The Democrat.

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers.

MANCHESTER, - - IOWA.

Jet jewelry is again in fashion. Is this a result of the coon song craze?

The small boy will be pleased to note that the whip trust intends to advance prices.

Having got the whole earth the trusts have invaded the sea. A sardine trust has been formed.

A point of resemblance between a cat and a statesman on the fence is its not being known how the cat is going to jump.

While the census may not show how much religion is used as a cloak, there is no doubt that church-going is often a matter of habit.

So many nations wanting big navies may work such a repetition of history that as in Noah's day the whole world may depend on a boat.

There is no need of snarling and abuse over this isthmian canal. Let the dirt and mud slinging commence with its being dug out.

The butler of Howard Gould created a disturbance at a private dinner. Thus is the young millionaire face to face with the servant-man problem.

It's not a fair use of logic for the sports to argue that big prize fights are in the line of more mills starting and furnishing additional work for the hands.

The editor who fell into a bath tub and died from the shock has given a thrown more explanatory work onto the shoulders of the advocates of sanitation.

The comic valentine freak has had his day for this year, but the fellow who doesn't know his revolver is loaded will continue doing business at the old stand.

A poet sighs: "How fine if our own days revealed just one Will Shakspeare now!" We wouldn't know it if we had one. It takes people hundreds of years to find out the greatness of a Shakspeare.

"Janice Meredith," "When Knighthood Was in Flower," "David Harum," "Richard Carvel," "Hugh Wynne," and the "Hon. Peter Sterling" are to make their appearance on the stage. Surely the craze for the dramatization of popular books will be overdone.

Filial love and devotion is well illustrated in the case of Samuel Jacobs in New York. In order to free her father from an unjust sentence Minnie Jacobs unraveled a crime that was too much for the police and secured the promise of his pardon. Now would seem to be the time for the authorities to rise and explain.

South Carolina has often led Southern sentiment. It was a pattern State last year in one particular of great moment. The Governor says, in his message, that there was no mob violence in the State during the previous twelvemonth, and he congratulates one county on a legal trial and execution for a crime which "usually results in summary justice."

Some of the American Indians are very rich. The Osages, for instance, number about 500, and are said to be worth, on conservative property valuation, $14,000 per head. Most of this is in money in the hands of the Federal Government, on which they receive interest quarterly amounting to several hundred dollars per capita per annum. Of course, they don't work—at least, not to hurt.

One man has come to grief in court because he tickled his wife's feet just to get her to laughing in order to make home more happy. Another man has also got into trouble because he spanked his wife just to get her to behave herself in order to make home pure. It's evident the men will have to band themselves together in a home rule party and get the laws reformed, or all other rights will soon be trampled upon.

Investors do not seek for just securities, however large dividends they pay. The common stock of the Sugar Trust has ranged from 70 to 170. Had it been regarded as a reliable 12 per cent dividend-paying stock it would have sold for over 200, if not 300, but its current quotations show a lack of public confidence in the combination. The American Steel and Wire Trust has recently declared a dividend of 7 per cent on its common stock, but it is still selling at 60 and below. A railroad stock paying 7 per cent annually would be worth 150. Thus it appears that trusts are regarded with suspicion by investors.

The man with a gun is a type of crude society, where the law of the individual and the law of force combine to produce desperate conditions. The man without a gun is a type of an advanced state, in which statutory law combines with tolerance and justice to invoke respect for personal rights and for the processes of government. When this lesson shall have been learned to the full by such communities as Kentucky, they will make a stride forward toward progressive culture. And there are many missionaries in Kentucky for this great reform, men who do not carry guns, who have never done so, and who have lived long and peacefully in token of the respect which armed men pay to the real courage of physical helplessness.

This question, which a subscriber asks, has probably puzzled many other persons. There is no Vice President of the United States. When Vice President Hobart died, the office became vacant, and will remain so until March 4, next year. But the succession to the Presidency is carefully provided for. If President McKinley should die, the Secretary of State, whoever he may be, will, if eligible to the Presidency, at once qualify as President. If for any reason the office of Secretary of State should be vacant in such an emergency, or its incumbent should be as yet unconfirmed by the Senate, or under impeachment, or not constitutionally eligible to election as President, the succession would pass to the Secretary of the Treasury, and so on through the cabinet in an appointed order. Prior to 1886, when the present law regulating the succession was passed, the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives were next in order of succession to the Presidency. The existing system is much the better of the two, inasmuch as the members of the cabinet are always of the same party as the President, while the presiding officers of Congress frequently are of another party. It is no longer possible, as it used to be, for the party character of the administration to be changed by the death of the elected President and Vice President.

The Chicago Tribune is led to inquire: "Have men any rights?" There are women who say the men have all the rights, and that they have slight sense of justice. But this Chicago newspaper, which certainly represents the thought of some men, speaks of "the rapid advance of woman in these closing days of the century and the desperate but apparently ineffectual efforts of man to hold his ground and keep himself from being swept off his feet by the female onrush." You see so much depends upon the point of view. There are men, equally with the women, who think they are losing all their rights, and who are disposed, in consequence, to remember the parting century with more or less contempt. The women are getting so wretchedly independent. The time was when they would put beefsteak on their own eyes and never once think of the divorce court, but that happy time seems to be passed. The habit women have got into of earning their own living is subtracting vastly from the sum of domestic happiness. Sex no longer determines who is the head of the house, and the number of men who at home are ashamed of their trousers is annually multiplying. Who can tell what all this is to result in? There cannot be two supreme powers, of course. The women see that the supremacy of man is departing, and the men are becoming more and more conscious of their retrogression, and yet the men seem to have no power in them to retake the kops. The men simply cling to the ancient faith, and in argument point to the Scriptures, and when the Scriptures fail them they show their hands, the size of which cannot be disputed. But the women have the power to turn up their noses, and a way of asking the men to step aside and permit them to pass that is not easy to describe in words alone. The men are left by the way, quite helpless, and only conscious that there is a stream of women going by them. The men have made a botch of everything, because they have thought more of the grip they had upon the throat of somebody than of the grip they had on the heart of anybody. The time is near, they say, when mere brute force is no more to have the mastery, and they have come to associate men with the brutes to that extent that they do not hesitate to speak about it in the family. These women say that love is to rule, and from mere force of example they sometimes shake their fists in a way that makes the men upright for the instant. Wonderful age of revolution this is; and yet there are women who complain bitterly over the slow progress of events. A girl baby these days may well be a pride; but a boy!—a father's heart may well sink within him.

GENERAL WARREN.

Has Had an Extended Experience in South African Warfare.

A strong man and an accomplished soldier, Sir Charles Warren has had a more extended experience of South African warfare than any of the divisional generals already appointed, and his conduct of the Bechuanaland expedition of 1884-85 was conspicuously successful. A Royal Engineer of close upon forty-two years' standing, Sir Charles Warren did not see active service until 1877, when, after serving for

SIR CHARLES WARREN.

a year as a boundary commissioner in Griqualand West, he was given the command first of the Diamond Fields Horse and subsequently of the Field Force in the Griqua and Bechuana campaigns of 1879. Here he saw a great deal of "rough-and-tumble" fighting and emerged with several mentions in dispatches and a brevet lieutenant colonelcy. In the Egyptian expedition of 1882 Sir Charles was employed on special service among the Beduin in connection with the murder of Prof. Palmer—a duty for which his previous experience in Palestine exploration was a useful qualification. In 1884-85 he led the Bechuanaland expedition, having under him, as commander of "Methuen's Horse," the officer now in charge of Sir Redvers Buller's First infantry division. In 1886 Sir Charles commanded at Suakim, and from 1886-88 he was chief commissioner of the Metropolitan police. From 1888-94 he was in the Straits Settlements as colonel on the staff, and subsequently as brigadier general. In 1895 he was appointed to the command of the Thames district, which he relinquished in September of last year.

A Sympathetic Princess.

The following story about the Archduchess Valerie of Austria is told by the Vienna correspondent of the London Morning Post: A short time ago a 13-year-old schoolboy was summoned home from his boarding school at Linz. The lad was without traveling companions, and, while waiting on the platform at Linz, began to cry bitterly. His distress was noticed by a lady in a first-class compartment, who summoned the guard and had the boy brought to her. She paid his excess fare for traveling first class, and devoted herself to the task of comforting him and relieving the tedium of the long journey to Vienna, to attend his father's funeral in Vienna, telling him that she, too, had suffered much from the loss of a parent, who had died suddenly and unexpectedly in a foreign land. The schoolboy was not a little astonished at the end of the journey to learn that the kind-hearted lady was the Archduchess Valerie, daughter of the Emperor.

Winks—Your friend Jones is one of the finest pianists I ever heard. Why doesn't he go on the stage? Minks—Wouldn't pay. His name is too easy to pronounce.—New York Weekly.

AGRICULTURAL

Judging Seed Corn.

At the University of Illinois the students were tested in judging several varieties of corn according to the standard adopted by the Illinois Corn Growers' Association. As many people have never seen corn judged in that way, though they may have seen it exhibited and premiums awarded at the county or town fairs, we will give the various points to be considered and their value. The standard of perfection demands that the ear shall be 10 inches long, 7½ inches in circumference, and have 90 per cent. of grain to cob. The scale of points as follows: Uniformity of ears in samples shows five points, shape 10, color of corn and cob 10, ripeness 5, filling out at ends 15, perfection and uniformity of grain 8, length of ear 10, circumference of ear 5, space between rows 10, per cent. of grain 22, in a total of 100 points. Perhaps we could not frame a better scale of points, though the late Dr. E. L. Sturtevant taught us to attach much importance to the uniform color and shape of grain, and but little to length and circumference of ear. See if you can select seed corn next year that will score well by this scale of points.—American Cultivator.

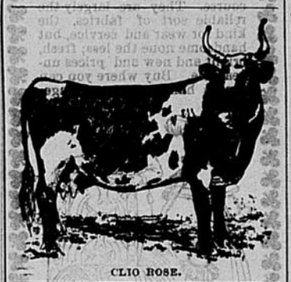
Seedless Fruit.

L. H. Callaway, of Bethel, Ill., has been growing seedless persimmons for several years, the quality of which he says is good. Further, he says: "For many years horticulturists have sought—but have found it not—a seedless persimmon. I have found one which is practically seedless. Rarely a specimen can be found containing one seed and very rarely a specimen containing two seeds, but most of the fruit is absolutely seedless." If there are seedless persimmons, why not have seedless apples, peaches and plums—and cherries, damsons, and, in short, all kinds of fruit? There are seedless oranges, and certain kinds of apples have but few seeds.

Pomological experimentation and genius may yet perfect seedless fruit of several kinds—an accomplishment that would greatly please the ladies who seed the cherries and plums. There is practically no use for seeds of a great many kinds of fruit, since all the trees are made by grafting and budding, and who knows that nature long since of her own accord furnished seedless fruit in order to show man what is possible?—Farmer's Voice.

Ayrshire Cow.

The cut, reproduced from the Rural New Yorker, shows the Ayrshire cow, Clio Rose, 7525, the property of C. M. Winslow & Son, of Brandon, Vt. This cow is fifteen years old this spring and is said to be still hearty and strong, and up to her average milk last year. She has never been the heaviest milker, but a very persistent one, having



CLIO ROSE.

never been dry since her first calf, always giving a fair yield of milk of high quality. Since her first calf she had given 89,424 pounds of milk to Jan. 1 last. She has won a good many prizes at fairs, both in the show ring and in butter-fat contests. Her largest yield for any one year was 8,445 pounds of milk and 441 pounds of butter.

The Manila Pig.

One of the curious sights to an American visiting the Chinese and native quarters is the ever present pig, but, as pigs are not allowed at large, they have an ingenious method of tying the pigs by the ears. They cut a small hole through the pig's ear, one-half to an inch in diameter. Through this hole they insert a rope, with a large knot on one end. This rope securely confines the pig's liberty about the premises. The same sights are seen often on the native boats, and even on the swell steam launches plying on Manila Bay. Transporting pigs through the streets of Manila always attracts a crowd, although the sight is common. The legs of the pig are tied together securely, and the pig is then suspended on a long pole resting on the shoulders of native carriers. The pig, with his legs up and head down, makes about as much noise while in transit as the pig under a gate in Missouri, and never fails to hold the crowd.—Manila Freedom.

Food for Hens.

Every farmer knows that when a mild spell of weather occurs in the winter the hens begin to lay, and then cease when the temperature is low. This fact demonstrates that warmth has much influence on laying, and that warm quarters are essential to egg production. When the hens can go on the fields in the spring and forage they secure a large amount of insect food. During the winter a substitute for such foods may be allowed in the form of cut bone, ground meat, fresh meat and a change of grains. Corn and wheat make excellent foods during cold weather, but a variety of foods must be given in order to have the hens produce eggs.

To Tan Skins with the Hair On.

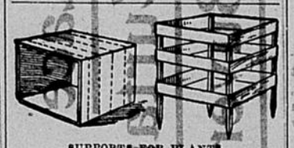
A subscriber, who omits both name and address, asks us to give a method by which he may tan skins and pelts without removing the fur or hair. There are several methods, more or less complex, for the purpose, but the following will be found simple and efficacious: "Take a spoonful of alum and two of saltpeter; pulverize and mix well together, then sprinkle the powder on the flesh side of the skin, and lay the two flesh sides together, leaving the wool outside. Then fold up the skin as tight as you can and hang it in a dry place. In two or three days, or as soon as it is dry, take it down and scrape it with a blunt knife, till clean and supple. This completes the process, and makes you a most excellent saddle cover. If when you kill your mutton, you treat the skins this way, you can get more for them from the saddler than you can get for the wool and skin separately disposed otherwise. Other skins which you desire to cure with the fur or hair on may be treated in the same way."—Journal of Agriculture.

Raising Cotton.

A cotton grower tells about his success this year. When he was laying by, or giving the crop the last cultivation, he drilled peas between rows on a part of his field. The peas grew and made a fine crop. Instead of injuring the cotton, the part where the peas were planted was a much better crop; and now to crown the success with his pea crop experiment he is fattening his Poland China pigs on the peas in his cotton field. His land is, of course, much improved for the next crop, for there is no better improver for land than field peas. No grain is better than half-ripe peas for hogs. Now if a 500-pound bale of cotton, worth $30, is raised per acre and pigs fattened on the same ground and the land improved, is not this a plan to make cotton raising profitable?—Farmers' Voice.

Plant Supports.

These should be made in the winter, that they may be ready when needed. Knock out the bottoms from grocery boxes and saw them through again and again, as suggested in the dotted lines. All that then remains is to nail in the



SUPPORTS FOR PLANTS.

corners the pointed stakes that hold up the rails. Nothing better can be devised for tomatoes than supports made in this way. The same kind of supports are also exceedingly useful for putting about rose bushes or small shrubs that one may be starting upon the lawn. Such small growths need this protection until they are big enough to look out for themselves.

Profitable Skill.

If the dairyman is a skillful farmer, he can so manage his cows that they become fresh in August or September. Then he can give the calves (raised by hand, of course) a good start with new milk, and in a week or two after the cows come fresh he can begin to make butter—that is to say, when he cannot make it more profitable than to sell milk. If he can sell milk at fair prices, he saves labor and time, and that is money. Dairy products in the United States bring more money, according to verified statistics, than raising cereals, including corn and other grains to feed cattle and swine. Only the product of the domestic hen brings more cash than dairying.—St. Louis Republic.

Renovating Sod Land.

Sod land that was plowed last fall will cause considerable trouble this spring if it is not properly turned over—that is, if the sod was not completely inverted. It should be plowed again in the spring and then worked well with a disc harrow. The disc harrow should be used again just before corn is planted. Unless the grass has been destroyed there will be sufficient growth on some fields to injure the young corn. The best mode of renovating sod land is to plow the land in July and seed it to Hungarian grass, which will kill out the natural grass. The field can then be plowed in October, or sooner, if preferred.

Mutton vs. Wool.

It is claimed that mutton at 5 cents per pound will pay better than wool at 35 cents. Such claim depends upon conditions. A good merino will pay more in wool than can be derived from common sheep, while a breed of mutton sheep will give a greater profit than can be derived from sheep that are not bred with an object to be attained. Farmers who keep sheep also make a profit in the manure and in the utilization of the waste materials consumed, but sheep require feeding as well as other stock, and should not be expected to seek their food entirely at any season of the year.

When to Spread Manure.

All the manure that is being leached every time it rains or the snow melts is greatly deteriorating, until by spring, when it is to be hauled out and spread, it will have about half or two-thirds its proper value as a fertilizer. The most valuable constituent of it, the nitrogen, is the part which is being most largely wasted. Authorities agree that manure is best conserved and most profitable to the land when hauled out immediately. If it is very strawy and contains but little excrement, it should be composted, but then it will not do so much leaching.—Farm Journal.

Wheat in Spring.

If the wheat does not look well after spring opens apply 100 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre, and the effect will be noticed immediately. Nitrate of soda always gives good results on wheat if applied in the spring, and many crops have been saved by its use. The cost of the nitrate should not exceed $2.50 per acre, and the increase of straw and grain will not only pay for its use, but leave a profit as well. Should the frost throw some of the wheat plants up use the roller as soon as it can be done.

Killing Insects.

The fruit grower who expects to have fair crops of fruit must begin with the use of insecticides early. He must not delay too late into the spring, as the first spraying is sometimes the most important of all. Paris green will not destroy the enemies that live on sap nor will kerosene injure those that feed upon the leaves. In using remedies, therefore, it must be done with an object in view and with a knowledge of the habits of the parasite or insect to be destroyed.

Up in Canada the bears are so thick that they would have destroyed all the deer had it not been for the great crop of blueberries, which made the bruins so fat that they were not able to run. It is thus that matters are evened up in the world.

If G. Washington was never asked by a fond mother what he thought of her cute baby, then it may be true that he never told a lie.

HELIOGRAPH IN WAR.

MESSAGES SENT BY A SYSTEM OF SUN FLASHING.

Little Instrument of Ancient Invention Has Played an Important Part in the South African War—Used by General Miles in Indian Campaigns.

The heliotrope, or heliograph, has played an important part in the South African war. With this little instrument the light of the sun is used to convey intelligence to points far distant. Communication between places many miles apart can be set up by its use. The mirror used has a small eyehole cut into the quicksilver, through which the distant station is located. The mirror disk is turned by means of a Morse key, and in answering the key a dot or a dash, in the way of a long or short

U. S. ARMY HELIOGRAPH CORPS.

flash, is sent out. These flashes are read by the person at the receiving end with the case of a telegraph operator taking a message. The heliograph was invented in 1821 by Gauss, who used it as a signal in the measurement of angles. The longer the line the larger must be the disk. The longest line thus far observed is 192 miles, which was observed in California, and required a mirror of seventy-seven square inches in area. Ordinary heliotropes used on lines less than fifty miles in length are only about two square inches in area. For its successful operation clear atmosphere is necessary. Two hours before sunset is the most favorable time.

The military value of the heliographic method of transmitting information may be readily imagined. Its first advantage is its extreme simplicity. It does not necessitate the keeping open of lines of communication, there are no wires to protect, no batteries to look after and no burdensome apparatus to carry about.

The Indians of America, like the old warriors of the Scotch highlands, realized the importance of signal fires in war time and made use of a code of fire flashes; but it was not until 1822 that Colonel Colby of the British Royal engineers devised a more adequate system for transmitting messages by sun flashes. His method of doing this was by nailing a certain number of pieces of bright tin on poles and exposing them to the sun's rays. Some time later this was improved on by the adoption of a plain mirror. In 1833 an English officer at Gibraltar used an ordinary looking glass to reflect flashes across the strait to Tangier, thereby carrying on a long distance conversation with other English officers in Africa.

This mirror system was experimented with and improved upon until the year 1878, when the United States government purchased the latest models and began the instruction of a special signal corps in heliography. The military value of such sun writing was well known when, in 1886, General Miles began his Indian campaign against Geronimo. If the truth were only known, it was the heliograph more than anything else that led to the rounding up and capture of the famous, blood-drinking red man. One can imagine the surprise of the Indians when they found that they could not move without the fact being known to the Americans and the movement mysteriously anticipated. Signal parties, in fact, were flashing hourly information from mountain peak to mountain peak, and the Indian warrior's headquarters were always known at Miles' camp. Through the use of the heliograph Geronimo was kept away from water by rapidly stationed and mobile bands of troops and was finally parched into submission.

The English army had already been making use of the heliograph in Afghanistan, and during the Boer war of twenty years made effective use of the Mance heliographic apparatus. The great service this means of communication has been to the different British commanders besieged by the Boersin the present South African was is very well known.

The field heliograph apparatus, as used to-day, consists of a sole leather pouch containing a sun mirror and a station mirror, a small screen or shutter, a sighting rod and two small tripod stands for the mirrors. The entire apparatus does not weigh over ten pounds and can easily be carried over the arm. When the air is clear, signals may be easily taken by the naked eye at a distance of 100 miles, and by an expert at the rate of fifteen words a minute.

USE OF THE HELIOGRAPH IN SOUTH AFRICA.

HIS IDEAL WOMAN.

Not So Much of an Angel as a Sympathetic, All-Forgiving Human.

"Man has a number of fixed, old-fashioned notions about the ideal woman which are quite apart from questions of complexion and dress," writes Carrie E. Garrett in the Woman's Home Companion.

"The sober truth is that while men may seek diversion with the more showy, flippant type of girl, and are often caught by mere glitter, they have an ideal far, far above this cheap type which is imperishable. A man does not picture a completely limp and characterless creature as his soul's ideal, however 'sweet.' Yet the woman as she appears in his dreams is not too clever. It is a pleasure to him to be a little superior to his mate—to be 'looked up to'—and as the true woman desires to [illegible] and it is clear that Nature's arrangements in these matters are not without design. The most charming woman of all is she who has the consummate wit to seem to 'look up' when really she stands on a level with the man who loves her, or perchance a little above him.

One thing imperatively demanded in the make-up of the ideal woman is sympathy—that all-divining, all-forgiving quality which makes the whole world akin. Sympathy is one of the prime factors of charm. So is humor. A man is fearfully lonesome when his wife cannot see his jokes. She could hardly offer him a more deadly affront than to laugh in the wrong place at one of his pet stories. The ideal woman is religious—has the wise, sweet, old-fashioned notions about right and wrong. A man is quite capable of making merry over his wife's scruples of conscience, but I think he would be rather disappointed if she had no scruples—if in his worldly way she was guided chiefly by expediency. He may not say many prayers himself, but he likes to know that his children pray at their mother's knee. Perhaps he sometimes reflects that the nightly petition from innocent lips, "God bless father," may not be quite empty of meaning."

How a Duke Earned Sixpence.

How the Duke of Norfolk, one of the richest of England's peers, earned his first sixpence is related by his friends with a great deal of gusto.

A few years ago a large English party headed by the Duke went on a continental tour. The Duke busied himself very much on the journey in a kind-hearted way about the welfare of everyone in the party. At every station he used to get out and go round to see if he could do anything for anyone. One old lady, who did not know him when she arrived at last in Rome, tired and hot, found great difficulty in getting a porter. So she seized on the Duke. "Now, my good man," she said, "I've noticed you at all these stations loafing about. Just make yourself for once in your life. Take my bag and find me a cab." The Duke mildly did as he was bid and was rewarded with a sixpence. "Thank you, madam," he said; "I shall prize this indeed! It is the first coin I have ever earned in my life."

Useful Caterpillars.

It is now said that the cocoon of the tent caterpillar can be carded, if not reeled. The tent caterpillar is the great pest of the apple tree, and it may be that the apple tree will take the place of the mulberry tree as food for the silk worms. It is estimated that an average tree will support ten or twelve tents of caterpillars, yielding 3,000 makers of silk, and representing a yield of three pounds of silk, worth $1 per pound. It is further said that with proper appliances attached to the trunks of the trees for the worms to spin their cocoons in, not much time would be expended in gathering the product, which would equal the apple proceeds of a tree at 75 cents a barrel. However, the worms might be improved so as to produce a finer grade of silk, and in the end the result would be that the silk would be more profitable than the apple.

How Far Noises Travel.

When the alkali works at St. Helens, England, were blown up by the explosion of eighty tons of chlorate of potash, the noise was heard at Marple, twenty-eight miles away. At the battle of Corunna 1,500 barrels of gunpowder blew up, causing the ground to rock for miles. The blast at Hell Gate, New York, 130 tons of dynamite, was perceived 183 miles away by the vibrations of mercury. The shock of the dynamite explosion, fifty tons, at Johannesburg was felt at Pretoria, thirty-three miles distant. The naval magazine of Lagonban, Toulon, was heard at Nice, eighty-four miles distant, and even at Ventimiglia, in Italy, 100 miles distant. The country for a radius of nearly two miles was blown bare, houses knocked to pieces and trees uprooted or bent into fantastic shapes.

Paid Duty on a Mouse.

Uncle Sam is a stern stickler for form and the amount of red tape employed in the custom house is really remarkable. It was demonstrated the other day that not even a tiny mouse can creep into our domains from foreign shores without paying duty. A gentleman returning from Europe brought with him to Philadelphia a pet white mouse, of which he had grown very fond. His "mouselets" was assessed at 20 per cent., which so enraged the owner that he vigorously protested. This case was appealed and, the board of classification of general appraisers, after mature deliberation in solemn conclave, handed down a decision in which the protest was overruled.

Queen Victoria's Three Crowns.

Queen Victoria has three crowns, none of which is used except on extraordinary occasions. The crown which she wore in the last grand reception weighs eight ounces. It is of pure gold and set with 2,673 diamonds and with 523 rubies. The other two crowns are simple bands of gold, each set with gorgeous jewels. It is one of these latter crowns which is worn when the Queen opens Parliament. When she appears in the House of Lords the large crown is taken from its place among the crown jewels in the tower of London and borne on a velvet cushion behind of the Queen.

Domination of Latin Races.

One leading result of the struggle for supremacy among the Western nations has been the gradual ascendency of the Anglican, Teutonic and Scandinavian over the Latin races.

Dublin an Unhealthy City.

Dublin has the unhappy prominence of being at present the most unhealthy city in the United Kingdom.

The idea of bravery and unexampled heroism is for a poor preacher to differ in opinion with the most generous contributor of his dock.

Anarchists say that marriage and the [illegible] both double people up, but, fortunately, the cult is only temporary.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

HIGH-HANDED USURPATION.

Mr. McKinley is using his executive office to further an imperial form of government, independent of Congress or Constitution. The Chicago Chronicle calls attention to this innovation:

"For the first time in the history of the country a series of commissions, so-called, have, under this administration, been created to discharge many important functions of the Government. A very few of these commissions were instituted by law. But the most of them were created by the President without authority of law, under what is claimed to be the war power of the executive. In some cases, as in that of W. J. Calhoun and Robert P. Porter, individual emissaries were appointed at enormous expense for the mere purpose, as alleged, of procuring information for the action of the President. The military and diplomatic officers of the Government were not trusted to perform this labor.

An incomplete list of the commissions under this administration and those costing the most are as follows:

Peace commission	$300,000
Nicaragua canal commission	250,000
Philippine commission	150,000
Alger commission (embalmed beef)	150,000
Queen's jubilee commission	60,000
The evacuation commission	50,000
Seal commissions	45,000
Hawaiian commission	50,000
Samoan commission	50,000
Insular commission	90,000
Hague peace congress commission	35,000
John A. Kasson, treaty expert	80,000
Robert P. Porter, tariff expert	40,000
W. J. Calhoun, commissioner to Cuba	20,000
Maj. Handy, commissioner to Paris	20,000
Total so far	$1,800,000

It is proposed also to create a new Philippine commission to reinvestigate the conditions of our new possessions in the Indian Ocean. This commission will have broader scope than any previous commission. It may be in existence for years. It will pay well. Judge Taft thinks that membership on the commission will be so fat a job that he has given up the office of United States Circuit Judge at a salary of $6,000 a year and all the comforts of a civilized home in order that he may accept the place. It is estimated that this commission will cost the country a million dollars before it gets through with its work. And other commissions may exist not included in this list or planned in the executive mind.

The method of governing by commissions is outside of the Constitution and the laws. It is a scheme to avoid the proper responsibility which belongs to the President. It is a plan to establish an array of respectable names behind which the President can hide if the plans of the administration fail and meet with disaster.

The Drooping American Eagle.

When the British lion roars, the American eagle, at present in charge of William McKinley, drops off its perch and scurries into the bushes with drooping tail and head. Great Britain has us, and showers greater insults upon that we did upon Aguinaldo. Here is something to make an American citizen hang his head and wish he were a Boer or a Filipino:

It will astound Americans to know that the British authorities are familiar with the American consular code. On Nov. 8 Mr. Macrum sent a cablegram in code to the State Department urgently requesting that he be permitted to come home. Usually cablegrams, because of the difference in time between South Africa and the country, consume two days in transmission—that is to say, the cable sent by Mr. Macrum on Oct. 8 would normally have been received by the State Department on Oct. 10. But on Oct. 9, before the cablegram was received by the State Department certainly, and before it was sent from South Africa probably, the British papers in Natal, hundreds of miles away, announced in impressive type that Mr. Macrum, the American consul at Pretoria, desired to be permitted to go home.

Consul Hollis at Lourenzo Marquez is well aware of the British acquaintance with the American consular code and the last thing he told an American who was about departing was, "For God's sake, tell the State Department to change our code number. As soon as we send out anything from here all Britain knows what we have said."

The State Department may not know the surprising fact that it is impossible for a United States consular or diplomatic representative in South Africa to communicate with his Government without informing the British Government of the nature of the message. Nevertheless, the American consular agent at Bloemfontain, of the name of Elliott, is a subject of Great Britain and perniciously active in his espousal of the British cause and the expression of his contempt for the "Dutch farmers."

Reduced to a Fine Art.

Ballot box stuffing has been reduced to a fine art by the Republicans in Pennsylvania and Kentucky and there is every reason to believe it was practiced on a large scale by that party in 1896 in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky. Their recent experiences in Kentucky and Pennsylvania will probably cause them to be more circumspect in the future, in which event there is no doubt of Bryan's election by the largest majority ever given a Presidential candidate.—Joplin (Mo.) Globe.

A Queer Proposition.

One-quarter of the sum England is expending in the war to extend its dominion in South Africa would suffice to feed every starving mouth in India. That the world should be asked to support her famine-stricken subjects in one part of the empire in order that she may devote all her energies and money to crushing a people who stand in the way of a limitless extension of the empire in another part, is certainly a most extraordinary proposition.—Springfield Republican.

Capital Wanted, Not Money.

Ex-Speaker Reed expresses the trust, gold standard and imperialistic idea when he says capital and not money is what we want. Aside from the humorous view that may be suggested by this reversion to the trading facilities approved by nations still in the darkness of savagery, there is an economic idea concealed in it.

Are we not reaching a point where the masses will not be allowed to have any money, but be compelled to rest satisfied with the necessaries of life doled out to them in such rations as will enable them to live and—what? Work? Wherefore work? For mere necessaries? No one need work for sustenance; all that is necessary is to join the army of tramps. They have no money, yet they live, moreover they do not work.

A Friend in Need.

"Didn't I help you in your Spanish war by keeping my hands off?" This, to us, quoth England. Now comes the Spanish premier, Silvela, who tells a different story.

Premier Silvela declared recently in the Spanish Senate "that previous to the war with the United States the British Government had consented to let Spain have 8,500 shells which were being manufactured for England at Maxim's factory at Placentia, meets with vigorous denial in London. Albert Vickers, head of the Vickers-Maxim firm, said: 'Senor Silvela lied. There is not a word of truth in this allegation that England helped Spain to fight the United States. In the first place the factory at Placentia is a branch of our concern, built at the request of Spain, because that country wanted ammunition of home manufacture. It is under the Spanish Government's control, and there never was a shell manufactured there for sale in England or in any country except Spain, where a law against the export of ammunition exists.'"

Lord Salisbury says "taint so, and if it is so the Vickers-Maxim company furnished the shells without the knowledge of the British Government." The idea of the British Government being ignorant when an honest penny is to be made! She would have deprived the infant Savior of His swaddling clothes for money.

"Delay Ruining the Country."

The following telegram from the San Juan Chamber of Commerce was received at Washington a few days ago:

"Situation becoming more desperate and unendurable, due principally to advices of opposition to opening markets for tobacco and sugar. Delay ruining country. Saving measures urgent."

These are the people who welcomed Gen. Miles so heartily in the summer of 1898, thinking the Americans had come to deliver them from the yoke of Spanish tyranny. But the Americans are worse than the Spaniard so far as commerce goes. The Porto Ricans enjoyed free trade with the home country. The Republican protectionists propose to shut them out of the United States. What has become of the American promises to grant these people the blessings of liberty? The first consequence of the American occupation is a restriction of markets which threatens to ruin their commerce and starve the workers of the island.—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

Connection with Great Britain.

We respectfully call the attention of William McKinley, President, and John Hay, Secretary of State, to the declaration moved in the Continental Congress, on the 7th day of June, 1776, by Richard Henry Lee and unanimously adopted by the Congress. It is good reading for all Americans in connection with the scheme to form connections and alliances with Britain for her benefit and our undoing. Here is the resolution:

"Resolved, That these United Colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."—Buffalo Times.

A Bad Man.

If ex-Consul Macrum is such "a coward, liar and disreputable" person as the McKinley administration say he is, how many more cowards, liars and disreputable persons has Mr. McKinley appointed to public positions of trust and confidence? A commission to investigate should be immediately appointed to find out how many of them should come out and tell the truth.

Give Him an Island.

The administration ought to have something nice for Capt. Mahan. The Mahan idea that no people possess the right to govern themselves and that no State has a right to independence is exactly in line with the McKinley policy.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Wicked Newspapers.

A committee of merchants is about to memorialize the authorities of Illinois to enact a law to compel newspapers to publish the truth. If the newspapers should publish the truth it would create a revolution to make them suppress it.

Senator Thurston (Rep.).

The spectacle of a United States Senator going from Washington to Nebraska to defend the Standard Oil monopoly is one which the American voter may well meditate upon.

Usurper Taylor, of Kentucky, says he will now turn his attention to the courts. It is understood that Kentucky judges are wondering which of them will be assassinated first.—Albany Argus.

From Consul Macrum's account of the attempt to make a British consul of him at Pretoria it might seem that John Hay himself has been doing some "loafing around the throne."—New York World.

Armored Glass.

A recent German invention is armored glass, or glass cast with wire gauze inclosed in their substance, so as to increase the resistance to pressure, shock, and the effects of heat. Tests of the new material have been made at the Chemnitz technical institute and the Vienna technological museum which show that the armored glass is much stronger, and where the ordinary glass broke under sudden applications of pressure the strengthened material only cracked, and the cracks caused by changes of temperature did not allow either damp or flame to pass.

Family Pride.

The Husband—But we can't afford to keep a carriage.

The Wife—I know we can't, but I want to show that stuck-up Mrs. Brown that we can have things we can't afford just as well as they can.

It requires extraordinary ability to enable any man to be profitably and safely dishonorable.