The Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1908.

HAS THE TARIFF CEASED TO BE A PARTY ISSUE?

The late General Hancock was laughed to his grave for remarking on a certain occasion that the tariff was "a local issue." Time is showing how much of substantial truth there is in the general's aphorism. The tariff is not, of course, precisely a local issue; but it is undoubtedly a vast many-headed conglomerate of local issues. Apart from its revenue-producing side, which represents a distinct phase, it is a subject which touches, individually and severally, as many interests in manufacture and agriculture as the country contains. It is an issue which begets a thousand issues, and each of its progeny demands a separate judgment upon itself.

"Bull" Mitchell, of North Carolina, is remembered for saying: "I am a protectionist when I am protected and a free-trader when the other fellow is protected." Mitchell was merely a little ahead of his time. His personal tariff plank, bold ten years ago, has become the common-place of to-day. It may be deficient in public spirit, but it abounds in human nature, which has a deeper root. Where is the tariff party-line to-day? The Democratic party is the traditional foe of protection, the long-time ally of tariff for revenue only. But is the Democratic rank and file, in fact, now taking any larger view of the problem than that dictated by personal interest only? Are Democrats not practically showing themselves now as protectionists when their own protection is at stake and free-traders only at somebody else's expense? Has the tariff ceased, as Senator Beveridge said, to be a party question at all?

The instinct of men to recoil at an assault upon their pockets is elemental. Principles relating to the common good will always have a struggle in overcoming it. A typical case in point of this conflict between party tenet and personal advantage, with the usual result, seems to be found in some resolutions passed by the Tobacco Association of Danville on Wednesday. These resolutions assert that the importation of Turkish tobacco, used in cigarettes sold in direct competition with home-grown tobacco, has enormously increased of late. They declare that the importation tax on Turkish tobacco is so low as not appreciably to affect the prices of cigarettes made from it, and that, on the other hand, home-grown tobacco is absolutely excluded from Turkish markets. Therefore it is unanimously resolved that the Tobacco Association of Danville appoint a committee to wait upon the House Ways and Means Committee, present these facts, and request them "to increase the tax on Turkish tobacco imported, into this country," as thereinafter specified.

The majority of the tobacco men, presumably, are Democrats. It is further presumable that increasing the tax on Turkish tobacco would be a preliminary to increasing the price of the home-made cigarettes to the consumer. The number of the consumers, who would thereby be unfavorably affected, is infinitely larger than the number of the tobacco men, who would be favorably affected. How does such a program dovetail with the Democratic doctrine of the greatest good to the greatest number? But the question of the party affiliation of the members of the Danville association becomes of secondary moment in the light of an additional paragraph in these resolutions:

Be it further resolved, That our Congressman from this district, E. W. Saunders, and Senators Thomas S. Martin and John W. Daniel, be requested to proceed to Washington with this committee to assist them in bringing this matter to the attention of the Ways and Means Committee, now in session.

Whatever the politics of the Danville tobacco men, Representative Saunders, Senator Martin and Senator Daniel are all Democrats. They are pledged to support equal rights and oppose all special privilege. As to the tariff itself, their obligations are equality specific. The latest official declaration of their party is found in the Denver platform, which says: "We favor immediate revision of the tariff by the reduction of import duties. Articles entering into competition with trust-controlled products should be placed upon the free list . . . and graduated reductions should be made in such other schedules as may be necessary to restore the tariff to a revenue basis." Democratic Representatives and Senators are thus pledged, anew and definitely, to a program looking toward reduced duties and a tariff for revenue only. How can they be asked to appear before a committee and plead for an elevated and frankly protective tariff in the interests of a special class?

A correspondent of The Times-Dispatch argued the other day that the United States had come to be an all-protection country. There seems to be solid ground for the contention. The wonderful industrial upbuilding of the South has inevitably wrought a change in her politics. As the desire to guard and enrich one's own strikes deeper than party lines, so it goes deeper than sectional lines. The same impulse which animates the steel men of Pennsylvania stirs the bosoms of the tobacco men of Virginia. The man who has interests to protect is likely to be a protectionist, wherever he may be found.

And now what will the Democratic party do? If Democrats, individually, clamor for a high tariff, will Democrats, collectively, continue to insist on a low tariff? What is to be done with such an anomaly as a "high-tariff Democrat"? Is he to be ousted from the party, or is the party to yield ground in such a way as to keep him in the fold? Here is a problem for all the wisdom and public spirit that the party leaders may have.

DIVORCE.

Not far from a million divorces were granted in the United States in the twenty-year period between 1887 and 1906. This is at the average rate of approximately 50,000 a year. In the preceding twenty-year period, 1867 to 1886, the number of divorces reported was 328,716. That averaged 16,000 a year. The mean population has, of course, greatly increased as between the two periods, but it has not tripled. Divorce is gaining faster than population.

The United States has the largest divorce rate in the world. It has more than doubled in forty years. One marriage in every twelve ends in legal separation. What is the matter with us, anyway? Are American husbands and wives harder to get along with than foreign husbands and wives, and also harder to get along with than they used to be? Or are we merely more lenient about cutting the knot when the unhappy couple cannot agree? Only 15 per cent. of all this mass of divorces was contested, which shows that the dissolution is ordinarily by mutual consent.

Desertion, cruelty and the statutory offense are the three causes reported as most common. Ten per cent. of all divorces granted to husbands were given for cruelty on the part of their wives, showing that the race of Henpecks is not confined to the comic weeklies. "Desertion" is rightly regarded as a contemptible cause, but it must be remembered that many of these desertions were technical and deliberate, and moreover half of them seem to be cases where wives left their husbands. The figures do not suggest any growing tendency toward unfaithfulness.

The average duration of these judicially terminated marriages was ten years. Are we drifting toward some semblance of legal sanction of the "trial marriage" idea?

COTTON-STALK PAPER.

After months of experimentation, the government Bureau of Manufactures has perfected a process for making paper out of cotton-stalks, and a company capitalized at $500,000 has been organized in Atlanta to utilize the new process commercially. Cotton-stalk paper will cost, we are told, $15 a ton to make. White paper of ordinary newspaper stock is now sold to the consumer at something like $50 a ton.

It is not surprising that a serviceable substitute for costly wood-pulp should have been brought to light at last. The wonder is that this has not been done before. Paper is merely a felted web of vegetable fibre. Almost any fibrous cellulose growth is good material for it. The Japanese, paper-makers of old, use the inner bark of the mulberry tree. Europe has no mulberry tree, and therefore turned to cotton and linen rags. But rag paper is expensive, and manufacturers early looked to other substances—straw, waste-paper, hemp, old rope, jute scraps, esparto grass, and, most of all, wood pulp. It was the onslaught on our forests that prompted the government experts to experiment with a view to finding new materials cheaper and more plentiful than wood.

If they have really found a practicable method of making paper out of a hitherto useless by-product, they will have performed one of those great services which science is so constantly rendering to commerce. Cotton-stalk manufacture will stop deforestation, which is more than Joseph G. Cannon would do. It will give the consumer his paper rolls at between a half and a third what he is now paying. Finally, it will be a great boon to the South, as all the cotton-stalks in the country are grown below Mason and Dixon's line.

THE LITERARY STYLES OF TWO PRESIDENTS.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and all nations."—From Lincoln's second inaugural address.

"I have had a first-class time as President of the United States, and I have enjoyed every minute of the time I have been in the White House. When I have finished the last stroke, I am going out contented and to work."—From Roosevelt's address to the special correspondents.

Of course, Brother Charles didn't allow $250,000 to be pried loose from him on the expectation that T. Burton was going to get the senatorial courtesy.

The period of Taft's residence in Georgia will certainly be known henceforward as his Augustom (Ga.) age.

According to the Washington Herald, a "Bryan 1912 Club" is to be formed in Baltimore. 1912? What about 1916-1928, gentlemen?

Nanking is in for a spanking

Borrowed Jingles

THE BOY'S POST-PRANDIAL CHAT.

Gee! Th' Christmas dinner
Is a winner!
With th' turkey gettin' thinner
Till there's just th' bones an' neck
Like a wreck
Standin' lonesome on th' platter,
An' you feel yourself get fatter
When they pass th' sweet potatoes,
An' th' stewed corn an' tomatoes,
And th' cloves-stuckin-it ham,
An' th' jam,
An' th' celery an' pickles
An' th' cider with th' tickles
When you swallow.

Christmas comes but once a year;
Mustn't spoil it while it's here!
When we've et th' table bare,
Gee! My clothes is hard to wear,
An' th' folks say: "Bless his heart—
He has done a grown man's part!"
Wisht they'd bless my stomach, too—
That'd help when we get through,
'Cause my heart can get along
An' keep beatin' good an' strong;
But my stomach! Oh, gee whiz!
Guess that's where my conscience is!
Hope there's some left for to-night
When I'll have more appuhtite
All right!
My Uncle John, w'y, he
Sez I lack capacity!
Gee! Th' Christmas dinner
Is a winner!

—W. D. Nesbit, in Everybody's.

MERELY JOKING.

The Comparison.

Playwright: "Ever notice how a play is like a cigar?"

Friend: "No. How?"

Playwright: "If it's good, one's friends want a box. But if it's bad, no amount of puffing will make it draw."—Boston Transcript.

Yes, Yes.

Weggie: "I say, Chelly, what a deucedly homely fellow they have for quarter back on that team, you know."

Percy: "Aw, yes; but you see, old fellow, he'll pass in a crowd."—Harvard Lampoon.

Shrewd Strenuousness.

"There was a man in our town and he was wondrous wise,"

"In what particular?"

"He jumped into a bramble bush while out walking with the President——"

"I see. And made a big hit with him."—Pittsburg Post.

Quite So.

"It's the unexpected that always happens."

"Here we have a fine example of persistency. Think what a hard time the unexpected must have happening to some people."—Houston Chronicle.

A Queer Boston Girl.

"The meteorological conditions," ventured the Chicago damsel, "are very inclement."

"Yes, responded the Boston girl, "this is sloppy weather."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Fashionable Betrothal.

"Hello! Is that you, duke?"

"Yes. Is that my fiancee?"

"It is. I wanted to ask you if this is the day for denying the engagement or admitting it."—Washington Herald.

THE TIRELESS PARAGRAPHERS.

"As to socialism, two opinions are possible," begins Puck. Point of order. As to socialism, as many opinions are possible as there are Socialists.—New York Mail.

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Mr. Archbold says the Standard "tried to get close to consumers." Hum! It succeeded all right, too.—Washington Herald.

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Anna Gould says she is happy this time. Will Anna please remain happy enough to keep out of the papers?—Jacksonville Times-Union.

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In spite of the fact that it is Judge Parker's turn, Mr. Bryan seems willing to try it again in 1912.—Rochester Herald.

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The sugar trust denies that it gave short weights. Perhaps it lacked the sand.—Omaha Bee.

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A Chicago professor discovers that the mound builders played baseball. We conclude that the bones found in the mounds are those of umpires.—Cleveland Leader.

* * *

Lord Roberts is afraid the German army may invade England. In view of the large and increasing number of people who are unable to get enough to eat in England, why should the German army want to go there?—Chicago Record-Herald.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The Singer building in New York city, when completed, will be 612 feet one inch in height.

Though the industry is still in its infancy the mines of India give employment to 152,000 persons.

A wild herb growing in Paraguay is much sweeter than sugar and is used by the natives for sweetening.

At the National Suffrage Convention recently held in Buffalo one woman contributed $10,000 to the cause.

The Chicago Historical Society will soon publish the diary of President Polk, the manuscript of which was recently acquired.

Immigration into Canada from January to August, 1908, declined 46 per cent. compared with the same period last year.

William Cowie, a former Mayor of Syracuse, will be appointed postmaster at Syracuse, N. Y., according to announcement made by Postmaster-General Meyer.

Miss Ruby Abrams, who was recently graduated at the head of the art class in Cooper Institute, New York, is deaf, and until a few years ago was also dumb.

Higher speed on the main lines has been ordered by the management of the German railroads, so that instead of 50 kilometers, or 55.92 miles an hour, it will be 100 kilometers, or 62.13 miles an hour.

In 1901 the recently deceased Grand Duke Alexis of Russia created a sensation by breaking the bank at Monte Carlo. He had an extraordinary run of luck, winning $50,000 in half an hour's play.

If sugar is burnt in a closed vessel containing putrefied meat or the contents of rotten eggs, the offensive odor disappears at once. The popular faith in the disinfecting qualities of burnt sugar appears, therefore, as well founded.

Ernest Heinrich Haeckel, professor of zoology at the University of Jena since 1862, has decided to retire on his seventy-fifth birthday, February 16th of next year. He will devote the remainder of his life to the phylogenetic museum founded by him.

Malcolm Burrage Lang, who wrote the new Harvard song, has a sister, Margaret Ruthven Lang, who is one of the two foremost women composers of the United States to-day. Her dramatic overture has been played by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Thomas Orchestra.

Mrs. Herman V. Hilprecht, wife of the archeologist, has a diamond-studded medallion, insignia of the knight commander of the Shefaiset, which was given to her by the Sultan of Turkey. In the centre of the star of brilliants are sixty rubies. The Sultan conferred the honor upon her in 1907 out of regard for her husband.

How It Feels to Be President.

"A sensitive man is not happy as President," said Mr. Cleveland. "It is fight, fight, fight all the time. He is the target of every kind of calumny. Everything he does is open to misconstruction. His enemies are incessant. It is impossible for him, if he is conscientious, to keep the affection of his friends. I looked forward to the close of my term as a happy release from care. But I am not sure that I wasn't more unhappy out of office than in. A term in the presidency accustoms a man to great duties. He gets used to handling tremendous enterprises, to organizing forces that may affect at once and directly the welfare of the world. After the long exercise of power, the ordinary affairs of life seem petty and commonplace. An ex-President practicing law or going into business is like a locomotive hauling a delivery wagon. He has lost his sense of proportion. The concerns of other people and even his own affairs seem too small to be worth bothering about. I thought I was glad when Mr. McKinley came to Washington to be inaugurated and I took a drink of rye whiskey with him in the White House and shook hands with him and put my hat on my head and walked out a private citizen. But I miss the strain, the spur of constant thinking, the consciousness of power, the knowledge that I was acting for 70,000,000 people daily."—"The Interpreter," in "American Magazine."

The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenoy

"Krupp" Name Ennobled.

HERR AND FRAU KRUPP VON BOHLEN-HALBACH have just had another boy born to them. But, unlike his elder brother, he will not bear the name of Krupp, but only that of Von Bohlen-Halbach. When the Emperor on the occasion of the marriage of Bertha Krupp, eldest daughter and principal heiress of the great German ironmaster and "cannon king," Alfred Krupp, to the young diplomat Von Bohlen-Halbach, authorized the latter to assume his bride's patronymic in conjunction with his own, with the object that the name of Krupp might be perpetuated, he expressly stipulated that the right to this name of Krupp should be restricted to the eldest son and heir of the couple, and should descend by primogeniture, like a title of nobility, always associated with the ownership of the Krupp works, of which Frau Krupp von Bohlen-Halbach is now the sole mistress. The late Alfred Krupp, who died under such tragic circumstances, like his father before him, repeatedly refused offers of titles of nobility, declaring that he was far prouder of the plain name, Krupp, than he would ever be of any title, and that, known, as it was, from one end of the world to the other, the addition of a handle thereto would detract rather than add to its prestige. In fact, he insisted that his name was equal to any title of nobility, and Emperor William seems to be of the same opinion, since he is treating it in the same fashion as these distinctions. Herr Krupp von Bohlen-Halbach—that is to say, the prince-consort of the feminine ruler of the great Krupp ironworks, shipyards and gun factories, had a strain of American blood in his veins, comprising among his ancestors the Hones and the Oswalds, of New York. Philip and Catherine Hone had a daughter, who in the last decade of the eighteenth century married in New York Philip Oswald. Mr. and Mrs. Oswald's daughter, Caroline, married a German nobleman of the name of Bohlen, and from this union is descended the young ex-diplomat, who won not only the hand, the heart and the fortune, but also the name of Bertha. He has among his ancestors not merely people of the shopkeeping class, but also farmers—in fact, some of the best blood in his veins is that which he derives from his American relatives.

While most of the recent changes and promotions in the higher ranks of the diplomatic service of the Kaiser have met with approval, there is one that has come in for a good deal of criticism, not only in Germany, but also abroad. It is the appointment of the singularly aggressive, rough-mannered Count Tattenbach to the post of ambassador at Madrid in the place of the courtly and universally popular Von Radowitz. Way back in the nineties Tattenbach spent several years at Tangier as envoy, and distinguished himself while there by an entire absence of all suavity in his dealings with the Moorish dignitaries. Indeed, so high-handed were his methods that his foreign colleagues, when obliged to adopt stern measures verging on brutality, were wont to describe them as being "a la Tattenbach." Afterwards he was for a time minister in Switzerland, where he became involved in so many quarrels with the Helvetian authorities that it was found prudent to transfer him to Portugal, where he has since remained, save while employed on a special mission to Fez, and subsequently when serving as one of the German delegates at the congress of Algeciras.

Infinitely more popular is his still handsome wife, a daughter and heiress of that great merchant prince, Metzler, of Frankfort on the Main, whose wonderful art collection, worth several millions of dollars, was bequeathed by him on his death to his native city. Although ennobled by several of the German sovereigns, including the King of Prussia, he never made use of the aristocratic predicate of "von," being infinitely more proud of being the chief of one of the old patrician families of the former free and independent city of Frankfort. His mansion in Frankfort was the favorite rendezvous of the plenipotentiaries when the delegates of the various sovereigns of Germany were wont to hold their sessions there, and the Prussian plenipotentiary, Von Bismarck, who afterwards became chancellor, was a particularly favorite guest.

Old Emperor William often visited the Metzlers at Frankfort, and to the end of his days showed marked good will to the daughter of the house, namely, Countess Tattenbach. The latter was the principal lady of the colony of diplomats assembled at Algeciras two or three years ago for the international congress on Morocco, and it was in her salons that all the diplomats used to congregate, and that many differences were arranged. Indeed, by her charm of manner she went far to atone for the opinionated, cantankerous character of her husband, who was perpetually treading on everybody's toes. In fact, the French expert on Moorish affairs at the congress, M. Revoil, who is now the ambassador of his country at Madrid, was not far wrong when, having been asked by her towards the end of the congress to write something in her autograph book as a memento, he, recalling the fact that her Christian name was Constance, wrote the following lines above his name:

"Le mot d'ordre de la conferance
"Est Constance."

Which may be roughly rendered as "The keynote of the conference is Constance."

Princess Reuss, who passed through New York last week in such hot haste to Florida, bound for Havana, to the sick-bed of her second son, a lieutenant of the German army, is a daughter of the late Duke William of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and of his wife, Princess Alexandrine of Prussia. The latter was to all intents and purposes the adopted daughter of the childless King Frederick William IV. and of Queen Elizabeth of Prussia, who took her to live with them, and brought her up as their own offspring after the sensational divorce of her parents. Her father was the late Prince Albert of Prussia, who in 1849 secured a dissolution of his union to Princess Marianne of the Netherlands, and married morganatically one of the maids of honor at the court of Berlin, Mlle. Von Rauch, who was created Countess von Hohenau, becoming by her the father of the general, Count William Hohenau, who was turned out of the German army the other day by the Kaiser.

Queen Elizabeth of Prussia was such an exceedingly pious and puritanical woman that the utmost amazement was caused when she gave her consent to the marriage of her niece and ward, Princess Alexandrine, to the drunken and dissolute Duke William of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, who on two occasions had been deprived of his command in the Prussian army on account of his conduct, and who was the black sheep of his family. He had previously made an offer of marriage to the celebrated ballerina, Maria Taglione, who treated the mere suggestion of any union with a man of his character as an insult, marrying afterwards Prince Josef Windischgraetz, with whom she lived most happily at Vienna. The duke managed, though with difficulty, to secure an unimportant command in the army on the outbreak of the war with France, and was badly injured through the explosion at the French stronghold of Laon. Until his death the duchess made her home with him at the Bellevue Palace at Berlin, where their daughter, the Princess Reuss, now at Havana, spent all her girlhood.

But after Princess Alexandrine lost her husband and married her only daughter off to Prince Reuss, she moved to Potsdam, where she died a couple of years ago at the age of sixty, virtually unknown in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, of which she was a duchess. Her daughter's husband is Prince Henry XVII. of Reuss, and the son whom she has gone to nurse at Havana, and who on her arrival in New York was reported to be so dangerously ill at Havana that his recovery was despaired of, is Prince Henry XXXVIII. of Reuss, and is just nineteen years of age. The lad as well as his father belonged to one of the younger branches of the German sovereign house of Reuss, all the members of which bear the Christian name of Henry, being distinguished from one another by the Roman numerals following the Christian name, and which begin afresh with every new century. The princess, as the sole heiress of her mother, Alexandrine, who was one of the principal beneficiaries of the will of her father, Prince Albert of Prussia, of her mother, Princess Marianne of the Netherlands, and of her uncle and aunt, King Frederick William IV. and Queen Elizabeth of Prussia, is very rich, and her sons, of whom she has three, are well off, and desirable matrimonial matches.

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STATE PRESS.

Another Pipe Dream.

Another pipe dream comes out of Richmond to the effect that President-elect Taft is considering Mr. Alvah H. Martin for his Cabinet. "It is said," runs the report, "that Representative Slemp could have had the place, but he wishes to remain in Congress." If these things be true, we think the compliment paid to Mr. Martin is rather a dubious one. To be the second choice, even for the Cabinet, after Bascom Slemp, is not calculated to cause the Norfolk Republican to be overcome with the honor.

We hope, however, that the story, by some unexpected accident, contains the elements of truth. We know but little of Mr. Martin, and do not care if he is honored by a Cabinet folio or not, but we would like to see a Virginian or any other Southerner receive recognition at the hands of the Federal government. Mr. Taft professes to be desirous of restoring to the South her rightful place in the government of the whole nation. It is true that he offered it as a reward contingent on the delivery of a portion of the electoral vote of this section, but he nevertheless was given credit in the North for a sincere desire to do what none of his Republican predecessors have been big enough to do.

He has a great opportunity, and if he takes advantage of it he will do more to bring the two sections of the country together than any President since the war, save Grover Cleveland.—Lynchburg Advance.

To the State's Discredit.

The lynching of three negroes in the northwest section of Tennessee, scene of the recent Reel Foot Lake lynching, closely following that crime, has again focused public attention and criticism upon Tennessee. That crime begets crime and that defiance of law in one case suggests and encourages lawlessness in all forms is a well-established fact. The authorities of the State should deal rigorously with this defiance of law. In the most recent case three negro desperadoes were hanged after a hasty trial, which was, however, sufficient to establish the fact that the negroes deserved death and that there was no doubt either of their identity or of their guilt. It would have been very much more to the credit of the State, however, had the execution been in the due and orderly process of law.—Danville Bee.

Under No Obligations.

Figures since the election demonstrate the fact that if the 10 per cent, part of the party who opposed Mr. Bryan's nomination had had the broadminded party spirit to bow to the will of the other 90 per cent. and supported the party ticket it might have won. They ought now to be satisfied with their work, but how can they expect the great mass of the party to go over to them next time in the face of such faithlessness? Even now some of the sublime kickers are trying to hound the defeated Bryan into infamy. They had as well be given to understand that Mr. Bryan is indorsed by too large a part of the people of this country to be hurt by them, and that this fiendish and ill-mannered goading of him in defeat will but strengthen him with fair-minded people, both Democrats and Republicans. Mr. Bryan is certainly under no obligation to such enemies to pledge himself in any way as to his future.—Eastern Shore Herald.

Carnegie an Honest Man.

That "infant" industry, known as the steel trust, is very indignant at its founder for saying that it could now exist with the tariff on steel removed. That Mr. Carnegie is a liberal-minded man, some Americans have for long suspicioned. It takes a liberal-minded man to concede what Mr. Carnegie has, that the United States Steel Corporation is no longer to be classified as an infant industry, which, along with other industries of a like character, no longer needs protection. Mr. Carnegie is an honest man.—Roanoke Times.

Wants It Kept There.

We never dreamed that once a good part of the American battleships were placed in the Pacific Ocean, they would again be brought around into the Atlantic. The movement, it seems to us, is so lacking in good judgment, we cannot conceive of its being done, and yet that seems really to be the program of the administration.

No doubt the whole influence of the navy personnel is brought to bear to effect this change back to the Atlantic because of the pleasanter relations; but this influence ought not to count in the face of the overwhelming necessity of having every preparation for protecting the country's interests in the islands of the Pacific, interests that are a burden to us and that we should not have, but that we must protect so long as we have them.

We are heartily in favor of the Pacific Coast movement looking to inducing the government to change its program.—Staunton Dispatch and News.

A Lesson for Husbands.

Is this not a good lesson for many a husband to take who is in the habit of finding fault with his wife because she attends her society meetings, or don't always have things "just right" around the home? In New York a few days ago a man forgave his wife and took her back after she had fled with an affinity. In a few hours after the first forgiveness she departed again with the same man, and yet the husband again forgave her and took her back to his bosom a second time within a day. We are of the opinion, though, that in this particular case the man was either an idiot, or his reward is waiting for him on high as being the personification of indulgence.—Clifton Forge Daily Review.

A Warning to Mr. Taft.

We earnestly advise Mr. Taft not to repose implicit faith in Mr. Cannon's profession of repentance anent revision of the tariff. The devil was sick and the devil a saint was he. Your Uncle Joe's re-election as Speaker is in peril, and he thinks it wise to temporize and come down from the high horse of standpattism. But his recantation is very cautiously worded and has several strings hanging from its smooth sentences. Once in the saddle again he will be apt to do as the devil did when he got well. If Mr. Taft wants results he will be wise to see that the organization of the House of Representatives falls into the hands of the genuine friends of reform. It will not be safe to intrust leadership to those who only acquiesce under pressure at the eleventh hour.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Prospects of Brother Charlie.

Will Brother Charles's reward be a United States senatorship? Mr. C. P. Taft spent considerably over $100,000 to help elect the people's choice, but it appears that the lavish use of his wealth wasn't altogether due to brotherly love. Brother Charlie has got control of the Ohio State machine, and if Bill doesn't impose his royal objections the deed is done, and Senator Taft takes his seat in that body presided over by "Honest (?) Jim" Sherman.—Lynchburg Advance.

What Mr. Bryan Owes.

Mr. Bryan owes more to the Democratic party than the party owes to him. Not the least of what he should do to pay the debt is to declare that he will not again be a candidate for the presidential nomination.—Fredericksburg Daily Star.

White House Lemons.

Some one stole Miss Roosevelt's dog, "Lemon," but that is not the only lemon that has been carried from the White House lately.—Newport News Times-Herald.

Manhood Suffrage.

Theoretically manhood suffrage is an admirable plan. It is supposed to invest men with a sense of dignity and responsibility which they are bound in pride and honor to maintain. Too often it has a contrary effect, and is regarded as merely an asset to be used not for the public good, but for personal advantage. That is the chief reason why municipal government in this country still continues so unsatisfactory and a problem yet to be solved. The process of migration of the business man of Boston to sections outside of it for his residence and home has been so gradual that its effect has not been immediately realized, but it is year by year becoming more serious. The general basis of suffrage in this country was established when society was in a comparatively restricted and primitive state. Men were supposed to live where they did business, and sixty years ago that supposition would have been based on fact, but at the present time there is a wide and growing departure from it.—Boston Transcript.

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A Year's Slaughter.

The report of the New York Public Service Commission, covering the railroads of the State outside of the metropolitan area, is a gruesome one. On the steam railroads 1,092 persons were killed and 2,427 injured. On the electric roads 95 were killed and 739 were injured. In each classification the number of victims was greater than in the last preceding year. The State has a roll of honor for the railroads completing the year without injury to life. This year it contains the names of twenty-four steam roads and of twenty-six electric lines; but these safe roads carried less than one-half of 1 per cent. of the steam railroad passengers, and but a little over 1 per cent. of the electric patrons. The rest of the traveling public of New York took chances when they boarded a steam or electric car. More than one in every 5,000 were hurt. The report is startling. But do the duties of the Public Service Commission in the protection of life end with making a startling report?—Boston Herald.

Simple Life in Finland.

In Finland everybody lives the simple life in summer time. They camp out on islands, in the forests, and always somewhere near the water, for everybody swims and bathes. Almost all classes sleep and eat al fresco at this time of year, and the town councils in the towns of this progressive and altogether delightful little country provide public fireplaces and public bathing sheds in all places where the working classes go in search of fresh air. But the simple life is by no means dull with the frisky Finns. They combine it with a surprising amount of gaiety. They eat, drink and are very merry in their picturesque little log cabins outside the cities. When they are tired of bathing and splashing they dance, they sing, they watch fireworks and practice gymnastics, they all become like children and are the very happiest, merriest, most good-natured, most easily pleased and most healthy holiday makers in the world. We might take many leaves from the Finns' book.—Lady's Pictorial.

Bonsoir, Meissonnier!

Statues also have their destinies.

The statue of Meissonnier is soon to be removed from the place it occupies before the Louvre.

The superintendent of Beaux-Arts has so decided—and we can but give our approval.

The statue is insupportably pretentious. One may wonder what the idea was passing through the brain of the sculptor, Mercie, that led him to represent a miniaturist, a maker of picturettes the size of a thumb nail, gigantic and in the attitude of a Titan.

This Meissonnier by effrontery made his way in the world. Truly the talent of this artist merited no glorification. His minute art was always photographic and icy. One cannot comprehend how he came to such colossal renown during his life. It is to be acknowledged that it soon passed away. Not twenty years has he been dead, and who speaks of him now?

His statue will be relegated to some cemetery or to a public place in the provinces.

Bon voyage, Monsieur Meissonnier!—Le Cri de Paris.

Women Athletes.

Those who have something to do with athletics among women have been puzzled and depressed at the lack of true sportsmanship among them. We are quite well aware that this statement will be the cause of resentful refutation among the girl athletes, but it is true, nevertheless. It is just as well to confess that women have not learned to contest with each other without losing temper. In discussing the recent strike among the Paris telephone girls against the appointment of superintendents of their own sex over them, an authority—and a woman, too—asserts that women are always jealous among themselves. She says: "The sociological value of the Paris incident lies in the fact that it discloses, as the philosophers say, the 'universal' or a trait that seems to be common to the feminine nature the world over."—Kansas City Journal.

Origin of the Locomotive Whistle.

The evolution of the locomotive whistle is interesting. Seventy-five years ago engine drivers were provided with tin horns, which they used to blow before rounding curves or passing over crossings. In 1833 an English farmer, on his way to market, was run down and killed, with his two horses. The produce, consisting of 1,000 eggs and 100 pounds of butter, was destroyed, and all had to be paid for by the company. The managing director sent for George Stephenson.

"Our drivers can't blow their horns loudly enough to clear the tracks ahead," he said. "You have made your steam do so much, why don't you make it blow a good, loud horn for us?" The inventor consulted a musical instrument maker, and the outcome was the locomotive whistle.—Tit-Bits.

Science and Food Frauds.

It has been for many years notorious that modern chemistry has been prostituted to the service of adulteration. May not an appeal be made to the more conscientious professors of one of the greatest modern sciences, and may they not be asked to bring their learning and their proficiency into the field for the assistance of honesty and fair dealing?—London Times.

Has Earned a Coronet.

Is Astor to become a member of the peerage? is a question that is agitating social circles in Europe. Why not? A convert is always more zealous in the cause than one born in the faith. Astor, having turned his back upon the United States, from which come his rents, would make as faithful a supporter of the British throne as any Briton born on the tight little island. Think how grateful the tory would be.—Brooklyn Times.

Woman and Morals.

We hope that women who claim their rights will use them soberly and well. It is of ill omen that most of the novels that throw morality to the winds and picture vicious living in seductive colors as an exercise of freedom and self-realization are written by women. Women are the natural custodians of a high moral standard, and if they lower the standard they will fall themselves and drag men down with them.—Christian World.

Great Vice of Our People.

"The great vice of our people in their relation to the politics of the land is cowardice. It is not lack of intelligence. Our people know the meaning of the political conditions with wonderful sagacity. It is not low morality. The great mass of our people apply high standards to the acts of public men. But it is cowardice. It is the disposition of one part of our people to fall in with current ways of working, to run with the mass, and of another part to rush headlong into this or that new policy of opposition merely to escape the stigma of conservatism. Neither the conservative nor the radical has the monopoly of cowardice. Neither timidity nor recklessness is really brave. No man on any side is truly brave in thought who is listening for other people's voices either to assent to or to contradict them."—Phillips Brooks.

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