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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1901.

DAILY, WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY

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MONKEYING WITH THE CURRENCY

Not long ago the redemption of greenbacks at the treasury with gold started what was then called an "endless chain." Since the redeemed greenbacks were again put into circulation in exchange for other things than gold, and were then gathered up and again presented for redemption, and so on, the gold reserve was reduced below the "safety point" and the government was threatened with inability to redeem greenbacks with gold.

What followed is well known. A cry arose from the banking interests demanding that the government go out of the banking business, and accordingly the government did go out of the banking business by a method which admitted banks into the governing business. That "endless chain" episode passed, preparations are making now for one very like it.

In the lower house of congress the banking committee has introduced a bill which provides for the redemption of silver dollars in gold. Should this bill be enacted, says Louis F. Post in his paper The Public, it requires neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet to foresee the possibility of another gold crisis, followed by issues of interest bearing bonds put out for the purchase of gold for the redemption of silver. And that is the aim and object of the whole matter.

Since banks have got into the governing business, treasury financing consists in building up and maintaining a permanent interest-bearing debt.

DEMOCRATIC SIMPLICITY IN OREGON

A bill is before the legislature at Salem for the purchase of an executive mansion. Of the measure Governor Geer recently said:

"I am too poor a man to accept such a favor at the hands of the state. I am now living very economically, very comfortably and very happily in a house the rent of which amounts to \$15 a month. To buy a fine house and turn it over to me to furnish and keep up would, instead of being a financial help, amount to an increased burden. If the bill now pending or one like it should pass, the house so purchased would have to remain vacant while I am in office."

The New York World in commenting upon the governor's remarks says: "This position is sound. If the people wish their governor to be housed in a stately mansion they should furnish it for him and make his salary commensurate with the increased outlay. So long as the state pays its chief executive but \$1500 per year it cannot complain of his action in living within that sum. If a governor has a dignity of character, dwelling in a house at a rental such as a laborer in New York pays will cost him none of it; if he has not, a palace will not supply the deficiency.

"There has been of late a notable abandonment of democratic simplicity at most of the state capitals. A short time ago New York legislators received \$3 per day during the session—a rate still prevailing in Vermont, Kansas, Oregon, and some other states—and met in a plain 'state house,' not a 'capitol.' Michigan's governor until recent years supported the dignity of his office upon \$1000 per year. That this was too little needs no argument. But it is probable that in providing mansions for their governors, even when that costly honor is accompanied by increase of pay, the states have made it harder for poor men to hold the office. Doubtless it is as difficult for a governor of New York, New Jersey or Pennsylvania, with \$10,000 and free rent, to live within his salary as for the governor of Vermont with

\$1500. At any rate, only well-to-do men have for some years become governors in the three states paying the highest rate.

"Has there been, along with the growth of exterior dignity at state capitals, a corresponding increase of moral weight? It was said of Mark Hopkins that with one room and a class of young men he made a university. So Marey or Wright or Seward or Dix, with a few 48-day farmers in a plain state house, made a very satisfactory government even for an Empire State. But if altered times demand more formality in the gubernatorial way of life the people should at least pay the bills."

Yet, it is observed that big salaries do not attract the best men to office. The man who fails to do his duty on a small salary will never perform it for a larger one. The man who loves his work is the one who does it well, and the salary has nothing to do with the man living his work. It is a pity the pay of offices cannot be made commensurate with the manner in which the duties in connection therewith are performed, but that is impossible.

Human experience teaches that the public is more likely to secure conscientiousness in office on a small salary than on a larger one. Anyhow the size of the salary does not determine the service the public receives by a long shot.

PLAN TO END BOER WAR

Under the heading, "How Americans can Help the Boers," a communication has been sent to every daily paper in the United States by the executive committee of the Transvaal League of the Eastern States. This committee consists of Messrs. Wm. G. Taylor, Theodore M. Banta, Francis J. de Puyser, H. H. de Vos, Howard C. Hillegas, Edward Lauterbach, W. Loring Andrews, E. Reeve Merritt, John V. L. Pruyn and Killian Van Rensselaer. It claims to be pro-Boer without being anti-British, and to be divided so that it is membership as between republicans and democrats.

Realizing that direct interference in the South African struggle is not within the province of the American government, this committee is of the opinion that the people of this country can do what the government cannot do. It desires in any case to remove the impression which prevails in England that Americans view with indifference the threatened extermination of the citizens of the two South African Republics; and the means to that end, which the committee of the league has adopted, are certainly novel. "We are convinced," its members say, "that a very large number of people in this country, if they only knew how, would gladly help the Boers in their struggle for freedom. Heretofore, the question with most of us has been, 'What can we do to help them?'"

"It has been suggested to us recently, and we heartily approve the suggestion, that we can best help the Boers by influencing British public opinion in favor of justice and peace in South Africa. It is evident that so vast are the resources of the British Empire in comparison with those of the South African republics, that unless the latter can secure a world-wide independence soon repeats itself in this case, to the point at which the majority of the British people concluded that there was neither gain nor glory in its continuance, the republic might, in the course of time, become temporarily exhausted. The sooner, then, that the British people can be brought to the point which they reached in their war with us, the better it will be for them, for South Africa, and for the whole world.

"With this end in view, it becomes of the utmost importance to evoke such an expression of popular feeling in the United States that the people of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British colonies will be made to realize at last that the large majority of Americans look with extreme disfavor upon the continued slaughter and threatened extermination of the citizens of the South African Republic and Orange Free State.

"The British people have been deceived in regard to public sentiment here. They have been led to believe that they have the moral support of America in their dealings with the Boers, and Mr. Chamberlain claims that some sort of an alliance had been entered into by him with this country. We claim immediately rejected by the administration here—was made in order to foster this erroneous belief. The majority of the English newspapers are so bitterly anti-Boer that they do not publish news that might open the eyes of their readers on this subject; they know that 'the man in the street,' upon whose support Mr. Chamberlain depends feels that in Europe he stands among enemies, and is, therefore, not only anxious to conciliate and to preserve the good opinion of the Americans, but would be shocked to learn that the action of his government had already alienated, and threatens to alienate still further, much of the friendly feeling for Great Britain which at one time existed in this country.

"We propose to administer that shock, so far as possible, by crystallizing the pro-Boer sympathy of the majority of Americans and by taking step

to bring the result—in the form of a brief protest—to the notice of the British people. This, in our opinion, will do more than anything else could do at this time to shake the blind confidence of many Englishmen in the righteousness of their cause.

"A number of prominent residents of the Eastern states have already signed the protest referred to, which is printed beneath for further signature. As soon as a sufficient number of signatures to it has been obtained, we intend to insert the protest as an advertisement in the leading British newspapers, and to leave it standing as long as our funds permit, with a statement beneath giving the number who have signed it and such names from among them as are likely to be known in England.

This is the only way known to us by which the American people can show practically their admiration for the gallant struggle of the South African burghers and for the great principles for which the burghers fight. This communication is signed by those whose names have been given above. Then follows the protest.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S PROTEST.

To the People of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Colonies.

We, the undersigned, citizens of the United States of America, in the name of humanity hereby protest against the continued slaughter and threatened extermination of the citizens of the South African Republic and Orange Free State; and urge the people of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British colonies, to refuse to countenance a proceeding that can bring them neither gain nor glory.

Name.....
Address.....
Name.....
Address.....
Name.....
Address.....

Please sign the above; obtain as many other signatures as possible, and then cut out the whole column in which it stands and mail to the Secretary, Transvaal League of the Eastern States, care of Edward Lauterbach, Esq., 22 William St., New York, N. Y.

CATARRH

Catarrh has become such a common disease that a person entirely free from this disgusting complaint is seldom met with. It is a common complaint of the nose, throat, and lungs, and is a simple inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose and throat. It is, in fact, a complicated and very dangerous disease; if not at first, it very soon becomes so.

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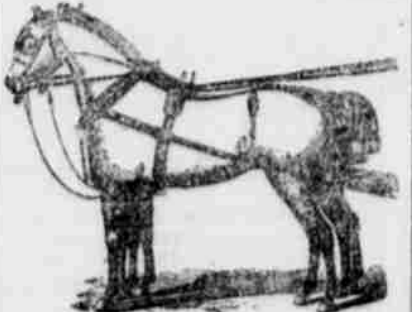
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