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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1901.

DAILY, WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY

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RAILROAD COMBINATION.

The men who are combining the great enterprises of the country are rushing them toward government ownership. Already from many directions signs are being displayed that government ownership will be resorted to as a cure for the greed and monopoly of private ownership.

Sturysman Fish, one of the big Fish, of New York, declares that the combination of railroads in the hands of one man or set of men will be a good thing for the railroads. George Gould, of the tribe of Jays, says: "I predict other and greater combinations than have yet taken place. I believe the public will be benefited thereby. The unity of interests among railroads is desirable primarily for the reason that a uniform and equitable rate basis can be maintained."

These two men are versed in the art of railroad manipulation. They draw their living from it without having to perform any of the work in connection with carrying on railroads. They do little but they reap much. They, together with many other men—Pierpont Morgan, Vanderbilt, etc.—have formally expressed their conviction that the old idea of competition being necessary in industry is all nonsense. They even declare that the days of competition are ended and are to be succeeded by the days of combination. They announce themselves as captains of combination.

Hearst's Chicago American in discussing these "captains" says they are the strongest and ablest advocates of government ownership, and they are. If there is no harm in combining all the railroads under one management, paying all the profits to one set of men, why not combine the roads under government management, using the profits to reduce the taxes and increase the public advantages of all citizens?

The value of the railroads consists entirely, apart from individual management and competition, in the growing population of the country, its resources, agricultural and industrial products.

In other words, a railroad is a valuable property because there are millions of human beings who travel on it, and other millions whose labor employs the railroad in hauling freight. The old theory was that individual owners and competitors improved the railroads and reduced the cost. But Mr. Gould and the other great authorities assure us that there is nothing in this theory. We wish they would tell us if there is any good reason under such conditions why the people who make the railroads valuable should not own them.

This is, of course, no suggestion in the line of confiscation or any other extreme or impossible idea. We merely suggest that public properties should be publicly owned, and that steps to this end should be taken at once, either by national purchase gradually or by laws which at the end of a certain number of years shall turn the public franchises over to government property.

It cannot be said that the government would be incapable of managing the railroad systems, for those systems are managed by intelligent men who, under the present trust arrangement, all work for salaries. These men could be hired by the government as well as by Mr. Gould.

As regards the minute workings of the system and the economical management there should be no question, for the management of our postoffice is far superior to that of any private concern in the world, more reliable, more economical, more public spirited. In

fact, the only big leak in the post-office is due to private ownership of the railroads. The men who own the railroads bribe the officials directly or indirectly, and compel the people to pay for mail transportation an utterly dishonest, extravagant rate. If the railroads were owned by the government, it is argued by those who favor it, nobody would be interested in overworking the men, thus causing wrecks, or in underpaying the men, thus causing strikes and riots. The service would be better and cheaper and the employees would be better paid, and the occupation only of a number of manipulators would be destroyed.

A POLITICAL STRAW.

The Reporter, a paper published at Sumpter, Baker county, contains the following item of news: "Hon. H. W. Corbett recently bought \$1500 worth of stock in the Ohio mine near Granite, in which Representative George Barrett is interested."

TOPICS OF TODAY.

Grievous fears are entertained for the losses that lumber interests will sustain because of the "Hoar amendment" to the income tax law. The bill, they are, it appears, well rounded. Plans have been matured for extensive timber development in the islands, and they must now be given over, for congress declines to give the administration free hand in disposal of the Philippine lands. Yet the fact remains that congress is right and the lumbermen are wrong. "Imperialism" as a snare for votes is a fraud of the first water, but imperialism as opposed to rightful and just expansion is a real danger, which must be fought off incessantly. We cannot abandon the Philippines, but we must not work them as a crown colony on the French or Spanish plan or on the English plan of 150 years ago. The reply to "anti-imperialism" is our declaration of benevolent purposes, but how shall that reply stand in the opinion of the people? If we give the lie by predatory acts? The Philippine forests are not for spoliation by our lumber syndicates. They are to be held in trust by us for the Philippine people. It is of small concern how our forest destroyers regard this blow to their hopes. As the forest woods and sparkling gems and rich harvests of the tropics are not worth the betrayal of a sacred trust.

Perhaps the gravest danger that confronts us in the Cuban problem is along this very line. At all hazards we must maintain the pledge we made to Cuba and the profession we made to the world. The purpose of making Cuba independent was ill-advised and in its origin thoroughly demagogic; but it was formed and it was declared in the face of all mankind. We can never retract. If Europe acts upon that profession—at any rate, we have no right to assume that it did not, so act. It is a serious thing, as earnest thinkers are pointing out, for a people to be led into thinking that fidelity to a pledge is not worth worrying about. How the average man looks at that sort of thing is revealed in Kipling's poem on "the bear that walks like a man." It is unnecessary to minimize the cost of keeping our pledge to Cuba. Difficulties are many and great. The island itself is likely to witness many another terrible scene, and not the least probable of eventualities is our war for us with some European power. Great Britain's experience with the Transvaal, under Gladstone's mistaken lenience, shows us what to expect, but it does not encourage us to break a promise made to a people who have maintained the agreed status till the Boer declared war. We shall have to do the same. We could get out of the trouble by repudiating the obligation, but we must not. The price is too high.

From the Russian and German programmes in China every right-minded man will turn with aversion, and with gratitude that Secretary Hay has so far ordered our own course in happy contrast to the duplicity and greed that have intensified, as they originally aroused, Chinese resentment, now standing across the path, and with its plenary and trade, Germany is accumulating grudges for some bloody tomorrow of vengeance, and Russia is preparing to exhibit the allied powers the same disregard of professions she has so long and successfully employed with Great Britain. There are reasons of justice behind the demand of Europe for satisfaction, and behind the movement of Western civilization for peaceful subjugation of the Chinese Empire to modern methods of consumption and production. But in most of Europe's operations in China this basis of reason and justice is forgotten and pushed aside in a scramble for advantage that respects neither the rights of China nor good faith between the powers. The ends to be served in China are to uplift its inhabitants through civilization which will secure liberty to the individual and multiply his capacity both to earn and to enjoy. The dynasty that prevents this is of small concern. But the method employed defeats its end. Peaceful de-

velopment will benefit China; but it is preposterous to think that this end is advanced with the present operations. The United States cannot dissent from such procedure in terms too vigorous or explicit.—Portland Oregonian.

THE PURBLOW AGE.

Emerson quoted, with appreciation, the remark of the poor, skimped, economical New England woman when she first saw the ocean: "It is so good," she sighed, "to see something there's enough of!" She was of another day and generation than ours.

We are overloaded and oppressed with paraphernalia and baggage. Houses are crowded with furniture, lumbered up by gowags and gimcracks. Too many pictures on the walls, too many rugs on the floors, too many hangings at windows and doors, too many tawdry books on shelves and tables, too many gilded clocks (that don't go), too many dishes and too much glass and silver on the dining tables, to say nothing of the bewildering array of knives, forks and spoons and little spears and harpoons and coops laid at each plate.

"I couldn't sleep for the paper on the wall," complained a woman who had spent the night in her friend's. Mrs. Purbelow's, spare bedroom. There is enough and to spare of all rampant wall decorations. When shall we have rest of the great, spreading patterns in colors that fight with each other and with every other color that comes near?

How more than beautiful is, or was—for it is no more—simplicity in dress. The ugliness of women of a few years ago seems all understanding. The hats alone outdo art and nature in ugliness. The odd, the bizarre, the inappropriate, these reign on the feminine head. Every woman is covered with feathers, bonnets, braids, embroideries, gold lace, studded bands of velvet or something—her clothes encrusted with neck jewels and gold and silver. There is no rest, no repose, for the eye when it looks, unrepining, on an up-to-date woman. Even her hair is in studied disorder and her eyes are in training for effects.

This overabundance shows everywhere. Our bills of fare are tiresome by reason of long drawn out variety in food and its manner of preparation. One rises from a modern dinner a torpid, satiated being, unfit for conversation, for reading, for study, for any form of social amusement. To be simply a man or a woman who has eaten too much is getting pretty low down in the scale of humanity, isn't it?

Even the concerts and the plays, the lectures and the musicals, are wearying in length. "Everybody" sings in the way of amusement or instruction can be crammed into an hour, and the result is that everybody gets tired before half of the program is over.

Upon the stage this overloading process has hidden the light of genius under a mountain of material. The story is not good enough, for us as Shakespeare wrote it. We like it to be padded out and overlaid with scenery, tableaux, costumes and posturing. During the engagement of Bernhard and Coghlin there has been more torch lighting and music than of any other party in the great plays. These artists have given. More feminine satisfaction was displayed over the gowns Bernhard wore in "Camille" than in any other feature of her appearance in Chicago. Women crowded the theater at the "Camille" play, and partly in an exercise of their emotional capacities and quite as generally to look at Camille's costumes.

It is a time of extravagance in decoration, of the multiplication of details of absorption in trivialities. It is strange that some of the wisest who rule in social life do not start the cult of simplicity. There is nothing so elegant, so strong, so beautiful, as simplicity in manners, of thought and of expression in every department of life. Yet it is so rare to meet this clearly defined simplicity that we almost forget there is any such thing—Chicago American.

Forewarned, Forearmed.

The liability to disease is greatly lessened when the blood is in good condition, and the circulation healthy and vigorous. For then all refuse matter is promptly carried out of the system; otherwise it would rapidly accumulate and form a deadly poison. The blood becomes polluted and the constitution so weakened that a simple malady might result seriously. A healthy, active circulation means good digestion and strong, healthy nerves. As a blood purifier and tonic S. S. S. has no equal. It is the safest and best remedy for old people and children because it contains no minerals, but it is made exclusively of roots and herbs.

No other remedy so thoroughly and effectually cleanses the blood of impurities. At the same time it builds up the weak and debilitated, and renovates the entire system. It cures permanently all manner of blood and skin troubles.

Dr. E. E. Kelly, of Urbana, O., writes: "I had sores on my hands and feet for five years. As would break out in little drops, leaving the skin raw and tender. The sores did me no good. I used the medicine and sores and ulcers went away. S. S. S. cured me, and my skin is as clear and smooth as any one's."

Richard T. Gardner, Florence, B. C., suffered for years with boils. Two bottles of S. S. S. put his blood in good condition and the boils disappeared. Send for our free book, and write our physicians about your case. Medical advice free.

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Each at the Height of His Career Uses Paine's Celery Compound.



Elkes, Michael and Miller, each at the height of his career, used Paine's Celery Compound and acknowledged a debt of personal gratitude to the great remedy.

The New York World says of Champion Elkes, whose likeness is given above: "There is no reason why Elkes should not claim the World's championship, having beaten every crack rider in America and Europe." Like his great predecessors, Michael and Miller, Elkes believes Paine's Celery Compound to be the most wonderful preparation in the world for strengthening the nervous system. He has consented to the publication of the following letter:

New York, December 21, 1900. "Before I began to train for the six day race at Madison Square Garden, New York City, I was in poor condition. I took Paine's Celery Compound and after the first bottle I felt entirely different. I continued to take it up to the time the race started and during the week of the contest. My excellent condition is due to Paine's Celery Compound. I recommend it to all who need a perfect restorer of exhausted nervous energy."

Sincerely yours, H. D. ELKES.

Wonderful! Michael Miller in recommending Paine's Celery Compound said: "Boston, Mass., Feb. 21, 1897. "After the exertion of my record ride I was advised to use Paine's Celery Compound. I am pleased to say that it gave such satisfaction that I am impelled to use it again. I believe that wholesome and athletes will find Paine's Celery Compound of assistance in keeping up their physical tone."

Champion C. W. Miller, winner of the six days bicycle race at Madison Square Garden, New York City, says: "I owe to Paine's Celery Compound a debt of personal gratitude. For several years I have occasionally used Paine's Celery Compound when I felt out of sorts and run-down. Before the big race in New York, feeling that I ought to be in the best possible condition, because a nervous breakdown on the track is a thing all well trained men are afraid of—I began to use Paine's Celery Compound. It was an essential part of my successful training. I assure you that it did me so much good, I wish that others may have the benefit of my experience."

Yours sincerely, C. W. MILLER. Champion long-distance rider of the world.

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