The Times

(MORNING, EVENING, AND SUNDAY.)

...ANY

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Sunday, July 30	20,928
Monday, July 31	42,207
Tuesday, August 1	42,280
Wednesday, August 2	42,152
Thursday, August 3	42,081
Friday, August 4	42,656
Saturday, August 5	42,451
Total	274,750
Daily average (Sunday, 20,928, excepted)	42,287

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By J. R. MASON, President.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1899.

Swift Justice for the Child Butcher.

Snell, the murderer, should be tried at once! The Times has no desire to prejudge the case of even a man notoriously guilty of the most brutal and shocking crime within human remembrance. The law and its orderly administration exist for such a creature as much as for anybody else.

But the sentiment of the people of this town is that they cannot draw breath much longer in the same atmosphere with this frightful monster. Certainly there must be some way known to the officers of the law by which its machinery can be invoked to expedite a trial in an extraordinary case like this! It is the business of the District Attorney to find such a way. Justice as swift as severe should be meted out to the most horrible villain that Washington has ever known among its inhabitants.

We cannot recall another single crime, no matter how heartless or cruel, that has excited the people of the District as has this one. Its circumstances of inconceivable atrocity, the presumption of precedent crime and terrorism committed against the helpless little victim, all cry for instant justice. What will the authorities do?

Aguinaldo's Appeal.

Mr. McKinley has to thank his friends, Otis and Denby, for the latest illustration of Aguinaldo's impudence. We refer, of course, to the circular which has been sent to the powers through their Consuls at Manila. Six months ago the latter would have thrown the thing in the waste basket, and mentioned it only at the clubs resorted to by foreigners, as a very amusing illustration of native nerve. Now what they may do with it we cannot tell. Certainly they will treat it with more deference than it would have received then.

The document itself contains nothing new. It only reiterates old lies that the mutineers evidently think will be swallowed with more grace than they would have been before the utter failure of Otis' campaign dawned upon the world. It involves the same old contentions, with which we are familiar, that the few Filipino rebels on the Island of Luzon had destroyed Spanish sovereignty in the whole Philippine archipelago before Dewey steamed in and sunk Montejo's fleet at Cavite; that, thereafter, our officials promised independence to the Filipinos, i. e., their domination over the majority of inhabitants not of their tribe, in return for the inconsiderable help they were capable of affording against the Spaniards. It is quite unnecessary to once more review all that nonsense, which has been iterated and reiterated until everybody is tired of it.

The half savages who lead the present revolt are perhaps dense to the fact of which the civilized world now is quite confident, that when Dewey took the power of Spain away at Manila the native revolt had been crushed out, and where that had not been accomplished it had been bought out. Our naval commander acted like a sensible man in the premises. He followed the rule of war justifying a belligerent in organizing and arming a subsidiary municipal opposition to the power he is fighting. This was obviously necessary in his case, because, although he could easily have bombarded and reduced the capital under his guns, he had not the landing force to hold the place after he had taken it. With his base ten thousand miles away, he took the only course open to him and encouraged the native hordes to assist his purpose; not in the interest of a barbarous Tagal domination over a nine-tenths population not Tagal—there was never such a suggestion—but to help the cause of the United States against Spain; and Aguinaldo, who was brought from exile to assist the project, thoroughly agreed to the programme. He willingly consented to become the paid agent of America, and betrayed his trust, exactly as, previously, he had violated his compact with Spain.

For the purposes of this argument, he and his fellow mutineers are not necessary further to consider. What we do need to reflect upon is the fact that this country has been betrayed, more through the inefficiency of our policy and agents in the Philippines, than by anything the rebels have been or are still able to do. With proper management, and a military commander who was equal to the responsibilities of his position, and with that officer protected from civilian interference, the fight against the Tagals last spring might, and we believe would, have been successful.

As far as we can judge it was not successful for the reasons that Otis misconceived the necessity for a large army adequate to the occasion, and allowed himself to fall in with the idea that, at the most critical point in his campaign, he could safely forego the advantages gained over the mutineers by his troops in the field, and allow hostilities to be suspended in favor of one of the most idiotic and disgraceful peace negotiating farces that ever was attempted. For the latter blunder there is some but not much palliation. It is certain that Otis allowed Denby and the two schoolmasters associated with him, the power they exercised to his detriment and to the destruction of whatever his forces had accomplished under direct orders from Washington. Where he was culpable, if not criminal, as a responsible general in command of a great national operation, was in not refusing to be interfered with. In that, however, he displayed the incompetency which, in more ways than the one we now refer to, has made him an impossibility at Manila.

Paltering policy and ignorance of actual conditions in Washington, the employment of Denby and his confreres for ulterior purposes which do not clearly appear, and military conditions in the field of operations which have excited world-wide ridicule—all these things have combined to render our situation in the Philippines acute and even dangerous! The more so, since Administration organs are again beginning to ascribe to President McKinley a view of the situation which can only have the effect of putting European Governments on the qui vive for a chance at the loot of our Eastern possessions.

According to the latest story, the State Department and the White House do not consider that our sovereignty over the archipelago was settled by the Spanish-American treaty of cession. They, it is said, hold that the matter of ultimate possession is still in abeyance; that our occupation of Luzon and other islands is not much more effective and final than our occupation of Cuba; and that the whole future of our position in the Far East waits upon affirmative Congressional legislation.

If such things were not said by papers believed to be inspired from the Adjutant General's office, if not from a higher source, we should say that they were unworthy of notice. As it is, we think it behooves an Administration whose chief not long ago said, "Wherever the American flag has been hoisted, who will pull it down?" to make some distinct and widely public announcement discrediting these reports, which, if true, would be humiliating to the country and viciously calculated to promote foreign designs upon the territories we have won honorably in war, and fastened to our skirts by a totally unnecessary supplemental purchase.

While there is the least doubt in the minds of European potentates and powers that we mean to hold, pacify, and develop the Philippines, regardless of international or other consequences, we shall never be free from dangers such as, in present circumstances, are suggested by the foolish appeal of Aguinaldo.

Mr. Goebel.

It is both brave and consistent in Mr. Bryan to declare his determination to visit Kentucky and work for the election of Mr. Goebel, the regular Democratic candidate for Governor. We are not advised of any political reason why he should not do so, if he can spare the time; but it is courageous to take such action in the face of influences which Mr. Bryan will antagonize, and which, under certain conditions, might hurt him next year.

The alleged irregularity of Goebel's candidacy may affect the minds of Kentucky people in the heat of a campaign, but it is not making much impression elsewhere. When any part of a community noted for personal and aggregate bravery of a high order appears before the court of public opinion and gives a whining excuse for defection from the party banner, its motives and objects will be scrutinized closely before anybody is likely to say they are worthy or permissible.

Mr. Goebel went into a convention of Kentucky Democrats at Louisville, controlling less than one-third of the delegates. He came out of it nominated by a majority of the whole convention. He was first nominated by a legal quorum, but refused to consider that action final, and waited until it was ratified by a majority of the entire body.

It must be extremely humiliating to the representatives of any State faction who took part in that Louisville affair to urge that they were overpowered and outvoted by the friends of a minority leader. In such circumstances allegations of irregularity on the part of the winning side are generally regarded as too ridiculous for serious consideration.

This is so well known that wise and virtuous opponents of Goebel, like Col. W. C. P. Breckinridge and others, eminent for party loyalty, have seemed to consider a collateral issue necessary. They advance the proposition that the people do not like the candidate. Of course, if State and national political organization and action are to depend solely upon the question of personal affection for, or dislike of, the nominee, the easy way for those voters with whom the Goebel personality is unpopular is to cast their ballots for the Republican candidate. But it is a poor argument, and doubtful Democratic doctrine, to hold that a man who has gone through all the legalized forms and preliminaries of a campaign for party honors, has advanced from a position at the tail of the procession to its head, and has become the candidate, is not entitled to the support of the organization.

Mr. Bryan is right in going to Goebel's assistance. The Browns, Breckinridges, and others who now stand out in opposition to the Louisville nominee, are bolters as disloyal to regularity and the Democratic cause as were men of the same class who betrayed and left the party in 1896. They have no hope in their present course to accomplish anything beyond the defeat of Democracy in Kentucky. A vote for Brown would only be equivalent to two or three votes for the Republican candidate. Persisting in their designs these recalcitrants will be responsible for the certain loss of the State, and John Young Brown and all his coadjutors know what a serious handicap that would be in 1900.

Rochefort's Silly Vilification.

There is always something amusing to be extracted from the remarks and writings of Henri Rochefort. He has a way of putting things that appeals to our sense of proportion—a sense which he seems to lack—and makes it laugh.

Of the Dreyfus business he says: "If seven reputable American Ministers of War had declared they knew an officer to be guilty of treason, the American public would accept their statement." Indeed they would—for exactly what it might be worth, and that would be determined by the character and weight of evidence behind it.

Again, observes Rochefort: "Your great liberty-loving newspapers of America kicked Alger out of office though a commission declared him blameless, and the evidence against him was far from being as conclusive as that against Dreyfus. The scoundrel should have been shot when the first court-martial condemned him." All of which goes to show that the wheels in the mercurial and absinthine brain of the French editor are out of gear.

The attempt to parallel the Alger Relief Commission with the Dreyfus persecution is not a happy one. As equal efforts to defeat the ends of justice they present a strong family likeness, but differing much in details. The object of the Alger inquest was to acquit without regard to the facts; the tribunal which judged Dreyfus was organized to convict and punish an innocent man knowing him to be blameless. If Rochefort were to say: "The evidence in Alger's behalf was as weak and as carefully fabricated as that against Dreyfus," he would hit nearer the mark. He utterly discredits his knowledge of American affairs in saying that "the scoundrel should have been shot when the first court-martial condemned him." Nobody now or recently in public life here has been condemned by court-martial for an offence punishable with death. Perhaps one or two may have been allowed to resign under charges calculated to imperil their mundane existence, but that is quite another story.

"The great liberty-loving newspapers of America" are truly great enough in that respect to despise Jew baiters and persecutors of innocence like Henri Rochefort, renegade nobleman, and communist.

The story that China intended a quasi recognition of Aguinaldo in refusing to allow the exportation of horses from Chinese ports appears to rest upon slim foundation. It is now stated that the real reason for China's action in the matter is a law of the Empire which prohibits the exportation of horses and ponies on the ground that they are all needed for the army at home.

France is so nervous over the Dreyfus trial that currency will probably be given to any number of wild rumors from Rennes. One report, received last evening, may have a basis of truth. It is predicted that in consequence of contradictions in the testimony of General Mercier and M. Casimir-Perier given yesterday at the secret session one or the other and perhaps both of those individuals may be arrested today on a charge of perjury. Such a movement would be likely to precipitate whatever trouble is brewing among the revolutionary elements opposed to Dreyfus and the Government.

If the Central News, London, despatch is correct, the Boers have refused the English proposition to enter upon a joint enquiry into the franchise concessions. The next step should be an ultimatum. Surely Mr. Chamberlain is not going to imitate his friend, Mr. McKinley, and give Kruger a couple of years in which to "negotiate" before getting down to business with him. We rather think not. Chamberlain is not a laggard, General Butler is not an Otis, and Sir Alfred Milner is by no means a Denby.

As already printed in the news columns of The Times, the last act of Mr. Alger's official career was an order taking the Inspector General's office out of the jurisdiction of the Major General Commanding the Army. It was an unnecessary, indefensible bit of spite work, which Mr. Root is understood to have disallowed. We shall know the truth on his return.

Southern Alliances Against America.

(From the Kansas City Star.)

There is not much in the talk about an alliance of the South American Republics against the United States, and there would be less to the alliance should it be formed. The South American Republics are not properly built for alliances with each other. To treaties and alliances nations are essential. The South American Republics are not nations. With few exceptions, they have no permanent governments. The general who usurps the so-called presidency of the alleged republic one week is assassinated or driven off the next, and a new treaty-making and alliance negotiator is on deck who refuses to ratify anything his predecessor has done. The South American Republics have no occasion to combine against the United States, which has treated them always with a kindness amounting to forbearance. Of course, in the event of a hostile combination against the United States, it would be compelled to defend itself, and might do so in a fashion to make attacks on this Government unpopular for several centuries to come.

Quay's Right to Smile.

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.)

So long as the people, by their sufferance or indifference, consent to the former Senator's exercise of arbitrary power in choosing their public servants, they have no right to complain that he does exercise it, even though he and his henchmen alone profit by his doing so. The people can at any election defeat Mr. Quay's candidates. The ballot is theirs, and they have only to use it against his nominees to render their election impossible. If they do not do so, he is fairly justified in assuming that thereby they affirm and approve, by the neglect of their right, his usurpation of their right, and the onus of his usurpation should not be put upon him, but should be borne without murmur or complaint by the electors themselves. Arbitrary political bosses are the mere creatures of the people's indifference to their political duty, right, and privilege, and, however rank their growth, the people are responsible for them.

Wrong Teaching.

(From the Savannah News.)

When the negroes of the South are taught, in histories, by politicians, and from pulpits, that the great and good Republican party went into the war for the purpose of rescuing them from the bondage of the wicked and cruel Southern white men, they are being given dangerous education. The seeds which bring forth crime and lynchings are being sown; for the negroes are taught to hate the Southern white man, to harbor malice against him, and to plan revenge upon him for wrongs which the histories, the politicians, and the preachers have told the negro he has suffered at the hands of the Southern white man. The negro does not go back and seek the truth respecting the origin of the war; he does not, by research, ascertain that the North was as much of a slave trader as the South, so long as there was money to be made at the business. He accepts the statements of the histories, the politicians, and the preachers as facts, and, accordingly, arrays himself against the Southern white man.

The Red Tape of Diplomacy.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

The dispute between Great Britain and the United States over the Maine boundary lasted sixty-nine years before a settlement was reached. The Alaskan boundary question is quite as prolific of material for prolonged diplomatic dispute, and it has physical elements of even greater difficulty. The rapidity of communication between Europe and America may have some effect in abbreviating the controversy, but the red tape expedients of international debate and disquisition are almost inexhaustible. An early settlement is, perhaps, desired at London and Washington, but not at Ottawa. It is a remarkable coincidence that the country should have had so much trouble in establishing its boundary lines upon its extreme northeastern and northwestern corners.

The Colored Brother in Texas.

(From the Houston Post.)

The colored brother in this section is publishing his grievances against the Administration. In over a third of a century of freedom the colored brother has not progressed enough to learn that the G. O. P. is keeping him simply as a voting machine and a perpetual bunco victim.

TALMAGE AND INGERSOLL.

Caustic Criticism of Recent Utterances of the Reverend Doctor.

To the Editor of The Times:

With your permission, I want to do what little I can, in a few short paragraphs, to rescue the reputation of the great and heroic Ingersoll from the cruel and ignorant slanders of orthodox malice.

In his sermon of yesterday, the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, with characteristic zeal and disregard for historical and philosophical truth, gave utterance to statements concerning Voltaire, Franklin, and Paine, which ought to bring the warmth of shame to the cheeks of the average Fiji Islander. In spite of a somewhat close acquaintance with the methods and record of the Brooklyn oracle, I had of late been led, by the spirit of tolerance which seemed to animate him in his comments upon the death of the great agnostic, to think that he had suddenly acquired not only acceptable mental manners, but some regard for accuracy of statement—even concerning unbelievers. I frankly plead to error. His latest assertions are enough to make the dry and pulseless ashes of Ingersoll feel again the throb and thrill of insulted and indignant manhood.

Before proceeding to refute any of the good doctor's present statements, however, I commend to your judgment the following parable, as a fair sample of the kind of veracity to which he is addicted. In 1886 Talmage said:

> Last August a man flourished a knife toward heaven and dared God to come down, threatening to cut him if he did. That man himself was cut down; smoke poured from his mouth and nostrils, and he was dying for days, while nobody could go near him.

Is it not probable that this happened in the "City of Churches" and trolley cars? The man had most likely stepped by accident upon a broken trolley wire, which, in addition to being "alive," bore the surplus calorific vehemence acquired by sympathetic induction in passing a church in which Dr. Talmage had preached on the previous Sunday.

As to the Paine recantation, Dr. Talmage says that "in his dying hour he (Paine) begs the Lord Jesus Christ for mercy." The late Colonel Ingersoll, who offered as a gift a thousand dollars in gold to anyone who would prove the truth of this childish story, and who many years ago effectually silenced the "New York Observer" on the subject, said:

> The truth is, he died as he had lived. Some ministers were impolite enough to visit him against his will. Several of them he ordered from his room. A couple of Catholic priests, in all the meekness of hypocrisy, called, that they might enjoy the agonies of a dying friend of man. Thomas Paine, rising in his bed, * * * had the goodness to curse them both. His physician * * * whispered in the dull ear of the dying patriot: "Do you believe, or do you wish to believe, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?" And the reply was: "I have no wish to believe on that subject." These were the last remembered words of Thomas Paine.

The writings of Moncure D. Conway, the eminent scholar and writer, who has told the only reliable story of the "Author-Hero's" life, are in complete accord with these statements, and, moreover, they furnish such a mass of authentic evidence that the assertions of Dr. Talmage must be set down, by intelligent and unprejudiced persons, as either deliberate slander of the dead or as the natural result of ignorance. And let me add that this applies with equal force to all that has been said by Dr. Talmage concerning the alleged recantation, and the moral and domestic life of that splendid thinker and patriot, Thomas Paine.

As to Voltaire, the good doctor states that "in his last hour he asks for Christian burial, and asks that they give him the sacrament of the Lord Jesus Christ." This is just as true as the story of Paine. Let me tell you, in the words of the historian, how Voltaire recanted:

> Two days before his death his nephew went to seek the cure of Saint Sulpice and the Abbe Gautier, and brought them into his uncle's sick chamber, who, being informed that they were there, said, "Ah, well, give them my compliments and my thanks." The abbe spoke some words to him exhorting him to patience. The cure of Saint Sulpice then came forward, having announced himself, and asked Voltaire, elevating his voice, if he acknowledged the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. The sick man pushed one of his hands against the cure's coif, shoving him back, and cried, turning abruptly to the other side: "Let me die in peace." The cure seemingly considered his person soiled and his coif dishonored by the touch of the philosopher. He made the nurse give him a little brushing, and went out with the Abbe Gaultier. Ten minutes before his last breath he (Voltaire) took the hand of Morand, his valet de chambre, who was watching by him, pressed it, and said: "Adieu, my dear Morand, I am gone." These were his last words.

It would be scarcely more foolish to claim that Colonel Ingersoll recanted.

But if the tale of Voltaire's repentance is foolish, Dr. Talmage's attempt to claim Franklin as a Christian is idiotic. He says:

> Benjamin Franklin surrendered to this delusion (Christianity), if you may judge from the letter that he wrote to Thomas Paine, begging him to destroy the "Age of Reason," in manuscript, and never let it go into type.

Now, Benjamin Franklin died on April 17, 1790. Part first of the "Age of Reason" was not written until 1794, and Conway is authority for the statement that Paine never wrote a word that Franklin could have taken for an attack on religion, "nor anything in the way of religious controversy, until three years after Franklin's death." More than this, it is not claimed in the works of Franklin that the letter in question, which was never directed to anyone, was written to Paine; it is simply "supposed to have been." But the letter itself offers the best possible evidence that it was not written as a criticism of the "Age of Reason." This, and many other points, I shall be glad to consider if Dr. Talmage is sufficiently interested to arrange for newspaper space. In his conclusion, our reverend friend, with irresponsible zeal, ironically cries: "Oh, what a delusion (Christianity) * * * submerge me with it, fill my eyes and ears with it," etc. How fortunate for Christianity that he did not say: "Fill my mouth with it."

HERMAN E. KITTREDGE.

Washington, August 7.

Oom Paul's Brilliant Idea.

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.)

Diplomacy, like politics and poverty, makes strange bedfellows. If the proposition to refer the Anglo-Transvaal dispute to a conference of European powers is carried out, it will be a signal instance of this, for we shall see France, Germany, Russia, and Holland taking part in a friendly intervention, which can scarcely fail to put them on better terms with each other. It is much to be feared, however, that the proceeding will strengthen the Continental combination against England, since all the powers named, except Holland, are England's traditional enemies, and their verdict against that country is almost a foregone conclusion; after which, of course, they would have to stand by each other to avoid England's wrath. But the proposition is still in the air, and will not become operative without England's consent, which it is not likely to receive.

All Should Be Taught to Swim.

(From the Hartford Courant.)

Where one person is drowned by recklessness in swimming fifty are lost by the not knowing how. Instruction in so important an art should be compulsory and it easily might be made so. Boys and girls ought to be taught, and it does not take much to teach them. They take to it naturally, if given half the chance, and the chance should be forced upon them. With the almost universal public bath houses available the opportunity is not out of reach. We have no doubt that soon or late swimming will be one of the compulsory features of manual training, and the sooner it is begun the fewer will be the cases of drowning recorded. This is worth careful consideration, for it is practical and common sense. No child should grow up unable to swim any more than unable to walk.

Cannot Be Spared.

(From the St. Paul Dispatch.)

The proposition for a national park the size of half a dozen Eastern States, to be carved out of the heart of Minnesota, may be a popular scheme in the East, but it is only measurably so here. We have a few million acres of land located in a couple of the up-country counties that we could spare for such a purpose, but in the section under consideration every acre of land means thirty bushels of wheat a year, and wheat is wheat these times.

THE DEBTS OF CUBA.

The Spanish Government Refuses to Consider Them Settled.

Madrid, July 23.—In the preamble of the proposed law for the reorganization of the debts of Spain and of her colonies, which was laid before Congress by the Finance Minister, Senor Villaverde, and which was afterward published in the "Madrid Gazette," the Spanish Government declares that it does not consider that the question of the debts of Cuba was finally settled in the negotiations at Paris last autumn, nor even by the ominous silence of the Peace Treaty on the matter. It will be best to quote the Finance Minister's own official statement as it appears in the "Madrid Gazette:"

> The colonial debts entail other problems. When the President of the Spanish Peace Commission reported to the Government on December 11, 1898, on the negotiations in the Paris Conference to bring about the transferral, with the sovereignty, of the debts and other engagements contracted by the mother country for the benefit of and chargeable to the colonies, he stated that our plenipotentiaries, after having exhausted all arguments, and because of the American ultimatum, agreed that the negotiations for the treaty should continue, without relinquishing Spain's right to claim that with her colonies should go also their proper obligations.
>
> The Spanish Commission also discussed with great perseverance the validity at least of that part of the Cuban debt which had the customs revenues of that island as its security. The American Commissioners refused to recognize the validity of this part of the debt. The Spaniards on their side, again and again solemnly placed on record that Spain would never consent that any foreign power should challenge the legitimacy and validity of the acts of her home government, and that she would be no party to anything that in the least endangered the rights of those creditors who had acquired the mortgage on the proceeds of the direct and indirect taxes of Cuba, and on the proceeds of the customs of Cuba and of the Philippines. This most important question of the transfer of the colonial obligation remained unsolved in the Paris Conference, and does not appear solved in the treaty either.
>
> The United States did not show a willingness to take over for themselves nor for the island of Cuba the colonial debts. On the other hand, Spain, too, did not consent directly or indirectly to the theory that these debts ought not to go with her colonies; and in presence of the inflexible attitude of both Commissions, without any express convention (agreement), absolutely no mention of the said debts was made in the treaty. Consequently, matters continue on this point, as far as Spain is concerned, in the same status as they were before the negotiations began in Paris. Spain continues burdened with the direct and principal obligations that she contracted when she created part of these debts; but as to the mortgage she is in the same situation as before the Peace Treaty was made, that is to say, bound to recognize and pay the same only when the mortgage which serves as a guarantee in the first place for the creditors proves to be insufficient.
>
> The Peace Treaty says nothing of the colonial debts, but His Majesty's Government considers that the general guarantee of the nation was granted to these debts when they were created, and is attached to the stock itself, which imposes on the state the duty of including them among its obligations, which will not prevent our negotiating when the opportunity comes, with a view that these burdens should ultimately be laid, as justice demands, on the resources of the ceded territories, which Spain, in the legitimate exercise of her sovereignty, mortgaged for the payment of the same.

The contention of the Spanish Government is equally plain in the second article of the law itself, which has been approved by the budget committee of Congress and runs thus: "Article 2. The redemption of the mortgage bonds of the Island of Cuba, issued in 1886 and 1890, will continue suspended. Reserving all rights (in Spanish thus, sin perjuicio) for future negotiations to obtain the recognition of, guarantee, reimbursement, and successive payment of interest and amortization of the two series of mortgage bonds of Cuba, chargeable to the public revenue of that island mortgaged for such payment, the State will include immediately in a schedule of section 2 of the budget of general obligations the legislative credit necessary to pay the interest of the said bonds, minus 20 per cent of the value of the coupons presented for payment, to put this colonial debt on the same footing as the debts of the Kingdom."

The Finance Minister, in his speech in Congress, when he introduced all his financial schemes, alluded to the Cuban debt as follows:

> Many people hoped, and I among them, that the colonial debts, or at least a considerable part of them, would have been transferred to the charge of the colonies with the guarantee of the United States, and, of course, also, with a deduction of interest which such a transformation into a first-class debt implied. On this supposition well-known calculations were made by experts in Spain and abroad; but all these surmises came to grief in the presence of the result of the Treaty of Paris, and certainly not through any lack of efforts, intelligent and firm, on the part of our illustrious negotiators, but because of our misfortunes.
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> Nevertheless, the statesman who presided over the Spanish Commission has declared in a noteworthy document, written on the day after the Treaty was signed, that though it is true that the American Commissioners did not admit the validity of the mortgage on the Cuban revenues, and did not consent that they should pass to the colonies as a responsibility inherent in the sovereignty, the Spanish Commissioners on their side did not assent to the contrary contention, and the question remained intact (in Spanish, integra). Thus it must be respected, with the hope that by new agreements of the same sort as those for the recognition of the independence of other Hispano-American nations, there will be recognized in the future the undoubted right to claim that the revenues of the Island of Cuba should answer as a mortgage for the interest and amortization of those debts which the Spanish nation created legitimately in the exercise of its sovereignty. Nevertheless, the Government does not believe that, reserving the exercise of this right, there is any ground in the mean while for repudiating the Cuban debts. The Cuban debts, like those of the Philippines, had the general guarantee of the Spanish nation, and the nation cannot do otherwise than honor its signature. These debts must consequently figure in the budget, and they are in the budget which I have the honor of presenting.

The Cuban debts which Senor Villaverde alludes to are the Cuban 6 per cent redeemable bonds issued in 1886, namely, $124,000,000; the Cuban 5 per cent bonds created in 1890 to the amount of $175,000,000. He also alluded to the Philippine 6 per cent bonds issued in 1896 for a nominal value of $40,000,000. In his statement in Congress and in the preamble of his law the Finance Minister seems to have ignored the fact that in the course of the negotiations at Paris before the Peace Treaty was signed the American Commissioners had very clearly defined what sort of debts America was disposed to recognize and to get recognized in the ceded territories and in the other territories in which Spain renounced all sovereignty.

The principle laid down with utmost precision was that all purely municipal, provincial, local debts, contracted for purely insular purposes and for the exclusive benefit of the quondam colonies, would be respected and transferred with the sovereignty, though no express stipulation to that effect was placed on record in the Treaty. After thus defining the intentions of the Government of the United States the American Commissioners repeatedly intimated that the United States could not consider the Cuban bonds of 1886, the Cuban bonds of 1890, or any subsequent loans or engagements contracted by Spain for imperial purposes, especially for the purpose of maintaining her rule in Cuba, as falling within this rule.

It was shown on the American side that the Cuban loan of 1886 was issued to take the place of three previous loans and a floating debt contracted to cover engagements that Spain had entered into in consequence of her ten years' struggle against the Cubans from 1868 to 1878, as the preambles of the bills authorizing the loan of 1886 and the previous ones plainly stated. In the same way it was shown that of the issue of $175,000,000 of 5 per cent Cuban bonds in 1890, $141,000,000 was used to convert what remained in circulation of the bonds of 1886. The remaining $34,000,000 went to the consolidation of some still outstanding engagements of the ten years' war and of the floating debt that had accumulated since 1886, because the revenues of the island were insufficient to cover the interest and amortization of the debt of 1886 and the heavy expenditure required to maintain Spain in Cuba, toward which Spain had not contributed a cent.

It was shown in conclusion that Spain had only really issued in 1890 the $34,000,000 of 5 per cent bonds necessary for the consolidation of the Cuban floating debts and the arrears of the ten years' war, and that the remainder of the stock had been kept in reserve at the Colonial Office in Madrid until the Cortes, three months after the beginning of the last Cuban rising, authorized the Government of Senor Canovas del Castillo to make use of these $141,000,000 of 5 per cent Cuban bonds to cover the expenses of the new struggle against the colonists. The Madrid Government, under this legislative authorization, sold by degrees in Spain $45,320,000 of these bonds, and gave the remainder to the Bank of Spain as a guarantee for money advanced to the Colonial Treasury for war purposes.

In consequence the American Commissioners absolutely declined to entertain in any shape the Spanish demands for the recognition of the colonial debts by America, or for a promise that the United States would back any claim for such recognition made by Spain against the new state of things in Cuba. It stands to reason that no such plea could have been mooted in regard to the Philippines in the negotiations, as Spain agreed to accept as final settlement for the cession of those islands and the island of Guam in the Marianas group the $20,000,000 offered by the Government of the United States.

Outside financial circles and outside the holders of colonial bonds, very few people in Spain paid much attention to the contention by the Madrid Government stated in the speech of the Finance Minister and in the debt bill which has been gazetted and approved by the Cortes. Indeed, most Spaniards consider it a foregone conclusion that neither the United States nor the now existing governments in Cuba or the Philippines will ever take the slightest notice of any claims for the recognition of the disputed debts. Curiously enough, about the same time that the Minister of Finance raised this delicate question in the Cortes a rumor came from Paris to the Madrid financial papers and to some dailies to the effect that the Duke of Arcos, shortly after renewing the official relations between the two countries and governments, had been in a position to convey to the Madrid Foreign Office the intelligence that he had received assurance that the Government of the United States was not unwilling to back some day the Spanish endeavors to obtain something from Cuba for the bondholders of the loans of 1886 and 1890. It is not out of place to say that except about twenty million dollars of bonds of both issues held by speculators chiefly in Paris, Brussels, and Berlin, all the rest of the bonds are in the hands of Spanish bondholders, of banks in Madrid and Barcelona, and in the possession of the Bank of Spain as a guarantee of the repayment of advances to the colonial treasury.

GOLD FROM THE KLONDIKE.

Disappointed Prospectors From the Porcupine Region.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 8.—The steamer Rosalie, which arrived on Sunday night with 150 passengers, brings in the neighborhood of $3,000,000 in gold. According to the estimate of Canadian Gold Commissioner Ogilvie, the output of the Klondike mines this year will be $40,000,000.

According to passengers on the Rosalie, John F. Robertson and a party of eleven prospectors who set out from Dawson City a year ago, to prospect along the Porcupine River, returned to the Klondike in an emaciated condition on July 22. They reached Dawson on the steamer Sault Ste. Marie, which vessel picked them up at the confluence of the Porcupine and Yukon. The unfortunate prospectors left Dawson because of a report of a miner, who came in from the headwaters of the Porcupine and told of rich finds there. The Robertson party, led by the miner, started for the scene of his reported findings, but during their journey the miner was drowned, and although they searched the country thoroughly, Robertson and his party failed to find a trace of the dead man's Eldorado. They were finally taken on board a whaler, where they spent the winter.

The Scott-Nason party of Chicago had been found on the Arctic shores by the whalers a short time before the Robertson party were picked up, and, after being housed and fed for a month, they had left, intending to make a short prospecting tour and return. They have not returned, however, and it is feared that they have perished.

THE NEW GOLD CERTIFICATES.

New York Banks Receive a Supply From the Subtreasury.

New York, Aug. 8.—The United States subtreasury here distributed today among twenty banks the first supply received from Washington of gold certificates. The supply was $2,160,000, in the denominations of $20, $50, $100, $500, and $1,000. The greatest number were of the $50 denomination. The banks gave in exchange gold coin from their own vaults, or "yellow tickets" representing gold in the vaults of the subtreasury. The demand for the gold certificates, especially the smaller denominations, is large, and a further supply may be received tomorrow. The opinion was expressed today that it was quite likely that the issue of the certificates will result in the production of considerable amounts of hoarded gold coin.

Teaching the Soldier to Shoot.

(From Pearson's Magazine.)

He is taught that the bullet travels through the air in a curved line, called the trajectory, and that three forces act upon it; first, the exploded charge, tending to drive it forward in a straight line along the line of fire; second, the force of gravity; and, third, the air resistance. At 200 yards owing to these forces, the bullet, traveling at the rate of 2,000 feet a second, will have fallen about two feet. In the excitement of firing at close quarters the aim will invariably be too high. It has been calculated that when the enemy approaches within 350 yards the soldiers will instinctively fire as much as two feet or three feet above their heads. Now, it has been found by experiment that the fact of fixing bayonets will cause the bullet to drop a distance of about two and a half feet in 350 yards, and, therefore, when about this distance from the enemy, soldiers are instructed to fix bayonets, in order to counteract the excessive elevation of their aim. The recruit learns that the mean extreme range of the bullet is 3,500 yards, and that the longest shot ever observed was 3,760 yards. He is taught the penetrating power of his weapon, a subject full of interest. To take one or two examples, rammed earth gives less protection than loose; bullets easily find their way through joints of walls, while a concentrated fire of about 150 rounds at 200 yards will breach a nine-inch wall. Only experience can teach a soldier how much he must aim to the right or left of his mark to counteract the force of the wind. A side wind has more effect on the flight of the bullet than a wind blowing directly toward the firer. The soldier must learn the habits of his rifle, since some shoot higher or lower than others. Every rifle, like every marksman, has its own individuality.

A Field at Home.

(From the Boston Journal.)

Prof. Garner, the celebrated Chicago scientist, who has spent months in the French Congo forests trying to establish oral communication with apes, is planning to return to the ape land to look into the psychic character of its inhabitants, and "with the intention of teaching them human speech and of finding how far they are able to distinguish numbers and colors and so on." "Indeed, I hope," he says, "to give them a regular kindergarten course, using blocks, geometric figures, and other things with which children are taught." Considering the fact that Chicago's public school system is virtually in a state of demoralization, the enterprising professor ought to be induced to experiment at home.

A Poor Opinion of Wei-Hai-Wei.

(From the London Mail.)

The year's report of the British Consul at Che-Foo expresses a poor opinion of the commercial possibilities of Wei-Hai-Wei.

Unlike Hongkong, which lies at the seaward end of a splendid system of navigable waterways, and on the edge of a rich and densely populated delta, Wei-Hai-Wei lies at the extreme end of a rocky peninsula, remote from interior waterways and centres of population, in both of which particulars the German concession of Kiao-Chau is favorably situated, and will, in the consul's opinion, almost certainly reap the harvest of trade.

Wei-Hai-Wei is also at a disadvantage as regards shipping communication with Che-Foo, the service being slender and irregular, while regular lines already ply between Che-Foo, Port Arthur, and Kiao-Chau.

Lancashire will not be gratified to learn that during 1898 America almost annihilated the British and Indian imports of sheetings at Che-Foo and Japan those of India in yarns.

NEW YORK'S FRENCH QUARTER.

A Gradual Movement From Bleecker Street to Twenty-Eighth.

New York, Aug. 8.—Ever since Italians from Thompson Street began to press upon the down-town French quarter ten years ago, there has been an exodus of the French colony to other parts of the city. The change began four or five years ago, and a new French quarter had begun to form in the region west of Sixth Avenue, between Twenty-third and Thirty-third Streets. The exodus now is nearly complete. The corner of Bleecker and Wooster Streets, once the heart of the downtown French quarter, is now entirely given over to the Italians, and is rapidly becoming the heart of the west side Italian quarter. Where once were the neat French tables d'hote of Bleecker Street and the neighboring thoroughfares are now Italian cafes and tables d'hote, usually far from neat, sometimes actually squalid. All European tables d'hote in New York belong to the same species, but they have their varieties. Chicken is the piece de resistance of the Italian table d'hote in Bleecker Street, as it was of the French table d'hote. The former has certain accompaniments of shredded fish and queer pickles that the latter never had.

It was like pulling up by the roots, that exodus of the French colonists, for the French households have strong local attachments. So it took many years to complete it. For the first five years many of the French colonists hoped that the wave of Italians might not prove a flood, and held their ground until driven out by the odor of garlic and that other peculiarly Italian odor that suggests a mixture of apples and dirt.

Now the French colony, with some loss of members from scattering, is safely translated from the Bleecker Street region to the new quarter, say five blocks north and south and two blocks west from the corner of Sixth Avenue and Twenty-eighth Street. The public first obtained a hint of the change on discovering that the block of Twenty-eighth Street between Broadway and Sixth Avenue had suddenly begun to look like Bleecker Street. The resemblance continues, but most persons have not discovered that the French quarter has been bodily transferred.

But the French colony cannot well feel at home in the new quarter, because it is too big to become wholly French and too modern to receive outwardly the impress of the French inhabitants. The little three-story brick houses and the narrow streets of the old French quarter were well suited to the small ways of the colony. It was possible for an old couple to hide their poverty in a cellar with a sunny areaway, and eke out a living in the sale of javelle water and flower-seed without painful publicity. But there are no such friendly sheltering nooks in the new quarter. Not even the display of patriotic emblems and pictures can give the new quarter a French character. That favorite picture of the Alsatian family with jealously closed windows celebrating the 14th of July may be displayed in the windows of the newspaper dealer, but the German saloon across the way gives it the lie.

DECISION AGAINST SOUSA.

Referee's Findings in the Blakely Case Sustained.

Philadelphia, Aug. 8.—The suit of Mrs. Ada P. Blakely, administratrix of David Blakely, deceased, against John Philip Sousa, the composer and bandmaster, has terminated by a decision of the Common Pleas Court sustaining the report of the referee. The referee recommended that Mr. Sousa account to Mrs. Blakely for all money received by him for the sale of musical compositions, surrender to her the musical library in his possession, and account for the use of it from May 22, 1897. The referee also decided that the Blakely estate had the right, without regard for the duration of time, to one-half of all royalties which would be earned from Sousa's musical compositions, provided that such compositions were made prior to Mr. Blakely's death.

As to whether the Blakely estate had an exclusive right to the use of Sousa's name, the referee found in Mr. Sousa's favor, on the ground that it would be against public policy to permit any band not conducted by Mr. Sousa to be called "Sousa's Band," as such name might mislead the public.

The case has been in litigation for more than two years.

THE STORY OF A POSTAGE STAMP

Its Sad End After a Long and Prosperous Existence.

(From the Outlook.)

In the year 1851 a twelvepenny black Canadian postage stamp was printed by the government at Ottawa. The public did not regard this sombre issue with favor, so few were issued. One of these stamps was sent to the Hamilton post-office, where it was sold to an old man, who said it was a shame to print the Queen's picture on a stamp that might be handled by profane hands. Tenderly the man put it on a parcel, sending it to a friend in the United States. Here, in the waste basket, it lay for many a day, till an errand boy found it, and quickly transferred it to his album. Despairing of getting a good collection, and his fever somewhat abating, he sold them to a dealer. The new owner, on looking at the catalogue, found that what he paid $5 for was worth $25. Accidently this stamp was slipped into a 25 cent collection, and sent to a dealer residing in Hamilton. When the latter opened the packet he was astonished to find such a valuable stamp, and, being honest, wrote to his friend to inform him of what had happened, offering him $1,200 for it. The offer was accepted, and the stamp again changed hands. By this time the stamp had increased in value, and not a few came from a distance to look at the treasure.

One day an English nobleman, who, through a Canadian friend, had heard of the stamp, offered $1,500, which offer was accepted. The English lord, falling in love with an American heiress, and wishing to gain the favor of her brother, presented him with the stamp as a token of his esteem. Here, in its new and luxurious American home, it came to a sad end, for one day the maid, by mistake, swept the stamp, which had accidentally fallen out of the album, into the fire. In an instant the stamp, which thousands had heard of and longed for, went up in smoke to the broad, blue sky, leaving not a trace behind.

A General Alteration.

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

"There goes a party who will be heard from," said Smith, pointing to a young man who was going down the street. "He has managed to keep his head in love and financial matters, and they are the two great tests.

"Two months ago he was a young man with all the world before him, and with no prospects ahead of him except a determination to fight life's battle.

"He was in love with a young lady living in this city, but his financial condition prevented him from declaring his passion, besides, he was not sure that the young lady in question cared for him.

"But by one of those curious turns of the wheel of fortune, an old aunt that he had never seen died and left him a large sum of money. Without delay he called upon the young lady and asked her to marry him, saying nothing about the fortune that had been left him. He met with a point-blank refusal.

"Two days later the girl heard of his unexpected windfall, and wrote him a note, saying: 'I have changed my mind.'

"His answer was just as short. It said: "'So have I.'"

Trying Him.

(From the Chicago Post.)

The little yacht was becalmed, and he suggested that she whistle for some wind.

"I'm afraid to," she replied.

"Why?" he asked.

"I can't tell what you'll do when I get my lips all puckered up," she answered.

"I won't do a thing," he promised.

"Then I won't whistle," she retorted.

"Paws."

(From the Ohio State Journal.)

Johnny Jones—My paw's got more money'n yours has.

Tommy Smith—Well, if your maw were as good lookin' as mine I bet he wouldn't have, for I heard my paw say so.