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### EDITORIAL NOTES & NEWS.

The reported combination among American shipbuilders to divide the construction of new vessels for the navy which it is expected congress will authorize in accordance with the recommendations of Secretary Long, is said to have aroused discussion in naval circles as to the expediency of the government taking steps to protect itself against such a combination. It is the opinion of the officials that navy yards for the construction of war vessels should be at once equipped with machinery and appliances to enable them to compete against excessive prices charged by private yards. It is certain that for some years the government will continue to make additions to the navy. No one can foresee how extensive we shall find it necessary to make our naval power, but everybody realize that it must be very materially increased. Heretofore the government has found it cheaper, owing to the competition between firms, to have its vessels built by private parties rather than at its own yards. But if the shipbuilders of the country enter into a combination with a view to exacting excessive prices from the government new vessels will have to be constructed in government yards, if it is practicable to do so. It is desirable to encourage private enterprise in shipbuilding, but the government cannot do this under conditions that would be unjust to the people who pay for the support of the government. It cannot permit itself to become the victim of a combination if there is a practicable way to prevent it. The shipbuilders are making a mistake if they intend to combine for the purpose indicated.

The postal service of the country advances with extraordinary strength, said President McKinley in his annual message. Within twenty years both the revenues and the expenditures of the Postoffice department have multiplied threefold. In the last ten years they have nearly doubled. Our postal business grows much more rapidly than our population. It now involves an expenditure of \$100,000,000 a year, numbers 73,000 postoffices and enrolls 200,000 employees. This remarkable extension of a service, which is an accurate index of the public conditions, presents gratifying evidence of the advancement of education, of the increase of communication and business activity and of the improvement of mail facilities, leading to their constantly augmenting use. The war with Spain laid new and exceptional labors in the Postoffice department. The mustering of the military and naval forces of the United States required special mail arrangements for every camp and every campaign. The communication between home and camp was naturally eager and expectant. In some of the larger places of rendezvous as many as 50,000 letters a day required handling. This necessity was met by prompt detail of experienced men from the established force directing all the instrumentalities of the railway mail and postoffice service so far as necessary to this new need. Congress passed an act empowering the postmaster general to establish offices or branches at every military camp or station, and under this authority the postal machinery was speedily put into operation.

The National Editorial Association of the United States will meet in Oregon next summer, making Portland the place of rendezvous. The association should be loyally entertained by the citizens of this state, for their visit to Oregon will be productive of more substantial benefit to this part of the Pacific Coast than anything that has occurred for years. The visiting association will include prominent and influential newspaper men from all sections of the country. There will be no hangers-on of the journalistic

profession, for is composed of only newspaper proprietors and editors. The vast amount of the very best advertising that Oregon will receive in the East and South from this intelligent and observing body of men and women is beyond calculation. The National Editorial Association will have a representation of nearly fifteen hundred persons from every state in the Union.

GENERAL LORD KITCHENER, in the course of a recent conversation with a London reporter, gave an explicit denial to the story that the killing of wounded dervishes was an organized incident of the Egyptian campaign. It is wholly untrue, he declared, that companies were told off even to search for the wounded enemy, much less to kill them. It is not denied that wounded Arabs "were left to die on the field in thousands," but that could not be helped, since British and Egyptian surgeons were fully occupied in attending to their own wounded. The Sirdar said that on entering Omdurman he issued an order calling upon the people to go out and bring in their wounded, but only those who had relatives responded to the appeal. Such wounded as could be brought in received every possible attention, and, as a matter of fact, between six and seven thousand are now under treatment in the Omdurman hospitals.

The necessity for increasing the standing army is very generally recognized and it is not anticipated that there will be serious opposition to the recommendations of the administration in this direction. It is contemplated to increase the regular army to 100,000 men and Secretary Alger suggests that a portion of this army be recruited from the inhabitants of the islands occupied by the United States. Perhaps it would be expedient for the reasons presented by the secretary of war, to obtain fully one-fourth of the proposed force in this way and there would probably be no difficulty in recruiting all the men desired in Cuba and Porto Rico, but it is not so certain about securing them in the Philippines, unless the natives there shall peacefully submit to American control. In that event the number required would not be large.

It will be a source of much gratification to the citizens of this state to know that the Oregon volunteers will be returned and mustered out of the service as soon as regulars can be sent to Manila. Although the Oregon boys did not participate in any engagement, they encountered a worse enemy, that of disease in the unsanitary islands. They bore the brunt of the battle in this respect and other regiments following them will not have to contend with the unsanitary conditions the Oregon boys had to. From what we can learn, the boys will be glad enough to don civilian's clothes again, for army life in the tropics is not what it was expected to be—a picnic. No one should be surprised that the boys want to return home, for most of them were fully occupied and active men when the war broke out. The inactivity of barracks life becomes monotonous.

RUDYARD KIPLING has published in the Times a poem, supposed to be the translation of a song by a Sikh infantryman on hearing that General Kitchener is about to establish the Gordon college at Khartoum. The last verse, speaking of the English, runs:  
"They do not consider the meaning of things, they consult no creed or clan; Behold, they clap the slave on the back; and behold, he becometh a man. They terribly carpet the earth with dead, and before their cannons cool They walk unarmed by twos and threes to call the living to school."  
Kipling has accepted the vice-presidency of the Navy League, and proposes to take an active part in the movement to which the present efficiency of the British navy, it is generally admitted, is in a large measure indebted.

There is every indication that England is on the eve of another costly war with the tribes on the frontier of India. Wherever civilization has come in contact with savage or semi-civilized tribes these conflicts come with regularity. In the United States it has been the Indian. When conducted at our own doors, as have been the Indian wars, they are

costly, but the experience of England and every other colonizing power proves that when fought in remote countries the financial burden is many times increased. With the acquirement of similar possessions the United States may expect to be called upon to shoulder just such burdens.

GENERAL LEE and staff sailed for Cuba on Sunday on the transport Panama. Crowds of people lined the wharves at Savannah, Ga., as the transport passed down the river. As the tugboats cut loose, the siren taken from the Spanish cruiser Almirante Oquendo after the battle of Santiago, and now on the tug Cambria, screeched the Panama a parting salute. General Lee will remain outside of Havana until January 1, when he will enter the city. The Panama will land at Marianna, where General Lee will establish his headquarters on the camp site selected by Colonel Hecker for the Seventh corps, and will remain there until he enters Havana.

THERE has been a great contest among the families and friends of the American commissioners for possession of the pens with which the signatures to the treaty were written. Some of the Americans were provided with handsome pens purchased for the purpose. The Spaniards appeared to be unaffected by the souvenir craze, and contented themselves with the ordinary quill pens strewn on the table. Arthur Ferguson, the interpreter of the American commission, requested Senor Montero Rios to give him his pen, saying: "Have you any desire to preserve the pen with which you will sign?" "None in the slightest," said the Spaniard, with a courtly bow.

M. CAMBON, the French ambassador to Washington, has not been in this country very long, but he has evidently used his powers of observation to good advantage since coming to this side of the Atlantic. His observations of American character, both the native and the foreign born, might be studied with profit, not only by his own government but by others. Such a clear conception of existing conditions would save many a blunder and decrease the danger of serious differences of an international character.

GENERAL CALIXTO GARCIA, the distinguished Cuban warrior and leader, and the head of the commission elected by the Cuban assembly to visit this country, died at Washington on Sunday morning shortly after 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Raleigh, where the commission has its headquarters. The sudden change from the warm climate of Cuba, with the hardships he had there endured, to the wintry weather of New York and Washington, is responsible for the pneumonia which resulted in his demise.

DURING the great storm which swept over the north Atlantic coast the life-saving services is credited with having rescued over 3,000 people, whose lives would have been lost but for their efforts. The last storm will add another long list to their credit. The public rarely thinks of these men, or men in countless other occupations who risk their lives whenever occasion calls. The world is full of Jim Bludsoes, but few think it worth while to sing their praise.

Peace has been restored between the United States and Spain, for the treaty was signed on Saturday. Spain, as well as the European nations, must now be convinced of the indomitable pluck of the American people, and that the Anglo-Saxon race is invincible. Now that the war is over let the United States turn its attention to manufacture and whip the world in that as easily as it did Spain in the war.

The next regular regiments to start for Manila will embark from New York about the end of the month and go through the Suez canal. The expedition will consist of three regiments of regular infantry. Two warships will act as convoys. The decision to use New York as the point of embarkation instead of San Francisco is due to the urgency for haste.

The natives in the Philippine islands should never be allowed to become citizens of the United States until they are morally, physically and intellectually qualified. How can the United States

grant this to a class of people who are in every respect inferior to the Chinese?

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The annual message of President McKinley is an interesting and instructive document, but the omission of any reference to the policy of the government regarding new possessions is disappointing. It was expected that the president would devote some consideration to this supremely important matter, which is commanding more of the attention of the nation than any other subject, by way of explaining and justifying territorial expansion and outlining the policy which in the judgment of the executive should be adopted in respect to this new territory. President McKinley has been giving the whole matter careful thought and all the people—those who are opposed to expansion equally with those who are in favor of it—were anxious to learn his views. It seems, however, that he did not consider it appropriate to discuss the subject pending the signing of the treaty of peace, from which it is to be inferred that when that shall have been done he may communicate to congress his views as to the government of the new possessions.

There is one important statement in this connection, which is that the pledge of the United States in regard to Cuban independence must be faithfully carried out. This feature of the message will tend to discourage the efforts of the annexationists in Cuba and the United States, while it will reassure the Cuban people who want self-government and will exert an influence favorable to the pacification of the island. Whatever doubt or misgiving the Cubans have as to the intention of the United States to deal with them according to its promise should be dispelled by the unequivocal assurance of President McKinley that as soon as Cuba is pacified its people will be aided to form a government for themselves.

Passing over, as not inviting special comment, the statement of our foreign relations, the reference to proposed currency legislation is as important as any matter contained in the message. It will be seen from this that President McKinley has not joined the extreme currency reformers and is not prepared to destroy the greenbacks and give to the banks a monopoly of the paper money of the country. He holds the same position on the question that he held a year ago, when he recommended that United States notes redeemed in gold should only be paid out again in exchange for gold. This is a very different process from that proposed by the currency reformers, which contemplates the destruction of the greenbacks, their place to be taken by national banknotes. It is probable that the reformers will not find much encouragement in the president's position, although he is evidently in favor of early legislation to remedy defects in the currency system which everybody recognizes.

President McKinley says the construction of the Nicaraguan canal is now more than ever indispensable and it is very plainly indicated that the influence of the administration will be given in behalf of the proposed legislation, which it now appears probable will be enacted at the present session.

The importance of legislation for the permanent increase of the army is urged and the president states that it is his intention to muster out the entire volunteer army as soon as provision is made for the increase of the regular establishment. This will be gratifying to the volunteers and will operate to enlist the active efforts of their friends in behalf of the legislation asked for.

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### WILL IT BE RATIFIED.

The probable fate of the treaty of peace in the senate is a matter of much interest. The expansionists profess entire confidence that it will be ratified by the present senate, but this is doubted by others. That it will encounter a very earnest and determined opposition seems assured. Such prominent republican senators as Hoar of Massachusetts, Morrill of Vermont and Hale of Maine are certain to antagonize Philippine annexation and the understanding is that they will have with them most of the democrats. Senator Hale said in an interview a few days ago that the negotiation of the treaty, unfortunate as it is, by no means insures the actual annexation of the Philippine islands and he expressed the opinion that it is uncertain whether it will ever be ratified. "Many things will be found out which are not known," said the Maine senator, "and the evils of the proposed annexation will so grow upon the public mind and upon congress and upon the president that it is by no means unlikely that within six months or a year everybody, instead of being for annexation of the islands, will want to be well rid of them." He declared that the people of the United States will find out that the commerce of the Philippines is very limited in extent, that they are inhabited by a people whose habits and wants forbid an increase of trade and that, under the scheme of annexation presented to us this trade is to be shared equally with Spain and all other competing nations. What is called the open door policy, said Mr. Hale, cuts down the interest of the United States in the Philippine trade to a point where it makes no figure in our commerce. Moreover the entire trade of the islands, if we had it all—not the profit derived from it, but the whole amount of trade—will not in any year pay the expenses of the army and the navy that the United States will be obliged to maintain there.

The agreement to pay \$20,000,000 to Spain and the open door provision of the treaty will be salient points of attack. It will be urged that paying Spain for ceding the Philippines would be simply a gift, since Spanish sovereignty in the island was practically wiped out and could not be restored. Besides the proposition is resented by the people of the islands, who are not willing to be sold as so much merchandise without having a word to say regarding the transaction. As to the open door policy, it is so essentially antagonistic to the principle of protection that it would seem hardly possible it can receive the approval of any republican who sincerely believes in that principle. Whatever explanation may be given of it and whatever assurance may be given of an intention to apply the policy only temporarily, the open door will be an innovation, a departure, that could not be otherwise than a menace to the protective principle here and therefore should be opposed by every friend of protection in congress and the country. The advocates of free trade are not mistaken in their view of what the application of the open door policy in the Philippines would probably lead to, when they declare that it would be the beginning of the overthrow of protection.

Perhaps the treaty will ultimately be ratified, if not by the present senate then by the next one, but the opposition to it will give strong expression to the popular hostility to the policy of expansion.

### Water-Proofed Clothing.

Chas. Coopey, the fashionable tailor of Portland, is making a specialty this winter in water-proofed clothing. Gentlemen's overcoats, guaranteed to be perfectly water proof, are made in all kinds of cloth. Write to Chas. Coopey, Columbian building, Third street, Portland, if you want good clothing at reasonable cost.

Notice.  
From this date until April 1st, 1899, I will pasture horses for 25c. per month. I have sold all my cattle for \$400.00  
VINCENT JACOBS.

### He Aspired to Citizenship.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer tells this story of an Italian, Leon Catalino Carabini Catabeani of Cleveland, who tried to get naturalized the other day:  
"Who makes the laws in this country?" asked the judge.  
"McKisson," replied the applicant, referring to the mayor.  
"Does McKisson make them alone?" was the next question.  
"Bushnell helps him some," was the reply.  
"Did you ever hear of Christopher Columbus?"  
"Yes; he's a policeman on McKisson's force."  
"Who was George Washington?"  
"He's a motorman on East End electric line."  
"Have you ever heard of Garibaldi?"  
"Yes; he works on the sewer out to the East End."  
"Is there a king in this country?"  
"Yes; he is Joseph Carabelli."  
It is needless to add that Carabeani did not secure his naturalization papers.

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When there are four pupils in one family attending, the last one is free.

REGULATIONS.  
Students are entered at any time during the session. No deduction will be made in either the Academic or Music Department, or in Christmas or Easter Holiday for withdrawal before the expiration of the term or a absence except in case of dismissal or prolonged illness. Those who finish a complete course in the Academic or the Commercial Department and pass a satisfactory examination in the branches prescribed are entitled to a Diploma.

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WANTED, 1,000 new SUBSCRIBERS to the Tillamook Headlight now that it is under new management. Take it on trial for four months for 50c., or send it to your friends.

FOR SALE, a bargain, a celebrated White SEWING MACHINE. New and direct from the factory.—Apply for particulars at the Headlight Trade Mart Office.