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APRIL CIRCULATION.

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of April, 1900, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1 Sunday	87,320	16	79,500
2	79,830	17	78,930
3	81,130	18	78,970
4	79,490	19	78,720
5	80,440	20	78,480
6	79,410	21	81,260
7	82,170	22 Sunday	84,290
8 Sunday	85,730	23	79,200
9	79,010	24	80,190
10	79,100	25	78,920
11	78,480	26	79,140
12	79,230	27	79,080
13	78,940	28	81,940
14	81,810	29 Sunday	85,720
15 Sunday	85,430	30	79,400

Total for the month	2,421,260
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed	48,693
Net number distributed	2,372,567
Average daily distribution	79,085

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of April was 1.74 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this thirtieth day of April, 1900.

J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

WHEELING INTO LINE.

In the platform adopted by the Democratic State Convention of Iowa there are the same sound Democracy and honest fearlessness as were noted in the declaration of principles made by the party in Michigan but a few days earlier.

The utmost harmony and enthusiasm prevailed in the Iowa gathering, as was also the case in that of Michigan. The delegates were virtually a unit on the vital issues of the day, and in complete agreement as to the party's candidate for President. It was in significant contrast to recent Republican State conventions that the crack of the party lash was not the most notable sound heard in the convention hall.

As are these earlier State conventions of the Democratic party, so will be those yet to come. State by State the party will wheel into line for true Democracy and the maintenance of American principles. It will present a solid front to the shamefaced forces of imperialism held in place by administration threats and syndicate slush funds. It promises to smash the armies of empire on both flanks and in the center on the day of election. And it will do this in the name of the people—the most august and compelling name yet known in American affairs.

WAR BRED BY WAR.

Former Secretary of State Foster correctly points out the prime peril of the British-Boer war when he says that a protracted conflict is menacing to the peace of Europe inasmuch as it will disturb commercial relations and make the nations restive under the strain.

This effect has, indeed, been already felt more than once since hostilities commenced. Many thoughtful persons are convinced that had it not been for the Paris Exposition a clash between France and England would have been precipitated ere this. Germany's sympathy for the Boers, in addition to her trade jealousy of England, has intensified the anti-British sentiment among the Kaiser's people. Holland is almost openly antagonistic to England in behalf of her kinsmen in South Africa. Russia is still believed to have had, if she has not now, serious intentions of intervening to save the Boers from national extinction.

It will be remarkable if the war in South Africa terminates with Europe undisturbed by its influence. There is little prospect of its termination within a shorter period than six months. In the meantime there is no betterment of the feeling toward England. There must needs be some tactful diplomacy during that period to prevent the European war now anything but improbable.

MAKE WAY FOR EMPIRE.

It is not likely that Federal Judge Lochren's recent ruling to the effect that Porto Rico became an integral part of the United States the moment the Paris Treaty was ratified will receive any serious attention from the administration imperialists determined upon governing that island as a colonial dependency.

According to the logic of Judge Lochren's legal opinion, the passage of the Porto Rican tariff bill was in direct violation of the Constitution. Porto Rico being American territory, the Constitution applied to Porto Rican trade exactly as it does to the trade of any State of the Union. It distinctly forbade the imposition of a tariff between Porto Rico and other parts of the United States.

But what can we do about the case as it now stands? Congress, which had no power to legislate for Porto Rico if the American Constitution did not prevail there, has used its power under the Constitution to deny and repudiate the provisions of the Constitution. This has been done through pressure brought to bear by President McKinley, who first inclined to obey the Constitution, but later was compelled instead to obey the Sugar and Tobacco Trusts. The situation is somewhat baffling in its aspects.

It is a situation, however, eminently characteristic of imperialism. It is but the beginning of the new era. There must rise many issues in the near future, if imperialism is to prevail, where the American Constitution forbids the course decided upon by the imperialists. The Porto Rican tariff instance probably establishes the precedent for the settlement of such cases. It is the Constitution, and not imperialism, which must give way when the spirit of the two come in conflict.

TRUE TO DEMOCRACY.

There is good reason for the belief now steadily gaining ground that the National Democratic organization will enter the campaign of 1900 with much greater strength than the party possessed in 1896 and with the brightest promise of success in the presidential elections.

It is becoming apparent that the new American doctrine of imperialism is not favored by the masses of the American people, despite the loud claims advanced by administration organs to the contrary. The imperialist party so far is not a popular party. It is composed principally of the syndicates, of a national administration subject to the syndicates, of officeholders under that administration who fear to lose their jobs if they oppose the administration policy, and of carpet-baggers who yearn for office in the colonial dependencies established by imperialism.

Against this party of self-seekers is arrayed the great body of the American people, determined still upon maintaining a steadfast faithfulness to the Democratic principles upon which this Government was founded. The time is past for the imperialists to fool this element by a degraded waving of the American flag and a syndicate hurrahing for the conquest of other peoples in the name of the Almighty Dollar. The true American spirit of justice and liberty is asserting itself against this attempted trickery. Recent happenings such as the passage of the Porto Rican tariff bill have shown the people the peril to their liberties contained in an acceptance of imperialism.

It may be possible for the President and his party to blind themselves to existing conditions of public sentiment throughout the campaign. They are, however, doomed to a bitter awakening in November. The vote of the American people to be cast in this crisis of American history will be an American vote. If growing indications of the present moment possess any significance that vote will dispose of imperialism as an American policy for all time to come.

FACTS IN THE CASE.

It will not be easy for certain political and financial promoters to fool the people of St. Louis into giving them control of the city water supply if the people are wise enough to keep certain plain facts in their mind throughout the discussion of the filtration problem.

It is recognized as an imperative necessity that a municipal filtration plant be established in St. Louis. The comfort and sanitary safety of the people of St. Louis demand that this be done. It is also imperative that the work be begun in the very near future, so that the plant shall be finished and in working order by the time the World's Fair of 1903 shall throw St. Louis's gates wide to visitors from all quarters of the globe.

The funds necessary for this work must be raised through the revenues of the Water Department. The suggestion is now being made that there shall be a reduction of water rates. The immediate effect of heavy reduction would be to place certain political and financial schemers in control of the water supply situation—exactly what they desire and are striving for. It would render impossible the erection of a municipal filter plant.

The public is not suffering under oppressive water rates. It would not appreciably feel any benefit arising from a reduction of rates. It would suffer tremendously through a failure to establish an adequate filter plant. It is a choice between the two that must be made. The Republic heartily favors the maintenance of the present rates and the consequent ability to establish a filter plant which shall protect St. Louisans from the danger of an impure water supply and save the city from humiliation before the world in 1903.

TWENTY PROTESTED.

The recent Senate vote of 29 to 29 against considering an expression of sympathy for the Boers does not mean that twenty Senators favor active participation by the United States in the South African War. It means that twenty Senators protest against the present attitude of the administration toward that war.

Few properly conservative Americans would favor interference by the United States in South African affairs except through the channels recognized as diplomatic in the international code. Under ordinary conditions such an expression would mean armed assistance.

Every right-thinking American, who calls to mind the American Revolution, favors assistance to the cause of the Boers through the recognized diplomatic channels. These channels at present are closed because of the attitude of the State Department and of the entire administration. At the opportune time much assistance could have been rendered without in any way compromising the United States or violating their policy. This assistance was not given.

Under the circumstances it is not wonderful that a resolution of sympathy for the Boers should receive 20 out of 49 votes in the highest legislative body in the United States.

MUST BE THOROUGH.

The money spent by St. Louis in obtaining an accurate knowledge of the character of its drinking water cannot be considered wasted even if the final result of the investigations proves that no dangerous pollution exists in St. Louis's water. It is not only a highly important species of information for St. Louis, but it is absolutely needed in the injunction suit now pending in the United States Supreme Court against the Chicago Drainage Canal.

The assertion of the City Chemist, supported by the City Bacteriologist and by the analysts who are pursuing a similar investigation at Washington University, that no conclusive results have yet been reached and that present indications are that pollution to a certain degree exists is what the people of St. Louis expected. The man who from a single experiment draws a universal law covering every conceivable variation of conditions is not a scientist or a safe guide in a matter of importance like the present.

Chicago is still at work on her water investigations as earnestly as if the canal had just been opened. St. Louis must work in the same thorough way. St. Louis's investigations must cover the summer low stages of the river all the more thoroughly, since even in the season of river booms a certain degree of pollution has been indicated.

AN ENTERING WEDGE?

The attitude of the Board of Public Improvements toward the ordinance authorizing the placing of garbage boxes on the streets of St. Louis is popular and seems to be right and safe.

In that ordinance the Municipal Assembly orders the Board of Public Improvements to make a contract with the grantee for the carrying out of the provisions of the ordinance. The contention of the board is that the ordinance either grants a franchise or provides for public work. If it grants a franchise, the Board of Public Improvements has nothing to do with it, as the taking effect of franchises does not depend on action by the Board of Public Improvements, if the ordinance provides for public work, it is invalid because the Charter provides that such bills must originate in the board.

The importance of the issue appears when it is considered in connection with the filtration problem on which St. Louis is working at present. If the Municipal Assembly has a right to order the board to make a contract for garbage boxes it may also claim the right to order the board to make a contract with a private concern for a filter plant. The garbage box contract considered in this light takes on a serious aspect. It becomes more than a question of littering and obstructing the streets of St. Louis with boxes bearing signs.

To hear the abusive tirades of those who favor reduction of water rates, the ignorant reader might suppose that the question was new. More than once the proposition has been broached before. The Republic and all well-informed officials have been always on the right side as now.

No excuse whatever can justify the St. Louisan who fails to have himself counted in the approaching census. With ample warning a full month in advance, a journey to South Africa should not prevent his tallying one for St. Louis.

Somehow or other, doesn't a great hush seem to have fallen round about the proposition to elect United States Senators by direct vote of the people since that proposition reached the United States Senators?

The criticaster who asserts that "child patriot" is a misnomer and should be replaced with "patriot child" would probably change the "Boy Reporter" to the "Reporting Boy." Or would it be the "Reportorial Boy"?

It is somewhat humiliating that St. Louis's Mayor should insist upon a star performance of his Comic Burgomaster role during the visit to the city of so distinguished a personage as Admiral Dewey.

Mayor Ziegenhein is not likely to get much evidence in his investigation as long as he serves notice that what he is after is to smash anybody who testifies to bad practices in the Supply Department.

When Admiral Dewey sees and hears the hurrahing crowds on St. Louis streets to-day he will have some faint idea of how we felt on receiving the news of his great victory of May 1, 1898.

Wouldn't it be a strange spectacle if an American President were to refuse to receive the envoys of two little Republics pleading to this country to save them from subjugation by Empire?

Judging from present indications the President's own State may yet be found in the November line-up of American Commonwealths opposed to unamerican imperialism, toryism and trustism.

It will prove right difficult for that proposed mock trial in St. Louis to be any more absurd than the Mayor's "investigation" of the Supply Department which it is intended to parody.

Federal Judge Lochren rules that the Constitution prevailed in Porto Rico from the ratification of the Peace Treaty of Paris. But the syndicates ruled otherwise, and what they said went.

The Republicans have more prophets whose regular assignment is to foretell success than the Democrats; probably because they have more facts to combat than the Democrats.

General Pole-Carew, the swell Guardsman of the British forces in South Africa, is confirming Wellington's verdict on the army dandies in war—"The puppies will fight."

There's a fine argument against worry contained in a recent Texas Supreme Court ruling which denied damages for anxiety caused by failure to deliver a telegram.

The Mayor's appeals for help in his "investigation" remind St. Louisans of the foreigner who shouted, "I will drown! No one shall save me!"

Iowa's Democrats wheel into line with a perfection of movement which promises a triumphal pageant of winning Democracy in November.

"America."

When all the bands begin to play
In Dewey's big parade to-day,
Old Glory waving in the sky
As swells the stately music high,
We'll feel again the patriot glow
That thrilled our hearts two years ago,
But all we'll hear, it seems to me,
Will be—"My Country, 'Tis of Thee!"

For so the grand old hymn was sung
With Dewey's deed on every tongue;
"My Country, 'Tis of Thee!" the strain
That hailed his victory over Spain;
And when the bands strike up to-day
It makes no difference what they play,
For all we'll hear, it seems to me,
Will be—"My Country, 'Tis of Thee!"

RIPLEY D. SAUNDERS.

SHARP DEBATE ON PAY OF BISHOPS.

Resolution Intimating That the Methodist Church Is Overtaxed.

ACTUAL EXPENSES ALLOWED.

Cut in the Remuneration for Presiding at Dedicatory Services—Amusement Question Up and Passed.

Chicago, May 4.—At to-day's session of the Methodist Conference the hours were lightened by some vivacious, as well as vigorous, debate. Doctor Henry Brown, Columbia River Conference, brought the amusement question to the front early in the day by offering a resolution which, in substance, was that the conference, by proper action, show the world that the church had not changed front on the amusement question.

He asked, to forestall action by those in favor of greater liberality in this matter, that rule 248 of the Book of Discipline be for the next quadrennium left substantially unchanged.

A sharp debate on parliamentary technicalities followed, resulting in the resolution being referred.

There were many delegates in the house with resolutions and papers concerning the amusement question. Reverend William Fawcett of Chicago, though not a delegate himself, had given his views in favor of greater liberty in the matter of amusements to a delegate, while C. W. Pearson of the Northwestern University handed his plea to Secretary Monroe to-day. Many others admitted to having resolutions on the subject, one of the most important of the conference.

During a lull Doctor A. N. Craft, East Ohio Conference, secured the passage of a resolution calling for a committee composed of one member of each conference district to inquire into the condition of the Methodist theological seminaries.

The Reverend J. A. Kumler of Illinois then stirred up further debate by calling for a committee of 141, one from each conference district, to inquire into the matter of the deaconesses' societies. The Reverend N. G. Jackson of the Rock River Conference secured the floor and asked that the committee be doubled in size by the appointment of one lay and one clerical delegate from each conference. After further debate the committee was reduced to fifty, to be composed of an equal number of laymen and preachers.

Doctor Wilson Created a Stir.

Doctor William G. Wilson of Iowa introduced a resolution which caused the most active and vigorous debate of the session. The resolution, after being amended, read as follows:

"Resolved, That no Bishop or general conference officer shall receive anything above actual expenses for services in the dedication and reopening of churches, attending commencements of Methodist educational institutions, or for any similar services which he might render the church."

The insinuation in the resolution that the Bishops had asked for more than actual expenses in instances was received with indignant looks by the Bishops themselves and caused half a dozen gentlemen to clamor to the chair for recognition.

Doctor Buckley opposed the first part of the resolution as introduced, which, calling for "liberal support of Bishops and general conference officers," was later stricken out, but declared in favor of the remainder of the resolution. He spoke for a scale of salaries in keeping with the duties of the officers.

William J. Welch, a layman of the Wyoming Conference, supported the resolution as amended, and declared that the standing of the church was impaired by the practice of the Bishops of demanding fees for officiating at dedicatory and kindred exercises.

Doctor J. H. Potts, editor of the Michigan Christian Advocate, also supported the amended resolution. Doctor Hardin, presiding elder of the Rock River Conference, and Doctor Halloran of New York, opposed the resolution in lively speeches.

The amended resolution was adopted.

Book Concerns' Reports.

A resolution calling for a report of the circulation of all official Methodist newspapers, the profits and losses of the church's book concerns during the past four years, and the salaries paid publishing agents and book agents was passed, and the report will be made in a week.

It was resolved to request every Protestant pastor in the United States to read to his congregation the Bishop's address delivered to the conference yesterday and containing 15,000 words.

The first business of the session was the presentation of the reports of the various committees for the past quadrennium.

Steps for Methodist Union.

The Commission on Federation with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, said in their report:

"The adjustment of the foreign missionary work of the churches in the matter of Episcopal oversight, the publishing interests of the two churches in foreign fields, the seeming competitive attitude of the churches in various parts of the United States, the need of a common catechism and hymn book and of uniformity of public worship, International Epworth League conferences, the transfer of minister from one church to the other, and the claims of the American University, were all carefully and prayerfully examined. As a result of the conference held the following resolutions were adopted by the commissioners of both churches, in joint session:

"Resolved, That we recommend to the general conferences of our respective churches to adopt measures for the joint administration of our publishing interests in China and Japan.

"2. Respecting joint missionary work in foreign fields, the general conference must act.

"3. Resolved, That we recommend the taking of prompt steps for the preparation of a common catechism, a common hymn book and a common order of public worship, and that other branches of Methodism be invited to co-operate in this undertaking.

"4. With reference to both churches occupying the same territory, the following was agreed to:

"Resolved, That we recommend the respective general conferences to enact provisions to the effect that where either church is doing the work expected of Methodism, the other church shall not organize a society nor erect a church building until the Bishop having jurisdiction in the case of the work shall be consulted and his approval obtained.

"5. Relative to transfer of ministers, we agreed to recommend to our respective general conferences the provision of a plan by which a traveling preacher of an annual conference in either church may be received into an annual conference of the other church, retaining his credentials, without the formality of having his orders recognized.

"6. Concerning the Epworth League international conferences, the following action was taken:

"Resolved, That we commend to the several governing bodies of the churches interested the question as to whether official recognition of these meetings can be given and whether authoritative regulations are required to increase or promote their efficiency.

"Recognizing the relation and importance of our educational institutions and of the American University to our general Methodism, the Joint Commission passed resolutions commending these institutions of Christian learning to the thoughtful consideration of the churches in their contributions to the Twentieth Century Thank Offering, especially emphasizing the claim of the American University to the confidence and benefactions of both churches."

Book Committee.

The report of the Book Committee contained the following:

"Sales of books at New York for the four years, $2,714,963, a decrease as compared with the last quadrennium of $135,362. The assets, including $9,455 cash on hand, are $2,566,688, and the liabilities $290,711. The net capital October 31, 1896, was $2,646,123; October 31, 1899, $2,266,568; increase, $162,555, which, with $172,701 dividends and other disbursements, show total earnings for the four years of $334,996.

"The total sales of the Western Book Concern (Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis) for the four years were $4,142,131, an increase of $6,446. The assets, including $107,564 cash on hand, are $1,762,974, and the liabilities, $82,600. The net capital, October 31, 1896, $1,571,730; October 31, 1899, $1,680,304, net increase, $107,574, which, with $412,759 dividends and other disbursements, show total earnings for four years of $520,334.

"There is a marked decline in the sale of books. The dividends have been for the four years $132,000, $120,000, $80,000, $60,000; in all, $392,000 for the quadrennium. The amount is $132,000 less than in the previous quadrennium.

General Missionaries.

The report of the General Missionary Committee contained the following:

"The aggregate membership, including probationers, reported four years ago was 179,592. The aggregate reported for 1899 gives an aggregate of 181,966, an increase of 22,753. The number of Sunday-school scholars in 1895 was 151,267, in 1899 191,966, a gain of 37,699. The sum collected for all purposes of self-support in 1896 was $336,188, in 1899 $491,440, an increase of $154,252.

"The estimated value of churches and chapels in the foreign field in 1896 was $2,131,765, in 1899 $2,571,939, a gain of $440,174. In 1896 there were 225 missionaries and 224 assistant missionaries (mainly wives of missionaries, and including a few unmarried ladies, a total of 449); in 1899 there were 254 missionaries, 261 wives of missionaries and 32 unmarried lady missionaries, a total of 547, a gain of 98. In 1896 there were 691 native ordained preachers, in 1899 765, a gain of 74. In 1896 there were 1,159 native unordained preachers, in 1899 there were 1,061, a loss of 128, due, it is stated, to improved reports. In 1896 there were 1,651 local preachers and other helpers, in 1899 2,162, a gain of 511. In 1896 there were 135,252 reported adherents, in 1899 166,611, a gain of 31,359."

Board of Education.

The report of the Board of Education showed that the combined fund securely invested now amounts to $235,678. The receipts for the quadrennium were $328,511, making the total since November, 1884, $1,180,075. The disbursements for the last quadrennium were $910,495, a total since 1884 of $922,195.

"From the Board's inauguration to the close of the last school year the distribution of aid has been as follows:

New England States, $162,241; Middle States, $98,354; Western States, $288,977; Southern States, $416,566; foreign countries, $35,866. The number of students aided was 13,915.

On Church Extension.

The report of the General Committee of Church Extension showed that $1,500 had been asked for, but only $899.229 had been received by collection.

"The failure of the conferences to respond in raising their appointments for church extension has been most serious.

"At the beginning of the quadrennium we had over $1,000,000 of bonded debt and $124,945 due the conferences, or something over $1,100,000 of obligations to meet, with $13,493 of cash in the general fund, against which $2,382 of drafts are outstanding. About $85,815 was promised to deaconess homes.

"During the quadrennium we have paid off the bonded debt of over $500,000, have reduced the amounts due to conferences nearly $60,000 and cut down the donations promised by $55,000, and had November 1 $59,717 in cash in the general fund."

Freedmen's Aid Society.

The report of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Educational Society contained the following:

The society has expended between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000 in the Southern States; it has nearly fifty schools, half of them among the colored people, half of them among the whites. It has $2,155,200 invested in school property, more than 200,000 young men and women have attended the various schools. The students made last year to help themselves $55,836; the society aid schools from all sources raised last year $55,067.

The debt is less than $120,000. The receipts for the quadrennium were $1,363,159 and the expenditures the same amount.

The report of the Board of Managers of the Sunday School Union showed the latest statistics to be: Number of Sunday schools, 21,848, increase 1,590; number of officers and teachers, 241,934, decrease 4,523; number of scholars, 2,647,242, increase 93,221. These figures are for the entire church, both in the United States and in foreign lands. The increase in the foreign lands during the quadrennium was 637 schools, 1,925 officers and teachers, and 31,331 scholars. The conversions during the four years were 188,038. The aggregate collections were $30,312.

Women's Foreign Work.

The report of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society stated that the work at home is represented by the following statistics: Auxiliary societies, 4,661, members, 127,455; young women's societies, 605; members, 11,367; children's bands, 605, members 18,923; total organizations, 6,871, with a membership of 166,745.

The total receipts were $1,287,186—an increase of $144,276.

The amount appropriated to the various foreign fields in the past four years was $1,302,105.

Women's Home Work.

The report of the Women's Home Missionary Society showed that the income had steadily increased since 1895, when it was $575,802, it being for the last four years $804,402, of which $627,735 was cash, and $276,668 supplies.

The educational work was almost exclusively for girls and young children. The receipts from this source during the four years were $77,279.

The property of the society is valued at $968,802. The bequests amounted to $34,622, the endowments to $19,633, and the society has also received annuity funds amounting to $6,360.

Report of Trustees.

The report of the trustees for the four years showed receipts of $130,555, and disbursements of $108,958, the cash on hand being $11,626.

The accepted trusts and bequests amount to $266,477, as against $128,265 four years ago.

City Evangelization.

The report of the National City Evangelization Union contained the following:

"While the quadrennium has shown its chief advance in the large interest and more clearly defined ideals, it records also the organization of a number of additional local societies. At present there are forty-six such societies in as many cities, more or less actively engaged in this co-ordinate effort to carry on the aggressive work of the denomination. An average each year of from $150,000 to $200,000 has been raised through these societies for their work, a total for the quadrennium of nearly $700,000."

Report of Epworth League.

The report of the Epworth League set forth that the past quadrennium had been marked by an advance movement on practically every line of its work. March 1, 1900, there were 19,931 chapters, with a membership of over 1,000,000, in the Junior League there were 7,037 chapters and a membership of more than 400,000. The total membership is, therefore, 27,968 chapters and about 1,500,000 members. There has been a rapid and steady increase in the membership in 1899, especially in the Junior League chapters.

Twentieth Century Offering.

The report of the Twentieth Century Thank Offering Commission contained the following:

"The presidents and financial agents of our colleges and seminaries have reported at the central office over $240,000 subscribed for Christian education.

"More than $3,500,000 has been subscribed for debts on church property, and at least $750,000 for philanthropies and charities.

"If all reports were in they would, we think, show that one-third of the $30,000,000 has been subscribed."

Episcopal Fund.

The report of the treasury of the Episcopal fund showed that the expenses of the fund were in excess of receipts in all but one year of the quadrennium, and that the excess of 1899 was not sufficient to bring the total receipts for the four years up to the expenses of the same period. The total receipts for the quadrennium were $317,527.16, and their total expenses $359,885.96. The surplus at the beginning of the quadrennium was $23,823, and this fund was reduced to $1,465. In 1899 the receipts exceeded the expenses by $4,582.

The members of the Sunday School Union and Tract Society inaugurated this night at Steinwehr Hall the series of great anniversaries that are to be held here during the month, under the auspices of the General Conference.

The First Negro Bishop.

A negro Bishop of unlimited authority and widest jurisdiction will be one of the creations of the Methodist General Conference, now in session at the Auditorium. He will have all the rights and prerogatives of any member of the present board.

Doctor John W. E. Bowen, acting president of Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Ga., is slated for the place. He will be the first negro Bishop in the Methodist Church.

MRS. SMITH DIED SUDDENLY.

Former Resident of Galveston—Coroner Investigating.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Centralia, Mo., May 4.—Mrs. Smith, a widow, about 45 years old, died this afternoon after an illness of one hour. She came here a few weeks ago from Galveston, Tex., and was employed as a milliner. The Coroner will hold an inquest.

Frost at Alto Pass.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Alto Pass, Ill., May 4.—There was a heavy frost in the low lands near here last night and tomato plants were damaged some, but it is not thought that any serious damage will result.

SAYS THAT COWPER WAS NOT INSANE.

Clement R. Shorter's Speech at the Recent Cowper Centenary in England.

ANTHONY HOPE GIVES ADVICE.

Critics, He Says, Should Not Take Authors Too Seriously—Marie Corelli's "The Master Christian."

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Friday, May 4.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.) We have had Shakespeare attacked and accused of not having written the plays which made his name famous, and now the latest literary craze has come from a few persons who are reviving the effort to show that Cowper lacked sanity.

Clement R. Shorter, who appears to be a man of endless energy, took up the defense of Cowper, and at the recent Cowper centenary at Olney, Buckinghamshire, among other things, said:

"We have heard too much of the insanity of Cowper, of 'the insane's tongue' to which Mrs. Brown referred, and of the maniacal Cowper of whom Byron wrote somewhat scornfully.

"Only a day or two ago I read in a high-class journal 'one fears that Cowper's despondency and madness are better known to-day than his poetry.'

"That is not to know the secret Cowper. It is true that there were periods of maniacal depression, but these were not always religious ones.

"Let us put aside that one-sided picture of Cowper as a gloomy fanatic who was always asking himself in Carlyan phrase, 'Am I saved? Am I damned?'

"Let us remember him as staunch to the friends of his youth, sympathetic with his old school-fellow, Warren Hastings, when the world would make him out too black.

"Opposed in theory to tobacco, how he delighted to welcome his old friend, Mr. Bull. 'My greenhouse,' he says, 'wants only the flavor of your pipe to make it perfectly delightful.'

"Naturally tolerant, though a believer in total abstinence, he asks one friend to drink success to Homer, and thanks another for a present of bottle-stands.

"From beginning to end, save for those periods of aberration, there is no more resemblance to Cowper in the picture that certain narrow-minded people have desired to portray than there is in these same people's conception of Martin Luther."

Anthony Hope's Speech.

Anthony Hope's speech, in response to the toast to literature, at a meeting of that flourishing institution, the Royal Literary Fund, has attracted much attention in the world of letters here.

Amongst other things he told his audience that they had to face the fact that to the mass of people literature was a blank page, and that in his opinion, the duty of an author was to choose, not the most exalted audience that he was capable of reaching, and end when he had chosen it, but to do the best work that he could.

The duty of the critic was to recognize what audience the author was able of reaching, not to take him too seriously, and not to tell him that, because he could not achieve the highest in all things, he, therefore, was not worth anything at all.

It is a new experience to find an author saying that the critics should not take authors too seriously.

Marie Corelli's New Book.

A deal of mystery has been made over the name to be given to Marie Corelli's new book, which will soon be out, and which is the first which she has written since the appearance of "The Sorrows of Satan," four years ago. It is to be called "The Master Christian."

RODE ON THE SAME SLED.

Mrs. Barrett Tells About Her Daughter and George Pullman.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Chicago, May 4.—"Blanche and George used to ride on the same sled." In this sentence Mrs. C. R. Barrett, mother of Mrs. Blanche Bowers, explained the recent complications between George M. Pullman and her daughter.

"Of course, I don't know just what my daughter's plans are, but she and Mr. Pullman are only dear friends," explained Mrs. Barrett. "They have been that ever since they were little children and played together. Of course, they are not married and never pretend to be. I am sure. My daughter is in New York, visiting Mrs. Sanger Pullman, and Mr. Pullman is there visiting his brother. They are not fools, and all the dreadful things that have been said about them in the papers are untrue. That story about their being married is absurd. My daughter is not married at all."

It was suggested that she was married to Mr. Bowers, and Mrs. Barrett corrected herself by saying:

"Oh, yes, but they have not lived together for two years. You know we have been neighbors of the Pullmans for years. It was natural for the children to be great friends and play together. That such friendship should continue when they grew up is but natural. Mrs. Pullman was a dear friend of our family, and especially of my daughter.

Mrs. Barrett was asked if there was any understanding between Pullman and her daughter so that, after they had gotten rid of their present matrimonial incumbrances, they would be married.

"That I know nothing about, and it is a matter that concerns them alone," she said. "They know what they are doing, I suppose, and to tell such stories about them as have come from New York is ridiculous. There have been no divorce proceedings begun by my daughter, and her husband had taken no action in the matter until yesterday, when, I see by the papers, he sued her for divorce."

MORE RAIDING REPORTED.

Disturbances Continue in British Gold Coast Colony.

Accra, British Gold Coast Colony, May 4.—Sir Frederic Mitchell Hodgson, the Governor of the Colony, is still at Coomassie, and his stay will probably be prolonged until September, on account of the state of the roads. His personal danger probably has been minimized by diplomatic means.

The telegraph superintendent was wounded after repairing the line to a point within a few miles of Coomassie, and communication is again stopped.

More raiding in various parts of the colony is reported.

COOMASSIE CLOSELY INVESTED.

London, May 5.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Accra says:

"The situation in Ashanti is still very serious. Coomassie is closely invested. It is reported that on April 27 fighting occurred between the Haussas and Ashantis, in which three white officers were killed or wounded."

A. A. Selkirk & Co.'s

Regular Saturday sale takes place every Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock at their salesrooms, 1808-10-12 Chouteau avenue. Immense quantities of furniture, carpets, stoves and other miscellaneous articles are sold at very nominal figures.

Davis Has Them Guessing.

Kansas City, Mo., May 4.—Webster Davis, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Interior, will speak on May 4 on his South African trip. Local politicians attach importance to his coming at that time on the same date of the Congressional Nominating Convention, and the day preceding the State Republican Convention. While some say that Davis desires the congressional nomination from the Fifth District, others assert he has ambition to become delegate-at-large to the National Convention at Philadelphia.

is first secretary of the America
Present to meet the guests of
Colonel and Mrs. Bingham, Mr. Hay of
Mrs. Sharp, Miss Hitchcock, Mr. Strale of
the Swiss Legation, Mr. Childs of Pittsburg
and Mr. McPherson.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED.

Doctor Pritchett, Formerly of St. Louis, to Wed Miss McAllister.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, May 4.—The engagement of Miss McAllister and Doctor Henry S. Pritchett, formerly of St. Louis, has just been announced. The bride-to-be is the sister of Mrs. Francis Newlands, with whom she has spent the past winter. The wedding will take place early in June at the Newlands residence, at Chevy Chase. Doctor Pritchett has recently accepted the presidency of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

UPRISING QUELLED.

Bulgarian Peasants Yield and Ringleaders Flee.

Sofia, Bulgaria, May 4.—The peasant rising at Rustchuk has been quelled by the troops. The ringleaders have fled to Roumania.

ANNUAL REPORTS ON PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

MUCH MONEY WANTED FOR NEW WORK.

Sewer Commissioner Thinks $1,000,000 Will Be Needed in His Department Alone.

The annual reports of the assistant to the President of the Board of Public Improvements, of Sewer Commissioner E. A. Hermann and Street Commissioner Charles Varrelmann were filed yesterday with the Board of Public Improvements. The following is the summary of sewer work done and its cost, embodied in Mr. Hermann's report:

Total sewer work completed	$ 12,724.48
Public sewer work in progress	1,493.18
Expended and finishing sewers	21,739.54
Sewer repairs	3,424.40
Extraordinary repairs	2,364.34
Mill Creek sewer repairs	22,131.26
Superintendent and office expense	20,847.48
Total	$107,657.16

The report shows the total amount expended for sewer work during the fiscal year 1899-1900 to be $416,290.83, which is less than any year since 1884, except the year 1896-97, when it was only $42,962.46. Mr. Herman recommends the completion and extension of the Tower Grove storm sewer, the Arsenal street relief sewer, the Kingsland storm sewer and the Rock Springs, Holden Creek, North Gingham Creek and Northwest sewers, work which he estimates will cost the city $292,000. The Board of Public Improvements approves this work.

The report of the president's department of the Board of Public Improvements shows the total expenditures for that department during the fiscal year just closed to have been $10,542.93. During the year vouchers amounting to $3,528,232.12 were examined, approved and sent to the Auditor.

A statement as to the City Hall construction work shows:

Total appropriated prior to April 1, 1899	$1,384,079.44
Amount appropriated during 1899-1900	150,000.00
Total appropriation to April 1, 1900	1,534,079.44
Total expenditures to April 1, 1900	1,528,438.29
Balance on hand	$ 5,641.15
Amount expended during fiscal year ending April 1, 1900	$ 26,244.30
Amount to complete existing contracts	7,250.00

Mr. Varrelmann's report shows the expenditures for the Street Department during the last fiscal year to have been as follows:

Construction of streets and alleys	$ 56,946.93
Reconstruction of streets and alleys	18.79
Street Commissioner's Department	28,704.22
Street repairs (miscellaneous expenses)	118,968.74
Street repairs (macadam and other material)	126,746.38
Street repairs (salaries)	53,818.59
Street cleaning (labor and carts)	113,728.56
Street cleaning (brooms and wood blocks and asphalt)	33,348.48
Street cleaning (horse system)	29,098.44
Street bridges and culverts	10,017.66
Sewers and appurtenances	20,131.92
Fund for numbering houses	1,947.25
Street special and temporary salaries	66,136.35
Sprinkling streets	99,042.12
Total	$779,088.12

Mr. Varrelmann's report further shows that the workhouse convicts graded 149,499 cubic yards of streets, alleys and city property. The Street Commissioner makes no recommendations for the work to be done during the present fiscal year. He st