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Intemperate Prohibitionists.

The intemperance of the temperate was again illustrated by the Prohibitionists in their national convention at Chicago two week ago. Both the Republican and Democratic parties were denounced for fearing to attack the "rum power," and President McKinley was brutally assaulted as "guilty of treasonable nullification" in connection with the law regarding the sale of liquors at army posts. Not only was he charged with official misconduct, but he was branded personally as a wine-bibber and a corrupter of youth. In the platform adopted the Prohibitionists used this language: "We charge upon President McKinley, who was elected to his office by appeals to Christian sentiment and patriotism almost unprecedented, and by a combination of moral influences never before seen in this country, that by his conspicuous example as a wine drinker at public banquets and as a wine-serving host in the White house he has done more to encourage the liquor business, to demoralize the temperance habits of young men, and to bring Christian practices and requirements into disrepute than any other president this republic has ever had."

Such an accusation is as unjust as it is absurd. William McKinley is a temperate man. Probably there has never been a man in the White house, with the exception of R. B. Hayes, who has been less given to the use of intoxicants than President McKinley. He is in no sense what is termed a "drinking man." A glass of mild wine at a dinner is the extent of his indulgence. The usages of official society demand that wine be served at official dinners, and its omission would be regarded by foreign representatives to this country as nothing short of boorish. It is incomprehensible that in these days of tolerance there should be any considerable number of intelligent men who could find in a White house dinner "encouragement to the liquor business" or demoralization to the young men of the country. The hysterical allegations of the Prohibitionists seem too ridiculous for serious consideration.

The man who will preside at the White house if William McKinley is not re-elected is another man whose personal life is equally spotless. William J. Bryan is a conscientious Christian and a man who uses neither liquor nor tobacco in any form. Yet if he were president of the United State he would not attempt to defy all custom by excluding wine from his official entertainments.

If the Prohibitionists would win people to their party they should learn temperance of speech. The evil of drunkenness is an awful curse upon humanity, but no move to check it can be successful when the leaders repel intelligent men and women by taking such untenable positions as indicated by their Chicago platform.

Solving the Labor Problem.

The proposition of the American Federation of Labor to establish labor colleges in this country will meet with universal support from men of means as well as moral encouragement from the public. The benefits to labor itself and indirectly to all society from such institutions are manifest.

A labor college should offer courses in artisanship that would give the young man a technical education, first in the broad principles of mechanics and then in the special craft which he elects to follow as a trade. In addition to this manual training there should be a school of political science, offering courses in economics bearing particularly upon the relation of labor to society and the many and complex labor problems.

The graduate of such an institution would be fitted not merely to earn a good living as a skilled mechanic, but would be equipped to intelligently maintain his rights and those of his fellow craftsmen. Such a man could neither be brow-beaten

by unjust employers nor swept into a whirlpool of disaster by demagogue politicians or blatherskite "labor leaders." While defending his own rights he would not be blinded to the rights of the employing class. With graduates of such institutions in every labor union in the country, labor conflicts would be settled quickly and without loss to either party to the dispute. The day of the professional agitator would pass, and the power of the autocratic employer would be removed. Labor would get its due, capital would receive a fair return, and the public would no longer be inconvenienced or harassed by long and disastrous strikes.

In the education of the skilled laborer, both in the technique of his trade and in scientific consideration of social problems, may be found the solution of a great industrial question. The federation has formulated an excellent theory. It is to be hoped that it may put it into practice.

Hygienic Matrimony.

Legislators in Germany and leading physicians throughout Europe are just now discussing with much interest an article on a novel subject which appeared in the last issue of the Deutsche Revue. The article is from the pen of Dr. Hegar, a well known German specialist, and the theme which he discusses is it is marriage.

Dr. Hegar begins by strongly advising German legislators to pass a law which "shall prohibit from contracting marriage any person who is afflicted with a physical deformity, an infirmity, a disease or an infection of the blood whenever it shall appear that through marriage grave and persistent defect will be transmitted to the descendants of such a person." Dr. Hegar frankly admits that he got his idea from a somewhat similar law about which there was much talk in Michigan some time ago, the aim of which was to prevent idiots and persons afflicted with various specified maladies from marrying. He then claims that while a law such as he proposes may seem cruel to those whom it immediately effects it is incumbent on the present generation to provide as well as it can for posterity, and this it can best do by enforcing marriage laws that are framed on a common sense and hygienic basis.

What is the cause of this apparent indifference to the welfare of the human race? "The reason," says Dr. Hegar, "is because society thinks much more of population. She only regards the number of children. Whenever an infant is prematurely born modern science does its best to keep it alive and as a result frequently succeeds in only prolonging its sufferings." The doctor does not maintain that sickly children should be abandoned after the manner of the Spartans, but he does insist that the utmost possible pains should be taken to bring only strong children into the world. "Look at the men who breed horses," he says. "They do not wait until a colt is born in order to see what it will be like, for they have been studying the subject for several generations."

In France Dr. Hegar's suggestion is causing much discussion and M. Arvede Barine, a thoughtful writer, points out that there are many objections to such a law as he proposes. There is the first objection that such a law would infringe on the rights of the individual, but M. Barine does not attach much weight to it, as he regards it as rather specious than well founded. Society, he says, spends a good deal of its time in interfering with the rights of the individual and there is really no more tyranny in preventing a sickly man from marrying than there is in sending a strong man to die on the battle field. We are accustomed to one, not the other—that is all the difference.

There is some criticism of President McKinley for ordering troops to China. It has been characterized as a usurpation of executive authority and also as a wrong against a country with which the United States is at peace. The anti-imperialists promise to make use of it to further their cause. The Anglophobes will profess to see in it a purpose to help England, although it manifestly can be of no more benefit or advantage to that country than to any other of the powers having interests in China. It is a very delicate and serious question, certainly, but we are unable to see any good rea-

son for the charge of usurpation on the part of the president. Is it not his duty to do all that is possible to protect or to secure protection for American officials and citizens in China whose lives and property are in peril? When our minister at Peking reported that the legation was in danger and asked for protection, what would have been thought of the president if he had replied that the government could give them no protection? There are some who think that the American missionaries in China, who are there under treaty agreement, should be left to take care of themselves, but it is clearly the right and duty of this government to insist that China shall observe treaty obligations.

China is so vast an empire that its circumference may be shelled and its center be unconscious of the concussion. There has never been an enumeration of the Chinese. Estimates of the population have varied from more than 400,000,000 to less than 300,000,000. Eighteen years ago there was an approximate census within the eighteen provinces. The single province of Shantung was found to contain nearly as many people as the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The only trustworthy estimate of the foreigners in the empire was that of 1898, when the total was only 13,421. With loyal and skilled generals, it is certain that, able now to manufacture arms and ammunition, China, by numbers alone, can prolong a war of defense into practically unlimited time. Such a war might proceed along the frontiers for a generation and be unheard of in the interior. China is an inexhaustible human hive.

According to the more or less revered Sam Jones the Georgia democrats are a lot of damnable red-nosed rascals. To which the N.Y. Tribune replies by saying that the testimony is of domestic pattern, Jones being himself a "Georgia democrat," and knowing all about their moral qualities and chromatic facial decorations. The picture he draws is not flattering, and it is open to the organization to deny its verisimilitude, much as the argument may lack plausibility.

The New York Press sounds a note of warning against much drinking of strong tea. "The highly astringent quality of strong tea," it says, "produces an unhealthy constriction of the alimentary canal, obstructs digestion and leads to more than half the diseases of the human race. Necessity is the mother of invention, experience the mother of learning, constipation is the mother of maladies."

William Jennings Bryan was nominated for president on the democratic, or 16 to 1, ticket, which was a foregone conclusion that he would be. An effort was made to induce ex-Senator J. B. Hill to become Bryan's running mate, but the wily New Yorker was not to be caught napping when there is a possibility of him securing the nomination four years hence, so Adlai E. Stephenson, of Illinois, was nominated for vice president.

The dollar marks that the democratic cartoonists put on Mark Hanna's clothes are marks of honor. They indicate that since Mark Hanna's party took charge dollars are more plentiful in the people's pockets.

So long as the able statesmen of this country keep on quarreling among themselves about who shall have the honor of demolishing monopolies, the trusts may consider themselves comparatively safe.

Dispatches from Tien Tsin say the rifle fire of the American and British marines was "beautiful." This probably depends upon which end of the gun it was viewed from.

The Issue of the Campaign.

Which do you prefer, to make money or to lose money—to keep your job or to lose it?

Which do you prefer, prosperous activity or stagnation and depression?

Which do you prefer, steady and healthy markets, business confidence and enterprise moving ahead without fear, or panic and confusion, doubt and distress?

Which do you prefer, to stand fair be-

fore the world, or to be despised and distrusted by the world?

These questions bring out the chief issue of this new campaign between McKinley and Bryan which will be recognized by any American common sense.—New York Sun.

Blasts from Ram's Horn.

God uses the chaff to protect the wheat.
 The falling leaves enrich the living plant.

What we can is the measure of what we ought.

The plea of consistency often means cowardice.
 A competent pilot may be a sad wreck in himself.

There is no harm in the tongue when work keeps pace with word.

Mix all your grief with gratitude and it will taste of the latter.

Every man deceives himself more successfully than he deceives others.

The bible in the head will suffocate a man unless it is in the heart, too.

The man who gets on in life is the one who knows when to stand fast.

The blustering of the infidel are the winds of a tempest-tossed heart.

This World and the Next.

Here, you discontented mortal, get the curl out of your lip!
 Don't you make such monkey faces at the cup you have to sip!
 Cease your grumbling and complaining, look upon the gold of life!
 Hit the big gas-bag of trouble with determination's knife!
 Every cloud is lined with silver, every lane must have a turn;
 Take what comes if fate denies you everything for which you yearn—
 Though you're daily with annoyances and galling troubles vexed,
 You may think this world a heaven when you're sizing up the next.

Fit yourself to your surroundings, be they good or be they bad.
 Never crouch and whine for mercy when you feel misfortune's gad;
 Seize the cruel hand that wields it, break its power if you can—
 Be not as a cringing coward in the struggle; be a man!
 If you grumble at existence, curse the world in gloomy way,
 You will never make advancement, never make a winning play!
 If you preach a doleful sermon with Calamity for text,
 You may think this world was heaven when you're sizing up the next.

In the world's great field of battle every man should stand and fight
 With a fearless heart as long as there's an enemy in sight;
 Never let your courage weaken, never let your spirits droop,
 Or you're bound to have a struggle in the figurative soup.
 Life on earth is what you make it; if you idly stand and swear
 At the troubles that confront you, at the cross you have to bear,
 Though the darkest clouds may lower and your soul be sorely vexed,
 You may think this world a heaven when you're sizing up the next.

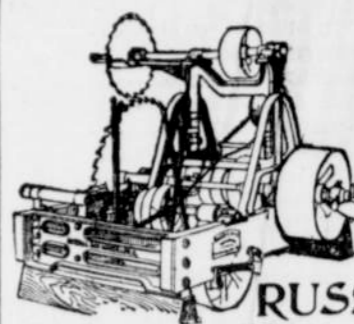
He Resembled Webster.

As a back-handed slap at a well known member of congress who is too fond of looking upon the wine when it is aniled Senator Depew tells this anecdote: "The member of congress was being shaved by an aged colored barber in Washington. The shop was a favorite one with the prominent men of the capital and the old darkey who presided over it often boasted that he had shaved every great statesman since the Madison administration, which may or may not have been true. The member of congress referred to was being shaved by the veteran one day, when he said to the latter: "Uncle, you must have shaved many famous men?" "Oh, yes, sah; I has indeed." "And a great many of those famous personages must have sat in this very chair where I am sitting, eh?" "Dat's right, sah. Dey's set jes' whar yo' is a settin' dis moment, sah. Yes, sah. An, I'se jes' been a noticin' a mighty cur'us similarity between yo' and Dan'l Webster, sah."

"You don't say!" exclaimed the highly delighted lawmaker. "Is the similarity in the shape of my head, uncle?" "Oh, no, sah. 'Tain't dat."

"Is it my manner?"

"No, boss, 'tain't yore manner, nudder; hit's yore breff."



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