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DESECRATION of the Sabbath is a matter which is perplexing those who are engaged in religious work, and there are good grounds for this. According to the report which the statistical bureau has just issued on Sunday labor the demand for work to be done for that day is constantly on the increase. Anybody with half an eye, if he keeps that half open half the time, would be able to divine this. Why is this? The answer can easily be found. The working classes do not appreciate the Sabbath as they should, and having no time for pleasure during the week—that is if they are not at work themselves—turn it into a day of amusement. So, to those who give the subject any thought, in agreement with the report that a certain amount of Sunday labor has become necessary, though a large part of that performed now is made a necessity by social customs and not because any trade or profession must, in order to live, transact business or perform mechanical labor. Whether a person is a church member or not, the Sabbath should be looked upon as a day of rest, and jealously guarded as such, but, alas, when one probes deeper into the desecration of the Sabbath it is surprising what inroads into the sanctity of that day it is making. Individually and collectively the leaning of the workingman and the day laborer is toward the making of Sunday a day of leisure, but they are not content to have it a day of rest pure and simple; hence, to meet their requirements, a large force of their co-laborers are kept in the treadmill from early Sunday morning till late Sunday night. This would naturally set one to wondering when and where these men and women who minister to the enjoyment of others on the "first day" get their day of rest. But employers of all sorts, corporations and individuals, are more and more of the opinion that all work and no play disagrees with their employes as well as themselves, and it is quite the custom with them to follow during the week a "day off" when work has been and is to be performed on Sunday. So it seems that what would a quarter of a century ago have been called out and out Sabbath breaking, and dealt with accordingly, has become a recognized condition of today—a very part of our social life that is not to be expurgated from it, we are sorry to say, by moral suasion or by legislature. The only thing to be done is to accept the condition as inevitable, and let each one do his utmost to keep it inoffensive, although we consider this an unsatisfactory conclusion to draw in the important problem of the desecration of the Sabbath.

OUR late unpleasantness with Spain was costly as far as loss of life was concerned, as will be seen in the following statement: A recapitulation of the casualties in action and deaths in the regular and volunteer armies between May 1, 1898, and June 30, 1899, contained in the annual report of the adjutant-general of the army shows a grand total of 10,076 men. The casualty list alone aggregates 3454, of whom 35 officers and 458 enlisted men were killed and 197 officers and 2764 enlisted men wounded. The death list, numbering 6619, was made up of 224 officers and 6395 enlisted men. Of this total but 38 officers and 453 enlisted men were killed, the remainder of the deaths resulting from various causes, including the following: Wounds, 10 officers and 192 enlisted men; disease, 167 officers and 5344 enlisted men; accident, 6 officers and 209 men; drowning, 3 officers and 88 men; suicide, two officers and 52 men, and murders and homicide, 52 enlisted men in the regular army the total of casual-

ties in action and deaths amounted to 4155 and in the volunteer establishment to 5921. In the casualty list the regulars had 127 officers and 1656 enlisted men killed and wounded, and the volunteers 103 officers and 1366 enlisted men killed and wounded. In the regular army between April 30, 1897, and June 30, 1899, 91 enlisted men were discharged by sentence of general court-martial, and 2946 enlisted men deserted. Three officers of the regular army who were killed also held commissions in the volunteer forces in which they are included in the above recapitulation.

THE Oregon Agricultural College sends out some useful information pertaining to the care of orchards in this state, in which it states: "The past year, with its unusual climatic conditions, has been marked by a signal neglect of tillage operations in the orchards in the state. One result of this has been the formation of an extra large amount of fruit wood and buds, and under ordinary conditions, next spring there will set a very much greater amount of fruit than will be best for both the interest of the tree and the orchardist. The orchard should receive a judicious, yes, a vigorous pruning this winter, to the end that liberal thinning of fruit spurs shall be had, otherwise the more expensive work of hand thinning must be done or else there will be produced a mass of small inferior fruit for which no market can be found, and as too often occurs, the larger part of the crop becomes a waste. Now is the time to make a thorough examination of the trees; study the various systems of pruning and the ends they are sought to reach. Watch the insect and fungous foes and the climatic effects upon the fruit and foliage buds, and with the opening of spring be prepared to give the orchard a vigorous but judicious pruning and then follow this with generous tillage of the soil. Only under conditions like these can we expect to get the best of returns from the orchard next year, under the usual Oregon climatic conditions."

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY LONG, in a letter advocating the upbuilding of the merchant marine, presents three sound reasons for such a policy. One is the financial return which would follow from carrying out constantly increasing exports; another is the increased business it would give our shipyards and still another reason is that it would furnish a reserve of seamen upon which the navy could draw in case of war. These important considerations are not now presented for the first time, but they cannot be too frequently urged upon public attention. In regard to the first, a merchant marine equal to the demands of our foreign commerce would keep at home, to be expended in various ways among our own people, from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 annually. The most trustworthy estimates place the minimum amount yearly paid to foreign shipowners by our manufacturers and merchants at \$150,000,000. Nearly all of this money goes abroad only a small percentage of it being expended in this country for supplies. It helps to keep European shipyards busy and to pay the labor employed in them. It adds to the wealth of our commercial rivals. It is an aid to every foreign industry upon which shipbuilding draws. The expenditure of this sum of money annually among our own people would mean much for the general prosperity.

LAST spring Colonel C. C. Slaughter of Texas, paid \$5,000 for a Hereford bull, and the whole country glared in open-eyed amazement. We noticed a few days ago that Colonel John W. Sparks of Reno, Nev., paid \$2,500 for a Hereford cow, and the Eastern breeders are wondering what the big men of the West are up to anyhow. The big Western breeders never do anything by halves. Just now they are looking into pure bred cattle and the best of the world has to offer is none too good for them. The price is a secondary consideration if the article is what they want. This is a move in the right direction, for there is no reason why the stock raisers and the dairymen should not have animals upon the range and on the farm which will be of profit to them and do away with scrub stock, for this is one of the main things in scientific stock raising and dairying. The above presents a new

problem in cattle breeding. Should Col. John Sparks breed his \$2,500 Hereford cow to Colonel C. C. Slaughter's \$5,000 Hereford bull, what would the calf be worth? We give it up, but would like to see the combination tried and it ought to be, too.

IT is rather amusing to hear the Eastern papers rave over the awful danger that the public is under from tuberculosis cattle. Tuberculosis cattle are no new thing. For years scientific men have discussed the problem, but the public is just getting on to the great danger and the time is not far distant when the public will commence to demand beef and milk that is warranted free from the dread bacillus. It may not be generally known, but it is nevertheless a fact that the beef cattle produced on the Western plains and in the mountains are absolutely free from the dread disease. Cases have even been known of cattle that have been brought West which had the disease, but which were turned onto the range and became cured, as was proved when they were afterward killed. Range cattle of the West are the only cattle that are free from this disease and this fact is well known among scientific men and a few breeders. If the time comes that the public demands pure meat, free from even the taint of disease, the public will be forced to choose range cattle, as they are the only cattle that can be guaranteed.

QUITE recently a Minnesota senator of the United States made the remark, during the course of a pessimistic assault on the octopus, that there is no longer a chance for a young man to get rich in this country; that the trust barons have closed every avenue of wealth, and that the young men of the nation have before them only the prospect of growing up to be slaves to some one or other of the great industrial or mercantile corporations. And, of course, the whole pack that cries on the trail of the octopus bayed or yelped approving chorus. What an absurd proposition to make, even during the process of a political speech! To begin with, it seems to assume that the chief end of human life is to pile one dollar on top of another. It, by inference, sets up as a standard for mankind a monetary value.

THE abounding and increasing prosperity of the country perplexes the democratic leaders. They cannot deny it, because the evidence on every hand is indisputable and overwhelming. The industrial progress of the last two years, the enormous exports, the unprecedented domestic trade, the great balance in favor of this country in international commerce, the vast increase of capital, the demand in labor and the rise in wages—all these conditions are known to every man of intelligence. They are not peculiar to any section of the country, but are everywhere. Now who's the popocrat who has the consummate gall to deny these indisputable facts?

UNDER the administration of Benjamin Harrison the surplus in the United States treasury grew to such large proportions that democrats raised a wail about overtaxation and excessive import duties. Under President Cleveland's administrative policy the bottom fell out of the gold chest and Uncle Sam had to borrow millions. At a cabinet meeting last week Secretary Gage reported nearly \$300,000,000 in the treasury. Whether these happy conditions are due to republican policies or not, it is quite evident that they are absent under the sway of democratic policies.

A PRIZE fight takes the cake in creating excitement, for, with some people, it is their whole topic of conversation. Yet it is one of the things in which Americans like to be humbugged, for it is one of the biggest frauds under the sun, and how intelligent people can be fooled so badly it is surprising. It's the gate money that lubricates public sentiment and makes the pugilistic managers rich.

ORDERS have already been placed by the railroads of this country for \$50,000,000 worth of steel rails for delivery during the coming year. No better evidence could be offered that the great financial men of the country have confidence that

the present era of prosperity and commercial activity is not of a temporary character.

THE desire on the part of a number of Americans to participate in the war in South Africa must be on account of the desire to be in a rich gold mining country. No doubt after the war is over, and when the country is governed the United States, a large number of Americans will wend their way there.

POOR Cornelius Vanderbilt. His father left him only \$1,500,000, and but for the generosity of his brother, who raised the amount to \$7,500,000 out of his own allowance, Cornelius might have been compelled to throw himself upon the charity of the public.

GOVERNOR GREER has proclaimed Thursday, Nov. 30, Thanksgiving day, and may it be in Oregon an occasion when one and all can render heart and soul thanksgiving for divine favors.

THE popocrats don't dare raise their calamity howl in Tillamook county these days, for prosperity predominates from one end of the country to the other.

Irregular Milking.

With the rainy season fully upon us, there is a tendency on the part of cow owners, and particularly those who keep but a small number, to be irregular in the time of milking. There is not much to be done on the farm and late rising is quite apt to be the rule, and the desire to have the chores done before darkness sets in, causes the milking to be done early in the evening. Trips to town, an occasional full day's work on the farm, and other causes, may make the milking hour earlier than usual in the morning and later in the evening, thus giving rise to an irregularity in the milking hour.

All really progressive dairymen have a regular time for milking at all seasons of the year. It does not matter so much what the hour is, but it is best to have the intervals between milkings nearly equal. A short experiment was conducted with the Section herd nearly a year ago to determine the effect of irregularity in milking. Six cows were divided into two lots, such that the average age of the cows, and period of lactation, also total yield of milk were practically the same for each lot. The two lots received the same kind and amount of feed, but the cows in Lot 1 were fed and milked regularly at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., while those in Lot 2 were fed and milked at hours ranging from 5:00 to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A comparison of the milk yield for three weeks, under this arrangement, with the three weeks preceding showed that the cows in Lot 1 made a gain in yield of 5.9 per cent, while those in Lot 2 decreased in yield 4.4 per cent. Assuming that the cows in Lot 2 would have done as well as those in Lot 1 if they had had the same treatment, which is highly probable, we find a loss of practically ten per cent in the milk yield during three weeks, due to irregularity of milking and feeding. The loss, however, was confined to the milk yield, as there was practically no change in the quality of the milk during the test period. The gain in yield by Lot 1 was doubtless due to better feed and care than was received during the preceding three weeks.—Oregon Agricultural College and Experiment Station.

The Result Inevitable.

THE South African republic is a natural treasury of gems and precious metals hidden under the dreary cattle ranges of the desolate and treeless land. But devoid of manufactures, with imperfect internal communication, with no open seaports for illicit supplies, it is clear that the sharper and more active the operations the sooner will arrive the period of the military exhaustion of the country.

For many months after the fiscal military objects of the British have been accomplished, bands of determined colonists may keep up a resistance inspired only by the desire of avenging their fallen brethren and their ruined homes. But with the meeting of the two strong British columns, sure sooner or later to force the boundaries of the Transvaal, all capacity of organized resistance will

come to an end. The folly of an ultimate resistance on the part of this brave and unfortunate people is apparent with the first shots of the campaign. The hope that a devoted and chivalric struggle may bring to their aid the remonstrances of outraged international sentiment may cause the Boers to fight up to the very last moment.

The jealousy of Russia and Germany may cause either one of these great powers to intervene, with Russia presumably antagonistic to British interests. It is clear that in such a juncture the balance of power would be left in the hands of France, should France decide to follow the czar in any mandate which should forbid the destruction of the autonomy of the South African republic.

It is hopeless, however, to imagine that any moral resistance of an out-raged civilization will hold back the British government in its purpose to finally possess itself of the Transvaal. The losses and expenses, however heavy, will be atoned for by the surely gained profits in the acquisition of the richest undeveloped territory now open to the grasp of any strong nation. The geographical advantages of the move to make the Cape to Cairo railroad a national necessity as well as a preordained success; and at whatever cost of blood and treasure, at whatever disproportionate slaughter of British troops, the dominating idea of Cecil Rhodes will be carried out and that idea is expressed in the declaration that, though stained with blood and unfurled against the dictates of national morality, the British banner shall wave victorious from the Cape of Good Hope to the minarets of Cairo. The greater includes the lesser and the extinction of the Boer autonomy will be but one bloody page in history of the parceling out of Africa to the strongest.

Immigration Statistics.

The official figures of immigration for the year ending June 30 last have been anticipated as to the total and part of the details, but there are some features of Commissioner Powderly's report which had not been made public before and are interesting. One of these is the large number of illiterates that came into the country, a total of 60,446 who could neither read or write. We do not know that this is exceptional and probably it is not, but at any rate it is a matter which seems worthy of more than passing attention. While the report does not classify the illiterates by nationalities, it is to be presumed that the larger portion of them came from Italy, which sent over nearly 19,000 more immigrants last year than the year before. Another interesting fact is that the number of males who arrived was very considerably in excess of the females, though over 116,000 of the latter came into the country. It appears that there are still attempts to evade the alien contract labor law. 741 laborers under contract having been debarred. The report says that the number of such persons not admitted last year was 77 per cent in excess of the number for the next preceding year and legislation is recommended to enable the commissioner general to have investigations made at the centers of labor in this country to which contract labor is destined. It is perhaps not surprising that there are persons or corporations disposed to violate the alien contract labor law, but it is gratifying to know that they meet with little success.

An important recommendation of the commissioner general of immigration is that this country's immigration laws be extended to the islands now held under military authority, which he says would avoid many embarrassments. The press synopsis of the report does not state what the embarrassments are, but there are obvious reasons why it is desirable that the laws be extended to Porto Rico and the Philippines if not to Cuba. There are other suggestions of the commissioner which appear to be judicious, particularly those with reference to immigration on the Canadian border. It is pointed out that immigration through Canada has largely increased and there is consequently growing urgency for better regulations.

The total immigration for the year was 311,715, an increase over the preceding year of 22,416. The improved

conditions in the United States account for the increase and it is probable that the immigration for the current fiscal year will be still larger. The demand for labor has enabled all who came into the country to find employment, without affecting the labor already here and there is every reason to expect that this will be the case with whatever number shall come into the country this year. While this condition continues there will be no outcry against immigration.

Pointed Paragraphs.

To the father of twins life seems but a span.

The talkative parrot is merely an animated phonograph.

A friend in need is almost a nineteenth century rarity.

The singer is seldom missed until the understudy tackles it.

A receipted bill is always considered a good certificate of honesty.

His satanical majesty smiles every time he encounters a stingy man.

But for adversity some men would never know how little they can borrow.

Storms of applause are apt to wreck the amateur speaker's train of thought.

Any young man may be a hero to a girl if he has the price of a box at the opera.

Love laughs less at locksmiths than it does at papa when he pays the locksmith's bill.

Occasionally a barber combs a man's hair as he combs it himself, but a tonorial artist never does.

When you see a pretty domestic in a home it is a sure sign that the head of the family isn't henpecked.

The average man spends a lot of money for experience and then gives other people the benefit of it free of charge.

If there is one thing more annoying than another it is to have the man sitting just behind you at the opera hum all the airs.

Personal and Otherwise.

President Steyn of the Orange Free State is described as suave, cultured and, unlike his neighbor and ally, President Kruger, is careful of his personal appearance.

Four years ago Governor Morrill, of Kansas found himself getting too fat, and he worked off a lot of flesh by taking long, daily walks. Recently he was left in an emaciated condition by an attack of rheumatism, and now he is adding flesh fast by taking the same kind of walks.

Prof. Alexander Graham Bell of telephone fame has been spending the summer at his country place at Beldeck, Cape Breton, engaged in work on a flying machine which he says will be a perfect success. He is developing the kite idea, rejecting, however, the theory that the machine must be unusually light.

Moses Thatcher, of Salt Lake City, Utah purchased, nine years ago, a 40,000-acre ranch in the southwestern part of the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, and he now intends to go into stock raising upon it on a very extensive scale. The land was bought originally for the timber and this has been practically cut off.

When a parrot in the chaplain's room at Windsor castle called out something as the queen passed by it, she insisted on knowing what the bird had said and the chaplain was compelled to repeat it—"Go along, you ugly old woman." The queen laughed good-naturedly saying she was glad there was at least one voice in the kingdom not afraid to express an opinion of her. Nevertheless, everybody is wondering why and by whom the parrot was taught such a curious speech.

"How do you like your new girl?"
"Oh that is quite immaterial. The important question is, How does she like us?"

Smith—My congratulations, old man. I hear you have another increase in your family. Son or daughter?
Jones [sadly]—Worse, a son-in-law.