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From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The industrial condition of Porto Rice at this time is not creditable to the United States. The island is in a bad way and its inhabitants are said to be disappointed and discouraged. Their distress is partly due to the terrible destructive storm by which the country was visited a few months ago. That was a calamity which it was not in human power to avert, and the worst of the distitution which it occasioned has been relieved by the contribuctions of the charitable American public. The storm, however, has not been the only or even the principal cause of the Port The chief trouble is that suffered from the fact that whereas the Spanish market has been lost as a consequence of the transfer of Porto Ricar sovereignity from Spain to the United States the American markets have not

More than a year has elapsed since Porto Rico passed fully and finally into our possession. The change was effected without difficulty or delay. The people of the island cheerfully accepted their new allegiance. It did not have to be forced upon them. They wel-comed it with hopeful cheerfulness and expected with confidence that they would be benefitted in every way by the institution of the new order of things and the reason why not is to be found in the culpable failure of congress to provide by appropriate legislation for the admission of the products of Porto Rico to the markets of the United

ing in doing so deprived its inhabitant their former customers we ought without delay let down the bars and admit them to a status of commericia equality.

## Incompetent Mine Officials.

In the inquest at Uniontown last week on the nineteen miners who perished in the Brazell coal mine on December 23 last, the coroner's jury found that the foreman of the mine had been negligent in having failed to keep the mine in a safe condition; that the fire boss had also neglected his duties, and that both of these men were incompetent to perform properly the services required o them in their respective positions. In other words, nearly a score of miners died a horrible death because their safety while at work was not provided for as the mine ventilation law requires.

Now that the cause of the disaster has been determined to be due to crim negligence of the mine foreman and fire boss, it remains to be determin ed whether or not the coal company can be held responsible in any degree for the death of the victims. The probabilities are that the company cannot be held liable for damages under the technical interpretation of the law under which repeated decisions are en record in the courts making mine bosses and fire bosses wholly responsible as in dividual co-employes with the victims.

The fund for the widow of the lat General Lawton, killed in the Philippines, has reached the magnificent sum This is an excellent demonstration of patriotic feeling, but what are we doing for the poor fellows who die in the trenches? Do they go to their doom unbonored and unsung! We have not yet heard of any fund be ing raised for the families of dead pri left to fight alone for the pittance they may secure after a battle with intricate pension laws.

It is stated that a "mathematical in a child who can add, divide, multiply and subtract any number of figures without a slate, and can solve the most intricate problems in algebra in a matical wonder" when compared with dabsters who count up majorities for the Republiban party at every elec tion in Philadelphia.

reason why Secretary Long resign is that he is unfit for ce and that his continuance in

should resign is that he is unfit for his place and that his continuance in office can only work to the detriment of the navy, which has already been demoralized by his inefficiency. He has been the easy victim of naval cabals and has pandered to the jeal-ousies of naval officers instead of promptly stiffling them. His vanity has been flattered by toadies and tuft-hunters and he has unhesitatingly has been flattered by toadies and tuft-hunters and he has unhesitatingly yielded to their crafty insituations and furthered their personal ambitions. He has encouraged scandals and fostered favoritism. He has smirched the glory of the Santiago victory, which was "enough for all of us," by making it only sufficient for one, and that one an officer who was not in the battle at all. He is responsible for the silly and fruitless naval procession to Porto Rico, which only resulted in seriously straining two or three battleships, which had to tow the monitors. He has taken sides with the insolent bureaucrat, Crown inshield, and the Board of Stratey in exalting some officers who had not earned the honor at the expense of other officers who did the real work. He has been Sir Oracle for Captain Evans, who has vented his spleen aganist higher officers by making false and vicious statements.

The outcome of this miserable business is the demoralization of the navy and serious menace to its discipline. If it is not checked soon it must result in naval anarchy. If Mr. Long had been a man fitted for his place. If he had been a fair and just man, he would have stopped at once all this intriguing of cabals. He would have checked jealousies and suppressed scandals. Had he not been a man blinded by vanity and seized of the idea that he was a great naval genius, he would have foreseen just what has happened and prevented it as soon as he entered upon his office. Secretary Root, when he was appointed, had no more knowledge of military matters than Long had of heavily and seized of the idea that he was a great naval genius, he would have

### An Infamous Chapter.

An Infamous Chapter.
Congress cannot do better than to investigate the seven-years' war in Icaho between the mine owners and unners of the Coeur d'Alene District. The story of Wordner's "Bull Pen" is an infamous chapter in American history. On application from the Governor the Federal troops were used to preserve order." This turned out to mean to coerce the strikers into submission Martial law was proclaimed and the entire district has for a long time been virtually under the government of an Irresponsible military commander, working in conjunction with a Governor who is himself said to be under the influence of the corporations. The "Bull Pen" is a prison where the military authorities have confined the miners who were not supplied the miner of the corporations. It is said that as many as 2,000 men have been held in this pen, and of the total number incarecrated only 18 have been graciously granted a trial by Jury. Justice, law and evident principle of civil liberty have been violated by the military authorities.

ies. The Standard Oil is mixed up in The Standard Oil is mixed up in this disgrace. That monopoly owns the principal mines in the district, and the ease with which the whole power of the national government has been thrown against the men is another illustration of the "bad pre-eminence" of that infamous trust.

Congress cannot evade the demand for an investigation. When the facts are brought out we shall know more of trust methods, and the chronicle of infamy will be enriched by another chapter.

## That Open Door.

That Open Door.

Mr. McKinley's policy on the "open dcor," says the New York World, must suggest to the European powers—including our dead friends and "ailles," England and Germany—the old confidence game called "open and shut," or "now you see it and now you don't."

He would have an "open door" where we want to trade, but a shut door where others want to trade with us. He would unite with European powers in punching a hole in the Chinese wall in the Celestial Empire, but refuses to detach one brick or stone from our 5 per cent. tariff wall. He asks written pledges from these powers guaranteeing American equal trade advantages with their citizens in the various spheres of influence in China, and asks (through Ambassador Choate), "Who shall dare slam the coor in our face?" but he will grant no corresponding privileges to Europeans in the Philippines or elsewhere. The chances are that the European powers, including our new "ailles," will say to Mr. McKinley: "You are asking something for nothing, Favors between nations are based on recipiccity. A commercial door must swing out as well as in."

Testimony offered before the sub-committee on transportation of the National Industrial Commission, now sitting in Chicago, would almost seem to throw a shadow of doubt on Mr. to throw a shadow of doubt on Mr. Hanna's assertion that such a thing as a trust does not exist in the United States. One witness, a prominent merchant of the Windy City, has sworn that five men who daily meet in secret session after the close of the Chicago Exchange, dictate the price which is to be paid to farmers for their their grain on the day following, and absolutely control that question. But Hanna probably would say that this was not a trust, but only a combination for business purposes, with the methods of which neither the law nor the public have any legitimate concern.—Washington Times.

The creation of such a large volume The creation of such a large volume of trust securities to represent property that formerly made no demands upon the market may test the gold standard severely at no distant day, notwithstanding the increased production of that metal.

### JEFFRIES' PROGRAMME

### No Fault Can Be Found With His Pro posed Course.

Frank Hough, in the Philadelphia In-quirer, says:
"No fault can be found with the pro-gramme Jeffries has mapped out for himself. It is one of the privileges of the champion to nominate the order in which he will take on his challenges. himself. It is one of the privileges of the champion to nominate the order in which he will take on his challenges. He has elected to meet Corbett first, then Ruhiln and then the winner of the proposed mill between Fitz and Sharkey, or both of them in the event of their failure to come together. All this talk about this one and that one being "better entitled" to a meeting with the champion is all tommy rot. His decisive victory over Fitzsimmons and his subsequent defeat of Sharkey settled that. If an outsider had any preference probably Peter Maher would have as much claim to that distinction as any other member of the heavy-weight brigade, but there are no rights to priority which the champion is bound to recognize. His proposed meeting with Corbett in August will be regarded with some distrust. It savors too much of a family affair. Besides, assuming that Corbett was in good shape the night he met Sharkey at the Lenox Club, there would be nothing to a fight between him and Jeffries. After withstanding the walloping that Sharkey handed out in the recent twenty-five round affair, there is no reason for believing that Jeffries will be visibly annoyed by any of Corbett's punches. As to Corbett winning out by his cleverness, that's all poppycock. It did not save him at Carson City with Fitz, and would not have saved him at the Lenox with Sharkey. The Saliorman got to him, and watever Sharkey can do in that line Jeffries certainly can. All this may be premature, however, it remains to be seen whether a bona fide match is to be made, it may only be a sort of boost for Jim's interior decoration plant. If the match is made, though, it will hardly be as big a financial winner as were the last two big bouts, for there are any number of followers of the ring who will inever be satisfied that Corbett meant to be on the level the night he met Sharkey.

## BASEBALL

### The Question of an Eight or Twelve Club Circuit.

Club Circuit.

The National League magnates abruptly closed their five days' session with the understanding that they were to be called together in the near future to listen to a report, to be made by a special committee, appointed to provide ways and means for the reduction of the League circuit.

According to the expressed views of certain of the magnates, an eight club league is now almost a certainty. The appointment of the committee in question means that the majority of the club owners are desirous of the reduction in the circuit. The matter has now narrowed down to one of how much money will be necessary to buy off the four clubs it is proposed to drop. The clubs in question are Louisville, Baltimore, Cleveland and Washington.

The effort to reduce the championship playing season from 154 to 132 games was left unsettled also, with the

timore, Cleveland and Washington. The effort to reduce the championship playing season from 154 to 132 games was left unsettled also, with the hope that the special committee will be able to see its way clear to reduce the circuit. In case the reduction takes place each team will probably play 140 games. In case an attempt is made to have a circuit of ten clubs, with Cleveland and Louisville left out, it would take an expert schedule maker to tell just what could be done. That would leave four teams in the West and six in the East—a more conflicting and unsatisfactory arrangement than the present twelve club affair. The meeting has served to break up the old cliques and combinations, but the general opinion seems to be that the new combinations which have been formed will not be lasting, and will not prove beneficial to the same

to the same.

No attempt was made to eliminate rowly tactics among the players. Such an effort would probably have been received with ridicule after the peculial meeting of the club owners just ended

## Winnings of a Jockey.

Winnings of a Jockey.

"Yes, I have had a good season," said Jockey Spencer at Frisco recently. "It has been my banner year. I rode 102 winners, which heads the list, and I made about \$25,000. Jeckeys make big money, but you must remember they spend a lot. Money seems to be going in every direction. I don't throw my money away, but it seems to go. I have saved some of my earnings, but not as much as you would think." Spencer has given Ed Corrigan first call on his services as long as he rides on the has given Ed Corrigan first call on his services as long as he rides on the coast. Next year he will be with the Keenes, and will go to Eng and with them. The Californian ought to catch on right away across, for he can wait with a horse longer than any jockey in the saddle. According to his notion Charcernac is the champion two-year-old of the turf year.

"He was decidedly the best," says Spencer. "When he won the Futurity he was backskinned and totally unfit for a race. Then, to make matters worse, he fell at the start. But in spite of this he won as he liked."—St. Louis Republic.

On next Decoration Day the League of American Wheelmen will celebrate its twentieth anniversary. There are quite a number of founders who are still members of the organization, and it is proposed that they be given some identifying insignia on the anniversary. They are already entitled to wear "Veteran" bars, having been in the organization for 10 consecutive years, and the surgestion has been made that organization for 10 consecutive years, and the suggestion has been made that "Founders" bar be attached to this. There will probably be a general celebration of the event throughout the divisions, and this will cause attention to be attracted to the fact that the league has passed so many milestones. Doubtless there are many wheelmen who will be astonished to know that the L. A. W. has been in existence so

Prospects for league base ball are not bright.

sician is ever so much cheaper t the other one.—Boston Transcript.

Mrs. Kiddlet—Why, children, what's all this noise about? Little Jamie—We've had gran'pa and Uncle Henry locked up in the cupboard for an hour, an' when they get a little angrier I'm going to play "going into the lions' cage."—Tid Bits.

Pedagogue (severely)—Now, sir, for the last time, what's the square of the hypothenuse of a right-angled triangle equivalent to? Boy (desperately)—It's equivalent to a lickin' fer me, sir. Go ahead.—Boston Traveler.

"I am going to take a little run out west," said a Kansas man to an ac-quaintance. "Colorado or California?" inquired

her," scornfully replied the man, "Manila."—Kansas City

"Pat," said his young wife, "I wish you wouldn't put your knife in your mouth when you eat."
"An' phere would yes hev me put it," said Pat in astonishment—"in me eyes?"—Harper's Basar.

First Guatemalan—She comes of an old family, I believe.
Second Guatemalan—Not very. She's a Daughter of the Last Revolution but

"Have you been interviewed recent-ly?" inquired the friend. The man of international eminence looked a little hurt and then wearily inquired:

nquired:
"How can I tell?"—Washington Star.

Tramp—I ain't had er bite fer t'ree days. Jes' be'n livin' on wind.
Unsympathetic citizen—Well, why don't you go out west where there's plenty of it?—Ohio State Journal.

The kid—Say, mister, kin I have deapples wot's on de ground?
The farmer—They ain't none on the

ground.

The kid—I'll fix that all right.—New York Evening Journal. Lady of the house (to peddler)—If

dog.
Pushing peddler—Then let me
you a whistle, mum.—Tit-Bits.

## THE CYNIC.

It requires a cool hand to delive

It requires a cool hand to deliver ice.

Some men are known by the company they don't keep.

The chimney is one of the few smokers that is easily sooted.

Women are usually in a hopeless majority at the summer resorts.

The seventeen year locusts should come under the head of time flies.

Man once ate the cream, but now they cremate the man.

To the deaf and dumb man actions speak louder than words,

In the game of life the one armed speak louder than words.

In the game of life the one armed man always plays a lone hand.

There is no aympathy between a proud mind and a beggar's purse.

The sexton makes a grave mistake when he digs it in the wrong lot.

Always pay your milkman spot cash. Never request him to "chalk it up."

Beauty is nature's first gift to woman, and it is the first one she loses.

The man who does'nt put his hand to be plow will get note of the plow.

The man who is shadowed is apt to have a good deal of light cast on his character.

A good housewife never wastes good bread by trying to transform it into head prodding.

tients; an amateur musician practices on the patience of others.

Large heads do not always indicate genius. Too often they are monuments of the previous night's foolishness. The young man who can take a pretty girl for a sail and content himself with hugging the shore has wonderful self-control.—Chicago News.

## THE BACHELOR.

Money doesn't make the mare go half as fast as it makes itself go. The happiest moments of a woman's life are when she thinks sadly of the ioyous past

Joyous past, endure a man if he kisses her and the next time he meets her doesn't act awed and solemn.

When a girl says she means never to get married it is time to think of what kind of wedding present you can't afford to buy.

If some women have a hole in their stocking it makes them feel uncomfortable to pass a certain man, even if they are all bundled up in carriage robes.

## The Fate of the Impractical.

The Fate of the impractical.
Are you trying to be famous,
Oh, youth with lofty brow?
Are you living in the future
All neglectful of the Now?
Are you tolling in the cloudland!
O'er a long and rugged way,
All unconscious of the comforts
Of three good square meals a day

How will the world reward you?
Some pedant grim will lurk
To prove your best achievements
Were another fellow's work.
Perhaps you'll be remembered
In story or in song.
They may write your name in public,
But they'll mostly spell it wrong.
—Washington Star.

A Hebrew Criticism.

Rabbi Charles Fleischer, in his weekly discourse I fore the congregation of the Tempe Adath Israel, in Boston, Mass., sharply arraigned President McKinley for his Thanks-gliving day proclamation, which he termed "bumplous" and a parallel to the German Emperor's "Me and Gott."

Rabbi Fleischer is the most prominent Jewish orator in the east, and his congregation is made up of the wealthlest Hebrews of Boston. His remarks caused a sensation, and after the services he was highly complimented by many of the leaders in the church.

After quoting from President McKinley's proclamation the speaker said:

"The bumpitions Me and Gott' attitude of the emperor of Germany is parallel in passages of this proclamation, relating what God and our present administration have accomplished in a twelvemonth.

"Our President bids us remember the material causes for thanksgiving in the growth of prosperity and the spread of his power. On that basis the next financial panic or a defeat at the hands of other people might at some future time deprive us of reason for thanksgiving.

"It will not do to cheapen and materialize our gratitude in this wise, and, like Jacob of old, bargain with God and make our thankfulness dependent upon our welfare.

"It is reassuring to be told officially that, as a result of the efforts of God and the administration, there has been a steady gain in the moral and educational growth of our national character.

"A mere moralist might not have

ter.

"A mere moralist might not have noted this, but a politician could not fail to see the increased interest of people in politics. I take it that just this is meant by the moral and educational growth of our national charac-

this is meant by the moral and educational growth of our national character.

"Surely no religionist, whether Jewish or Christian or unaffliated, would claim that the increase of war spirit, the rousing of the slumbering beast in man, the sacrifice of our real national character as a peace loving and right-cousness-pussing people on the altar of international greed and grab, the promising with our ancient—and apparently antiquated — fundamental democratic principles for the sake of taking our place as a people on the lower plane of unprincipled imperial thought and practice—surely no religionist would contend that such facts indicate a 'gain in the moral growth of our national character."

"But the President of our imperial democracy probably judges by different standards. He in whose eyes two years ago 'forobly annexation would be criminal aggression,' and to-day such aggression and subjugation only part of the process of 'benevolent assimilation,' must not be judged by those whose code of moralty is still adjusted to a single rather than to adouble standard, to whom right is still right and wrong is still wrong, whether an American or a Filipino, a Briton or a Boer, practiced or suffered the one or the other."

Read - the - Tribune



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