THE CLOCK.

Hear the music of the clock,
Softly ticking time;
As the water wears the rock,
So in rhythmic rhyme
Does the ticking of the clock
Seem to wear out time.

In the bustle of the day
It is scarcely heard;
Still it ticks and ticks away,
Blithe as any bird,
Careless that the sounds of day
Make its voice unheard.

But at night it speaks aloud
In the stillness deep,
When the day-time's weary crowd
Drops to realms of sleep;
Then its voice, exulting loud,
Wakes the stillness deep.

And the wakeful listener hears
Strange and serious things;
Hears the stream of flowing years
As it flows and sings—
Surgings of the future bears,
And clash of coming things!
—James Raymond Perry in Youths' Companion.

THE CRIPPLE'S SWEETHEART.

By Florence G. Reilly.

Garry Von Ritter, he laziest and most shiftless man in Farmdale, stood in Anderson's store, warming his feet at the stove. The men sitting about on the barrels eyed him expectantly. When Garry walked the three miles from his lonely, miserable cottage to the store, there was sure to be fun for the crowd there, and Garry's remarkable speeches were quoted all about the town. Now they waited, hoping that he would give them something to laugh at.

He was very tall, and so thin that his elbows literally pierced the threadbare material of his single coat, and stuck out of his sleeves, all raw and bleeding from the cold. He had a heavy, sullen face, and slouching movements.

"Well, Garry," said Anderson, the storekeeper, seeing that Von Ritter seemed disinclined to break the silence, "How's Elvina?"

"Loony," said Garry, sullenly. "Do yer know, fellers, I begin to know I made a big mistake in marryin' that girl. My old marm said as I was marryin' way beneath me, and b'gosh, I think she was right for once."

A cripple lad, sitting in a far corner of the store shifted his seat uneasily and a look of pain came into his great, soft eyes. The men laughed. Mrs. Von Ritter thinking any one "beneath" her good-for-nothing drunken son, struck them as being a rather good joke.

"Yep," repeated Garry, "she was right for once. Elvina is crazy sure—crazy as a loon. Ter see her settin' in that house of mine, with her big eyes starin' out of her white face and payin' no more attention to nothin' than a rag doll is enough ter give a feller the creeps. She don't appreciate anythin' that's done fer her. Sometimes I think she ain't a bit grateful ter me for marryin' her."

The men laughed again.

"Grateful! My Lord!" muttered Abe Hawkins, the cripple, as he clenched his thin hands and ground his teeth. He thought of little Elvina Allen as she used to be years ago, when she went to the district school. She was a pretty, gentle, simple little thing, with a frightened look about her delicate, sad little face. He, Abe Hawkins, then was strong and straight, like the other boys. She lived not far from the school, with a wretched, drunken grandfather. Many a time he had seen her walking from the tavern, with the old man leaning heavily on her shoulder, her face crimson with shame, the tears quivering on her drooped eyelashes. How his heart used to ache with pity for her and hate for the old man who made her life so unhappy for her. It was to Allen, now dead, that he owed his affliction. He had met the grandfather and Elvina on the bridge. As the little girl saw him, she stumbled, and the old man's hand had slipped from her shoulder, almost flinging him on his face. He had turned to strike the child, and Abe, springing forward to save Elvina from the blow, received it himself, and then Allen, in his drunken fury had lifted the boy and thrown him over the low bridge railing into the brook below, injuring his back and making him a cripple for life. He thought of all this now, as Elvina's husband stood there talking to a lot of idlers of the girl whom Abe had loved so devotedly when she was a little, helpless child and he a big-hearted boy, who pitied and, when he could, protected her. He did not doubt Garry's statement that she was "crazy." Her mind, never very strong, had doubtless given way beneath the suffering and privations she had undergone in the cottage of her grandfather, and later with her shiftless, brutal husband. "Poor, gentle, little Elvina!" He was awakened from his reverie by a loud laugh from the loungers.

"Trade her fer a stove!" exclaimed Anderson. "This ain't no Indian settlement, where a man can swap his wife fer a knife or a keg of liquor or any other old thing."

"Don't care," said Garry, doggedly. "I'll trade Elvina for a stove, I tell yer. I don't want a crazy wife, and I do want a stove. Italian Pete has got two stoves, and since Marie hung herself in Thompson's barn he ain't had no wife, an' if he wants Elvina, an' gives me the stove he kin have her, whether this is an Indian, or a Dutch settlement. Give me a pack of terbacker, Anderson. I've got ter be makin' tracks fer home.

"Yer ain't got no more sense of morality than a rail fence, Garry."

"I didn't ask yer anythin' about morality. Didn't say nothin' about it. What I did ask yer fer was a package of terbacker, so shet yer head, John Anderson, an' give it ter me," and seizing the package Anderson handed him, he walked out of the store, followed by Abe.

"Garry," said Abe, touching Von Ritter's arm, "Der you mean it? Will you really trade yer wife fer a stove?"

"Sure I mean it, yer grasshopper," said Garry impatiently.

"Is the stove new Pete will give you?"

"New! Pete ain't quite a fool. Why would he give me a new stove for a crazy woman? Certainly it ain't new."

"Garry," said Abe, with a great deal of suppressed eagerness, "I tell yer what I'll do. I'll give yer a bran new stove, just out of the store, if yer will let me take Elvina home to my mother. A bran new stove, and a cord of wood, and a ton of coal."

"Yer will?" said Garry. "Well, b'gosh I didn't think you was a fool as well as a cripple, but if yer mean it, I'll take the things and give her ter yer."

"When?"

"This afternoon, if yer bring the stove up."

II.

A little later Abe was sitting in the kitchen of the large Hawkins farmhouse, while his mother, a rosy, pleasant, elderly woman, sat opposite him. They had been talking of Elvina.

"Certainly, my boy," she said, "bring the poor little girl home, and I'll look after her. She has had a hard life, poor child, and I'll do my best to make her happy for the time she has to live; but all this will cause a dreadful lot of talk, Abe. I wish you could have got her from that brute in some other way."

"I wish I could have, mother," said Abe, as he kissed her. "God bless you, dear, for standing by me in this. Even if there is talk, you and I know we are doing the right thing, don't we?"

III.

It was late in the raw, chilly afternoon when Abe drove up to Von Ritter's cottage with the stove and fuel in his wagon. Garry came slouching out and proceeded to unload the wagon. It did not take him very long, and at last he walked into the cottage. Abe followed him. In the wretched, fireless room a girl was sitting, her lap full of crimson bittersweet berries. Abe remembered, as he looked at them, how they used to search for them together in the glen when they were children. She had twined some in her hair, and the ruddiness of the berries made her pale face look ghastly by contrast. Abe walked over to her side. "Viney," he whispered, "will you come with Abe?" She looked at him gravely, then slipped her thin hand into his, just as she used to years ago, and rose obediently, while he wrapped his mother's warm shawl about her.

Garry grinned as he watched them walking to the wagon, the little cripple and his slim, white-faced girl wife. "There'll be a scandal sure," he said, with a laugh, and turned and went into the house, and then added: "I'm glad ter be rid of those starin' eyes o' her's."

As they drove along the darkening road and the air got colder and damper Elvina coughed and then sank back exhausted. There was a little stain of blood on her blue lips. Abe drooped his head to hide the tears in his eyes.

"God," he prayed, "let her live a little while, just long enough to know that we aren't all brutes in this world; jus long enough, Lord, to know a little happiness! Her life has been so sad!"

IV.

Garry and Mrs. Hawkins were right—there was a scandal—and Mrs. Hawkins's and Abe's motives were misconstrued, and they were much censured by the people in the village.

"The idea," they said, "of buyin' a man's wife for a stove!"

It was the fifth day after Abe had taken Elvina from her cheerless home that the people of the village reached such a state of indignation at "the Hawkins's goin's-on" that they decided to speak to Mrs. Hawkins and express their disapproval. Accordingly that evening a deputation of five citizens knocked at the Hawkinses kitchen door. Receiving no response, they walked in. Mrs. Hawkins sat crying and the doctor stood beside her.

"I did all I could, Mrs. Hawkins," he was saying. "She was too worn out and too starved to last any longer. If she had been attended to in time her life might have been prolonged, but she was consumptive, poor child!"

The five citizens stood abashed. Abe entered the room with white, set face and trembling limbs.

"I suppose you people have come to make me send Elvina back to that brute?" he said, glancing at them. "She won't be starved or frozen or beaten any more. She is dead. Perhaps you would like to see her?"

They followed him silently into a little bedroom, and there on the bed, with a few bittersweet berries on her breast, her vacant blue eyes closed and a happy, child-like smile on her white face, lay all that remained of poor Elvina Von Ritter.

She looked very, very young and happy, too, happier than those who gazed at her so pityingly now had ever seen her look during the nineteen years of her young life—years so full of misery, pain and sorrow. They looked at her gravely for a moment, and then softly left the room.

Mrs. Hawkins followed them. "She died ramblin' along about old school times, and at last she said, 'Abe, help me up the rock. There is a lot of bittersweet growin' there,' and she put her poor hand into Abe's and closed her blue staring eyes and died. She taought she was a child again. Poor dear, she wasn't much morethan one. Only nineteen. It's better that she should die, but Abe will feel it terribly.

In the little room the cripple was kneeling beside the bed holding Elvina's hand in his. "Oh, God," he sobbed, "I thank thee that her suffering is over and that Thou did'st let her die with friendly faces round her." Then he kissed her pale forehead and whispered, "You'll never know how much I loved you, little sweetheart."—New York Mail and Express.

Destructibility of Human Bones.

Human bones are not so non-destructible as many persons suppose. The fact that they are occasionally discovered hundreds of years old proves nothing. It is the nature of their surroundings that has rendered them so long imperishable. As showing the readiness with which they disappear in salt water the draining of the Haarlem Lake by the Dutch Government has conveyed some important information. It will be recalled by persons acquainted with the history of the Netherlands that many shipwrecks and naval fights have taken place on Haarlem Lake and there many thousands found a watery grave. The canals and trenches dug to a considerable depth through the rescued land must have had an aggregate length of thousands of miles, and yet not a single human bone was exhumed from first to last. Some weapons and a few coins and one or two wrecked vessels alone rewarded the antiquaries, who watched the operations with the hope of a rich harvest. Here, as in cavern deposits and river gravels generally, works of art alone furnished evidence of the existence of man, even though no part of the deposit could be more than three hundred years old, as the lake was formed by an inundation toward the end of the sixteenth century.—New York Times.

The Ruby Mines of Ceylon.

Ceylon's great ruby mines are world famous. For a substantial consideration the obliging Singalese merchant will take a ripe European out to his precious sand heaps and dig up superior specimens for his special benefit. The foreigner is always deeply impressed and is delighted with his costly purchase until he finds out about the man in Birmingham, England, who runs a precious stone factory in connection with his glass plant. This man makes bushels of rubies of colored glass and ships them to Ceylon. There the clever natives bury them in the fabled sand mines, to be dug out under the eyes of the first foreign simpleton who comes along. Truly, there are tricks in all trades.

UNEXPLORED LANDS.

PARTS OF THE WORLD OF WHICH LITTLE IS KNOWN.

Scientists Striving to Increase Man's Knowledge of Them—In the Americas, Asia, as Well as in Africa, Are Fields for Geographical Research.

There is more geography every day. Governments, societies, committees and private individuals are busy making it to the satisfaction of themselves and the general public, school children excepted. The principal regions that as yet are unexplored are distributed pretty evenly outside of the United States and Europe. There are several in Canada, one just to the east and another just to the west of Hudson Bay, and also considerable areas up to the east and north of the Klondike country. In South America there are five large areas in the vast forest region drained by the tributaries of the Amazon, besides considerable territory in Patagonia. There are large areas of the desert of Sahara, where, as Sir Richard Burton says, "the hand of man has never set foot," and also along the upper Nile, but the rest of the continent, some nine-tenths of the whole, is no longer "dark." The unexplored part of Australia is hardly one per cent. of the whole. Greenland is pretty well known. Southern Arabia has a large piece of untraveled territory. Thibet still holds out against all attacks by white men, and in northern and in eastern Siberia there are broad expanses about which one may still imagine things. The north pole and the south pole are as unknown as can be, but assaults on them are multiplying.

The poles are particularly seductive to explorers. Their location is so definite. To get to either one means to go to the limit, an achievement that cannot be outdone. It would win more enduring fame probably than any other physical act that man is capable of. The first man at the pole will be the man of his time. Yet the practical gain for the world will not be great, even when both poles are discovered. We may then learn something new about ocean depths or land altitudes, and something about ocean currents, some meteorological observation and perhaps some astronomical measurements; hardly more than this. There is absolutely no commercial or political advantage that the most ardent expansionist can imagine. Enduring fame for the individual, but that is all.

One of the most interesting of the many expeditions now busy adding to the enlightenment of mankind and to the geographical perplexities of youth is that which left England a year ago to explore Torres Straits, Borneo, and various islands of the South Pacific. The explorers have a cinematograph, several phonographs, a half dozen cameras, besides a variety of instruments for testing the nervous organizations of the natives. There is the algometer, for measuring pain; an aethesiometer, to test the aboriginal sense of beauty; asphygmometer, for the savage pulse; Galton's whistles, for ear tests, together with drums, tuning forks and time markers for visual and auditory signals in measuring reaction time.

The Imperial Academy of Science of Vienna has sent Dr. D. H. Muller, professor Semitic languages, to Southern Arabia, with Dr. Alfred Zahn and Prof. Oskar Simony, of the Imperial Institute of Geology. King Oscar of Sweden has interested himself in this expedition. He placed the steamer Gottfried at Dr. Muller's disposal, and induced his friend, Count Karl Landsberg, the famous Swedish Arabist, to go along. The Count has lived many years on the south coast of Arabia, and has won the friendship of several of the sheiks there.

Count Zichy is hard at work in Central Asia and Siberia searching for remnants of Hungarian tribes. Johann Janko, the celebrated geologist and ethnologist, and two other scientists are in the party. They set out from Tiflis and have traveled through Omska, Tomsk, Irkuts and in the region of Lake Balkash. The Count hopes to find the records Batu Kahn seized and took home with him after his famous raid into Europe in 1241. He has not found these records yet, but writes home that he has made interesting studies of manners and customs in Urga, Mongolia and the Burrat country, where the Shamans are. He has also learned much of the Magyars and succeeded in persuading a lama to photograph Bogodo Gegen, the presiding deity in one of the great temples. At one place where the party spent some time the temperature at 5 a. m. was 30 degrees, and rose by noon to 107 degrees. Count Zichy hopes to reach Peking in October.

K. I. Bogdanovich, the geologist, is exploring the region west of Kamchatka. He has worked day after day when the spirit thermometer recorded 40 to 50 degrees, and believes he has discovered the "snow pole."

Capt. Deasy has been working from headquarters at Yarkand trying to ascend the Yarkand River. He has explored the Takal and Makan Rivers pretty thoroughly and tried to penetrate Northern Thibet, across the Kin Lun, but the absence of any vegetation and a range of snow-capped mountains have hindered him, as also did the hostility of the Amban of Kerla. So he went to Aksai Chin by way of Polu.

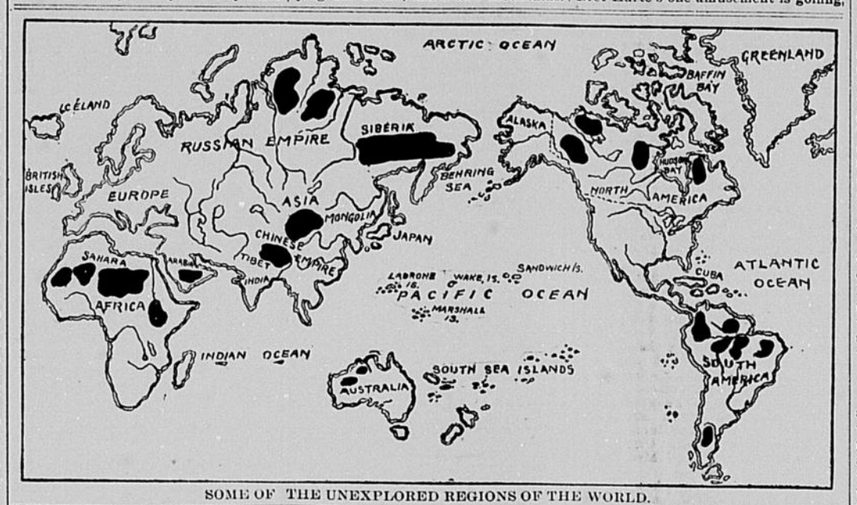
Herr Stadling has been to the delta of the Lena looking for traces of Andree, but without success. He was wrecked on an island 170 miles from the river's mouth, but some natives rescued him. He reached Anabar on a reindeer sledge and then went down Tarmyn Lake to Yenesei.

Advancing on the Poles.

Andree's ill-fated attempt to reach the pole reminds one of the project of Major Gibbons is on the Upper Zambezi; Lieutenant Lemaire and a Belgian and eight other Europeans, including Dr. Holub, are to make Lake Mivero by the Nyasa route; Dr. Passarge is in the Nagami Lake region; Captain Chatlin is taking some Belgians up to the headwaters of the Nile, and Sir John Kirk, Dr. P. L. Sclater and others are at work in Central Africa.

Prof. Paladini has gone to Lake Urmia from Tabriz to study the reported rise in the level of that body of water, which the Archbishop of Philippopolis says threatens the whole surrounding country, having already submerged villages that five years ago were ten miles from its borders.

All these expeditions are working to increase the world's knowledge of geography, mineralogy and sociology, and there are fields still open for other adventurous spirits.



SOME OF THE UNEXPLORED REGIONS OF THE WORLD.

HOW THE CENSUS IS TAKEN.

Great Army of Men and Women Who Perform This Work.

Announcement has been made that Superintendent of the Census William R. Merriam has decided to select the 300 census supervisors during the coming summer and that patriots who desire to serve their country in that capacity had better begin work on their Senators and Congressmen who control these appointments. Before the census is completed, however, there will be work for an army of nearly 50,000 men and women. Under the law of 1889, which provided for the taking of the census of 1890 and of subsequent censuses, the Census office is made a bureau in the Department of the Interior. The superintendent is given an organization consisting of a chief clerk, a disbursing officer, ten chiefs of division, and stenographers, statistical experts, and clerks enough to enable him to do his work. For the

WM. R. MERRIAM.

census of 1900 at least 3,000 clerks will be needed. This force prepares all schedules and blanks, devises methods of accounts, and gets ready for actual work in the field.

The whole country is then divided into 300 great districts, called supervisors' districts. These supervisors are appointed by the President and must be confirmed by the Senate. Under the law of 1889 each supervisor receives a sum of $125, in addition to which he gets $1 per thousand of population enumerated in thickly populated and $1.40 per thousand in thinly populated districts. This gives a sliding scale of remuneration, but no supervisor is to get less than $500. The first duty of the supervisors is to divide their supervisorss' districts into enumeration districts and report these divisions to the superintendent. The supervisors then select an enumerator for each of the smaller districts. In thickly settled communities the population of an enumerators' district should not exceed 2,500. An enumerator in such communities should complete this work in two weeks. In thinly populated districts and in the country thirty days are allowed by law. In 1890 the number of enumerators was about 42,000. In 1900 there will be many more.

Each enumerator must be a resident of his district and preference is given to men honorably discharged from the army or navy of the United States. The law of 1889 allows two cents for each name entered on the enumerator's schedule, except in sparsely settled communities, where two and one-half cents may be paid. For each name relating to a soldier's or sailor's window he gets five cents and for the facts about each death two cents. For securing the facts about each farm 15 cents is the pay and for each factory 20 cents. Where the enumerators are paid by the day $6 is the maximum.

Of course, the gathering of the names is a small part of the work of the Census bureau. Special agents are sent out to collect data on a great number of important subjects and an enormous amount of detail information is poured into the Census bureau at Washington, where it is classified and prepared for publication.

Recreation of Authors.

A very pleasant personal item that comes from across the sea states that Dr. Doyle is the most all-round representative sportsman among modern writers, though it is to cricket that he devotes most of his time. This is very true. Dr. Doyle's stock in trade is vigor. It is the continuous current of fresh air that runs through his work which more than any other quality has made it appeal to his readers everywhere; and while he is no mean adversary at billiards, or with the gloves, it is in the open that he comes into his own most conspicuously. The item goes on to say that Mr. Barrie is a fair cricketer, which we must all be glad to hear; that Mr. Lang golfs and fishes, which we have long suspected; that Bret Harte's one amusement is golfing, which has made us hopeful concerning one we have lost; that Mr. Swinburne swims when not composing, which is pleasing in view of the poet's occasional need of cooling; that Mr. Blackmore goes in for the growing of flowers and fruit; and that Mr. Hardy's recreations are chiefly confined to "arboriculture, architecture and cycling."

What Hall Caine does in his off hours we are not told, though we should very much like to know. We suspect, however, that when not actually engaged in writing, in collecting materials or in interviewing himself, Mr. Caine gets his recreation from the popular but not wholly exciting game of solitaire. There is a genial glow about the game of solitaire that suggests Mr. Caine in one of his most companionable moods—Literature.

Bench and Bar.

Irish Barrister (addressing the bench)—Your honor, I shall first absolutely prove to the jury that the prisoner could not have committed the crime with which he is charged. If that does not convince the jury I shall show that he was insane when he committed it. If that fails I shall prove an alibi.

When the late Judge Pinney was a member of the Wisconsin Supreme Court a young lawyer who was arguing his first case began: "Ancient history teaches us——" The judge, looking up from the printed brief, remarked: "Young man, just pass over the ancient and mediaeval periods and begin with the modern era." The young lawyer was put out for the nonce, but learned a lesson which has stood him in good stead ever since.

A pompous Chicago lawyer in the midst of his argument remarked: "Gentlemen of the jury, I once sat on the bench in Iowa." "Where was the judge?" inquired the opposing attorney, and the argument of the pompous gentleman went to pieces right there.

The late Right Hon. Richard Dowse, who was a baron of the Irish Court of Exchequer from 1872 till his death in 1890, was trying a case on circuit where the prisoner could only understand Irish, and accordingly an interpreter was sworn. The prisoner said something to the interpreter and the interpreter replied to him. "What does he say?" demanded the judge. "Nothing, my lord." "How dare you say that when we all heard it? Come, sir, what did he say?" "My lord, it has nothing to do with the case." "If you don't answer I shall commit you, sir. Now, what did he say?" "Well, my lord, you'll excuse me, but he said, 'Who is that old woman with the red bed curtain round her sitting up there?'" "And what did you say?" asked Mr. Baron Dowse. "I said to him: 'Whisht, my boy; that is the old fellow as is going to hang you!'"

Army Pay in 1846.

In 1846 the rates of pay in the American Army, including the money value of commutations allowed, were as follows, the amounts given being for the month: Major-General, $308; Brigadier-General, $262.50; Colonel, $174; Lieutenant Colonel, $145; Major, $129; Captain, $79.50; First Lieutenant, $69.50; Second Lieutenant, $61.50. This was the pay of infantry and artillery. The pay of officers of cavalry and staff officers was as follows: Colonel, $199; Lieutenant Colonel, $170; Major, $149; Captain, $114.50; First Lieutenant, $89.83; Second Lieutenant, $80.83. It will be observed that there has been an increase of 50 per cent. in the average pay of officers.

The life of a cloak model is a trying one.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

WHAT DEMOCRACY MAY DO.

By its bold defiance of public opinion the Republican party is rapidly paving the way for Democratic success in the next Presidential election. It is generally conceded by the shrewdest observers of political events that if a successor to McKinley had to be chosen now the Democratic candidate, no matter what financial plank he stood on, would win.

There may be a change of opinion in favor of the Republicans within the next fifteen months, of course, but if there is not, the man who will get the nomination of the next regular Democratic national convention will be elected to the Presidency. The drift of popular feelings is all that way. The people are alarmed at the rapid growth of the trusts, they are disgusted with Algerism, with imperialism and with the various other isms that Republicanism has fostered.

With this advantage, however, on their side, Democrats ought to be careful about both their candidates and their platform, and it is not too early to call attention to the necessity of harmonious action. Factional differences certainly should disappear, and William J. Bryan's remarks at Buffalo ought to be seriously studied all over the country. He struck the right note when he said that he regarded it as urgent that "every Democrat of New York should rally to the party and give assurance of his support to the next national platform, whether it will be that of 1896, pure and simple, or whether it will be that of 1896, modified or added to."

The Republican party to-day stands, as Mr. Bryan further explained in this same speech, for all the monopolistic tendencies of the times, concentrated wealth and un-American expansion, to all of which Democracy is opposed. There should, consequently, be no difficulty whatever for the party which believes in government by the masses and not by the selfish classes to present a united, unbroken front at the next Presidential election and achieve a decided victory.

As matters are to-day, only petty rivalries and squabbles can prevent the election of a Democratic President in 1900. Let the disturbers of party harmony be notified now that they are not wanted and let them be cast out. We shall be stronger without them than with them.—New York News.

Conclusive Comparison.

The American revolutionists had not a tenth part the moral justification for waging war on their king that the Filipino people would have in drawing the sword against a foreign government which had proclaimed sovereignty over them. King George, whatever his sins, did not attempt to sell our ancestors and their country to some foreign power. Samuel Adams, James Otis and Patrick Henry were not suddenly confronted with a claim of sovereignty by France, Russia or Spain. The state of civilization among the Filipinos does not affect their moral right to contest a sudden claim of sovereignty over them by the United States, any more than the lack of Parisian manners among the American colonists would have affected their right to rebel against the king of France had he claimed their allegiance after nine months' acquaintance. But the responsibility of the present attitude of the Filipinos cannot be shaken from the shoulders of William McKinley. Not only has he negotiated a treaty which transfers their country for $20,000,000 to the United States, in spite of their most emphatic and long-continued protest, but he has publicly proclaimed to them his purpose of "assimilation." If he now persists in imitating the blundering old British king in refusing to adopt a more moderate policy, and thus drive the Filipinos to a struggle against foreign conquerors, his administration will have earned a terrible retribution at the hands of the American people.—Springfield Republican.

Ideal Kind of Trust.

If the trusts and combines could be organized with a normal capitalization, if honest and capable management of them could be assured, and if their shares could be scattered among the thousands of laboring men and others interested in their business, so that their profits could be diffused, the country would have a better industrial system, even from the idealist's point of view, than could ever exist under direct government control of industries, or by any socialist scheme that could be devised, for then the incentive to thrift and industry would not be lost, while all men would have equal chances in the struggle for life in proportion to their abilities. But the obstacles to this consummation seem insuperable.—Kansas City Star.

McKinley's Trying Position.

If "influence" overshadowed Alger and Eagan when giving out army contracts, the influence found its energizing force not far from the White House, and back of it all was McKinley's ambition for another term. No one supposes that the President even so much as thought of financial gain for himself, but whatever it was that made him stick to Alger and Eagan is known to them and they are not likely to submit to having themselves shoved under a cloud of disgrace and keep silent. It certainly is true that the President finds himself in a very awkward and a very trying position.—Kansas City Times.

Roosevelt Before and After.

Like many others, Governor Roosevelt hurled academic bombs at the corporations, but when the actual test came between them and the people and there was an opportunity to do something practical he failed to place himself on the side of the people. It is easy to score great, grasping corporate combinations in an after-dinner speech or an ante-election address. It is another thing to be firm and true when there comes a crisis that compels men to reveal their real characters by compelling them to take action. As Governor Mr. Roosevelt has not fulfilled expectations.—Denver News.

Case of the Minnesotans.

The point has now been reached when appeal must be made, not to any disposition on the part of the administration at Washington to avoid the consequences of its violation of the terms of the Thirteenth Minnesota's enlistment nor to any disposition on its part to do voluntarily what it has so long delayed and avoided doing, but to the absolute constitutional principle that our citizens shall not be wrongfully restrained of their liberties by any power, State or national. We are not as yet living under an autocracy, and there is no power, civil or military, which can be allowed with impunity to infringe on these men's dearest civil rights.—St. Paul Globe.

Republican Iniquity.

The triumph of Quay and his appointment by Gov. Stone to the long fought for Senatorship is but another instance of Republican deification of all that is iniquitous in public life. Their theory seems to be that everything done outside of prison walls "goes," so long as it is successful, regardless of its merits or moral aspect. Character seems to count for naught in the Republican ranks where all men are welcome who can "get there" by hook or by crook.

Quay is a man of pleasing personality and considerable magnetism. He is loyal to those friends who assist him in political crookedness and a bitter enemy to those who oppose him. So long as he is allowed to have possession of the plum tree, he is willing to shake it liberally for his friends, who are allowed to pick up enough plums to stimulate their appetite for another shake.

Quay is the most audacious politician in America, and appears to have been born without moral bias. He stands boldly up for all that is iniquitous in public life. He is a national shame, and yet the Republican party hail with pride a man who has hopelessly debauched the politics of the great State of Pennsylvania, and who regards Legislatures and Governors as so much merchandise.

Truth About the Philippines.

The American people do not generally realize the extent of the operations in which the United States is engaged in the Philippines. It has been compared to one of our Indian wars in our Western territories, but there is no comparison except what may be found in the fact that the Filipinos are not highly civilized and that their tactics of warfare are elusive like those of the American Indians. It is really a tremendous war into which President McKinley has plunged the country, and the people are just beginning to see what they will be obliged to expend in men and money in order to satisfy the notions of "destiny" which the administration holds.—Boston Post.

New Jersey's Shame.

New Jersey does not send forth able-bodied men authorized to harass and despoil the people of other States in the Union, but she does what is quite as offensive and much more effective. She authorizes incorporated bodies to do an illegal business beyond her own borders and makes such authorization a source of large profit to her treasury. New Jersey is thus making a name for herself which must bring the blush of shame to every high-minded citizen of that State.—Philadelphia Record.

Bringing Courts Into Contempt.

The Quay jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and yet there was probably not a man on the jury who was not convinced in his own mind that Quay was guilty. This is another of those cases which tend to weaken respect for our judicial system. The people see the defendant go free, believing him guilty beyond question. They know he can command money and influence to an almost unlimited extent. They put this and that together. And who can blame them?—Indianapolis Sentinel.

A Rock Ahead of McKinley.

Sooner or later the attempt to hold and rule the Philippines as a subjugated colony must and will be given up, for time and events are sure to demonstrate to the American people its utter folly and enormous cost both in blood and treasure. The sooner President McKinley begins to study the problem of how to unload his Philippine policy the better it will be for him. For unless he shall get rid of it betimes it is sure to break his political neck.—Grand Rapids Democrat.

Some Tariff Queries.

If we can compete with "pauper-made" goods in the countries having the "pauper labor" why should we be afraid of the competition of "pauper-made" goods right here at home? If we can pay the freight for 6,000 miles and undersell the "pauper-made" goods how can "pauper-made" goods travel 6,000 miles and undersell us? Can two bodies of equal size ocupy the same space?—Omaha World-Herald.

Poor Work for American Soldiers.

Pursuing almost helpless savages through the jungle, burning their villages and killing every man, woman and child to be relieved of the burden of caring for prisoners, is very much different from charging up San Juan hill against a trained foe. That's the reason that there are no crowds around the bulletin boards now, eager for the latest news from Manila, as there were last summer when we were fighting the Spanish.—Utica Observer.

Dark Spots in a Bad Record.

When the Republicans went into power their platform promised the reform of the currency. What steps have been taken to keep this promise? In what way has there been any reform? What has become of this impulse, anyhow? With war scandals to apologize for and responsibility for the trusts to be assumed and broken promises to be explained it would seem that the Republicans have no easy sailing.—Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

McKinley Not a Free Agent.

It is hinted that the President would like to retrace his steps, even to the abandonment of the Philippine Islands, but the syndicates that are planning to secure the millions of acres of highly productive agricultural lands, the mountains' minerals and the forests of valuable woods will permit no backdown from the original policy of treating the natives as the Indians were treated in this country.—Kansas City Times.

Mistake of a Much-Worried Man.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Mr. McKinley says that many opportunities are awaiting young men, but perhaps what he meant to say was that many young men are awaiting opportunities. A President with so much on his mind may occasionally get things "wrong end to."

Revise the Declaration.

If we want to carry out President McKinley's policy of "benevolent assimilation" all copies of the Declaration of Independence should be edited by the press censor before being admitted to the Philippines.—Buffalo Times.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

London Letter.

William Fowler of London writes: I leave for the moment the Indian aspect of the scheme proposed by the Indian Government, and the "money murder" involved in it, and the strange indifference shown by Government to the interests of the multitude of holders of silver in India, and to the agonies of the money markets there. I desire to call attention to the importance of the scheme to all English investors. The proposal involves handing over the control of about two-thirds of our gold reserve at the bank to a body of officials in Calcutta, and to this I object most strongly. At first they ask for £5,000,000, but they ask for power to draw £15,000,000 more when required—to say nothing of even further demands. The export of £5,000,000 at this moment might have very serious consequences. It seems to be forgotten that the purchase of the wheat which we require this year may cost us from £20,000,000 to £30,000,000 more than the same import would have cost us two years ago. Thus, whether we will or not, we are face to face with an enormous additional claim on our resources, and one which will give increased power over our gold to our cousins across the Atlantic, whose needs may be greatly enhanced by the war on which they have entered. Moreover, the tendency to higher prices is not confined to corn, and business at home makes greater demands on our resources. On every side there are political complications and uncertainties, and our relations with nations all over the world are so intimate that special demands may arise at almost any moment. As I write Japan holds a very large deposit at the bank which helps to swell the figures of the last return, and any day she may require money, and may take it in gold. I mention this merely as an illustration which shows how necessary it is to retain our hold on our gold, and not to give power over it to others. Already 4 per cent has depressed the values of the best securities, and this fall must continue, if we are to have a permanent advance in the bank rate and in the charge made for loans on the stock exchange. It seems to me, therefore, that every holder of securities is interested in avoiding any engagement which must seriously affect our gold reserve, not in the regular course of business, but as a certain consequence of a mere experiment, the results of which are extremely uncertain, and are, in the opinion of many experts, more likely to injure than to help the people of India. Taking the whole situation into view, I am confident that the greatest care is required in order to avoid alarm and panic in our own country. The action of the Government of India in 1893 has caused something like a panic there, and it behooves us to take care that we are not led away by official theories into the adoption of any scheme which may result in repeating in the center of the empire a disturbance which has caused so serious trouble in Calcutta and Bombay.

The Silver Standard in Mexico.

We consider the silver standard a blessing for this country, and we do not prefer the gold standard for Mexico. We do, however, prefer it for the United States, for the reason that our interests and our welfare are now bound up in this republic, and it is to the interests of Mexico that the United States continue on its present basis. The advantage which otherwise might accrue to that country now is commencing to come to this. While the one is standing still, or retrogressing, the other is forging ahead at a most tremendous pace; and that progress, though it might not be altogether stopped, would receive a serious check were the United States to make a change in its monetary system. We formed our faith upon what appears to us to be substantial reasons. We consider the silver standard a blessing for Mexico because:

It is furnishing a currency which is not constantly appreciating in value, to the detriment of all other forms of wealth.

It is furnishing a currency which cannot be cornered, manipulated and controlled by the few to the injury of the many.

It is enabling the producing classes of the republic to realize from their products more than the cost of production.

It is setting in motion the wheels of progress, and attracting to this country, by reason of the immense advantage afforded by the difference in exchange, the idle capital of the gold standard countries.

It is the main and paramount cause in "The Awakening of the Nation;" in enabling her to take on new life and activity; in overcoming the effects of ages of oppression, strife and turmoil; in taking her stand on an equality with the nations of the modern world; in short, it is the mainspring which is setting in motion the other workings. And there are other reasons.—The Two Republics (Mexican).

The Trust Prospect.

That the trust business is being overdone is evident from the apprehensive tone of a New York paper, which for several years has maintained that trusts are philanthropic institutions, conducted wholly in the interest of the public. This newspaper now intimates that it is possible to have too much of a good thing, and advises the trust promoters to give over their activity for the present. The warning comes none too soon. A smash is about due in some of the highly watered "industrials," which have growing competition to face. But the concerns which will collapse are precisely the ones which did no harm, because they are not monopolies. The real ironclad trusts of the Standard Oil variety are in no danger from competition, nor do they fear the law, as we have seen in Ohio and New York. In other words, a trust which does not enjoy a substantial monopoly is perfectly safe. It may rob right and left without fear of competitors, or of Griggs, Attorney General. The little fellow will get the worst of it, as usual.

An Era of Experiments.

It is evident that great changes are taking place in the minds of the people of large cities and it looks very much as if the majority of the voters in several big centers of trade and industry had decided to go into the trust business, so to speak, in behalf of the whole body politic instead of a few promoters and capitalists. There may be reactions, of course, but the indications are that the country will see some surprising object lessons and experiments within the next few years.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.