

world's statesmen ought to be in a mood to come to an understanding.

They could keep their relative strength the same as at present and reduce their expenses for armies and navies 70 per cent. and we believe all that is needed to bring this around is to have it proposed in a wise way and by a power strong enough to command the world's attention.

#### OBSELETE.

The right of trial by jury has been clung to with much tenacity by Anglo Saxon peoples.

It has come down from the time when the common people first began to assert some of their inalienable rights.

A part of the reverence for it comes from the ancient superstition that an accused person, if poor and friendless, would have better chances of securing justice if his case could be left to the decision of a jury selected from the common people, than in any other way. But is it not time for all that rubbish to be swept away? A vivid object lesson of the effect of the system has been recently supplied the people of this region. Some months ago a murder was committed in the outskirts of this city. Every particular bearing upon the case, everything brought out by the preliminary examination of the man accused of the atrocity, all the theories of policemen, reporters and inspired cranks have been given, with elaborate and wierd accompaniments in the newspapers. The natural result was that, when the trial was finally set, it required weeks of labor and involved much expense to secure a jury.

Now is it not time to decide that such work is criminal foolishness and should stop? Would not an accused person have quite as much certainty of receiving justice could an educated judge with two associates, have the decision of the case as can be possible under the present system?

It would save no end of time and money, it would prevent the publication, day after day, of all the nauseating details of capital and other cases; it would cause the stopping of the present indecent offer of premiums to imbecility, it would begin at least, to do away with the superstition that profound ignorance on all the requirements of law is presumptive evidence of lofty integrity.

Finally, it would put a stop to the gratification of the vanity of murderous ruffians and reduce trials to the cold basis of facts.

Our idea is and long has been that the usefulness of jury trials passed years ago.

#### ENGLISH ARMY OFFICERS.

The report that makes clear the utter incompetency of officers that have graduated from British military schools, must bring extreme humiliation to English people. Lord Kitchener must have felt a savage pleasure in endorsing it for he is soldier enough to realize that British prestige as a martial nation has been well nigh ground to atoms in the South African war. After the Crimean war there was a great shaking up of army matters in England. It was made clear that through incompetency in the commissary and other departments of the army, thousands of British soldiers had suffered altogether unnecessary hardships, while many had died for want of decent food, clothing, medicine and hospital attendance.

But that was not nearly so humiliating as this last report. It pictures the English officer as a Polo playing, cross-country riding dude, who not only knows nothing of military science or duty, but as a lout without sufficient education to be able to express his ideas in a presentable form.

The Crimean report had nothing of that, no reproaches came back from Inkerman, the Redan or Balaklava. The old stubborn, furious British pluck was all in full evidence then, but this present report reduced to plain English would read:—"The average officer graduated from our British schools is a degenerate, deficient in every attribute which hereto-

fore England has claimed as inseparable from her race of men."

It is a very tough report. The only evidence of pluck attached to it is the pluck needed to lay such a report before the world.

#### THE ST. PIERRE HORROR.

The illustrated papers are filled with the horrors of St. Pierre. No catastrophe of modern times compares with it in its appalling presentations. It is clear that one moment the place was filled with the clamors of busy thousands; the next every sound had ceased save the reverberations of the labouring mountain. One moment the place was smiling under the luxuriant tropical foliage, the next all animal life had been put out, and the very blackness of the shadow of death had enveloped the fated city. The pictures show the dead lying as they had fallen, without a moan, under the whirlwind of dead air that smote them. The nature of the cataclysm has no precedent that we know of. It is the most vivid picture of the absolute uncertainty of human life ever presented to mankind.

#### THE BEAUTIFUL CITY.

Salt Lake City is very lively just now. The season has been so cold that the backward spring was slow about putting out its blooms, but it has all been made good now. The city is flower-crowned and from the heights to the east the trees look like a veritable oasis between the blue Oquirrh and the great white Wasatch Range. It is the city beautiful sure enough at this season.

It has, too, a most healthy business look. Never were so many dwellings under construction here before, and they are as a rule of high modern grade. Salt Lake is right now a lively city and fifty years hence there will be no other place between the seas that will compare with it. There will, doubtless, be grander structures and vastly more wealth and splendor but when man supplements the glories which nature has lavished upon this place, it will be unrivalled.

#### TWAIN'S POLITICS.

Mark Twain has been visiting on his old stamping grounds in Missouri and naturally the Mirror of St. Louis gives him an extended notice. It thinks he has written many good but no immortal literature, but estimates his politics at a heavy discount, hinting at the same time that much of the fervor of Mark's reception in Missouri may have been due to his recent attitude as to the Filipinos and declares that he "stands as a prophet of a certain political obscurantism and obstructionism always popular in Missouri."

The Mirror does not quite understand Mark. Mark himself has explained his eminent services in the Confederate army in humorous vein. But behind all the humor, Mark Twain was at heart a very strong rebel forty years ago this month of June. He never talked much politics for about that time he made his home among a people, a good many of whom did not take kindly to his views. He imbibed early a great hate for the Republican party. He may not be conscious of the fact, but the lees of that old hate are still in the cup of his soul and it affects him as a little pill of strychnine does a bucket of water,—it embitters his whole system.

While most Southern men, under the abrasions of the years, have had their old prejudices and hates ground off, Mark, in the seclusion of his books, has experienced no change. Without knowing why, possibly without being conscious of the fact, Mark's political opinions are of the date of 1861. He is "agin" the government. He found congenial spirits in the Springfield Republican and the little circle of extreme impracticables and goody-goodies of Massachusetts; he has found a kindred affiliation among the embittered ol. mossbacks of Missouri, but both elements are, fortunately, impotent to stop the onward

sweep of the Republic; they are simply brakes on the wheels of progress, kept on alike, up as well as down grade, and they should be considered merely as the curiosities of political vagaries. If Mark could only keep still his politics might be described by Tennyson's lines:

"Then rose the dumb old servitor, and the dead  
Oar'd by the dumb went upward with the flood."

#### A NEGATIVE CROWD.

The speeches delivered during the past six weeks in Congress make clear the purpose of the Democracy of making their next campaign on an arraignment of the war in the Philippines, trusts etc.—a revised and intensified edition of their late campaign.

The old Whig Party was a most gallant political organization, but it fought the Mexican war, and indirectly sneered at the American Army, and it died. In 1861 the Democratic Party took up the abuse of the American soldier, it has covertly continued it ever since, and it has won but two national triumphs since, one because of dissensions in the Republican ranks, one because of the scare which it succeeded in raising over the McKinley tariff, and because of the hue and cry over the Homestead lockout. It would have been as dead as the Whig party long ago except for the solid south, and it should have learned long ago that the American people are both a martial people and a fair people, that the boys in the army have mothers at home and, finally, other things being equal, the abuse of the American Army will kill any political party in the world.

Regarding Trusts, there are several features of the question which are liable to come up to vex the Democracy. The first one is that when last in power the party made no effort to punish trusts; it failed to carry out the work which the Republicans had inaugurated to restrain them. Then perhaps three of the most zealous opponents of trusts were Messrs. Mills and Hogg of Texas and Ex-Senator Jones of Arkansas. Alas, where are those champions now? Can it be true that a change of fortune can change the principles of great champions in the Democratic party? Are a little oil in Texas and a cotton bailing machine in Arkansas sufficient to hush the ancient Democratic cry for justice to the "common" people in those states?

Again a tremendous and widely spread series of strikes are now on in a dozen states. Can the Democracy frame a trust law that will not jeopardize those strikers combined interests?

The Democracy count upon the mistrust and discontent of the working hosts of the country for support, that is, they count on success by exciting the mistrust, discontent and apprehensions of those working hosts. Can they succeed by advocating a law which will make a combine of those hosts to better their fortunes a crime? For nearly forty years they have demanded recognition and power, not on their own merits but on the demerits of their chief opponents. Are there not brains and patriotism enough in their ranks to form a platform which will appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of the country, and cause the people to desire their success on their merits and not on the demerits of their chief adversaries?

#### From Lawson, Boston.

When Wall Street holds a husking bee insiders get all the red ears.

The heathen says, "There is no God!" and sells 'em short.

Every modern banking and brokerage house should have diving suits and X-ray apparatus always ready.

A lie well told in Wall Street is the truth.

The ticker talks about everything but religion.

To know the true law of perpetual motion or the transmutation of metals is child's play as compared with knowing the language of the ticker.