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There are those who begin to suspect that Mr. Kern's loud devotion to the elevation of railroad tracks is of the grand-stand variety of which he speaks.

The woman suffragists did not succeed in getting a place in the platform, but it congratulates the women on their splendid record as nurses during the recent war.

Master W. J. Bryan may be able to catch fish for his father in the depths of the Wisconsin woods, but he can't catch votes for his parent in the open of a national campaign.

Mr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to Washington, who makes it a point to go where he can study American methods, was an interested observer of the convention proceedings at Philadelphia yesterday. When he returns to China he will be a fit leader for the progressive party.

Governor Roosevelt showed Tuesday night that he controlled the New York delegation when he demanded that it should not put him in nomination. What Senator Platt might have wished is not known, but if it was his purpose to have the delegation declare for Governor Roosevelt he failed.

It is just barely possible that the storm and stress reported to exist at Philadelphia regarding the choice of a candidate for Vice President may be exaggerated. The boys must have their quadrennial fun, and as there is no chance for real excitement over the nomination for President it is necessary to raise an artificial breeze over the other place.

Advices from Porto Rico state that under the new tariff on rice the price of that commodity to the people of the island has increased nearly 100 per cent. Rice is the principal article of diet in the island, and as comparatively little is imported from the United States free the duty on that imported from other countries should be adjusted in the interest of the Porto Ricans. The matter should receive the early attention of Congress.

The news from China continues to be confused and meager, but the situation seems slightly improved in some respects. The arrival at Peking of the combined relief expedition commanded by Admiral Seymour probably insures the safety of the foreigners in that city, and if the report that Li Hung Chang has been summoned to the capital proves true that will probably mean the speedy adoption of a more liberal policy by the government. Meanwhile, however, the disturbance seems to be extending to new localities.

Senator Lodge's speech yesterday was such as might have been expected from a man of his ability and culture. It was clear, strong, positive and in excellent form. To say that it is worthy to rank in the same class as that of Senator Wolcott is high praise, yet the Colorado man's had a broader sweep and more of the keynote quality. Parts of Senator Wolcott's speech read as if they might have been extemporaneous, which is always an attractive quality, while Senator Lodge's bears rather too conspicuous evidence of literary polish from beginning to end and almost smells of the lamp.

Those who can recall the Republican national convention which was held in Philadelphia in 1872 will also recall the fact that the enemies of the party found great consolation in asserting that it was a very dull and spiritless convention. General Grant had no competitor for the nomination, and because there was no excitement over his renomination it was given out that the delegates had little or no interest in it, certain bosses having decreed that it should be done. Compared with the convention of 1872 the present convention is a very active one, yet General Grant swept the country when he was thought to be beaten by the nomination of Horace Greeley.

The decision of the jury on wines at the Paris exposition to exclude from competition all American wines bearing the names of European products, as Burgundy, Sauterne, Bordeaux, etc., is evidently inspired by jealousy of American wines, which are rapidly coming into favor in Europe. Several varieties of California wines are named after foreign wines because they belong to the same family and closely resemble them, but they are in no sense imitations, and no doubt those at the exposition show plainly enough that they are American products. A majority of the members of the board are French, and the decision is evidently intended as an indirect way of excluding American wines from competition. American exhibitors should insist on a reversal of the decision.

When the convention adjourned yesterday there were some indications of a contest over ex-Senator Quay's proposed amendment to the rules changing the basis of representation to national conventions. The present basis is two delegates for each senator and two for each congressional district. The Quay amendment would make it two for each senator and one for each 10,000 votes cast for the last Republican candidate for President. This change from an arbitrary to a flexible basis would increase the representation of States casting large Republican votes and decrease that of Democratic States, notably of Southern States. The proposed change is right in principle, but will be strongly opposed by the Southern States. The amendment was pending when the convention adjourned, and under the ruling of Chairman Lodge it will come up as unfinished business the first thing to-day.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The achievements and the principles of the Republican party, as stated in the platform adopted by the national convention, are put forth in the simplest and most dispassionate language. The story of recent achievements is as plain a statement of the wonderful change which has taken place during the past four years as can be made. This means that those who made the platform believe that the work of the party has been so wisely done and its achievements so remarkable that it is not necessary to call upon the phrase-maker and the graphic writer in telling the story. The wonderful prosperity of the country is made the prominent feature of the platform. What the Republican party pledged itself to perform at St. Louis in 1896 has been realized to a greater extent than the country or the party thought possible at that time. The candidate of the Republican party was "the advance agent of prosperity." If the return of the Republican party to power simply gave the enterprise and the business of the country the confidence to set in motion the wheels of industry and to lay the foundations of enduring prosperity, that fact is enough to commend its candidates to the support of the country in 1900.

Coming to details, the convention has put the financial question first of the issues, as it should, since to adhesion to the gold standard should be attributed a large part of the general prosperity of the country. Republican legislation has removed long-time menace to the public credit, which upholds all private credit. The declaration in regard to trusts is brief but clear. The co-operation of capital, when not intended to create monopoly, is commended, but when combinations are made to limit production and control prices, Republicans are pledged to effective legislative measures. The doctrine of protection having been approved in nearly every platform since the party was organized, is reaffirmed as a wise policy, because sustained by facts. The platform favors more effective restriction of the immigration of cheap foreign labor—an evil which is the greatest menace to the common labor of the country at the present time.

The portion of the platform which will be most eagerly scrutinized is that relating to what is generally known as the policy of expansion. We went to war to rid Cuba of Spanish domination—to destroy the sovereignty of Spain in Cuba. If that sovereignty was evil in Cuba, it could not be less so in the Philippines. Having secured by treaty the sovereignty of the Philippines, the United States must put down the insurrection of Aguinaldo. As to the future of the Philippines, the platform declares that "the largest measure of self-government consistent with their welfare and our duties shall be secured by law." The fact that the Republican policy toward Cuba is recited in the next sentence warrants the inference that the people of the Philippines will be treated with the same consideration.

The criticism which will be made upon the platform as a whole is that it contains no "ringing sentences." The answer to such criticism is that the Republican party has so good a cause that a plain, unadorned statement is better than sounding phrases.

THE POPULARITY OF ROOSEVELT.

In the history of politics there has been no such movement as that in Philadelphia for the nomination of Governor Roosevelt for Vice President. In 1868 General Grant was nominated because the Republicans all over the country demanded it. It is the only instance on record in recent years. He was willing to accept the nomination, though he did not care for it.

Why this uprising of political men from all the States for Governor Roosevelt? There are as able men of his age in the Republican party—men who have had experience in Congress and in public affairs. Governor Roosevelt has had no opportunity to make a national reputation, yet he is to-day one of the best known and most popular men in the country. He has never sought popularity by the usual methods. An advocate of civil-service reform, he was commissioner during the Harrison administration. He was assistant secretary of the navy until he resigned to join the Rough Riders. He has been Governor of New York a year and a half. Many men had held these and more conspicuous positions without attracting the attention of the whole country. Why is Governor Roosevelt such an exception? It is because he is the manly, sincere and courageous man in politics. He holds with tenacity to his convictions of what he believes to be right. He believes in a clean, effective and upright management of public affairs. When he concludes that a theory or proposition is right he devotes all his energies to bring it about. He came to the conclusion that the franchises of corporations in New York should be taxed. Arriving at that conviction, no influence could deter him from doing the utmost in his power to secure such legislation. Through his influence it has been done. He came into power when there was a scandal regarding the expenditure of money on the canals. Influence was put forth to induce him to overlook the charges on the plea that it would injure the party. Instead, he set a commission of able men of both parties to investigate. When the rottenness was exposed he put aside every sinner and named a man for the head of the improvements who inspired public confidence. The term of office of a man of ill-repute terminated a few months ago. In a way he had been useful to his party, but he was generally believed to be corrupt. Much influence was brought to have him reappointed. Governor Roosevelt was told that while the man might have had a bad reputation, he had managed his office in a creditable manner. To this he replied that there were enough men who had clean records, public and private, to fill all the offices. He was told that his nominee for the position could not be confirmed, but he named a man so well known and of so high character that no man felt it safe to vote against confirmation. Say what we may, the mass of the American people admire a man with such high ideals and splendid courage. To use the words which General Harrison applied to him a few weeks ago, Roosevelt "is impatient for righteousness." Born to the purple, Governor Roosevelt has led a strenuous life. He has been a cowboy on a ranch; he knows the American masses and believes that public affairs can be bettered. With all his manliness, his earnestness and his purpose he has supreme faith in the American people. To use the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "He is an American who stands to his boot tops in the soil of his country."

SENATOR WOLCOTT ON SILVER.

The speech delivered by Senator Wolcott at the opening of the Philadelphia convention was in the strictest sense a great one, and will doubtless be widely circulated as a campaign document. There will be no clearer statement of the issues made nor any stronger defense in better form of the policy and acts of the present administration. Such a speech could hardly be expected to receive proper recognition amid the hurried and exciting scenes of a national convention, but it will have millions of readers who will be impressed by its clear presentation of facts, its strong arguments and its elegant diction.

On one point Senator Wolcott was particularly entitled to be heard and was especially clear. This was in regard to the silver question, which the Democratic party is trying to revive. When silver was a live issue Senator Wolcott was a free-silver man. After the election of Mr. McKinley he introduced in the Senate a bill to provide for the representation of the United States by commissioners at any international monetary conference that might be called, and subsequently he went to Europe for the purpose, if possible, of bringing about such a conference. In 1897 he was appointed one of three commissioners to visit European governments and sound them on the subject of an international conference. The mission failed. As there was no longer any prospect of international action Senator Wolcott ceased to pursue the matter, and since the passage of the currency bill he regards silver as a dead issue. In his speech at Philadelphia, after referring to the unsuccessful efforts to bring about international action, he said:

As we grow year by year more firmly established as a creditor nation, the question concerns us less and other countries more. No impairment of national credit can be contemplated by an honorable nation. We have made advances enough; this country can better afford than any other to enter upon the contest for commercial supremacy with gold as its standard, and for us the time has come to give fair notice to the world that we, too, make gold our standard and redeem our obligations in that metal. For twelve years the platforms of the party have declared in favor of the use of gold and silver as money. The logic of recent events, together with the attempt of the Democracy to drag down the question from its international character, to associate it with every vagary of Populism and Socialism, and to drive this country to an alliance with Mexico and China, as an exclusively silver-using country, has impelled our people to this settlement of this problem, and the recent action of Congress has eliminated the danger which its further agitation menaced.

He then proceeded to eulogize the currency bill and said the Republican party had "left the Populistic Democracy a dead issue they can never again galvanize into life, and compelled them to seek to create new issues growing out of the war which they were most eager to precipitate." This is an admission by one of the ablest of original silver men that it is now a dead issue and that the Republican party has done the wisest thing possible.

A DEMOCRATIC DILEMMA.

Advices from Honolulu under date of June 12 state that the Democratic territorial convention had elected six delegates to the Democratic national convention, and they are doubtless now on the ocean, en route to Kansas City. The Republicans of the island sent delegates to the Philadelphia convention who were unhesitatingly recognized, but the situation at Kansas City will be very different. The Republican party favors the legitimate extension of territory, and from the beginning of the Hawaiian movement has favored the acquisition of those islands. Therefore it could with entire consistency receive the Hawaiian delegates to the Philadelphia convention. But the Democratic party is opposed to expansion on general principles, and has opposed the annexation of Hawaii from the beginning. Against the acquisition of those islands it is committed in every possible manner. The first treaty of annexation, negotiated and sent to the Senate near the close of President Harrison's administration, was withdrawn by President Cleveland, who made every effort to re-establish the monarchy in order to prevent annexation. The second treaty was negotiated and signed early in President McKinley's administration, and was sent to the Senate by him with a strong message of approval. Strong opposition to it was developed from three sources—viz., the ex-Queen Liliuokalani, the Japanese government and the Democratic party. The ex-Queen filed a protest with the secretary of state, the Japanese government protested through its minister at Washington and by diplomatic correspondence, and the Democratic party opposed the ratification of the treaty in the Senate. They delayed ratification a long time, but it finally carried by a vote of 42 to 21. Thirteen Democrats voted against it and twelve others were paired, who would have voted against it. From that time to the present—in fact, from the beginning of the annexation movement—the Democratic party has never by act or word retracted or modified its opposition to the measure. The Nebraska Democratic platform, adopted in March last and dictated by Mr. Bryan, declared that "We oppose wars of conquest and colonial possessions." This declaration includes all "colonial possessions," which is the Democratic phrase invented to stigmatize all our new possessions and to support the declaration, also made in the Nebraska platform, that "the Nation cannot long endure half republic and half empire." Mr. Bryan, the assured candidate of the Democratic party in the coming campaign, has frequently reiterated the same doctrine. Thus the Democratic party is in every possible way committed against the annexation of Hawaii, as well as of Porto Rico and the Philippines.

In this situation the question arises, how will the Democratic party treat the Hawaiian delegates at Kansas City? Will it be true to its record, have the courage of its convictions and refuse to receive, recognize or have anything to do with them, or will it say, "Yes, gentlemen, we were opposed to the annexation of Hawaii and fought it as long as there was any fighting ground, but now that the islands are under the flag and its people are prosperous and happy, now that American institutions are being established and American ideas introduced there, now that the strategic and commercial value of the islands have been demonstrated, we see that the Republicans were right and we were wrong. Gentlemen delegates from Hawaii, welcome to a Democratic convention." Will the convention be true to its party record and reject the delegates, or will it stultify itself and admit them?

Those papers that are attempting to make their readers believe that the President has ordered troops to China because of an alliance with Great Britain are counting upon the ignorance or prejudice of their readers. Germany, Russia, France and Japan are contributing more to the force that has been sent to China than is Great Britain—why not, then, make an alliance with Germany, or Russia, or France? There is no alliance between any of the powers in the action which has been taken in reference to China. Doubtless a general understanding exists that all of these shall act together, not for the conquest of China, but to protect the lives and property of citizens or subjects of their respective governments. If any portion of the reports which come from China are true all foreigners in that country stand in great peril, if many of them have not already been put to death. The government of China is feeble, but if it should undertake, in earnest, to protect the foreigners in the empire it could do so. The present regime in China is hostile to foreign influence and the progress which follows in its wake. It does not desire to suppress the insurrection, because it is as hostile to foreign influences as are the Boxers. Under these conditions there can be no question as to what is the duty of all the governments that have residents in China. They must do their utmost to succor them by united action, so that the interposition may be prompt and effective. It is no time to think of future policies or what may come from this interference of all the nations to protect foreigners in China. The urgent duty of the hour is to rescue. If any party paper thinks it can make capital out of the fact that the McKinley administration has taken part in the combination to rescue by appealing to prejudices against Great Britain let it go on and learn that the humanity of the American people has no use for such contemptible partisanship.

More than a hundred of the employes of the Transit Street-railway Company in St. Louis have issued a very remarkable statement relative to their position. They declare that they have belonged to street-railway unions in other cities, but were induced to engage in strikes by the same national organizers who are at the head of the movement in St. Louis. By so doing they have lost their employment, because strikes have usually failed. Thus hundreds of street-railway employes have been reduced to want. They charge that the money which has been raised to help those who have gone into strikes has been largely appropriated by the leaders and the demagogues who caused the strikes, so that very little aid has been given to the men who lost employment, and that little was given as charity. Driven to despair, these men declare that they went to St. Louis to get a chance to earn their bread, just as other men came and took their places when they struck. They declare that they are in favor of organization when it is designed to secure higher wages, shorter hours and the general improvement of the employes, but when organization is used by a few leaders to obtain control of employment for their own personal advantage they are opposed to it.

Mr. Seyfried, one of the somewhat numerous attaches of the office of the city attorney, has put himself in an unenviable position by his interference with the affairs of the superintendent of police in a most unwarrantable manner. He wrote on the complaint against an offender a recommendation for the dismissal of the accused by Superintendent Quigley, which that officer did not make. When the superintendent looked the matter up he discovered that the dismissal was written by Mr. Seyfried, but "ordered" by Councilman Higgins. The councilman is alleged to have denied any participation in the matter. The disagreement of the assistant city attorney and the councilman does not help the former, but rather makes his offending greater, for the reason that the official who proposes a quasi-judicial act by "order of Councilman Higgins" is taking orders from a person who has no right to issue orders of any kind. A deputy city attorney should leave the superintendent of police to make his own recommendations.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

In the Passive Class.

"Are you golfing this summer, Ethel?"
"Yes; I've got a lovely golf hammock."

Getting Back at Him.

"Pa, what is the 'Absent-minded Beggar?'"
"The strawberry man, I guess; he seems bound and determined to pack his boxes upside down."

The Census.

The job will be much shorter when my pleasing scheme attracts—
Let women go downtown and men stay home and tell the facts.

An Evasive Employer.

"Pa, you said you'd pay me for paintin' these here garden chairs."
"Yes, Freddy; but you had so much fun painting them that I think you ought to pay me."

Just Like the Boxers.

"I believe I'll take a new quart cup and measure strawberries myself when I buy them."
"No use, Sarah; you'll just drive the peddlers to having quart cups made with deep bottoms."

A Peril to Be Evaded.

"Did Frederick Booster offer any explanation of his refusal to accept a vice presidential boom?"
"Yes; he said he felt so vigorous and lively that he knew he couldn't do the office justice."

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

Robert Owen, the Socialist reformer, is to have a memorial at New Lanark, near Glasgow, the scene of his experiments, in the form of a mechanics' institute.

Ex-United States Senator James W. Bradbury, of Augusta, Me., celebrated the ninety-eighth anniversary of his birth on Sunday last. He retains his faculties to a wonderful degree, and keeps up his interest in current events.

Mrs. Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, although in perfect health, when sailing for Europe made a contract with the steamship company that in the event of her death at sea her body should be brought to land for interment.

Congressman Ketcham, of New York, who has just been renominated for the sixteenth time, is a little deaf. The other day some one suggested that this must be a drawback. "Young man," replied eGn. Xetcham, "I hear a great deal more than I want to."

The last descendant of John Bunyan has just died at Lincoln, England, in the person of Mrs. T. M. Keyworth. The last male descendant died many years ago, and a monument is erected to his memory in Lincoln Cemetery. Now the honored line is extinct. Mrs. Keyworth was nearly ninety-nine years old.

Representative Jonathan P. Dolliver is a man that does not swear, nor smoke, nor chew; in fact, he is said to have none of the small vices and bad habits of which most men are victims. He is forty-two years old and has been in public life for the last twelve. He is considered one of the best orators in the House of Representatives.

The University of Rochester, western New York State, has decided to admit women to its courses upon the same terms and conditions as men provided a fund of $50,000 is raised by the friends of coeducation. As four-fifths of this sum is now in hand there seems little doubt that women will be numbered among the students at Rochester University next September.

The late Mrs. John Sherman was disturbed, her pose ruffled, only upon those rare occasions when she felt that Mr. Sherman had been badly used by his friends, and his relinquishment of his seat in the Senate, with all that it entailed, and the criticism his conduct of the Department of State inspired, were matters of keen chagrin to her, and it was in obedience to her wishes, it is said, that her husband finally resigned the portfolio of state.

President William R. Harper, of the University of Chicago, has just returned from Russia, whither he went at the instance of Charles R. Crane, the elevator manufacturer, who has endowed a chair of Russian at the university. In an interview the Czar expressed himself as pleased to know that Russian was to be regularly studied in an American school. "The Emperor," says Dr. Harper, "is waiting until he understands the situation of his own country before starting any new policy."

Francis Douce, a famous antiquary, who died in 1834, bequeathed a box to the British Museum trustees, stipulating it should not be opened until 1900. At a recent meeting of the trustees the box was solemnly unsealed and unlocked by the curator of the museum, when it was found to contain nothing but old fragments of paper, torn bookcovers and other rubbish, with a note from Douce saying that, in his opinion, it would be wasting any more valuable or interesting objects to leave them to persons of the average intelligence and taste of the British museum trustees.

Thank goodness! those war artists
Are busy with the queue;
For we're getting tired of whiskers,
And the pigtail's rather new.
—Chicago Journal.

HOW THE RULE WORKS.

A Few Remarks to Democrats Who Say Protection Makes Trusts.

Philadelphia Telegraph.

Every loyal Democrat must, of party necessity, be fully persuaded in his own mind that protection is, among other iniquities, directly responsible for trusts. As a good Democrat he cannot be allowed to know anything but that the tariff is the mother of monopolies and of trade combinations. It is to the Republican policy of fostering domestic industries that we owe the great combines which crush out competition on the one hand, and on the other load up the share market with unlimited issues of watered stock. These evils are the direct results of Republican domination, according to all Democratic authority. An indirect result, according to the same authority, is the periodical reaction in the share market by which watered stocks are "squeezed," and their fictitious values wrung out of them as water is wrung from a sponge, to the disturbance of general business and the ruin of innocent investors. All that is the work of Republican protection, and it is the duty of good Democrats to fight against this unsound policy and turn the bad Republicans out of power.

Yesterday the Bank of England reduced its discount rate of 3 per cent., partly because of increasing confidence in the return of peace in South Africa, and partly because of improvement in the European financial situation. Last week was a "black week" in Berlin, and a panic prevailed there so disastrous that it shook every bourse on the Continent. Yesterday the Berlin market was quiet, and it was believed that the danger of general insolvency, which for a time seemed impending, was averted, at least, for the moment. What was the occasion for the panic in Berlin? What happened to cause such a calamitous excitement as prevailed there during the "black week?"

Precisely what happens here when there is a collapse in the share market. The watered stocks of the trusts and monopolies and combines were "squeezed," and the high prices to which they had been marked up by speculative manipulation were cut down 40, 50 and 60 per cent., and in some cases artificial values were wiped out altogether. The disruption occurred in the line of "iron industrials," that is, in the stocks of the trust monopolizing the iron and steel interests. These trust stocks broke first, but later, demoralization spread through the entire active list of the Berlin exchange.

Are there, then, trusts and combines and monopolies in Germany? So it seems! Indeed, it appears from the stock lists there must be more trusts organized in Berlin than in any other known locality except, perhaps, Trenton, N. J. As our American trusts are the direct offspring of our protective tariff it should logically follow that there must be a tremendously protective tariff existing in Germany to produce such a crop of monopolistic trusts. So far from this being the case, however, it is the trusts that may possibly produce a protective tariff. It is, of all things in this world, American competition that has punctured the bubble of the "iron industrials" in Berlin, and the iron interests are demanding protective duties to keep American iron and steel out of the German markets. It is a poor rule that will not work both ways, and if the tariff creates trusts, why should not trusts create a tariff?

"NERVY" ADVERTISERS.

Offers to Census Enumerators to Make Money "On the Side."

New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"If I wanted to do it and thought the government would stand for it," said one of the census enumerators, "I could make a good deal better thing out of my job than the petty amount per capita allowed for enrollment. I have had all sorts of propositions to take on 'side lines,' so to speak," he continued, "and some of them have been rather alluring. One house offered me $2.50 a day to distribute samples of a new baking powder. I have one of the samples, and it is got up with a good deal of ingenuity. Across the top of the wrapper are the words 'The Census' in very large type, followed by—'of 1900 will show more than 12,000,000 families in the United States.' It then goes on to state that the Congressional Food Commission has condemned alum baking powders, and without saying it in so many words, the impression is conveyed that the inclosed sample is a specimen of an 'official pure' product, distributed by the department. Practically the same scheme is being used by a tobacco house, which wants to engage census enumerators to give away cigars and circulars where they will do the most good. Every man who gets a cigar must sign a receipt which looks very much like an official blank, and an enumerator who cares to undertake the work can earn $3 a day at it. Still other houses want catalogues, picture cards and other advertising matter distributed at so much per hundred, and one firm of advertising agents offers me a cent apiece for certain classified lists of names. If one took the trouble to combine several propositions I dare say he could make $6 or $8 a day out of it without seriously delaying his regular enrollment; but as nearly all of the schemes seek to give an official or a semi-official air to the service, it goes without saying that it would be worth an enumerator's job if he happened to get caught. I have heard that the thing is being worked for all it is worth in other cities."

LORD KITCHENER.

Not Allowed to Take a Leading Part in South Africa.

Julian Ralph, in London Mail.

I notice, since my return to London, that I am more often asked about Lord Kitchener than about any other general except the great field marshal, who, here as with the army, nearly blocks the whole horizon—as he should.

There is little need to discuss Lord Kitchener as either an independent actor or a lieutenant of Lord Roberts. In neither capacity has he counted for much in the war, or increased his prestige as a strategist. He made a mere meteoric appearance during our pursuit and subsequent surrounding of Cronje's army, but it was not the common opinion that he pleased the field marshal by his military methods. They appeared too much like an exaggeration of the worst of Lord Methuen's mistakes.

The fact that Lord Kitchener was summarily sent away as soon as Lord Roberts came up with the besieging force, and that the ex-sirdar's orders were to put down a petty rebellion of 400 farmers at Prieska, carried with it a suggestion which had but on interpretation where I heard it discussed.

This experience is quite apart from another fact about Lord Kitchener, which was almost sensationally noticeable from the day he landed in South Africa. This was the fact of his unpopularity with the officers throughout the army—to which, of course, Lord Roberts was never a party.

A member of Parliament whom I met in Kimberley went so far as to characterize this feeling as evidence of a "conspiracy" against the hero of Omdurman, but I afterward came to see that there was no combination or organized activity against Lord Kitchener. He was simply regarded as a man reputed to be needlessly stern, severe and exacting when in command.

His first conspicuous act when in South Africa was the withdrawal of the transport service from separated commands in order that it should be managed by the Army Service Corps. Thus it came about that every brigadier and colonel saw a certain amount of his power shifted to what he considered a subordinate branch of the service. A goodish degree of latitude in the enjoyment of comforts and extras which had been made possible when these officers controlled the wagons was also curtailed. The army wailed and gnashed its teeth, but I confess I always thought that reason and right were on Lord Kitchener's side in this matter. Lord Kitchener's plan was the only one by which an insufficient number of wagons and teams could be utilized for all that they were worth.

And I suspect it is as true to-day as it was last year that even if General Lord Kitchener has not shone as a fighting man in South Africa he remains the greatest military organizer of his generation. What he did in leading up to and executing the battle of Omdurman was the sort of work in which he stands alone. And why might he not have paralleled this feat in South Africa if he had been sent there at the beginning—or a few months earlier?

But though General Kitchener is not second to Lord Roberts in this war, there is a general who must soon receive at home the credit and the plaudits which he has gained from the army.

His name is French—Major General J. D. P. French—and, if I mistake not, it is forever to be coupled with Lord Roberts's in connection with this war in the hearts and minds of his countrymen. Chance is always a great factor in the success of a soldier, and chance has been so good to General French as to send him to the east, the middle, the west and the north, nearly always in time to do (or to help in) some master stroke. It can almost be said that he figured in every great success of the British arms, from Elandslaagte to Bloemfontein, and since.

ABOUT THE BOXERS.

An Educated Chinaman Says They Are "Bad Men with the Fists."

Kansas City Journal.

Who and what are the terrible "Boxers," about whom uncounted columns have been printed in connection with the riots in China? How did they get their peculiar sobriquet? Dr. M. F. Young, one of the most intelligent Chinamen in Kansas City, yesterday explained the mystery. He says that the Chinese name of the "Boxers" is, literally translated, "Bad men who fight with their fists."

"It is not very far," he said, "from a literal translation of the name of the order to the free and easy pun, 'Boxers.'"

Dr. Young drew for a reporter for the Journal the characters representing the Chinese name of the "Boxers," and also those representing the new god which has been added to the teeming pantheon of Confucius.

"There are about 11,000,000 of the 'Boxers,'" said Dr. Young, "and were organized recently for the sole purpose of expelling foreigners.

"They live in the northern portion of China and are loyal to the Empress, whom they blindly follow. They are for the most part very ignorant, believing that the invasion of China by foreigners means the destruction of all the Chinese. A new religion has been set up and a new god created. When a person becomes a member of the order he takes an oath to assist in the extermination of all foreigners and after being a member for a certain length of time he is assured that the god which they worship will protect him and will prevent any harm coming to him from either a gun or a sword; that the only harm that can come to a Chinaman will be from the fists.

"The religion," he continued, "is a peculiar one and its name is not capable of being translated in English."

Here he sketched the three characters by which the religion and god are symbolized. "I have tried to get an English phrase which would be intelligible to Americans, but I cannot find anything in the language that expresses it. The idea is that no one, not born in China, can enter this particular god's heaven.

"Against this very bigoted and ignorant society a reform society has been formed and thus far there are 5,000,000 members and they have collected $1,500,000,000. The reform party is kindly disposed toward all foreigners and is the progressive party of the Celestial kingdom. They wish to make Kwong Su the Emperor, one of the most intelligent men in the whole empire of China, who wishes to place his country on the standard of the more enlightened ones of the world. Many of its adherents live in America, France and England and in the cities of China where the foreigners are in control.

"The 'Boxers' will never gain the day They have no idea whatever of the strength of the foreigners or the reform party, and their mode of warfare—with the fists—is simply ridiculous."

PUBLIC BUILDING COMPETITIONS

The Treasury Now Free to Proceed with Plans for Two Structures.

Washington Special in New York Post.

The enactment of the sundry civil appropriation bill into law clears the way for the treasury to proceed to the erection of two or more public buildings under the Tarsney act. The Baltimore building project has hung fire for some time, owing to the lack of an adequate appropriation for paying the expenses of the judges who are to pass upon the comparative merits of the designs already submitted by competing architects and locked up in the safe of the supervising architect's office. The sundry civil bill contains an appropriation of $150,000 for continuing work, and authorizes the secretary of the treasury to enter into contracts, etc. Already a circular letter has been sent out to the architects who had consented to serve as judges, requesting their agreement upon a date for meeting in Washington and examining the drawings. They are all so busy now that it may be a fortnight or more before they divert their attention from their private business.

The Indianapolis building is another which is to be done by the competitive process. At first the plan was to let the supervising architect design this building, and a very handsome perspective drawing, the result of that understanding, now hangs in his office. The protests of some of the more influential members of the Indiana delegation, however, brought about a change of mind. Just why the delegation should have taken so marked an interest in the subject does not appear, unless this is like some other cases which have come up in past times, where congressmen have insisted upon a competition in designs under the mistaken impression that it meant that a local architect would be sure to get the award. At any rate, in this case the remonstrants had their way, and the preliminary steps were taken looking to a competition, when a question arose about the site. Strong local influence favored the purchase of an entire square, but the secretary was not willing to take the responsibility of making this purchase unless directly authorized by Congress to do so. The cost of the proposed site was the stumbling block. Moreover, it was very well known that the House committee on public buildings was opposed to any large original expenditures in this line at the late session, and Chairman Mercer had been heard to declare that if the question of the purchase of the Indianapolis square should come before the House he would fight it on the floor. So a subterfuge was adopted. The committee on appropriations took the matter away from Mr. Mercer's committee, and, instead of making a distinct appropriation for the purchase, inserted a paragraph into the sundry civil bill to provide money "for purchase of site and commencement of building, in the discretion of the secretary of the treasury." This is, of course, merely going around the barn instead of through it, but all that remains for the friends of the new building to do is to convince the secretary's "discretion" that the price set upon the whole square by the committee of appraisal is not so very exorbitant after all.

In one respect the competitive plan has been rather disappointing in its operations thus far. The people interested expected too much of it in the way of accelerating the speed of completion for the buildings awarded under the Tarsney act. As a matter of fact, the average record of delays would give the advantage rather to the old system over the new. That is a phase of the question, however, which will require more of a test for its satisfactory settlement.

ADMINISTRATION'S WORK.

Pledges Made in 1896 Have Been Faithfully Carried Out.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

President McKinley will be renominated without a single dissenting voice. The platform will consist practically of the history of his administration. The convention can, indeed, point with pride to what has been accomplished. The convention of 1896 made certain promises. How about them? Let us see.

It promised first of all a tariff that would open the mills and start up a business revival. The President and Congress have kept absolute faith and the result is before the Nation.

It promised to place the country upon a sound financial basis. We now have the gold standard, which can be overthrown only by the election of Mr. Bryan and a Democratic Congress.

It promised its influence to free Cuba from Spain. Spain declared war, the contest was fought out and the fair island is working out its destinies under the guidance of the United States.

It promised the restoration of the old homestead policy. The restoration has come. Under the free homes act many millions of acres of public lands acquired from the Indians will be opened up to the people.

It promised to care better for the veterans and widows of the civil war. The general pension laws have been amended according to the wishes of the Grand Army of the Republic. A widow may now receive a pension when she has no means of support except her daily labor, and has a net income not exceeding $250.

It promised Hawaii a territorial form of government and a satisfactory bill has been passed. The islands will have a delegate in Congress, not to vote, but to care for local interests, just as other Territories always have had.

It promised to secure a naval station in the West Indies. The war with Spain has brought us Porto Rico, with a grand harbor at San Juan.

Crafty Mrs. Helmuth.

New York Evening Sun.

Shortly after Mrs. Rebecca Davis Lowe, of Georgia, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, created such a sensation at the hotel headquarters of the Milwaukee biennial convention by pitching her key at a negro bell boy, it is said that Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, of New York, and aspirant-in-chief for the future presidency, sailed along the corridors. Approaching the same bell boy, with a sweet smile Mrs. Helmuth asked graciously, "Will you have the kindness to take my key?"

Things Were Fresh.

Philadelphia Letter.

One of those men who make it their business to be on familiar terms with everybody rode up in the elevator with the senator. He slapped Mr. Hanna familiarly on the shoulder, and said: "Well, senator, how are things this morning?"

"Fresh," replied Mr. Hanna, in his now-I-won't-say-a-word-on-that tone—"fresh; very fresh, indeed."

Chose the Better Way.

Hartford Courant.

Cincinnati, too, was threatened with a street-railway strike. But the men and the company officers kept their heads cool, talked matters over in a rational, conciliatory temper, made concessions on the one side and the other, and worked their way out to an amicable agreement. There's an example to be imitated.

Democratic Position.

Kansas City Journal.

As we understand Mr. Benedict, McKinleyism is an awful thing, but it is the only available instrument for destroying that much awfuller thing, Bryanism, and should be used for that purpose by all real Democrats. Mr. Benedict's conclusion is sound, anyway.

Not Missed.

New York Mail and Express.

After a more or less spectacular career on the comedy stage, "Coin" Harvey has retired from politics and gone to farming in Arkansas. The hole which Mr. Harvey's withdrawal leaves in the political fabric is almost as big around as a nickel.

Where to Put the Blame.

New York Mail and Express.

One of Nebraska's oldest bankers has been buncoed out of $14,000 by the gold brick swindle. By applying to the right person in his own State he will learn that his misfortune is due directly to the pesky gold standard.

About the Way of It.

Kansas City Journal.

Someone complains that the reading public is being surfeited with war literature. He seems to share General Sherman's opinion that "war is hell"—on magazine readers.

Too Long.

Chicago Journal.

Admiral Dewey's remark about the people, "I thank God they don't appear to want me," is just two words too long. Otherwise it states the case accurately.

The Kentucky Way.

Kansas City Journal.

The Kentucky Democrats feel equal to the emergency of indicting and jailing for the murder of Goebel any man the Republicans may put up for Governor.

All He Has to Do.

Baltimore American.

If Admiral Dewey will tell who the prominent politicians were who induced him to announce his candidacy the blame will promptly be shifted.

Can't Maintain the Ratio.

Atlanta Journal.

Coin Harvey has bought a farm, but it is dollars to cents that he will not raise sixteen bushels of anything to one acre.

Force of Numbers Is Sufficient.

Chicago Journal.

If the yellow millions in China had the right leader they could cover Europe with crepe.