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New Light on the Boer.

From the Philadelphia North American.
British civilization might be better for the Boer than his own, which is said to be indifferent to the bathtub, hostile to the barber and careless of painters and fiddlers and writers of books. But such as the Boer's civilization is he likes it well enough to fight and die for it. It may not be a civilization calculated to evolve a stock market by day and grand opera by night, but it surely does produce men. The Boer's hat is queer and his boots coarse, but how he does stand to his gun!

The Boers are no prettier to look at than were the farmers who immortalized Bunker Hill, and their love for the redcoats is no stronger. And the redcoats under Victoria, let us remember, are engaged in the same liberty-crushing business they failed in on this side of the water under George III.

We should keep it in mind that most of the received statements about the political and commercial and social shortcomings of the Boers have reached us through British channels. Before Laing's Neck and Majuba Hill mankind had it on the same English authority that every Boer was a coward, and would flee at the sight of a soldier. That article of British faith had to be given up, and there has been substituted for the coward the creature who doesn't tub of a morning, who speaks a Dutch dialect, who prefers the rude comfort of his farm to the glittering joys of the town, and in general is so un-English as to be without rights.

Should England fail to steal the Transvaal as a result of this war, we may live to hear Mr. Kipling singing of the brave and rugged man of the veldt, whose healthy mind rejects the gauds of a meretricious and decadent culture and nobly lays hold on the real things of life—a grand child of nature, content with little, worshipping his Maker in the African solitudes and finding his virtuous heaven here below in the dear seclusion of his simple home. It all depends upon the point of view.

Trustworthy information as to the real qualities of the Boer is being shot into the consciousness of the modest British people, and into that of the whole world, too. These African farmers put so much brains, as well as valor, into their fighting that it is occurring to everybody that the British estimate of their place in the scale of intelligence is sorely in need of revision.

Free Traveling Libraries.

From the Philadelphia Record.
The late Pennsylvania legislature passed an act establishing a Free Library commission. The duties of the commission are to give advice and counsel for the better administration of the free libraries already established; to assist in the organization of new free libraries, and to supervise and inspect such libraries in the school districts of the commonwealth except in cities of the first and second class. The act further provides that "the commission shall also establish and maintain, out of such sums as shall come into its hands by appropriation or otherwise, a system of traveling libraries as far as possible throughout the commonwealth. No member of the commission shall receive any compensation for his services as a member."

The provision for what is called free traveling libraries, if an appropriation should be made for its proper maintenance, would no doubt be of the highest public advantage. As the people cannot all be brought to the books, it is a wise thought to carry the books to the people.

What Advertising Does.

No business place, no matter how pleasing its environment nor how gaudy its decorations, can survive without patronage. There can be no supporting income when there are few sales, and there can be little selling where advertising is not invoked to bring custom. By advertising liberally the shrewd merchant secures patronage, sells freely, and not only maintains his business but is enabled to enlarge it.

CONTRACTION OF CURRENCY.

Some of the Evil Results Certain to Follow the Proposed Currency Law.
If we were to think of political effects only we would feel like praying that the proposed currency bill might pass and become a law without delay, and we might pray that the request that it might become a law by the solid vote of the Republican membership and that no Democratic ballot would be cast in its favor.

There can be no doubt about what the ultimate results of the passage of this proposed measure must be. Any legislation that shortens the supply of money among the people, that lessens the circulating currency or that adds to the difficulties of obtaining a medium of exchange, must bring disaster to business and distress to the people. These will bring dismay and defeat to the party responsible for that legislation, and it is because we hope and pray for that defeat that we would, if political results alone were looked to, hope for the speedy passage of the bill just as it has been presented.

That its enactment into law will lessen the amount of money there will be to do business with its warmest advocates admit. Is there a man in the country, no matter how little thought he gives to financial affairs, who does not realize that to lessen the supply of money is to cripple business, decrease values, destroy confidence and insure panics? Are these what we want? And then as to a legal tender. The proposed bill makes no provision for this. At present greenbacks are the only legal tender we have excepting gold. These, under the provisions of the law about to be enacted, are to be redeemed and retired. When they are retired how in the name of all that is fair to business, or just to the people, are men to pay their debts? When greenbacks are not to be had the creditor will demand gold, and where is that to come from?

Today, with all the greenbacks that are in circulation and all the gold that is held by individuals and banks, there is not enough in any community to pay the one-fourth of the debts within it. When one-half of this is retired and the demand is made for gold alone to liquidate these debts can any one point to where it can be had without paying an enormous premium for it?

And it is to make a premium on gold that the effort to change the currency laws of the country is now being made—to enhance its value and benefit the few who can own and control it. The real effects of such legislation may not be felt at once, but they are as sure to come as the sun is to shine on a cloudless day or the waters are to continue to run down hill. When they do come they will be the beginning of the end of the party that was responsible for them. Mark the prediction.—Belleville Watchman.

CURRENT COMMENT.

We have for generations boasted that this is the land of the free and the home of the brave, an asylum for the oppressed of all nations. Now our rulers desire it desirable to expand, and we start out to slaughter a simple people and take their land for our own. Isn't this a pretty picture of inconsistency for a government boasting of its Christian civilization?

Philadelphia has secured the Republican national convention, and now she is trying to have the national headquarters located there. That would be strictly in accord with the eternal fitness of things, especially if Mark Hanna is to be the chief bottle holder, as seems likely. He would take to the Philadelphia method of carrying elections as readily as a duck runs to water. He would find it cheaper perhaps, and no more demoralizing than the wholesale bribery and intimidation used to pull McKinley through in 1896. Yes, by all means let Marcus locate headquarters and headquarters, too, if he likes. In Philadelphia, for many of the Philadelphia fellows, who see a horrid political specter in Matthew would take kindly to Mark.

In spite of all the paeans sung to the goddess of prosperity "murder will out." A few days ago a Washington dispatch gave the information that Secretary Gage had that day received telegrams from bankers in all parts of the country, declaring that a financial panic was impending, and urging him to take immediate steps to prevent it. What was the good Mr. Gage to do? He knows that we have more money than we need, he said so; but he at once decided to buy bonds to the amount of \$25,000,000, so as to get the money out of his way simply, and also agreed to send out \$50,000,000 of the government's money to be deposited in national banks. Of course the banks had no use for it, because, according to Mr. Gage and his golden crew, we have all the money we need. But it was perhaps in Mr. Gage's way, and he sent it out. When such men as Gage talk about our having more money than we need and use that as an argument to deceive the people into favoring the single gold standard it is a pity that the which befel Ananias and Sapphira might not have a new illustration, as the old seems to have lost its effect.

Professional military gentlemen are the vainest lot of human peacocks on the face of the earth, showing their self importance in every movement as they strut about togged out in tinsel and feathers. Naturally they are the greatest braggarts in existence, and can make the tamest sort of an engagement a heroic and terrible contest, a brilliant attack or a most gallant charge. When defeated it is always overwhelming numbers, and the retreat is simply a withdrawal in splendid order. General Methuen in sending an account of the skirmish at Modder river described it as the "bloodiest battle of the century," and said he was confronted by at least 8,000 Boers. It turned out that the Boer force was but 500 and the British lost 73 killed and about 400 wounded. Perhaps it was blue blood that the general had in mind that made things so bloody, for a little of that in his estimation would undoubtedly go a long way. One would think from Roosevelt's description of the skirmish at San Juan that it was like Methuen's, one of the bloodiest engagements of the world's history, yet it was but a scratch, with little loss of life, which might have been prevented had somebody with less brass parade courage and more judgment been in Roosevelt's place.

Beneficial Trusts.

The theory that trusts reduce the cost of the necessities of life and are, therefore, beneficial in their nature, was sweetly presented in some recent public remarks by New Jersey's Governor, Foster M. Voorhees, not long ago. Since the date of the Governor's remarks the trusts have got in some of their beneficent work, and with results that may partly be summarized in these advances in prices:

- Dressmakers' supplies, 15 to 25 per cent.
- Envelopes, 40 per cent.
- Enameled ware, 50 per cent.
- Builders' hardware, 45 per cent.
- Iron beds, 35 to 45 per cent.
- Brooms, 40 to 50 per cent.
- Copper wire, 100 per cent.
- Chairs, 25 to 33 1/2 per cent.
- Furniture, 25 per cent.
- Flour, 30 cents a barrel.
- Glassware, 20 per cent.
- Iron, 100 per cent.
- Knit wool, \$1 \$1.50 per dozen.
- Plumbers' supplies, 30 to 60 per cent.
- Shoes, 10 to 20 per cent.
- Rubber, large advances.
- Common soap, 25 cents a box.
- Spool cotton, 8 to 25 per cent.
- Salt, 10 to 15 per cent.
- Stoves, 25 to 33 1/2 per cent.
- Teas, 10 to 15 cents a pound.
- Tinware, 100 to 500 per cent.
- Wall paper, 25 to 80 per cent.

These prices are taken from written reports of authorized agents of the trusts, and they represent in most part a purely arbitrary advance. The advantages claimed for the trusts are the elimination of useless plants, the reduction of the expense of office salaries, economy in labor and fuel and in buying and selling, etc. These economic advantages should work a reduction of prices for the consumer, but instead the trusts have pocketed all the profits accruing therefrom, and besides advanced prices to the utmost limit of extortion.

It is certainly time for New Jersey's Governor, Foster M. Voorhees, to overhaul his true catechism and make some new notes on the subject of the trusts as a beneficial force that reduces the cost of the necessities of life.—Newark Daily Advertiser.

Control Grain.

Testimony taken for the Congressional Industrial Commission in Chicago recently threw a flood of light upon the free silver craze, the fury against railroads and corporations generally, and all the other phases of political eccentricity among the farmers of the west and northwest during the past ten years.

In the most favorable condition the most of these years would have been had because of short crops and small prices. But, as the testimony showed, the conditions were made intolerable by these facts:

That five men have been meeting, and still meet, in Chicago every morning and decide what the farmer shall be paid for his grain; that this purpose is to maintain the profits of transporters and dealers in grain, no matter how low market prices may go; that, as these men represent and control all the means by which grain is sent from the farms to the market, their decision has been and is final.

Among those who testified to this state of farmer servitude was Charles Counselman, one of the five men who constitute the Executive Committee of the "combine."

Iowa, through its intelligent railway legislation, aided by competition, has been to an extent free from this domination. In spite of hard times Iowa stood firm for sound money and conservatism. But in general these five dictators have been goading on the farmers to unreasonable fury and to anger reaching after any remedy that seems to hold out the faintest prospect of relief.

The point is: So long as the grain trust exists so long will a recurrence of political lunacy depend only upon a return of short crops and low market prices.—N. Y. World.

A Hollow Mockery.

The selfish and criminal policy of imperialism carries no more for the value of American lives which it is sacrificing in the Philippines than for the money of American taxpayers which it is spending in the effort to crush out the liberties of the Filipinos. The price which we have already paid for that policy is a costly and a bloody one, and it is slowly but surely making itself felt throughout the length and breadth of the country. The Philippine war, in fact, is beginning to come home to many thousands of persons, and to give practical point and application to the abstract arguments against it. It has been most truthfully said that the killing of a hundred Filipinos could not make up for the loss of one such life as that of the brave and dashing Major John A. Logan, who fell in the charge at San Jacinto a few days ago. The regret which is excited by his death is intensified by the reflection that his life was sacrificed not only needlessly, but willfully, by the policy which has forced the country into a war of criminal aggression.—Baltimore Sun.

Hanna Urged to Stay.

Senator Hanna's friends in Washington are responsible for a story to the effect that, while the powerful Republican boss personally wants to retire from the leadership of the National Committee, he will not consent to step down and out in the face of a hostile demonstration by his political enemies. President McKinley is said to be opposed to the Senator's retirement. He believes that the public would view it as evidence of weakness. He is reported to have personally urged the Senator to retain the place and is confident that his request will be honored by a favorable declaration from Mr. Hanna when the committee holds its next meeting in Washington in December.—Washington Spec. Chicago Chronicle.

The cost of the war with Spain and the twenty millions paid for the Philippines promises to be a small item in comparison with the cost of subjugating and maintaining our authority over these islands.

The enormous cost in life and treasure of making a conquest of and holding the Philippine Islands will be an outlay for which there will never be any return that will benefit the toilers of America.

STARVING RUSSIANS.

Fight Death With Sleep During the Long Winters.

From the districts of Popov and of Pskov comes the news that the poverty-stricken peasants of those blighted provinces are again alone to begin their annual struggle with death by starvation. It is not a new condition for these unfortunates to face. For years the crops have been insufficient to feed the men and women who spend their lives in the sowing and the reaping. Each winter finds many victims of starvation, but adds also to the experience of these thousands whose one and only object is to solve the problem of keeping body and soul together.

Their only solution of the problem was found in the example of the lowest orders of animal—hibernation; and now when the sun begins to fall the peasants seek forgetfulness of hunger in the Laska or "winter sleep." In the villages and hamlets of those districts the men and women and even little children are busy digging and piling up great heaps of peat. The little grain left is being ground and baked into hard loaves of coarse bread, and these loaves are hoarded like gold for they are all that stand between the peasants and death between now and the spring.

Around the great oven that stands in the center of each poor hut the low wooden cots of the family are arranged. The fires are started. There is almost no ventilation in the huts, and the poor are crowded together against death. The members of the family will go down to the winter's sleep and soon lose consciousness. One alone of the family will guard—to feed the fire. The vigil is a terrible one. Around him lie those most dear to him, struggling against death. Hour after hour the peasants' only gift to these unfortunates is piled on the fire. The atmosphere is stifling. The sleepers lie in a stupor—more dead than alive—but at least unconscious to the awful pangs of hunger. But hunger at last manifests itself. Once each day the sleepers rouse from the stupor of a crust of the bread for each is taken from the board, soaked in water and munched. The guard is changed, and again the sleepers crawl back to their cots.

And so day after day, night after night, the long fight against starvation is kept up—until, at last, the spring comes, and with it new life and new hope.—Correspondent New York Journal.

BOERS INHUMAN.

So Writes One Mrs. Rapley of the Transvaal People.

Mrs. Adrian Rapley, writing in the Sketch of a visit to the Transvaal in 1891 dwells on the marked inhumanity of the Boers to English travelers. She says it was a rare occurrence to receive even the courtesy of a greeting while "trekking" it through the country districts, and it was almost impossible to obtain food other than that they carried with them in their ox carts. On one occasion she was even refused a drink of water at a farmhouse.

"If you want water you should bring it with you," said the farmer. "We don't encourage foreigners." This treatment was the same in the Orange Free State.

"Women need to be very brave, and full of pluck and energy," she writes. "To stand the roughings of a South African life. No woman knows what it means until she has tried it; and by 'roughing' I don't mean only having to put up with bad servants, but I mean having to live where one cannot get servants for any money, and having to put up with the shocking way one is treated by one's fellow farmers, the Boers."

Romeo Was Saved.

Mr. Edward Vernon had long had an ambition to play Romeo, and when the opportunity did occur, it must be confessed that he scored fair success. Letters written by him to the actress who played Juliet, were lying dead. Just as "Juliet" bent over him in the wild paroxysm of her despair, before taking her own life, the object of her passion felt a premonitory tingling in his nose.

A sneeze was coming, as sure as he lived. Suddenly there overcame his features an expression more agonizing than the stage death struggle had ever left.

"Teddy, what is the matter?" whispered the dying "Juliet," in real alarm. "I'm going to sneeze," gasped the miserable "Romeo."

An Every Day Pudding.

An excellent every-day pudding may be made with a cupful of fruit juice as a foundation. Bring to the boiling point one cupful of water and one cupful of fruit juice. Dissolve three tablespoonsful of cornstarch in a little cold water, stir into the boiling sirup and cook ten minutes. Add one-half saltspoon of salt and sugar to make of the sweetness required. The quantity, of course, depends upon the tartness of the fruit used. Beat the whites of three eggs until foamy, but not too stiff, and stir into the pudding. Turn into a mold and set in a cool place to harden. Serve cold with a boiled custard made from the yolks of the eggs.

What Eggs Are Used For.
Calico print works use 40,000,000 dozen eggs per year, wine clarifiers use 10,000,000 dozen, the photographers and other industries use many millions, and these demands increase more rapidly than table demands.

A Unique Violin.

A unique violin has been made by a Missouri man. The back is of cherry from a table more than a century old, which formerly belonged to the Howard-Payne College. In the center of the back are inserted twenty-one pieces of wood from the Holy Land, one being from a grapevine that grew in the Garden of Gethsemane. Around the margin are set in a row small pieces of wood, diamond-shaped, gathered from all over the civilized world. In one end of the back is inserted a horseshoe made of castor wood, and in the other end is the image of a rabbit carved in cherry. There are in all over one hundred and fifty pieces of wood, and the only tools used in the manufacture of the instrument were a pocket-knife and a half-inch chisel.—New York Tribune.

Feed Their Soldiers Well.

The British soldier is the best fed individual of his class in Europe. He receives for his daily rations 16 ounces of bread, 12 ounces of meat, 2 ounces of rice, 8 ounces of dried vegetables, 16 ounces of potatoes, and once a week he receives two ounces of salt, four ounces of coffee and nine ounces of sugar.

This Takes Courage.

"I tell you, Burkhart is a man who has nerve."
"How has he ever proved it? He has never gone to war or rescued anybody from drowning, has he?"
"No, I guess not, but he isn't afraid to stay right in the house and face his wife when she reads the news from the summer resorts in the Sunday papers."—Chicago Times-Herald.

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Headache for Forty Years.

For forty years I suffered from sick headache. A year ago I began using Celery King. The result was gratifying and surprising, my headaches leaving at once. The headaches used to return every seventh day, but thanks to Celery King, I have had but one headache in the last eleven months. I know that what cured me will help others.—Mrs. John I. Van Keuren, Saugerties, N. Y. Celery King cures most constipation and all diseases of the Nerves, Stomach, Liver and Kidneys. Sold by druggists. 25c and 50c.

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