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Early in March Indianapolis will have the Social Democratic convention, of which Mr. Debs is one of the leaders. Four years ago Mr. Debs was on the stump for Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Bourke Cockran is very hostile to what he is pleased to call imperialism, but what he characterizes as Bryanism is so much worse that he cannot support him. For the present, then, Bryanites cannot applaud Mr. Cockran.

It is dampening to the ardor of those who have been counting upon making hostility to the trusts the chief feature in their campaign harangues next season to find so many labor leaders regarding them with more or less favor.

The fact that a measure of Emperor William's has just been defeated in the German Reichstag shows that, while the Emperor is more potential than any other ruler in Europe, there is much more political independence in Germany than the outside world has supposed.

"I wouldn't give a dime to insure the electoral vote of Wyoming for the Republican candidate for President," said Governor Richards, of that State, to the Washington Post. He added that, although Mr. Bryan carried Wyoming in 1896, "he has not the ghost of a chance in 1900." General prosperity has caused the change, and it is operating everywhere.

In the war of 1812 296,916 soldiers served sixty days or more. Of that number, 30,000 were pensioned, but of their widows 35,000 drew pensions. At the present time the one survivor of the war of 1812 is drawing $193 a year, while the widows are receiving $293,097. The widows of Mexican veterans are receiving $818,067 a year and the surviving veterans $1,107,594.

So long as we sell in other markets $41,700,000 more than we purchase in them, as we did in January, there can be no drain upon cash or securities to pay balances. It is also gratifying to note that while our export of agricultural products last January was $10,500,000 less than during January, 1899, the increase of our exports of the products of our manufactures last January about made good the falling off in farm products.

There can be nothing gained in leaving 16 to 1 out of the call of the Democratic national convention, says the independent Democratic New York Times, "so long as the man who struts upon the platform and carries the banner of the party is W. J. Bryan, the man who has made six hundred speeches on silver and is making more, the man of the Socialistic Chicago platform." Still Democratic managers will always try to fool the people.

The woman suffragists of Massachusetts, who have appeared before the Legislature with a bill and been given a hearing every year for forty years, asked the lawmaking body this year for the right to vote in municipal elections. Instead of being given the favor they asked, they have been given "leave to withdraw" by an emphatic vote of 124 to 32—the smallest vote in favor of woman suffragists for years. Several times their bill has been passed by the House.

No doubt the superior mobility of the Boer troops to the British is due not merely to the fact that they have more mounted men, but also better mounts for that hilly and rocky country. Their native horses, trained to hard riding and used to the peculiarities of the country, are doubtless much surer-footed among the hills and more serviceable in action that those of the British. Some of the war photographs show mounted Boers in positions that an ordinary horse could not be got into.

There are some who think the passage of the currency bill and establishment of the gold standard will cause sound money Democrats to return to the old party, on the ground that, the money question being now settled, there is no reason why they should not. They ought to think several times before returning to a party that forced them to act with the Republicans on one of the most important questions of recent years, and which is as unsound on some other questions as it was and is on the money question.

It is evident that it is hostility to Quay the man, rather than opposition to interpretation of the Constitution upon which his claim to a seat is based, which moves a class of papers to assail his supporters as being unmindful of the honor of the Senate. If some citizen whom they approved were in Mr. Quay's place the chances are that these papers would be assailing the senators who are suspected of a purpose to vote against him. The controversy is one involving an interpretation of the Constitution, and different Senates have given adverse decisions. The embarrassing thing for Mr. Quay himself is that when the last decision was made he voted to refuse admission to a man who was in the same position that he now occupies.

One of the papers that is cracking its whip at senators asks what the Republicans of Indiana think of their senators voting to seat Mr. Quay. A fair answer is that the Republicans of Indiana will trust their senators to act intelligently upon a matter involving an interpretation of the Constitution regarding a matter of which they are the sole judges.

A BAD COMPROMISE.

While the action of the Republican caucus on the Porto Rican tariff bill was not conclusive it indicates a probable agreement on the proposition to pass the bill after fixing two years as the limit of its operation. The caucus developed a decided difference of opinion as to the merits of the measure, without much prospect of the opposing sides getting together, although the discussion seems to have been conducted in perfectly good temper. The fact that the caucus was in session until midnight without reaching any conclusion shows that the divergence of views regarding the bill was very sharp, and but for the appointment of a committee of ten to further consider the matter and report to another caucus to-night that of Saturday night would have had no result whatever. The dispatch says that when the caucus adjourned "the feeling prevailed that the two-year limitation would be agreed on as a basis of compromise and that with this change the bill would receive pretty general, although not unanimous, support."

This is not a satisfactory mode of settling fundamental differences of opinion, and it will be disappointing to the country and difficult to defend before the people. It savors too much of a makeshift policy. The enactment of a tariff between the United States and Porto Rico is either just, right, wise and expedient or it is the reverse. If the former it should be made permanent, and if the latter it should not be passed at all. If it is a good measure two years is too short a time to develop its merits, and if it is a bad one that is too long a time to impose its evils on a people already suffering for lack of markets and trade facilities. If the friends of the measure agree that it shall only remain in force two years they confess to a doubt of its justice or wisdom, and if its opponents agree to the proposition they virtually admit that their opposition is not well grounded.

The proposed basis of compromise is unsatisfactory from another point of view. The present Congress really has no control over the question beyond the power of present legislation. Two years hence there will be another Congress, and it can confirm or undo present action as it sees fit. It can continue or repeal the law regardless of what the Republicans of this Congress may agree upon or promise. Therefore, there is no necessity of a two years' agreement. It is superfluous and of no binding effect as far as the future is concerned.

The Journal has already stated the reasons why, in its opinion, the bill should not be passed. Those reasons relate to the constitutionality, the justice, the fairness, the wisdom and the expediency of the measure. All the arguments in favor of it are based on sordid and mercenary considerations which should have no place in the policy of a great nation towards the people of a newly acquired territory. The bill should not be passed at all, and the two-years proposition does not help it any.

The New York Tribune prints a letter from John Bellows, a noted English Quaker and man of learning, on the British-Boer war. The letter was addressed to Senator Hoar, with a request that he send it to some American newspaper for publication, and he sent it to the Tribune. It is exceedingly courteous and temperate in tone. The writer deplores war on general principles, but maintains that the responsibility for this one is upon the Boer government in its violation of pledges and its outrageous treatment of outlanders. In this connection he quotes from the treaty of 1884 as follows:

> Article XVI. All persons other than natives, conforming themselves to the laws of the South African republic will not be subjected in respect to their persons or property or in respect of their commerce and industry to any taxes, whether general or local, other than those which are or may be imposed upon citizens of the said republic.

Mr. Bellows then proceeds to show by undisputed facts regarding taxation, suffrage, etc., that this pledge has been utterly disregarded and openly violated by the Boer government. He concludes that the war on the part of Great Britain is one for equal rights and the enforcement of treaty obligations. "The only alternative left to England to refuse fighting," he says, "would have been the ground that all war is wrong; but as neither England nor any other nation has ever taken this Christian ground, there was in reality no alternative."

The descriptions of the artillery duels and bombardments going on in South Africa make them appear terrific, but they do not seem to do as much damage as they make noise. A letter is published in Germany from Major Albrecht, commander of the Boer artillery, in which he says the British artillery fire has done the Boers comparatively little harm, and that the Boer rifle firing is far more effective than their own artillery. He says the British shells are "bad beyond description," and that in the battle of Modder river out of a hundred shells not ten burst. He adds:

> The day before yesterday about 25,000 English with over fifty guns stood against us 13,000 Boers. I cannot give the accurate numbers, for I am to-day already on my way back to the Modder river, from where I came on the 12th with half of my artillery. But I can well say that we did not lose more than a hundred men, among them about three dozen killed. To about 1,000 English shells about twelve men were killed, and thirty or forty wounded, for the rest was done by rifles. The riflemen disabled in ten minutes ten times more than our artillery did sometimes in ten hours.

It does not yet appear that many of General Cronje's troops have been killed by the terrific bombardment of the last few days, and, if the principal use of artillery is to intimidate an enemy so that an attacking body can advance under its protection, one cannot help wonder why the British have not fallen upon General Cronje and finished him. Anyhow, the artillery does not seem to be doing much.

There is no law which requires the mayor to notice the communication of Mr. Bookwalter, but if he does not his silence must be regarded as admitting that the current expenditures of the city upon a 70-cent levy have been met in part by diverting money obtained by a sale of bonds for a specific and permanent improvement, and that he knew when he recommended a 59-cent levy, last August, that a 75-cent levy was needed to meet the rapidly increasing expenditure of the city under his administration. If $112,000 has been taken from a loan to meet current expenditures with a 70-cent levy, the mayor must ask for a very large temporary loan before the present fiscal year ends. These bonds must be paid, consequently it will be necessary to make an 80-cent levy next year to make good deficits of the mayor's 59-cent levy, which everybody now knows was an inexcusable sacrifice of the public interests to promote his re-election.

Citizens of the United States who are holding public meetings to express sympathy with "the liberty-loving Boers" might do well to contemplate the following extract from the Boer laws:

> Law 2, 1899: "Regarding the appointment, the suspension, the discharge, the leave of absence and the securities of officials in the service of the government of the South African republic. Article 15. Applications must be written in the language of the country, and must be written in the applicant's own handwriting. They must be accompanied by a certificate of burghership from the field cornet of the district, which must state clearly whether the applicant is entitled to vote as a full burgher or as naturalized; and proof must be inclosed that the applicant is a member of a Protestant church."

There is no part of the British empire where a Roman Catholic or a freethinker may not hold office, but under the foregoing provision not one in a thousand of the Boer sympathizers in the United States could hold office in the South African "republic."

It seems unjust in the extreme to assail a senator because he may vote to seat Mr. Quay. The question involved turns upon the construction of the Constitution. Senators like Mr. Hoar, who, as constitutional lawyers, insist that the intent of the Constitution is that each State shall be represented in the Senate all the time by two Senators, and that the executive has the right to fill a vacancy that exists during vacation of the Legislature, can be honest in their opinions. Some of the best lawyers who have been in the Senate for years have held to that view, among whom is ex-Senator Edmunds. It is simply dogmatic and tyrannical to threaten Senators who vote to seat Mr. Quay, calling such an act on their part perfidy. If such a precedent should be established, a Senator must ignore his own opinions and obey the dictation of editors who assume to be dictators.

In a recent article on the iron industry of the United States Professor Taussig, of Harvard University, makes the striking observation that "whether the ore goes to the coal or the coal meets the ore half-way, one or both must travel a long journey by land as well as by water; one or both must be laden or unladen several times, and a carriage often of over 1,000 miles must be achieved with two separate hauls by rail." It is the increase of the obstacles of transportation necessary to bring ore and coal together which had to be considered. Wherever ore and coal can be got together cheapest, there is the best location for iron furnaces.

Last year first-class passenger fares in the United States averaged 1 98-100 cents a mile, while in England the first-class fare is 4 cents a mile, and the third-class, a vastly inferior service, is 2 cents a mile. In Prussia the first-class fare is 3 cents a mile; in Austria 3 5-100 cents, and in France 3 36-100. In Prussia and France the majority of the roads are operated under state ownership, which many advocate for this country, expecting lower rates. While the passenger rates are higher on all the roads owned by government, the employes are paid much less wages. Such being the situation, it is difficult to see how the people are benefited by public ownership.

There is reason to suspect that the mayor's refusal to approve a general investigation of his administration by the Council was based on a fear that it might bring to the surface some unpleasant revelations in connection with the purchase of the park lands. The very general opinion that his administration paid twice as much for them as a private corporation would have paid would make that topic a natural subject of inquiry. When the committee of his Council refused to permit the introduction of testimony on that subject, suspicion was aroused that it was not a good business transaction—for the city.

Following close upon the vigorous exploitation of the wonders and possibilities of liquid air comes the announcement that a Swiss scientist has discovered a process of separating it into its component parts in such a way as to produce pure oxygen on a large scale and at little cost. This would be an ideal solution of the fuel question. It looks a little as if these wonderful statements might be part of a scheme to boom a liquid air speculation.

The thing that the British people cannot tolerate, it seems, is the stopping of a general to count his losses and send a torrent of dispatches home telling how it happened. So long as there is plenty of fighting and few explanations from the commanding general they are happy. "Bobs" had better cut down his cable tolls accordingly and devote his time to retaining the reputation he already possesses.

A correspondent at Kimberley during the siege recorded in his diary that "The mules slaughtered are pronounced superior to horseflesh." Whether this is really true or stated on the principle of saying nothing but good concerning the dead, it is about the first generous word ever spoken for the mule.

Cashiering a man in the British army is sending him away from his post of duty in disfavor. In this country it is sending a man to Canada between two days.

INDIANA EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Rev. Mr. Sheldon ought to remember that Jesus never tried sensational journalism to make himself conspicuous.—Anderson Bulletin.

The Democrat who boasts of having voted the ticket ever since he was eighteen is mighty good material for a Democratic candidate.—Clay County Enterprise.

Hendricks county Democrats will elect delegates and new committeemen March 10 and a new chairman March 17. The several funerals will not be largely attended. —Hendricks County Republican.

Governor Taylor has done the right and manly thing by remaining at his post. The Kentucky conspirators cannot get rid of him until they forge the last links of their chain of villainy.—Shelbyville Republican.

Wonder is expressed in some quarters that Henry Watterson has not attempted to explain what he meant when he wrote that "under the Goebel election law the result is not left to chance." As if the

language were capable of any other interpretation than that the fixed purpose of the Goebel law was to steal the State! —Lafayette Courier.

The Pettigrews and Schurzs will not quote the news that three American prisoners were tortured to death by Filipinos, or, if they do they will throw the burden of guilt upon the Americans for provoking the Filipinos.—Terre Haute Express.

The Shelbyville City Council is hesitating about granting a fifty-year franchise for an electric line. Well may they do so. The indiscriminate and careless manner of freely voting away these rights that are worth thousands of dollars is a reproach to our municipal governments.—Greensburg Standard.

The Indianapolis Sentinel has not yet secured the resignation of Chairman Hernly because of a remark imputed to him regarding the assassination of Goebel at Frankfort. As a matter of fact, the Sentinel seems to have strengthened Hernly's position by its attack upon him.—Evansville Journal.

The American is pleased to observe that Hon. James E. Watson, our representative in Congress, is active in opposing the levying of a tariff duty on the products of Porto Rico imported into this country. We think Mr. Watson is taking the right views of the matter and that his constituents approve his course.—Brookville American.

When the gamblers were brought in on a charge that they knew could be sustained by evidence they took no chances on a trial but promptly entered pleas of guilty, paid their fines and made no objection to the burning of their paraphernalia. The incident shows the value of evidence in criminal cases and gives ground for the suspicion that judges and juries who decline to convict without evidence may be right under their oaths.—Muncie News.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Brush and Pail.

If the Boer girls take the trenches, as rumor says they may, war will be tidied up; you know the Dutch scrub every day.

The Reader's Art.

A book reviewer, I here avow,
Is a man who speeds the trip
From front to back by just knowing how
Judiciously to skip.

A Man's Portrait of a Lady.

She—Was that actress stylishly attired, Harry?

He—Oh, I should say! She had a whole pigeon in her hat, and a yellow percale wrapper on.

Force of Arms.

Colonel Swagger—Don't you believe, sir, in Kentucky blood and Kentucky honor, sir?

Discreet Outsider—Oh, of course I do; I see you've got your pistols with you.

Athletics and Intellect.

"I accept one view in politics one day and the opposite view the next day."

"Why do you do that, Cousin Amelia?"

"Oh, it keeps the mind young and elastic to change its convictions often."

Art as a Defense.

"How do you like this stained-glass door I have designed?"

"Do you want my honest opinion?"

"Yes, your honest opinion."

"Well, I think it would scare off the wolf."

PORTO RICAN TARIFF BILL.

Porto Rico properly protests against the principle of taxation without representation.—Baltimore Herald (Dem.)

We are going to give our colonies taxation without representation—exactly what England gave us 125 years ago.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Dem.)

The slammed door advocates in Congress make it appear that Uncle Sam has perpetrated the Roberts act in taking Porto Rico unto himself.—Detroit Free Press (Dem.)

It may be necessary to send out an army against the Americans of Porto Rico who object to being taxed at both ends and down the middle.—Memphis Commercial Appeal (Dem.)

Representative McCall says Porto Rico turned to the United States as a child to its mother. But the United States is only Porto Rico's stepmother—and is treating the child accordingly.—Detroit Tribune (Rep.)

The only way that we can prevent the inhabitants of Porto Rico from enjoying the rights guaranteed to the people of Arizona, New Mexico and Alaska is to go outside the Constitution and violate the fundamental principles of the Republic. That is precisely what the Republican party in Congress is undertaking to do.—Atlanta Constitution (Dem.)

If the Constitution follows the flag then discriminating taxes cannot be levied, while if the Constitution does not extend to these territories then Congress is free to obey the dictates of humanity and the wishes of the American people by giving the starving Porto Ricans a market for their products. That is the situation, and all the special pleading and sophistries in the world cannot alter the simple facts. —New York Herald (Ind.)

CLARK AND QUAY.

Matthew Stanley Quay now hopes to be able to read his title clear.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph (Ind.)

Senator Clark got good action on his money, even if it was spent in a legitimate way.—Detroit Tribune (Rep.)

It seems that a popular demand from Montana for Clark to step down and out would be in order.—Baltimore Herald (Dem.)

There should certainly be something done to prevent a repetition of such a campaign as that made by Senator Clark.—San Francisco Post (Ind.)

If Mr. Quay were admitted and granted pay for as long as it has seemed to him he would be one of the richest men in Congress.—Detroit Free Press (Dem.)

If Senator Clark, of Montana, didn't burn his checks every six months what would he do with them? Would it be wise to cumber the ground with warehouses? —Columbus (O.) Dispatch (Dem.)

Democratic precedent is against seating the appointee of a Governor when the state Legislature has failed to make a choice. Yet eleven Democrats voted to consider Quay's case and only eight against it. —Buffalo Commercial (Rep.)

The investigation regarding the election of Senator Clark should result in the punishment of some of the bribe-givers and bribe-takers. That seems to be one case where the operations were conducted with an openness which makes punishment possible.—St. Louis Republic (Dem.)

It is barely possible that if Mr. Quay is saved by Democratic senators his friends among Republican members of that body may reciprocate if the Senate committee reports adversely upon the case of Mr. Clark, of Montana. "Senatorial courtesy" is a great institution for senators in distress. It has been known to override the law and public welfare on occasion.—Baltimore Sun (Dem.)

CRONJE AT BAY.

And the Modocs, too, made a brave stand in their lava beds.—New York Press.

Cronje to Roberts: "Take a kopje with me."—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Cronje may or may not be a great strategist, but he seems to have developed to its highest perfection the art of keeping his enemies guessing.—St. Louis Republic.

Kitchener's "Not a minute" is hardly as dramatic as Grant's "I propose to move immediately on your works," but the words mean exactly the same thing. —Chicago News.

A Boer newspaper says General Cronje's retreat will be "beneficial." A man who is being pursued by a mad bull generally finds that a retreat is the most beneficial policy for him.—Pittsburg News.

Another Thermopylae for the inspiration of freemen is being blazed in history on the Modder river. Can England afford to pay the staggering price the Boers are demanding for the triumph of greed in South Africa?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

If this epic six-day battle had occurred fifteen hundred years ago the fame of it would have illuminated the fogs of mediaeval tradition, and glowed mistily red through Norse and German hero sagas down to our own day.—New York Journal.

The President believes that Porto Rico should be treated as a part of this country, not as a subject colony or a vassal state, and that our tariff laws and their exemptions and privileges should be extended to that island. In standing by the President Mr. Littlefield certainly was on firm ground.—Detroit Journal. (Rep).

While the defeat and capture of the remnant of Cronje's force will not necessarily mean a quick conclusion of the war, its moral effect cannot fail of being great, especially upon the Free State people who have not been actuated in the contest by an earnestness so complete as that of the burghers of the Transvaal —Buffalo Commercial.

An instance of the acumen of the orator is furnished by Mr. Littlefield's exposure of the apology that the Porto Rico bill is a revenue measure. If revenue is what is required, why not tax coffee, he asked, as well as tobacco and sugar, since the island's production of coffee is far greater than its production of sugar and tobacco combined? So much for the philanthropic professions of a lobby.—Chicago Times-Herald (Rep.)

Even if the position taken by the advocates of this horizontal affair, that Porto Rico is outside of the Constitution, be correct, the measure is the embodiment of bad policy as well as gross injustice. We have robbed the Portoriquenos of their old market, and so far have barred them out of a new one, except on terms that threaten their industries with destruction and themselves with privations to the verge of starvation.—Philadelphia Telegraph. (Rep.)

CECIL RHODES AT CLOSE RANGE.

Miss Amelia Kussner, the Miniature Painter, Talks About Him.

New York Tribune.

Among the passengers who arrived here from Liverpool yesterday on the White Star liner Teutonic was Miss Amelia Kussner, the artist who recently painted a miniature of Cecil Rhodes in Kimberley, South Africa. Miss Kussner was in Kimberley for about three months, but left there before the war broke out, having finished her commission, which was the only object of her visit to Kimberley. She has come to this country for a short visit and will soon return to London.

When seen at the pier yesterday Miss Kussner said that of all the people for whom she has painted miniatures, and among these are included many of the crowned heads of Europe, the personality of Cecil Rhodes made the deepest impression upon her. "The sittings were daily," she said, "and I had an excellent opportunity to stuy him. What struck me most forcibly was the tremendous nervous energy of the man; the superabundance of vitality. It was so great as to be almost oppressive. The contrast between Mr. Rhodes and the Czar of Russia is striking. The Czar is a typical man of peace, but Mr. Rhodes is a man of war. He was a 'good subject,' as painters say, but his characteristic mannerism was a nervous pacing up and down of the studio. The two artists who started to paint miniatures of him before I tried had disagreements with him. The first unwisely showed him the miniature while it was in its first stage, and they disagreed. The second allowed him to criticise the work as it went on, and he soon made such exactions that it was impossible to continue. I did not let him see my miniature until it was almost completed. His one comment was, 'Can't you make me look kinder?' I insisted that the expression of severity which I had brought out was true to him, and he then approved my work. I do not think he had any idea the troubles in South Africa would lead to such a result as this war. He believed always that the outcome would be peaceful. Cecil Rhodes did not impress me as a schemer or an intriguer. I know that my opinion differs from the common estimate of him, but I did not see any of the traits commonly ascribed to him. He deals with his problems rather by strength and stubborn steadfastness of purpose. His methods with the Boers were not underhanded, but were those of a man who would push on to success by straightforward means, no matter what might intervene."

Miss Kussner declared that the Boers were behind in civilization, but were a people of wonderfully rugged strength. She said that she had visited some of the Boer villages and that one of them was, she thought, the most beautiful place she had ever seen.

President of the Carnegie Company.

Chicago Tribune.

Twenty years ago Charles M. Schwab went to work in the Carnegie iron works at Pittsburg as a stake driver at a salary of $1 a day. Now he is president of the Carnegie Steel Company, limited, and draws a salary larger than that of the President of the United States. And he is only thirty-seven years old. As the executive head of the great Carnegie interests, Mr. Schwab is just now prominent in the public eye. He was born in Pennsylvania, and had only a common school education. At fifteen years of age he went to work, and he does not believe in a college education for a business man. For a year or two he drove a mail wagon and clerked in a grocery store. In his seventeenth year he got a job with the Carnegie company. His first work was to drive stakes for the foundation of a new building. His rise was so rapid as to be phenomenal. He became chief engineer in 1887, general manager a little later, and in 1896 a partner in the company Years ago he was offered a salary of more than $50,000 a year to go to England and take charge of some English iron and steel works. This offer he declined at once.

Result of Roberts Case.

Washington Post.

"One general piece of misinformation has resulted from the notoriety of the Roberts case," said Governor Wells, of Utah, yesterday. "That is that the Mormon Church as an organization first nominated and afterward elected Mr. Roberts. The Democratic party was responsible for him. The leaders of the church appreciated that a mistake had been made as soon as he had been nominated, but could not go out to defeat him, for the simple reason that the church really does not do political work as an organization. A polygamist will never be sent to Congress again. The excitement growing out of his trial and expulsion has died out. An election will be held to select his successor, and I hope that a Republican will be chosen."

She's Past Praying for.

Minneapolis Tribune.

The Louisville Courier-Journal, which denounced the Goebel law as infamous and revolutionary, takes up two columns of its valuable editorial space to eulogize Goebel as a gentleman and a scholar. How is it that the man was so much better than his law? If Goebel was a type of the Kentucky gentleman, then somebody ought to pray for Kentucky.

Jagfontein in Sight.

Hartford Courant.

This Dutch is a more practical than poetic language. The British have been fooling around Spytfontein. Now they have reached Koffyfontein, and we look with reasonable confidence for their safe arrival at Sodyfontein in due course of time. They move toward better things.

Oh, of Course.

New York Mail and Express.

Mr. James Creelman announces that the trusts will give the Hon. Mark Hanna a campaign fund of $25,000,000. The trusts have evidently told Mr. Creelman all about their plans.

Comes Out from Behind the Barn.

Washington Post.

Now that the women who desire to vote are out of the way, we venture to suggest that there are very few men who would put up with the political wife.

No Such Signs.

Washington Post.

The Hon. Tom Reed doesn't show any of the marks usually found on a person who is doing New York in a folding bed.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Cyclopedia of Classified Dates, a Comprehensive Work.

The growth and development of encyclopedias forms an interesting feature in the history of literature. The term encyclopedia itself means properly a book or work professing to give information, more or less full, on the whole circle of human knowledge. In pursuance of this plan there have been published many works of stupendous labor and amazing wealth of information, ranging in size all the way from one volume to 166 volumes. The Encyclopedia Britannica, which began in 1771 with an issue of three volumes, has new reached twenty-four. The great French Encyclopedia, begun in 1782, was not finished until 1832, when it appeared in 166 volumes. Many other encyclopedias of great value have been published, including a large number on special subjects. A library composed exclusively of encyclopedias would represent far more of the world's learning and literary labor than any other compilation that could be made. "The Cyclopedia of Classified Dates" aims at presenting within a comparatively brief compass a comprehensive index to the important historical events of all ages and countries. From the size and contents of the work it evidently represents many years of assiduous labor by many persons. The chief editor is Rev. Charles E. Little, author of "Historical Lights" and other works of reference. This work contains 7,462 pages and about 95,000 entries of dates of historical events. The plan of the work is original and very conducive to quick reference. It embraces a threefold classification—first, classification by countries, second by dates, third according to the nature of the event itself. The classification by countries is in alphabetical order. On the first page comes Abyssinia. On the last page, the west coast of Africa. Between these appear all the countries of the earth (seventy-nine in number) of which there are any historical records. The facts pertaining to each country are then classified according to date. Thus each pair of facing pages includes the events pertaining to a particular segment of time. For instance, Pages 16 and 17 contain the facts of American history pertaining to the period between Dec. 17, 1500, and the year 1518. At the top of each page the date for that page is indicated in black-face type in the corner and the name of the country in black-face type in the center, as a running title. After the classification by country and by date, the facts are again classified according to their nature. That is to say, the events pertaining to America, in the period between Dec. 17, 1500, and the year 1518, all of which are found on the pair of Pages 16 and 17, are there arranged under nine divisions, namely: (1) army, navy; (2) art, science, nature; (3) births, deaths; (4) church; (5) discovery, exploration; (6) letters; (7) society; (8) state; (9) miscellaneous. Turning at random to another page of American dates, Pages 74 and 75, one finds recorded the dates of the leading events from 1763 to 1768, and if one wishes to know what was happening in Great Britain, France or Germany during the same years he has but to turn to the corresponding pages under those titles. Turning to Feb. 22, 1732, the date of George Washington's birth, one finds recorded the names of thirteen other notable Americans born in the same year, including Generals Francis Marion and Richard Henry Lee, of revolutionary fame. If one wishes to find what was happening in the rest of the world during the period of Washington's two presidential terms he has only to turn to the years 1789 to 1797 under the names of other countries. Of the seventy-nine different countries included in the book the greatest space is given to the most important, including America before the revolution, the United States after the revolution, Great Britain, France, Germany, etc., yet each one of the seventy-nine countries is represented by an historical epitome according to its importance. During the period of our civil war, 1861 to 1865, the dates of no less than 700 different engagements are given, and in the department of births and deaths 10,000 names are recorded. An alphabetical index at the close of the volume, occupying 290 pages and containing 125,000 entires, enables one to find in a few moments every entry relating to a particular person or subject. Thus Indiana is represented by nearly 100 entries of different dates, and Indianapolis by thirty-nine. These events are not all of equal importance, but all have a place in local history. Every State and considerable city in the Union is similarly represented. Taking the whole volume together the events tabulated and dated extend from a period 5,000 years before Christ to A. D. 1895. The book is a wonderful mine of information and of great value as a ready reference book for students, readers, authors, editors and professional men. It comes near being an historical library in itself and will be a valuable addition to any library, public or private. It is published by Funk & Wagnalls Company, 30 Lafayette place, New York.

Historical Tales from Shakspeare.

What Charles and Mary Lamb did for some of Shakespeare's plays A. T. Quiller-Couch (Q.) has done for others. He has taken eight of the master playwright's historical works and converted them into delightful prose stories that cannot fail to interest the young as well as the old. The task has not been an easy one, for the author has tried to be more accurate in dealing with historic incidents than Shakespeare was. It is a well-established fact that the Bard sometimes sacrificed truth—probably took what is called poetic license—in order to make his play conform to his stage views or to serve a whim. Neither was he always fair or just with historic characters, and he also occasionally made mistakes. Therefore, Mr. Quiller-Couch says: "I have made it my rule to follow Shakespeare so long as he tells his story with fairness and justice." Some of the inaccuracies of the Bard, however, have not been corrected for the reason that changes would have shadowed the characters instead of bringing them out more clearly as was "Q's" intent.

The author makes it clear at the outset that his tales were written for young readers primarily, and secondly for older persons who find difficulty in grasping quickly the full meaning of Shakespeare's language. The tales, therefore, might be called "Shakespeare Made Easy." The plays which "Q" has reduced to ordinary prose are "Coriolanus," "Julius Caesar," "King John," "King Richard the Second," "King Henry the Fourth," "King Henry the Fifth," "King Henry the Sixth" and "King Richard the Third." To change these to prose and supply the minor details lacking in the plays has been no mean undertaking, but "Q" has succeeded, and the result is a series of interesting and well-told stories. The author, however, disclaims any intention of making his work of the fictional order, for he says his object was "not to extract pleasant and profitable stories, as one might (and as the Lambs did) from the masterpieces of Shakespeare's invention, but to follow him into his dealings with history, where things cannot be forced to happen so neatly as in a made-up tale and to persuade my young audience that history (in spite of their natural distrust) is by no means a dull business when handled by one who marvelously understood the human heart and was able so to put life into the figures of men and women long passed away that they become real to us as we follow their thoughts and motions and watch them making love, making war, plotting, succeeding, or accepting reverses, playing once more the big drama which they played on earth."

"Q.'s" method of condensing and changing Shakespeare's lines is shown in the closing part of "Richard the Third." In the original text the ghost scene and Richard's soliloquy, when he wakes from his dream, are spread over nearly 100 lines. "Q." covers both in this way:

"Hideous dreams haunted his sleep; visions of his many victims passed by the bed, and, leaning over it, bade him despair. There stood young Edward, stabbed at Tewkesbury, dabbled in blood, pointing to his wounds; there stood Clarence; there stood Rivers, Grey, Vaughan; there stood Hastings; there stood the two murdered princes; there stood his wife Anne; there stood his first friend and last victim, Buckingham. 'Let me sit heavy upon thy soul to-morrow;' 'let me'—and 'me;' one after the other took up the terrible imprecation. 'To-morrow—despair and die!'

"'Jesu, have mercy!' Richard started from the bed in a bath of terror. The candles burned blue at the bedside, but the tent was empty. 'I was dreaming; conscience is afflicting me. Oh, I am a villain! No, it is too late to repent, to face the truth. I am a villain! Fool! do not flatter thyself, when conscience has a thousand tongues and each one denounces thee villain. Perjury, murder, sin upon sin thronging to the bar, each crying "Guilty! Guilty!" I must despair; not a creature loves me, and if I die not a soul shall pity me.' "

It will be noticed, in comparing the foregoing with Shakespeare's lines, that much of the dramatic effect has been lost in the condenser. "Q." could not well introduce each ghost, and follow the plan he had mapped out. His work, however, shows better in his description of the end of the wicked King. Shakespeare, of course, does not tell how Richard was killed. That is left to the actors. When Richard is almost deserted on the battlefield and fate has set her seal upon him, he is still burning to kill Richmond. His famous charger, White Surrey, has been slain and he is surrounded by his foes. Shakespeare's lines read:

"King Richard—A horse! a horse! My kingdom for a horse!

"Catesby—Withdraw my lord; I'll help you to a horse.

"King Richard—Slave, I have set my life upon a cast,
And I will stand the hazard of the die;
I think there be six Richmonds in the field;
Five have I slain to-day instead of him.
A horse! a horse! my kingdom for a horse!"

Then Richard and Richmond are supposed to meet on the stage and Richard is slain. "Q" treats the incident in this way: After Richard learns that part of his force has deserted, he shouts "Treason! treason!" and dashes into the thick of the fray, seeking Richmond. "He had never fought so splendidly," the author says, "because never so desperately. White Surrey was stabbed and sunk under him. 'Another horse!' he yelled; 'my kingdom for another horse!' While his men gave way he yet pressed forward; hewed his way to the Lancastrian standard, tore it from the pole, trod the pole in the ground, and still fought forward like a demon into the very presence of Richmond. And there—a foot or two only dividing them—as he aimed a murderous stroke at his rival, a score of men rushed on him together and bore him to the ground by sheer weight of numbers. Under that struggling mass he took his death stroke. They drew off; the body did not move. They had pulled the wild boar down at last, and the great curse was ended. As he went down the crown had fallen from his head and rolled beneath a hawthorn bush. Stanley picked it up and set it on the brow of the conqueror."

The book is handsomely printed and well bound. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

As It Happened.

This story, by Mrs. Josephine Winfield Brake, has for its heroine a widow, Selene Barber, who, when the narrative opens, is close upon thirty years of age. She had been married at fifteen to a man much older than herself, and when he died soon after, leaving her but little money, she lived in retirement with his mother. She and her husband were of good birth and highly respectable, but were not "in society," in the small city where their home was, and when, after his death, she matures into rather striking beauty she is looked upon somewhat askance by vigilant mothers of marriageable sons. However, on the occasion of a local entertainment her fitness to take the part of Semiramis in a tableaux is recognized and she is persuaded to appear in the royal robes. Her remarkable beauty is at once disclosed to those who had been blind to it before, among them being the wealthiest and most eligible man of the town. He forthwith wooes her ardently and she is willing to marry him, but it develops that he does not intend marriage but contemplates an unlawful alliance, his reason being that he had promised his wife on her deathbed that he would never marry again, also that his mother and the other ladies of his social circle would not approve. Selene spurns him, but lest she should succumb, flees in company with her mother-in-law, and takes up her residence in Virginia, where she occupies herself with art study. The villain pursues her and here, also, comes another villain, a wealthy New Yorker, who takes the guise of a friend. It appears that Selene is one of those remarkable women, so common in books and so rare in real life, who fascinates every man who looks at her and causes him to regard her with unholy thoughts, she at the same time remaining in child-like innocence and ignorance of her peculiar attraction and learning nothing by experience. The second villain, who is a married man, after gaining her confidence and putting her under heavy financial obligations by helping her to go to New York and pursue her art studies, makes her a dishonorable proposition. When she rejects it he persecutes her. She goes to a lawyer, who is portrayed as an honest, upright gentleman, but who so far forgets himself as to kiss his beautiful client on the cheek at the second interview. He does, however, put her in the way of earning an honest living and of eluding her pursuers. In time she paints a remarkable picture which is accepted at the Academy of Fine Arts and creates a sensation. Meanwhile, she has met a man, wealthier and of higher position than any of the others, who falls instantly in love with her and proposes marriage. The climax is at once triumphant and tragic. Selene, arrayed in a new and extremely becoming purple gown, visits the gallery where her picture is hung, and there becomes the observed of all observers. There also come the men who have been most interested in her. The first villain she greets with a show of toleration because of the love she once bore him; to the second she has the pleasure of declaring herself at last free from money obligation to him and of spurning his final approaches. The accepted lover comes to her side at this moment, and, as his whispered greeting shows the relationship, villain No. 2, overcome by rage at the baffling of his schemes and by the result of past dissipation, falls dead at her feet. The story puts the morals of the average man in a very bad light, and though its incidents are perhaps rather too lurid to please the tastes of critical readers, it may serve a purpose in warning innocent and attractive widows of the pitfalls that confront them when they venture out into the world. The author, Mrs. Brake, who was formerly a resident of Indianapolis, handles her material with considerable literary skill. Published by the Neale Company, Washington, D. C.

Nature's Miracles.

This is the first of a practical series of three volumes under the above title. The author of the volumes is Elisha Gray, a distinguished scientist and master of the subjects of which he treats. The plan of the series is to describe in plain language, free from technicalities, and in the style of familiar talks, some of the wonderful things which are constantly going on in the world of nature under the rule of natural law. Some may claim that it is unscientific to speak of the operations of nature as "miracles," but the point of the title lies in the paradox of finding so many wonderful things subservient to the rule of law. This volume treats of the operations of earth, air and water. Beginning with world-building and the law of creation itself, the author explains in popular phrase the formation of the underground foundations of the earth, with hints as to the geologic growth of the earth's crust below and the making of its soils above, and many curiously interesting facts about such component parts as limestone, coal, slate, salt, etc. Passing on to the air, he gives lucid explanations of the atmosphere, temperatures, clouds, winds, weather predictions, dew, snow and ice, meteors, the sky, liquid, air, etc. And under the subject of water he treats of rivers and floods, tides, water and ice and the energy stored therein, glaciers and the ice age, the glacial period and its widespread effects on surface, soils and climates. Altogether it is an interesting and instructive book, and written in a style that makes it readable for young or old. The second volume of the series will treat of force, heat, light, sound and explosives, and the third volume of electricity and magnetism. New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

The Human Interest.

A sub title to this story by Violet Hunt designates it as "A Study in Incompatibilities," and that is suggestive of its general character. Perhaps it might also be termed a story of elective affinities. The plot turns on a love affair between a woman unhappily married and an artist who, accidentally thrown in her company for a month, falls desperately in love with her without knowing that she is married, and she as desperately in love with him while carefully concealing the important fact that she had a husband. The man behaves in the most honorable manner, and when he learns that she is married sends her home, expecting never to see her again. Although not guilty of any