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JOB PRINTING. The Job Department of the Press is complete and affords facilities for doing the best class of work. PARTICULAR ATTENTION PAID TO LAW PRINTING.

Chauncey Depew has retired from the presidency of the New York Central railway, but he will not lose anything by the change, as he is now chairman of the board of directors of all the Vanderbilt roads.

In view of all the talk about the purchase of Cuba, Deputy Assistant Treasurer Muhleman, of the United States treasury in New York, has compiled the total Cuban debt and says that it amounts to \$289,000,000.

The proposal emanates from Cornell university that young persons in educational establishments in one part of the country should correspond by letter with those in another.

Some one has discovered that the color of sin is not scarlet, as the good book would have us believe, but pink. On the theory that the men who ages ago wrote the Bible knew what they were talking about, this "discovery" will doubtless be looked upon as proof positive that the world is growing better.

Russia has about 1,000,000 men on a peace footing, and 2,500,000 on a war footing. It is supposed that within its European limits and in a defensive war the Russian army would hold first rank.

There is a maxim: "It is sweet to die for one's country." It is still better to live for it, and bless it by good works in every field to which you are called.

Just as woman thinks she has demonstrated her fitness for a position in the front rank of human progress something always seems to interfere with her calculations. There is the case of the Indiana young woman who exploded a dynamite cartridge with a hairpin as an example.

There is a chimney 170 feet high running up from the separating department of the assay office on Wall street, New York. It was built in 1854. Its inner lining of fire brick was found last fall to be in bad condition.

A St. Louis physician, who is a confirmed old bachelor, has started out to reform the habit that obtains of dressing babies in long clothes. He says that it is necessary for the proper development of babies that they should have plenty of leg room in which to kick.

Before the house of representatives at Washington assembles each day there is placed on the speaker's desk a box-shaped tray of solid silver. Promptly after the house adjourns it is taken back again to the speaker's room.

A very easy way to account for the first natives of the new world is to adopt the theory that the aborigines came from Asia to America. The American museum of natural history will in a short time send expeditions to visit and live for a time among the tribes of the northwest corner of America.

PROTECTION AND IMPORTS. How Production Stimulated by High Duties and American Wages Increased.

A fall in imports may result from increased defense and expansion of home industries, or from general prostration of industries and trade. An increase in exports may result from such depression of business and of prices here that products are forced upon the world's markets for what they will bring, or it may come with rising prices as a consequence of increased foreign demand.

But this does not alter the fact that protective duties do tend to diminish imports of certain kinds, and would not be perpetually denounced if they had no such tendency.

On the Pacific coast the fusion proposition was met with bitter opposition and seems unlikely to be accepted. In Indiana the populists, in their state convention, not only rejected the proposition, but went to the extent of displacing from the national committee one of the Indiana members who favored fusion and electing a nonfusionist in his place.

This plan of removing fusionists from the national committee has been received with so much favor by the populists in other sections of the country that a counter movement to prevent the complete elimination of fusionists from the national committee has begun by the presentation of a new rule, providing that members of the national committee cannot be removed without the approval of that committee itself.

So heavy imports may either mean that the country is borrowing money, as the government did borrow \$262,000,000 during Mr. Cleveland's term, or that it is pressed to liquidate foreign indebtedness previously existing, as it was when stocks and bonds came here from Europe in large quantity after Mr. Cleveland's election, or that domestic industries have made such progress that they are now able, with profit to makers and fair wages to labor, to send steel rails and other products abroad to markets which foreigners formerly controlled.

Other causes are all the time influencing foreign trade, quite apart from the operation of protective duties. That is not disputed by any intelligent protectionist, nor does he think it necessary, unless writing for children, always to repeat in connection with every statement of the effect of protective duties the obvious truth that other causes are at the same time constantly at work to increase or decrease exports or imports.

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However people may differ from President McKinley on economic or other political issues, all concede that he has maintained himself with absolute dignity and manliness at every stage of the threatened disruption of our friendly relations with Spain; and his last declaration made on the subject of war will be heartily applauded by every patriotic citizen of the union.

Such is President McKinley's attitude before the country and before the world. He is seriously threatened with war without having directly or indirectly given any just cause to provoke it. He has heaved to the line in the observance of the neutrality laws, and resolved all doubts in their favor, even to an extent that has been criticized by many intelligent and fair-minded citizens, but he did it in the interest of peace. He did it because the issue of war is of such grave magnitude that he felt compelled to err, if he erred at all, to avert the horrors of war.

Uncle Sam feels pretty comfortably off, thank you, and he has good reason to. Government statistics just made public show that during the eight months ended February 28 American exports increased by \$77,537,101 over those of the corresponding period of the last fiscal year, imports decreased by \$19,532,116 and gold exports decreased by \$32,477,529.

Farmers in 1898 can afford to let the flies roost on the top rail of the fence and let the howlers for a 50-cent dollar do the shouting; but they should plant and sow and reap. It is going to be a great year for busy people.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

WANE OF THE SILVER ISSUE. Farmers All Over the Country Denouncing the Cause of Cheap Money.

The embarrassments which Chairman Jones and his populist-silver allies encounter in their efforts to make the free silver cause the chief issue of the coming congressional campaign multiply as they hear from the various parts of the country. Besides the results of the object lesson given to farmers by the steady rise in the value of consumptive productions, the populists are receiving the fusion proposition with coldness, and in many sections with absolute rejection.

In Minnesota the silver leaders who visited that state to urge the populists "to save the country" by helping elect democrats to office found no encouragement.

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Another difficulty—and a more serious one—with which the managers of the proposed silver campaign find themselves confronted is the loss of strength of the issue in all elements of the community, and especially among the farmers.

When wheat advanced some months ago in the face of the steady decline of silver the excuse was made that it was due simply to a shortage abroad, and that it did not affect the claim that the low prices of farm products were due to the low price of silver or the absence of the class of currency which the free coinage men had been urging upon the country.

Even in the case of cotton it has been shown that the low figure which it has received is due to an enormous increase in this country and in the world, while in other articles of farm production there has been a marked increase in prices. These advances apply practically to all articles produced by farmers, and as it was among the farmers that the members of the free silver party made the greatest gains in 1896, they naturally view with anxiety the prospect of their being able to hold, through fusion in support of silver, the vote which they controlled in that election.

Not only do the advances received thus far show that they are not going to be able to hold the populist vote, but they also show that the power of the silver issue has lost greatly among the farmers, who are not only too busy and too prosperous again to consider it seriously, but who find in the general advance in prices an absolute refutation of the claim that the low prices which obtained during the existence of the low tariff were due to the low price of silver or the earlier discontinuance of its coinage.—Chicago Times-Herald.

PRESS OPINIONS. Spanish credit has sunk almost to the level of the sixteen to one silver dollar.—Troy Times.

The administration is a success and is receiving the support of the American people.—Albany Journal.

Some of the Kentucky silverites explain that they had to pass a force bill because the populists are deserting free coinage. Fiat elections naturally harmonize with fiat money.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Have faith in the wisdom of President McKinley. He faces the crisis with courage and knowledge. He will not fail to give a good account of the trust which the American people impose upon him.—Chicago Record (Ind.).

Populist leaders of the democratic party are trying to find new issues in Oregon and other places where elections are in near prospect. The farmers see the fallacy of the campaign of '96. There is a great difference between bankruptcy and a man with money in his pocket and more in sight.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The malice with which Senator Hanna has been pursued and traduced, with the utter disregard of the facts and with the explicit intention to misrepresent, is abominable. He has borne, as few men would have borne, the blackest calumnies of type and cartoon that malice could devise.—Columbus (O.) Dispatch.

Bryan intends to have at least one big newspaper on his side in Chicago. In 1896 every newspaper of real ability and influence in the country except a few in the Rocky mountain states and one in San Francisco was against Bryan, but he intends to have better journalistic support two years hence. His Chicago venture, however, will not help him. Organs created for an occasion can help nobody and nothing. Bryan's projected organ will be the mouthpiece of the silver trust, and everyone who sees it will know this. It will have no influence; it will win no votes.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A WARNING FROM LEE. It Caused the President to Withhold His Message.

A Report that Spain was About to Declare an Armistice in Cuba was Also a Factor in Changing the Situation—Outlook for Peace is Said to be Brighter.

Washington, April 7.—Swift as a cannon's flash, changed the Cuban situation yesterday. The galleries of congress were crowded, senators and representatives were agitated, even the diplomatic corps was in a ferment, awaiting a message from the president to congress that might mean war, when like an electric flash the word passed that there would be no message. Its suddenness stunned the public and amazed veteran congressmen.

The first reason for the delay was that the administration received advices from Consul General Lee at Havana indicating that all Americans could not be gotten off the island yesterday and would be in grave peril if the message preceded their departure. The second reason slowly drifted into public comprehension late in the day, chiefly through dispatches from Madrid. This news was that the Spanish government, after what had been exciting times in inner Spanish circles at Madrid, had decided to reopen the case closed, so far as this government was concerned, by the refusal of Spain to make satisfactory response to the representations made by the United States last week, and in order to avert impending war had decided to make concessions heretofore refused.

What will be the final outcome it is too early to say, but the aspect of affairs certainly is more pacific and sufficient to renew the hope of the president in a solution of the Cuban question satisfactory to the American people and achieved without bloodshed. The details remain to be worked out, but it is expected that between now and Monday a clearer light will be thrown on the future by action at Madrid, of which one important feature at least is the declaration of an armistice by the queen regent of Spain. This armistice, it is expected, will lead to ultimate independence of Cuba from Spanish rule, but by what intermediate steps perhaps even the governing powers do not at this time know.

The powers of Europe brought to bear all their influence on the government of Spain, and still are at work, seeking to secure peace. All the capitals of Europe have been in communication to this end, a fact evidenced by the assemblage at the British embassy in this city on Tuesday, of the representatives of the six great powers of Europe, who then and there were made acquainted with what had been done abroad and with the desire of those who accredited them to Washington that they should work in accord here, this concert, however, in the United States not to go beyond a mild tender of good offices to secure peace and delay a declaration of war if hostilities became inevitable.

The improved condition of affairs was reflected throughout all public quarters late in the day. It was manifested at the White House, among cabinet officers and at the embassies and legations, including the Spanish legation. At the latter establishment Senor Bernabe said that while he could not disclose any of the information reaching him in an official character, yet he felt that the prospects for peace looked much brighter.

AN EXODUS FROM HAVANA. Foolish Confidence on the Part of Americans is Succeeded by a Panic.

Havana, April 7.—After many days of foolish confidence that nothing would happen, a number of people here—Americans and others—have been plunged into equally foolish fears in advance of the message of the president to congress. People who should know better insist that war has been declared. Others are equally sure that the pope has secured peace with honor. Bankers with close American connections are packing their papers, collecting all possible debts, arranging for guards for their vaults and sending their families away. Cuban women, with husbands, fathers or brothers in the insurgent army, are in a state of terror.

Consul General Lee says he has received no instructions to leave Havana. It is reported, however, that some of the consular records were sent north by the Mascotte yesterday.

Some Spaniards talk wildly about the United States fleet being blown out of water by fire from the Havana batteries on the water front, but as careful practice two days ago showed the inability of the gunners to come within 100 yards of a target on smooth water at a range of two miles, naval men need not be apprehensive of the effect of the Havana guns.

There will be No Lack of Money. Washington, April 7.—Last evening President McKinley had a long conference with John A. McCall, of New York, who assured the president that the government would be put to no embarrassment by a lack of money with which to prosecute a war. It is said that Mr. McCall told the president that within 48 hours he could raise among the financial institutions of New York alone \$500,000,000, which the government could have upon its own terms, and that if a popular subscription was called for \$500,000,000 could be obtained.

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