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MR. CLEVELAND'S LAST MESSAGE.

The New York Times, the Pittsburg Dispatch and many other newspapers that carry the copyright, published last Sunday an article on the present state of politics and aspect of public affairs in our country, by the late President Cleveland. The article was the first of an intended series of three, for which arrangements had been made by a syndicate of many newspapers.

The article which has been given to the public was written just before the party conventions were held, and from knowledge then general that Taft and Bryan were to be the candidates. The campaign upon which we are now entering," wrote Mr. Cleveland, "signals the crystallization of more than a new party, for the first time in forty years, yet is not so important for the policies that it will fix for the next four years as for the greater changes that its results will be found to foreshadow."

Like the old dogmas of theology, popular beliefs about the natural world have generally contained a germ of truth. The old idea that the metals loved and hated one another finds a sort of verification in the laws of attraction and repulsion. Taft has a record in official life that proves his quality as an administrator and as a judge, both able and conscientious.

It was Mr. Cleveland's view that Mr. Taft ought to be elected because he stands for the permanence of right principles, and moreover that he would be elected, not merely because of those principles, but also because of the weakening effect on Mr. Bryan's campaign produced by the course of Mr. Hearst and Mr. Watson and their followers, and in greater degree because of the rapidly increasing strength of Socialist party under the present leadership of Mr. Debs.

CURE THICK LAWYERS?

One reason why lawyers are so frequently unscrupulous is that success in their profession depends upon winning cases, and it is deemed a greater evidence of ability if a lawyer wins for the wrong side than if he wins for the side that has the right of the case. The sole object in a trial and if the adverse litigant does not get justice, that is his fault or the fault of his lawyer, even though the winning attorney may have resorted to sharp practice.

though on the wrong side, loses standing thereby. To him the all-important thing is to win. He has a personal interest in securing his clients' demands, even though those demands may be unjust.

It would be interesting to observe the effect of having all cases tried by attorneys employed by the public and inhabitants has fifteen to twenty lawyers, most of them making a bare living. Two firms of attorneys could do all the work distributed among a dozen firms. Directly or indirectly, practically all the people of a community contribute toward the maintenance of an unnecessary number of lawyers. Is it not likely that the burden would be lighter and better service would be secured if two lawyers were employed by the public to attend to all the litigation of all the people of the community?

THE ELECTRONS.

In the ancient theological and quasi-scientific beliefs which, at one time or another, have been popular in the world there is usually something more than a simple story of truth. The notion of imputed sin and righteousness, for example, which from one point of view so absurd, from another point of view are not absurd at all but correspond to facts of common knowledge in human life.

LITERARY STATEMENTS.

For some reason which is not entirely clear royal artists and literary men have seldom been so exacting as they are now. The Kaiser's whims is no exception to the rule. The paintings which he has exhibited from time to time seem to have been valued more for the halo of authority which hung over them than for intrinsic merit. Irreverent wits in France and elsewhere have cast jibes at them as they have passed.

Perhaps the most attractive of all the old metaphysical beliefs was that of the transmutability of the metals. It was assumed as a matter of course that there was some way of changing lead into gold, base earth into diamonds and dead matter into living creatures. The earlier experimenters in physical science cherished the hope that it was possible to make gold in their laboratories out of cheap material.

QUESTION OF MORE APPLE TREES.

A suburbanite, who finds the price of fruit rather high, notwithstanding it seems to the producer to be too low, writes The Oregonian to suggest a plan by which fruit could be made more plentiful and be planted within the reach of poor people. But existing conditions are such as to make it difficult to enter public life if they were not masters of literary expression.

not properly pruned nor sprayed. It was not convenient to get to them with the pruning hook and was practically impossible to get around them with the spraying machine. So trees thus planted have become breeding places for all sorts of pests.

But it was the discovery of "radio-activity" which rehabilitated the belief in the transmutation of the metals and forced savants to reconstruct the old metaphysical notion of a common subatum. Radio-activity is that mysterious capacity to emit energy without apparent cause, which is displayed by radium and other such substances.

THE DEATH OF IRA D. SANKEY.

With the death, at his home in Brooklyn, a short time ago, of Ira D. Sankey, the most noted of the singing evangelists of the world, passed away a throb of public sympathy. Tender recollections followed the announcement of his passing, and a sympathetic host has listened in reminiscence while the simple story of his life has been rehearsed from the pulpits.

Ira D. Sankey, so runs the brief record, was born in Pennsylvania in 1840. From the time he was a boy he was given to the work of "winning souls" through the magic of his melodious voice. The words of his songs are, in the main, meaningless when detached from music and read dispassionately, but when played upon by a fervid imagination, given out in repetition, and in a voice that was full of melody, of pleading, of pathos and of tenderness, they became a tremendous power in the realm of human emotions.

Not his own, the blind hymn-writer of Brooklyn, trembled upon the lips of this other blind singer at his passing. Bending low beside his bed, the watchers who went with him to the verge of the Dark Valley, heard these words: "Some day the silver chord will break and I will no more sing; but the joy when I awake within the Palace of the King."

So passed away the gentle, emotional, zealous idealist, Greenwood Cemetery opened her fragrant bosom to receive his mortal part. His favorite hymns were sung as he was laid tenderly in his last bed, and a life that had touched, through the exaltation of song, the lives of hundreds of thousands of the lowly and the lowly men, passed away in peace and memory.

THE UNASSIMILATED ALIEN.

The unprejudiced exodus of foreigners continues, and as there is a corresponding decline in the number of emigrants arriving, a sudden revival of industrial activity in this country might find us handicapped in many lines by a sudden lack of raw materials recently compiled by the immigration authorities show that during the twelve months ending August 1, there came to our shores but 782,970 foreigners, compared with 1,285,348 during the preceding twelve months.

Nearly all of these returning foreigners are said to have considerable sums of money as a result of their work in this country, and not a few of them have secured a competence sufficient to last them for the remainder of their lives. The drain from this country is not so great as it is often made to appear, and the situation is not so dire as is often represented.

shows quite plainly that freedom and the old flag cut but a slight figure in the mind of the foreigner when economic conditions undergo a change that reduces or stops his pay.

And all of these fleeing citizens and aliens will come trooping back as soon as there is an improvement in the industrial situation and the Star Spangled Banner again seems attractive to them. Free institutions are all right for Americans who did not come here in the steerage, and they have proved attractive and beneficial to thousands who did come in that humble part of the ship. But the great unwashed mob, whose reverence for the Goddess of Liberty is confined exclusively to her likeness on metal or greenbacks, will continue to ebb and flow with good and bad times.

In this country they will damn the Government, and sing the praises of a change in its hand, and in the old world they undoubtedly discuss with their impetuous neighbors the shortcomings of the monarchy under whose flag they temporarily dwell, until times improve in the land of the free. These unassimilated aliens are of advantage during rush times, when permanent labor is scarce, but they are not the kind of citizens on whom it is worth while wasting any sentimental thoughts of the "my-country-is-of-they" kind.

The word "Utilitarian" means nothing in particular, except this, that the person so designated believes in the utility of the world, and doesn't split himself up into fragments, by metaphysical subtleties, to which there is nothing answerable, except in ecclesiastical dogma or opinion. Some opposition to Taft, because he is said to be a "Utilitarian," was manifest a short time ago, but it seems to have disappeared. At any rate, the plan of discussion and persecution—on this abstraction, it is time the "debate" should cease.

For thousands and tens of thousands have been sacrificed to establish a dogma that hasn't been established yet, and never will be. It is high time these notions were treated as purely speculative. Every man of sense and judgment, who has followed this controversy of centuries—utterly barren except in intolerance and blood—will be glad to see it dropped. For their own peace the intolerant advocates of the dogma would do well to drop it, too.

Efforts are being made to establish a commercial cream-separating plant in Yamhill County, the plan being to sell the cream in Portland and take the skim milk back to the farm to feed to hogs or calves. The value of the skim milk is an important feature in dairying. While it pays a farmer better in dollars to sell his product to a condenser than to a creamery, he soon finds that by selling to a condenser he is sending away from his farm the entire product, while if he keeps the skim milk and feeds it to stock he retains much that is of fertilizing value. One cannot draw forever from the soil without replenishing, any more than one can draw from a barrel without refilling.

M. O. Lowndsdale has been retained as fruit inspector in Yamhill County, notwithstanding the protests of some farmers who do not like the vigorous manner in which he strictly enforces the law against orchard pests. Good for the Yamhill County Court. If such men as Lowndsdale have a swing at the San Jose scale, cooling mites and anthracnose for a few years the county of Yamhill against the world" will be established for all time.

Reports from England are that heavy storms have injured the hop crop in that country. In California the pickers have struck and many of the yards have been injured by the hail. Probably a large part of the California crop will not be picked. All of which incidents will encourage the Oregon grower to proceed with his picking.

A whole lot of persons neglected their work to take a look at Harriman. They wanted to see what a railroad magnate looks like. If they had asked how he attained his success, he might have told them, "By attending to business, and not running around looking at magnates."

"Preaching temperance with prohibition left out," says John P. McManus in the Pilot Record, "is like playing 'Hamlet' with Hamlet left out of the play. So it is. Somebody told John P. Better still, somebody keep the bottle where he can't see it."

While Mr. Harriman is present in Oregon is as good a time as any to begin the suit for cancellation of the Oregon and California land grant. The suit was a long time getting started, but the public hopes it will not be delayed in getting to trial.

Mr. Bryan has asked the chairman of Democratic rallies not to introduce him as "the next President of the United States." But how is an audience to know when to begin that prolonged applause without this well-known cue?

Said Governor Hughes yesterday at Youngstown, Ohio: "If all that Mr. Bryan has favored and urged during the past twelve years had been enacted into law we should now be overwhelmed with disaster."

If the Oregon Legislature will enact proper penal laws for the punishment of dishonest and criminally careless bankers Oregon will find little interest in the question of Government guarantee of bank deposits.

All the Republicans whom the Governor has appointed to lucrative offices in Oregon are "Chamberlain Republicans"—that is, not Republicans at all. But that doesn't matter.

There is one way to get even with the extravagance of families at the beach. Send 'em to the hop yards for two or three weeks.

Judging by the price of hops, this ought to be a great year for hop-house fires. Of course, Democrats think yesterday's peace pact among Republicans hardly proper.

FARMER SELDOM ON HIS FARM

Has Ceased Being a Laborer, and Is Now Man of Science, Says Critic. Washington (D. C.) Herald. The property of the farmer is becoming amazing. It marks him for attention. No longer is his prosperity the theme and interest merely of the politician and the statistician. It has seized and held the attention of his city neighbors. They who used to laugh at the farmer now envy him.

The old farm has undergone a metamorphosis. It is no longer a sorry huddle of buildings on a street of stunted soil; it is a country "place" of broad, fat acres and buildings electric lighted from top to bottom. It is no more a mortgage hole wherein the toiler must sink his money, but a splendid freehold piling up money in the farmer's bank.

The farmer, too, has undergone a change. He no longer wears chit whiskers and chews on a straw. He has forgotten how to stuff his trousers into cowhide boots. He is more frequently to be seen in an automobile at the horse show than following the plow; he deals more in city real estate or the stock market than he does in guano for the south meadow loam. The fact is, the farmer seems to lead the happiest and most leisurely of lives. Those harried, overworked city men, who visit him in his native fields, are convinced that the farmer has a better farmer do his work? They ask themselves and him the question; they pry upon him, and take note of his movements. They find that the farmer does not do his work; they never know when he does it—yet the work is done, and the fields yield up their harvest.

The answer is that the new farmer has left off being a laborer, and become a man of science. He works more with his hands, but with his head. He is seldom in the fields, because his presence is seldom needed there. Farming is a scientific method, and the farmer is preparing the soil for the seed, and then letting nature do the rest. Nature and machinery do more and better work than the old-time farmer could do with all his 18-hour day and his eternal round of toil.

The result is that the farmer is rapidly becoming the backbone of our "leisure class." Out of him may yet arise a new American aristocracy, which will not yet spin, but which will be the backbone of the earth. It is little wonder that the leisurely farmer with his fattening barn and swelling bank account has become the envy of the city-dweller, and that he is sending away from his farm the entire product, while if he keeps the skim milk and feeds it to stock he retains much that is of fertilizing value. One cannot draw forever from the soil without replenishing, any more than one can draw from a barrel without refilling.

COMPLAINT OF HIGH CAR STEPS.

Numerous complaints are being filed with the Interstate commerce commission's local rapid transit board regarding the high steps with which the cars of Washington are equipped. The Star has frequently in the past called attention to this nuisance in the hope that the city of Washington would see their way clear to remedying the defect in the equipment. Nothing has been done by them, and it is now to be hoped that the newly constituted board will see its way to remedying the defect in the equipment. On a great majority of the cars the steps are so high that it is almost impossible to get on or off. It is to be believed that physical injury is inflicted on them in some cases. On some of the open cars the running-board is two feet from the ground, which, as one of the Commission's correspondents points out, is as high as the average chair.

In most cases the high steps are caused by the use of heavy motors, necessitating the raising of the car body a long distance from the tracks. In the case of such rolling stock the defect is remediable only by the adoption of a special platform. There is no good reason why the entire platform should not be dropped several inches below the floor of the car. This, if there could be two steps to the ground, would be a great improvement. It would be easy for all. Cutting into the platform for a second step would lessen the standing room space there. This brings up the question of whether the companies should be permitted to handicap the public by the adoption of special platform standards. By adopting the double platform car, with a railing separating the avenue of entrance and exit from the standing room, this difficulty would be avoided.

Whether the solution lies in the adoption of specially constructed cars or the remodeling of the platforms of those already in use, certainly the public has a right to expect the Commission to require the corporations to render its rolling stock fit for use without imposing a heavy burden upon the taxpayer. It is merely necessary for the Commission to adopt a maximum height of step from the ground and from track to tread in order to accomplish the desired object.

Crime Wave in Boston.

Baltimore News. There are so many criminals in the prisons in Massachusetts that the Mayor of Boston has decided to place at one time 557 convicts. The police stations and jails have been packed to suffocation.

Self-Help.

Louisville Courier-Journal. It is fortunate for the human race, although discouraging to philanthropists, that independence is usually won by individuals who succeed despite lack of help or encouragement from others rather than because of it.

A Charge.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. If thou hast squandered years to grave a gem Commission'd by thine absent Lord; and others would, hark! they needly kind to them— Dismiss them to the street!

Shouldst thou at last discover Beauty's At last be panting on the fragrant verge, Drunk with divine possession, thou meet Love— Turn at her bidding, back! When round thy shins in tempest hell appears, And every specter snuffs up more dire, To match control, And loose to madness the deep-kennel'd fiend— Then to the helm, O soul!

Let, if upon the cold green-mantled sea Thou cling, alone with Truth, to the last gasp— Both castaway, And one must die— Whom thou art sworn to obey! HERBERT FRENCH.

TAFT AND PACIFIC COAST STATES

Reasons for Their Voting the Republican Ticket in November. Washington (D. C.) Post, Ind. It should be readily recalled that the ward spirit of McKinley to enable one to forecast that the Pacific Coast would be found favorable to Mr. Taft next November. The Pacific States know questions which upon what side their bread is buttered. Whatever may be Mr. Bryan's appeal to the other parts of this Union, it may be safely said that his policies and his doctrine have never been popular among the people that border near the slope of our Western ocean. People take sides in politics according to the material benefits they may derive. It is the policy which certain Eastern and Middle Western States complain of as thwarting their industrial prosperity have never been felt on the Pacific Coast. The people have found prosperity and profit in Republican administrations; they are in accord with Republican principles, as they are applied to them, they are content to let well enough alone.

By every implication of their being, the mass of the people bordering the Pacific are Republicanly recruited. Local and municipal disturbances have caused them to turn Democratic for the time being in choosing an administrator for their local affairs. They are not, however, Republican almost universally Republican. Aside from this, Mr. Taft's attitude toward the Philippines pleases them. Much of their prosperity and much of their wealth, which they have, they hope depends upon our relations with our isles of the Eastern seas, and Mr. Taft is the personal exponent of what they desire. Whatever expansion of status upon the Eastern coast they desire, they are not in business for Utopian purposes.

As to the matter of the Democratic stand on the Asiatic labor question, most of the people bordering the Pacific plank in the Democratic platform was put there for the sole purpose of catching their votes. They do not place great faith in the effectiveness of the platform. Root's and the President's method of handling the Japanese and curtailing Japanese immigration has both won their admiration and relieved their anxiety. They are not in favor of the yellow peoples upon them. All in all, it is difficult to see why the Coast States should not give Mr. Taft their support, and why they should not see why the supporters of Mr. Bryan should claim much strength for him there.

DAYS WHEN SILENCE WAS GOLDEN

Speechmaking by Presidential Candidates No Longer Dismalizing. Indianapolis News. The modesty of speechmaking by Presidential candidates is in marked contrast to the early practice. In former times it was considered undignified for a candidate to appear in public to make a speech in his own behalf and candidates generally observed strict silence. The theory was that if a candidate opened his mouth he would be disgraced. Even wrote the most commonplace letter it would be used against him.

General Scott, who had been elected President in 1840, was expected to be ordered to Mexico at that time and when that was not done, he was ordered to resign. He had heard the last of "the fire upon the rear."

The other expression occurred in a note to the Secretary of War. On the Secretary's return to the General Scott's office and found that he was absent. On returning and learning that the Secretary had called on the General, he inquired in explanation of his absence, saying that he "had only stepped out for a moment to take a hasty plate of soup." When he was, nominally, a general, he was a caricature and brought upon him ridicule that he did not deserve.

Abraham Lincoln, a frequent speaker prior to his nomination, did not utter a word publicly during the campaign. He made no addresses, wrote no public letters, and held no meetings. The practice of speechmaking by candidates after their nomination began with Garfield, who was nominated by McKinley. It is no longer considered dangerous for a candidate to talk, and the people seem to like publicity.

Condemns the Rebuilding of "Shacks."

Portland, Sept. 3. (To the Editor.)—As a tourist passing a few days in Portland, I am so favorably impressed of the city and location that I shall not fail on my return to my home city, Elmira, N. Y., to comment most favorably on the future outlook of your city. But, withal, I must not refrain from calling attention to some things which should be rectified: the old shacks now occupying some of the most valuable corners of Portland should by some regulation or ordinance be condemned and removed. While riding on Washington street near Twelfth I saw an apparent movement of the ground, and a crack was all but consumed by a fire. I wondered whether Portland's City Council or building inspector granted permission for the reconstruction of such structures in the East, we do not allow such rebuilding, as it at best only proves a continuing menace and is a sore affliction on civic pride. JOHN JASON.

Denominationalism in Politics.

Christian Register. Unitarians in America have never acquired the habit of voting for a candidate because he was a Unitarian or of voting against one because he was not. Catholics or a Methodist. But, if they were inclined to carry their denominational interests into politics, they would be surprised to find that the Unitarian common sense. They remember the sad fate of Mr. Burchard, the honest gentleman, who, by the alteration of the three R's, Rum, Religion and Revenue, was charged with defeating Mr. Blaine, the candidate whom he supported. Any public man who in his private capacity is a loyal Unitarian has the right to let his religion be no part of his public life, or if he should become a candidate for office, and he is neither a consistent Unitarian nor a wise supporter of such a candidate, he should be free to let his religion be no part of his public life.

Candidate Against Candidate.

Manchester (N. H.) Union. Bryan devotes his wind-fanning words and upperself with harmless swills at Sherman.

100 Miles Per Hour for Nine Miles.

Indianapolis News. A train on the Pennsylvania Railroad ran between Pierceton and Warsaw, Ind., a distance of nine miles, at the rate of 100 miles an hour.