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Mr. Bryan Explains.

Mr. Bryan is quoted from London as follows:

"They tell me that some people in America and England discover the fact in my Independence day speech that I have become an imperialist. I would say to such people that if they can get pleasure out of this interpretation they should make the best of it before I have a chance to declare myself on the subject of imperialism. Nobody can read my speech carefully and honestly and find in it the slightest trace of approval of a policy of seizure and despotic control."

Among those who heard Mr. Bryan's speech was Franklin MacVeigh, the distinguished democrat of Chicago, who says of it:

"His recognition of the 'white man's burden,' unless it shall remain a pious abstraction, must lead him, if he ever gets the power, to concrete acts indistinguishable from what one would expect from an avowed imperialist."

Mr. MacVeigh's comment seems fully warranted, and is certainly very felicitous. In the sense in which the phrase is used, the so-called anti-imperialist holds that the white man should have no burden. Wherever he is carrying a burden he is an interloper. Let him retire to his own country, leaving the black, or the brown, or the yellow man to his, and all will be well. His burden is the result of meddlesomeness and oppression, and it is in his power, in fact it is his duty, to put it off at once. Naturally, therefore, when Mr. Bryan not only recognized, but talked about the white man's burden and quoted Kipling, the arch imperialist of the age, approvingly, people separated him from his old company.

Mr. Bryan now speaks of "a policy of seizure and despotic control." Such a phrase cannot be applied in justice to our presence and policy in the Philippines. We were not hunting land when we went to war with Spain, and our only thought in going to Manila was to destroy the Spanish fleet. When that had been accomplished, a new question upon the instant presented itself. The people of the islands wanted us to stay, and as well because of that friendly feeling as because of our responsibility for order in the archipelago we did stay. That was the "seizure."

As to "despotic control," where is there the slightest evidence of it? Mr. Bryan himself compliments the American officials in the islands, and has remarked on the good work they have done. We have been complimented by all other visitors, the only criticism coming from an occasional Englishman whose observations usually are that our policy is more on the order of philanthropy than on that of ruling. We appear as anything but despots, either to the Filipinos, or to travelers whose experience entitles them to be heard.

Mr. Bryan's speech undoubtedly chilled the Aguinaldo aid societies in this country, and maybe his explanation will not entirely restore him to their favor.

Jerome Going to Georgia.

William Travers Jerome will address the Georgia Bar Association on the 18th inst. He is a lawyer of eminence, and of course has a message for lawyers. But just now his name is under discussion for the governorship of New York. Has this invitation anything to do with advancing his boom?

This inquiry would be far-fetched but for a little matter which happened several years ago. Judge Parker, then chief justice of the New York supreme court, had attracted the attention of the politicians, and some of them thought him big enough for the presidency. As he was but little known away from home, the plan was arranged to introduce him in a delicate way to the national public. Accordingly an invitation was sent him to address the Georgia Bar Association, and comment on his acceptance drew attention to the political speculation that was busy with his name. The address served that purpose if no other, and the Parker boom grew rapidly from that day.

Now here is Mr. Jerome's chance if he cares to improve it. It is true that he needs no introduction to the people of New York. He is more fortunate in that regard than Judge Parker was as respected the country at large when he went to Georgia. But this invitation from Georgia is a compliment which should impress New York and add to Mr. Jerome's prestige at home. It gives him a sort of national status in his profession, and is in the nature of a tribute to his career at the New York bar. And why is it not also a delicate suggestion that a man who has so signally made good in one field would, with opportunity, as signally make good in another? Why should not the democrats of New York in their search for a gubernatorial candidate select a man who has in public office disclosed so many qualities that go to make a successful executive? Judge Parker's address in Georgia, while it served its purpose, was not an interesting performance even to lawyers. It was pronounced dry, and out of line with current thought. Mr. Jerome should easily avoid that mistake. He is never dry, and his reputation rests on the vigor with which he has addressed himself to the everyday demands of the times. He does not affect eloquence, but he never leaves any doubt as to his meaning, or as to the sincerity of his purposes. His Georgia address should be worth while. And if he should be nominated for governor of New York, with the Parker nomination also to its credit, what a fine political incubator the Georgia Bar Association will appear!

Representative Longworth is one of the statesmen who feel sufficiently sure of their constituencies to dispense with the usual summer solicitude about fence mending.

It is about settled that Mr. Bryan will endeavor to lead the democratic party on to victory as soon as he can find it.

An "Unpleasant" Play.

A New York court has ruled that "Mrs. Warren's Profession" is not a public nuisance in the sense of the statues, and that it can therefore be produced on the stage in that state. The decision is accompanied by an analysis of the author's motives and methods in depicting a vicious condition, the court holding that he has served to deepen the disgust of the auditor of the play for the evils which are more or less pointedly depicted. Ruling that the play makes vice disgusting and not attractive, the court holds that the play can safely be presented to an audience.

Thus does the American censor, the bench, pass upon the fitness of dramatic creations. In England the decision is left with a single individual, sitting "in camera." From his decisions there is virtually no appeal. The American method is more open, more flexible, and consequently more likely to fit to the standards of public opinion. The question arises whether the western models and ideals and standards are more lenient than those of England.

It cannot be questioned that, as the court says, plays have been produced on the American stage which are more shocking than that of George Bernard Shaw, because they do not deal so rebukingly with the social evil. Every season scores of plays and operettas are presented without protest which turn upon the topic of infidelity and loose living. The class known as French farces, which are to be cited in numbers, cannot by any stretch of charity be regarded as moral lessons. They are infinitely more vicious than the Shaw production, in that they evoke sympathy for wrongdoers, and thereby create a sentiment of tolerance for conditions which every decent person should promptly and emphatically condemn.

The chief objection to the Shaw play is that it is couched in more direct language than many others. Shaw indulges in the sometimes unpleasant practice of calling a spade a spade. His dialogue is explicit. Rejecting the euphemisms which thinly veil disagreeable facts, he shocks chiefly by his frankness. It may be questioned whether more harm is not done by glossing over evil things with rhetoric than by exposing them with bluntness.

If censorship over the plays is to become a custom in the United States the standards must be erected with rigidity. But, after all, probably the safest and most satisfactory plan is to trust to the public taste. If the playgoers want to be treated to unclean suggestions and sugarcoated bitterness, not for the sake of cure, but for prurient entertainment, it can certainly afford to swallow an occasional dose of bad-tasting medicine that serves as a purifier. Mr. Shaw's purpose was wholesome. Whether his play is likewise wholesome depends upon the temperament of the auditor.

Vacation Making.

The summer vacation should not be considered as an indulgence, but as a necessity. It is the required relaxation of the tired human mind and body. It is an investment in good health, an insurance against collapse, a tonic to support the system during the remainder of the year. Viewed in this light, the selection of a vacation place should be carefully made, with reference to its quality. The man who has for ten or eleven months been hustling around the city, communicating daily and hourly with other men about business, touching elbows with humanity at every turn, and never getting out of reach of the forces that make the world whirl, should try to change his conditions and find a place of comparative isolation, where he comes in contact with the ground and sees the trees and the waters and the rocks and can if he desires become a hermit for a few weeks. Change is the great requisite, and change means not merely a shifting of the latitude and longitude, but a transformation of all the conditions, social, physical, atmospheric. The farmer is more benefited in his vacation making by a visit to the city than by rest on the farm. The city man should conversely seek the rural regions, where everything is strange to him. In short vacation should be construed as transformation, and not merely an exchange of one crowd for another.

It is possible to waste the vacation time by excessive physical labors, or by indulging in social diversions which sorely tax the nerves and strength. A week in the woods will often restore a man's balance better than a fortnight at a crowded resort where there are obligations of dress and deportment. It is after all, however, largely a matter of disposition. Some people are more thoroughly rested and recuperated by going from one city to another in order to visit a notable collection of paintings. The mind currents are changed thereby. Others like to slip out of the crowds of business seekers to loaf quietly on the edges of great throngs of pleasure-seekers. Still, it is easily possible to work too hard at fun-making.

One of the main objects of the summer outing is to give the eyes and the mind new views and thoughts. Walks into unexplored parts of the adjacent country will often do much good to the man whose purse will not permit him to travel to a distance for his holiday. It is not difficult to acquire the habit of seeing new and interesting things in the life of the woods and fields. A single day spent thus in discovery will sometimes furnish the right degree of stimulus to a tired brain.

Williams.

When John Sharp Williams returned home he talked to his neighbors about party prospects, and said things well calculated to make them feel comfortable It was the thing to do. There is but one party down in that country, and its members, after years of waiting, sigh for a chance at what is called the national pie counter. Mr. Williams gave them hope, and fixed an early day for its realization. It was such a jolly as was due his neighbors, and read in that latitude was all right. But it has been reproduced in other sections, and it does not read so well there. Those with ribald comments to make are making them. Mr. Williams can stand the chaff. If the democracy does win this year he will draw a big prize in the speakership of the House, and from that elevation he should be able to do a good deal for his southern friends.

The numerous offers for Panama canal bonds show a popular confidence in the enterprise that is even more reassuring than the overtures of large investors.

With the assistance of the grand jury, Cincinnati may succeed in demonstrating that the lot of the ice man is not necessarily a happy one.

Mayor George B. McClellan should by this time be pretty well accustomed to narrow escapes at home and abroad.

Dr. Potter is one of the men who manage to wake up every now and then to find themselves famous.

It is unfortunate that so many Russians have more confidence in dynamite than in doumas.

The Horse-Doctor.

The term "horse-doctor" takes on new significance in that horses are now giving first aid to the injured and performing surgical operations on men. It is not clear whether this emphasizes more the progress in equine education or the spread of medical knowledge, but anyhow it is gratifying that horses have begun to render medical assistance to men. The average horse has so much more sense than the average man that it is quite probable there will be some improvement in the medical service men yet.

But not to cast aspersions on the medical fraternity it is a pleasure to note that the mind of the American horse is broadening. Of course, for many generations he has been bridle-wise, has known his paces, and has been able to differentiate instantly between a lump of sugar and a pickle. In the education of the horse there has been a commendable reaching after higher ideals during the half century or so. He first had to learn all about locomotives, trains, whistles and the like, and when he had become proficient in the subject of steam engineering he had to take up the study of the bicycle. The advent of the trolley compelled him to turn his attention to electricity and rapid transit. Then came the auto. That lesson has been rather a difficult one for the horse to master because, as is generally well known, the horse has a keen sense of smell.

The following dispatch tells of the new variety of horse-doctor:

"NEW ROCHELLE—Because his pet horse attempted to assist him in his distress, Harry S. Green, a dairyman, twenty-four years old, living in 5th avenue, New Rochelle, had his left ear bitten off. Resuming consciousness in time to realize his position, Green grabbed the ear in his handkerchief and, boarding a trolley car, hurried to the home of Dr. Emberson, in North street, where it was grafted back in place. Green was horseback riding today when the accident happened. He had just entered 5th avenue when the animal stumbled and, throwing him over his head, rendered him unconscious. The horse attempted to assist him to his feet and in doing so nipped off his ear."

One of the thoughts which this news item forces on the mind is the obvious superiority of the horse over the automobile as a medical practitioner. Who ever heard of an auto after being wrecked pulling itself together, getting up and "leeching" or applying other remedies to the chauffeur?

New Slang From the Track.

Our language is constantly in a state of change, owing to the tendency toward the infusion of slang words and phrases into more or less polite speech. Much of this slang takes the form of quaint applications of already existing words. A little of it is sheer invention, or the distortion of an old word into a comparatively new one. The height of the slang-maker's ambition is to coin a completely new word that will quickly pass into current use.

An illustration of the rapidity with which apt new applications of old words are adopted in slang-using circles was reported the other day from one of the race tracks in the vicinity of New York. These places are veritable slang forcing beds. A well-known bettor stepped up to a bookmaker and asked, "What odds on Broadcloth?" "Eight to five," was the answer. "Give me five yards of that," exclaimed the bettor, turning away. The bookmaker, knowing his man's customary range of wagers, wrote him down for a $500 bet on Broadcloth. The story of the new phrase spread and in a few days a brand-new line of slang was in currency. The lineal measures had been bodily shifted to express terms of racing finance. A dollar became an inch, ten dollars were known as a foot, a hundred as a yard and a thousand as a mile. So it is probable that in time the dollar, already known as a "case," a "simoleon," a "plunk" and a "spot," with dozens of other titles familiar to the devotees of the sports, will come to be spoken of in certain ranks as an "inch," to the mystification of the unitiated.

Fortunately, most of this slang is ephemeral and soon lapses. Some of it sticks and gradually works into the permanent language. The process is one of test and selection. If a catch word or sporting phrase will endure usage for a couple of years it may be rated as a contribution to the dictionary. This will not be the case with the new lineal measurement designation of cash units.

A news dispatch says: "The engagement is announced of Barbara Krupp, the younger daughter of the late owner of the great iron works, Frederick Alfred Krupp, to Baron Tilo yan Wilmowski, son of the governor of Prussian Saxony. Fraulein Barbara, although not so rich as her sister Bertha, is presumably worth $12,500,000." By observing strict economy the lady may pay flat rent without taking in washing. If she is a good manager and is careful about groceries, gas and ice she might even live in Washington.

"Universal languages" do not interfere with the convenience of people who speak and write in the old-fashioned way, and afford a great deal of innocent amusement for the people who invent them.

There are people who preserve the freshness of their impressions so thoroughly that they will never cease to be surprised because the weather is hotter than usual in July and August.

Maryland pride would not hesitate to regard the election of Mr. Bonaparte to the governorship after his service in the cabinet as being in the nature of a promotion.

President Roosevelt will doubtless employ some of his leisure at Oyster Bay in thinking up some more things that he wants Congress to do.

Passengers who are made involuntary participants in races on transportations face considerable risk with absolutely nothing to gain.

Joy would reign supreme with the average man if the coal famine and the ice famine could be induced to exchange seasons.

A scandal like the Thaw case proves that the man with the muck rake need not confine himself to political investigation.

The rush of millionaires to Europe ought to do something toward relieving American farmers from the terrors of the automobile.

After all, the glorious Fourth was one of the least of the fire insurance companies' troubles this year.

Like all imperfectly civilized places, the Philippines need sanitation as much as education.

SHOOTING STARS.

"Do you enjoy delivering speeches to your constituents?"

"Oh, yes," answered the statesman; "only it hurts me to have some of them say that speeches are the only kind of goods I can be relied on to deliver."

Nerve.

"The great requisite for playing cards or the horses," remarked Mr. Everwise, "is nerve."

"Yes," answered young Miss Torkins, "it must take a great deal of nerve to enable a man to come home so often and tell his folks that still further economy will be necessary."

A Scarce Article.

Your true reformer is the man
Who stoutly labors in the ranks
And helps the world as best he can
Unmindful of applause or thanks.

"De man dat nurses unreasonable hopes," said Uncle Eben, "may be foolish, but he ain't as foolish as de one dat nurses vain regrets."

Not Surprised.

"I understand your son Josh has just been nominated for the legislature."

"Well," answered Farmer Corntassel, "he's one of them boys that's allus gettin' into mischief of some kind or 'nuther."

Approval.

Bumble bee is buzzin'
Clover's blushin' red;
De water is a lookin' glass
Dat shows de skies o'er head.
Robin singin' gaily
On de apple tree;
Dis ol' world we's livin' in
Looks purty good to me.

Stars a-shinin' brightly,
Moon a-beamin' too,
Lightnin' bug a jinin in
De best dat he kin do.
Day time or night time,
On de land or sea,
Dis ol' world we's livin' in
Seems purty good to me.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

Englishmen were closely watching the signs of the times in the United States fifty years ago, in an effort to judge of the likelihood of war between the north and the south, and also to gauge sentiment toward Great Britain, then somewhat strained. Echoes of the comments abroad on this subject were to be found in the American press, which betrayed a keen anxiety as to the sympathies of the old world. In The Star of July 2, 1856, are extracts from the London papers on the subject, as follows:

England and America.

"The London Globe of June 18 says: Let us not suppose that the internal discords of our American kinsfolk afford any sort of additional security that those who administer their affairs will be the more disposed to preserve peace externally. Some of them, on the contrary, might not be sorry to adjourn internal discords and compel unanimity by plunging into war.

"A writer, signing himself Americus, says, in a letter to the London Times: I would humbly beg the people of Great Britain to recollect at this solemn moment of international differences how monstrous the rebellion of the colonies against the mother country was considered at the time, and how universally its justice is acquiesced in now; to recollect that the United States went to war with Great Britain in 1812 to resist the exercise of a claimed right, now admitted to be an unequivocal wrong; and by the light of this experience to ask themselves if it is not barely possible that they may be once more mistaken in regard to the merits of certain questions, which heaven grant may not, this time lead to war."

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Orange and Alexandria.

Half a century ago the only railroad communication between Washington and the south was the single track called the Orange and Alexandria railroad. In The Star of July 3, 1856, is the following paragraph with reference to this line:

"We are pleased to note the growing prosperity of this work. It forms, with its adjunct, the Virginia Central railway, an entire line by rail between Washington and Richmond (save the six miles by water from this city to Alexandria), and is the only direct route from Washington and the cities north of it to the principal Virginia watering places. The cars are now daily crowded with passengers, yielding a very handsome revenue to the company; indeed, we are informed that the receipts for the current year will exceed the sum of $250,000. The company has a charter for and is now engaged in the construction of an additional link to its road to connect it with Lynchburg, where it will be in direct communication with the railroads of Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. To effect this highly important object, a distance of over sixty miles (about one-third of which is already done) the company has issued its coupon bonds, secured by a mortgage on the whole work, which are now for sale in the market, interest payable semi-annually in New York. These bonds are selling at exceedingly low rates, considering the unquestionable value of the security and the promptness with which the company has always paid the interest, and we would invite the attention of persons to them having money to invest. Washington city is greatly interested in the prosecution of this work, and its early connection with the great southern chain of railroads at Lynchburg.

* * *

Campaign Activity.

Although Washington was never an important political center in the sense of vote casting at elections, it has always been the headquarters of campaign committees to a greater or less extent. Fifty years ago one of the most significant struggles for the presidency ever known in this country was in progress and preparations were being made for a vigorous fight. In The Star of Saturday, June 5, 1856, is the following description of the activity in Washington:

"The various clubs to conduct the canvass on the part of the democracy of this city are rapidly organizing. They bid fair to work, one and all, in perfect harmony and to co-operate to the very great advantage of the cause they all have at heart. The federal metropolis is necessarily the point from whence nearly all the political documents for gratuitous circulation are sent over the country. They have to be folded, directed, mailed, etc., to the number of perhaps millions weekly from now until November. All this labor is performed gratuitously by those among us, who take from their own pockets much of the money necessary to pay for them also. The democrats in Washington from each of the states have on this occasion for the first time formed a separate club to this end. The other parties, following the example thus set by the democracy, are preparing to organize similar clubs here, which will probably be under full headway by the beginning of August, after which until November there will doubtless be hundreds of our fellow citizens laboring intensely in setting public opinion right—each according to his own political predilections. We wish them all a merry time on't."

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Local Celebrators.

The Star did not print an addition on the Fourth of July in 1856, and for many years thereafter. In the issue of the 5th of July is to be found the following summary of events of Independence day.

"In town yesterday the day passed very quietly, with the exception of the remarkably well-sustained fizz of firecrackers. The city, indeed, was nearly empty. All the aveavenues of communication with the country were crowded from morning until night with parties going and returning from different out-of-town points of interest. The Long bridge presented an animated appearance through the day of pleasure-seekers, equestrian, pedestrian and otherwise; the down-river boats were freighted to overflowing, as were the cars to Bladensburg and other stations. Though a considerable number of the celebrators of the day are suffering this morning the usual penalty of an over-indulgence, in bad headaches, aching limbs, etc., the greater portion of our citizens wear that look of contentment which follows a day of rational, conscientious enjoyment."

THE DAY OF TORTURE.

From the Providence Tribune.

It would be unpleasant, surely, to feel that everybody who is compelled to endure the noisy demonstration on the Fourth of July deserves to be thus punished.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Will the rational Fourth have to wait for the millennium?

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

Judging from remarks, there are more people rejoicing that today is the Fifth than the number who regret that the Fourth is passed.

From the Boston Advertiser.

An expert in pyrotechnics has estimated that the people of the United States altogether sent fully $10,000,000 up in smoke and fire yesterday. Add to this the loss of life and the loss of property and the country's bill for exuberant patriotism is a heavy one. Does it pay?

From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Even the firecracker is not without some evidence of reform. It blew the fingers off several people who tried to play practical jokes on others with it.

From the Jersey City Evening Journal.

The crop of Fourth of July fatalities and accidents is fully up to expectation and rather above the average. Was the fun worth what it cost?

From the Portland Argus.

Another tetanus day has passed away.

From the Pittsburg Press.

Of course the man who had a "nice, quiet Fourth" is deaf.

From the New York Herald.

The toy pistol has won once more the title of "the deadliest weapon in the world."

From the New York Evening Sun.

Now for a year of peace.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Do the people who enjoy this way of celebrating the nation's birthday constitute a majority?

EGYPT, ASIA MINOR AND ARABIA

An Official Warning.

The British parliament was the scene of a sensational speech on the night of the 5th instant by Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary. It was anticipated that the house of commons during the discussion of the foreign estimates would take up Russian and Congo affairs. The question before all others was Egypt. Imagine the surprise and excitement at the following serious declaration by the secretary:

"As things are now, I say deliberately and with a full sense of responsibility that if parliament does anything at this moment to weaken or destroy the authority of the Egyptian government, you will come face to face with a very serious situation; for should fanaticism get the better of constituted authority, there might arise the necessity for extreme measures."

John Dillon, nationalist, strongly denounced what he termed the brutal barbarism of flogging and execution, in Egypt, accusing Sir Edward Grey of a desire to cloak the affair. The secretary, replying, referred to the great growth of fanatical feeling in Egypt and throughout North Africa recently, and said that it might necessitate even further measures to protect Europeans in Egypt.

This state of disorder must have been known to Lord Cromer, who in his recent report uttered a word of warning in referring to Egypt as the "Land of Paradox," and where "a return to the exercise of personal power of an oriental type should assume in the first instance the attractive garb of a movement in the direction of self-government." When it is recalled that the British have occupied Egypt by force of arms since the 15th of July 1882, nearly a quarter of a century, the spirit of the Egyptian people, it is just to suspect, has not been understood by the British government.

The British occupant has not endeared himself to the fellah in the sense which the public have been led to believe. The condominium, composed of an English and French control, was perhaps an ideal government for the native. It adopted a fixed military term of service in place of perpetual service; it abolished excessive taxation; it abolished the system of forced labor; it abolished the courbatch or hippopotamus whip. The condominium did all this in the interregnum between the dethronement of Ishmail, 1879, and the disartrous rule of Arabi, 1882. The British constructed the Assouan dam, which was to add untold areas of sterile lands to cultivable fields. Illusion. The base of the dam is scouring away and with it the vast sums of money invested in the "Land Company, Limited," which means ruin and beggary for many. There is something mysterious in this Egyptian country where, from Menes to Mohamet, the invading stranger has not been able to attach himself or replace the ancient Egyptian. Besides, the writer may repeat here an axiom as to the political conditions which will ever obtain in Egypt—it was Sir Charles Dilke who uttered it and with acknowledged authority, "Egypt is a country of transit. She is to a certain point the common property of the world. She may be defined as an international highway indispensable to the commerce of all nations."

* * *

The Tabah Dispute.

The Anglo-Turk conflict over the well at Tabah in the Sinai peninsula has been heretofore recounted. The discussion first grew out of exceptions taken by Lord Cromer to the sultan's authority over Tabah mentioned in the sultan's firman of investiture of the Khedive Abbas Hilmy, April 8, 1892. The porte maintained that the disputed territory was confided to Egypt only in order that the latter should protect the Egyptian pilgrims who went by land formerly from Suez by way of Tabah and Akaba to the holy cities of Islam, that such mandate could not constitute a right to Egypt and that the sublime porte could withdraw it from Egypt whenever it seemed fit and convenient. Turkey, it is evident, did not establish a military post at Tabah for the vain desire to possess the unprofitable sandy plains thereabout, but to create a glacis or slope westward for the projected Turkish railroad to the Hedjaz, and protect likewise the port of Akaba, which Turkey would make a point of embarkment of her soldiers for Mecca or the Yemen. This Tabah incident, it is interesting to add, will result in attracting the curious traveler, for whose wants a camel corps has already been organized to unite Tabah with Bir-el-Thamed and Suez, to be replaced in a short time by a line of automobiles to which the hard sandy desert offers a good roadbed.

In diplomatic circles it is held that the Tabah affair was inspired by the Emperor of Germany, and in that connection it is recalled that the Turks undertook to advance towards the oasis of central Sahara between Fezz and Lake Tchad, a movement which precipitated a French occupation of those regions attributed to France by the Anglo-French accord of April 8, 1904. About the same time Turkey entered into conflict with Persia, an incident which is a closed letter to all the world, but it has been clearly defined by the Persian ambassador at Constantinople, Prince Mirza Khan, in his report to his intermediaries, the representatives of Russia and England, on March 3, 1906:

"By the treaty of Erzeroum of the 20th of March, 1847, ratified definitely March 9, 1848, a convention was concluded between the two governments (Turk and Persian) and a delimitation of frontier signed. A Russian and English commission intervened to regulate the differences which were raised on the subject, and a map was furnished by them in October 18, 1869. Of the territory in litigation it was recognized that from Mohammerah to Mount Ararat a band of 700 miles in length and from twenty to forty miles in width constituted a neutral zone.

"Nevertheless, in violation of the articles of the treaty of 1847, the Turks penetrated the east of the zone (in Persia) and until now Turkey has refused to withdraw notwithstanding the representations of the interested powers."

* * *

The Sultan's Object?

Russia and England sustained Persia in that conflict with Turkey. What are the reasons of the sultan for this manifest violation of Persian territory? To profit by the ancient religious schism which separates Sunnites and Chiites? The truth is that at every point for several months Turkey has shown a marked intention to interfere in every Mussulman country where it has seemed possible to rally around her standards the Mussulmans of the earth and thus accomplish her dream of panislamism.

The review Questions Diplomatiques et Coloniales of the 16th of May, in the course of an article by M. Jacques Bardout entitled "Le Conflit Anglo-Turc," says: "Before having seen the text of the firmans relating to the Tabah incident, French opinion was already formed in favor of Great Britain. It understood the capital interest of the nation to guard the country along the Suez canal and the routes which all invaders of Egypt have followed. It recalled the clauses of the Franco-Anglo convention and courteously conformed thereto. It discovered in the effort to awaken Mussulman fanaticism to the east of the Mediterranean basis the hand which had excited the same passions on the western shores. It divined the action at Constantinople as a foreign influence, and the diplomatic revelations have singularly confirmed these suspicions. The birth and the aggravation of the Anglo-Turk incident coincides with the reunion and the debates of the conference of Algeciras. Monktar Pacha, the Ottoman commissioner in Cairo, made a long stay at Berlin (two years ago), and he brought back with him German sympathies, which are no secret for any one. The 4th of May the liberal National Zeitung and the conservative Kreuz Zeitung threw oil with care on the fire. The polite protestations of the German embassy at Constantinople cannot prevail against all these happenings. A new effort was made to test the solidity of the Franco-Anglo entente. It was necessary to cause it to fall if possible."

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The Sultan's Scheme.

The Arab revolt, if it has not yet become general, exists nevertheless in the peninsula and great plains which separate Syria from Mesopotamia. In a recent book by M. Iung, entitled "The Powers in the Face of the Arab Revolt; the Crisis in the Mussulman World Tomorrow," the author says that in the Yemen Marshal Feizi Pasha was unable to reduce the rebels and lost in one year more than 50,000 men; in the Hedjas the tribes recognize no power; in Central Arabia the Emir of Nedjed, Ibn Esseoud, had driven away the emir's allies of the Turks and had beaten in 1904 Feizi Pasha in the plains of Mesopotamia; in Syria, in Palestine and in Mesopotamia the tribes had refused to pay; in Mesopotamia, the Mouteficks, a powerful Arab agglomeration, 10,000 strong, well armed, attack at this moment the Turkish garrisons. Finally, a detail very important, the soldiers of the army corps of Damascus and Bagdad refused to march against their brother Arabs.

"In the face of so critical a situation prompt decision was necessary. The sultan could recruit all his forces and attempt to strangle the revolt in blood. This very hazardous project might precipitate the dislocation of the empire. Abdul Hamid adopted the policy of a national and religious war, which would group around him all the dissidents, and a war between European nations, which would deliver him from his indirect enemies. Thus have been created the incidents of the Egyptian and Persian frontiers."

England, according to the conclusions of the sultan, would be powerless to move, Russia, in a bad state at home and in consequence of her disasters in the far east, would hesitate to go to the succor of Persia, fearing a war with Germany. Mussulman revolts in the Caucasus and Turkestan would be sufficient to bar her action. Victor in Egypt and Persia, Abdul Hamid would regain his prestige so shaken and would then avoid all interior danger.

The sultan counted, and still counts, on Germany, which, profiting by the embarrassments of the nations cited, continues its progress in Asia Minor. It multiplies its branches of the Banque d'Orient, the number of its schools with German instructors, augments its merchant marine in the Levant, obtains new and important concessions of lands, mines and railroads and colonizes all the country. Germany creates, in any case, a situation from which it will be difficult to dislodge her. As for interfering between Turkey and the powers, it is quite certain Germany will not do that, but will profit by the apparent protection afforded and trust to hazard to accomplish the rest, hazard for a fact being an immense factor in the oftentimes stupid affairs of nations as well as those of individuals. Meanwhile the Emperor of Germany affects to play the role of protector of all the Mussulmans of the world, and this fact disquiets the soul of Lord Cromer and particularly that of Sir Edward Grey.

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Effect on United States.

If the panislamic dream of Abdul Hamid should be realized—and who will say that it may not be?—it would render American commerce tributary to the Turk and his ally in the Mediterranean, Red and Indian seas. It is only a hundred years ago that the United States suffered from the exactions and depredations of the corsairs of the Mediterranean and whilst there is no reason to think that the barbarities of those days would be practiced by the victors now, the mere thought of surrendering the glory and honor of the nation is intolerable. In time of peace, therefore, it is well to prepare for any emergency, however remote.

The United States possesses vast trade relations in the countries of the Mediterranean and greater development depends upon the energy and intelligence manifested. Great Britain, Italy and France possess important commercial and coaling stations in the Red sea, and because of the necessity for American ships to pass the Suez canal, it is desirable for the United States to acquire a station for its military and merchant marine.

Commerce in the Red sea was important in ancient times. In 1594 B. C. Sesostri, the great Rameses II, caused to be erected at Okelis, the ruins of which are at Cheik Said, a column with hieroglyphic inscriptions in memory of the passage of his Egyptian fleet.

Cheik Said, or ancient Okelis, is an admirable seaport with abundance of fresh water, aside from its heights, which constitute natural defenses. All caravans from Moka to Aden pass Cheik Said; all the products of Abyssinia may find a market there. This territory, which consists of an arc of a circle of 42 kilometers, was duly acquired by purchase by the French government in 1868, and although unoccupied since the Franco-Prussian war in 1870-71, the French government has never ceased to maintain its claim of ownership, although it has permitted its nominal occupation by the Turks. The position of Cheik Said was reported by Prof Sapeto in a volume entitled "Assab et ser Critiques," as follows: "The position of Cheik Said, as a strategical point, naval station and coal depot, is the best in all the Red sea. It is an excellent military situation, and would be inaccessible if the volcanic mountain of Mendeb, which forms its central point, were fortified. Moreover, Cheik Said could, on account of its extraordinary salubrity, be made a health station not only for the sick coming from the occident, but for those of the United States territories in the Philippines requiring a radical change of air from the moisture of the Philippines to the dry climate of the Yemen. The proximity of Moka and the once famous coffee plantations, with vast possibilities in cotton, sugar cane and two crops a year, appeal with great force to the American planter and capitalist." CH. CHAILLE-LONG.

ANOTHER BUMP FOR BONI.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

The expulsion of Boni from the French chamber for bribery comes too late to be of much value. It is generally understood that the count will not hereafter be in position to indulge in wholesale bribery to any great extent, since he will be separated from his American wife's millions.

From the Buffalo Express.

At any rate, Count Boni de Castellane is not likely to be accused of corrupting French voters after he has been divorced from his wife's fortune.

From the Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

Count Boni's election to the French chamber of deputies has just been annulled on the ground of corruption and bribery. Naturally he feels very much put out.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

Count Boni de Castellane has been expelled by the French chamber of deputies on a charge of political corruption. Without money Count Boni is without consequence in European society.

From the Newark Advertiser.

Count Boni de Castellane having been unseated by the chamber of deputies for having "used money lavishly" in the election, the question is, with the Gould supplies shut off, "Where did he get it?"

From the Wilmington News.

In Paris the chamber of deputies has annulled the election of Count Boni de Castellane on the ground of bribery and corruption. Thus there is one thing on which the French can give state legislatures in this country points.

TRUST BUSTING.

From the Los Angeles Times.

The trusts are like weeds—the more they are pulled up the more they seem to grow.

From the Rochester Herald.

They are getting ready to prosecute the ice man at Washington. What we object to more than anything is the ice man who cannot come within ten pounds of guessing the weight of a fifty-pound chunk of ice.

From the Columbus (Ohio) State Journal.

There have been seventy-five indictments under the Sherman-Elkins interstate commerce laws and only six convictions.

From the Atlanta Journal.

The trusts may just as well be on their good behavior, as the present Congress has another whack at them in its short session.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

We fear that the determination of the Department of Justice to prosecute the Standard Oil Company will give serious offense to Chancellor Day.

From the Houston Post.

Attorney General Moody is preparing to make things interesting for the powder trust. That concern evidently did not get its senator in any too soon.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Bryan will have to hurry home or he won't be in time to attend the obsequies of the octopus.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

It just seems to have occurred to people who have had grievances against monopolists that offenders can be hauled up for conspiracy.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[In this column will be answered all questions of a proper nature submitted to The Star. Inquirers should write on one side of the paper only and address their letters to "Uncle Jasper," Star office. In case of difficult conundrums answers may be delayed for a week or two. Consequently it may be advisable for all questioners to watch this column carefully.]

FERDINAND.—Dear Uncle Jasper: I do not approve of the atmosphere that surrounds our summer resorts. I spent my vacation at one of the seaside places this year, and inside of three days after I arrived I kissed every girl on the beach. A.—Why the delay, Ferdie?

I. X. L.—Uncle Jasper, please tell me the cardinal principles. A.—We are not much on principles, cardinal or otherwise, but it is worth while to know:

Beans.
John D. Rockefeller.
Where you can make a touch.
How hot it is.
Your way home.
When to sweeten the kitty.
That your wife trusts you.

GLADYS—I am twenty-four years old, my husband is dead and I am lonely. What shall I do? A.—Advertise. Run something like this:

Widow sweet would meet
Man with patrimony;
Must be rich and neat;
Object—alimony.

GEORGE—Oh, what shall I do when the girl I adore refuses to listen to my tale of love, but, clasping her imported poodle to her breast, she declares that men are false and that she loves only animals? A.—Why, tell her you're a little hoarse. She will fall on your neck and feed you sugar.

BROOKLAND—I'd like very much to give my cook an appropriate birthday present. Please suggest something. A.—A traveling bag occurs to us as the most useful thing—to the cook.

There was a young lady named Mabel,
Who got up to dance on the table,
But she fell with a slam,
And softly said "Gracious,
I'll rhyme this some time when I'm able."

HENRY—Please tell me how long a girl should be courted. A.—That is a very peculiar question. We don't suppose it makes any difference how long the girl is, if you like 'em that way. Personally we prefer the little ones, but that's a matter of taste.

HYATTSVILLE—Please suggest something to give for prizes at a suburban whist party. A.—Cooks.

Now doth the lady of the house
Set forth for summer outings gay,
But fears perchance her naughty spouse
Will thank the Lord that she's away.

NOTE—We wish to announce to all anxious inquirers that Congress has adjourned sine die, which means "Until we meet again." The Constitution will furnish complete data as to when that is.

T. H. E.—Please tell me how to remove fleas from a little dog. A.—Carefully dust the dog with insect powder, bathe with kerosene and tie a large stone around its neck and then drop the animal from the Aqueduct bridge at midnight. This is a fairly reliable method.

BETH.—Please give a practical definition of "de trop." A.—Certainly. Suppose you dressed in your best bib and tucker to go with your friends on a picnic and sat in the geographical center of a lemon merangue pie. We would consider the pie de trop.

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Help the faithful grocer
Along to beat the band.

UNCLE JASPER.

THE TEST.

If you'd a million dollars,
And I had thirty cents,
We'd never got together
In any kind of weather,
You, in gem-studded collars,
Me in my rags and rents;
If you'd a million dollars
And I had thirty cents.

If I'd a little cottage,
And you a mansion grand,
Love ne'er could span the spaces
Betwixt our hearts and places.
If I ate humble pottage
And you the rich viand;
If I'd a little cottage
And you a mansion grand.

If you were fond of revel,
And I were fond of books,
We'd doubtless stay asunder,
For love would be a blunder.
'Twould irk me, on the level,
To have to govern cooks
If you were fond of revel,
And I were fond of books.

But since you have no "mun" now,
And I'm as poor as you,
We'll try in the wee cottage
And eke with humble pottage.
If what will do for one now
Won't also do for two;
Since you, dear, have no "mun" now
And I'm as poor as you.

—Houston Post.

WOMAN'S LONG SUIT.

She found that her gown didn't meet in the back,
So she cried about it.
She punctured her thumb on the point of a tack,
So she cried about it.
She found that a mouse had been gnawing the pies,
She found herself short in her Sunday supplies,
So quick went her apron up over her eyes,
And she cried about it.

One daughter, it seemed, couldn't marry at all,
So she cried about it.
One hitched to a fellow too gawky and tall,
So she cried about it.
One wedded a chap that her ma had picked out—
A lad with a bank roll substantial and stout—
The wedding just pleased her, past every doubt,
So she cried about it.

No odds what befell her, of sorrow or joy,
Why, she cried about it.
Did happenings please her or greatly annoy,
Why, she cried about it.
She wept right along through the varying years,
Sobbed over her hopes and sobbed over her fears,
Her safety valve always a torrent of tears—
Yes, she cried about it.

—Chicago News.

THE GLORIOUS FOURTH.

"Six hundred in the hospitals
And twenty-seven dead!"
The morning after last year's Fourth,
Is what the paper said.
And as our motto's "Progress!"
We have little cause to fear
But that we'll beat the record
And make it more this year.

'Tis glorious to celebrate
Our Independence day,
And to kill or maim our children
In the gloriousest way.
So we'll give them cannon crackers,
And we'll give them shells and bombs,
And, if they live, at least they'll lose
Some fingers or some thumbs.

Why, look at little Johnny—
The Fourth of last July
He fired a Jumbo cracker,
And only lost one eye!
We'll let him have some fun this year;
It won't do any harm
If during the excitement
He should lose a leg or arm.

Let Mamie have a cannon, too,
The pretty little dear;
It really will not matter
If she blows off her ear.
Let shot and powder do their worst,
For that's our modern way
Of demonstrating our delight
In Independence Day!

Then give the children firearms,
Applaud their random shots;
'Twill help to fill the hospitals
And cemetery plots.
For on the fifth of last July
The record only read:
"Six hundred in the hospitals,
And twenty-seven dead!"

—Carolyn Wells, in Life.

BURNS.

With elbow sleeve the summer maid,
All thought of prudence shunning,
Walks on the beach all unafraid,
More sunned against than sunning.

—New York Mail.