SONG OF LABOR.

Work, work, work,
In meadow and mill and mart;
Work, work, work,
Till the dews of labor start.
Where the sailors launch their ships,
And plow the waves apart,
Work with a song on the lips,
And work with a prayer in the heart.

Let the dreamer lie at ease,
And gaze at the bright blue sky,
Lulled by the murmuring bees,
While the summer winds go by.
Though its skies be cold and gray,
Be this thy heart's content,
That thine is the sweeter day
In useful labor spent.

Better to delve all day
With the blessing of peace at night,
Than to fritter the time away,
With fingers idle and white.
For labor is God's good gift,
Though it be the curse of the fall;
And the hands that struggle and lift
Are the noblest hands of all.
—Ola Moore, in Youth's Companion.

A CIRCUS TRAGEDY.

I.

Gugusse, the favorite of the Winter Cirque, which stood in the shadow of the Kremlin, in Moscow, Russia, was not a handsome fellow. He had neither the wit of the clown, the grace of the chariot driver nor the versatility of the ringmaster, yet he was more popular with the Muscovites than all the three together. He owed his popularity a good deal to nature, who had sent him into the world, equipped with an enormous head, large, fanlike ears, and a hunchback balanced upon slender legs, which bowed beneath their weight. He was the king of the dwarfs and the idol of the mob—for, to a mob, grace, wit and strength are nothing compared with hideous deformity.

Yet he was a man. He had passions like other men. He had a heart within his bony body as capable of human affection as that possesssed by any of the public who applauded his tricks. And this heart he had thrown at the feet of Mlle. Nina, daughter of Adolphe, the equilibrist, the handsomest horsewoman in the circus.

When she appeared at the circus for the first time he was dazzled by her beauty. She danced into the ring in a cloud of gauze, among which spangles glittered like diamonds. A white rose, suspended from pearly teeth, contrasted with the rich red of her cheeks and coils of jet black hair, which streamed luxuriantly down to her waist. She was proudly, insolently beautiful, and the dwarf—whom the whim of a circus manager had taken from the cobbler's lapstone—was completely dazzled by the sight of such radiant lovelinesss.

As time went on the star dropped from the sky. The distance between them grew less and less as the illusion faded from his eyes. Every morning he used to see the dazzling beauty of the previous night, in a dirty morning wrapper, patching her scanty wardrobe as she watched the pot boil in the open air. He began to talk with her, and then he began to dream, and in his dreams he saw Nina walking by his side radiant with happiness.

Nina laughed at his gibes, screamed at his jokes and shouted "Encore, Gugusse!" when the love-stricken dwarf made some grotesque movement, which, he hoped, would be interpreted as an exhibition of affection. The fair horsewoman occasionally caressed him as she would have caressed a dog. He was less than a dog in the eyes of the circus people. Jealous of his popularity, they cuffed him whenever they met him, and the dwarf found it useless to protest.

One evening he told Nina that he loved her. The girl stared at him a moment as if she had not heard aright and then burst into a fit of laughter. Gugusse frowned, and drew himself up to the full height of his little figure, hoping perchance to impress her. Then he told her how he had loved her from the moment he first saw her, and how life was impossible without her regard.

Every word the dwarf uttered was like a jest to the merry-hearted girl. She sat in her chair and shook with the exuberance of mirth. Gugusse stepped forward and took one of her white, plump hands in his horny palm. Nina jumped up with a gesture of disgust, drew her hand away, and struck the dwarf a blow in the face.

A few hours later the circus rang with cheers as Gugusse entered. But the dwarf had no heart for his work that night, and he was hissed from the ring.

I.

The next day the circus bills bore the imposing announcement:

"Unparalleled Novelty. Stupendous Attractions. The Tragedy of Usande; or, the Martyred Maiden. Mlle. Nina and Gugusse."

At 7 o'clock the house was crowded. The usual exercises took place—tight rope, trapeze, horizontal bar—but they passed almost unnoticed. The people were waiting for the promised tragedy. They wanted to see the white-robed maiden devoured by the bear.

At last Gugussse and Nina entered the ring, and the pent-up excitement of the crowd found vent in cheers. Nina was witchingly beautiful in her white toga, over which fell tresses of rich, dark hair. She looked like the white-souled martyrs of old, for whom the stake had no terrors. She advanced to the center of the ring, and Gugussse, looking as hideous as the headsman of the restoration, bound her securely to the post. Nina clasped her hands together, and lifted her large eyes skyward in an attitude of prayer.

Gugusse disappeared and reentered the ring with a tame bear, which had been his playfellow since he left his Polish home. He held the animal by the ear, and as the brute struggled and growled menacingly, the people applauded to the echo.

They watched Gugusse approach the maiden, and heard some words uttered, which they took to be an appeal for her recantation. In reality Gugusse was murmuring a passionate declaration.

"Nina, I love you. Have pity on me. Can you not hear me? Have pity on me or I will let Biska fly at you. I have made him drink brandy, I have beaten him, and this morning I stole his meat from him. He is hungry; he is mad; he will tear you to pieces. Will you be mine?"

Nina shook her head with a gesture of impatience.

"Nina! Nina! I am a man—I have a right to love you. I love you with my whole soul. I cannot live without your love. Be mine! Do not make me desperate. Ah! you shake your head. You will not! You despise me. I know it. You shall pay dearly for it now!"

As he finished speaking the dwarf beat down and unmuzzled the furious brute which pawed the ground viciously at his feet. Nina turned pale. There was desperation in the dwarf's face—there was murder in his eyes. Her cheeks blanched with terror, and from her lips came the cry:

"Help! help! help!"

With a rapid movement Gugusse unmuzzled the bear, and the famished animal dashed past him, sprang upon the helpless girl and rent her with his claws.

The scene was so realistic, so strikingly rendered, that the audience applauded until the circus was filled with a deafening roar. They little knew that a tragedy was being enacted, and thought it was part of the "business" when a beautiful head dropped down and blood spurted from the white, unclothed arm.

What passed just then in the mind of the wretched creature who stood watching the horrible sight? Was he conscious of his infamy? Was he seized with pity at the sight of so much youth and beauty being ruthlessly torn to pieces? Did he wish to undo what he had done?

No one can tell, but just as the bear was planting his cruel claws upon the white shoulders of the half-conscious girl the dwarf sprang forward and seized the brute in his muscular arms. With a mighty effort he pulled the bear off his victim and flung him to the ground.

The passion which famine and excitement had aroused in the bear caused him to turn with furious force upon his master. As they rolled over together in the sawdust the bear caught the dwarf in a terrible embrace. There was a cracking of bones, and before the people belonging to the circus had time to run to his aid the infuriated beast had planted his fangs into his neck.

And the crowd, little suspecting that a grim tragedy had taken place before their eyes, jumped on their seats and howled out, amid a storm of applause:

"Encore, Gugusse! Encore, Gugusse!"

A FAMOUS PAINTING BOUT.

Grapes that Birds Pecked at, and a Curtain that Deceived Zeuxis

In a chapter on "Grecian Painters," in his St. Nicholas Serial, "Bright Sides of History," Mr. E. H. House lets one of his characters tell this famous story in his own language:

"Well, uncle, I may not remember everything, but I will tell it to you as well as I can. Zeuxis was the one to start the business. He went around ..thens 'win his chin in the air,' as Mr. Besant says, telling folks he could make better pictures than all the other fellows put together. Parrhasius didn't think he could stand that, on any terms; so they challenged each other, and it was arranged that each of them must get up as good a piece of work as he could, and let the public decide which should hold the championship. Zeuxis led off with a man carrying a basket of grapes, life-size; and Parrhasius followed with only a big curtain. When the show opened, a lot of birds flew to the grapes and tried to nibble them. The people went wild over that, and Zeuxis felt sure he was going to win in the first round. He called out to Parrhasius to hurry and lift his curtain, if there was anything worth looking at behind it; and then the match came to a quick finish, for the curtain was the picture, you see, and there was nothing at all on the other side. As soon as Zeuxis saw how the thing stood, he owned up that he wasn't in it. He had only fooled a flock of birds, but Parrhasius had caught a first-class painter, who ought to have known all the tricks of the trade. Then Parrhasius held his chin in the air, and walked off with the belt. But Zeuxis behaved very decently after it was all over. He admitted that his man carrying the grapes must have been badly done, or else the birds wouldn't have dared to go near him; so for that alone he deserved to be counted out. That's all there is of it, I believe. What are you laughing at, uncle. Haven't I told it right?"

"Oh, yes," said Uncle Claxton, as soon as he could get his face straight; "right enough, after a fashion; though I never heard it just that way before, and I didn't expect you to report it as if it were an Athenian prize-fight."

A Chinese Woman's Unamerican Ways.

The Chinese woman in America lives generally on the top floor of her husband's dwelling, his business being on the ground floor. He is an exceedingly good husband and secures for her comfort and all that her little mind can wish for. Her apartments are very tidy, clean and neat and are furnished with American goods in the American style, with the exception of a few rugs and ornaments on the tables and walls. In the center of another room can be seen her incense vase, an ancestral table, kneeling stool, a pair of candlesticks and her private chapel. She will show you all her pretty ornaments, her jewelry and fine clothing, admires yours or even says that it is prettier than her own; will show you her chapel but will not invite you to enter it.

She seldom goes out and does not receive visitors until she has been a wife for at least two years. Even then if she has no children she is supposed to hide herself, but after one is born she begins to wander about, and is then the hostess of many cousins and friends, who drop in occasionally to see the "family." Now and then the women visit one another, and when they come together such chatter is heard that one would readily think that two American women had come together after enduring such a fate as not seeing each other for twenty-four hours. They laugh at the slightest remark and scream at a joke of any kind. They examine each other's dress, hair, feet and hats, talk about their husbands, their babies, about the house and about their food, and finally depart by shaking their own hands in each other's faces.—Philadelphia Times.

Peeled Chickens.

A party of visitors to the country were very much interested last summer by the remark of some New York children, sent out by the fresh air fund for a week or two in the country. There were quite a number of them playing about the pretty farmhouse one day, when some passer-by stopped and began to talk to them. "Did you ever see any chickens before?" asked one lady, as a flock of fowls came strutting down the lawn. "Oh, yes," said one of the eldest, wisely, with a knowing shake of his head, "we've always seen 'em—lots—only generally it was after they were peeled."—The Argonaut.

The population of Palestine is increasing rapidly. Ten years ago there were only 15,000 residents in Jaffa; to-day there are nearly 60,000.

There are 1,246,284 cattle, 7,578,948 sheep and 134,116 pigs in Scotland.

THE TEXAS RANGERS.

UNIQUE MOUNTED POLICE OF THE LONE STAR STATE.

Organized by Gen. Sam Houston, in 1836, They Have Fought Mexicans, Indians and Bandits—Their Great Service in the Civil War.

Few bodies of men have had more thrillingly interesting experiences than that unique and picturesque organization—the Texas Rangers. The organization of the Rangers dates back to 1836. The hardy Texans were then at war with Mexico for the freedom of the republic of Texas from Mexican rule. When the Alamo had fallen and the frightful massacre there had occurred, Gen. Sam Houston organized among the settlers in the territory a troop of 1,600 mounted riflemen. They were the original Texas rangers. They did wonders in the face of the army under Gen. Santa Ana in the battle of San Jacinto. When the republic of Texas was organized in December, 1837, the rangers were retained as a sort of standing army for the frontier of the unique republic. During the seven years before Texas was admitted as a State in the Union the rangers repelled a horde of murderous Mexican marauders from beyond the Rio Grande, fought into submission the fierce Apaches, Comanches and Kiowas dozens of times, and administered justice on a wholesale plan to a great number of the red-handed outlaws and ruffians who flocked into the new republic from all parts of the United States.

The Texas rangers became so much of an institution for the protection of life and property of the settlers and lonely ranchmen of the territory that when Texas became a State 1,200 of the rangers were retained as mounted police along the Mexican border and for holding in check the almost intractable Indian tribes of the Southwest. Until the civil war broke out the Texas rangers were kept constantly in the field. At times there were reserve

A TYPICAL TEXAS RANGER.

rangers to the number of 3,000 among the frontiersmen, who were called out many times to aid in quelling an Indian outbreak and to drive out or slay a band of Mexican marauders. After the war the rangers were gradually reduced from 1,000 to 300 men. For several years there has been no regular force in service, though the Rangers at times turn out to round up some lawless band.

There is still, however, in the office of the adjutant general of Texas at Austin a list of 1,830 equipped and experienced men who are amenable to calls for immediate duty as rangers by the Governor. The list is revised every year, and only the most hardy may serve. There is also a list of reserve rangers to the number of 6,000. The stock men and owners of the big Texas ranches all employ some men belonging to the rangers on their account.

When the civil war broke out Gen. Con Terry, an old ranger, organized the famous body of men known as Terry's Texas Rangers, composed almost entirely of former rangers and frontiersmen. They fought from Bull Run to Appomattox, and lost 75 per cent. of their muster roll. Gen. Sherman's memoirs comment upon the bravery of the rangers at Shiloh. Soon after the close of the civil war the Texas Legislature provided for calling out 1,200 rangers to protect the frontiers against hostile Indians.

In the summer of 1847 the rangers followed the Comanches, numbering over 3,000, ceaselessly for two months. Several times there were engagements of several hours' length. Then when the Comanches had been temporarily subdued the even more hostile Apaches on the west had to be attended to for three months more, but in this the United States troops were the leaders. In October a half dozen bands of Mexican bandits, who had burned, murdered and maraunded along the Rio Grande while the rangers were engaged with the Indians 300 miles away, had to be searched out amid vast stretches of arid wastes and trackless foothills and fought under all imaginable hazardous circumstances. In one week twenty-two rangers were killed by the intrenched half-breed bandits to the number of 300. Altogether the campaigning against Comanches, Apaches and marauders lasted ten months, and there was not a rest day—no time when the rangers felt secure from danger—in all those months. In that campaign of 1847 fourteen out of every 100 rangers were killed. Seventeen per cent. more were wounded by poisoned arrows and bullets, so that they became invalids for life.

A Desperate Charge.

Statistics in the office of the Adjutant General of Texas give some idea of the constant dangers and the almost constant campaigning that these hardy men have experienced along the Texan frontier. In 1852 600 rangers were engaged in a fight with over 2,000 Cherokees. The latter were intrenched near where Denison, Texas, now flourishes. Scouts reported the size of the Indian body to the rangers, and said that if a certain hill seven miles off to the left could be gained in the face of the terrible odds against such a movement the rangers would master the situation. The desperate chance was accepted. With a whoop of defiance to the Indians the Texans rode forward. Exactly 137 men fell dead in the charge. But the hill was taken and held until the United States troops came a few hours later to take the brunt of the battle.

Conditions had so far changed in Texas by the year 1889 that the rangers were no longer needed for defense against hostile Indians, as Indian raids had ceased. But the force, now reduced in numbers, was still active in the suppression of desperadoes along the border, some of them raiding Mexicans, others native products, and all more troublesome from the fact that increased vigilance on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande tended to confine the operations of such persons to Texas. The rangers made, in the years 1889-'90 579 arrests, mostly of desperate criminals, among them 76 murderers, 160 cattle thieves, and 25 robbers and burglars. Although Mexican outrages had decreased in numbers, and the Indians had entirely disappeared from the State, the rangers, from December, 1890, to November 30, 1892, made more than 900 arrests.

Any unmarried man over 18 years of age is eligible as a ranger, but it is an exceedingly difficult matter to get into the organization. Courage, physical soundness, first-class horsemanship, precision with firearms and steady habits are the requisites for membership. The term of enlistment is one year. The ranger furnishes his horse, accoutrements and arms, and the State furnishes food for the men, forage, ammunition, medicine and medical attendance. The pay of the captains is $100 a month, of sergeants $50 a month, and of privates $30 a month. The force is made up of young men, sober, well ordered, and, as a rule, fairly well educated. The rangers of to-day attend to business in the same thorough fashion as their predecessors, and in small bands of six or eight men they pursue and capture the worst desperadoes of the border counties.

Effect of an "H."

A cockney whose name was Ogton, which he, following the usage of his class, pronounced Hogtown, settled at the beginning of the present century in the city of New York, where he did business as a trader. His prefixing of the "h" was the occasion of a post-office story, which Dunlap, the author of the "History of the Arts of Design," tells.

Before the clerks of the postoffice knew Ogton, he called day after day to inquire if there were "any letters for John Hogtown."

"None, sir," was the invariable answer.

"Very strange!" said he, feeling uneasy about the goods he had ordered from England, and the bills of exchange he had remitted.

One day after the usual question, "Any letters for John Hogtown?" his eye, following the clerk, noticed that he was looking among the letters beginning with H.

"'Ollo!" cried he, "what are you looking there for? I said John Hogtown."

"I know it, sir, and I am looking for John Hogtown; and there's nothing for you."

"Nay, nay!" shouted John; "don't look among the haitches, look among the hoes." And among the O's were found a pile of letters addressed to John Ogton, which had been accumulating for many a week.

An Index of Civilization.

There is no question that diet has much to do with civilization. If life was rude and violent in early communities, the kind of food eaten and the way of eating it made it even more so. How could one gorge an ox roasted whole, carving it up with rude weapons, or even like Falstaff, on fat capons and an intolerable deal of sack, without being heavy, earthy, and probably from our point of view, noisy and libbred? The fine manners of the Elizabethan court are problematical; they certainly would not pass muster now. Food is both an index of the civilization attained and a factor in the attainment. A singular instance of both is afforded by the rapid growth of manners in Russia. Less than two centuries ago Peter the Great gnawed meat like a wild beast and drank brandy like a savage. To day the elegant method of dining "a la Russe," is admired over the civilized world.

A Big Saving.

"Yes, I'm going to save money enough at the start to insure the financial success of my extravaganza in the Philippines."

"How will you do that?"

"By leaving the ballet behind."

"But you'll need a ballet."

"Yes, and I can pick a native ballet right off the streets with absolutely no expense for costumes."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

American Locomotives.

Great Britain evidently appreciates the excellence of American machinery. A number of the great engines called Moguls are soon to be used on English freight trains.

The down of a peach is preferable to the "down" of a banana-skin.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

A REPUBLICAN ON M'KINLEY.

In paying his compliments to the President in the House of Representatives, Mr. Johnson, a Republican from Indiana, explained that it mattered not to him whether his views were popular. He was only concerned as to whether they were right. Mr. Johnson says that the leading Republican newspapers, instead of fiercely attacking Secretary of War Alger, should "lay their ax to the root of the evil and censure the gentleman who, to reward him for his political services and disbursements in the campaign of 1896, appointed him to his present position and has maintained him there ever since, notwithstanding his incompetency and against the righteous complaints that have been made against him."

With regard to the famous Boston speech, Mr. Johnson thinks it the most disingenuous that ever fell from the lips of an American President. "This address," he said, "divested of its verbiage, considered apart from its platitudes and the ostentatious profession of virtue with which it was interladen, was nothing more or less than a carefully devised and studious misstatement of the issue between the chief executive and those of his own party who are opposed to his wretched policy in the Philippines."

Having compared the President with Mr. Pecksniff, who was accustomed to roll his eyes piously to heaven and exclaim, with great ostentation, "My friends, let us be moral," and who was the father of two daughters, one of whom he named Charity and the other Mercy, Mr. Johnson addressed himself to the "open door." He said:

"What else is upon the program of these gentlemen? The open door in the Philippines, making it totally impossible forever to discriminate in tariff duties there in favor of the products of the American farm and the American shop. What is the other sacrifice that is required? That the annexation of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, absolutely sure to come at an early day, for they have registered it in their vows, shall precipitate the sugar, tobacco and hemp and other cheap products of these islands and Hawaii upon the American market in free and unrestricted competition with the agricultural and laboring elements of our own country. This policy, sir, would have been free trade in William Jennings Bryan. What is it in Mr. McKinley?"

The elaborate and exhaustive treatise of the Republican Johnson upon the life and character of the great and moral imperialist has left the Democrats but little to say. He has done their work for them and done it thoroughly and well.—New York News.

Alger Is Stubborn.

Alger says he will not resign. It does not follow that he will remain Secretary of War. Rumors of the President's dissatisfaction with Alger are prevalent at Washington and there is talk of offering the portfolio to Roosevelt. It is not at all certain that Roosevelt would accept Alger's position. The Governor of New York is ambitious and has the presidential bee buzzing loudly in his bonnet. But Alger is making a lot of trouble for McKinley and will be a great hindrance in the presidential campaign of 1900.

Alger is a stubborn man. He cares not how much trouble he makes for his friends. He heeds not the protests of the people and he will hold on to his position until he is absolutely kicked out.

Concerning the rumors of his resignation, Alger says: "The constantly recurring reports of my purpose to resign from the portfolio of the War Department are baseless. There is not a word of truth in such stories. I have no intention of resigning and will not resign. I shall serve out the remainder of my term of four years as Secretary of War. I will make the inspection trip to Cuba, which I believe to be in the interests of the Government. The details of the journey have only been tentatively arranged. I may add that no amount of newspaper comment and criticism in regard to the trip to Cuba will deter me from carrying out my plans."

These remarks may be considered as a notification by Alger to McKinley that he is not going to be shoved out of the cabinet as was Sherman. It is a declaration to both friend and foe that he is in the cabinet to stay, and that there will be a merry war when his resignation is demanded. But it looks as though Alger would have to go.

Controlling Labor's Pay.

John Locke said: "The lessening the quantity of money makes an equal quantity of it exchange for a greater quantity of any other thing." Hume said: "It is the proportion between the circulating money and the commodities in the market which determines the price." Ricardo said: "That commodities rise or fall in price in proportion to the increase or diminution of money, I presume to be a fact that is incontrovertible." Mill said: "That an increase of the quantiy of money raises prices and a diminution lowers them is the most elementary principle in the theory of currency, and without it we should have no key to any of the others." Sir Robert Giffin said: "Viewing a long period dynamically, it is beyond all question that commodities are comparatively steady (in value), and only the money changes." This is quite enough to establish the fact that the quantity of money in circulation fixes the value of labor and its products; and, as I have already shown, the Rothschilds now exercise that power in the United States. The Democratic party, in the Chicago platform, propose to place that power in the hands of the people. And they propose to do this by remonetizing silver, thus more than doubling the amount of primary money, and by retiring the bank notes and replacing them with greenbacks.

Cause of Financial Distress.

Of course, every fall in prices is not an evil. A fall which results from improved methods of production, or from improved and cheapened transportation, is a blessing and brings prosperity to producers, while it showers its blessings upon consumers. There is, however, one commodity which, when affected in its value, necessarily affects all other things in the world, in all countries, and among all civilized people to wit: money. Suppose money to be doubled in value suddenly, it would take, then, just one-half as much to buy any given article as it would have taken before the rise in its value. This rise in the value of money, then, would find its expression, its visible manifestation, in a fall of general prices to 50 per cent. of their former scale, while money would remain nominally just as it was before; and the superficial observer might think, and a modern gold bug would be sure to think, that this change in price had resulted from overproduction and improvements in methods of production and transportation, and not in the change in the value of money. The volume of money, lessening not absolutely but in proportion to the volume of trade, has of necessity continually increased the value of money; and by this hidden, unseen, and covert means, confiscation of the property of the masses for the benefit of these individuals has been, and is being, accomplished, and this condition of things must and will continue so long as the laws remain as they are now. The causes which have operated to produce the present results will continue their operations in the same line. Prices which have been in the last twenty years reduced, say 50 per cent. will in the next twenty years be reduced 50 per cent. more.—James K. Jones.

Doubtful Credit to Gold Democrats.

The Republicans in 1896 did not declare for the gold standard; they said that the gold standard must be maintained until other nations would join with us in restoring bimetallism, and then pledged themselves to do what they could to get other nations to help us to get rid of the gold standard, and if men voted that platform because the platform did not express their desires six and a half millions of people voted for independent bimetallism, thirteen and a half millions voted for the double standard and against the gold standard, and a hundred and thirty-two thousand voted for the only party that in all the history of this nation ever declared the gold standard to be a blessing; that is political history. The gold Democrats shall have either the credit or discredit, the fame or infamy, of being the only party that in twenty-three years of experience under the gold standard ever declared that that standard was good. And if you test the gold standard sentiment of th's nation by the votes received by that party, then, my friends, I want you to remember that the gold Democrats carried just one precinct in the United States, and lest you may give them too much credit, I want you to know that was a small precinct in Western Kansas, where they only had six voters, and it was not unanimous there, because, my friends, the gold ticket received three votes. Mr. McKinley received one and I received one; that was the only precinct in the United States, and I believe the papers said that in honor of that distinction that one of the gold candidates on the Presidential ticket sent to that precinct a jug of whisky, and one little jug of whisky was enough to give several drinks of wh'sky to all the gold men of the precinct. Now, you see, my friends, upon what a foundation the Republican stands when he tells you of the indorsement that the gold standard received in this country. It was not indorsed, and, as I said, as soon as the election was over Mr. McKinley recognized the mandate of the people by sending a commission to Europe to ask other nations to help us get rid of this blessing, which they describe the gold standard to be.—From W. J. Bryan's Grand Rapids speech.

Why Times Are Better.

They tell us that the times are better in this country, and after they get through telling us that times are better they tell us of the increase in exports and by the flow of money to the United States. Now, Republicans, if you are going to try to prove that the rise in prices and in prosperity based upon such a rise is due to Republican legislation, you must not admit that it is due to the increase in the volume of money—whether it comes from new gold mines or whether an increase in export of products and an increase in the importation of gold—because according to our theory, no matter where the money comes from, whether it comes from across the ocean or whether it comes out of the gold mines of the Klondike or out of the silver mines of the United States, an increase of money will make times easier and prices higher and people more prosperous. But, my friends, the difference between us and Republicans is that they praise a dear dollar to the laboring man and rejoice in higher prices to the producers of wealth, and after taking advantage of every accidental circumstance, and claiming that it grows from Republican legislation, content themselves with temporary and accidental benefits, rejecting a permanent restoration of the level of prices by the restoration of a double standard of money throughout the world.—From W. J. Bryan's Grand Rapids speech.

Reaching the Public Ear.

Doubtless it is a very grave infraction of military discipline for soldiers or officers to ventilate their military grievances in the newspapers instead of submitting them to their superiors and seeking redress in the regular and appointed way. There is something to be said, however, on the other side of the question. When the channels of communication from rank to rank are closed, or when complaints presented in due form to the proper authorities lead to no action of any sort, the aggrieved soldier or officer turns to quarters where he can secure immediate and often effective consideration. He knows that this is insubordination, and that he risks punishment more or less severe, but the original wrong is usually righted.—New York Times.

The Taxpayer Pays the Freight.

We "needed" the Hawaiian islands to "protect" the Nicaragua canal. We "need" the Nicaragua canal to give us quick access to our Hawaiian possessions. We "need" the Philippines to make the Hawaiian islands available to us as a half-way station. We "need" a cable to connect us with our Hawaiian and Philippine possessions. We "need" an army and navy to take care of these distant possessions of ours.—Terre Haute Gazette.

Disgraceful Doings at Springfield.

It is becoming apparent to the most superficial observer that all the energies of the Republicans in the Legislature are being devoted to the strengthening of the Tanner machine. The thing is so transparent that there is hardly a denial of it. The interests of the people count for nothing. There may have been Legislatures that were equally corrupt or even more so, but there has never been one that was more shameless.—Peoria Herald.

SOLDIER AND ADVENTURER.

Col. Funston, Who Led a Charge at Manila, Has Had Many Experiences.

Col. Frederick Funston, who led the three companies of the Kansas regiment in their gallant charge against the Filipinos at Manila, is one of the youngest colonels in the United States army. He is 28 years old.

Col. Funston was born in Kansas and is the son of an ex-Congressman from that State. He was graduated from the State University of Kansas, and then became a newspaper man at Fort Smith, Ark. While there he saw hard fighting during the Indian outbreaks, joining the troops on several occasions and remaining with them through a winter campaign. After leaving Fort Smith he joined a government expedition to Death Valley, in Southern California, sent out to make a geological investigation. Death Valley is said to be the most desolate waste in this country. The expedition suffered every kind of privation for nine months, in which time Colonel Funston took the record of the highest temperature ever measured by any government, which was 165 degrees Fahrenheit.

Returning from this expedition, he took a commission from the government to explore Alaska, and for two years he wandered about alone. After a rest of several months he went to Mexico and Central America on a private venture, it being his object to get options on land for coffee plantations. The project needed more financial support than he could secure in the West, and for this reason he visited New York. The support, however, was not forthcoming, and Funston became assistant secretary of the Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

The routine of this post was monotonous to him, and three months later he surprised his friends by enlisting as a private in the Cuban army. His pro-

COL. FREDERICK FUNSTON.

motion in that service was rapid. Soon he was made lieutenant, then captain, then major, and finally he was put in command of all the artillery force east of Havana. During the eighteen months he spent in Cuba he was in twenty-three battles, had his left arm mutilated by a shell, received a Mauser bullet in his left lung, and was sick of the fever for two months. Once while leading a battery to a point of vantage he had his horse shot under him. The horse rolled on Funston's right leg, crushing the thigh. His campaigning had by this time rendered him a physical wreck, and not feeling able to continue in the service he asked to be retired. His request was granted. On his way to the coast, however, he was captured by the Spanish. He was condemned to die, but later, being put on parole, escaped and came to New York.

When war was declared against Spain he was commissioned by Governor Leedy, of Kansas, as Colonel of the Twentieth Kansas Regiment. Later General Miles sent for him to take a place on his staff. Colonel Funston insisted on keeping his regiment, but he spent several weeks with General Miles at Tampa, giving him the benefit of his knowledge of Cuba. His regiment was stationed at San Francisco for two months. Six weeks before it sailed for Manila the Colonel met a beautiful young woman of high social position in Oakland, whom he married the day the transport sailed for the Philippines.

AMERICA IN HISTORY.

Things the English Schoolboy Learns About the Revolution.

The American school history has been the main bar to friendliness with England, by reason of its comments on the wars of our independence and of 1812. I was very curious when I first visited England in 1880 to see how the revolutionary war was treated in English school histories, but the only history I found, in a little village school that I visited, dismissed the matter with a mere statement that in a certain year we separated from the mother country and set up a republican form of government. The geographies paid scarcely more attention to our country, and I came away with the impression so many Americans have, that the English schoolboy is taught far less about our country than its importance should warrant. Within a month I have come across a "School History of England" for boys of what we would call high school age, and have been more than astonished at the manner in which the writer, Cunningham Geikie, treats the subjects which have so long remained open sores with us, largely, because we have supposed that the English were either willfully ignorant of the wrongs we suffered at their hands or at least were unrepentant. I found that this history, one of a well-known series of school books, condemns the policies of England's governments, at the times of our ruptures with them, more severely and in harsher language than I remember ever to have seen in an American school book. After enumerating the burdens, just and unjust, which Grenville forced upon us, the historian goes on to declare the insanity of the king and the illness of Pitt at a later date (1766). He says that the members of the government were ill fitted to take Pitt's place, and one especially, Charles Townshend, chancellor of the exchequer, "wanting in prudence and self-restraint, was destined to be the evil genius of England at this crisis."—From "Anglo-Saxon Affinities," by Julian Ralph, in Harper's Magazine.

Great Britain's Seacoast Line.

Great Britain has a longer seacoast line than any other country in Europe. It measures 2,775 miles, with Italy second, 2,472 miles. Russia ranks third and France fourth.

Beggarly Audience.

Theatrical Star (looking through the peephole)—What a beggarly audience!

Manager—That audience, sir, is composed of our best people. It's the array of empty benches that's beggarly.

Always provide for the worst—the best is able to provide for itself.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

Variations of Ratio.

It is quite true that the ratio at which gold and silver coins have circulated has varied at different periods of the world's history; but such variations have usually been slow, and have occurred at periods widely separated. Max Mueller has shown that for centuries, and extending back beyond written history, the ratio at which gold and silver was used as money in Egypt, in Babylon and in India, was from 13¼ to 14½. There was never any such disturbance in the value of the two metals in ancient or modern times as has taken place in recent years, for the reason that no such disturbing cause ever operated before as the legal debarment of one of them from monetary use and a corresponding extension of the use of the other. Such cause would at any time necessarily produce great disturbance in their relative value.

The relative value of the metals at all times must be determined by the sum of the demands upon each, as compared with the supply of each. But the chief source of demand is for money, and, consequently, the chief source of value for both gold and silver has been for money. It is impossible that the value of either should be the same with the demand limited to the arts as it would be with demand for money added to the demand for the arts; and, as there never was a time since gold and silver came into use as money when the demand for money was not the dominant demand, it follows that there never was a time when there was a "commercial ratio" independently of the money ratio. As the value of each metal at all times depends upon the demand for it for all uses, acting upon a given supply, the ratio of one to the other depends necessarily upon the relative demand for each. Whether one or both metals shall be admitted to use as money is a matter of law, and hence the demand for them for money is a demand created by law, whether statutory or derived from custom.

If, then, both metals can by law be endowed alike with the money function, so that either could be substituted for the other in all money transactions, the coining ratio at once becomes the commercial ratio. It is the money ratio, under conditions of free coinage, that makes the commercial ratio and not the commercial ratio that determines the money ratio; hence, there is no insurmountable difficulty in the way of having a money standard of two metals, leaving the supply to depend on the same general law that would govern the supply of one, if one alone were used. Indeed, the experience of ages in the use of both metals as standard money ought to be enough to settle that question as a practicable one. The question, then, of the desirability of a standard composed of two metals becomes largely one of money supply.

Currency of Banks.

All forms of currency to the extent that they receive free acceptance and general circulation by the people of a nation are factors in determining price levels in such country. But the issues of banks and bank credits, so far as they do money work and thereby temporarily advance or uphold prices, are pernicious influences in the business world. They constitute an unfailing source of panics, and are the origin of great disturbances in the commercial world, always resulting in wrecking the fortunes of those engaged in legitimate industrial pursuits, and enriching the classes that deal exclusively in money and money futures, such as mortgages and bonds.

In the domain of commerce the controlling factor is price levels. Money always seeks the market where prices are lowest. Commodities with equal certainty seek the market where prices are highest. The instinct of gain compels this movement with a regularity as unerring as the magnetic needle points to the pole of the earth.

The precious metals distribute themselves among the nations and people of the earth, automatically, through the movements of commodities to such markets as will afford the venders the largest return. Under the operation of this law each nation is said to receive its distributive share of the gold and silver of the world. Each nation's share can only be just sufficient to price its products at a point that does not admit of similar products from other nations being brought into its markets and sold at a profit, because when this can be done such nation will be compelled to yield up its gold and silver until prices are reduced to a point that will no longer yield a profit to outsiders. While prices remain at this point the nation can retain its gold and silver, having only its distributive share. Therefore, it will be seen that any form of currency receiving free acceptance and general circulation and operating to advance prices that is not a legal tender, the free acceptance and general circulation of which depend upon convertibility upon demand into legal tender money, is a delusion and a snare. Such currency aids in making a level of prices, but it is absolutely powerless to sustain the price-level after it is made.

Silver Night School Leaflets.

Campaign workers will find nothing better for explaining the 16 to 1 question that the silver night school leaflets. The cause of low prices, the misery and suffering which has followed among workingmen, the foreclosures of houses and business failures, all are shown step by step, by the familiar rules of the common school arithmetics. No campaign worker should be without a number of these leaflets to be used in his meetings.

An Alderman's Value.

An Alderman in a Western city of about three thousand inhabitants, having made arrangements to remove to another city, resigned his office.

Such a thing as the resignation of an Alderman was entirely new in the history of the place, and at the next meeting of the City Council one of the honorable members introduced a resolution, with a long preamble, setting forth the new condition of things that confronted the municipality, and providing for the calling of a special election to fill the vacancy. This was discussed with much fervor. At last the Mayor, as presiding officer, asked the City Clerk what the expense of a special election would be.

"About $18," answered the Clerk.

"Gentlemen," said his Honor, solemnly, "an Alderman isn't worth it."

And the resolution failed to pass.

If any foreign substance is swallowed which is sharp—a needle, for instance—do not give an emetic, but confine the diet to mashed potatoes for two days.