The Times

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Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended July 7, 1900, was as follows:

Sunday, July 1	19,410
Monday, July 2	41,337
Tuesday, July 3	42,074
Wednesday, July 4	38,606
Thursday, July 5	42,[illegible]
Friday, July 6	42,576
Saturday, July 7	40,809
Total	267,396
Daily average (Sunday, 19,410, excepted)	41,331

The Chinese Horror.

Perhaps the greatest surprise that students of affairs of sociology have encountered in modern history is contained in the fact that, while the Ministers of this and other civilized powers, together with their wives, children, attaches, guards, and servants, probably have been tortured and butchered in Pekin by the Chinese soldiery, under orders from the imperial authorities, nobody seems to take much notice of the crime or to feel very indignant because of it.

Yet history hardly offers a parallel to the atrocity which, there is too much reason to believe, was perpetrated in the capital of the Chinese Empire on the thirtieth of June, or the first of July, and perhaps extended over two or three days. If the stories were true that synchronously agitated the native quarters of Shanghai, Chefoo, Woosung, and even Hongkong, on the fifth or sixth of July, we are bound to believe that a horrible massacre occurred at the time above mentioned, and that it was accompanied with outrages and atrocities too sickening to record.

It illustrates the horror of the situation, that the friends of those hapless ones who were shut up in Pekin and exposed to the fury of the Chinese, sincerely hope that before the British compound was finally broken into and rushed by the Chinese, Mr. Conger, Mr. Squiers, and their colleagues were providentially able to murder their wives and little ones to preserve them from a fate much worse than death.

At St. Petersburg, it was reported yesterday that news received there was to the effect that M. de Giers, the Russian Minister, had been captured in the assault, and had been tortured by pouring boiling water over him before decapitation put an end to his agony. If any other of the legation people were taken alive, it is not supposable that they were allowed an easier death. We are afraid that collapse of the resistance may have come too suddenly to permit the merciful killing of the women and children by those who would willingly have died to save them, and that some or perhaps all of them may have been the victims of hellishness we cannot even speak of.

Is it possible that Americans who nearly went mad over the butchery of native Christians in Armenia, and drove the Administration unwillingly into war with Spain because of the atrocities of Weyler in Cuba, are indifferent to the most awful deed of the century committed in Pekin? Is it possible that, becoming used to the cynical brutality of Hannaism, which defies the fundamental law of the country, and protects Republican politicians charged with murder and fleeing from justice, from arrest and trial, the American people have also become callous to such hitherto unheard of bestialties as we have reason to believe occurred in China's capital? It is time for them to wake up! They may think it hopeless to look to an Administration busy playing politics on a Canton front porch for action which, if it had been taken in time, might have saved the Ministers, women, and children, guards and missionaries shut up in the British compound in Pekin. But the force of public opinion may not be valueless, when applied to persons who realize the strength of the resentment that their political cowardice and criminal hesitation has awakened.

All we can do now, apparently, is to furnish our share of the troops necessary to save the gallant defenders of Tientsin. Yesterday it was hoped that the women and children of the officials and missionaries there might get away. There is grave danger that they cannot, and that they, too, may share the fate of the foreigners in Pekin, unless Japan is able to land and march a strong column to their assistance. The civilized world does not appear to appreciate the hideousness of the situation.

A Business Man in the Philippines.

A recent article in the "Iron Age" reveals almost limitless possibilities for the sale of machinery in the Philippines. It is said that the sugar mill men, all Filipinos, Spaniards, or Chinese, are anxious to introduce new machinery; that sewing machines, typewriters, and bicycles are at a premium, and that all kinds of machinery will be eagerly purchased by wealthy business men as soon as it can be taken to the islands. One reason for this boom in the iron and steel machine trade is that such articles are new to the natives and captivate their fancy, and another is that protection to property is assured and new enterprises are starting up in various parts of the country.

There is no question that American manufactures will find a good market for many things in this and other lines in the Philippines and the West Indies when the various industries of the colonies receive the impetus which the introduction of American capital will give. Thus, indirectly, the workmen of this country will be benefited, both by the increased trade and by the need here and there of American mechanics to superintend the new appliances. In the tropics labor-saving machinery is bound as time goes on to be more and more profitable. It enables the manufacturer of sugar, cotton cloth, or any other article to use immense quantities of raw material at a time, and with the cheap labor which is always available in tropical climates the manufacture of certain things by Oriental capitalists on or near the place where the raw material is produced cannot fail to be productive of large fortunes. Although life in the tropics is possible under very simple conditions, there are infinite variations and complexities which may be introduced to make it agreeable, and it may easily become as complicated and require as many appliances of one sort or another as are demanded in more temperate regions. Moreover, with the introduction of various modern improvements "cheap labor" will become less cheap and the laborer more intelligent. This has already happened in some tropical countries and may in time happen in all.

But there is one feature of this situation, as depicted in the article quoted, which seems a little queer to the unprejudiced eye. It is said that, taking advantage of the recklessness of the rich planter in spending money, and his ignorance of the real value of things, agents and dealers are giving him most inferior goods at exorbitant prices. For example, it is said the rudest and most old-fashioned sewing machines bring $75; that an ordinary typewriter brings $250, and that other articles of the kind sell for much the same prices. It is recorded that a "plant" for a sugar manufactory, which cost about $2,000 in the United States, and about $300 for transportation, sold for no less than $10,000 to a rich sugar mill owner, who paid cash for it. Now, when that sugar planter discovers, as he probably will, that the agent who sold him that plant made something like $7,000 clear profit out of his ignorance and desire for the machinery, what will he think of the honesty of American business methods? What, moreover, will be his idea of business morality in this country when he finds that many Americans, so far from condemning the transaction, will take it as a matter of course, and tell him that he must expect to pay double or treble price when things are scarce? The Chinese have a proverb that he who falsifies weights and measures will, in the next world, be taken by demons and hung on huge hooks. Chinese business morality does not come up to the standard suggested by that proverb, however. The American agent who sold the plant to this rich Filipino is only a type of a large class of Americans who will be swarming into the colonies as soon as they can. Perhaps it would be a good thing if some honest, shrewd young business men would make up their minds to go there as agents for similar goods, be content with a fair profit and absolutely honest dealing, and prove to the natives that there are Americans and Americans.

The Taylor Trials.

The preliminary steps in the trial of the conspirators who murdered the late Governor Goebel are being taken in the Criminal Court at Georgetown, Ky. Six of the creatures charged with the crime are in the hands of the State. Youtsey, Taylor's stenographer at the time of the assassination, is believed by the prosecution to have fired the fatal shot; but it seems to be the general opinion that Youtsey was but a miserable tool of the conspiracy, and that he acted under orders and with the certainty of a "pardon" when the crime should be accomplished.

In advance of the evidence which is to be brought out at the trial it would be impossible to say who is the most guilty wretch among the conspirators. Youtsey undoubtedly knows a great deal, and, although it should be shown that he fired the fatal shot, it may be that he will be accepted as state's evidence, because it is much more important that the instigators of the outrage upon our institutions should be hanged by the neck than that a mere underling should suffer execution and they go free.

Taylor is badly needed as a witness, and is much wanted in Georgetown, Ky. On the theory that he did not initiate the conspiracy; did not approve and order the assassination of the Governor, there can be no just reason why he should not appear for trial. Taylor's actions, ever since the foul tragedy, have been otherwise than consistent with any theory of innocence; still he may be an afflicted martyr. If he is, he ought to come forward and prove it. It is a very serious offence against good morals and good government for the Republican leader in any State to so conduct himself as to afford the slightest excuse for men to suspect that he could not deliver himself to the courts of the Commonwealth he once pretended to rule without subjecting himself to the prospect of being hanged for his complicity in one of the most atrocious crimes in American political history.

Recklessness at Pekin.

There are numerous unexplained peculiarities in the situation at Pekin, and one of them suggests itself upon consideration of the letter recently published over the signature of Minister Conger. It is dated May 21—seven weeks ago—and refers repeatedly to the danger of Boxer demonstrations threatening all foreigners. It must have been known to every intelligent foreigner in China since the very beginning of this uprising that there was, to say the least, grave danger that things might come to the worst. The Boxer movement was originally intended to abolish not only foreign interference, but the foreigners themselves, and its purpose has never, apparently, been in doubt.

According to recent reports, the men among the foreigners killed their own women and children to save them from falling into the hands of the infuriated Chinese. If this be true, and if, as is stated, there were large numbers of women and children among the unfortunate victims of the Pekin massacre, one is impelled to ask why, in the name of common sense, they were not sent away long ago. Minister Conger, Baron von Ketteler, and other men whose official position demanded it, might have felt it their duty to stay in Pekin in the face of all danger, but why did they allow their women to run such a horrible risk? Was there no way in which they could safely be escorted out of the country and sent to Japan or some other friendly region, there to await the outcome of events? It seems as if, in the circumstances, the first thought of every man having a family exposed to the danger of what has now occurred, would be to see that they were placed in a position of safety. It is said that for months the ladies of the British Legation took the precaution to carry poison with them when they went out under strong escort, to provide a way of escape from a more terrible fate should they fall into the hands of the Boxers. One would think that true caution would have led the men of the legation, not to buy poison for their wives and daughters to use in case of extremity, but to get them out of the country.

Old residents of China say that the Tientsin massacre many years ago much resembled this in character and origin. There were, it is said, the same warnings and threatenings, the same signs of danger, the same final outburst of fury; and the missionaries who fell victims to the Tientsin mob showed the same foolhardy indifference to signs of trouble which has apparently been shown in the present instance. A place in which foreign women cannot venture on the street without precautions of the kind described is no place for foreign women to be. One of the most serious objections to Protestant missions in hostile countries is that they involve, generally, the presence of English and American women and children where they are liable, in case of trouble, to be brutally treated. There are plenty of places in this world where the presence of delicate, refined, and cultivated women is absolutely needed, where their influence is a blessing to countless lives. Why, then, should they be sent into regions where their characters are misunderstood, their efforts thwarted in every possible way, and their very lives are in danger? The Chinese lives in the province of Shantung are no more in need of the ameliorating influences of civilization than the lives of women and children in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. Why, then, should qualities which are the product of centuries of civilization at its highest and best be absolutely wasted on people who do not want them, instead of being put where every trait of womanly gentleness and refinement would count?

Labeled Bread.

A strong protest has been made against the new custom, which many bakers have adopted, of affixing to the loaves of bread which they send out, stamps or tags printed in blue and red ink, and glued securely to the bread, so that if some care is not observed, the person who eats it will also devour the tag. It is said that the ink, paper, and gum used would, in time, have a bad effect upon the stomach, and that although it would, of course, take a great many tags to produce any serious illness, the effect of even one is not particularly good. Another custom of recent origin is that of tagging meat by means of small tickets attached by wires to the quarter of beef, or the carcass of sheep, calf, or hog. These wires should, of course, be removed by the retail butcher, but sometimes they are not, and then the wire staples on the tag cause trouble. It is reasonably asserted that it is not good for human beings to make goats of themselves by eating paper labels and pieces of wire in addition to their regular food.

Many housekeepers will testify that the paper label nuisance is annoying. Aside from the possible poison there may be in the ink of the label, the bit of paper adhering to the loaf is not ornamental, and when the bread is sliced for the table it gives an untidy appearance to the slices. Servants cannot always be depended upon to remove it, and the use of it is problematical. It is doubtful if one housekeeper in a hundred ever asks whose bread she is getting when she buys it at the bakery, so long as the loaf is satisfactory. If she is at all particular about having a certain make of bread, she is acute enough to detect this by the taste, and know whether the dealer is palming off an inferior article upon her. If it is really necessary to label the bread, it might be done on the end of the loaf, for that slice stands little chance, in most households, of being eaten.

We are in hope that the State Department will soon grow tired of the calumet dreams of the well-meaning but utterly purposeless Mr. Wu. That eminent Chinaman hears much from the champion liar, Sheng, at Shanghai, which he would do well to keep to himself. There has been altogether too much disposition on the part of the Administration to excuse delay and invertebracy by accepting Chinese stories which evidently are constructed to deceive.

Political insanity is not confined to this country. According to the American Consul General at Frankfort, a leading Swiss newspaper is advocating the annexation of Switzerland to the United States. The Swiss argument is that such a union would strengthen the cantons against the tariff aggressions of their European neighbors. On this side of the Atlantic such a proposition must be regarded as a joke. Switzerland unquestionably is an independent power; but it is no more free in an international sense than the South African States were before their war with Great Britain. It is a neutralized country, under bonds to the concert of powers not to maintain a standing army, and not to engage in any adventure connected with the hautes politiques of the Continent. Moreover, it is a State without seaboard or port, and its mules are forever safe against the bombardment of any Sampson. One might as well talk of annexing the bright side of the moon as of taking over Switzerland.

Once more we are agitated by fears that international troubles will shortly grow out of the Chinese situation. It is reported that Major Marchand—he of Fashoda fame—has been assigned to the French service in China. If haughty England does not look out he will attempt to gobble the Empire for his country with a corporal's guard and a Chinese cook.

Director Merriam, of the Twelfth Census, is about to disclose the results of the enumeration of the District of Columbia. When these are published and added to the figures for Porto Rico, Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, the Indian Territory, Hawaii, Tutuila, Guam, and the Philippines, we shall be able to know how many Americans there are who are not citizens, but property, of the United States.

The Issue.

(From the Louisville Courier Journal.)

Shall the Republicans be so entrenched in power that nothing short of revolution can restrain their excesses and drive them out? Shall the people surrender themselves unreservedly into the hands of the more or less corrupt combine of boodle and doodle, which would tax the many to enrich the few, using the flag as a drop-curtain to conceal the robbery and jobbery? Here in Kentucky all the conditions of the national lay-out are intensified; for with us, it is a question of responsible government directly menaced by a ring of Federal officeholders, getting their orders from Washington, and a coterie of mistaken and frightened local capitalists, seeking to rule even by money and murder, and relying for success upon the fungus negro vote, the desperado vote of the feud counties, and the purchasable vote of the larger cities and towns.

An Important View.

(From the Galveston News.)

Aside from the differences of citizens in their opinions as to candidates and parties, disregarding all matters of policy, doctrine, or merit, deeper and higher and broader than all other troubles is the difficult problem which comes to every sane mind as a result of these reflections. The main question in American politics today is not any one of the questions over which the candidate and parties now contend. It is the old, old issue between the taxpayer, without organization of assistance, and compact organization of taxeaters, the mother trusts of the age, that do not find it difficult to use in their costly business even the victim from whom they derive their subsistence and their dangerous power.

Speculations.

(From the Indianapolis News.)

If Mr. Bryan can carry New York and Indiana—assuming that he holds all that he won in 1896—he will be elected with three votes to spare. New York, and the twelve votes that were cast for McKinley in Kentucky, would just elect him. New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, or New York and Maryland, together with either New Jersey or Connecticut, would elect him. He could get through with New York, New Jersey, and North Dakota.

TAX COLLECTING IN CUBA.

A New Decree Regarding the Payment of Assessments.

HAVANA, July 8.—A decree has been issued in regard to the collection of taxes on urban and rural property. It provides that any new assessment shall be made by commissions of tax-payers, from whose decision appeal can be made to the tax collector of the zone in which the property is located, that official to act as equalizer of assessments. An appeal can be taken from his decision to the secretary of finance.

The owners of property destroyed during the war, when called upon to pay taxes, will be exempt when able to prove that the buildings and machinery necessary for the working of the property have been destroyed by the belligerents. Unproductive properties which were not destroyed during the war will be taxed according to what they could produce under existing conditions.

This clause of the decree will cause the owners of such properties either to work them or dispose of them. The present assessments throughout the island are based on the old Spanish valuations, which, in many instances, are doubtless very wide of the market. This is owing to changes in the value of produce, and also to the bribery of the assessors. Cases are known where two houses and properties pay the same taxes, despite the fact that the income from one is much larger than from the other.

NO CONCESSION TO CANADA.

Great Britain Makes No Return for Preferential Duties.

TORONTO, Ont., July 9.—Canada increased the preferential duty on July 1 on British goods from 1-4 to 1-3, as against American and other imports. This preference would, it was thought by many, lead Great Britain to give Canada some substantial return. Not a few Canadians had hoped that England would impose a small duty on foreign breadstuffs and allow those from colonies free entry. Today the "Globe," the Dominion Government organ, prints this special London cable, which will effectually dispel such ideas.

"It is reported on good authority that Lord Salisbury, who was requested to receive the delegates appointed from the Congress of the Chambers of Commerce to urge the desirability of the appointment of a commission to study the question of imperial trade, has stated that he had heard no reason for a favorable decision. Under the circumstances, the report adds, Mr. Chamberlain had no alternative but to follow suit."

THE HOBART ESTATE.

Appraisers' Inventory Places Its Value at $2,628,941.63.

PATERSON, N. J., July 9.—The inventory of the personal estate of the late Vice President Garret A. Hobart was filed today in the Surrogate's office. It consists principally of stocks and bonds of various railroad and industrial corporations and foot up $2,628,941.63, according to the appraisal made by Robert J. Nelden and Edward A. Walton.

It is estimated that Mr. Hobart's entire estate will amount to $3,000,000. He owned considerable stock in different gold, silver, and copper mines, but the value of these are marked "doubtful" in the inventory. He left $1,000,000 to his wife, and the balance to his only child, Garret A. Hobart.

JAPANESE ON A STRIKE.

Misunderstanding Regarding Labor Contracts in Hawaii.

HONOLULU, July 1, via San Francisco, July 9.—All the Japanese laborers on the Hawaiian Commercial Company's plantation on Maui Island, struck last week, and later there was a riot caused by the visit of a census enumerator. The Japanese took him for a spy and attacked him and his assistants with stones. One of the men was badly hurt. The sheriff and a posse visited the plantation and after a fierce fight quelled the disturbance. To avoid maiming or killing the Japanese, they used black snake whips.

The trouble is due to agitators who have made the Japanese believe that they are being held under the old labor contracts which the territorial act repealed. The plantation managers now pay higher wages but this does not seem to satisfy them. Meanwhile, the strikers occupy the cabins on the plantation and use the fuel provided for them. The managers are determined to be rid of them or make them work.

CUBAN EDUCATORS IN BOSTON.

Comments of a Paper on Senoritas of the Party.

(From the Boston Transcript.)

In every quarter of the landscape hereabouts—that is, in Boston or Cambridge—the Cubans, in groups of young men or women, or frequently both, are a feature. Between ourselves, the men, though mostly little in stature, have the appearance of being better groomed than are the women. It is an open secret by now that the average Cuban woman does not know how to wear her clothes. They seem to have inherited the Spanish idea that every article of clothing—skirt, shirt waist or Eton coat—must go on mantilla style—must be, as it were, thrown upon and pulled around the wearer. But they are quick to observe, and if "ladies' tailors" are setting up shops in Havana, they may overcome this tendency.

These young pedagogues of the Antilles are as cheerful, animated lot as ever one would wish to see, and a trolley car that brings to town a dozen or more of them is not unlike a cage of magpies on a huge scale. The contrast, be it said, between these lively Cuban women and the sedate native women on this same car is largely in favor—of which contingent shall we say? Well, to be not too partisan-like, one may say that he wishes each could borrow a little from the other.

But if the women among the Cubans chatter and make merry all the time, the men among them cannot be accused of having anything frivolous in their behavior. Did you ever see anyone take life more seriously than do they? Apparently they have a solemn conception of "what they are here for," and it doesn't depart from them, no matter what they are doing. They can't seem to swing into the picnic spirit of the thing and get what fun should really be coming to them. If they could imbibe a little of the principle upon which so many advanced educators are working here—that the play instinct, rightly directed, yields the best results after all—it would be helpful to them.

But they have been with us only a week as yet, and it is best not to comment too confidently on them, nor offer them too much advice till they feel a little more at home with us.

The Prohibition Party.

(From the Atlanta Constitution.)

At no time in the history of this country have the votes of this element cast in a Presidential election assumed significant proportion, and of late years the number has been steadily decreasing. The candidates put forth by the party, while generally men of splendid individual worth, have not appealed to the public at large, and the voters have cast their ballots for the settlement of issues of a live and pressing nature—those materially affecting the prosperity and welfare of the nation.

So it will be seen that this faction need not be reckoned with in the approaching quadrennial contest. The men engaged in the effort are conscientious and impelled by righteous motives, but it is yet to be established that what they advocate accomplishing by compulsion is not being daily achieved through less coercive and more effectual measures.

A Close Affair.

(From the Philadelphia Times.)

It is too soon to determine to what extent the bolters on both sides of four years ago will resume their places in their old party ranks, but enough is known to warrant the belief that the national battle of 1900 will be one of the most desperate and fairly debatable contests of modern times.

HOPE TO CONTROL THE HOUSE.

A Democratic Majority in the Fifty-seventh Congress Expected.

Democrats count upon controlling the House of Representatives in the Fifty-seventh Congress. When Congress adjourned the Republican majority in the House was 16. The total membership of the House is 357, divided at present as follows: Republicans, 185; Democrats, 161; all others, 8; vacancies, 3. The Republicans thus have a majority of 16 as the House is constituted. Of the 3 vacancies, one is in a district surely Democratic—the First Maryland—and two in Republican districts—the Fifth Pennsylvania and the Twenty-fourth New York—so that with the House full the Republican majority would be 17.

Three of the present Republican members of the House were seated as the result of contests—Aldrich of Alabama, Wise of Virginia, and Pearson of North Carolina. Should the Democrats have enough members to control the organization of the next House these districts would return to the Democratic column.

Of the Republican members in the present House, twelve were elected by a majority of less than 1,000, but then, on the other hand, there are thirteen Democrats in the House elected by a majority of less than 1,000. These men, though, as a rule, represent districts that are normally strongly Democratic and many of them are in Democratic States.

The Republicans who entered the House by small majorities are as follows: Needham of California, 113 majority, in a district supposed to be normally Democratic; Marsh of Illinois, plurality 242. In Marsh's district there were 411 votes cast for the Prohibition candidate, and, had they gone to the Democratic candidate, Mr. Marsh would have been defeated. Although Mr. Marsh's majority was small, it is said that he will probably be re-elected, as he is now serving his fourth consecutive term. Mr. Rodenberg of Illinois is serving his first term, and was elected by a majority of 509, with 1,239 votes scattering. Mr. Faris of Indiana had a majority of 252 votes, with 842 scattering. Mr. Pugh of Kentucky was elected by a majority of 10 votes over Mordecai Williams.

Mr. Baker of Maryland had a majority of only 470. He will not be a candidate again, and his successor will probably be a Democrat.

Mr. Wachter of Maryland entered the House by a majority of 122, with 714 for Hicks, Prohibitionist, and 34 scattering. He will, it is said, certainly be succeeded by a Democrat.

Mr. Morris of Minnesota had 463 majority, and he has said he fears his seat is lost by the action of the party on the Porto Rican bill.

Mr. Howell of New Jersey may give way to a Democrat, as his majority was only 836, while 853 votes were cast for the Prohibitionist and Social Labor candidates.

Mr. Weaver of Ohio came in with 406 majority, while 745 votes were cast for Rathbun, Union Reform.

Mr. Dayton of West Virginia had a comparatively small majority of 624. Mr. Freer of the same State had a majority of 873.

The Democrats, it is believed, have a good chance of winning in Mr. Waters' district in California, which he carried for the first time against fusion in 1898. Mr. Hoffecker was elected Representative-at-large from Delaware by a majority of 2,513, but as Delaware is a Democratic State he may be defeated this time. The Democrats also promise to defeat Hawley, the only Republican member from Texas, although he had a majority of 1,456 in 1898.

The Democratic members whose majorities were small are Jett of Illinois, 725; Turner of Kentucky, 568; Gilbert of Kentucky, 841; Denny of Maryland, 596; Thayer of Massachusetts, 159; Scudder of New York, 410; Glynn of New York, 557; Thomas of North Carolina, 189; Lentz of Ohio, 702; Gaston of Pennsylvania, 34, and Johnston of West Virginia, 765.

UNITY IS ESSENTIAL.

Need of the Christian World Combining Against China.

(From the Indianapolis Free Press.)

When Mohammedanism arose, the unity of its action enabled it to sweep over half the Christian world. Like a tidal wave it submerged Christian Asia and Christian Africa, while the virile Christian strength of Europe employed itself with petty domestic quarrels over family claims to territory. While Mohammedanism again and again attacked the head-centre of Christendom at Constantinople, Western Christendom quarreled on, with vision too narrow to comprehend events. Across the pillars of Hercules and over the mountains of Spain the wave rolled on, until it passed even beyond the Pyrenees into southern France. Across the Bosphorus it rolled, at the other end of the continent, wiping out the Byzantine Empire, with all its priceless treasures of civilization, leaving of Macedonia and ancient Greece only fragmentary memories, and surged up to the very gates of Vienna.

Did Christian arms drive it back? Not at all. We are fond of believing that Carl Martel saved Christian Europe in Aquitaine, and that, later, John Sobieski repeated the salvation under the walls of Vienna. The salvation of Europe was not due to these heroes, great as were their deeds, but to the fact that, with centuries of success, Mohammedanism had lost its political unity. It was not Mohammedanism, but the Caliphate of Cordova, that Charles the Hammer defeated on the plains of southern France. Western Europe was lost to the Moors, not then, but two centuries before, when they severed their allegiance to Bagdad. It was not Mohammedanism that the King of Poland turned back at Vienna, but the Turkish Empire, which had never recognized either political or religious headship other than its own Sultan. Mohammedanism, as a political force, had become scattered and ineffective.

Now the Christian world is precipitated into another great religious war—for we can make nothing else out of the Chinese situation. We know enough now to understand that the horrors being enacted there are but manifestations of a general movement to expel Christianity from eastern Asia. Can the Christian world meet this movement with anything like political unity? If it cannot, if the British Government is to be jealous of Russia, if France is to busy herself watching German and British schemes, if Germany is to be German first and Christian afterward, if Russia is to be Russian first, last and all time, it were better far to merely save such lives as we can and then leave China to the Chinese.

Limits to Legislation.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

When Congress can stray beyond the bounds of the Constitution in legislating for the territories with a pretence of observing its spirit there is not one of its provisions that is safe from invasion. The Government torn from its constitutional moorings would be at the caprice of every changing majority in Congress.

No more pernicious doctrine was ever propounded than that Congress has a "sovereign authority" above the limitations of the Constitution. Calhoun's nullification doctrine is nothing to it. Democratic expansion was accomplished (all of it) within the limitations of the Constitution. The Republican expansion that goes outside of the Constitution is imperialism, with all that the word implies.

Queen Victoria's Memories.

(From Collier's Weekly.)

The full extent of the Victorian era can be measured by the fact that Queen Victoria has seen eleven Lord Chancellors, ten Prime Ministers, six Speakers of the House of Commons, at least three bishops of every see, and five or six of many sees, five archbishops of Canterbury and six archbishops of York, and five commanders in chief. She has seen five dukes of Norfolk succeed each other as earl marshal, and has outlived every duke and duchess and every marquis and marchioness who bore that rank in 1837. She has outlived every member of the Jockey Club and every master of the hounds who flourished in 1837. She has seen seventeen Presidents of the United States, ten viceroys of Canada, fifteen viceroys of India, and France successively ruled by one king, one emperor, and seven presidents of a republic.

AN INTERESTING EVENT.

What Finally Decided Conkling in the Hayes-Tilden Contest.

(From the New York Evening Post.)

My attention has been called to an article which appeared in the "Evening Post" of Saturday, June 30, giving an account of the various Democratic National Conventions, in the course of which there is, I think, a cruel and untrue attack upon the memory of a lady who had hard luck enough in this world without being followed into her grave, the late Mrs. Katherine Chase (Sprague). The statement is directly made that a bolt from the decision of the electoral tribunal which counted in Hayes in 1877 had been organized by Mr. Conkling, but that he was deterred from executing it by Mrs. Sprague's interference, based on revenge for Mr. Tilden's opposition to her father's nomination by the Democratic Convention in 1868.

I do not believe there is one word of truth in this story so far as it relates to Mrs. Sprague. It is perfectly true that Mr. Conkling organized such a bolt, and that he secured the adhesion of Senators enough to have reversed the decision of the electoral tribunal in the matter of the Louisiana electoral vote, and would in this way have made Mr. Tilden President had circumstances not happened to break up the scheme, in consequence of which he went to Baltimore and was not in the Senate and did not vote on the subject that day.

I was in Washington at the time, and possessed the confidence of the Democratic leaders, and argued, as you know, the Florida and Oregon cases. My information was, in one sense, second hand. I possessed Mr. Conkling's confidence with regard to the general subject. I knew perfectly what his views were. He did not hesitate to express them fully, even going so far as to state them at length in conversation with myself and my wife and Senator John W. Stevenson of Kentucky, on the street in front of the Arlington, a few days before the decision of the Electoral Tribunal. He put the case as it stood in his mind in the most vivid terms. He was a master of vituperative language, as you know, and he did not spare anybody; but more especially he put the matter as a question of law, and with more ability than I have ever heard it done by anyone else, but I have not time within the confines of a letter to repeat what he said. Whether Mrs. Sprague was in Washington at this time I do not know.

The only person on the Democratic side who communicated with Mr. Conkling was Senator William H. Barnum, of Connecticut, Chairman of the Democratic National Executive Committee. Mr. Barnum talked to others as he deemed it discreet, but we all thought it unwise that anyone on our side should approach anyone on the opposite side of politics, except Senator Barnum. During the afternoon of the day before the final vote was given in the Senate on the Louisiana case, Senator Stevenson, whose daughter was the wife of one of my partners, and who was until he died my very dear and honored friend, communicated to me as having come to him from Senator Barnum, all the details of what I may call, for brevity's sake, "this plot" to arrest the high-handed dealings of the Republicans, and I went to bed that night in full confidence that Mr. Tilden would be placed on a legal basis for inauguration to the Presidency in the morning. Eight (or nine) Senators had agreed with each other to cast their votes in the Senate so as to reverse the judgment of the electoral tribunal in the Louisiana case.

When I came down to breakfast in the morning, William R. Pelton, Governor Tilden's nephew, told me that "the fat is all in the fire;" that at 2 o'clock in the morning one of the Senators, whose name, for reasons personal to myself and to him, I do not feel at liberty to use, had come to Senator Conkling and told him that he did not dare to go any further with the enterprise, that his political and perhaps his personal future would be ruined if he did not vote for Hayes. Conkling thereupon made up his mind that the game was lost, and took the earliest train to Baltimore, where he would, as Pelton said, spend the day, and where he did, as I afterward learned, spend the day. Although I possessed Mr. Conkling's confidence and regard (I have a letter from him somewhere, couched in more earnest terms of gratitude than I ever received from any other human being), I never spoke with him on this subject. My information was derived entirely from Senator Stevenson and William T. Pelton, with the latter of whom I was, as I have already explained I was with the former, on terms of confidence.

During this period I never heard Mrs. Sprague's name mentioned. I do not know whether she was in Washington or not. I was her father's friend, as you probably know, and I was her friend, and in the matter of the divorce from Governor Sprague I was (with Winchester Britton of Brooklyn) her counsel, and procured her divorce. I have had many conversations with both Pelton and his uncle upon various political and personal matters, but never heard this matter alluded to by either of them, or by Mrs. Sprague, and I do not believe that the story has any foundation in truth whatever. She knew perfectly well, for many years before she died, that I was a friend of Governor Tilden's; that my wife and I both had enjoyed his personal hospitality, and knowing as she did my feelings toward her father, and having been her legal agent and representative, as I was, in association with the late Richard T. Merrick, in an attempt, which never came to daylight, to kill Judge Warden's grotesque biography of S. P. Chase, this is the first time I ever heard any interference of hers in the matter of the electoral tribunal even referred to. Mrs. Sprague has left children and friends who mourn over her sad fate and grieve at her death, and, among others,

GEORGE HOADLY.

FIREBALLS FROM THE CLOUDS.

These Electric Phenomena Are Rare, But Brilliant.

(From the London Mail.)

The storms that have raged over England this week displayed some extraordinary freaks of lightning.

A fireball fell into Diddop reservoir, near Halifax, about 3 o'clock the other afternoon, and was seen by the caretaker's daughter. The ball of fire illuminated the country side. There was a loud, hissing sound. A gigantic fountain was thrown into the air and half the surface of the reservoir was ruffled for fully five minutes. An appalling thunderclap followed. The smell of sulphur was so strong that the caretaker and his family could scarcely breathe.

The fireball which wrecked the village of Stoke Doyle, near Oundle, is described as having presented a vivid spectacle. It is not possible to ascertain its true character, for there are various sorts of electrical phenomena which come under the term "fireball."

According to the best authorities a fireball is a mysterious phenomenon of spherical form which falls from a thundercloud and frequently rebounds after striking the earth. It usually bursts with a bright flash and a loud explosion, and occasionally discharges flashes of lightning. By some scientists the fireball is termed "globe lightning," but the keenest enthusiast has never stopped sufficiently long to examine it closely on arrival.

Sometimes an ordinary bolt of lightning is described as a fireball. The real fireball is a very rare phenomenon; so much so that at one time it was supposed by scientific men to exist only in the popular imagination. The French electrician, Plante, when experimenting with his rheostat—a kind of condenser—several times observed balls of fire travel along the wires of the machine and then burst with a loud detonation.

This phenomenon, which has never been satisfactorily explained, presents all the characteristics of the true fireball, which travels slowly enough for its movements to be plainly visible and then explodes.

The Republican Leader.

(From the Utica Observer.)

Bryan's opponent this year is weakened by four years of scandalous and offensive administration, and by his attempt to subvert the very foundations of our Government, and inject the virus of empire into the veins and limbs and heart of the world's best Republic.

HAWAIIANS' FORLORN HOPE.

Many Still Dream of Restoring the Island Monarchy.

HONOLULU, July 1.—Many Hawaiians still cling to the hope of restoring the monarchy, and promise of restoration will form a most important issue in the coming campaign for the election of members of the Territorial Legislature. James K. Kaulia, one of the organizers of the Independent native party, has been giving promises of this sort.

When the Independent party was organized Kaulia, Robert Wilcox, and Keokalani started on a tour of the islands, holding meetings and presenting the purposes of the party. Kaulia actually told his hearers that the Territorial Legislature could restore Queen Liliuokalani to the throne under an American protectorate, and that all Hawaiians should vote for such men for the Legislature as would work for this purpose.

At the Mormon settlement of Laie he proposed himself as such a candidate and promised if elected, with a Legislature of Hawaiians, to restore the Queen. He denied these statements when they were printed, but his associates say he was correctly reported.

The idea of Hawaii for the Hawaiians impressed the native mind and Hawaiians are planning to elect a native Legislature. Prominent natives criticise President McKinley because of his failure to appoint more than one native to the Supreme Court bench. They also criticise Governor Dole for not appointing more Hawaiians to office and they threaten to force him to give them full representation as soon as they control the Legislature.

SOUVENIR OF A TRAGEDY.

Lorgnette Presented to a Senator's Wife by Booth.

(From the Philadelphia Item.)

The daughter of a United States Senator has a lorgnette which was presented to her mother by J. Wilkes Booth. The story, which is now printed for the first time, is as follows:

Booth rented a room the night before the assassination in the Washington Hotel where Henry Clay died. The house was crowded with guests and the corridors after dinner were filled with women of rank and beauty. Booth, who was fond of admiration, commingled with the assemblage and was presented to many. He carried a handsomely mounted lorgnette which a Senator's wife complimented. She knew the Booth family, Edwin Booth having been a guest at her home. This fact was a sufficient warrant for J. Wilkes Booth to be unusually gracious, and when the Senator's wife admired the actor's lorgnette he begged the favor of presenting it to her. The following night occurred the tragedy. In the preliminary investigation which followed the Senator's wife and another woman who was with her the evening she met Booth were subjected to a most rigid enquiry as to Booth's manner.

The daughter of the Senator's wife, now a prominent society woman of her home, tells this story in connection with the investigation:

"My poor mother was questioned and cross-questioned by a lawyer and a detective touching her meeting with Booth. But she was unable to give them any information concerning Booth's manner except that he was gallant. Hard as they tried to learn anything from her, she could remember nothing showing that Booth contemplated crime, nothing indicating that he ever thought of such a thing. He was in a jovial mood and spoke of some future events with confidence. I do not think my mother ever quite recovered from the effects of the incident. She kept the lorgnette for some years, never using it, however, and finally she presented to me. I am not superstitious, but I have never yet tried to use this lorgnette that something unusual did not occur. The first night I carried it my horse had an accident which made us late in arriving to the theatre, and when we got there we found the play postponed. Once it was misplaced and suddenly turned up. On another occasion it was loaned to a friend who was taken ill in her box and nearly died before she got home. I still have it, but I have never used it, although I mean to some day."

BRASS RINGS ARE JEWELRY.

So Regarded by Customs Officers When Imported.

(From the New York Press.)

Though Uncle Sam has just decided that brass finger rings constitute "jewelry," the old fellow, of course, doesn't expect that all of his countrymen will accept this classification for all purposes. He meant to say only that when these articles are imported they are to be assessed for duty as jewelry and not as toys. These rings are composed of brass, in imitation of gold, and are set with various forms of colored glass in imitation of precious stones. They are of sizes suitable to be worn by children, and also by "some adults." The importers contended that they were intended to be sold chiefly by confectioners and others in prize packages, and that they were designed for the use and amusement of