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WILL NOT DOWN.

That the American government will spread out its wings over the isles of the Pacific is beyond question. The idea of expansion has seized upon the people, and they will not be satisfied until our possessions reach the Asiatic shore. Cost of lives and money are not going to be taken into consideration. The people are so thoroughly imbued with the idea of expansion that it will not down. Other people might hesitate to count the cost of so radical a change in the systems of government as will be necessary for us to adopt a colonial policy, but the Americans will not. Why this is so, is explained in the following by the Spokesman-Review:

Timid men are speaking the word "expansion" in tones of alarm, as if it were charged with peril, as if expansion were some untried experiment in our national existence. They forget or ignore the glowing fact that all this nation has of independence and glory and empire it owes to the expansion force of its people.

The American is a natural expansionist and a born colonizer. He is at home where you place him. Give him a roll of bedding, a little flour, some bacon and coffee, and a box of matches, and you may drop him in the desert or the wilderness, 100 or 1000 miles from civilization, and he will go whistling about the work of building a campfire and making himself at home. If a farmer, he will scan the country for its agricultural possibilities; if a railroad man, he will instinctively look around him for passes through the mountains and grades over the prairies. The colonizing spirit is bred in the blood, and you might as well try to break up the natural gait of a bred trotter as to talk of clapping the extinguisher on the expansion trait of American character. The American people would not pause at the Alleghanies, nor at the Mississippi, nor at the Rocky mountains, and they will not stop at the shore of the Pacific ocean.

It is a waste of time and breath to go asking whether we shall "expand" or "contract." That is something which will not be settled in newspaper offices nor controlled by a few hundred men gathered beneath the dome of the capitol. The eagle will fly, and the barnyard fowl will not, and there is an end of the matter. Americans will drift across the ocean, and some fine morning we shall have a new possession thrust upon us, as Dole brought in Hawaii, and as Dewey took in the Philippines; or as pioneer Americans brought in the Oregon country more than 50 years ago. These great things are not shaped in the White House nor settled in congress. "There is a divinity which shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may."

WHY STAND STILL?

The merchant who says he has all the business he can do and proclaims that he is perfectly satisfied with trade is not progressive—he lacks the pluck and push of a true American. The farmer who declares he is producing every pound of produce his farm is capable of, and will not put forth an effort to make a few more bushels of grain grow on each acre when prices are high, is lacking in enterprise. The mechanic who says he cannot turn out more trade from his shop and does not feel justified in putting forth an effort to do more work is behind the times. Progress and advancement are the watchwords of the times, and the individual who is satisfied with present surroundings and has no inclination to better his condition or business is out of date. This is a moving age, and the person who is not ambitious enough to get on top of the wave is liable to fall under the surf and be drowned.

What is true of the individual is true in connection with communities. The city, town or hamlet that does not get on top and ride is going to fall into disrepute; it is certain to not keep apace with the more progressive and up-to-date places. Public spiritedness will bring a place that has no natural advantages into prominence, while mossbackism will kill the best place in the world.

The Dalles is one of those places that possesses every natural advantage to make it one of the most prosperous and thrifty business points in the Northwest, but we are standing still and we are seeing first one and then another of our former resources slip away from us. We have had too easy a thing in the past, but we are learning a lesson. We are seeing a railroad line built into the interior that is certain to lessen our importance as a shopping center. We are seeing manufacturing industries spring up in other localities that might been secured here. We cannot afford this. We must quit standing still. We must put forth a little more energy and create inducements that will compell the outside country to come to us. We must have manufacturing industries and better roads leading into the country. If not we had about as well close up shops. We must quit standing still and begin doing something to put the town on the move.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For two years past this country has enjoyed a revival of business in almost every branch. First, the farmers became prosperous through the harvesting of an abundant crop in 1897 and selling it at a good price, which put money in circulation in channels where it had not circulated for years, and from this source the wheels of commerce were set in motion and every industry began feeling the beneficial results. Again, this year the farmers were favored with good crops, and while the price of their products did not rule so high on an average as they did the previous year, they were still comparatively fair, and another prosperous year has resulted.

This change for the better has been attributed to a change in the policies of government; that is, from the enactment of a protective policy and the declaration of the people for the gold standard. But whether it was legislation or the favors of nature that brought about the change is a question that is certainly open to discussion. Certainly the United States, during the past two years, under protection and the gold standard, has been comparitively prosperous, but were these agents the cause of the prosperity?

In our sister republic, Mexico, which is our nearest neighbor, there has been no change of administration, no change in government affairs, it still retains silver as its standard money, and its tariff laws are the same as they were two years ago, yet Mexico has enjoyed a season of unusual prosperity. More factories have been built and more new plantations opened during the past two years in Mexico than during any five years before. The country is exporting more than it imports, and merchants who buy abroad are discounting their bills. Railroads are doing an increased business, and in the agricultural districts, the people are better off than for years past. What has brought about this revival of business in Mexico? Certainly not a change in the policy of the government, for there has been no change. Certainly not legislation that was enacted in the United States, for that has, to a certain extent, deprived Mexico of a market. Then it must have been an increased demand in foreign countries for the products of this continent. What increased the prosperity of Mexico was the same agent that increased the prosperity of the United States.

SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN.

Spanish refugees from some of the northern islands of the Philippine group tell revolting stories of the punishment inflicted upon them by the Filipinos. In one town the insurgents formed a procession, the central figure of which was a Spanish lieutenant who was carried along the streets suspended from a bamboo pole. On arriving at the plaza the pole was placed on two forked sticks and a squad of insurgents amused themselves by shooting as close to the head of the helpless victim as they could without hitting him. In another place a Spanish officer was confined in a cell with his hands tied behind him and was compelled to eat his food from the floor.

While such treatment of prisoners is cruel, and should be frowned upon by all civilized people, the Spaniards last of all should complain. The Filipinos are only putting into practice what the Spaniards have taught them for ages. In fact they are only turning the tables upon their former masters. For ages they have been tortured by the Spaniards and been subjected to the most cruel punishment for the slightest offense. By this cruelty they have been transformed into brutes, and they know no other methods than the most inhuman for inflicting punishment upon their prisoners. The Spaniards are responsible for the education of the Filipinos, and if they are barbarous and inflict unusual punishment upon the proud Dons when they fall into the hands of the insurgents they should not complain. The unfortunate Spaniards who are taken prisoners are only reaping what they have sown.

COAL IN CHINA.

The English capitalist is always looking for the main chance, and proposes not to let it slip. An example is mentioned in the London Daily Telegram which says that a British syndicate has secured a coal field in the province of Shan Li, in the northeastern part of China. It lies in close proximity to vast deposits of brown hematite and spathic iron and an abundance of limestone. The syndicate has a concession to run for sixty years, and if those who have obtained it make the use of it they propose Weihai-wei will become a great iron center, where rails will be more cheaply produced than in England or the United States, or at least too cheaply to permit either of these countries to hope to successfully compete for the furnishing of the rails for the newly projected Chinese roads. It is also probable that when the coal fields are well opened— they are said to be 350 miles long by 40 miles wide and of a very good quality of anthracite—the exports of black diamonds to the Orient will suffer a great dimunition.

Populist papers are beginning to see the folly of maintaining an organization and the unexpediency of fusion. They recognize that there can be but two great parties—the republican and a party in opposition to it, and that party must be the old democratic party that has ever stood for the rights of the people. The Colfax Commoner, that has ever been a radical populist organ, recognizes this fact and says: "The democratic party is open to all who are willing to work for the principles of the Chicago platform in preference to the policies of the republican A man does not have to believe in every one of those principles in order to enter the democratic ranks. If the democratic platform, as a whole, suits him better than the platform of any other political party does not close the door to any prodigals who have wandered away temporarily, they will be welcomed home though no fatted calf will be killed in honor of their return."

The Oregonian has been for some time past telling the public that Portland was unusually prosperous, that business was booming, and everything was lovely. In short, it has harped upon prosperity so much that some have been led to believe that everybody was making bushels of money in Oregon's metropolis, therefore we were surprised to see a notice of sheriff's sale for taxes occupying 3¾ columns of the Oregonian. If people in Multnomah county are really so prosperous, why do they allow the sheriff to levy on their property for taxes?

The French newspapers continue to assert that war with England is imminent, and are urging a coalition with Germany. If they are to be believed, war cannot be avoided, should the nation be further pushed by the English government. It is safe to say that their battle will end with words and threats. If the French nation wants war it is easy for her to have one, by acting rather than by bluster.

Congress has been in session for three weeks and has accomplished little or nothing. Appearances are that nothing will be done at the present session so that there will be an excuse for calling a special session to tinker with the currency, as after March 1st, congress will be composed of men who will be more in accord with secretary Gage's financial views than is the present body.

TO TIGHTEN THE STRINGS.

H. H. Hanna, chairman of the executive committee of the Indianapolis monetary convention, has in an interview, outlined the plans of the currency tinkerers, which are to prevail upon the president to call an extra session of congress early next year, to firmly fasten the gold standard upon the country so that it cannot be budged until the opposition to it shall have elected a president and secured control of both houses of congress. His idea of a currency law that should be passed is that the treasurer shall be required to redeem all money presented to him in gold; that is, that whenever a greenback, treasury note, silver certificate or silver dollar is presented, gold shall be passed out over the counter for it, thus irrevokably fastening the gold standard upon the country.

Mr. Hanna urges that this should be done at at early date, by a special session, for two reasons. One is that the opponents of the gold standard may, at the next election, elect either the president or the lower house of congress, in which case "currency reform" would be impossible. Another reason is, that in case of the election of a democratic president in 1900, he could thwart the plans of the goldites by the appointment of a secretary of the treasury who would pay out silver from the treasury in redeeming paper money.

From Mr. Hanna's statement it is evident that his associates are determined to tighten the hold of the bond holders upon the treasury while they have control of the administration, for they forsee a repudiation of their theories by the people in the near future. The scheme is an innocent one on its face, but a pernicious one when stripped of its clothing. If enacted into a law it would place the national treasury wholly at the mercy of the owners of gold, or those who can control gold, at least so long as there is any credit currency or silver in circulation, for whenever any such money were presented the treasurer must pay out gold for it, regardless of the gold at his disposal. And since the government cannot refuse to accept any class of money of its own issue for debts due the government, the only certain method it has for obtaining gold is by the sale of bonds, therefore the gold in the treasury would be in dangor of being depleted whenever bond buyers should decree that an issue of bonds was necessary to swell their coffers. It would make no difference what amount of money there was in the treasury, if the stock of gold were inadequate to meet demands, the government would be forced to go into the markets and buy it. This was the condition that existed when Cleveland was forced to make the bond sales. While the revenues of the government were inadequate, still there was a cash balance in the treasury of several hundred million dollars, but Secretary Carlisle had decreed that all credit currency should be redeemed in gold, and bond buyers took advantage of the situation by presenting credit currency for redemption. The same thing may occur at any time should Mr. Hanna's plan succeed. Whenever the money market becomes dull, and loans are not sought in commercial transactions, all the owners of money have to do is to buy up a few hundred millions of paper money and silver coin, present it to the treasury, exhaust the gold stock and force a bond issue. The scheme is not so much a desire to make a more substantial currency, as is claimed for it, as it is to place the government more firmly in the grasp of the money lenders. It is little wonder that Mr. Hanna and his crowd want it worked through congress at an early date, before it is understood by the people who might influence their representatives to vote against such a dangerous plan.

A PLEA FOR THE CHILDREN

The Condon Globe expresses the following sensible sentiment, that should meet the approval of every citizen who cares for the welfare of future generations in Oregon:

One of the most important matters that will come before the next session of the Oregon legislature for consideration is the revision of the state school law. Our public school system is a matter of vital interest to every man, woman and child in the state, and being such it should receive the most careful attention from our legislators.

Every child within the borders of our fair state is entitled to the very best educational advantages possible and whenever he is deprived of such advantages, whether by the carelessness or indifference of his natural guardians or by any defect in the school law, he is robbed of an heritage that rightfully belongs to him.

In this age of keen competition of progress and of everlasting hustle every man, no matter what his occupation, is in daily need of a well trained intellect, and if he lacks the early training and the fundamental principles of education which he should have received in the public schools in his childhood, he finds himself unable to cope with his more fortunate fellows and is gradually forced to the wall. In every community may be found numbers of disappointed, unsuccessful men, whose partial or complete failure in life may be attributed to this cause, and who can justly make the complaint that, had their early opportunities been better the final outcome of their lives might have been vastly different. Let the people of Oregon, through their legislators, soon to be assembled, say that henceforth no child, growing up within the confines of Oregon, can justly make this complaint.

Let our school law be revised in such a way as will make it equal to the best in the Union. Let us progress in all things, but above all and over all, let us progress in the education of our youth. A school system that was considered good enough 50 or 25, or even 10 years ago is not good enough now. Times are changed. Give the children a chance.

TELLER THE "TRATIOR."

Only a short time since the republican press of the nation was branding Senator Teller as a "traitor" because he had the affrontery to tear himself away from the bond-buying influence and demand that this country, together with its fiances, should be free from the entanglements of mercenary influence. After he walked out of the St. Louis convention and severd his connection with the party that he believed had divorced itself from the people, no epathets were severe enough to apply to him, but all of a sudden Teller has changed in the estimation of some of the administration's lackeys. He favors "expansion," and a few days ago delivered a speech in the senate supporting the views of the president on the acquisition of territory, and all of a sudded he is lauded as a "patriot." It is indeed strange how quickly a man can be transformed, especially when he falls into line with the beliefs of some people. A few days ago Teller was a traitor, now he is a loyal citizen.

TWO FOOLS AND OTHER FOOLS

An unusual occurrence was witnessed in a St. Louis court room a few days since. The judge, Thomas H. Peabody, sat upon the bench with his finger on the trigger of a self acting revolver, while at the bar was an attorney, Jefferson D. Storts, grasping a gun loaded to the muzzle. The judge and the attorney were not friends and they came to the court room thirsting for each others blood. When Storts asked that a case in which he was the attorney be continued a week and the judge gave him a continuance of only one day, he took it as a personal affront, and applied some uncomplimentary terms to the court, and the judge ordered him thrown out of the court room. Storts resisted and the judge drew his revolver, while the belligerent attorney presented his murderous looking weapon at the court's head in a threatening manner. It looked as if there was to be war, but there was not. The men behind the guns were not the kind of stuff that fight. They were a pair of fools who armed themselves for the purpose of running a bluff. Then there were other fools who interefered and prevented bloodshed. Storts was carried away and locked up, while the judge with his gun held the fort and maintained the "dignity" of his court.

It was an unfortunate thing that the bystanders did not insist that the judge and attorney put their weapons in action and keep them going until each was shot to death. The community would be better off without them. It is bad enough when the ordinary criminal arms himself with a gun and goes to hunt an adversary, but when a judge and an attorney, men who are supposed to uphold the law, fill their pockets with guns and enter the court room for the purpose of displaying their "bravery," they should be made to exercise it. St. Louis will do itself credit by sending the judge and the attorney to the penitentiary and also by giving the persons who interfered a few days in the work house.

A WORD OF CAUTION.

With the advent of better times comes the danger of extravagance in the administering of public affairs in state, county and city. When the people are seemingly prosperous those entrusted with the management of the government are too liable to attempt improvements that are unnecessary, and foster schemes that are certain to result in a period of increased taxation, which is but a partial confiscation of property, the outcome of which must be the diminishing of values in real estate and the driving away of capital. We have experienced a season of adversity during which time taxes have been burdensome, and now that better times are at hand those to whom the management of public affairs is entrusted should not increase the burdens. People should be given an opportunity to recover from their misfortunes and not have their profits taken from them by increated taxation.

If the state, county and city are to flourish and reap the full benefit of the present prosperity, it cannot be through extravagance in public affairs, but can be through economy. Where taxes are low capital will seek investment, but it will flee from high taxation. It is therefore incumbent upon public officials, those having the expending of public moneys—the legislature, county courts and city councils—to practice the strictest economy, to make no appropriations except for actual necessities, things that are really required for the administration of public affairs. Let them take warning now and keep taxes down for a few years, then Oregon will attract the attention of those who seek investment for their capital. But let them indulge in extravagances, and they will not only burden the people who are here but will drive capital away.

It was a miscarriage of justice when the state supreme court granted a stay of proceedings in the case of Branton, the self-convicted murderer of John Lynn. That he will eventually be hung cannot be questioned, but to grant him more time on earth is not good. Such as he should be hustled off on the date fixed by the judge pasing the sentence.

The passage of Senator Morgan's Nicaragua bill at the present session depends on the action of the senate. Having passed the senate, the house will push it to its passage. It is not probable that the obstruction senators and lobyists will prevent its coming to a vote, after a liberal time occupied in debating the question.

The hopes of Binger Hermann to become a member of the president's official household have been blighted. Ethan A. Hitchcock, ambassador to Russia, has been appointed secretary of the interior, and Binger will have to content himself with the office he now holds. A great many Oregonians would have been pleased to have seen him given a place in the cabinet for they feel assured that he would have filled the place creditably.

Within a few weeks the Oregon legislature will again be in session at Salem and there will be a swarm of place hunters buzzing about the capitol like a lot of flies over a sugar can on a hot summer day. They will all want clerkships as rewards for the "work" they did last June, but if the legislators are self respecting and have the interest of the taxpayers at heart, a lot of these leeches will be disappointed, for there should not be to exceed thirty clerks hired during the session.

Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, in the house of representatives the other day, declared that the United States should "pull down its flag and sail away from the Philippines, but should not permit Spain to re-establish its shattered soveriegnty over the islands." This would probably be a cheap way out of the muddle, but it is difficult now to see how it could be done. The United States has got hold of a sort of "hot stove" proposition in the Philippines—a thing that is uncomfortable to hold but cannot be let loose. Spain cannot be kept out of them without American intervention, and if Spain is to be kept out the United States must hold sway at least until the Filipinos can protect themselves.

SHERMAN TELLS A SECRET

The Ex-Secretary Says War Could Have Been Averted

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

Former Secretary of State John Sherman, in an interview, tells an interesting cabinet secret, which in the days before the war was frequently suspected, but never established. With considerable emotion the ex-secretary said:

"I tried to prevent this foolish war with Spain. As a matter of fact negotiations were already in progress to purchase Cuba from Spain when the war feeling suddenly rose and swept everything before it. And Spain would have accepted the terms.

"This is a matter of secret history. And now what have we to show for all this expense? Some islands in the Philippines, for instance, which are worth about $200,000 per annum income; increased indebtedness of $200,000,000 and a lot of islands inhabited mainly by man-eaters. And the most distressing feature of the affair is that we are now about to be called upon to pay $20,000,000 for territory that we could have taken without expending a dollar."

FIRE IN A NEW YORK RESIDENCE.

Two Women Killed and a Woman and Man Injured.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Two women were killed and another woman and a man severely injured today during a fire at the residence of C. H. Raymond at West End avenue and Seventy-third street.

Miss Underwood, a sister of Mrs. Raymond, leaped from a second-story window, her head striking the sidewalk and death was instantaneous.

William Doerr, in trying to rescue Miss Underwood, sustained a fracture of the skull, which probably will result in death.

Mrs. C. H. Raymond followed Miss Underwood out of the window, and was picked up unconscious.

Mr. Raymond was carried from the house unconscious from smoke.

After the flames were extinguished the body of Harriet Fee was found on the third floor of the house. She had been overcome by smoke.

EVIDENCE OF FRIENDSHIP.

Great Britain Prevents Filibusterers Leaving Hong Kong.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: Great Britain has given another striking example of friendship for the United States, and at the same time has taken action which is looked upon in the light of a recognition of the sovereignty of the United States over the Philippines. A filibustering expedition organized to go to the support of Aguinaldo has been suppressed at Hong Kong by order of the British authorities.

This information came to the state department a few days ago in a cablegram from Consul-General Wildman, and has just been made public. The reason for keeping the information secret was that the department desired to ascertain if possible the source of the expedition and who was responsible for its organization.

Consul-General Wildman, so far as can be learned, has not yet been able to get those details.

MORE RAIN IN CALIFORNIA.

Good Crops of Wheat in Sacramento Valley Assured.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Another copious rain has fallen throughout northern and central California. Reports from all sections of the state show that for the past week damp, foggy weather has prevailed so that the soil has absorbed every bit of the rain that fell last week. In most of the valleys the soil is in splendid condition for seeding, and where the grain was sown early it has sprouted and is looking well.

In the Sacramento valley the farmers have ceased worrying over possibilities of a drought, and are now confident that sufficient rain will fall to insure big crops of grain. The indications are for a continuance of the rain.

TWO KILLED AND MANY INJURED.

Serious Result of a Rear End Collision in New Jersey.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A rear-end collision occurred on the Pennsylvania railroad three miles from Rahway, which resulted in the loss of two lives and injury to many persons.

About 20 persons were cut and bruised, and nearly all occupants of the trains in collision were thrown from their berths. The collision was between the Chicago and New York express and the Eastern express. When three miles from Rahway, N. J. shortly before 7 o'clock, the Chicago and New York express was stopped according to its engineer by signal. A thick fog prevailed. The Eastern express coming up from behind at about 20 miles per hour dashed into the Chicago express sending the baggage car off the track and crushing through into the Pullman sleeper, which contained 15 passengers.

THE NEW SECRETARY.

Ambassador Hitchcock Appointed to Succeed Bliss.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The president today nominated Ethan A. Hitchcock, of Missouri, to be secretary of the interior, and F. M. Johnson, of California, to be register of the land office at Marysville, Cal.

Hitchcock is at present ambassador to Russia. He was appointed minister more than a year ago, and when the rank was raised to an embassy he was re-appointed.

Hitchcock is a wealthy lawyer and business man of St. Louis, and was for some time an extensive plate glass manufacturer. He is a great-grandson of Ethan Allen, of Revolutionary fame. His ancestors were from Vermont, but his father moved south and Hitchcock was born at Mobile, Ala.

GRASPED A LIVE WIRE.

Horrible Death of a Lineman in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Among a network of wires 20 feet above the ground, Roderick Chisholm, an electrician, was slowly burned to death in sight of several hundred spectators at the corner of Fifty-fifth and State streets. For nearly ten minutes the horror-stricken crowd watched the workmen in their frantic efforts to release their comrade from among the wires.

Chisholm was employed by the Commonwealth Electric Company, and with a number of other men he was stringing wires along State street. While at the top of one of the poles it is supposed he grasped a live wire. He was seen to fall back among the wires apparently lifeless.

MAY COME HOME SOON

Fifty Thousand Volunteers to Be Mustered Out.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The war department has not yet made definite plans for the muster out of 50,000 volunteers, which was decided on at the cabinet meeting yesterday, but it is understood that work will be pretty well mapped out by the first of the year.

The completion of the muster out will depend on whether the department adopts the plan of three month's furlough or immediate discharge, with two months extra pay, as suggested by Congressman Hull.

It has been practically decided to muster all the volunteers in the Philippines as fast as they can be replaced with regulars, so as not to hamper the administration of the island. Following the discharges of the regiments of the Philippine stations, it is understood the volunteer troops in the West Indies will be mustered out.

New Dawson City Grows.

DENVER, Dec. 21.—The latest reports from Dawson City, the new mining camp in the Greenhorn mountains, near Canyon City, indicate that the rich gold ore found on the Copper King claim by Dawson brothers, came from a small pocket. Experts are of the opinion that a copper mine may be opened on the claim, but do not expect a gold bonanza will be found there. However, other discoveries of free gold in the neighborhood are reported and the town is growing rapidly.

Three Hundred Chinese Killed.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from Shanghia says a powder magazine, situated in the center of the Chinese camp, in Hankow, exploded leveling a square mile of houses. It is estimated that 300 soldiers were killed including the general of the commanding forces.

Slide on Chilcoot Pass.

SEATTLE, Dec. 20.—News has just been received of a slide on Chilcoot pass in which six people were killed. Five bodies have been recovered, as follows: Mrs. Darling and two sons, of Lake Lindermann; Bert John, of Juneau; Harry Shaw, of Skagway. The slide occurred December 9.

Three Moonshiners Killed.

MIDDLESBORO, Ky., Dec. 21.—Advices from Knox county Ky., says three moonshiners, Jacob Lambert, Greer and an unknown man, were killed and several of their comrades wounded in a battle with revenue officers.

A President Assassinated.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from Cape Haytien says it is rumored that the Mominican president, Heureaux, was assassinated while incognito attending a christening.

More Spanish Troops off.

HAVANA, Dec. 20.—The Spanish transport Notre Dame, with General Estruchos and 953 officers and men, and the Les Andes with 1340 officers and men, sailed for Cadiz today. The Spanish troops today will finish the evacuation of the northwest part of Havana.

Hull Bill to be Reported.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The house committee on military affairs this afternoon ordered a favorable report on the Hull bill, increasing the regular army to 10,000 men. The vote was 8 to 5 on party lines.

MAY CAUSE A REBELLION

Serious Trouble Feared in Samoa.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Dec. 21.—Advices from Samoa under date of December 16, say there is serious trouble in connection with the selection of a king to succeed the late Malietoa. Supporters of Mataafa have become warlike, and it is reported that the German consul is supporting Mataafa, in spite of an agreement arrived at between the consuls to remain neutral and allow the chief justice to decide upon the question of succession.

Foreign residents fear there will be an outbreak of tribal war when the chief justice announces his decision, about the end of the year, and they are anxious for naval protection.

MORE OFFICERS NEEDED.

West Point Cadets Will Get Commissions Soon After Graduating.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—A dispatch to the Herald from Washington says: An order has been sent to the headquarters of the army, directing that the first-class cadets at West Point be graduated in February instead of the following June. This was in accordance with a recommendation made some time ago by Major-General Miles, and now approved by Secretary Alger.

A United States army officer and officials of the war department explained that one object of General Miles in making the recommendation was to supply the pressing need now of young officers. Many are ill or on staff duty, and from other causes the line is depleted. In the Third cavalry there is only five officers on duty. The assignment of the new second lieutenants, who number about 50, will do much to relieve the situation and keep out of the service many civilians who were unfit, but who might otherwise, through political influence, be appointed as second lieutenants.

MARRIAGE NATURALIZES THEM.

Alien-Born Citizens May Vote in States in Which They Are Wedded.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 22.—In the contested election case of O. H. Brigham against P. C. Stanford, the court lays down the rule that alien-born women become naturalized when they marry citizens of the state.

The appellant was elected a member of a board of education in Livingston county, and his election was contested on the ground that a number of alien women, the wives of citizens, had been permitted to vote at the election. The court declares that the marriage of an alien-born woman to a citizen is sufficient to make her a citizen, and that she may vote under the same laws that other women vote.

More Ship Wrecks.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 22.—The Rosalie, which has arrived here from Skagway, reports the wreck of a sloop which left Wrangel two weeks ago for Skagway, with a party of 12, bound for Atlin. The sloop was found bottom up by the Indians, and it is feared that all hands were lost. News is also brought of the wreck of the schooner Ohio, off Victoria. No lives lost.

MULES FOR THE ARMY.

Ship Tacoma Will Take Them to Honolulu En Route to Manila.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—The ship Tacoma will sail today for Honolulu with 111 army mules on board. At Honolulu the mules will be turned out for a few weeks' exercise, and will then be reshipped, along with 200 mules and horses already in Honolulu, and will then be taken to Manila for the use of the United States troops stationed there. In addition to the live stock, the Tacoma carries in her hold a large assortment of wagons, dump carts, grading plows and earthings, necessary in the work of improving the roads in the Philippines.

Lieutenant J. O'Shea, of the Fourth United States cavalry, is in charge of the live stock on the Tacoma.

ON A CASH BASIS.

Portland is Able to Cancel Outstanding Warrants.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—A second dispatch received by Manager Dooley, of the Wells, Fargo's bank, shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon announced the delivery of Portland's $430,000 funding bonds to Rudolph, Kleybolte & Co. in New York, and the availability of the money.

The money was at once placed to the credit of City Treasurer Hacheney, at the Wells, Fargo bank, and the official lost no time in preparing a call for city warrants in order to stop interest.

The first warrants called in were the lamp fund warrants, amounting to $76,155.58. These were called in today, and before noon nearly $60,000 of them were redeemed. One man, August G. Klosterman, alone held $50,000 of these warrants.

The total amount of money placed to the credit of the city is $537,909.45. Of this amount $430,000 represents the face of the bonds, $106,774.63 the premium, and $1134.20 the accrued interest, which was figured up to December 20.

All of the other outstanding city warrants will be called in tomorrow.

To Relieve Volunteers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—Major General Merriam has ordered that the work of preparing the transport Scandia for another voyage to Manila be rushed to completion. By the first of next week he expects to telegraph the war department that he will be ready within 10 days to have the Twentieth United States infantry come here from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to board the Scandia for the Philippines.

Tacoma Vets Displeased.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 21.—Leading G. A. R. men of this city denounce President McKinley for wearing a Confederate badge while in the South. Decisive action will be taken at the next meeting of the post.

A lot of newspapers and some very prominent men are making holy shows of themselves kicking about "expansion." While we do not believe the absorbation of the Philippines will be beneficial to the people of the United States generally, for it will cost more than the advantages to be gained are worth, still there is no use kicking against fate, and we had as well accept the situation without grumbling. The American people as a rule want the Philippines, and there is no use opposing the wishes of the majority.

Ex-Secretary Sherman intimates that if he had been let alone he would have purchased Cuba from Spain and prevented the recent war. Possibly he might have, but by so doing he would have deprived his party of a whole lot of unearned glory. Mr. Sherman should not tell secrets this way, for he should know that party is always above everything else with those in high positions.

President McKinley is making quite a hit on his tour of the South, because the people honor the office he holds, but he is not doing much good for himself in a political way. While he is junketing Reed and Roosevelt are saying nothing but sawing wood, and are laying plans to take the nomination of 1900 away from the president.

Fine Assortment of Solid Gold Jewelry.

Ladies' 14-k solid gold watches.

Ladeis' 14-k solid gold watch chains, long.

Ladies' 14-k solid gold breast pins and earrings.

Ladies' solid gold wedding rings.

Ladies' 14-k solid gold fancy set rings.

Gents' or ladies' solid gold cuff buttons.

Diamond and Emerald rings.

1857 Roger Bros. knives and forks.

All first class goods at,

d w T. A. VAN NORDEN'S

PIN HOLES IN THE CHECKS.

Only One of the Cashier's Precautions Overlooked by the Forger.

In the course of a lecture delivered recently on chemical tests used in discovering by the ink the age of documents, and whether there have been interpolations, Prof. C. A. Doremus told of a curious discovery in the case of a raised check, made by his father, who is an expert in chemistry and in documents. The interests involved in this case, says the New York Sun, were very large, and it was not practicable that the original check should be tampered with or chemically treated. For purposes of testimony an enlarged photograph of the check was taken by Dr. Doremus, who was called as an expert in the case. The first trial resulted in no decision, and on the second trial, what purported to be the original check was produced. It was handed to the cashier of the bank for identification. He examined it and said:

"This is not the original check."

"How do you know that?" demanded the amazed lawyer.

"Because in the heading of the original check I pricked a hole in the center of each of the 'o's' with a pin," was the reply. "This check has not those holes."

In all other respects the check seemed to be identical. The court called for Dr. Doremus' photograph to be produced. It plainly showed the pin holes. Upon this the lawyer for the defense threw up his case, and the guilty substitutor of the false check fled the country.

THE HARDEST-WORKED WOMAN

In the Land Is the Mistress of the White House.

The author of a series of letters, giving "The Inner Experiences of a Cabinet Member's Wife," in the Ladies' Home Journal, gives some new and exceedingly frank glimpses of Washington official life. The letters are undated, therefore the administration cannot be identified. She says of a president's wife, in a letter to her sister, to whom all the missives are indited: "The worst of living in the white house is the lack of privacy and room. The first lady of the land is about the hardest-worked woman in America in many ways. The present lovely incumbent has more leisure than most of those who have occupied the place, because she knows no more about the domestic arrangements than if she lived in a hotel. Everything is turned over to a housekeeper, who does not even report to Mrs. President. The president's wife has not the luxuries nor convenience of ordinary rich people living in large cities. Her quarters are circumscribed, and she is besieged by reporters, especially during the first year, while the mere reading of her letters received every day is a heavy task, although she has a secretary to help her out. This Mrs. President does not even receive the reports of the head steward, the chief official servant of the household. It is said that he went to her not long ago to ask her advice about getting rat poison to kill the numerous rat and mice occupants of the white house (be it said in shame of the nation), and she told him his province was to keep everything disagreeable hidden from her—from rats to ghosts. That settled Mr. Steward."

WHY THE COWS LIKED TO LOOK.

She Was No Longer Sensitive About Her Large Feet.

They were in a St. Louis shoe store the other day, says the Sunday Republic, and this is what was overheard. The speaker was an elegantly dressed woman with a smiling face. She was a large woman and the shoe clerk was looking for a comfortable shoe for her.

"You know I have such long feet," she said to her friend. "The size of my feet was a great trial to me. The children at home always teased me, and I often cried because they were so ugly. At 14 my feet were as large as they are now.

"An old neighbor of ours, who lived on an adjoining farm, was something of a wag. He was more of a hunter than a farmer, and he often teased us children. He would rather talk to us than to our elders.

"One day he said to me: 'The cows are glad when they see you walking 'round, Molly.'

"'Why?' said I.

"'Because when they look at your feet they know their hide will never have to be cut. It will take a whole hide to make a shoe for you.'"

Do You Know

Consumption is preventable? Science has proven that, and also that neglect is suicidal. The worst cold or cough can be cured with Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure. Sold on positive guarantee for over fifty years. Blakeley & Houghton, druggists.

We Have no 11-Cent Business

For a catch, but we have good well-made clothing manufactured for city trade, and one-third or one-half off cannot reach our prices for the same quality of goods. All we ask is a call and we will convince you that we sell better clothing for less money than any store here in The Dalles.

NOTE OUR PRICES.

Men's

Melton, kersey, cassimere overcoats, in blue or black, worsted lining, double raised seams, single or double-breasted, a coat sold all over the country at $12.50; our price	$ 5.50
Men's satin-lined overcoats, latest cut, double stitched and raised seams, guaranteed all-wool, elsewhere $12.00; on sale here at	$ 7.50
Men's Ulsters, Irish frieze, blue or black, cut extra long, large storm collar, handsomely lined, equal to the finest tailored garment in every respect, and sold elsewhere at $18.00, on sale here at	$10.00
All-wool, worsted and cassimere, single-breasted, round sack suit, handsomely tailored, made especially for our trade, so we can guarantee it. Sold everywhere else at $12.00; on sale here at	$ 5.50

Boys'

Ulsters, large storm collar, cut extra long, worth $6; on sale here at	$2.75
Boys' cape coats, cut extra long, for ages 6 to 15 years, guaranted all-wool, a garment that we'll put up against any $6 coat in the city; on sale here at	$2.50
Boys' all-wool cheviot and cassimere suits, blue and black, fast colors, double-breasted, handsome, dressy garments for boys from 6 to 15 years old, on sale elsewhere at $5; here for	$2.25
Young men's Washington all-wool cheviot suits, ages 12 to 19 years, double-breasted, double stitched, seams and edges sewed with silk, sold everywhere else at $12.50; on sale here at	$3.50

Underwear and hats we will guarantee better quality for less money than can be had anywhere else in the city.

Remember the name and place--Johnston's old stand, 166 Second Street, The Dalles, Oregon.

The White House Clothing Company, of Portland.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CLOTHIERS.

Mail orders promptly attended to. If goods do not suit can be returned at our expense.