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The Republican County Committee.

The talk about Representative Olcott of the Fifteenth district for president of the Republican county committee in place of the lamentable PARSONS proceeds from common sense of a quality not too common in the organization's recent history.

That is a pretty fair picture of the sort of leader designed by the doctrine of evolution, or other superior authority in politics, to lead the Republican organization of this county out of the bog.

The Health of Urban New Jersey. We confess to being puzzled as well as interested by an analysis which Mr. JAMES OWEN has made of the last report of the State Board of Health in New Jersey as it relates to the urban population.

Those the two amiable ladies who from the Calabrian rocks and the Sicilian shores used to feast on the insatiable navigators of the Straits of Messina have disappeared and been explained away with the rest of the classical myths.

Table with 4 columns: City or Town, Population, Deaths, Rate per 1,000. Lists cities like East Orange, Bloomfield, West Hoboken, etc.

To those familiar with their location, topography and character of government some of these places seem to occupy the position in the list they deserve. But as the report of the State Board of Health is unread except by proofreaders, doctors, undertakers and sanitary experts, it will excite surprise that detached, remote and mountain Morristown should be, according to these statistics, the unhealthiest town in the State except Hoboken proper.

residents died in the Montclair hospitals, and he suggests that if these were not included Montclair's death rate would be 11.81 per thousand.

When Perth Amboy (13.68) and New Brunswick (19.19), both on the Raritan and both manufacturing places, are so wide apart in their death rates, as are those suburbs of Newark, Kearny (14.50) and Harrison (19.25), the health experts ought to be able to put their fingers upon some salient cause of the difference.

In 1900 Newark had 246,070 people, of whom 71,400 were foreign born and 6,700 were negroes. In Trenton, Jersey City, Elizabeth and Passaic there was and is a considerable proportion of foreign born and negroes.

Senate Joint Resolution 67, introduced January 18, 1910, by the Hon. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, has for its intention, and if it should be adopted will have for its effect, the restoration of the Coast and Geodetic Survey to military auspices.

There is occupation in plenty for army and navy officers, nine-tenths of it strictly within their immediate professions. Let them manage the light-houses, we say, for else there is no prospect of safety along our thousands of miles of seacoast.

The United States is rich and careless. The Coast and Geodetic Survey is a placid backwater where it is always afternoon and where the Hon. TITUS BARNACLE might have swooned for envy. Why not perpetuate it? Nobody cares.

In a recent German publication Dr. H. LOHMANN sums up the results of the latest investigations. The currents that make the navigation of the straits that separate Italy from Sicily difficult are of two kinds; those that are common to the whole Mediterranean and those that are peculiar to the locality.

Moreover, the sea bottom is peculiar. From the point where the straits turn sharply to the northeast there is a long submarine shelf only 400 feet below the surface that joins Sicily to Calabria.

observed closely with the same object; the investigations have not been completed, however, and no results have yet been made public.

The Confession of Edgar Howe.

The Hon. EDGAR WATSON HOWE was foresighted enough to be born in Indiana, thus dedicating himself to literature, and yet he has carried out his promise. Not only is he much more than a novelist and an editor; he is the Sunflower philosopher, the most original, the drier and the shrewdest of the Kaw Academy.

Looking at life from his hotel window he saw a man, evidently a stranger, with a sack coat too short for him, as Mr. HOWE, who gets his clothes in London, modestly pretends that his is when it is not too long. The pilgrim carried "a little grip he had probably borrowed from his wife."

"Good morning, I said, conscious that I wasn't doing very well. 'Are you from the West?' I am from Kansas."

"I was tremendously embarrassed, and no doubt I acted like the confidence man the stranger believed me to be. 'Oh, I'm all right,' I said. 'I'm a stranger living in New York. I can show you letters to prove I'm all right.'"

"I don't want to see your letters," he said, starting toward a street car which was approaching, but looking back as though he expected me to grab him. He swung on to the platform of the car while I was still looking foolish, and disappeared.

Irony is nearly as disreputable as Cannibalism in Kansas. We advise the Hon. ED HOWE to settle here. He has ruined himself so far as home consumption is concerned.

Desert Cyrenaica.

Hard luck apparently attends the efforts of those who are endeavoring to find a country which the Jews may make into a "fatherland" of their own. Even the Zionists can hardly hope to attract the children of Israel to agricultural pursuits in Palestine under existing climatic conditions, and discouraging reports come from the engineers and scientific men employed to examine another projected Zion on the shores of the Mediterranean, the seacoast west of Egypt with the land back of it, Barka, as it is called on the maps, the Cyrenaica of the ancients.

Not only is there no water, the experts declare, which is the reason why the population is small, but there is no means of obtaining or storing it, which makes them believe that its fertility and population in classical times have been exaggerated. The soil is excellent, the climate healthy, and in the places along the shore where water can be procured the crops are good and include everything that grows in the Mediterranean region.

This is no land, therefore, for pioneer agricultural colonies, and the explorers took no account of the nature of the seas and shallows that encompass it, the stormy Syrtes of HORACE. The repatriation of the Jews, if it is to take place, may yet be to the country from which ABRAHAM set out, the land between the rivers, which will need a new population when the Turkish Government has carried out its schemes of irrigation and turned Mesopotamia into a paradise again.

One fourth of France is under water. Current dispatches from Paris.

The superficial extent of France is about 200,000 square miles, exclusive of Corsica and the small islands.

No matter what the magnitude of the great Federal operations in the Canal Zone the first place must be filled by the medical prophylaxis established in that former breeding ground of fever and various pestilence. How great a change has been effected by the campaign of the military surgeons is manifest in the fact that a single death from yellow fever at the Ancon Hospital is sufficiently unusual now to be a matter of news.

so sedulously about this known focus that it will have no chance to spread. Under the new conditions which the United States has established on the Isthmus there is no more danger to the canal community from an imported case of fever than there is to New York from the diseases held in quarantine at the station down the bay.

The Hon. SAMUEL WALKER McCALL might venture to tell Mr. TAFT that though the sons of Dartmouth love it as well as Mr. WEBSTER did, it is no longer a small college.

The public wastes enormous amounts in buying. A Chicago paper.

The packers waste nothing in selling.

JUANA CORONA, a lady who had smoked cigarettes for 106 years, is dead at Patagonia, Arizona, aged 118. You can prove anything by tobacco.

I am gathering proof now which will demonstrate that the food products of the American farm are being sold at a lower price than in the United States. This is not due, as some have said, to the excess of production over the surplus abroad. It is due to the trusts; just the same.

Perhaps so, but it is rather hard to understand why, if there is not an excess of production over consumption, the trusts should go abroad to get a lower price for their foodstuffs. Is money no object to them?

My district does not want any more of Speaker CANNON. Representative FORBES of the First Vermont district.

Burlington, which elects a Democratic Mayor every other year, must be doing most of the objecting.

President TAFT took a long walk in a drizzling rain this afternoon, accompanied by Captain BERRY, Chief of the Secret Service, and a detachment of the little party setting out from the White House to the distant reaches of the Government of President ROOSEVELT. Washington dispatch to the Tribune.

This is obviously forced. When has a drizzle been a downpour?

THREE DRINKS.

Haverhill's Plan for Solving the Liquor Question Described by Its Author.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I have today received solicitations from two local newspapers to publish an article containing a clipping from your paper giving a false impression of a bill and petition submitted by prominent citizens of Haverhill, and I desire to answer the solicitors through your paper as follows, to wit: The clipping from your paper contains a statement that "The Hon. Walter S. Hodgdon of Haverhill, Mass., has a somewhat original plan to restrain drunkenness."

It is possible that the scheme may be successful in Canada. It is doubtful if it would work equally well on this side of the line. The greater size and the vastly greater complexity of our institutions would be almost insuperable barriers to successful operation here.

The present investigation of the packing house business affords a concrete illustration of the effect of the tariff. The tariff enhancement of meat prices by the packers there may be either civil action for the dissolution of the National Packing Company or criminal action under the Sherman act. Under Canada's proposed law there would be full publicity of the facts, and the moral force of publicity being ineffective, reduction or even entire removal of the tariff on meat and meat products, plus a fine of \$1,000 a day until prices were brought to a reasonable level.

Schwarzbrod and Pumpernickel. From the Lancet.

A curious fallacy has been going the rounds of late, and has been repeated in an article in the "Black Bread" which implies a kind of famine food, whereas in several civilized countries it is just as much the staple and normal article of diet as our white loaf.

My reasons for submitting the bill were that under the local option bill the license and the no license men engage in bribery, perjury, neighborhood and individual rows, and a no license city dumps its drunken refuse into the front yards of a neighboring license city, and therefore the local option bill is a failure, disagreeable and disgusting.

Compulsory Laying of Bibles. From the London Globe.

The first Bible printed in Scotland was issued complete in 1579. In the same year, by act of Parliament, every gentleman, householder and others worth three hundred marks of yearly rent, and every yeoman and burgess with £200, had to provide, under a penalty of £10, a Bible and psalm book in vulgar language for his household for the better instruction of himself and his family in the knowledge of God's word.

The Butcher's Side of It. From the Waterbury Republican.

Sliced steaks, stews, chops, and all ready to sell. But never a soul comes into my shop. To get a pig, sausage and pork! Chickens and veal and tripe! My counters are loaded with these things, but no one buys them.

A CLUB FOR "COMBINES."

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Canada as well as the United States has its trusts and "combinations in restraint of trade." The Dominion authorities are considering plans for the punishment of offending combinations and for the regulation of prices. A bill recently introduced in the House of Commons at Ottawa provides that any six or more persons, being convinced that the price of any article or articles of merchandise is artificially enhanced by reason of monopoly, trust or combination, may apply to a High Court Judge for an investigation of the supposed offender's business.

This board is endowed with all the powers of a court of record and its findings are to be published in the Official Gazette and applied to the press. The aim of the bill, says the Toronto Globe editorially, "is to provide a prompt and inexorable means of relief for any one unfairly treated by virtue of tariff restraints. It may seldom be necessary to invoke the law, for the mere fact of its existence will be sufficient to discourage any tendency toward unjust exactions."

The first object of the new measure is publicity. It is assumed that this will be afforded through the board of investigation. If the moral force of publicity is ineffective in cases where an unwarranted or improper enhancement of prices is shown, remedy lies in an authorized reduction or removal of the protection given to the offenders by the tariff.

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WHEN BEEF WAS CHEAP.

That Happy Time Was Less Than 500 Years Ago Too.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Perchance at this time when the beef trust is being investigated, and the consumers of people not a few of your readers might consider the meat market prices of bygone centuries of interest. At a certain feast in 1531, given at a palace at Holborn, England, at which about 1,000 guests were present, the many of the lords and nobles attended, the food provided and price paid for same is given as follows:

Telling the Time in Egypt. From the London Evening Standard.

The working of the Oriental medal was delightfully illustrated in a story which Professor Turner told the Mathematical Association yesterday. He had been spending the Christmas vacation in Egypt to supervise the erection of a telescope at Helwan. Captain Lyons, who was in charge of the instrument, said that he had found that at noon every day a gun was fired and was anxious to know how the system worked.

The Wickedness of East Grand Forks. From the St. Paul Dispatch.

We hold within the Minnesota circumference so thoroughly English a town that it might be called along with Paris and San Francisco of ancient fame, and Port Said and Cairo.

The Conservation of the Peroration. From the Houston Daily Post.

All true speakers today are in the peroration to mark the climax of their eloquence, and our people unanimously decline the perorationless speech.

The Gravelled Geometer. Euclid was boasting of his abilities. "But," cried his wife, "can you find why our gas bills are just as big as when they charged a dollar a thousand cubic feet?"

The First Sign. I do not wait impatiently. The whirl of robins' wings. The first sign has been charmed. With other utterings.

I do not sniff expectantly. For perfumes have blown. Already have my nostrils breathed. Another fresh faint scent.

MARCUS WHITMAN.

An Endless Mythological or Historical Controversy. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Every once in a while some ingenious person feels impelled to come forward and declare the story of Marcus Whitman a "myth." Just how much and what part of the story is mythical we are not usually told.

Whitman's work on the subject is vitiated by his passion and his studied unfairness. His conclusions cannot be accepted by an unprejudiced jury. To make his case he has had to deny the plain evidence of Whitman's letters and to declare that the mission was not his own but that of other things the quite conclusive testimony of A. I. Lovejoy and of P. B. Whitman, the missionary's companions. Mr. Marshall uses the hammer and sledge method of controversy. He has done much conscientious work of extreme value in investigating the truth of the matter, but his conclusions are the result of the stupidity or the moral obliquity of his opponents makes him an impossible judge of the evidence.

Whitman is the fabulous part of the narrative. It is the subject of a controversy. Nobody knows whether he did or not, and the quarrel can be maintained just as long and as bitterly on one side as on the other. For that matter no one knows whether Washington saved the United States. It is known that Washington was a factor in the struggle, but the young nation might have been saved had Washington fallen at Brooklyn or at Princeton. So also we know that Oregon was saved, that previous to 1848 no man possessed the title of Governor of Oregon, that in 1848 it became a part of our territory, and that Whitman was an active agent for the American cause. But then had there been no Whitman Oregon would probably have come in just the same.

The records of Whitman's life and activities are many and authentic. Of his historical characters do we know more than we know of him. Some fabulous adventures happened after his death to attach themselves to his career, but the priming away of these excrescences leaves his character none the less unimpaired and his American pioneer, a friend and fellow being to all humanity, an active and zealous worker in the cause of American settlement of the Oregon country.

The mere shouting of "myth" and the tearing away of fabulous "adornments" to the Whitman story do not diminish Whitman as a hero. The glory of Whitman may be, as charged, a material advantage to Whitman College; it certainly ranks with the moral assets of American history.

Former Cuban Minister at Washington. WASHINGTON, January 25.

THE REAL FARMER.

High Prices Are No Benefit to Him; He Doesn't Get Them. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I read with surprise your article on eggs at 60 cents a dozen and the remarks the commission man made about the farmers.

When a farmer makes his house usually mortgaged at 50 cents a dollar, and he has no hired help, and never eats eggs; he does not ride in an automobile; he is the real farmer and the man who has the backbone.

Many so-called gentlemen farmers have business in the city and are the owners of large houses, and they ride in automobiles, but the farmer who has his house usually mortgaged at 50 cents a dollar, and he has no hired help, and never eats eggs; he does not ride in an automobile; he is the real farmer and the man who has the backbone.

ALBANY, MASS., JANUARY 25.

THE EASTERN FARMER.

Why His Lot Is Unnecessarily and Unfairly Hard at Present. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I was much interested in reading over the financial article in THE SUN this morning to note your comments concerning the high prices of necessities in the Eastern part of the country.

It is a fact that the Eastern farmer is the Western part of the country, are Eastern farms would not be selling far below their worth, while a Western farm can hardly be obtained at any price.

ALBANY, JANUARY 24.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Three of the House investigating committee members, Mr. McCull, James Campbell and George C. Peck, their timber lines are too far back.

SCARLETON, Pa., JANUARY 24. PETER PIPERS.

In Harper's Monthly Magazine for February Mr. Ford Madox Hueffer gives recollections of the late Russian revolutionist, Leonid Kuznetsov, the Dead Sea country, Mr. W. W. Lord, Jr. writes reminiscences of the civil war, Professor J. B. Watson of Johns Hopkins describes experiments on animal intelligence, Mr. L. Gilman explains the terms of the new tariff, Mr. W. W. Lord concludes his Arctic experiences, and Mr. and Mrs. Hale continue their pleasant descriptions of Italy with pen and pencil.

A calendar of events.

McLARENDA WILSON.

IN BEHALF OF THE CUBANS.

General de Quesada Rebukes Mr. Tillman for His Reflections Upon Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Every one in a while some ingenious person feels impelled to come forward and declare the story of Marcus Whitman a "myth." Just how much and what part of the story is mythical we are not usually told.

I am sure that the readers of THE SUN must have felt as indignant as the hospitable army and navy gentlemen who heard the trade and condemned the unbridled passion that shamed traditional Southern chivalry.

This "Caucasion" showed valor and prudence under the infliction, for by reason of courtesy and decency he had to bear with courage greater than that he has shown on the battlefield. The audience in the United States and parts of whom no nation need be ashamed. Cuba can point with pride to the martyr poet Placido, who gave his life for his fellow men; to such artists as White, who wrested prizes at Paris from the best painters; to Juan Gual, a jurist, a poet and politician of high ideals; to Morna Delgado, a literary man, a student and a Senator who presides as pro tempore chairman of the Senate at Havana; and who can ever forget that in the annals of epic feats the heroic mulatto General Antonio Maceo, a true and shining glory. The acts and achievements of such a patriot should be enough to secure the respect of any people.

Senator Tillman is wrong when he says that the Vice-President of Cuba is a "black man." The Vice-President is also colored, Zayas y Viquez, who belongs to one of the most distinguished families of the island, not only by nobility of blood but by the illustrious names it has afforded to our letters, to science and to politics. As an orator and lawyer he is in the peer of any day. During the Spanish war he was a brilliant and eloquent speaker in the United States and in the audiences in Boston and Philadelphia applauded his speeches, full of eloquent gratitude to the Americans and of that warm spirit of cordiality which should bring about closer commercial relations between the United States and Cuba.

Senator Tillman's remarks were the more unpardonable in a man coming from South Carolina, where a Cuban patriot, General Ambrosio Gozalvez, married a lady of the Elliot family and fought under Beauregard and Johnson for Tillman's flag, and then, after the war, he was in the States, striving for a real republic, showing their activities in the production of enormous crops and in carrying on a large and growing commerce. They are progressive and should be encouraged. They have faith in the future of their country, and are not one third colored, but the latter are endeavoring to become educated and worthy citizens.

I am sure that impartial observers would say that not one of them would be capable of the behavior of the Senator from South Carolina on such a subject.

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