The Evening Times

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Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended June 15, 1901, was as follows

Sunday, June 9	19,980
Monday, June 10	40,021
Tuesday, June 11	39,415
Wednesday, June 12	39,904
Thursday, June 13	39,664
Friday, June 14	39,387
Saturday, June 15	39,123
Total	257,494
Daily average (Sunday, 19,980, excepted)	39,585

Free Trade for Porto Rico.

The news from Porto Rico is that on July 4 the Legislature of the island will meet in special session for the purpose of proclaiming free trade with the rest of the United States. This, if true, and it appears to be well authenticated, effectually disposes of the oft-repeated story that the Porto Ricans were satisfied with the Foraker tariff, and did not wish the island to be treated as an integral portion of the United States. All such reports were absurd upon their face. No people with any aspirations for freedom ever yet were satisfied with a position of inferiority, or would voluntarily consent to occupy such a position. When it is forced upon them frequently they have to make the best of it, but that is a very different thing from liking it.

From the first the Porto Ricans were anxious to be taken into full American fellowship. They received General Miles with open arms and waving American flags, and literally bestrewed his pathway across the island with flowers. This was not because of their joy in being relieved from the exactions of the Spanish Government, for in Porto Rico there was very little complaint of actual oppression by Spain. The people rejoiced because to them the American flag meant something more than kindly treatment—they hailed it as an emblem of civil liberty in a broader sense—as the flag which brought to them American citizenship in all that the term implies, and guaranteed to them the exact measure of constitutional protection that is enjoyed by any portion of the Republic. Hence their first move after the decision of the Supreme Court is to set aside a tariff which, however easy may be its provisions, is at the same time, to them, a badge of subjection.

The statement that the leaders of the Federal party of the island now express themselves as satisfied that the intentions of the Administration have been for the best, should be taken with some allowance. It is clear that the Federals could not remain permanently in an attitude of sullen hostility, refusing to participate in the island's public affairs, and when the leaders resolved to change their policy, they could do no less than to speak in kindly and courteous terms of the Administration. But as the Administration had faced both ways on the main proposition involved, there is certainly room for some doubt as to the goodness of its intentions.

Still it may be conceded that the President has always felt kindly toward Porto Rico. His about-face on the question of free trade for the island is not to be ascribed to any unwillingness to accord full American privileges to the inhabitants. It was merely a political move urged on by the Republican leaders in Congress, who feared that the granting of free trade to Porto Rico would be invoked as a precedent for the Philippines, and then the trusts might get hurt. Poor little Porto Rico alone would not amount to much in a competitive way, but the Philippines would. That was the milk in the cocoanut.

The Puritan.

Mr. Max O'Rell, a gentleman less distinguished for what he says than for his manner of saying it, has been amusing himself by making fun of what he calls the male Puritan of London. According to him, this person is doing spiritual spring cleaning at about this time. Mr. O'Rell finds it highly amusing that the Puritan wears "symbols of British virtues," among which the facetious writer includes an umbrella which is not rolled up, but carried in a closed condition, so as not to resemble a stick. Mr. O'Rell seems to think that the Puritan considers a stick sinful, though where he got his information he does not say.

There is nothing much more offensive than a hypocrite, and only less mischievous is an honest fanatic, but it sometimes seems that in this age of the world there was danger of going to extremes, and condemning as hypocrites and fanatics people who are neither, but simply honest, straightforward, and good, though perhaps a little narrow. For that matter, most of us are narrow somewhere, though we do not always see ourselves as others see us. There is nothing really objectionable in goodness, or in an earnest desire to be good; nor is it necessary to assume that because there are Pecksniffs and Chadbands there is no such thing as a Vicar of Wakefield.

The original English Puritan was made by his conditions. Things had reached such a stage that some sort of a reaction had to happen. The English Court was doing all it could to imitate that of France, and a decent yeoman shunned acquaintance with courtiers if he happened to have pretty daughters or objected to being treated with careless, good-humored patronage one minute and insulted the next. Like most religious movements, this one was more or less mixed up with social questions. The English mechanic, farmer, or gentleman might never have gone hunting his Bible for texts if he had not seen that the government of man was rapidly becoming so rotten that there was no safety in it for his fortune or his home. The stage against which the English Puritan revolted was not given to producing works of Shakespeare; and, in fact, in the strictest days of the Blue Laws the Puritan household often had its book of "the works of Mr. Shakespeare," and read therein with great, if grave, delight.

Puritanism in the days of Elizabeth and in the days of Queen Anne were two different things. The movement has been Protean in its changes of shape. At its best it meant clean living, pure speech, respect for women, devotion to duty, thorough truthfulness and honesty, zeal in the public service. The Puritan who served his God, his country, and his home with equal devotion was at least as honorable a man as the cavalier who did the same.

In the freer life of the present there is less excuse for extreme formalism of any sort. Many modern Puritans, however, are in no way despicable people, but good, stanch, and honorable characters. If a man honestly takes the New Testament for his guide he is likely to have the best instincts of a gentleman, for there is no teaching in that book which falls below the standard gentlemen set for themselves. Is it to be supposed that a man must be rated unworthy because he wishes to do right and says so?

Mr. Mercer's View.

Congressman Mercer's remarks on the tariff are strikingly characteristic of the present attitude of the Republican party. He says that if present conditions continue there will be very little tariff agitation in the next Congress. The sentiment of the people, he thinks, will be in favor of "letting well enough alone." But if there is a serious break in the market price of securities, some Republicans may take the alarm and all sorts of tariff propositions will be made. But unless there is a change for the worse in business conditions, the Nebraska Representative is of the opinion that the Babcock proposition will not receive the support of a corporal's guard.

It is reasonably safe to say that Mr. Babcock's proposition will not receive much support under any circumstances on the Republican side of the House, because the Committee on Ways and Means will oppose its consideration, and the Committee on Rules will stand by the committee that has all tariff matters in charge. Conditions are all the time changing, and some of the changes of the near future may be of a substantial character; but nothing can be more certain than that no change likely to occur will be considered by the Republican leaders as requiring a blow at the trusts. There may be various propositions made and much scattering talk, but nothing will be done if the Hannas and the Paynes and the Dalzells can prevent it—and they probably can.

The Republicans are setting entirely too much store upon the probable effect of the prosperity which they allege to exist. Granting that times are better than they were a few years ago, it by no means follows that the people are entirely satisfied. Indeed, the labor troubles now prevailing throughout the country, or in immediate prospect, give rise to a rather strong presumption that there is a good deal of discontent abroad in the land. Prosperity is always a relative condition and nothing is more natural than for people to desire to further improve their condition. The argument that they should "let well enough alone" is very seldom a convincing one. That was the plea of the Republicans in 1892, but it did not work. When there are glaring evils in plain sight it is a hard matter to make people believe that a condition of "well enough" exists. That the massing of the country's great industries in the hands of a few hundred million and billion dollar trusts is an evil of vast proportions and threatens great harm in the near future, if it is not already at hand, should be perfectly plain to all who think or care about the condition of the people as a whole.

Another thing that the Republican leaders overlook is the circumstance that when times are fairly good and the people are not actually suffering they are in a position to be more independent in their political action than when they are engaged in a desperate struggle for existence. The ability to be independent strengthens their inclinations in that direction, predisposing them to a consideration of abstract questions of right and wrong, which generally are overlooked in seasons when the distress is so keen that men can think of little else than the earning of their daily bread. It is not wise for the leaders of the dominant party to bank too heavily either upon a continuance of present conditions or the certainty of success if they should happen to remain unchanged.

Sunday at Buffalo.

A protest has been made "in the name of the Christian people of the country" against the opening of the Pan-American Exposition on Sunday. The idea seems to be that such action is a "desecration of the Sabbath" and hurts their feelings.

In this and other cases in which the interests of the entire country are involved, the question is not whether the feelings of some particular class are hurt, but whether that class is in the majority. It ought to be understood, after something like a hundred and twenty-five years of lecturing on the subject, that this country is governed by the people, and that its government is not either an aristocracy or a theocracy. Every intelligent man who has any religion at all in his mind or his heart desires that the country shall be ruled in a way pleasing to God, that is, that its laws shall be such as promote the highest interests of its citizens, not merely their bodily welfare. In the last analysis, the bodily and spiritual interests of any community of people are quite closely intertwined, and it is not possible to do violence to either without affecting the other. If folk are half starved, oppressed, pauperized, they cannot, on an average, have a high standard of morality; if they are prosperous in a material way, but have no conscience which forbids them to lie, steal, commit murder, and maintain corrupt social relations, they will not be prosperous very long, because they will be using up capital—their strength—instead of living on the interest—their rightful allowance of work and pleasure. The moral, physical, and mental strength of a people answers to the capital which a business man invests in his enterprises, and it is folly to deplete it faster than is necessary for the carrying on of the business.

While, therefore, it is greatly to be desired that the people of this land should live in accordance with the eternal moral laws, it is equally important that a minority shall not dictate what those laws are. There may be a certain percentage of the population of the United States which believes that eternal and temporal salvation depends on the abolition of all except necessary work upon Sunday, and the closing of all places of entertainment and recreation, except churches, on that day; but there is unquestionably a much larger percentage which believes nothing of the kind. Mr. Smith feels that his bodily comfort and his soul's salvation cannot be secured unless he stops work on Sunday, goes to church twice a day, and to Sunday school in the morning, reads his Bible and religious books during his leisure time, and sees that all his family follow the same general plan. Mr. Brown, across the street, would be moved to profane language and irritability by being made to submit to any such regime; whereas when allowed to spend Sunday as he chooses, he is comfortable, happy, and good-tempered. His idea of a pleasant Sunday is a breakfast somewhat later than usual, a romp with the children while his wife goes either to church or to see her mother, a particularly good dinner at his own house or that of a friend, and, if the day be fair, a little excursion into the country, the interstices of his time being filled up by the perusal of Sunday papers and of some good novel, music, and a quiet smoke. Mr. Brown does not interfere with Mr. Smith, and he respectfully wishes that Mr. Smith may not interfere with him. When the Sabbatarian bothers the secularist, the latter gets choleric and expresses a wish that his neighbor may go to hades, when he really does not mean anything worse than "Get out of my way!" When the secularist offends the ideas of the Sabbatarian the latter becomes bilious in expression and voices the opinion that his neighbor will go to hell when he dies, and not only he, but all his family and the country generally; and to all intents and purposes he really thinks so. An enquiring mind might reflect that it is really not so much worse to say bad words and not mean them than to say them and be in deadly earnest.

The sum and substance of the matter is just this: No man has any business to dictate in what way his neighbor shall spend Sunday so long as the public peace is not disturbed. If people who do not go to church can stand the unconscionable and unnecessary racket of a dozen different church bells, it seems as if those who do might endure the knowledge that there are Sunday excursions and theatres and concerts. The people who are principled against going to the Pan-American Exposition on Sunday are perfectly free to stay at home. The others should be equally free to go.

It is said that the Texas Democrats will ignore silver in their fall campaign. They can scarcely do otherwise. Silver has been eliminated as a political issue—not because it was wrong in 1896, but because it is obvious that the increased gold supply has relieved the monetary stringency which lay at the bottom of the silver movement. Silver coinage was never advocated upon the theory that the white metal was any better than the yellow for monetary purposes, but because the demonetization of silver had unduly curtailed the money supply, which it had. That wrong has now in a large measure been rectified by the bounty of nature. The Republicans are entitled to no credit for it, and the Democrats can consistently accept the increase of the gold supply as substantially affording the relief which they demanded.

The split in the Liberal party of Great Britain over the question of sustaining the Government's action in "concentrating" Boer women and children in camps, merely gives renewed emphasis to what has been said concerning the weakness and want of coherence in the Liberal party since Gladstone surrendered the leadership. Whether the Liberals have no well-defined principles, or are merely lacking in strong leadership is not clear, but it is self-evident that their opposition at this time is a very uncertain and indefinite quantity. It is a peculiar situation, when with as strong a sentiment against the party in power as plainly exists throughout Great Britain, there is no organized party through which the opposition can be fairly expressed.

Additional Aid to Trusts.

(From the Indianapolis Sentinel.)

On the face of the situation it is probable that tariff discussion by Republicans is brought to the front to divert attention from measures of a more serious character, such as the Babcock proposition to control trusts by removing the duty on goods competing with trust products. It is against such radical measures as this that the protective league will contend and not against barren idealities. If the people can be humbugged by a show of reciprocity, while the tariff exactions remain practically the same and the trusts pursue their present monopoly tactics for controlling prices, it will be a most notable victory for the trusts and they will be under deeper obligations to President McKinley than ever before.

One Way of Annexing Canada.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

Every investment of American capital in the great natural wealth of Canada is another step toward the industrial annexation of that country. This is something which patriotic Canadians may deplore, but which they cannot prevent. They ought not to deplore it, however. The prosperity of Canada depends on the development of its resources, and if Americans come forward with their energy and money to do the work the Canadians should give them a hearty welcome. In the past the Canadians have depended on Great Britain for capital. British money has dug their canals and built their railroads. British capital is no longer seeking investment in Canada. American capital is. It is taking possession of Canada.

Fanatical Sabbatarians.

(From the New York Evening Post.)

If a dozen or two men or boys wish to get amusement and healthful recreation quietly from baseball on Sunday afternoon zealots for strict observance should remember that the men and boys might be far worse employed. If the game is stopped they will not, as the Sabbatarians seem to imagine, march in a body to the Sunday school. On the contrary, they are much more likely to find their way into the saloons or gambling rooms. Competent observers are of the opinion that the growing popularity of outdoor sports, such as bicycling, has done not a little to lessen intemperance and vice on all days of the week.

Boomerang Doubts.

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

It is easily understood that Depew might have indulged an optimistic tendency in touting McKinley for a third term, but how did Grosvenor happen to go wrong? It has long been held that when he spoke about the President it was really the President who spoke. There is also a question as to why the President needs call a Cabinet meeting to help him decide whether he wanted to break through a tradition as old as the nation. He must have had some doubts which he wanted resolved and there is a natural curiosity to know whether they will return to him two or three years hence.

Canada and Minnesota.

(From the St. Paul Pioneer-Press.)

The exact population of the Dominion of Canada has not yet been figured out, but the disappointed statisticians now admit, from the figures so far gathered, that it will not exceed 5,500,000. In 1891 it was 5,185,990; so that the aggregate gain in ten years will not exceed 314,010. This would be 135,558 less than the gain of the State of Minnesota alone for the same period—the latter footing up an increment of 449,568! And yet our State Liberally contributed a large number of its people to swell the population of the Dominion's western territories, where the chief gain under the recent returns has taken place.

A Different Affair.

(From the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

Three men in Chicago have been sentenced to the penitentiary for violating the civil service law. But it was the local, not the national, civil service law. It is no offence to violate the national Civil Service law.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

The attaches at the White House, together with a score of visitors who were passing through the grounds, were interested spectators yesterday morning of one of the most unique and bloody battles ever fought in this city. The combatants were ants and two armies lined up to decide which should have possession of the grounds at the northwest corner of the Executive Mansion. According to one of the gardeners, the fight started shortly before 10 o'clock. A line of large black ants on an excursion across the asphalt walk encountered an army of small red ants headed in an opposite direction. The two bodies were about to cross one another when several of the warriors in the van of each party began a fierce tussle. This was the signal for a free fight and within a few seconds the whole walk was covered with a squirming, wriggling mass of tiny red and black forms. Both sides were joined by re-enforcements after about ten minutes of warfare and before the battle had been in progress for a half hour it was estimated that more than a thousand of the little insects were endeavoring to tear one another into pieces.

The battle lasted for nearly three hours, or until after 1 o'clock, when the red ants gained a signal victory. When the fight was over the battleground was as clear as though no conflict had occurred. When a black ant managed to kill or overpower one of the enemy, he immediately seized his body and ran off to the grass where he deposited the remains either in a hill or beneath a piece of debris. The red ants followed out the same plan with the big black fellows and here and there a tiny warrior was seen carrying off a body three times as big as himself. No official report was made as to the casualties, but it is estimated that the red army killed two of the enemy to every one killed on its side. Several bets were made as to the outcome by those who whitnessed the fight. Two to one was given on the black ants, as sympathy was with the little red fellows, who after all proved themselves trained warriors, while the big black insects seemed to be out of condition and unable to defend themselves.

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The office of Superintendent S. I. Kimball, of the Life Saving Service, in the Treasury Department, is never without a unique machine invented by some genius as the best thing yet discovered for use in the life-saving stations throughout the country. These devices are so numerous that room cannot be found for all of them in the office, and after the special board, which is convened annually to consider and report upon the various inventions submitted, has taken action the machines are stored away.

At present Superintendent Kimball has on hand an automatic life preserver constructed upon an entirely new plan. It is a light affair intended to be worn in a collapsed state under a tourist's clothing, the calcium carbide will form acetylene carbide is fixed in one of the folds of the belt. The idea is that when the wearer falls overboard or goes down with a sinking vessel the water will at once flow into the preserver through valves provided for the purpose and that the sea water and the calcium carbide will form acetylene gas. This will automatically inflate the preserver and support the body. Other novel appliances sent to the office are a serpentine boat, a folding anchor, and a number of rockets and signal lights.

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Hundreds of visitors are daily inspecting the exhibition of the work done by Indian boys and girls which is now on view in the Interior Department. The collection will be moved within a few weeks to Detroit by Miss Estelle Reel, Superintendent of Indian Schools. Before the display is removed it has been decided to permit local lovers of curios to purchase certain articles which are nearly duplicated. The prices are very modest, and the money obtained will be sent to the scholar who manufactured the article. There are many beautiful specimens of Indian work to be sold. These include baskets, hat bands, bead work, and fancy carving. The sale will be held to encourage the pupils, all of whom need a little pocket money, and it is believed that the ready sale of the articles will act as an incentive to better results.

* * *

A small bottle, containing an almost colorless liquid, stands on the mantel in the room of Seward Terry, private secretary to the Commissioner of Patents. The harmless appearing fluid is partially responsible, as part of a greater bulk of the same sort, for the death of two men and the wounding of two others. It is moonshine whisky, and thereby hangs a tale. This illicitly distilled intoxicant was the product of a private still operated in the mountains of Green county, Tennessee, by a hardy and desperate character known as John Shelton. In a raid made by Government revenue agents, July 6, 1899, after fifty shots were exchanged between the revenue officers and the moonshiner and his party, and the killing and wounding followed, thirty-six gallons of the moonshine were captured and confiscated. The sample was presented to Mr. Terry by Col. C. H. Ingram, who is special agent of internal revenue, in charge of the Nashville district, and under whose direction the raid was planned.

* * *

While the rain was coming down in torrents the other day, a colored man driving a wagon containing a load of sand pulled up at the curb on Fifteenth Street, opposite the Treasury. A number of clerks, without umbrellas, sheltered by the big roof of Uncle Sam's massive strong box, watched the man curiously as he jumped to the ground and opened the end gate of his wagon. The gutter resembled a rivulet, as the water flowed swiftly down the slope to Pennsylvania Avenue. A vigorous stroke or two of the shovel and most of the sand was deposited in a pile in the gutter.

The negro mounted his wagon and rattled away in search of some place where his horse and himself might be protected from the pelting rain. In the meantime, the small torrent which swept along the concrete was playing havoc with the sand pile. First the loose sand at the bottom was swept away, and the water began to undermine the pile itself. In five minutes the dark surface of the concrete showed beneath the yellow water and there was not a vestige left of what had been the black man's burden.

The Census Six Hundred.

Doors shut in front of them, doors shut in back of them,
Out through the first street door, charged the Six Hundred.
On down the street they went, each heart on money bent,
Charged up the B Street side, on past the door and guide.
No pass had they to give, their word was eat and live.
No wealth awaited them—Noble Six Hundred.
Now up the stairs they run, night soon they knew would come.
Heeding not the loud command, quietly to walk and stand.
On past the Chief Clerk's door with one terrific roar,
Money the cry they gave—Greedy Six Hundred.
Now they were forced to wait hour after hour till eight,
Then came the order out, met with derisive shout—
"We'll pay no more today, return to your homes you may,
Wait not till break of day"—Tired Six Hundred.

X. Y. Z.

TRADE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Imports in Ten Months Pass the Twenty-Million-Dollar Mark.

The Division of Insular Affairs of the War Department has prepared extracts from its regular monthly bulletin, relative to the commerce of the Philippines. The total value of merchandise imported into the Philippines during the ten months ended October, 1900, was $20,143,152 as against $16,644,568 for the same period of 1899, showing an increase in favor of the 1900 period of $3,498,584 or 21 per cent.

The total value of merchandise exported from the Philippines to other countries during the 1900 period was $19,372,830 as against $12,975,605 for the 1899 period, showing an increase in favor of the 1900 period of $6,397,25, or 49 per cent. The imports of merchandise by countries during the respective periods were as follows:

European countries, 1900, $8,819,925; 1899, $6,753,674.

United States, 1900, $1,740,209; 1899, $1,218,842.

Asiatic countries, 1900, $9,422,634; 1899, $8,121,560.

Oceania, 1900, $157,150; 1899, $540,492.

Africa, 1900, $3,234; 1899, none.

It will be noted from the above figures that the imports of merchandise from the United States during the 1900 period show an increase of $521,367, or 43 per cent.

These figures represent direct shipments only, and do not include merchandise from the United States invoiced to Hongkong and from there reshipped to Manila, nor do they include quartermasters' stores.

The exports of merchandise during the respective periods were as follows:

1899—European countries, $4,684,497; United States, $5,316,798; Canada, $524; Asiatic countries, $4,667,901; Oceania, $303,375; Africa, $2,510.

1900—European countries, $10,519,698; United States, $2,341,171; Canada, $11,195; South America, $2,523; Cuba, $100; Asiatic countries, $5,316,519; Oceania, $553,848; Africa, $827,766.

During the 1900 period there was imported, gold and silver to the value of $2,754,321 as against $845,617 for the 1899 period. There were no imports of gold and silver from the United States during either period. During the 1900 period there was exported $3,042,232 in coin, bullion, and ore. Of this amount $8,000 in gold coin and $2,650 in gold ore were exported to the United States. During the 1899 period there was exported $3,770,511 in gold and silver, of which amount the United States took $55,000 in gold coin and $50,000 in silver coin.

The import trade during the month of October, 1900, was carried as follows: In American vessels $14,794, Belgian $416, British $2,471,411, German $82,837, and in other foreign vessels $776,738. The export trade for the same month was carried as follows: In British vessels $1,804,064, French $98,800, German $78,356, American none, and in other foreign vessels $329,825.

SUBSIDIES FOR RAILROADS.

British Columbia Authorizes a Loan of Five Millions.

The State Department has been informed by Abram E. Smith, the United States Consul at Victoria, British Columbia, that the Legislature of British Columbia has authorized a loan of $5,000,000, half a million of which is to be used in building a bridge across the Frazer River at New Westminster, and the remainder to be granted as a bonus at the rate of $4,000 a mile, for the following roads:

From the coast near Point Roberts to Midway, Boundary Creek district, about 330 miles.

From the present terminus of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway to the northern end of Vancouver Island, 240 miles.

From Rock Creek to Vernon, to connect with the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway, 125 miles.

From Kitimaat, on the coast, to Hazleton, 100 miles.

From Fort Steele to Golden, 150 miles.

Work must be begun before July, 1902. The subsidy is not to be granted until the roads are wholly completed; the companies are to pay interest on the subsidy granted at the rate of 2 per cent for the first five years and 3 per cent afterwards. The Government is to control passenger and freight rates, and may acquire the roads in twenty years.

THE MALTESE TOBACCO TRADE.

A Tariff Scare Induces Importers to Stock Heavily.

Concerning the Maltese tobacco trade John H. Grout, the United States Consul at Malta, writes to the State Department as follows:

"Two descriptions of tobacco are imported at Malta for the purpose of manufacture—Turkish and Greek for cigarettes and American for cigars. Although an attempt was made some two years ago to introduce machines for cigarette making, the manufacturers preferred hand work. The principal cigarette factory here employs from ninety to one hundred hands. A good deal of the work of the smaller concerns is done at the homes of the employes. The manufacture of cigarettes in the islands is not only sufficient for local consumption, but for an export trade. Prohibitive tariffs, etc., have much reduced the once-flourishing trade in Maltese cigars. No machinery will probably be employed in making cigars. Women work for 3 cents for every one hundred cigars rolled and cut.

"The present source of supply is as much from the United States direct as from European tobacco centres. Payments are made here on draft against documents, unless a banker's credit in London or Paris is stipulated. A recent tariff scare induced importers to stock heavily. Tobacco is at present upon the free list."

A PASSING DIALECT.

The Welsh Tongue and Literature Fast Being Forgotten.

(From Y Drych of Utica.)

As far as this country and the Welsh are concerned it looks dark and hopeless. From a quarter to a half century ago there arose a large number of literary men and poets in the United States who served the Welsh newspapers and periodicals well and faithfully. Although some of them could speak English, Welsh and Welsh literature were their pleasure, which they sought, night and day.

That class of Welshmen is passing away, one by one, and none with literary tendencies arise to take their places and continue the progress of Welsh literature. We can say without any doubt that the vast majority of the contributors to the Drych today are forty years of age and upward, and many of the best over fifty.

There are but a few young who are treading in the footsteps of the fathers. The vase majority of young Welsh people stand at the dividing line between Welsh and English, and are rapidly going over to the latter, to be separated completely in language and spirit from the civilization of the fathers. And many of the fathers who are faithful to the Welsh, and earnest in speech in its behalf, are bringing up their children in a manner entirely un-Welsh.

So, the expectations are that Welsh will go down in the United States when the fathers and mothers go the way of all the earth, for a crop of anything cannot be expected where there has been no sowing. Many hope and expect the old language to live by miracle, as it were, by divine interference in its behalf, without realizing the natural fact that the Welsh must be planted and watered before progress may be expected. The Drych, like Apollos, week after week, continues the watering process, but what has not been planted cannot be watered, for there is no Paul a-planting.

No Comfort for Kruger Here.

(From the St. Louis Republic.)

President Kruger is right not to come to "the land of the free and the home of the brave" while an imperialist administration is in control of the Government. It would only mean heartache for him and disappointment and deeper sorrow for all his countrymen. The United States Government is not enlisted in the cause of liberty these days. It is arrayed against liberty—an apostate from the American faith.

THE NEW SIAMESE MINISTER.

Phya Phetchada to Start for Washington in a Few Days.

Information has been received here announcing that Phya Phetchada, the newly appointed Siamese Minister to the United States, will start for Washington in a few days. He represents the advance element in his Government and is acquainted with the English language. As a preparation for his important duties he has seen considerable public service at home, having served for some time in the Foreign Office at Bangkok and more recently in the department of the local Government. Before his departure his name, or title, will be changed, in accordance with the custom of his country, and he will be known in Washington under the title Phya Charoon Raja Maitri. The term Phya is a title which is next to the most honorable one that can be borne by any one outside of the royal families, and the rest of the name signifies one who is to encourage more cordial international relations.

Siam has been advancing rapidly in the last ten years. Many of the officials in the Siamese Government and the King have a fair knowledge of European civilization, an acquaintance which has been acquired both through travel and through education received in that part of the world; moreover, the monarchial forms of government are more in harmony with their ideas of sovereignty, hence their sympathies naturally turn toward Europe politically, and the best things with which they are acquainted naturally attract their commerce. On the other hand, the recent developments in the Far East have impressed this people with the fact that there is a great and rapidly growing people in the Western Hemisphere of whom they know little, and with whom the world must reckon in the future, both in politics and in commerce. The attitude of America in the Chinese problem is thoroughly appreciated by Siam; the cordial and intimate relations between America and Japan, her more advanced sister in the Orient, are furnishing Siam a valuable object lesson in politics, and American products are commending themselves in their competition with the cheap stuffs made to meet the present and local tastes of the Oriental market.

All that is needed at the present time to bring America into larger commercial relations with Siam, it is said, is a more intimate acquaintance on her part with American institutions, American products, and the American people. Siam already appreciates this to some extent, and as an earnest of this fact she is sending a minister to represent her in Washington. The Siamese are a traveling and enquiring people, and this promises to be only the beginning of a series of influences that will result in introducing the American commonwealth to a larger number of this Oriental people year by year.

ARTESIAN WELLS WANTED.

Venezuela Asks for Scientific Observations and Proposals.

Louis Goldschmidt, the American Consul at La Guayra, Venezuela, writes to the State Department that the Venezuelan Government proposes to bore artesian wells throughout certain localities. He says he believes that any enterprising concern with sufficient capital to put into operation not only the wells mentioned in the decree, but others on the large cacao and coffee plantations, could do a profitable business.

The decree concerning the wells authorizes national or foreign companies to make scientific observations, with a view to boring artesian wells, such observations to be made by specialists in geology and engineering. A part of the expense incurred by these investigations will be borne by the Federal Executive, in a proportion to be agreed upon.

The Consul says: "The Federal Executive will purchase the wells constructed by his authority, for an amount previously stipulated. The volume of water flowing from each, however, must not be less than 132,000 gallons per twenty-four hours. All the work of boring, installation, etc., will be done at the risk of the constructer; and the Federal Executive will purchase only those wells which fulfill the requirements in regard to the flow of water. No national import duty will be charged on any necessary material; and the Federal Executive binds himself to obtain from the different States and municipalities a similar exemption. The places at present most urgently in need of water are the islands of Margarita, Coche, Los Roques, and Providencia; the peninsula of Araya, the State of Falcon, the city of Maracaibo and surroundings, and the prairies of the Guanca."

CONCESSIONS IN NICARAGUA.

An American Citizen Authorized to Build a Railroad.

Chester Donaldson, the United States Consul at Managua, Nicaragua, reports to the State Department that the Nicaraguan Government has granted a concession to H. C. Emery, of Chelsea, Mass., who already holds valuable timber concessions in the country, to build a railroad from Matagalpa to the head of navigation in Rio Grande—about 100 miles of road. Mr. Emery is allowed one year after ratification by Congress to organize his company and one year and a half more to make the necessary surveys, and must have the road finished and ready to open to the public five years after above date. He is also granted rights and exemptions for all colonists brought in for twenty-five years. He is also to receive a concession of public lands in alternate lots along the line one mile wide and four miles deep; and rights of navigation on the Rio Grande and the Atlantic Coast.

The consul also notes that the Government has commissioned R. Wieser, former representative of the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, in Managua, to organize a company to build a railroad from Monkey Point, on the Caribbean Sea, to San Ubaldo, on Lake Nicaragua. He is also commissioned to sell the Government railroad and steamboats now in operation, and to make a loan of $2,000,000 for the Government, to be guaranteed by the custom house receipts.

CURRENT HUMOR.

Decidedly So.

(From the Chicago Post.)

"Is she an up-to-date girl?" he repeated. "Is she? Well, rather. Why, do you know what she did?"

"What?"

"Well, sir, when the young man to whom she was engaged began to show indications of a desire to reconsider, she went into court and applied for an injunction to restrain him from breaking the engagement."

A Compliment.

(From the London Fun.)

Singer—I must say good-by, now, Herr Schlumph; but, before I go, I should like your opinion of my rendering of Mozart's Requiem?

Herr Schlumph (with gallant intent)—Ach, madam, I assure you et has gontributed greatly to ze amusement of ze evening.

Troubles of a Waiter.

(From Punch.)

Stout Party—Now then, waiter, what have you got?

Waiter—Calves, brains, deviled kidneys, fried liver——

Stout Party—Here! Bother your complaints! Give me the menoo.

A Fraternal Feeling.

(From the Boston Globe.)

Ma—You naughty boy! What are you doing in my pantry?

Tommy—I—I was looking for that naughty little brother of mine, ma!

Contradictory.

(From the Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.)

"Is the sun on a strike?" asked Dinwiddie.

"Not to any great extent," replied Van Braam. "It seems to me to be working hard."

"Then why do we hear of sunstrokes?"

NOTES OF THE DAY.

Golf is being played in Canada on snow links.

Only one man in 203 is over six feet in height.

In India and Persia sheep are used as beasts of burden.

A caterpillar can eat 600 times its weight of food in a month.

Over 2,000,000 miners are required to produce the world's supply of coal.

It is estimated that one crow will destroy 700,000 insects every year.

Only one among the seven Presidents of the French Republic has served out a full term.

Backwoodsmen of China still use the bow and arrow as a weapon and do very effective work with it.

Bats measuring nearly five feet from tip to tip of their wings have been found in a cave near Tanga, in East Africa.

The American sailor on a Government ship gets 30 cents per diem, but he is better fed than any other sailor man on the universal seas.

Hereafter visitors at the Kansas State penitentiary will be charged 10 cents each. The sum goes toward paying the extra guard made necessary by the visitors.

An advertisement in a Hamburg paper dated 1801 shows that cigars were in use (though very little as compared with pipes) in Germany a century ago.

An automobile line is to be operated between Lewes and Rehoboth, Del., for passengers to and from Cape May. It will be the first automobile line in that State.

The last pine grove in Allegany county, N. Y., consisting of 400 trees has just been sold to a lumberman for $7,500. Some of the trees are five foot in diameter and 300 years old.

In all big cities there are multitudes of folk who work in the night time. In London fully 100,000 inhabitants earn their bread by the sweat of their brows between sunset and sunrise.

Pasteboard armor is likely to come into military fashion. It is, if thick enough, almost impenetrable to carbine bullets, which can pierce five-inch wooden planks. Recent experiments prove this.

The general impression is that gold is the greatest of all precious metals, but scientists assert that there are at least seventeen metals on the roll of metallurgy that are greater in value than the yellow metal.

According to Sir Harry Johnston, one cause of the indolence of the natives of Uganda is the banana, which grows in such abundance that the natives can get all the food they need without any effort.

Discarding the traditional means of reaching the Newmarket races—a special train—King Edward VII this year "drove" from Sandringham to Newmarket and return in his 12-horse power gasoline vehicle.

A woman in Adrian, Mich., who protested without avail against a gambling den which got all of her husband's weekly earnings, set out the other night with a can of kerosene and burned the place to the ground. She was acquitted in court.

In South Natick, Mass., the people are preparing for the celebration on July 4 next of the founding of their town by John Elliot and his Indian followers. About 300 of Elliot's descendants are expected to participate in the celebration.

The new $4 bill issued by the Dominion of Canada promises to become popular, for artistically it is a masterpiece of the engraver's skill. On its face it bears a flattering picture of the lock on the canal at Sault Ste. Marie, an engineering work purely American.

The palmetto trees of Jacksonville, it is said, stood the recent conflagration better than any other kind. While nearly all other trees in the wide sweep of the fire perished from the heat, the palmettos are putting out green shoots, showing that they have life and vigor left.

Lewis Wilkins, who is said to be the biggest living man in the world, is a product of St. Paul, Minn., where he was born in 1874. When but ten years old he measured 6 feet in height, and now has grown to 10¾ inches—just three-quarters of an inch less than 9 feet—and weighs 364 pounds.

A woman in an Indiana county has been driven away from her home by her neighbors who accuse her of being a witch and of being in league with the devil. One of the charges against her is that she has worked her evil charms to her neighbors' injury by causing the death of their horses, cattle, and chickens.

The animal world has today a surgical science quite its own, says a London newspaper. There are dogs with artificial teeth, pigeons and cows with wooden legs, dogs with glass eyes, and other animals with false hair, false tails, and false limbs of all kinds. There is, indeed, hardly a limit to the possibilities of animal surgery.

The ex-Empress Eugenie, of France is probably godmother to more children than any other women in the universe. She is not only godmother to the children of an immense number of personal friends, but also to 3,384 of her husband's subjects who were born on March 16, 1856, the day that her son, the ill-fated prince imperial, first saw the light.

In a town in Kansas there is a Sunday school superintendent whose temporal vocation is running a dry goods store. On a recent Sunday he carefully explained the lesson and then said: "Does any one wish to ask a question?" I do Mr. Barnes," said a little girl in great excitement. "How much is those little red parasols in your show window?"

They have a curious combination tree in West Stockbridge, Conn. It is primarily a maple which measures, a foot from the ground, 12 feet 3 inches in circumference. Fifteen feet from the ground there are one or two birch limbs growing, and higher up are currant and raspberry bushes which bear fruit each year. It is very old and bids fair to stand for many years longer.

A writer says that when a painter wishes to give in a picture perfect happiness, he goes to the child just awakening from an undisturbed sleep. It is delineated as the joy of living, the joy of looking out upon a fresh new world, the gladness that is reflected in the pure soul of the child, which makes the pictures the favorites at every exhibition and in evry gallery?

The monolith at Stonehenge, which was the largest stone quarried in England, has been eclipsed by a block of granite measuring 68 feet in length, 29 feet in width, and 14 feet in depth. This enormous block was quarried at a recent blast at the De Lank Quarries, near Bodmin. The estimated weight is 1,400 tons. It will be used in the contsruction of Beachy Head Lighthouse.

The exhibition of 1900 showed that German metallurgy was ahead of that of France, and even of other countries. The Germans can make and deliver in France boilers 20 or 25 per cent cheaper than French manufacturers; the Paris, Lyons and Mediterranean Railway Company orders its locomotives in Vienna, the Eastern Railway Company in Alsatia, and the Orleans Company in the United States.

Some curious botanical experiments made at a zoological laboratory at Naples are reported by Hans Winkler. A flowerless aquatic plant, that grows normally with its roots in the sand and leaves in water