# The Oregonian.

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# PORTLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST 12.

CUBAN EMBARRASSMENTS. Cubans less than three months ago, her public finances were in wholesome conwe found the affairs of the island, and stitution of soft coal. notwithstanding the extraordinary exretired from the island in May.

This was less than three months ago and already the new government is in to hire new men and set them to work. fallen off by more than one-half, ex- statute to transport passengers between way on the basis of its immediate receipts, and on top of this it has taken vastly more importance to the people upon itself as a means of maintaining of the United States than the running upon itself as a means of maintaining the political peace of the island a lot of street-cars in Philadelphia or the of outworn military claims dating from the revolutionary period before the fairs. It is proposed, too, to help out the distressed sugar planters, who no loan which the Cuban Congress has al-They got no pay while they were fight. ing the Spaniards, and it has been tacitly understood that the new government would do something for them. Indeed, it is necessary to do something, since ernment, but for every other which shall succeed it, until their demands

American financiers are fearful that Cuba cannot in her present condition carry the interest upon the proposed it now is certain, and until the sugar market improves there is small prospect United States may step in to prevent the ment, which is part of the compact bescribes that the Cuban Government "shall not assume or contract any public obligation to pay the interest upon which and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge of which the ordinary revenues of the Island of Cuba, after defraying the current expenses of the government, shall be inadequate." Under this compact the United States clearly has the right to prevent Cuba from assuming a debt which is beyond her visible power to sustain. There are no intimations of President Roosevelt's view in the matter beyond the general certainty that it will be prompted by a through its dilemma. His faith in should undertake to operate the mines the financial and general future of the island is very great, and he the financiers of the ability of the Cu- mincowners have probably refrained ban Government to meet its obligations, including those which it is proposed to revolutionary claims and relieving the distress of the sugar planters.

The sudden financial shortage of the Cuban revenues may to some extent be occasioned by the distress of the sugar today. If it should come to a serious planters, which our Congress refused to relieve by the reciprocity scheme, but the root of it lies deeper than this. The refused to arbitrate and they have rereal difficulty is that as matters now stand in Cuba there is no general commercial confidence in the immediate future of the island. The one essential picked. condition of Cuban prosperity is a close connection with the United States, with free entrance into our markets. Without this privilege there is no way by which the island can take care of itself on the basis of its existing ambitions

and pretensions. The logic of the situation is very "Independence" which binds them to poverty and which stays the progresunder American rule. They will soon see, what all the rest of the world already sees, namely, that they will be better off in every way under the eagle's wing and they will ask to be let in.

years of age, but he was a very rich man, who during his thirteen years of life at Washington entertained company with a liberal hand and accepted entertainment of like character. He led a sedentary life in a very trying climate; e was a hard-working man of business on his committees, and it is not surprising that he died of heart failure. He lived high, he took little or no exercise, and he worked hard at the sedentary labor of his committee. If he was naturally of full-blooded temperament, weakness of the heart would naturally follow his method of life. He died very much as did Governor Flower, of New York.

### ATTITUDE OF THE EMPLOYERS.

The great Pennsylvania coal strike has now tasted three months. People in New York City-who must have coal are now paying from \$8 to \$10 a ton for it. It is certain that coal will command very high prices through the Winter. The Civic Federation committee has never lifted a finger to promote arbitration in this particular contest, although it includes Grover Cleveland, ex-Secretary Bliss, Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Potter, Charles Francis Adams, President Ellot, Charles M. Schwab and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. The Idea of this federation was through the voluntary action of philanthropic citizens and eminent men of business to secure a general application of the principle of arbitration as a preventive of strikes. Nevertheless, dutside of Mr. Hanna, not one member of this Civic Federation has urged the operators to arbitrate or denounced their refusal to arbitrate. The usefulness of the Civic Federation is ended through its conspicuous inactivity.

The present situation is peculiar and without precedent in this, that the employers refuse to attempt the operation of their mines. The price of coal has gone up to very high figures everywhere, and even after the settlement of the strike the cost of coal is sure to be kept above the normal rates throughout the Autumn and Winter. Everybody who uses coal will suffer because of this labor controversy in the coal regions of When Cuba was turned over to the Pennsylvania. The poor in the great cities of the East will suffer the worst, and upon the public will be entalled dition. In spite of the chaos, in which the discomfort consequent upon the sub-

The New York Evening Post makes penses of making a start on a new and these palpable facts the text for the more efficient basis, the island revenues discussion of a new question raised by reckoned for the whole period of Amer- the existing situation. Briefly stated ican occupation more than supported the essence of the argument of the Post the system. The total expense during is that coal is a necessity in so many the four years of our administration kinds of business and in so many homes was \$55,370,000. The total income for that a coal strike is not a matter of the same period was \$57,200,000. The limited concern, for the suspension of difference between these totals, close its production means hardship to a host upon \$2,000,000, was turned over to the of people. A franchise to a street-car Cuban Government when our officers line always requires the holder to run cars over it. If a strike breaks out the company is legally bound without delay financial distress. Its revenues have The Pennsylvania Railroad is bound by penses have increased, scandals have Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and if its developed in some branches of the ad- whole force should strike today the pubministration, business is flat. The new lic would insist that trains should be government finds itself unable to pay its | run. The conclusion of the Post is that the mining of coal in Pennsylvania is of operation of passenger and freight trains between that city and Pittsburg. United States took a hand in Cuban af- Millions of people in New Jersey, New York and New England are dependent upon Pennsylvania for their supply of longer have banking credit, by loans anthracite coal. These users of one of direct from the island treasury. If this the great necessities of life are at the mercy of these Pennsylvania coal opready authorized shall be negotiated, erators, who at present seem to be able \$2,000,000 will go to pay the debts of to defy all legal pressure to compel the revolutionary junta, \$4,000,000 will them to resume production on the best go to the sugar planters, and the re- terms they can make with whatever served in the revolutionary armies only refuse to grant the demands of their former employes, but they refrain from trying to work their mines with

The purpose of these mine operators is plain enough; they evidently think they are a strong political force, and if they can make more money by keeping they are not placated, will make things the mines closed, starving the strikers unpleasant not only for the present gov- into surrender and breaking up the union organization than they could by continuing to work the mines with such men as they could obtain. They are open to no legal interference in their action, but the Post warns them that they cannot afford to defy public opindebt and at the same time keep up her | ion in this matter. Public opinion will current expenses. That she is not doing | insist that the mining of coal should be resumed; that the mines be worked as fully as possible by the employing of that times will be better with her. And all fit men whose services can be sein this situation it is intimated that the cured. The authorities are bound to furnish them with all needed protection. creation of the debt. The Platt amend- The mine operators will do well to heed this word of warning, for the American tween Cuba and this country, pre- people will not long permit a group of mineowners to stop the production of one of the prime necessities of life, to produce an artificial scarcity and a period of extravagant prices for fuel to serve the selfsh purposes of a greedy

corporation. These mine operators would do well to remember that they cannot afford to incur public odium by their policy, for public hostility will surely make them feel the pinch of obstructive laws. Furthermore, these mine operators would do well not to forget what the loss of public sympathy and the burden of public hostility cost the railroad corporations in the Pittsburg riots of 1877. wish to help the island government If at this late date the mineowners with such workmen as they could obtain, doubtless destructive riots would from working the mines. But when the strikers begin to feel the pinch of povcreate for the purpose of wiping out the erty they are quite as likely to be in a savage, destructive temper against mission as they would be at the spectacle of the resumption of coal mining riot, the mine operators would find small fused to work the mines; they are hated

Noting the extensive preparations that are being made in Washington to care for the old soldiers who will attend the annual encampment of the G. A. R. in that city, one is impressed with the folly that urges infirm and aged men to undertake the fatigues of plain. The Cubans will weary of an such an occasion. Among the arrangements necessary to provide for them is an army hosp'tal, where they will be sive movement so handsomely begun cared for if stricken with illness, overcome by fatigue or disabled through accident incident to overcrowding, to unprofitable and harmful. The statethe display of fireworks, etc. Old men in the ordinary walks of life prefer the safety and quiet of their usual ablding- sarily adduced through unwise atplaces to the fatigue, the jostling and tempts to controvert it. The late United States Senator Mo- the dangers of overexertion and over-

ear the honored title of Grand Army veterans share this very natural preference of age for quiet and needful rest. There is, however, an army many thousand strong that attends these annual encampments, and for these in their age and weakness the Government has generously and thoughtfully provided lodgings in the Government printing office and in hundreds of tents. The chief pleasure in old age, after all, is in doing what the individual wants to do, even if he faints or is crippled in the effort.

### AN EPOCH IN PREIGHT RATES.

President Stickney, of the Chicago Great Western Railway, has issued an illuminative statement touching the relations between the packing-house interests of the country and the transportation companies. He can afford to do this because he has closed a contract with the packing-houses whereby his railroad is guaranteed a certain share of their traffic at rates 15 to 20 per cent higher than have prevailed during the past fifteen years, and the business is to bedone openly and above board, and the rates are to continue unchanged through a period of geven years. revenue which the Great Western Railroad will receive from these contracts is estimated at \$14,000,000 if the volume of packing-house traffic shall remain unchanged, and if the increase shall be proportionately great as it has been in the past seven years the contracts will bring the Great Western about \$20,000,000. With this transaction concluded in accordance with the fullest statutory requirements, President Stickney can afford to speak candidly of a

trial and commercial world.

The story that was brought out in evidence before the Interstate Commerce Commission several months ago was nover before made so clear as President Stickney puts it. He makes no pretense that the law was ever obeyed in good faith so far as the shipping of packing-house products was concerned. The rates published when the interstate commerce law went into effect were much higher than the business had been adjusted to, and they could not be collected. After a brief attempt to hold up to tariff, secret cuts, rebates and agreements became the rule again and they continued up to the time when the injunction writs were served last Spring. This put an end to the "misery of living in the shadow of the Peni tentiary," as President Stickney puts it, and not only presented an opportunity for adjusting matters on a new basis, but made it positively necessary to do so. Then carriers and shippers got together. The packers showed that the average of their payments between the Missouri River and Chicago for a period of fifteen years was a trifle less than 16 cents per 100 pounds. They expressed villingness to pay a rate 15 per cent higher, provided it could be made uniform and stable. The 18.4 cents would have been acceptable to the carriers, but the livestock rate was 23 cents, and the Interstate Commerce Commission had made a ruling that the rate on livestock should not be higher than that on packing-house products. So finally the 23-cent rate was fixed for both, and it has been in effect since July 1. This is an advance of 50 per cent in the rate on packing-house products so great an increase that it would seem to justify the conclusion of President Stickney that it would hold only until there should be devised "some ingenious subterfuge circumventing the injunction of the court." Taking time by the forelock, he made the contracts which are believed to mark an epoch in transportation affairs

in this country. had become weary of the old situation, uniformity and stability. The expense of getting as low rates as anybody else in the field was a considerable burden to the packers. And then they were never sure that competitors did not enjoy even more favorable rates. From every point of view it was unsatisfac tory, as much to the carriers as to the shippers. But they could not free them-selves from the bonds that a fierce competition had wrought about them. court to do this. And now it is found to be comparatively easy to deal on a basis of stability that was hardly dreamed of before. The new contracts absolutely fix the price of transportation on packing-house products for a ern contracts are enforceable regardless of terms that may be arranged between the packers and other railroads. The packers are bound to deliver a certain proportion of their output to the Great Western Railroad for transport, and the railroad is bound to perform the service on the terms stated. The contract rates are open to the public, so there will be no discrimination. They mean business stability, and the result of their operation will be watched with unusual interest. If the plan shall work out according to design, a long step will have been taken toward putting the transportation business on a proper months not in the direction of direct Government control of the railroads.

A SIGNIFICANT COMBINATION. The combination of two great newspapers of Philadelphia-the · Public Ledger and the Times-is significant of the change that is going on in the jourwill probably be less fearful than take place, and to avoid these riots the nalistic world in sympathy with the business, educational and industrial development of the age. This change represents a consolidation of interests that are interwoven with the vital principle of growth that makes a commuthose who have starved them into sub- nity a representative one in prosperity, purpose and influence. It says plainly that the day of small things has passed; that economy and usefulness in the widest as well as the subtlest sonse are support in public sympathy, for they served by concentration of effort. As set forth in the manifesto published by both journals in their last separate isnot only by the strikers, but by the gen- sues, "both are devoted to the same eral public, whose pocket they have ends, and represent the same ideals and purposes in journalism." Purchase had ought them under one ownership, and obviously they could not follow differwithout discrediting the sincerity of both and "degrading journalism to a mere commercialism, fatal to its character."

It needs no argument to support the statement that the public is better served by a few strong, well-sustained newspapers, each filling its own chosen field, than by a larger number whose competition must be often ment but presents a self-evident fact, though proof has often been unneces-

A significant feature of this combi-Millan was but a little more than 64 crowding. It is not too much to sup- nation is the innovation upon the tra- protest.

pose that the wiser among the host that ditions of the Public Ledger by a Sun day issue of the combined journals Representing through the long years of its publication the older views of the community; speaking to the conservative element and maintaining inflexibly the highest ideals in journalism ac cording to standards approved by tra dition, the Public Ledger has not until now responded to the demand for the Sunday newspaper. It was the last of the great daily newspapers of Philadelphia to discard the "blanket" form; the last to admit pictures of men and events to its columns, and among the last to recognize the Sunday issue as a legitimate feature of American journalism. Having done nothing hastily; having grown with the growth and strengthened with the strength of the age, the Public Ledger wheels into line with other great journals that have responded somewhat more promptly in the past to the demands of time and change than it has done and in its consolidated form will issue a Sunday edition that will be "a clean and decent, dignified newspaper, upholding all that is good and true and honorable, and all that

makes for the betterment of mankind." The stubbornness of tradition has seldom yielded more gracefully than in this instance to the calm, persistent, always persuasive principle of growth Recognition of Sunday as a day of rest and general cessation from usual pursuits is declared; reverence for the day as an admirable American institution that it is manifestly to the general advantage not to ignore, is maintained, but Sabbatarianism in its narrow sense is dismissed in the interest of public and journalistic progress. The signflcance of this change need not be furmatter that has long vexed the industher pointed out. The most cursory observer will readily see and interpret it.

Farmers and others in Eastern Oregon and Washington who are always asserting that the grain lands of that region are "inexhaustible" would do well to give heed to the dispatch in yesterday's Oregonian setting forth the conditions which overculture of the wheat fields of Western Oregon have wrought. The long-cropped lands no longer turn off the great crops which made the country famous, and even under the Summer-fallow system of culture returns are disappointing. This, bear in mind, in a region where sixty bushels to the acre was not uncommon for a long period, and where it was presumed during many credulous years that the soil was "inexhaustible." There never was a soil yet-nor a bank accountthat was inexhaustible, and there never will be; and whoever goes upon the the ory that there is will some day find out his mistake. Nor is there any reason to surprised if the Summer-fallow device in course of time fails to produce results. The practice of Summer-fallowing is helpful to crops because it permits chemical action operating through exposure to release certain qualities of the soll. But it adds nothing to the soil. The deterioration of the wheat quality in the long-cropped lands of the Willamette Valley is no hardship, because it prompts farmers to other and more profitable uses of their lands. It will tend to expedite changes which are needful for the good of the country; to bring about the rotation of crops, and the practice of cattle and eheep-keeping, to which Western Oregon is especially adapted, but which have been measurably delayed by the unwillingness of many farmers to turn their energies into new channels.

The presence in Oregon of Mr. Newell, chief engineer of the reclamation service, and his active and manifest inter-It is interesting to note that both sides est in the Oregon irrigation field, are facts of very considerable significance, and the packers themselves volunteered for it will largely rest with Mr. Newell to determine where the efforts of the Government are to be expended in the matter of National irrigation enterprise. The reclamation service will nat urally wish to make a good beginning in the great work which has been assigned to it, and there are conditions here which might easily determine the choice of place for a first large effort to fall to us. Mr. Newell's suggestion that the situation is one properly appealing to the ambition and energy of our comrequired the summary process of a mercial bodies can hardly have been made carelesely. We shall do well to take it seriously and present to the authorities at Washington such suggestions as may confirm whatever report Mr. Newell may make favorably to Oregen interests. The Oregonian commends the matter to the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and suggests that it invite Congressman-elect Williamson, an en thuslastic irrigationist and a resident of the semi-arid belt, to co-operate in preparing its presentment.

The consolidation of the Philadelphia Public Ledger and the Philadelphia Times is not the only recent incident of the kind in the newspaper world. It is only a few weeks back that the Des Moines Register and the Des Moines News, both old and successful papers, united under one ownership and one name. The tendency, where the wish is to maintain journalism on a high basis, basis-and the first important step in is to eliminate rather than to promote competition. And there is good reason for this, since competition among newspapers operating in the same field is essentially demoralizing. Its effect is to limit the independence and courage upon which the character of a newspaper depends, and to promote the "wide-open" policies which appeal to a wide if not a discriminating circle of readers. In a city notable for the number of its newspapers, the quality of the papers is always sure to be bad, for the methods to which they must resort in the fight for circulation tend surely to their common vulgarization. This fact is illustrated at San Francisco, at Denver and at every other place where there are many newspapers, and no one among them all which is not a discredit and a reproach.

The President of Cuba-and possibly the President of the United States as well-would be well pleased to see a liberal issue of Cuban bonds held in the United States in the hope that it might have a stimulating influence upon ent ideals or maintain divergent views American sentiment towards Cuban reciprocity and other proposal's looking to tariff concessione on our part.

> Just how Senator Platt is going to carry on a mixed Congressional and state campaign in New York without reference to the National issues it is not easy to see. Furthermore, the honorable Senator ought to know that the Republican party did not win its place and will not maintain it by an issue-dodging policy.

Whether Bryan is to be a candidate or not is not certain, but it is plain that no candidate will be named over his

# "IMMORAL AND SACRILEGIOUS."

Denver has been swept by a moral wave. A dispatch dated August 11, re-"'Huckleberry Finn,' Mark ports: Twain's story of boy life on the Mississippl River, has been excluded from the Denver Public Library on the ground that it is immoral and sacrilegious." Many men when they read this will wonder whether their boys are already past redemption, and the boys will probably decide unanimously that Denver is in Kansas. To think that good old Mark Twain, the man of the corncob pipe, the man who always comes out sooner or later with the exact statement of what we have thought all along, the man who has lightened our sorrows and added piquancy to our joys-that he of all men should fall under the ban of a mountain municipality. What microbe of reform can have infected the city that dwells lovingly on its wicked past, that advertises its climate, its modernness, its progressiveness? Is it possible that the high altitude extends even to the moral realm? Somehow with a boy it seems a neces sity to do a certain amount of what he ought not to do. Even the man who feels that to break something is a cry of his inner soul may find solace in the story of "Huckleberry Finn," and so be satisfied without paying a fine. And boys whose homes would be overrun with exuberant viciousness read the nutritious tale of Mark Twain, and their families spared the expense of a funeral. That is what a humorist is for-to turn our impulses into the mild channel of

harmless fun. There is a notice on the front page of the tabooed book which covers the offense of the Denver Public Library. It rends: "Notice! Persons attempting to find a motive in this parrative will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a moral in it will be banished; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be shot. By order of the author, per G. G., Chief or Ordnance." Sir Walter Besant, the famous English novelist and reformer, said that the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn was the best book he had ever read A thousand other men of note will testify to the fact that it is a classic fit to be in the hand of any boy, and all the protests of Denver will fall on the stony

ground of American common sense. Miss Isom, chief librarian of the Port land Public Library, when informed of the action of the Denver library, was very much amused. "I cannot understand it," she said. "What there is immoral or sacrilegious about it I cannot conceive. Of course, there is always the question of what should be handed out and what should not. In this library we draw the line at the work of the decadents. I would not allow a book like Sir Richard Calmady to be generally and indiscriminately circulated, for I do not believe in the spirit of it. That is the deciding point often-the spirt in which things are treated. Occasionally we come upon a book which many people might consider hardly fit to be read, yet it is a classic, and as such must be

included in a complete library.' Inquiry among various men about town made it plain that every man and boy in Portland who reads at all has read "Huckleberry." At the mere mention of the book, a reminiscent smile creeps around the corners of the mouth, and a tender twinkle comes into the eyes. It is worth while sometimes to stop and take stock of what people read, and one will not have to go far to see that Mark Twain is the most universally loved and

read of all the writers of this country. To be sure, there are men of lofty ideas and literary prudishness who scorn this sort of writing. But they usually are the first with their encomiums when the writer is gone, and we may be sure that when Mark Twain goes-which may it be long hence-they will step forth from their literary rookeries and join in the univerm. But Mark himself der upland districts of Colorado would make Finn" will remove their black mitts and lay aside their green reticules long enough to peruse the story, perhaps they would find that the wholesome fun of our genial Twain is worth an oceanful of the toothbrush maunderings of Mary MacLane, whose book, according to reliable reports, Denverites read with avid-

The end of chapter 33 of "Huckleberry Finn" reads as follows: So we poked along back home, So we poked along back home, and I warn't feeling so brash as I was before, but kind of ornery, and humble, and to blame, somebow—though I hadn't done nothing. But that's always the way: It don't make no difference whether you do right or wrong, a person's conscience ain't got no sense, and just goes for him anyway. If I had a yaller dog that didn't know no more than a person's conscience does, know no more than a person's conscience does. I would potson him. It takes up more room

than all the rest of a person's insides, and yet ain't no good nohow. Tom Sawyer, he says So do we all of us when the conscience is that of the Denver Public Library.

### Henderson and Reed. Detroit Free Press.

Perhaps it is better on the whole that the Speakership should be filled by a man of the Henderson caliber than by a man of the Reed caliber. The Hendersons will the sooner discredit the arbitrary rules of the House and enable that body the sooner to resume its former deliberative charac-ter. Only a man of conspicuous ability could have fastened the Reed rules upon the House. They are a weapon for giants, not for pigmies. While they have accomplished the purpose for which they were intended, they have also achieved results that even Mr. Reed did not foresee. They have made the House a mere machine for recording the will of the Speaker. for recording the will of the Speaker.
They have destroyed debate and made all
discussion purely perfunctory. They have
thrown all the power and all the responsibility for legislation into the hands of
the Senate, the body which the framers of the Constitution intended only as a check on the possible excesses of the direct rep-resentatives of the people. The Reed rules have shriveled the lower house, and transformed its members into mere pup pets.

### Times Changed. Baltimore News.

"But before we were married," she complained, "you used to give me beau tiful presents." Yes, but a dollar looked like a dime then, and now-er-a dime looks like

miracle!"

The Rhodora, ON BEING ASKED, WHENCE IS THE

FLOWER. Halph Waldo Emerson.

In May, when sea-winds pierced our solitude
I found the fresh Rhodera in the woods,
Spreading its leafless blooms in a damp nook.

To please the desert and the sluggish brook. To please the desert and the sluggish brook. The purple petals, fallen in the pool, Made the black water with their beauty gay; Here might the red-bird come his plumes to cot And court the flower that cheapens his array. Rhodoral if the sages ask thee why Thie charm is wasted on the earth and sky, with these data.

Tell them, dear, that if eyes were made for Then beauty is its own excuse for being: Why thou wert there. O rival of the rose," I never thought to ask, I never knew: But, in my simple ignorance, suppose The self-same Power that brought me th brought you.

# BRITISH FOREIGN TRADE.

Chicago-Record Herald. The commercial department of the British board of trade has reached the conclusion that Great Britain cannot expect to maintain her past commercial supremacy, at any rate without strenuous effort and careful, energetic improvement in

susiness methods. It does not require all the detail of the department's report to compel assent to such a proposition, since its truth is obom a mere statement of the growth of population in Great Britain, the United States and Germany, to which the report refers. These countries all have a high development of commercial and ininstrial skill but the United States now has nearly double the population of the United Kingdom, and a united Germany, which has come up out of chaos in the last 30 years, has a third more people. And while the United Kingdom contains bu 129,974 square miles the area of Germany square miles, and that of the United States exceeds three million square That Great Britain should main tain forever the tremendous lead which she had when this country was still in the pioneering stage and Germany consisted of numerous separate, discordant and beiligerant states is of course impossible The pre-eminence will gradually disap-pear, but the population is now doing and

will continue for many years to do a for-eign business that is out of all proportion by reference to the trade returns for the to its size. This assertion may be justifi ndar year of 1901. In that year the forsign trade of the United Kingdom amounted to \$3,906,523,864, divided as folamounted to \$3,996,523,564, divided as lows: Imports, \$2,541,476,021; exports, \$1,7 047,843. During the same time the figures for Germany were: Imports, \$1,351,017,224 exports, \$1,112,125,045; total \$2,464,142,282 And for the United States: Imports, \$880. 421,656; exports, \$1,438,683,590; total, \$2,318,-505,046. This means that the foreign trade of Great Britain was about four-fifths as great as that of the other two countries combined, and that 42,000,000 people, living on a very restricted territory, speaking, are carrying off this proportio against 120 000 000 And as the figures are the largest in the history of the Nation except for the year 1900, they are hardly indicative of a decline, no matter how fast Britain's commercial rivals are over hauling her,

### Reconstruction of the Transvanl.

New York Tribune General Pleter G. Steyn, of the staff of ex-President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, has contributed to the current issue of Collier's Weekly, an extremely teresting article upon the question of reconstruction in South Africa. It car-ries additional weight with it, as General Steyn will head the reconstruction con gress of the Transvaal. The General' paper is practical in its nature and voted to industrial conditions, with th purpose of showing what the Boer needs and how he will resume the processes of development which were interrupted by

It is assumed at the outset that the mineowners can take care of themselves, as they have such abundant capital to draw upon, and the mining property has not specially suffered from the ravages of war. With the agricultural interests Boers own the land, their houses and ildings have been mostly destroyed, and they have neither implements, cattle r horses with which to do their work, far as cattle are concerned they will be brought from Australia and New Zeal and, but General Steyn is of opinion that the United States and Canada will have to supply thousands of horses, as horses from these parts are best fitted for work in South Africa. The Boers will also look to this country for plows, agricultural machinery, wagons, and barbed wire, immense quantities of which will be need

As to the planting and raising of crops, General Steyn affirms that there will no difficulty in securing farm labor. The Kaffirs who worked for the Boers before the war will work for them again. He describes their methods of labor as fol-

A Kaffir family is engaged, and the mormembers this family has the better. It usually consists of the husband, the wife, severa grown-up sons, two or three grown-up daugh ters, and a string of children. The female members of the family work in the farmer's posthumous fame. He has said again are old enough to work spend their time in and again that to be alive is better than to be dead, and it would be well if the lift simply sits at home and does nothing but upland districts of Colorado would make. upland districts of Colorado would make the same preference. If the directors and trustees who banished "Huckleberry Finn" will remove their black mitts and payment, one arrangement is to pay the Kaffir in stock, he, in turn, breeding the cattle for his own profit; another arrangement is to pay him by the year, say about \$30 or \$35 as his cash compensation for 12 months. The extra hands hired at shearing or reaping time are paid a shilling a day.

It is evident from this that the Boe country will supply all its own farm labor and that things to labor with rather than laborers are what will be needed there, though General Steyn is confident that there will be plenty of work for skilled mechanics at good wages, and that whi there will not be a boom in trade until after reconstruction is complete, in five years from now exports from this country Africa will be double what they were in the first year of the war. In the time, iron and steel for structural work machinery for mining operations, material for bridges, and rolling stock for rallroads will have to be supplied by the Inited States.

It is a cheering sign of the rapid recor atruction and future prosperity of South Africa that men like General Steyn, now that adverse fate has compelled them to lay down the sword, are promptly accepting the new situation and devoting then selves to the rehabilitation of their try. It shows that the Boer Instead of being dull, phlegmatic and unprogressive, is alert, wide awake and far sighted.

# Carefulness Her Undoing.

A story that is now going the rounds ! laid to the door of a piquante and dainty little French lady who was more or less in evidence at such places as were visited by the Rochambeau Embassy. The humor of the situation lies in the extreme diffidence of the Frenchwoman. She is sensitive to the point of a double nervousness, and realizing the liability to err in a foreign tongue, she was generally careful to make selection of each individual word. Wherefore she was but the more amusing when one evening, feeling moved to remonstrate with a gentleman upon the chilliness of our northern May, she said: "Reely eet ees so cold here ali ze time gat I have sat all se day weeth my feet over ze transome."

# All for Love.

Lord Byron.

Oh talk not to me of a name great in story;
The days of our youth are the days of our glery;
And the myrtle and by of sweet two and twenty
Are worth all your laurels, though ever so plenty.

What are garlands and crowns to the brow that is wrinkled? 'Tis but as a dead flower with May-dew be-Then away with all such from the head that is What care I for the wreaths that can only

O Famet-if I ere took delight in thy praises, Twus less for the sake of thy high-sounding phrases, Than to see the bright eyes of the dear one She thought that I was not unworthy to love

There chiefly I sought thee, there only I found Her glance was the best of the rays that surNOTE AND COMME!

Success is the nucleus of y failure.

Must we send for Lewis Clark to come back?

Tracy is dead, but the ro the noney keeps on. How does Gardiner expect : the

Tracy reward? Why, he by a Every rule has exceptions, sight

have been a hero had he not id to They don't know what they when they fall to elect each one ofgirls

Queen of the Carnival The Democratic party finds 19th-

out funds for a campaign. Wever get rid of the money question;

Uncle Sam has a medicine to the South American republics frorapping. It is benevolent assimi A town in Hayti has been dest and

agent was a revolution or a vo Although the Lewis and Clasard has all the time there is, it nevere What a pity there are only 243 in

nobody knows whether the wing

If Bryan had learned sooner he doesn't want to be President, aps he would not have been so longinding it out,

a day!

The sun spots are said to be onsible for every ailment on earthhen we know what's the matter whe 1905 fair site.

If Explorer Baldwin had beenten as well as baffled he would not hanything to lecture or write mine articles about.

Some converts had their sins sed away in the Willamette. We truseir sins are not yet in the river. Went to go swimming.

A volcano down in Central Aica is growing. It desires to inforther world that other industries are wp there besides revolutions.

The oracles were false which deed King Edward would reign but wouldt be crowned. King Edward shownat man is man and master of his fate.

Perhaps even if we should decicto begin preparations for the 1995 fallowe shouldn't know how to start it. Sot's wait until we've forgotten how noto Attorney-General Knox got inti a

fight with some trust hirelings. didn't know his name until they felt what it stands for and then it jred them.

Bryan says he will not be a candate for President in 1904. The man ideed has some modesty. Nobody ha yet asked him to be a candidate and at he refuses.

If we should report to the Irprovement Association all our nusance would it be worth while living tgether? After all, living together itsel is a nuisance.

The Democrats of Washington don't know whether they are for o against the railroads. They will make up their minds after the Republicans have had a whack at the question,

President Roosevelt has toll Binger Hermann that he very much desires to visit Oregon. He has told the same to the Hon. John Barrett, who is also one of his particular friends. The President seems to have lots of friends

The Civic Improvement Association should go after everybody except us. Everybody but us scatters gems. No danger comes of our spitting on the sidewalks. Our carpets, bearn in tho streets, don't breathe off mcrobes; its our neighbor's carpets. Our swill barrel doesn't breed disease; it's the woman's next door. We are in entre sympathy with the association, only we want it to

"What we have done in Cuba," is the subject of a work by the Bureau of insular Affairs. And what have we done? Have we loaded upon the island a structure of government too elaborate for her resources to support and have we threatened her with annihilation if she does not support it? Have we, by refusing reciprocity even taken from her the means of supporting that structure? "You take my house when you do the prop that doth sustain my house; you take my life when you do take the means whereby I live." Are we a stiffnecked

A New York man in London was adjudged insane for saying he owned all the yachts in the world and was the Savior, just arrived from Heaven in a flying machine. An indisputable proof of his insanity was the fact that if he was the owner of all the yachts in the world he was a bigger man than Plerp, Morgan. However, in the realm of fancy, he was just as big as Morgan, and fancy really answers all practical purposes. Dreams are true while they last, and do we not live in dreams? Although the man declared himself the Savior no evidence was adduced to prove that he was not, any more than was done by the benighted people 2000 years ago. There are some nice distinctions in this modern day between a liar and a junatic and some of them are so intangible that they can't be touched.

# PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Nearly Perfect: Dolly-Have you learned to manage your "auto" yet? Daisy-Very nearly, I can do everything, but stop it and steer it!-

In Old Kentucky.—Basil—Did old Stiller leave his family anything when he died? Zeke— Yeas, sah. He left a mortgage an' two feuds,

-Chicago Daily News. How Frightul!—Beryl-Were you much em-barrassed when he klassed you? Sibyl-No, I was frightened, though. "How so?" "I told him to stop, and for a moment I thought he was going to!"-Baltimore Herald.

Tess-So Mr. Grossum really proposed to you? Jess-Yes. While we were strolling in the pemetery we came to their family grave, and he asked me how I'd like to be buried there some day, with his name on the stone above me.—Tit-Bits.

His Opinion.—'Do you believe in woman's suffrage?' "Well," answered Mr. Meekton, "sometimes I think it would be a convenience if the ladies could go to the polls themselves instead of giving us instructions and taking chances on mistakes."—Washington Star.

Peckham (reading)—"Lost or stolen, blooded for terrier. Reward if returned, and no ques-tions asked." Poor man! I feel sorry for him. Mrs. Peckham—Why do you say "poor man"? round thee:
When it sparkled o'er aught that was bright
in my story.
I knew it was love, and I felt it was glory.

Mrs. Peckham—Why do you say "poor man"?
Peckham
Nonesse! Desert it say "No questions asked"?—Philadeiphia Record.