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TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair; warmer; northwesterly wind.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 53; minimum temperature, 30; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 29.

A MAN OF ACTION.

At the time of his death Cecil Rhodes was still in middle life. He stood in direct and almost commanding relationship to the business affairs of a continent, and his immediate personal resources were almost equal to those of any other Englishman. His prestige had suffered no serious blight; his activities were innumerable; his influence vast. And yet—in spite of these facts—his death leaves no void. He will be missed as a great and picturesque figure in South African life; but no interest, either material or moral, will suffer by his passing out.

So fast does the world move in these modern days that the era in which Cecil Rhodes was a leader of great forces—an era whose beginning was less than fifteen years ago—has already gone by. There are new times in South Africa, and they call for another type of leadership. The work of conquest and mere exploitation is past; the duty of organization and administration has now to be taken up. Imperial conceptions, aggressive courage and the largest measure of personal force were essential in the recent times already made old by the hurry of events. Something less striking and splendid, something more orderly, more considerate, more deliberate, more persistent, less touched by the spirit of genius, will better serve South Africa in the present posture of her affairs. Cecil Rhodes' work was done—just done—and, fortunately for his fame, he died before the development of new conditions and the incoming of new forces had bowed him out of his position as the foremost man—the supreme spirit—of South Africa.

We say Mr. Rhodes died fortunately, for he had none of the graces which shine in retirement and give pleasure to his possessor when his working days are over. He was an empire-maker, pure and simple; he had but one mood, and that was the mood of his work; he had no tastes which fill up and dignify leisure; he had no spirit of unrest in him; and when there was no great task to be done he could find nothing so suited to his temper as to rush in haste from one end of the world to another. There was for him no charm in literature, no solace in social companionship, no joy in the domestic side of life. Books were nothing, excepting as they might yield facts bearing upon his plans; society was a bore unless it could be turned to some diplomatic purpose; he banished himself from the sweetest of worlds where womanhood and childhood reign. He had nothing of the breadth and liberality of mind which honors the great past or which seeks out the secrets of nature. History, except as it recorded the achievements of the masters of human force and success, was to him trivial; science was a mere technicality, interesting only in so far as it might be useful in the making of machinery; art was the play of small minds, merely to be tolerated because it was the fashion.

And yet, beyond a doubt, history will class this strange man with the greatest of the English race. Philosophy bestows the crown of laurel upon the brow of the idealist; the living and breathing word takes off its hat to the man of action, living or dead. More men know and honor the names of Alexander, Caesar, Cromwell—men of action and of supreme force—than the names of poets and administrators of all the ages. It is force, above all else, that the world respects. Cecil Rhodes will be honored of Englishmen because his genius was peculiarly English in its quality; it was essentially practical. His aims; his operations; his energy; his empire and increased its prestige; it dared much, but it ever kept a careful eye on the income side of the ledger; it sometimes put too much reliance upon the power of mere British gold. At one point, and at one only, did the genius of this man rise from material calculations to appreciation of the power of things not tangible, and that was in his constant dependence upon British patriotism, British valor, British spirit. Here, indeed, is the secret of that power which, in combination with great perception, high courage and large business gifts, created the new world of South Africa and made it none the less his own because he gave it to the empire of England.

The effective men of the world are not those high, calm spirits whose work, pertaining to the abstract relations of things, is "for all time and for

all men." Such, indeed, hold high rank as a few great names bear witness; but they are not the doers of things, and for them there are not the honors which belong to achievement. The effective man is the man of his own time, whose aims are its aims, whose ends are associated with its interests or its pride.

WORSE THINGS THAN WORK.

Sentiment against "child labor" is again on the rampage, and wherever children are at work or proposed to be set at work, their employment is denounced as a "terrible evil." The abuse of childhood through unnatural hardship, unhealthy confinement and dangerous occupation is indeed an evil, and laws for its suppression have been framed in many of the states. But the undertaking in its mitigation, like most reforms, may easily outrun the bounds of good policy.

The chances are that more children are in peril today, body and soul, through neglect and idleness than through overwork. Hard application and severe work amount to nothing and exercise of childhood's tender years, but employment of some sort is almost as good for most children and vastly better for some than the idleness in which many of the offspring of the rich are maintained in the period devoted exclusively to their "education."

Some people are so poor that their children have to work. In the country they work on the farm and in the city in the factories. In the latter case, but a child can work as healthfully and lucratively in a box or bag factory, under humane and sanitary conditions, as it can in a cow pasture, a hopyard or a fruit cannery. Most of the men who amount to anything today had to work when they were boys, splitting wood, hoeing corn, selling papers or running errands in offices. Most women who amount to anything today were taught habits of industry not merely by precept, but by example and in practice.

Child labor is not as bad as child idleness. More anxious fathers and sad-eyed mothers are made in Portland by children running the streets day and night than by the exactions of factory or mill. The boy selling papers is better off than the one who has no more profitable employment than to loiter in the streets and tell stories. The little miss in the boarding school without a duty to perform the livelong day but imitate her elders in dress and manners will probably be no happier at 50 than her less favored sister who tends the door at the great department store and takes home her little earnings every Saturday night to a humble but happy home.

Things have to be looked at as they are. The best thing for a boy or girl is a home where each has regular duties whose performance inculcates habits of industry and capacity for self-support. But, unfortunately, relaxation of parental discipline and conscientiousness leaves the community with a large population of children to whom such a home is denied. They are neither sent to school nor taught to work. Better far for such ones to be trained to work in childhood, than to later years will be independent, than to grow up in idleness, the boys to vagrancy and crime, the girls to wantonness, shame and ruin. If negligent parents continue to send criminals of both sexes upon the community to its cost both in money and in peace, society will have to increase its espionage, disposition and control of idle children. Nor will it be able or willing to support and educate them in idleness. They will have to work. Many a shipwrecked life might have been happy and successful if in its early years, when, if ever, correct habits must be formed, a firm hand had wisely led it into the ways of honest and strenuous industry.

THE COST OF STRIKES.

The recent strike in Boston; the impending coal strike in Pennsylvania; make a letter from New Zealand concerning compulsory arbitration, published in the New York Evening Post, interesting reading. This letter is from Edward Tregan, Secretary for Labor in New Zealand, and is an absolute denial of the assertion that compulsory arbitration has "not been a success"; that the economic outlook of the colony is unfavorable. This New Zealand correspondent replies that "compulsory arbitration," so-called, is so completely successful after seven years' trial that only a revolution could displace it. The act has been amended so that the Court of Arbitration can enforce its awards with all the powers of the Supreme Court, with even higher powers, since against the decision of the president of the Arbitration Court there is no appeal. The colony of New South Wales has just passed a compulsory arbitration act of a more drastic sort than that of New Zealand, after hearing the report of one of its leading judges, sent over to inspect the workings of the New Zealand act. South Australia and Western Australia have similar legislation framed on the model of that of New Zealand.

The question that the effect of labor legislation would be to drive capital out of the colony has not been fulfilled, for capital has so extended its operations that factories which in 1894 employed \$5,551 factories now employ over \$3,000; that is, the work has more than doubled. The total trade of New Zealand has advanced from \$4,000,000 in 1886 to \$117,000,000 in 1900; the private property has grown from the value of \$23,000,000 in 1891 to the value of \$1,114,000,000 in 1900. The value of public property is \$230,000,000. The revenue of the colony in 1901 was \$23,500,000, and showed an increase of \$1,361,000 over the return of the preceding year. In New Zealand there are no strikes, no lock-outs, picketing, Pinkerton's detectives, etc. There has never been a better feeling between employer and employed than at present. Class bitterness almost unknown. There are no beggars in the colony, and poverty of the kind common in the great cities of Europe and America is almost unknown. Now let us turn from this industrial picture of New Zealand to the story of the cost of strikes in this country, beginning with 1881 and ending with 1900, both inclusive, as told in a recent bulletin of the Department of Labor, compiled by the Hon. Carroll D. Wright. In the year 1881 there were 471 strikes, throwing 129,521 men out of employment. The money loss of the employees was \$3,372,578, and of the employers \$1,919,000. In the year 1900 the number of strikes in this country was 1779; the employees thrown out of work were 566,065; the loss in wages was \$15,341,299; and the loss of employers was \$9,451,299. In 1894 the combined loss of employees and employers was over \$55,000,000. The total

loss in wages to employees in these twenty years of strikes approached \$250,000,000, an appalling record of waste in time, money and energy. The short duration of the recent Boston strike, which was settled in a few days through the mediation of Governor Crane and the Mayor of Boston; the termination of the long strike in the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco through the efforts of Senator Hanna, of the National Civic Federation, have inspired the hope, if not the belief, that for the future this great waste of strikes will be rapidly diminished.

It is too soon to accept this view; the quick settlement of the Boston strike was due chiefly to the fact that the labor unions had exceptional faith in Governor Crane and Mayor Collins as men of ability and integrity, who were naturally the friends and sympathetic advocates of the cause of labor. The happy outcome was fortuitous; labor cannot always hope to find such allies in the Governor of a great state and the Mayor of a great city. Had Governor Crane been a mere successful Republican demagogue, and Mayor Collins been a Democratic demagogue, they never would have joined hands patriotically to settle the strike. So it will be henceforth. Strikes will be wantonly instigated by political demagogues or perpetuated by them, or they will be begun in folly by passionate, reckless self-seekers on both sides, and continued until both sides become exhausted and the strike expires through inanition. Why is not the New Zealand method of compulsory arbitration a more excellent way? It is true that New Zealand has only about 100,000 square miles and about 750,000 people; it is true that her system of labor administration has not been crucially tested by the strain of hard times; nevertheless, her experiment of compulsory arbitration had a trial of over seven years, and satisfies both employers and employees, despite the fact that three-fourths of the decisions of the Court of Arbitration have been on the side of appealing labor.

We were wont to laugh at the Australian ballot, but we have finally adopted it and find it a most valuable measure of practical political reform. We were wont to laugh at Australia's idea of government railways as "state socialism," but we do not laugh quite so loudly today, for we see plainly that if our Interstate Commerce Commission's efforts to enforce the law restraining and regulating the operations of the great railway corporations are not crowned henceforth with larger success, the Government may yet own and operate the railways rather than suffer the railways to continue to violate the law to defy the Government and injure the public weal. If the Australian ballot, the Australian idea of government ownership of railways, have borne the test of time and experience, it is not extravagant to ask a respectful hearing for the Australian system of labor administration.

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SURE TO WIN.

The Legislature of the great State of Iowa, the Massachusetts of the Middle West in stock and political traditions, has passed a joint resolution asking Congress to call a National convention for the purpose of passing upon the question of amending the Constitution so as to permit the election of United States Senators by popular vote. This is the answer of the greatest state of the Trans-Mississippi West to United States Senator Hoar's announcement that he will do his best to prevent the submission to the states of a Constitutional amendment providing for the election of Senators by the people. Senator Hoar is an old man, in his 76th year, but he may, and probably will, live to see this political battle won by the people.

Mr. John C. Nimmo, who we supposed from his recent silence had gone to the happy hunting grounds or some equally desirable place, now favors us with "A Commercial and Political Danger: Review of the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Interstate Commerce Commission and of the Policy Pursued by the Commission From the Beginning." Mr. Nimmo's lucubrations in aid of the railroads and in disparagement of all laws, officials, politicians and everything else living across their path to universal dominion, have long ceased to excite any interest in this office other than the question, How much does Mr. Nimmo get from the railroads for his assiduous and public-spirited labors? If he will tell us that we will esteem it an item of news, which his literary offerings most certainly are not.

They say now that the mad remnants of the Simon machine are proposing to combine with the Democrats; which, in exchange for a Simon legislative delegation, shall promise the Democrats all the city and county offices. A Simon legislative delegation, put forth as Democratic or supported by the Democrats, would be both an inspiration and an enthusiasm. There would be music, indeed. Could any mortal of the Simon machine resist such an enticement? Possibly there are some who imagine that such strains might create a soul even under the ribs of death.

Paul Kruger shows a spirit of resignation over the death of Cecil Rhodes that under the circumstances was quite to be expected. Not attempting to do the subject justice in his own words, he fell back upon the Scriptures and plausibly repeated, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." These words were probably never voiced as an expression of a resigned spirit with more fervency than upon this occasion.

The Denver authorities won't stand for a prizefight in the Coliseum between Kid Broad and Jack McClelland, but a boxing contest at the Denver Athletic Club between the same principals is all right. Morality must be maintained.

It is touching, indeed, to find the old machine pleading, as it does in its address, the privileges of the baby act, the pity due to infancy and innocence. Pity the sorrows of a poor old machine. It is touching indeed.

The House committee on coinage cannot think of a mint at Portland, but recommends one at Omaha, Nebraska, and a mint at St. Paul. Its gold output last year was 9,000,000 ounces.

The tramp, after all, is human. Witness the heroic sacrifice of the poor fellow who recently warned approaching trains of a landslide on the New York Central.

of United States Senators is academical and absurd, because today the change in the method of the election of United States Senators is practically being effected without changing the Constitution, for the Republicans of Illinois have been declaring in popular primaries who shall be the successor to Senator William E. Mason. The various candidates for the place have been stumping the state for weeks, just as if a popular election were pending. The Republican Legislature of Illinois, elected next Fall, will really have no discretion in the choice of Senator, for the people will already have elected the Senator in every particular save the name. The change in substance is going on, and is sure to continue going on. Senator Hoar cannot stop it by his Constitutional theories; why not recognize by formal Constitutional amendment this political fact? This is the essence of the Springfield Republican's criticism of the attitude of United States Senator Hoar. We have cited it to show the universal and the popular demand for the election of United States Senators by the people. The unanimity of the popular demand is attested by the fact that the Philadelphia Press, a stiff radical Republican Administration organ, pleads for a popular election of United States Senators as strongly as the Independent voices of the New York Evening Post, the Boston Herald, the Springfield Republican and the Brooklyn Eagle.

ANOTHER DEMOCRATIC FOLLY.

Mr. Richardson's disclaimer of partisan desires relative to the Christmas story is entitled to no more approval than is Mr. Cannon's untenable effort to break the force of the episode through posthumous. Mr. Richardson has brains and he served him well in this instance, because the demand for an investigation was one that no self-respecting member of Congress should for a moment oppose.

The "scandal," however, is a pitifully small affair, and the Danish negotiator's tale should be dismissed with contempt, as it doubtless will be, upon investigation. The outlay he professes to have made was unnecessary in this country, where the Danish minister and his supposed adherents are wholly unauthorized at The Hague as it will be disclosed. There are, unfortunately, hangers-on and curbstones brokers in every business, not excepting statecraft and journalism. Christmas is not the first to be entrapped by the lobbyist, and will not, it is safe to say, be the last, though such confessions as his are apt to discourage the profession momentarily. President McKinley is not the only man whose name has suffered from the Danish episode.

The Democratic effort to embarrass the purchase of the Danish Islands is without merit, of course, and will fail. The talk about a plebiscite and "consent of the governed" is on a plane with this latest attack on the treaty's ratification, and only serves to betray the incapacity of the whole Democratic outfit. Mr. Richardson included, to rise above the plane of peanut politics to the level of real statesmanship. It is the kind of thing that went on for centuries under the native Princes of India and was put down only by the arrival of the English. Mr. Colquhoun does not say this, but it is a conspicuous part of his book, "China in Transformation," "Overland to China," "The Key of the Pacific," and lately "The Mastery of the Pacific," have shown an intimate personal acquaintance with the subjects treated, and have been received everywhere with interest and approbation.

With regard to the war in the Philippines, Mr. Colquhoun says that it can hardly be called a war at all. It is a mixture of organized brigandage and unorganized lawlessness. It is the kind of thing with which any government, native or foreign, would have to cope. It is the kind of thing that went on for centuries under the native Princes of India and was put down only by the arrival of the English. Mr. Colquhoun does not say this, but it is a conspicuous part of his book, "China in Transformation," "Overland to China," "The Key of the Pacific," and lately "The Mastery of the Pacific," have shown an intimate personal acquaintance with the subjects treated, and have been received everywhere with interest and approbation.

What We Drink? Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The American Grocer finds cause for rejoicing in the fact that another year of unequal prosperity in this country has not increased to a noticeable extent the consumption of alcoholic liquors.

While the figures contained in the Government's reports show a slight gain in the use of spirits and a more pronounced increase in the use of beer, yet the total consumption of the three classes of liquors or malt liquors in 1901 over 1900 was only about a fifth of a gallon to the person.

On the other hand, the use of coffee increased more than three-fourths of a pound to the person, and the use of tea one-twentieth of a pound. The milder stimulants are more in favor than ever.

The American Grocer finds that out of \$17,312,386 spent for beverages in the United States last year, \$1,228,000 went for alcoholic stimulants, of which one-half was for beer, less than a third for whiskey, and one-twentieth for wines.

"If," says the American Grocer, "the quantity of tea and coffee used is reduced 25 per cent, the equivalent of the savings would be more gallons of coffee are consumed than of any other sort of drink, amounting to 1,231,372.44 gallons, as against 1,258,244.44 gallons of beer—its greatest competitor. The grand total of \$17,312,386, above, it must be understood, includes non-alcoholic as well as alcoholic beverages, as follows:

Alcoholic drinks \$1,004,044.153
Non-alcoholic stimulants 1,132,137.245
Tea 39,430.688
Coffee 7,600,000—\$ 178,508,231

COMES BACK TO PUBLIC LIFE.

Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The Republicans of Portland yesterday nominated as their candidate for Mayor in the coming city campaign Hon. George H. Williams. This will bring back into public life a man who has been out of it for nearly a generation, yet who, in time, may be regarded as a distinguished figure. There are few survivors of his day yet before the public. He was a Judge in Iowa 36 years ago, before the Republican party came into existence. He was one of the Presidential electors whose votes made Pierce President of the United States in 1853. He was Chief Justice of Oregon in 1853, when Oregon was further out of the world than are the remotest mining camps in Alaska at the present time, and when that territory had a smaller population than can now be found in the northern territory. He assisted in framing the constitution of Oregon 49 years ago. He was a United States Senator when President Roosevelt was a child of 7 years of age.

Thirty-one years ago he occupied such a high rank among the great lawyers of the country that he was selected as one of the American members of the Alabama commission, and as such assisted in winning one of the first great triumphs for American diplomacy—a triumph possible only on account of the splendid manner in which the American case was conducted, and the full and exact knowledge of the principles of international law possessed by the American members of that commission. He was Attorney-General in President Grant's second Cabinet, and was nominated for the highest judicial position to which any lawyer in any country can attain, that of Chief Justice of the United States—a position which he would have held for the past 25 years, had it not been for the refusal of the Senate to confirm the nomination.

Now, in advanced age, he is called from his long retirement to accept the position of Chief Justice of the United States of the state in which he has been the most distinguished citizen for nearly half a century. Between his first and last appearance in politics were tremendous changes in political, social and industrial life, which any lawyer in any country can attest, that of Chief Justice of the United States—a position which he would have held for the past 25 years, had it not been for the refusal of the Senate to confirm the nomination.

COLQUHOUN ON THE PHILIPPINES.

Chicago Tribune.

What Mr. Archibald Ross Colquhoun has to say on any question connected with the Orient is worth listening to. His opinions are based on observation rather than on speculation. He has spent many years in India. He was in Burma when that country was opened up to Europeans, and he has explored the length and breadth of the country. He has traveled through Siberia and Manchuria. In short, he has made himself familiar with every nook and corner of the far East. As a consequence, his book, "China in Transformation," "Overland to China," "The Key of the Pacific," and lately "The Mastery of the Pacific," have shown an intimate personal acquaintance with the subjects treated, and have been received everywhere with interest and approbation.

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Of course, not all Filipinos are satisfied with the American administration. That is true. But would it be sensible just at present to form the Philippine Islands into any kind of administration that would be acceptable to all Filipinos, or to any large part of them? It is noteworthy that a few excellent people, who are in the study of Philippine affairs, have thought that Manila afforded greater opportunities for observation than Boston, have answered this question in the negative. A native administration would command less respect and would have more trouble than the American administration of the present day.

The lawlessness that springs into being under Spanish oppression and that is hard to settle down. A pot that has been boiling so long cannot be expected to cool off at once. As Mr. Colquhoun pertinently remarked, "The Philippines are the same trouble with the darts in Burma."

The darts believed that they had a right to plunder the country as they pleased. England cured them of that belief after a few years of rule. The same thing is true to the Philippines. Then, like the Burmese, they will peacefully work their way toward material prosperity, and perhaps toward political independence.

Did Not Reclaim the Coin.

Chicago Chronicle.

Those who "pass the plate" in country churches are not often regaled with the glitter of gold among the contributions. It is related that about 10 years ago Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford were traveling through the Middle West incognito. One Sunday, and, pursuant to their usual custom, they called at the local church. The Christian Church of Bloomington, then largely in the hands of Amos Atwater, when the plate was passed for the collection, Mr. Stanford dropped in a \$10 gold piece. Mr. Atwater, the deacon in charge of the collection-taking, it was noticed, that the ushers held a hurried conference with him when the money was taken forward. At its conclusion Mr. Atwater said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we have received a \$10 gold piece. Some one has dropped a \$10 gold piece into the collection. If he will pass up after the service, we will be glad to allow him to exchange it for the sum he intended to give. It is of course, needless to say that Mrs. Stanford did not take advantage of the opportunity."

Our Consular Service.

Washington Star.

The foreign commerce of the United States has grown to its greatest proportions during the past few years, despite the inadequacies of the American Consular service. What it might be, with a permanent service, with a corps of capable and carefully selected agents working constantly and intelligently at every port and foreign center of industry in the interest of American trade, is a difficult thing to conceive. There is little doubt that a great loss has been suffered by our manufacturers and exporters in the past because of the fact that our consular service has been kept upon a political basis, without adequate compensation to attract the best men to the places or to keep them there when they have been by chance selected. Despite the fact that Lord's excellent officials have been sent abroad to represent the commercial and minor diplomatic interests of this country, there is much room for improvement.

Prince Henry's Pan.

New York Times.

Prince Henry frequently surprised his American companions on his recent tour by his knowledge of the idioms and slang of our language. The climax of his knowledge was reached on Monday, when returning from Philadelphia, where His Royal Highness had inspected the magnificent Russian battle-ship Retvizan. The Prince suddenly leaned over to Admiral "Bob" Evans, with a merry twinkle in his eye, said: "Admiral, this certainly is a most wonderful country—where even the physical ailments of the people win a European's admiration."

Evans, with a puzzled look, replied: "I beg your pardon, but I don't quite catch your meaning."

"Why," the Prince replied with a broad smile, "we Europeans would be only too glad to have American Cramps."

The Ship Subsidy Inquiry.

Pittsburg Post.

If the Government can give a subsidy to a shipbuilder it should also make grants to the shipowner. The Government is right to dip their hands into the treasury to advance their private interests as to solid ground as the grabbing purposes of the shipbuilders.

THACKERAY AND THE MEDIOCRE.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

"Thackeray is the epitome of mediocrity," cried an English writer of some eminence. Mr. Walter Frewen Lord. This assertion is a little startling, although after some of the opinions expressed by Mr. Howells one may look for almost anything in these days when criticism consists so largely in condescending to the world just what it is that you yourself admire and in condemning the things which are admired by others. But Mr. Lord, when he says that Thackeray is the epitome of mediocrity, does not imply that Thackeray as a writer is mediocre, for he is frankly admitted to have been a keen social observer and possessed of a narrative style approximating to perfection. What Mr. Lord means is that Thackeray undertakes to give a social picture of England in the 19th century, and that in doing so he has absolutely misrepresented every institution of the time. He never saw up, says Mr. Lord, in effect, the noblest representative of any class, but parades before us always the meanest types, as though to produce the misgiving of the first great triumph for American diplomacy—a triumph possible only on account of the splendid manner in which the American case was conducted, and the full and exact knowledge of the principles of international law possessed by the American members of that commission. He was Attorney-General in President Grant's second Cabinet, and was nominated for the highest judicial position to which any lawyer in any country can attain, that of Chief Justice of the United States—a position which he would have held for the past 25 years, had it not been for the refusal of the Senate to confirm the nomination.

Now, in advanced age, he is called from his long retirement to accept the position of Chief Justice of the United States of the state in which he has been the most distinguished citizen for nearly half a century. Between his first and last appearance in politics were tremendous changes in political, social and industrial life, which any lawyer in any country can attest, that of Chief Justice of the United States—a position which he would have held for the past 25 years, had it not been for the refusal of the Senate to confirm the nomination.

In this case Mr. Thackeray has himself produced an excellent type. He has created an immortal character and endeavored to win all sorts of virtues. Furious at the sight of excellence, even when it is his own handiwork, he must needs bespatter it with ridicule—make his creation a goose when he marries and a perfect idiot in business. In this way Mr. Lord examines the aristocracy, the diplomatic service, the politicians and the Irish in the light of the specimens which Thackeray has set forth in his various novels, and he sums up the whole matter by saying that in all the great walks of life Thackeray has nothing but abuse and ridicule for such-and-such a class. He is right to be called the Apostle of Mediocrity. According to Mr. Lord's way of looking at it, mediocre thoughts, mediocre achievements and mediocre or ignoble passions are almost positively enjoined by Thackeray.

A more curious example of non sequitur than this conclusion of Mr. Lord's would surely be very difficult to find. To develop at great length a series of illustrations showing that Thackeray at every possible opportunity attacked not only mediocrity, but also the admiration of mediocrity, would hardly seem to be a very convincing way of making out the thesis that Thackeray was mediocre. In fact, the whole article is in reality a very admirable argument on the other side. All his citations and all his instances point to the conclusion which has been unchallenged and which the writer has intended to enforce only serves to strengthen the conclusion that Thackeray, if he was anything at all, was a champion of distinction against every possible form of sham—sham reputation, sham pretensions, and sham conventions of living. It was not his mission to do his work save in his own way, and he exalts that which is really fine and noble and elevated in the most effective fashion by scolding with the vitriol of his satire the opposite qualities of meanness, of pretense and (pace Mr. Lord) of mediocrity.

Did Not Reclaim the Coin.

Chicago Chronicle.

Those who "pass the plate" in country churches are not often regaled with the glitter of gold among the contributions. It is related that about 10 years ago Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford were traveling through the Middle West incognito. One Sunday, and, pursuant to their usual custom, they called at the local church. The Christian Church of Bloomington, then largely in the hands of Amos Atwater, when the plate was passed for the collection, Mr. Stanford dropped in a \$10 gold piece. Mr. Atwater, the deacon in charge of the collection-taking, it was noticed, that the ushers held a hurried conference with him when the money was taken forward. At its conclusion Mr. Atwater said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we have received a \$10 gold piece. Some one has dropped a \$10 gold piece into the collection. If he will pass up after the service, we will be glad to allow him to exchange it for the sum he intended to give. It is of course, needless to say that Mrs. Stanford did not take advantage of the opportunity."

Our Consular Service.

Washington Star.

The foreign commerce of the United States has grown to its greatest proportions during the past few years, despite the inadequacies of the American Consular service. What it might be, with a permanent service, with a corps of capable and carefully selected agents working constantly and intelligently at every port and foreign center of industry in the interest of American trade, is a difficult thing to conceive. There is little doubt that a great loss has been suffered by our manufacturers and exporters in the past because of the fact that our consular service