, and the result is that sporadic bills appear before solons for passing consideration and rapid consignment to the pigeonholes of oblivion. Desultory effort stirs the serenity of awful inactivity, a ripple is created for the moment and quiet follows with swift and sure footsteps.

This is as it has been. This illustrates the reconciliation of mind to repeated defeat, whether severe and after conscientious effort, or following a half-hearted and individual effort. But this must not and cannot be the policy of the future. Oregon has arrived at that stage of development where sterner counsel must guide, aggressive policies must prevail, and united effort must be made. This state must gird herself for tremendous effort, in which local and petty considerations should be forgotten. The population of our northern neighbor is fast surpassing that of the "Mother of States." Commercial interests go to the north and the eye of the emigrant is fixed beyond our verdant boundaries, upon resources duplicated here.

The time has arrived for Oregon to marshal her energies. A rebellious and refractory Eastern Oregon, a selfish and near-sighted Willamette Valley, cannot be tolerated. There are times when great issues demand the subordination of small ones. That time has arrived in Oregon, and the first great exemplification must be in opening the Columbia River.

With this mighty river and its ramified tributaries forming a natural circulatory system, the Inland Empire is highly endowed. There is one obstruction in the main artery, the aorta. Laboriously commerce surges around it, but the people, the producer, merchant, consumer and transportation man, demand that the surgeon apply the knife.

Oregon is not a small state, but much of Washington, directly benefited by the Columbia, is under the influence of Sound cities, which reap profit from any obstructions to Columbia River commerce. Success in removing the obstructions is possible only through united action of those most interested. Oregon will be heard if she shouts loud enough. If all her people, aided by the rational citizens of Idaho and Washington, whose advantage is so plain as to lead them to overcome state prejudice, combine their energies, something will be accomplished.

Conducting the members of the river and harbor committee over the scene of the obstructions and along the splendid stretch of clear water above, is the greatest opportunity presented residents of the Inland Empire. These men recommended appropriations. They are usually blinded by the intense competition of localities, which brings into a business matter all the elements of political strife. They now will be able to see for themselves. If facts are presented of the vast commerce dependent upon this river, if the population, present and prospective, of the Inland Empire is placed before them, these men must be convinced that a goodly portion of the Nation demands a canal between Celilo and The Dalles.

Every man taking part as one of the receiving delegates should be a business man, of good presence, broad experience, general knowledge and an expert on the resources of his district. All information should be gotten into ready condition for quick and effective presentation. Conferences of the delegates should be had that a system might be adopted for work. In fact, this enterprise should be set about with the cool, deliberate precision its magnitude demands.

Should all efforts fail, Oregon should take a new tack. A large fund could be raised by private subscription all over the state. This could, as a nucleus, be used as a lever on the Government in such manner that an additional appropriation would be easily secured. If the Government felt that our people were determined, something would be undertaken. With the Hon. John H. Mitchell in the Senate, the man who has fought over these issues many times, there is hope for speedy work if the people are united and strong in their support.

This Is Sound.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

There is one sentence in Mr. McKinley's letter which is suggestive in a sense, perhaps, that was not intended by the writer. "There are now," he says, "questions of the gravest importance before the Administration and the country, and their just consideration should not be prejudiced in the public mind by even the suspicion of the thought of a third term." Very true. That is a strong argument against a third term, but it is just as strong against a second. Every President ought to be free to do his duty without any consideration as to the results on his prospects for reelection. The Presidential term ought to be lengthened, and the President be restricted to one term.

Bryan's Effort Hopeless.

Nashville Banner, Dem.

The evident purpose of Mr. Bryan and some of his brash political toadies to make cheap campaign stuff out of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, and to hold that court up to public opprobium will not, we believe, be sustained by a majority of Democratic voters. The effort to make the people of this country believe that the highest court in the land, the greatest tribunal in the world, is corrupt or imbecile, will fail.

Tip for Grosvenor.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

A reporter has caught up some remarks made by Uncle Charley Grosvenor as he sat around and swapped stories in a hotel lobby, in which Uncle Charley is represented as saying that the time has come to break the third-term precedent. It is pretty safe to add, however, that if the Ohio Congressman lives long enough he will see a written law against more than one term before he sees the abolition of the unwritten law against three terms.

Revision Inevitable.

Chicago Post.

The aggressive tariff worshipers cannot too soon conclude that tariff revision has become inevitable and that the people will not tolerate monopoly abuses under the guise of protection. The manufacturers, with the cheapest labor in the world (cheap because of its efficiency and productivity), with unexampled natural resources to draw upon, want markets more than they want a high barbed-wire fence to exclude foreign competitors.

"Doctor of Tariff Laws."

Chicago Chronicle.

Of course, Andrew Carnegie will be dubbed LL. D. A Scotch university will do the dubbing. Any kind of degree that is purchasable ought to be purchased with $10,000,000. But the initials should be LLT. D., doctor of tariff laws. Without the "robber" tariff in the United States Mr. Carnegie would not be able to give away millions.

CHEAP STEEL FOR FOREIGNERS

Chicago Tribune (Rep.).

The present duty on structural steel is $11 20 a ton. Its entire removal may be inexpedient. There is reason to believe that it can with safety be reduced considerably. As to this Mr. Schwab says nothing. If he chooses he can give the facts which will enable Congress to determine the extent of reduction. He can give exact figures as to the cost of production of structural steel at home and abroad. Thus far he has given no such information, though it would be interesting and valuable.

Nor has Mr. Schwab explained yet what percentage of the difference between the domestic and foreign price of the products of the United States Steel Company is due to the wish of its managers to pay dividends on an inflated capitalization. His company is a billion-dollar corporation. The value of its tangible properties is put down at about $500,000,000. Mr. Schwab says the capitalization is none too large. He will find few to agree with him.

Mr. Schwab's incomplete statement will not convince the American consumers of iron and steel—there is no man who is not a consumer of these metals in some form—that it is necessary or expedient that they should continually pay the American producers of these commodities so much more than these producers ask of foreigners. They will not be convinced until they have evidence that they are mistaken now. While they do not say that all the duties in the iron and steel schedule should be repealed, they are of the opinion that most if not all of them should be reduced, believing that this will compel American steel and iron manufacturers to lower home prices somewhat without decreasing wages.

FILLING UP THE WEST.

Star of Empire Sheds Light as It Goes.

Brooklyn Eagle.

Those good people who are bewailing the degeneracy of the times and the dominance of wealth and the magnifying of the cities at the expense of the country would better stop their pessimistic meditations and turn their faces toward the West, where something worth thinking of is happening. The demand is coming from the great wheat farms and from the builders of railroads into the new country for not less than 80,000 men to work on the railroads and to harvest the wheat crop. This is a transient demand, however, and should not be confused with the demand of the Western acres for settlers. The railroad companies have discovered within a few months that many people were getting tired of life in the cities and were longing for the simpler conditions in the country. The prosperity of the railroads depends on the population of the country through which they pass, and the managers of the big companies have been encouraging a migration from the city to the farms. In a remarkably short space of time the Great Northern and Northwestern Railroad Companies have carried 20,000 people from St. Paul and Minneapolis to the wheat and cattle-raising district of the Northwest. These people have taken up land and are now making homes for themselves. The sons are joining with the fathers in the work, and are laying the foundations of a new era in the great undeveloped regions. And when these settlers have broken up their land and have enlarged their holdings, they will be seeking for men to assist them in gathering their crops just as the older farmers in the olders states are now seeking help. And the demand will be met.

The new migration means much to this country, both economically and politically. For the past 20 years we have been developing our manufactures, and the people have been crowding into the factory towns or into the great centers of distribution. The profit in farming in the East has disappeared, because the comparatively sterile ground here could not compete with the wheat fields and cattle ranges of the West, and the Western agricultural industries would have developed more rapidly if the manufacturing industries of both the West and the East had not been absorbing so much attention. The time has now come when our factories are supplying not only our home markets, but the markets of the world as well, and the consumers in other countries are coming here for bread with such insistent demands that farming is becoming attractive to people who have lived in towns because they thought that they could not succeed in the country. The changing of trade conditions is causing a shifting of population, and the vacant spaces of the West are filling up.

It is easier to decide on the economic significance of the new movement than on its political effect. No one knows what views the new farmers will hold when they own their land and are shipping their crops to India or to China, or to be consumed in Chicago or in New York. Their views will suffer a change, because their knowledge will be enlarged. But whether a new form of Populism will be developed in the transition stage or whether the farmers will hark back to the old-fashioned Democracy or will attach themselves to the Republicanism which in these days is much nearer the Democracy of the beginning of the century than to the Republicanism of Fremont and Lincoln, remains to be seen.

Another Populist Gone Wrong.

Minneapolis Journal.

Charley Towne is going to New York to get rich. Now, if he will only shuck the particular brand of politics he has affected of late years and settle down to business, it will afford us a great deal of pleasure to hear of his great success. The only thing the matter with Towne is his politics. Otherwise he is one of the best fellows in the world, and could spend the income of a snug fortune in such an admirable way that he really ought to have it.

Strange, Indeed, It Is.

Atlanta Journal.

Doesn't it seem just a little strange, to say the least of it, that we are acquiring colonies to get their trade, and yet enforce the Dingley tariff against them in order to keep them from trading with us?

Bryan Invaluable.

New York World, Dem.

Mr. Bryan is invaluable—to the Republican party, or rather to those who use the Republican party for ends of sordidness and selfishness.

Self-Dependence.

Matthew Arnold.

Weary of myself, and sick of asking
What I am, and what I ought to be,
At the vessel's prow I stand, which bears me
Forwards, forwards, o'er the star-lit sea.

And a look of passionate desire
O'er the sea and to the stars I send;
"Ye who, from my childhood up, have calm'd me,
Calm me, ah, compose me to the end!

"Ah, once more," I cried, "ye stars, ye waters,
On my heart your mighty charm renew;
Still, still let me, as I gaze upon you,
Feel my soul becoming vast like you!"

From the intense clear star-sown vault of heaven,
Over the lit sea's unquiet way,
In the rustling night air came the answer:
"Wouldst thou be as these are? Live as they.

"Unaffrighted by the silence round them,
Undistracted by the sights they see,
These demand not that the things without them
Yield them love, amusement, sympathy.

"And with joy the stars perform their shining,
And the sea its long moon-silver'd roll;
For self-pois'd they live, nor pine with noting
All the fever of some differing soul.

"Bounded by themselves, and unregardful
In what state God's other works may be,
In their own tasks all their powers pouring,
These attain the mighty life you see."

O air-born voice! long since, severely clear,
A cry like thine in mine own heart I hear;
"Resolve to be thyself; and know that he
Who finds himself, loses his memory."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Three of a kind don't beat a pair when it comes to Presidential terms.

Yes, thank you, we are sure that before very long it will be h—t en—gh f—r us.

Prizefighting is getting almost as tame and uninteresting as dueling in France.

Starting with two lively political parties, Cuba certainly ought to become a thoroughly up-to-date republic.

Ye host down by the seaside
Now notes with many a frown
That when he puts his prices up
The mercury goes down.

The whisky trust had better make the most of the absence of the canteen. When it goes back it will go back to stay.

The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year,
The ripping Kansas cyclone soon will start its wild career.

The shirt-waist man can be found at several places around town, and his name is usually something like Wa Shing.

The Atlanta Constitution says that people will insist upon regarding George Washington as the first American of all ages. Alas poor Aguinaldo!

What a terrible thing it would be for the Lone Star State if a Kansas zephyr should drift down that way and blow all the oil wells out of the ground!

The Filipinos are now being taught how to pay taxes. When they are proficient they can be brought over here to give a little instruction to the Americans.

The approaching vacation will make it possible for the newspapers to withdraw their war correspondents to West Point and send them to Kansas on waiting orders.

Now Sir Thomas Lipton proposes a yacht race across the Atlantic. It is clear that in the enterprise of lifting the America's cup Sir Thomas is becoming afflicted with a chilliness at the extremities of his lower limbs.

Rev. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren") and others, according to the Congregationalist, recently dined with W. S. Caine, Member of Parliament. Mr. Caine offered to give £50 to a hospital fund through the man who would make the best pun on his name within five minutes. Brains cogitated for a while, and then, just as the time was about to expire and Mr. Caine thought he was to escape, John Watson said: "Don't be in such a hurry, Caine."

A kind of counterfeiting that has become popular in England of late is the manufacture of spurious shillings out of genuine silver. As the amount of silver contained in a shilling is worth only about half of that sum the coiners reap excellent profits. All of the false shillings detected heretofore have been cast in a mold, but it is pointed out that were the counterfeiters to enlist the services of an expert engraver and die-sinker, detection would be almost impossible, and the only obvious remedy would be to increase the size and weight of the coins.

The enmity that has arisen between publications devoted to the horse and the automobile is amusing to disinterested people. For vituperative purposes the horsemen have so far had the more effective ammunition. A motor vehicle magazine rallies bravely, however, with the following: "In the first month of the last quarter in France horses caused 957 accidents, with 88 fatalities. The railways in the same length of time caused 145, of which 2 were fatal. The automobile was the cause of 38, with 2 fatalities, and the bicycle was responsible for 113, with 6 deaths."

"Uptown, in the Kensington district," said the Philadelphia dead-game sport, "there is a poker-room that has substituted an automatic parlor organ for a lookout man. The scheme has worked beautifully, and neither the neighbors nor the fly 'cops' of the district are onto the game. When the organ is started you might think in passing the house that a prayer meeting or revival service was in progress behind the closed blinds, for it plays nothing but hymns. All the evening it switches from 'Nearer, My God, to Thee' to 'Rock of Ages,' and then to 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains.' And all the time chips are rattling and the kitty is growing fat. Think of raiding a joint where an organ was playing 'Nearer, My God, to Thee'! I'm not much on religion myself, but it seems to me that's about the limit."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Lady (to departing servant)—What shall I say in your reference? Servant—Just that I stood it for six months with you, mum—that'll do for me.—Tit-Bits.

No Disappointment.—"Isn't your new house taking longer to build than you expected?" "Oh, no. I've only spent twice as much on it, so far, as I anticipated."—Detroit Free Press.

Nurse—Listen, baby, to the donkey braying. What a noise he is making! Naughty donkey. Little Girl—Oh what a shame, nurse! He isn't a naughty donkey. He's only got the hiccups! —Punch.

Pleasures of Amateur Gardening.—"William, I wish you would go and weed out the flower bed." William went and inspected it. Then he returned. "It would be a simpler job, Marie, to flower out the weed bed."—Chicago Tribune.

He Wouldn't Be Busy.—"Let me see the funny paper," urged the little one. "But I'm looking at it," replied her father. "Oh, well," she returned, "you can look at it after supper, for you don't have to go out to play. —Chicago Post.

Might Be Worse.—Practical Father (angrily) —I am told that that young man who comes to see you writes poetry. Daughter—Y-e-s, father, he does. "Huh! Publishes it, too, I suppose?" "No. No one will print it." "Then there's some hope for him."—New York Weekly.

Exchange.—"You owe this country nearly everything you possess in literature," remarked the Englishman. "Yes," answered the American business man. "But by the time our capitalists get through, you may owe us enough for locomotives and other things to more than offset the account.—Washington Star.

Hide-Bound.—Ascum—What are you so down on the English for? Cassidy—Why shouldn't I? Look at the stories they do be tellin' about thim. Ascum—Yes, but they tell stories about the Irish, too, which you say are lies. Cassidy—Aye! but all the lies they tell about the English are true.—Philadelphia Press.

Gladsome Days.

Washington Star.

Let us be joyful! Once again
The merry Summer time is here!
The daisies glint across the plain,
The hum of insects soothes the ear;
The ice man leaves a tiny speck
Soon melted in the morning glow;
Your collar wilts about your neck
Just as it did so long ago.
The fly now dodges from your face
And laughs to see you smite your cheek;
You find a Summer boarding place
That charges all you earn per week.
You stand up in a crowded car,
And soon are crushed, a total wreck;
And some one with a strong cigar
Is dropping ashes down your neck.
So come, and join the glad refrain
That echoes distantly and clear,
Let us be joyful! Once again
The merry Summer time is here!