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# CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - EDITOR & PROP

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## EDITORIAL.

### DESOLATION.

The self-styled "better element" and "the conservative newspapers," who have been accustomed to dismiss all accounts of the deplorable condition of the people of Cuba and the extreme cruelties of the Spaniards as "pure inventions and sensational stories" have received a sudden quietus in the report of Senator Proctor, of Vermont. He says he went to Cuba believing that the pictures of misery and suffering had been greatly overdrawn, but he found that "words land defense has been superior to the athorrors." While Senator Proctor did not been anything like equal. go to Cuba as the authorized agent of the administration he went with the sanction of the President, and with the of Sebastopol during the Crimean war, avowed purpose of ascertaining the true and the victory certainly did not lie with condition of affairs as they exist in that the ships, although the defenders in their illfated island. His report, as he made tiers of stone casement batteries suffered it on the floor of the United States Senate, severely. A noteworthy feature of that shows a condition in Cuba that is fully occasion was the damage inflicted on as terrible as reported by the newspaper several of the ships of the allied squadcorrespondents, and that this condition is rons by the "wasp battery," as it was the outcome of the policy pursued by the nicknamed by the British naval men, Spanish authorities. The four western armed with only one heavy gun placed provinces are, according to this report, a in an improvised work on the summit of desolation without any buildings or in- a hill overlooking the entrance to the harhabitants except in the fortified towns, bor. The bombardment of Vladivostock trochas or forts." It is neither peace nor by the British squadron in the China seas war. It is concentration and desolation. | at the same time was a signal failure, Every man, woman and child, and every and ended in the suicide of the Admiral domestic animal is under guard and in commanding. the so-called fortifications. This is the provinces."

The country people in the four western others renting lands and owning more or | ed with the weight and penetratin best be described in Senator Proctor's own not disaster might have resulted. language. We quote a few paragraphs as follows :



"THOSE YANKEES ARE PRETTY GOOD BULL FIGHTERS THEMSELVES."

could not draw the picture in all its tack by sea where the conditions have

The last bombardment of land fortifications by ships of the old style was that | and silver has always been the money

The last naval operation of any consepacified condition of the four western quence against land works was the bombardment of Alexandria by the British Mediterranean squadron in 1882. In provinces were driven into the towns by this case the attack had advantages not Weyler's order, numbering about 400,000, enjoyed by the ships before Sebastopol. and these are the reconcentrados. Some The fleet included some of the best arof them are farmers, some land owners, morclads in the British navy. Comparless stock and others working on the er of the projectiles thrown by their guns, estates and cultivating small patches. those of the Crimean period were insig-While the standard of their condition nificant. Yet as an operation of war it was not high, they were comfortable and could not be described as successful. prosperous. These people were forced The Egyptian guns were far inferior to into the towns and fortifications, and left those of the British, and the works were chasing power; when it is exacting from to shift for themselves, and thousands of inferior; yet it is safe to say that had a debtor more than he agreed to pay, on his hands. Shame on the unpatriotic them have died from want and exposure, other conditions been more equal and and others are in such a wretched condi- had the Egyptians had a flotilla or tortion that they cannot survive. The con- pedo boats to launch against the British dition of these unfortunate people can ships during the engagement, defeat if With what assurance, then, may not the men charged with the defense of our "I went to Cuba with a strong convic- coasts prepare to receive an attack from whatever quarter it may come, once the preparations now making are completed. The material and scientific appliances at play to a strong, natural and highly cul- their disposal are immensely superior to those of 20 years ago, but they must in everything be kept abreast of the improvements in other countries. Without starving reconcentrados, and took it with land detenses supplemented with coast and harbor defenses monitors of moderthat should not be photographed and the channels protected by sumerged ler's order, to leave their homes and shown. I could not believe that out of a mines the country processing a tramend mines, the country possessing a tremendprison walls, within a few months past hesitate before undertaking a war of

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

In all the ages and in every civilized state gold has been the money of the rich of the world's toilers.

Cheaper money and higher prices for labor and its product is the demand of intelligent workers in every civilized country on the globe.

If both gold and silver are used as mediums of exchange at a fixed ratio it will be impossible for designing men to get up a corner on either. If but one is comed it will be impossible for syndicates to make money scarce and dearrob the many and enrich the few.

The single gold standard is a sham and a lie, a cheat and a swindle everywhere.

Money is a legal endowment of a sub stance, and not an inherent quality.

Gold and silver, like every other commodity, vary in their value as commodities depends upon the supply and demand. Their value as money is determined by the fiat of Government.

The cost of production of the materials of which money is made does not determine the value of the money. The value of money, no matter of what material made, is determined by the cost of obtaining it after such material is converted into money.

A dollar may be said to be dishonest which is constantly increasing in its pur-

#### THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE RESTRAINING TRUSTS.

So Far All Attempts to Check Them Have LUNG TROUBLES AND CONSUMPTION CAN Proved Futile.

A writer in The Political Science Quarterly reviews the various legal actions that have been taken under the federal antitrust law of 1890 and shows that the law has practically failed to have any effect in restraining or punishing attempts at monopoly, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. One after another the courts on various plausible grounds find that the law cannot be enforced. One after another the actions against the trusts have fallen through, with the result that today there appears to be no possibility of any further federal interference.

If it were true that the power for the checking of trusts is exhausted the outlook would be dark indeed. If the trusts are to gather in all the profitable activities of the people and control the government through their tremendous influences, popular government is doomed. There is good ground for the joy of the socialists, who hail the growth of trusts and combinations as the forerunner of the death of democracy and individualism and the triumph of communism

But the possibilities of trust fighting are far from exhausted. They have scarcely been touched. With the exception of the federal law, which was ill constructed, nothing has been done to check the trusts. On the contrary much has been done to promote their growth. The tariff law of the present congress favors and feeds them. Courts are packed in their interest.

When the people make up their minds that the trusts shall be checked and elect a congress and a president that will carry out the popular will, a new trust fighting record will be made. It will be time enough to despair when the right kind of antitrust fight has been made and has failed.

# REPUBLICAN ARGUMENT.

The Reason Dingley's Bill Is a Failure Is That We Don't Import Enough.

Within the past few days a new champion has stood forward for Mr. Dingley's bill, says the Kansas City Times. Mr. Assistant Secretary Howell of the treasury department has taken his pen in hand. He does not deny that the measure is not producing adequate revenues for the support of the government. No, he admits the big deficit-he could not very well do otherwise after his chief's recent deliverance on the subject-but this assistant secretary makes bold to declare that Mr. Dingley's bill is all right, in spite of all. The trouble is with the people, he says. If the people would only import enough, they would find the bill producing ample revenue in short order. Now this is certainly very astonishing. If the people would import as much now as they did in 1895 and 1896, the Dingley bill would produce more than the Wilson bill did, and everything would be lovely. But the people do not do this, laments the treasury department's logician, and so Uncle Sam has a deficit people By the way, though, if we remember rightly, this bill of Dingley's was to be a protective measure. Republican orators had it all figured out during the presidential campaign that the whole trouble with the country was that we were importing too much. What we needed was a regular McKinley tariff to shut out the products of the pauper labor of Europe and protect the American workingman, etc. The Dingley bill was passed to shut off the imports. Now it seems, according to Mr. Assistant Secretary Howell, the bill has shut off the imports, and in this is the secret of the bill's failure. This is a model Republican argument.

BE CURED. An Eminent New York Chemist and Scientist Makes a Free Offer to Our Readers.

The distinguished chemist, T. A. slocum, of we York City, demonstrating his disc.very of a reliable cure for Cosumption (Pulmonary tuberculosis). bronchial, lung and chest troubles, stubborn coughs catarrhal affections, general decline and weakness, loss of flesh, and all conditions of wasting away, will send tHkEE FKEE BOTTLES (all different) of his New Discoveries to any afflicted reader of this apper writing for the management of the second second second the considers it a simple professional duty to suffering humanity to donate a trial of his in-initie cure. Scheece daily develops new wonders, and this great chemist, patiently experimenting or years, has produced results as beneficial to humanity as can be claimed by any modern equilibric. His assertion that lung trouble and consumption are curable in any climate is proven by 'heartfeit letters of gratitude,'' filed in his American and European laboratories in thousands from those cure in all parts of the widd.

world. The dread Consumption, uninterrupted, means speedy and certain death. Simply write to T. A. Siocum, M. C., 98 Pine street, New York, giving postofice and express address, and the free medicine will be sent direct from his laboratory. Sufferers should take instant advantage of his concross proposition. his generous proposition. Please tell the Doctor that you saw this in the Centre Democrat. 8-98.

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in the Wall Paper business. The startling fact is the Wonin 25 years. The same grade of paper we sold 25 years ago for 20 cents we will sell this spring for 3 cents, with

Our Oat-meal and flakes on them.

tion that the picture had been overdrawn; but a few cases of starvation and suffering had inspired and stimulated the press correspondents and they had given free tivated imagination."

"Before starting I received through the mail a leaflet published by the Christian Herald with cuts of some of the sick and me, thinking these were rare specimens got up to make the worst possible show-

'I saw plenty as bad and worse ; many population of 1,600,000, 200,000 had died within these Spanish forts, practically from actual starvation and diseases caus- naval aggression against this country. ed by insufficent and improper food."

"What I saw I can not tell so that others can see it. It must be seen by one's own eyes to be realized."

This is then the condition of four of the six provinces of Cuba. The other two are in the hands of the insurgents and the people are not disturbed, but allowed to remain at their houses and live in comfort. Spain is in complete possession of the city of Havana, and quiet seems to prevail, but outside in these four provinces all is changed. "It is not peace, nor is it war. It is desolation and distress, misery and starvation." Spain seems to have no foothold putside of her fortifications and it does not seem possible to reconquer the island, while the Cubans are strong enough for self government, and are fighting for their homes and their lives. A report coming from such a source cannot be questioned, and no doubt it had a great influence in finally determining the aggressive policy of the administration. There is no longer any room for doubt or hesitancy as to the duty of the United States. Such oppression and cruelty as is depicted in this report cannot go unpunished, and naturhands.

# WHY WE SHOULD ARM.

The disaster of the Maine will not have been entirely without its use if, besides bringing the country to see the necessity for putting our coast defences immediately in a condition to repel attack, it also opens its eyes to the necessity of their being kept permanently in an efficient state, fully manned and up to the military requirements of the time. Past experience has shown that, as a rule, the from 3 to 31/2. Strange, is it not.

## FREE COINAGE-WHAT IT MEANS.

Many persons misapprehend the meaning of this phrase. It has no reference to the charges made at the mints for the bullion deposited for coinage. It is the practice of nearly all nations to charge at their mints an amount sufficient to pay the absolute cost of conversion, and to make the mint self-sustaining. The application of the stamp after the metal has coinage is made without any charge, and hence the phrase, free coinage, may be properly applied. In common parlance we call it free coinage when a person can take his bullion to the mint and have it converted into standard money without charge, expect a small fee for preparing the builion for the stamp. The popular use of the phrase "the free and unlimited coinage of silver" means that silver is to be coined upon the same terms and conditions which are applied to the coinage of gold. If a charge is made for the alloy in one it shall be to both. In other words, there shall be no distinction in favor of either, but absolute equality ally avenging scourge is placed into our recognized. All the advocates of silver ask is the unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1.

> By abusing ex-commissioner Goodhart the Gazette expects to clear up the the county commissioners record. Better take a little time and explain why that item of \$146 appears in the statement, which Strohm says should be \$50 less. How about this?

THE county has a surplus of \$15,000, more or less, and yet taxes are increased

and giving more to the creditor than he agreed to receive

By intrinsic value is meant that value which inheres in the substance of the thing and can be neither increased nor lessened. No Government, nor a dozen Governments combined, can give intrinsic value to any substance destitute of that quality.

A greenback has no intrinsic value, but it costs as much labor to procure a ten dollar greenback as to get a gold eagle.

## RECONCENTRADOS.

The question is frequently asked what or who are reconcentrados? They are ate speed, light draught, and heavy ar- the people of the four western provinces mament, local torpedo boat flotillas, and of Cuba, who were compelled, by Weycome into the fortified towns. The order ous force of seagoing war vessels would is as follows:-"I order and command, all the inhabitants of the country or outside of the line of fortifications of towns, shall within the period of eight days, concentrate themselves in the town so occupied by troops. Any individual who after the expiration of this period is found in the unhabited parts, will be considered a rebel and tried as such." By this order, all who refused to leave their homes, and come into the fortifications were considered rebels, and condemned and executed as such. The order also forbid the transportation of been melted, refined and prepared for provisions, without permission, from the military authorities, and directed them to bring their cattle into the towns. The order was executed by the Spanish guerillas. The people were driven into the towns by these guerillas, and a torch applied to their homes. When they reached the towns they were allowed to build huts within the lines of the forts, or trochas, and left to live if they could. They were thus left without any means of subsistance, and without opportunity to provide for themselves and their families. The Christian Herald claims that there are 750,000 of these people; that 250,000 have died of starvation, and fully 250,000 will die, unless speedy relief comes to them.

### Give the Children a Drink.

called Grain-O. It is a delicious, appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it because when properly prepared it tastes like the finest coffee but is free from all its injurious properties. Grain O aids diges-tion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder, and children, as well as adults, can drink it with great benefit. Costs about 1/4 as much as coffee. 15 and 25c. No. 12

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### False Republican Promises.

When the New England cotton mills first began to feel the competition of the south, the Republican politicians asserted shamelessly that it was foreign competition. They told the thousands of cotton workers in New England that the Wilson tariff was harming them; that when it was repealed they would be prosperous; that Mr. McKinley's election meant increased wages for them. Mr. McKinley is now nominally president, the Wilson tariff has been replaced by a Republican measure, the cotton mills of New England have their protection. Yet the wages of the employees are to be reduced 10 per cent on New Year's day. More cuts are promised in the next few mouths. Worse still, the decreases are admitted to be permanent.

#### Duty of Self Respecting Veterans.

Just at the present moment the whole country seems to be aroused over the abuses that have so sadly diverted the pension system from its original purpose. This arousement may be only spasmodic, and it may be the beginning of the movement which must come sooner or later for a revision and purging of the pension roll. Whether it be the one or the other, there is one thing certain-the politician of either party can never be depended upon to bring about reform so long as politics and pensions retain their present intimate relationship. Reform can only be brought about by the honorable, self respecting, patri-otic soldiers and sailors of the war.

### How Sumner and Hanna Differ.

Think of Charles Sumner renting three hotels in Boston, with an enormously expensive lobby in each of them reeking to buy off the revolt in his own party in Massachusetts against his leadership! The great Summer would have lost his life rather than his character.

# McKinley Agreeable All around.

Secretary Gage and Senator Wolcott are bitterly opposed to each other on the question of free silver, but each consoles himself with the fact that President McKinley is in full agreement with him.-Exchange.

Bronze and Golds, with Blended Friezes and Ceilings to match-prices 4, 5, 6 and 8 cents.

to match, 3 cents; 9-inch

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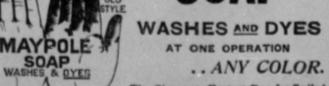
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