GENERAL NEWS.

Richard Chamberlain, brother of Joseph Chamberlain, is dead at London.

The plague is raging in Formosa, and 232 deaths have occurred since January 1.

Germany is said to be concentrating a fleet at Amoy, with the intention of seizing Futsien.

George Schwegeler fell from a log at Hoquiam, Wash., on Tuesday and was instantly killed.

Baroness Hirsch, widow of the late Baron Hirsch, the Hebrew philanthropist, is dead in Paris.

A receivership for the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf railroad has been granted at Kansas City.

Mayor S. M. Jones was re-elected in Toledo, Ohio, on a platform favoring municipal ownership of public utilities.

Warren Leland, proprietor of the burned Windsor hotel, at New York, is on the verge of death from appendicitis.

Turkish and Bulgarian frontier guards have collided in Eastern Roumania, and both sides suffered severely.

A report of the effects of the gun-fire of Dewey's ships May 1 last shows that 167 Spaniards were killed and 214 wounded.

White flags are being waved all around Malolos, by rebels who have deserted Aguinaldo, and who wish to surrender.

William A. Philips, son of an Indian missionary, has been arrested for insanity in Oakland, Cal. Overstudy is the cause.

A proclamation calling for the unconditional surrender of the Filipinos has been issued by the Philippine commission at Manila.

The trial of Mrs. Anna E. George, on a charge of having murdered George D. Saxton, Mrs. McKinley's brother, began at Canton Tuesday.

The president has signed a proclamation opening to settlement May 4 the larger portion of the Southern Ute reservation, in Colorado.

James F. Elwood, of Brooklyn, New York, fell dead in the betting ring at Bennings after cashing a ticket on Tuttut, winner of the third race.

United States Consul Williams, at Manila, denies that he ever promised the Filipinos independence as soon as the islands were taken from Spain.

Brigadier-General Reeves, Thirteenth Minnesota, and Captain Saxton, formerly of General King's staff, have returned from Manila, having resigned.

The report that Captain May, of the Hong Kong police, had been captured by Chinese, proves to have been erroneous. The captain has arrived at Hong Kong.

At Washington on Monday the United States supreme court rendered a decision declaring the war revenue tax constitutional. Justice Peckham handed down the decision.

It is said Aguinaldo will abandon the attempt to keep up a fight in Luzon and transfer his attempts to the islands of Mindanao, Cebu and others of the southern archipelago.

The jury in the case of W. M. Brandes, at Oakland, Cal., accused of beating his daughter to death, Saturday brought in a verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree.

The rival committees, which for several days have wrangled over the "dollar dinner," at which William J. Bryan is to be present, have met and adjusted all differences.

The Dominion government has no official advices of the alleged refusal of the United States customs collector at Skaguay to allow Canadian goods to pass through Alaska in bond.

The town and city election at Hartford, Conn., on Monday was distinguished by general apathy and a light vote. The common council will stand 43 republican to 17 democrats.

The work of searching the ruins of the Windsor hotel in New York for dead bodies has been completed. The known dead now number 45, and several persons are still missing.

Miss Mary Wilson, a prominent young society woman of Augusta, Kan., committed suicide on learning that Alva Dix, her lover, had been killed on the battlefield of Malolos.

Samuel Haller, 38 years old, a ticket-seller with Buffalo Bill's wild west show, was shot and probably mortally wounded by William H. Holland, at New York, Sunday afternoon.

The battleship Iowa at present at the Union iron works, San Francisco, undergoing repairs, has been ordered to proceed to Manila to relieve the Oregon. She will sail in about three weeks.

Thomas H. Cooley, late cashier of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Milwaukee railroad, waived bonds and examination at Omaha on the charge of embezzling $36,000 of the company's money.

Indian Agent Wright, on the Yuma reservation, has telegraphed United States Marshal Osborne that there is trouble among the Indians. The marshal will go to the reservation to investigate.

At San Antonia, Texas, Saturday Charles I. Ware of Fort Worth sold to Humphrey & Critz of Nebraska 1000 head of cattle for $18,000, or $18 per head. Delivery will begin May 15 for shipment to Nebraska.

George Leonard Andrews, brevet major general, retired, formerly professor of modern languages at West Point military academy, died of heart trouble in Brookline, Mass., Tuesday. He was 70 years of age.

General Brooke has been notified to suit his convenience regarding the sending home of volunteers remaining in Cuba, and he may retain them until the payment of the $3,000,000 to the Cuban soldiers is executed.

It was reiterated Sunday night by two members of the cabinet at Washington that no consideration will be paid to any proposition for money for the Cuban army outside the $3,000,000 fund now awaiting their acceptance.

W. F. Bechel, late auditor of the Pacific Express company, who was arrested at Omaha, tried and acquitted of the charge of embezzling the funds of the company, has brought suit for $40,000 damages, alleging malicious prosecution.

The navy department has formally ordered the publication of the advertisements for proposals for bids for the 4,000 tons of armorplate authorized under the naval appropriation bills of 1898 and 1899. The bids are to be opened May 31.

State Superintendent of Insurance Orear of Missouri has levied a tax of 2 per cent on the premium of foreign insurance companies doing business in Missouri. The total tax amounts to $243,815, an increase of $10,500 over that levied last year.

The democrats carried Keokuk, Iowa, on Monday by 75, electing mayor, marshal, judge and four aldermen. The city council stands even, with a democratic mayor, making the city administration democratic. The republicans won two years ago by 125.

At Minneapolis, John McGraw, a miller, shot and killed his landlady, Mrs. Stacy Miller. He then shot himself, dying instantly. The woman was divorced, and McGraw had boarded with her for some time. Jealousy is supposed to have been the motive.

H. C. Lathrop, a brother of Mrs. Leland Stanford, is dead. He had been ill for the past eight years, which fact caused him to resign the position of agent for the steamers which ply the Sacramento river and remove from that city to San Francisco where he died.

An order retiring Rear-Admiral Robeson, U. S. N., was issued Wednesday.

The first cherries of the season have been shipped from California to Chicago.

Thirty thousand Spanish reserves have been called out to cope with the impending Carlist uprising.

The available cash balance in the United States treasury is $281,130,778 and the gold reserve $243,294,669.

A man named Tourret was shot and killed at Paris Friday by a man who mistook him for President Loubet.

Fire at San Francisco Friday night destroyed the hardware house of Miller, Sloss & Scott. Loss, $100,000.

President McKinley will probably visit the Yellowstone park in July or August if public business will admit of it.

A second inventory of the Adolph Sutro estate has been completed at San Francisco, the estate is worth $2,743,127.

Fitzsimmons and Jeffries have been matched to fight 25 rounds before the Coney Island Club, May 26, for $20,000.

Vice President Hobart has been suffering from an attack of grip and is confined to his room and unable to see anyone.

General Lee will be made governor-general of Havana and Pinar del Rio provinces, according to present plans of the war department.

It is expected that the Cuban assembly will dissolve next Saturday, when control of the army will pass to Gomez and his generals.

William Mills, who murdered his wife, has been discharged at Vinita, I. T., as no court in the territory has jurisdiction over the Indians.

Fire on Wednesday completely destroyed the Howard block and slightly damaged the Hines Bros. hotel in Hartford, Conn. Loss $75,000.

Battery E, of the Third regiment of artillery of the United States regular army, stationed at Jefferson barracks, Missouri, has been ordered to Manila.

It can be announced on the best authority that the English government fully consents to the absolute control of the Nicaragua canal by the United States.

Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy has been convicted of murder in the first degree, for the murder of "Dolly" Reynolds, in New York city. Dr. Kennedy was a well known dentist.

General Brooke has about decided to ship the $3,000,000 intended for the Cuban troops back to the United States unless the Cuban assembly gives up the army muster rolls at once.

The lower house of the Colorado legislature adopted a joint memorial to congress against the seating of Congressman-elect Roberts, of Utah. The memorial had one vote to spare.

James Hamilton Lewis says Tammany sends a message to the democrats of the West saying it will support Bryan or any other man nominated next year, in the interest of harmony.

George Byers, of Boston, got the decision over Charlie Goff of Oregon, in the second round of what was to have been a twenty round bout at the Broadway club Monday night in New York.

The April report of the Orange Judd Farmer makes general winter wheat average 82.1, compared with 89 last year. This is the lowest average since the beginning of the service, in 1894.

Z. L. Kipling, the father of Rudyard Kipling, has arrived in New York from London on a visit to his son, who is still confined to his room and recovering from a severe attack of pneumonia.

The land department of the Union Pacific road has just completed one of the largest deals of recent years, by which it sells 28,000 acres of land east of Fort Steele, Wyo., to Cosgrove Bros., sheepmen.

Battery F, Fifth artillery, now stationed at Fort Hamilton, and battery F, Fourth artillery, now stationed at Fort Adams, will start from Jersey City for San Francisco on Monday, en route to Manila.

The so-called Cuban assembly proposes to pay the soldiers $3,000,000, rather than have the United States pay them, and thus lose all prestige. They are in an ugly good, and are trying to foment strife.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS

The presbytery of the Willamette valley met at Corvallis, Benton county, Tuesday.

Jacob Slagal, a pioneer of 1852, died at Monroe, Benton county, Monday, aged 69 years.

Cornelius, aged 50, died suddenly at St. Joseph's hospital in Vancouver, Wash., Tuesday.

Woodburn's city election Monday resulted in a victory for the friends of the new charter.

Justice Snyder, at Dayton, held John Moore to answer before the grand jury for pointing a shotgun at Ray Martin.

A powder car on the Great Northern blew up at Everett, Wash., on Sunday, killing one tramp and injuring two others.

Miss Carrie Rogers was married to William Blackman at Olympia yesterday. The bride is a daughter of Governor Rogers of Washington.

The cracker trust, with a capital of $10,000,000 will soon be in operation on the Pacific coast. It will control nine cracker factories and throw a number of people out of employment.

S. B. Eakin has resigned the position of cashier of the First National bank, at Eugene, and been elected to the office of vice-president, newly created. P. Snodgrass succeeds him as cashier.

There are two B. F. Smiths, of Portland, at Manila. Both are juniors. The news has reached Portland that B. F. Smith, jr., was wounded in battle. The friends of each man in Portland are wondering which one of the Smiths is wounded, but are unable to find out.

In Albany, Linn county, every store carrying two or more kinds of stocks of goods shall be considered a general merchandise store and taxed $20 where the sales do not exceed $10,000, between $10,000 and $20,000 the tax to be $30, and over $20 000 $50, under which there can be only one tax on a single business.

A Whim of Senator Clark.

Senator Clark, of Montana, sailed for Europe from New York, on March 14, his daughter, Miss Clark, sailed on the 8th of March; another daughter, Mrs. Culver, sailed on March 18 and his son Charles sailed on March 15. It is said the members of the family sailing separately was premeditated, for the protection of Clark's princely fortune and the prevention of legal entanglements, to insure the succession properly of his millions and to guard against the possible loss by shipwreck of more than one member of his family.

Brigadier General D. W. Flagler, chief of ordnance, United States army, after many weeks of suffering from rheumatism, which recently developed acute and distressing phases, passed away Wednesday at the Hygeia hotel, at Old Point, Virginia. The general's wife and daughter were constantly at his bedside during the past week. General Flagler was a New Yorker by birth. He entered the military academy at West Point in 1857.

Ernest Frech, near Hillsboro, Washington county, pointed a pistol at George Holzheimer, a neighbor, with whom he had had trouble. The deputy district attorney filed an information against him. When Frech heard it he secreted himself and committed suicide.

SOME NATIONAL TOPICS.

The battle of the Jefferson birthday dinners now raging in New York is watched with the liveliest interest by politicians all over the country. It is an episode that may have a serious and lasting influence upon the future political history of the United States and is sure to have a decided bearing upon the presidential campaign next year. Hence the interest of the politicians. Nowhere is the potency of a good dinner as a smoother of difficulties, political or diplomatic, more fully recognized than at the national capital. The story of how General Scott, by means of a timely dinner, averted war between the United States and Great Britain over the disputed northeastern boundary, when the militia of Maine and New Brunswick were already in the field with hostile intent, is still told.

It must be confessed that the politicians in the national capital if they had a chance, would take the $10-a-plate dinner rather than the $1-a-plate. This without any regard to any possible principle that may be involved, but wholly because they are aware that $10 will buy a much more gorgeous repast than $1, no matter who pays the scot. The interest felt as to these rival dinners is not so much as to their respective bills of fare, or "maynoos," as Mr. Dooley might say, as in the Bryan-Belmont battle of words. Bryan has read Belmont, Croker and all who attend their $10 dinner out of the democratic party. Belmont counters heavily by likening Bryan to an organ grinder who plays one tune all the time and says he can't hold the crowd against a fight or a fire down the street. Bryan is sparring for wind, though he has recovered sufficiently to accept the invitation to the $1 feast.

The silver faction of the democratic party still controls it and it is evident by its plan, if it has the power in the convention next year, and no politician has any doubt that it will, to elect in New York and other states where the regular organization is unfriendly to silver, delegations composed of men who accept the Chicago platform without any ifs or ands and seat them, throwing out the other delegations. In short, the silver democrats are determined to make the campaign next year upon the same issue as in 1896 and to use their power in convention arbitrarily if necessary to secure the platform and candidates of their choice. Every political arithmetician figures that the silver democrats will have two-thirds of the convention without throwing out a single delegation. Nevertheless, it is the common belief in Washington that they will throw out dissenting delegates anyway, for the purpose of securing harmony of opinion and unanimity of action.

* * *

Congressman Sulzer, whose chief pride in life is that he looks like Henry Clay, and who represents Tammany district and is a silver man, announces his intention of attending both the $10 and $1 banquets. Sulzer has also announced his intention of being a candidate for the democratic caucus nomination for speaker of the house next session, this nomination carrying with it the leadership of the minority on the floor. So far as the time when these dinners will be pulled off is concerned he can easily attend both. The high tariff feast will come off on the night of April 13, Jefferson's birthday, while the low tariff feed is billed for the night of April 19, having been postponed to enable Bryan to fill lecture engagements previously made. Sulzer must think that by absorbing $11 worth of Jefferson dinners he will be enabled to catch votes for that coveted leadership a-gwine and a-comin'. But before attending the $10 affair he would better get a dispensation from Bryan, or he may not be admitted to the $1 one. Sulzer is one of the most amusing statesmen that an admiring constituency ever sent to Washington.

* * *

The day that Bryan's acceptance of the invitation to attend the dollar layout was published, the Washington Post printed in an adjoining column an interview with J. Sterling Morton, secretary of agriculture in Cleveland's second administration, advising the formation of a new party with the Indianapolis platform as a basis. He thought that such a party by drawing from both the democratic and republican parties would, after a few trial heats, win the presidential sweepstakes over the entries of both the old organizations. He suggests making the race with either Edmunds or Cleveland up, though perhaps only his modesty prevented his hinting at himself. So far as noticed there has been no response to this suggestion. Mr. Morton charges against the republican party that it has not redeemed its promises as to the reformation of our currency system and says congress should make a positive declaration putting the United States on a definite gold basis. A resolution of congress to that effect could be repealed by any succeeding congress.

Just how the republican party could reform the currency with a senate that had a majority opposed to any monetary legislation except the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 Mr. Morton discreetly refrains from attempting to explain.

* * *

While Morton is suggesting a new party of gold men, Eltweed Pomeroy of Newark, N. J., president of the National Direct Legislation League, is working hard to get a new party going. He proposes to have a conference at Buffalo, N. Y., from June 28 to July 3, both inclusive. The proceedings of this conference will be interesting, but if the plans of the committee in charge are carried out the representatives of newspapers will be excluded, the managers of the scheme saying that such reports of the proceedings as they think desirable will be furnished to the press. No star-chamber political party has met with any success in this country since the early days of know-nothingism. And it is rather late in the nineteenth century to start a political party in the United States with a press censor attachment. The conference will call together a fine collection of men with crotchets. The list of people who are helping Pomeroy begins with Pingree and ends with William Dean Howells. It includes two United States senators, Pettigrew and Butler; two former governors, Altgeld and St. John; two mayors, Josiah Quincy of Boston and Jones of Toledo, Ohio: men like Debs and "Coin" Harvey, one negro, Booker T. Washington, and one woman, Mrs. Stevens, president of the W. C. T. U. It will undoubtedly be a rare and radiant gathering, but they make a mistake in shutting out the newspaper reporters. What the public will want will be an uncensored report of their proceedings.

* * *

Colonel Harry C. Egbert of the Twenty-second regular infantry, who was killed in the fighting about Manila last week, was a native of Pennsylvania. He was appointed from that state first lieutenant of the Twelfth regular infantry September 23, 1861. He served with that regiment throughout the civil war, becoming captain April 1, 1865, having meantime been brevetted captain for "gallant services in the battle of North Anna, Va.," and major for "gallant services in the battle of Bethesda Church, Va." He was promoted major of the Seventeenth infantry April 23, 1890, lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Infantry May 18, 1893, and colonel of the Twenty-second last year. He was brevetted brigadier general last year for gallant service in this war. He held the highest rank of any officer thus far killed since the outbreak of the Spanish war.

THE MEANING OF LIFE.

"What, then, is the meaning of life—of life absolutely and inevitably bounded by death? To me it seems intelligible only as the avenue and vestibule to another life. And its facts seem only explainable upon a theory which cannot be expressed but in myths and symbols and which everywhere and at all times, the myths and symbols in which men have tried to portray their deepest perceptions do in some form express.—Lo! here, now, in our civilized society, the old allegories yet have a meaning, the old myths are still true. Into the Valley of the Shadow of Death yet often leads the path of duty, through the streets of Vanity Fair walk Christian and Faithful, and on Greatheart's armor ring the clanging blows. Ormuzd still fights with Ahrimon—the Prince of Light with the Powers of Darkness. He who will hear, to him the clarions of the battle call. How they call, and call, and call, till the heart swells that hears them! Strong soul and high endeavor, the world needs them now. Beauty still lies imprisoned, and iron wheels go over the good and true and beautiful that might spring from human lives. And they who fight with Ormuzd, though they may not know each other—somewhere, sometime, will the muster roll be called."—Henry George.

THE MYSTERIOUS CRAFT.

The Vessel from Nowhere Bound to Nowhere to Be Sold.

The Scipio, a craft from nowhere, bound to nowhere, flying no flag, ownerless and crewless, is to be sold to the highest bidder at the Brooklyn navy yard by the United States government. A board has been appointed to examine the ship, which lies at the yard. The board will determine as to how to dispose of her.

The board will perform a similar duty with respect to the steamer Niagara, which is also at the Brooklyn yard. This was bought by the government from the Ward line during the Spanish war.

At the outbreak of hostilities, agents of the government were engaged in buying ships and war munitions in England. The beginning of actual warfare found some of the deals incomplete, England being a neutral power, these incompleted deals could not be pushed through—that is to say, apparently not. Soon after the beginning of hostilities, a steamship in perfect trim from stem to stern, with furnace fires burning, with steam up but without a soul on board, was found adrift off the coast of Newfoundland, found by a United States ship, too, oddly enough. The crewless ship was the Scipio.

She flew no flag, and there was not so much as a scrap of paper to be found aboard her to indicate where she sailed from, where she was sailing to, or who owned her. She was a mystery of the deep. The Scipio carried a cargo of coal, but never did such strange things come out of a cargo of coal as came from the depths of the anthracite piled in the hold. There were guns, fine modern affairs of English make, Maxims, Hotchkiss cannon, field pieces and other ordnance, together with ammunition.

Just how the Scipio came to be found adrift with such an opportune cargo by a United States ship has never been told—officially. The Scipio has been at the Brooklyn navy yard since she was picked up adrift on the high seas.

Of course it was pre-arranged she could be "picked" up by agents of the United States government, as at the time, owing to the restrictions of the neutrality laws, a sale could not be effected in the ordinary way.

CHASED WITH $100,000.

Messenger, Hunted for Two Weeks, Brings Back the Money.

"There died in Kansas City, Kan., the other day," says George Martin, "a quiet, unobtrusive, modest and never-boastful citizen. He came from a Pennsylvania regiment in 1864, and he became a messenger for the Holliday Express Company, running from Leavenworth to Santa Fe. W. H. Bridgens, the messenger referred to, on one of his trips had $100,000 in greenbacks strapped about his person and secreted in his clothes. There was no one but him and the driver in charge of the coach, and for days they proceeded along their lonesome journey without seeing a human face. When yet many miles from Santa Fe they were overtaken by a howling band of Indians and a fierce battle was fought. Bridgens and his companion exhausted their ammunition and continued the fight with their knives. Finally they succeeded in unloosing their horses from the stage, and quickly mounting them fled through the timber. The savages gave chase and succeeded in separating the two men, but did not capture either of them. Mr. Bridgens still retained his treasure, but he lost his way among the crags and canons, and it was more than two weeks before he found his way to the house of a white man. During all this time he subsisted entirely upon berries and herbs. His long absence caused his employers to believe that he had been robbed and killed by the Indians and before his return they had made good the money they had given up as lost. When Mr. Bridgens returned with his precious burden still intact they were amazed, and so grateful were they that they presented their young agent with a handsome token of their appreciation.

WHEN DEMOCRACY WILL DIE.

In reply to the repeated republican assertion that the democratic party is dead, some unknown Hickory democrat has put into verse the conditions under which and the time when democracy will die:

When the lion eats grass like an ox,
And the fishworm swallows the whale;
When the terrapins knit woolen socks,
And the hair is outrun by the snail;
When serpents walk upright like men,
And doodle bugs travel like frogs;
When the grasshopper feeds on the hen,
And feathers are found upon hogs;
When Thomas cats swim in the air,
And elephants roost upon trees;
When insects in summer are rare,
And snuff never makes people sneeze;
When fish creep over dry land,
And mules on velocipedes ride;
When foxes lay eggs in the sand,
And women in dress take no pride;
When Dutchmen no longer drink beer,
And girls get to preaching on time;
When the billy goat butts from the rear,
And treason no longer is crime;
When the humming bird brays like an ass,
And limburger smell like cologne;
When plow shares are made out of glass,
And hearts of Illinoisans are stone;
When sense grows in republican heads,
And wool on the hydraulic ram;
Then the democratic party will be dead,
And this country not worth a d—n.

The Monitor as a Fighter.

Monitors, in a large degree, are vessels in which engineers may take special interest, and I am a great believer in their efficacy when properly used. In the Spanish-American war, their record is considered to have been a poor one, but this, in my judgment, was because they were diverted to uses for which they were never intended. They are purposely designed for operating near the coast, and have neither the speed nor the coal supply to enable them to make long cruises. A gallant captain of the United States navy stated that, if given the command of the Monterey, he would be ready to fight any battleship afloat. I certainly do not advocate the building of monitors to the exclusion of vessels intended for the high seas, but as coast-defenders I believe they have no superiors. — Engineer-in-Chief G. W. Melville, in The Engineering Magazine for March.

Brigadier General Merriam has been ordered to command the department of Missouri in addition to his duties as commandant of the department of Colorado.

The Canadian government proposes to build a telegraph line from Lake Bennett to Dawson immediately.

THE PHILIPPINE PROBLEM.

A letter bearing the date of February 4, and signed by 100 or more of the most prominent men of Boston, headed by ex-Governor S. Boutwell, commending the attitude in congress of Senator Hoar and inviting him to address them at a future date, was made public a few days ago.

Accompanying it is the letter of acknowledgment from Senator Hoar, in which he says:

"I do not think there is any reason personal to me for holding such a public meeting. Undoubtedly there should be, and there will be, many public meetings the country over to protest against trampling under foot the rights of a brave people struggling for their liberties, the violations of the principles of our own constitution and of the declaration of independence, and the continuance by the American people in the costly and the ruinous path which has brought other republics to ruin and shame, which will dishonor labor, place intolerable burdens upon agriculture and fasten upon the republic the shame of what President McKinley has so lately and truthfully declared to be criminal aggression.

"But I think it will be wiser to have meetings of that character a little later rather than just now. We do not yet know whether the present war for the subjugation of the people of the Philippines is to continue indefinitely, or whether there is to be a speedy submission to the overwhelming power of the United States. If the war shall shortly be ended, we shall then be able to discuss the question of our national duty free from the disturbing influences which exist always when the country is at war. If, on the other hand, the war shall long and indefinitely continue, the people will begin to feel the burden of increased debt and increased taxation, the loss of life and health of our youth, and the derangement of trade and peaceful industry."

* * *

Senator Hoar says further:

"The blood of the slaughtered Filipinos, the blood and the wasted health of the life of our own soldiers, is upon the heads of those who have undertaken to buy a people in the market like sheep or to treat them as lawful prize and booty of war, to impose a government on them without their consent and to trample under foot not only the people of the Philippines but the principles upon which the American republic itself rests. * * * The law of righteousness and justice, on which the great and free American people should act, and in the end I am sure will act, depends not upon parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude or points of the compass. It is the same yesterday, today and forever. It is as true now as when our fathers declared it in 1776. It is as binding upon William McKinley today as it was upon George Washington or Abraham Lincoln. The only powers of government the American people can recognize are just powers, and those powers rest upon the consent of the governed.

* * *

"No man during this whole discussion has successfully challenged, and no man will successfully challenge, first, the affirmation that under the constitution of the United States the acquisition of territory, as of other property, is not a constitutional end, but only a means to a constitutional end; and that, while the making of new states and providing a national defense are constitutional ends so that we may acquire and hold territory for those purposes, the government of subject peoples is not a constitutional warrant for acquiring and holding territory for that purpose.

"Second, that to leave our own country to stand on foreign soil is in violation of warnings of our fathers and the farewell address of Washington.

"Third, that there was never a tropical country governed with any tolerable success without a system of contract labor.

"Fourth, the trade advantages of the Philippine islands, if there be any, must be opened alike to all the world, and that our share of them will never begin to pay the cost of subjugating them by war or holding them in subjugation in peace.

"Fifth, that the military occupation of these tropical regions must be kept at an immense cost both to the souls and the bodies of our soldiers.

"Sixth, that the declaration as to Cuba by the president and by congress applies with stronger force to the case of the Philippine islands.

"Seventh, that Aguinaldo and his followers, before we began to make war upon them, had conquered their own territory and independence from Spain with the exception of a single city, and were getting ready to establish a free constitution.

"Eighth, that while they are fighting for freedom and independence and the doctrines of our fathers, we are fighting for the principle that one people may control and govern another in spite of its resistance and against its will.

"Ninth, that the language and arguments of those who object to this war, are without change, the language and arguments of Chatham, of Fox, of Burke, of Barre, of Camden and of the English and American whigs, and the language and arguments of those who support it are the language and argument of George III., of Lord North, and of the English and American stories.

"Tenth, no orator or newspaper or preacher, being a supporter of this policy of subjugation dares repeat in speech or in print any of the great utterances of freedom of Washington, of Jefferson, of John Adams, of Abraham Lincoln or of Charles Sumner.

* * *

"The question the American people are now considering and with which they are about to deal is not a question of a day or of a year, or of an administration or of a century. It is to affect and largely determine the whole history of the country. We can recover from a mistake in regard to other matters which have interested or divided the people, however important or serious. Tariffs and currency and revenue laws, even foreign wars, all these, as Thomas Jefferson said, 'are billows which will pass under the ship.' But if the republic is to violate the law of its being, if it is to be converted into an empire, not only the direction of voyage is to be changed, but the chart and the compass are to be thrown away. We have not as yet taken the irrevocable step. Before it is taken let the voice of the whole people be heard.

"I am, with high regard, faithfully yours,

"GEORGE F. HOAR."

SOLDIERS NEEDED IN CUBA.

It has been calculated by officials of the war department that it would require 50,000 American soldiers to garrison and police Cuba properly, and the same officials report that it will be well nigh impossible to get the required number by voluntary enlistment. Most of the new recruits have their eyes turned toward the Philippines. There is the promise of active service, of strange and varied adventure, whose description will fascinate our modern Desdemonas. It is a pitiful warrior who after a sojourn in those parts will not be able to speak

* * * Of most disastrous chances,
Of moving accidents by flood and field;
Of hair-breadth 'scapes i' th' imminent deadly breach.

* * *

Cuba, dull, quiet and peaceful, robbed of her romance, seems woefully commonplace by comparison. But we take it that the very preference which the recruits express is a fairly good sign that Cuba is not in great need of their services. The law of supply and demand is at work here as it is in the markets. Whatever the officials of the war department may say, Cuban conditions do not call for 50,000 men. The inhabitants have caused a surprisingly little trouble since the inception of the American regime. To all outward appearance we have even now accomplished among them the greater part of the task which we set out to perform at the beginning of the Spanish war. There remains only the duty of preparing the way for an independent government, and this cannot be long delayed, because the Cubans are already in a position to demand it as a right.

* * *

It is they who should be put at the work of policing the island and it is to our interest as well as to theirs that they should be employed for this purpose before American control has ceased. If they are given the drill and experience under American administrators and American officers the chances for the continuance of an orderly government after our withdrawal will be materially increased.

* * *

In considering the question it should never be forgotten that the Cuban problem and the Filipino problem are radically different. There have never been any hostilities between Americans and Cubans, and henceforth our occupation is merely a matter of expediency, for we have conceded the principle of self-government. Clearly then it should be our policy to recall our troops gradually down to a safe minimum, which will certainly be considerably below the original department estimate.—Chicago Times-Herald.

THE GREAT PACIFIC.

The Pacific slope, if it had a fair show, would be the busiest section of the United States. Civilization has turned its eyes at length to the world's greatest ocean, destined to be the home of the world's greatest commerce. California, with its orchards and vineyards, oil and wines, is the France of America; Oregon and Washington, with their coal and iron, wool and lumber, hops and flax, are its Britain. Here is one element of trade. Across the ocean is the other element, the teeming millions of Asia, but now starting up to civilized life.

* * *

Somebody is going to do business with awakening Asia. The United States can do it, acting from its Pacific base, if it will. But apparently it will leave it for others. What government can do to help the Pacific slope to do this business, or, more correctly speaking, what steps it can take to get itself out of the way, so that the business can be done without government aid, it refuses to do. Congress forbids trade between the United States and Asia.

* *

Trade on the Pacific slope is under the ban of congress, put there from studied purpose of a conspiracy on the Atlantic seaboard. The parties to the conspiracy are three—the sugar trust, the Canadian Pacific and New England traders.

The United States cannot carry on the business of a nation respectably without the Nicaragua canal. But the canal will benefit the Pacific coast. So New England traders, operating chiefly through the speaker of the national house of representatives, defeat the canal.

War revenue demanded a tax on tea and coffee. But a tax on coffee would equip the Arbuckles with effective power against the sugar trust; so the sugar trust secures the removal of the tax on coffee, and tea, which comes across the Pacific to the Pacific ports, is taxed 10 cents a pound.

* *

Such business as comes to the United States from Asia could come via United States ports if the discriminating duty clause of the Dingley law were enforced. But this would injure the Canadian Pacific, and as anything that benefits the people of the United States at the expense of the Canadian Pacific is anathema maranatha in the eyes of the American government, the discriminating duty clause was set aside by the most remarkable and least intelligible legal opinion ever rendered by an attorney-general of the United States, which declared that when congress said goods in foreign bottoms should pay 10 per cent additional duty, it meant to say nothing whatever.

* *

There is not tonnage enough on the Pacific coast to carry to Asia half the goods that are stacked up on wharves in Pacific slope ports waiting for shipment. Sailing vessels, not fitted for trans-Pacific trade, are actually being withdrawn from the European trade, for which they are fitted, and sent to China and Japan in flour. What they will bring back nobody knows. A hundred to one they will have to come back in ballast.

The reason why trade westward from the Pacific slope to Asia suffers is because of lack of shipments eastward. Everything we could buy from Asia is heavily taxed. Tea, silks and matting are the principal articles. The Dingley law increased the dues on silk, and over the protests of consumers and shippers alike clapped a duty on Japanese matting. Tea is taxed, while coffee goes free. And not alike, silks, tea or matting have the excuse of protection to home industry, for none of them are produced here.

* *

It is impossible to suppose that this proscription of Pacific coast trade, protection of the Canadian Pacific and defeat of the Nicaragua canal are matters of legislative inadvertence. A studied purpose is proved. Every member of congress from the Pacific slope should be heard from on these topics in the fifty-sixth congress. And if he is not, the people should endeavor to find out why.—Portland Oregonian.

The Rough Riders.

We buried seven dead Rough Riders in a grave on the summit of the trail, Chaplain Brown reading the solemn burial service of the Episcopalians, while the men stood around with bared heads and joined in singing, "Rock of Ages." Vast numbers of vultures were wheeling round and round in great circles through the blue sky overhead. There could be no more honorable burial than that of these men in a common grave—Indian and cow-boy, miner, packer and college athlete—the man of unknown ancestry from the lonely Western plains, and the man who carried on his watch the crests of the Hamiltons and the Fishes, one in the way they had met death, just as during life they had been one in their daring and their loyalty.—From "The Rough Riders," by Col. Theodore Roosevelt, in the March Scribner's.

The Largest Tree in the World.

The largest tree in the world is to be seen at Mascali near the foot of Mount Etna, and is called, "The Chestnut Tree of a Hundred Horses." Its name rose from the report that Queen Jane, of Aragon, with her principal nobility, took refuge from a violent storm under its branches. The trunk is two hundred and four feet in circumference. The largest tree in the United States, it is said, stands near Bear creek, on the north fork of the Tule river in California. It measures one hundred and forty feet in circumference. The giant redwood tree in Nevada is one hundred and nineteen feet in circumference.—April Ladies' Home Journal.

The body of a young Indian has been found in a chicken house three miles from Celilo. The Indian lived near the place. His throat had been cut from ear to ear and the body thrown into the chicken house to conceal the crime and to enable the murderer to escape.

ONE ON SOMEBODY.

The General Passenger Agent of the O. R. & N. Co. Got What He Wanted.

"Railroad Row" has been passing around something of a joke during the past few days, says the Portland Dispatch, but it is not exactly certain as to who ought to "set 'em up." General Passenger Agent Hurlburt, of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, is preparing to issue another of his attractive little books on the mining fields of the Pacific Northwest, and as usual, Colonel Donan is furnishing the matter. Mr. Hurlburt is particularly anxious to get all possible facts in regard to the newly discovered Buffalo Hump region; so, Lewiston is the outfitting and starting point for the Hump, he wrote and telegraphed to some of the leading business men of that city, asking them to send him the latest and fullest information about the great camp. After waiting two or three days, he received a big package of typewritten material, with the statement that was the advance copy of a folder soon to be issued by the Lewiston Commercial Club. He rushed it over to Colonel Donan, who promptly returned it with a brief note calling his attention to the fact, that it was simply a somewhat garbled copy of an article written by the colonel himself more than two months ago, and first published by Mr. Hurlburt in a Denver paper, since which time it has been reproduced by papers all over the country. It shows that work well done is hard to improve on.

The Reform School.

The number of employes and salaries at the reform school at Salem are to be reduced. It is proposed to abolish temporarily, at least, five of the 19 positions which, it is thought, can be done without impairing the efficiency of the institution. Action with this object in view will be taken when the recommendations of Superintendent Bickers, in whose hands the matter is left, are considered at next meeting of the state board of education. There are less than 100 boys at the school. The salary of the superintendent has already been reduced from $125 to $100 per month, and that of the engineer from $100 to $65. Changes in the forces and salaries at the blind and deaf mute school will probably be made after the spring vacation.

Let Her Blow Up.

A few days ago at Sandusky, Ohio, Sebastian Mitcheler, a round house hostler, was found seated on top of a large locomotive in the round house with a roaring fire in the furnace and water low in the boiler. "Let her blow up!" he shouted, when hissing steam from her safety valve attracted attention to him, "and I'll go up with her." He has had domestic troubles.

The engine did not blow up and Mitcheler did not go up.

Earthquake in Tennessee.

At Knoxville, Tenn., a few days ago a well-defined earthquake shock was felt. It passed over four counties, Hawkins, Claiborne, Granger and Union. Near Tazewell the bottom of a lake apparently fell out and millions of gallons of water disappeared from the surface.

Agoncillo, representative of Aguinaldo, is ill at Paris, of pneumonia.

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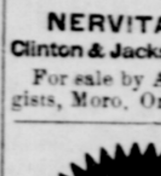

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