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Colonel Barnett's traducers are probably now willing to admit that it was all a joke.

The Result.
IN VIEW of the complexity and uncertainty of the local returns at the hour of writing, comment and analysis are withheld.

It is always the Democrat residing in Republican strongholds that has the most to say regarding a non-partisan contest.

Remember the Maine.

THE BELIEF has probably never been abandoned by the American people that the mystery of the Maine would one day be cleared up.

Back of all the political consequences of the war with Spain, which have probably meted out to the Spanish nation full punishment for the misgovernment in whose shadow such a crime could be conceived, there lies the great unsolved question of personal responsibility.

Farmer Crosey will doubtless hereafter keep off the grass on the political Majuba Hill.

The Kaiser's Opportunity.

AS THE EMPEROR of Germany decided to abandon the traditional insularism of continental policy so marked in the earlier history of the German confederation and to identify himself on the side of the great progressive powers, Great Britain and the United States?

These interesting questions are suggested in part by the announcement that an amicable agreement has practically been arrived at by Great Britain, the United States and Germany with respect to Samoa.

Not long ago England was wholly isolated. She stood alone, America, formerly looked upon as a traditional enemy, was the first of England's new-found friends.

larger politics. Russia was friendly, but playing for France more than for Germany. That the Kaiser made considerable efforts to bring on a rapprochement with France, an effort to go with Napoleon's dream of the continent united against England, is undoubted.

It needs to be understood, of course, that so far as the United States is concerned, there are no formal alliances, simply a coincidence of policy growing out of parallel interests and mutual respect.

The Arbitration Treaty.

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED to us that perhaps our statement in yesterday's Tribune that the method of arbitration arranged by the recent peace conference has been sufficiently explained in the American press is erroneous.

As was said yesterday, the chief treaty brought back by our delegation to The Hague for consideration by our senate is entitled "a convention for the peaceful settlement of international disputes."

Now as to the rules of procedure in case of arbitration. If powers in dispute cannot agree upon the odd arbitrator, they are to ask a neutral power to recommend one.

Objection in the senate to this treaty is likely to arise at three points more especially. The first of these concerns the section which recommends international commissions of inquiry to ascertain the facts as to matters in dispute.

Such as frontier incidents, conflicting testimony touching frictions at a distance from the seats of the governments concerned, etc. It is conceivable that neutral investigation might prove a welcome escape from prolonged diplomatic wrangling between the powers immediately interested.

testimony touching frictions at a distance from the seats of the governments concerned, etc. It is conceivable that neutral investigation might prove a welcome escape from prolonged diplomatic wrangling between the powers immediately interested.

The third and most serious objection is likely to arise over the rules of procedure of the permanent court; and more especially over the lack of any opportunity to secure a revision of decree after the discovery of materially important new evidence.

Each day seems to prove that it is easier for the Boers to whip the beleaguered Englishmen in war bulletins than in actual battle.

Some of the candidates will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that they were political "possibilities."

The South African dog-in-the-manger will soon begin to cultivate an appetite for hay.

The spring campaign will open today.

STUDIES IN CRIME.

From the Philadelphia Times. There are 32,229 prisoners in the United States today occupying penitentiaries, state prisons, county jails and other places of confinement.

The offenses for which these men are serving terms in the penitentiaries are many. They range from murder on committed sentences to petty larceny.

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