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Weather Forecast for Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Generally fair; variable winds.

For Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas: Generally fair; variable winds.

TRY IT AGAIN.

The fact that the committee charged with selecting a name for Kansas City's great convention hall made an unsatisfactory choice does not imply that the building must necessarily carry that name. Certainly the decision of a committee of this sort is not so decisive that it cannot be changed, either by the committee itself or by the authority that created the committee. In all probability the members of the committee were doubtful of the wisdom of the selection at the time it was made; they had various names under consideration and it is quite likely that there was no particularly strong preference for the one chosen. They simply had to decide on some one name from the many offered, and they happened to choose one that is not acceptable to the stockholders or the people.

It ought not to be either a difficult or an embarrassing matter to make the necessary correction. Certainly the committee cannot want to fasten on the structure a name which is unsatisfactory to the people of the city. That Agricultural hall is not a satisfactory name to the leading business men and stockholders has been made so plain in published interviews and letters that the committee can have no doubt on that point. It simply remains to be seen whether the wishes of the people thus plainly expressed are to be respected or trampled under foot. We hardly think they will be disregarded. There is not sufficient to be gained from sticking to the name chosen to warrant flying in the face of public opinion.

There are a number of names, any one of which would make an acceptable substitute—at least more acceptable than the one to be discarded. It appears that the one originally designated—Convention hall—is most in favor; but it remains for the committee, or the stockholders, to determine which is preferable. The published interviews will enable the christeners to act with a better understanding of public sentiment than the committee enjoyed when it acted before.

HOSTILITIES AT AN END.

By the terms of the protocol signed yesterday by Secretary Day and Ambassador Cambon, hostilities between the United States and Spain will cease as soon as the various military commanders can be notified.

Although the general terms of the president's proposal to Spain have been known, there is a profound interest in their first official announcement. These terms at once define the far-seeing wisdom of the president and his advisers in dealing with a procrastinating foe, and their acceptance gives final evidence of the sincerity of the enemy in asking for conditions of peace.

The requirement that Spain shall at once evacuate Cuba, Porto Rico and the lesser islands under her control in the West Indies insures the complete and final withdrawal of all Spanish sovereignty from the Western hemisphere, regardless of the delay that may be occasioned in determining the permanent treaty.

The surrender of the bay, harbor and city of Manila at once will give to the United States an ample base of operations in the Philippines, no matter what the future may bring forth as to the disposition and government of the archipelago as a whole.

In other words, the protocol has been so framed that the United States may almost immediately enter upon the responsible task of reconstruction in the West Indies and the development of a commercial center in Oceanica.

In view of the advantages secured by the preliminary agreement, the United States can afford to give all reasonable time for the final adjustment of relations between the two countries. This adjustment will involve the most responsible proceedings upon which our government has entered in many years, bearing upon broader relations between America and the rest of the world.

Whatever may be the concessions and counter concessions in the framing of the final treaty, the preliminary agreement, secured by the withdrawal of the Spanish military forces, gives to the United States all that was insisted upon in the declaration of war and a substantial reimbursement for the cost of prosecuting the several campaigns. Nothing is left in a contingent form that can not with safety be referred to a commission.

THE STONE PLATFORM.

The expansion planks of the Missouri Democratic platform, as adopted at the Springfield convention, are the fruits of a distinctive effort on the part of some leading Democrats, headed by ex-Governor William J. Stone, to appropriate the foreign policies of the present national administration. The movement is based upon the specious argument that the war with Spain was forced upon the country by the Democratic members of the house and the senate, and therefore the credit of its achievements should be seized upon by the Democratic party.

As all men know, the war was delayed rather than hastened by the rank jingoism of the Democratic leaders of congress, their indiscretions and extravagances having to be checked and corrected by the more deliberate wisdom of the administration party in order to avoid diplomatic complications that would have been worse than our strained relations with Spain. If the Democrats had had their way, we should now be in the embarrassing position of having to stand by a recognition of Cuban independence, when it is apparent to the whole world that the Cubans are not yet in condition for self-government.

However, the spectacle of the Missouri Democrats adopting the policies of the administration, even in a modified form, is a gratifying one. But the attempt to steal credit will avail nothing, for the Democratic party can do nothing but theorize and mobilize, while the Republican party is in a position not only to formulate but apply its policies, and it is not obliged to determine and announce every detail far in advance. When the record of the present administration is made up, it will be recognized as one of unimpeachable character, made under stress of extraordinary political emergencies, and no other party will be able to appropriate the benefits for its own upbuilding.

Furthermore, a party platform that carries with it the sickly silver doctrine, indorses such an effeminate and blundering administration as that of Governor Stephens, opposes an enlargement of the army at a time when its increase is an absolute necessity, misconstrues or prevents the principles and character of suggested foreign alliances, and whose monetary and commercial planks are diametrically opposed—such a platform can not command the support of a majority, or even a respectable minority, of the voters of this intelligent nation.

The only aspect of the Missouri Democratic platform that makes it worth discussing seriously is that its framers hope to see it become the basis of the national platform for the coming congressional campaigns in this and other states, and ultimately to be the fundamental and general policy of the party. In the light of the Chicago convention of 1896, it would not be startlingly strange if this incongruous declaration, whose author is striving for the presidential nomination, should become the party's national platform.

WHAT POPULISM STANDS FOR.

"Socialism is the soul of Populism," declares an editorial in the Independence Populist, a newspaper edited by a man who openly and avowedly believes in communism to its utmost extreme and who also serves the Populist party as a member of the Kansas state senate. This editor was addressing himself to the handful of impatient socialists who recently held a state convention at Fort Scott and resolved to run a ticket of their own because the Populist state convention had not declared in favor of the full limit of socialistic demands, and he assured them that in due time the Populist party would be with them heart and soul. We quote again: "The magnificent platform adopted by the Populists at Topeka is going to be a landmark for all coming time. It demands as many steps and as long steps towards socialism as any reasonable socialist could ask. Unless our party is headed in the socialistic direction, it means nothing and promises nothing to the victims of monopoly and capitalism. That the Populists of Kansas understand this and are, year by year, advancing to higher positions and planting their standards nearer to the citadel is evident to every honest man. Should the party go backward instead of forward it would be time enough for the socialists to desert its ranks and set up new standards. But with the whole victorious army of Populism going our way, the socialist who deserts Populism in Kansas to-day is either a fool or a knave."

We have quoted freely from this Populist state senator because he makes the Kansas issue very clear, besides frankly admitting a fact that has been patent to every observer, though it has been earnestly denied by certain of the Populist leaders charged with making terms with the Democrats. He is quite right in declaring that the Populist state platform is about as socialistic as any declaration could be without going the whole road. We doubt if the general public have a full appreciation of the lengths the platform really does go. Up to this time most of the discussion has been upon those specific planks demanding the state ownership of stock yards and state operation of the insurance business. There is one general plank, however, which, broadly interpreted, provides for the total destruction of private enterprise and the merging of every industry from farming to house-building into the social whole, and we quote this plank as follows: "We favor the public ownership of all public utilities and demand the public ownership and operation of all monopolies."

What are public utilities and monopolies, and what did the Populist convention mean by this declaration? The state senator from whom we have been quoting interprets public utilities and monopolies to include "all the means of production and distribution," and from his standpoint the Populists of Kansas have declared for communism, pure and simple. However, some of the Populist journals, not so frank and courageous, hasten to say that this plank does not mean the public ownership of farms and stores and factories and mines, but they are careful not to tell us just what it does mean. If a railroad line is a public utility, so must be a street car system, a gas plant, an electric light service and the telephone and telegraph. If public utilities may be held to include cattle markets, why not wheat markets, potato markets and the means of selling all other produce? If insurance, a business open for anyone who cares to engage in it, is a monopoly, then iron foundries, dry goods stores, grocery shops and all the other business industries belong in the same category. Once launched upon the sea of socialism there is no casting anchor. The Populist who subscribes to his state platform subscribes to the doctrine that all the land should belong to the communistic whole and that private ownership should be abolished, for there is no such monopoly, no such opportunity for the absorption of a human necessity to a class, as that found in the hands of the land owners and farmers of the world.

It seems to us that the issue is drawn very clearly in Kansas. By their votes the people are asked to say whether the state is ready to abandon the old Democratic doctrine, voiced by Thomas Jefferson, who declared that the best governed people were those least governed, and that government found its best mission in preserving equal opportunities for all. It is an issue that must be settled by the industrious laboring men, the property owners, the substantial citizens of every class whose interests are at stake. There is no question where the loafers and the improvident may be found, for they have everything to gain and nothing to lose in socialism.

What is a communist? One who has yearnings
For equal division of unequal earnings;
Idler, or bungler, or both, he is willing
To fork out his penny and—pocket your shilling.

The Democratic state convention did not raise Governor Stephens in public estimation by indorsing him. It simply discredited itself. The people know that Stephens is a puny little fellow in a job twenty times too big for him and no amount of indorsement can make them see him in any other light.

The Missouri Democracy has simply left Uncle Dick Bland behind with his hobby. Uncle Dick is sincerely devoted to his hobby, but it is only a hobby nevertheless. The best the old man can do is to settle down resignedly to a participation in the general prosperity under the gold standard.

Now that the smoke of battle has rolled away, it will be seen that the McKinley prosperity wave is still doing business at the old stand. The hills of Kansas City are an excellent elevation from which to view this gratifying spectacle.

The war is over—that is, the war with Spain. The dyspeptics at home will continue to wage war on the officials at Washington who conducted the international struggle to such a swift and glorious conclusion.

Shakespeare to the contrary notwithstanding, there is something in a name—so much that the people of Kansas City are unwilling their splendid convention building should be discredited with an unfitting title.

It was a short war and comparatively a small one, but it opened up great possibilities and responsibilities. It now remains to grapple with and master these with the same vigor that was shown in prosecuting the war.

There are other and better means of convincing the world that Kansas City is "some punkins" than naming our convention building Agricultural hall.

Colonel Bryan didn't do any fighting in the war, but he will have to do considerable skirmishing when he gets back home, or be lost in the shuffle.

The town of Clinton, Ill., has a barber who "sweats only on one side." His shop is presumably on the sunny side.

KANSAS TOPICS.

Governor Leedy, at the Valley Falls meeting: "I would not have said this much if the war was not over. While it was in progress I remained silent and stood the insults heaped upon me because I deemed it my duty to uphold the president."

Governor Leedy, at the Populist state convention (during the war) in his great act of remaining silent and upholding the president: "Gentlemen of the convention, I stand here to tell you that the dilly-dally policy being pursued by President McKinley is a contemptible plan to continue the war until after the next election with the hope of again being placed in power on the strength of his war record."

* * *

At Fort Scott the other day a meeting was held by the anti-fusion Democrats of Bourbon county at which the decision of the Topeka conference to fight the Populist state ticket was unanimously indorsed. It was decided not to attempt to beat the fusion Democrats in the county convention, but to allow the triune forces to have an uncontested field, and then carry the fight to the polls.

* * *

The Lawrence Journal declares that American bravery goes sixteen ounces to the pound every time. And now some Pop is losing a great opportunity to remark that American bravery is paid in gold which goes only twelve ounces to the pound.

* * *

In the midst of the tales of suffering which come from the troops in Cuba, what do you think of this from Corporal William Schroeder, a Kansas boy, with the regulars at Santiago: "This is a very rich country and has a very healthy climate. All kinds of fruits grow wild. We have been having a little rain, but not enough to amount to anything."

* * *

"Did you hear Senator King roar?" asks the Arkansas City Traveler in its report of the Populist county convention. "Well, if King were making a speech in a room four feet square he would roar just the same. He has been, all these years, one of those misguided individuals who labor under the delusion that it is the thunder, and not the lightning, that kills."

* * *

The Allen county Democrats assembled in convention last Wednesday, and adopted a resolution that somehow reminds us of the farewell speech of old "Buffalo Joe" at Fort Wallace, who defied the vigilance committee in this fashion: "Yes, I stole the hoss and I stole the mule and I stole the farmer's wagon. I ain't a-denying nothing, and you can fetch on your rope as quick as you d——n please!" Here is the Allen county resolution: "Resolved, That we indorse the national platform adopted at Chicago, and we indorse the state platform adopted at Atchison, and we indorse William J. Bryan for president in 1900."

* * *

The Populist convention of Labette county adopted a resolution declaring that four-fifths of the soldiers from Kansas are Populists. Here is an extract from a letter from Cortland Flemming, with the Twentieth regiment at San Francisco, that is calculated to jar the eyeteeth loose in every Populist in Kansas: There are now only four Populist officers in the regiment. The rest are redhot Republicans, and 95 per cent of the regiment are Republicans.

* * *

The McPherson Republican relates that a petition is in circulation over the county which has for its purpose "the inducing of A. W. Smith to run for the legislature."

* * *

At a union meeting in Caldwell one of the ministers proved right out of the Bible that God intended every man to have a wife. At the close of the sermon, Rev. John Boover, the only unmarried clergyman in town, rose and offered a fervent prayer in which he asked God to send him a spouse right away. The local paper declares that the prayer was delivered in great earnestness.

* * *

Congressman Ridgley is not a married man, and this explains the following item from the Neodesha Register: Congressman E. R. Ridgley was here this week professedly to arrange for opening the Populist campaign in this county. But as the party managers surely can attend to that matter, it was quite evident that a campaign of another sort was absorbing the gentleman's time and thought while here. Though a grizzled old statesman, as he is, the tender passion still holds sway within his breast, and it was a campaign in the interest of the goddess Amor that he was far more deeply interested in.

* * *

The San Francisco Chronicle gives this handsome notice to the Kansas soldier boys:

"A great concourse of people, seated in many tiers rising from the long rectangular floor space in Mechanics' pavilion, gazed in delight last night upon the Twentieth Kansas volunteer regiment during three hours of what was generally the most novel and complicated military drilling ever witnessed in San Francisco.

"It was a popular exhibition for the financial benefit of the Army and Navy Christian commission. Minnesota, Tennessee, the Seventh California and Iowa had each in turn appeared for a similar purpose during the past six weeks, but, though Kansas came last, the attendance was not diminished, nor was the entertainment a repetition of what others had done. Evolutions were gone through with at double time and with an elasticity of movement that made hundreds of flag-waving spectators remark the smooth-shaven faces and apparent youth and agility of the volunteers from Kansas.

Colonel Funston, the youngest regimental commander in the volunteer service, has made a fine body of soldiers of the poorly attired and sorry looking aggregation that came here less than three months ago, and the secret of his success has been the hearty co-operation of the men themselves.

Aside from the graceful motions of companies and battalions marching and going through the manual of arms in admirable unison, there were two especially interesting, novel and spectacular exhibitions given by Company K, Captain Boltwood, and by Company M, conducted by Major Whitman. Captain Boltwood, a veteran officer of the regiment, accomplished, in a series of complicated marches, skillful company formations, evolving crosses and triangles and squares, in perfect alignment and time, and the applause was thunderous. Company M delighted the assemblage with graceful calisthenics with rifles.

There was a musical programme, and singing and speeches, and enough variety to complete a successful show. After the regiment had passed in final review before Brigadier General Marcus P. Miller, next to whom sat Major General Merriam, General Miller said: "The Kansas volunteers are young and strong and eager. Their drilling cannot be praised too highly."

* * *

There is in Butler county a large number of Democrats who hitherto have been in favor of fusion. They took offense at the socialistic character of the Populist state platform, however, and commenced to draw away from a fusion on the county ticket. This alarmed the local Populist leaders and they started a backfire against their own state platform by adopting the following resolution in the county convention held last Wednesday:

"Resolved, That while we favor the government ownership of public utilities where control is impossible, we do not favor the government entering into the various enterprises and industries of the country in competition with its own citizens, as a tenet of political faith."

Aside from the fact that this declaration squarely reverses the Populist state platform, which declares for the government ownership of every public utility regardless of the question of control, it shows the weak and puerile quality of Populist thought and reasoning. In the first place every public utility is subject to control within the limits of justice established by the constitution. There can be no questions about this, and there is no exception to the general rule. Congress, the state legislature, common councils and law-making bodies of all sorts have exercised the right of control over the administration of the so-called public utilities, and the courts have sustained the principle at every hearing. Governor Leedy is now going about Kansas declaring that he was forced to abandon his project for a maximum rate bill by a decision of the federal supreme court in the Nebraska case which held that maximum rates were unconstitutional. The supreme court held nothing of the sort. It sustained the right of the Nebraska legislature to pass a maximum rate bill. It decided simply that legislature must not be oppressive and that this particular bill made rates so low that it amounted to robbery and confiscation and therefore was a violation of the constitution. In clear terms the decision sustained the right of a state to regulate railroads, through maximum rates or otherwise, and the only limitation placed upon the lawmaking bodies was one which prevented them from confiscating property.

* * *

Therefore, the suggestion in this resolution that in some cases legislative control of the administration of public utilities is impossible must be regarded as a false and foolish one. If it is possible to control any of the so-called public utilities, it is possible to control all of them, and public ownership is not a condition necessary under any circumstances whatever. If our Populist friends in Butler county had stricken off the first division of their resolution they would have presented a platform calculated to win the applause of every right thinking man within the borders of Kansas, for then it would have read in this wise: "We do not favor the government entering into the various enterprises and industries of the country in competition with its own citizens." That is the faith of Jefferson Democracy and Lincoln Republicanism, and it ought to be made the keynote in the coming Kansas campaign.

MISSOURI POINTS.

"Judge Ramey got it where the St. Joseph man always gets it at Democratic state conventions," consolingly remarks the News.

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Apparently it's up now to General Dick Horne and the rest of the anti-Lonnie Democrats who have vociferously and repeatedly declared that a personal indorsement at Springfield of Missouri's "war governor" would result in dire disaster to the party.

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Springfield Republican: A man dislocated his spine in front of the Baldwin theater yesterday. When he saw a lemonade stand trying to operate close to the Democratic convention he was so convulsed with laughter that it threw his backbone out of joint.

* * *

John James Ingalls, of Kansas: Democratic Nominee Dougherty and J. E. Goodrich, the talented young Cameron Republican who may be called upon to defeat him in his Third district congressional race, are to furnish the oratorical fireworks for Lathrop's big flag celebration week after next.

* * *

Brer George Trigg may not retain all of the personal pulchritude which characterized his manly shape before he was put through the Democratic threshing machine at Springfield the other day, but the additional information of which he is now possessed is likely to be valuable. Besides, Cowgill went through with him.

* * *

Lonnie is vindicated. His refusal to commission Warrior Batdorf is commended by Colonel Dapple Gray, of the Sturgeon Leader, who makes the shocking disclosure that Batdorf "is a puffed-up nothing" who once confided to a friend that "he would see Stephens in hell before he would do anything for him." The horrid, unladylike person!

* * *

"The old saying that 'a rolling stone gathers no moss' appears to have been annihilated at Springfield," the Carthage Press remarks. "The big Stone in evidence at the Democratic state convention there has been rolling nearly all the war horses of the party this week and has gathered the moss off the backs of the old-timers at a surprising rate."

* * *

John Marens' successor in the editorial chair of the Hamilton News-Graphic entertains his readers this week with another installment of stomach-ache literature, the burden of which is the declaration that among the twelve members of the Caldwell county Democratic committee but four are subscribers to his paper. Apparently a robust "long felt want" is straying about unnoticed over in that locality.

* * *

Eighth district Republicans seem to have been particularly fortunate in their choice of a candidate to run against "Silver Dick" Bland. Mr. Vosholl's nomination is well received in all quarters and many complimentary remarks are being made by the papers in the localities in which he is best known, as the following from the Osage County Enterprise will illustrate: "A fluent and eloquent talker, he probably is to-day the most popular stumpspeaker in Central Missouri. And added to all, he possesses a fund of knowledge, information and an insight into the relations of political events, and the character of men, that, especially qualify him to fill the position to which the people are determined to elect him. We know of no Republican who will vote against him and of no Democrat in Osage county who would grieve at his election."

* * *

It is possible that the smooth Mr. Dockery may not find it so easy to line up the Third district in solid phalanx in support of his gubernatorial aspirations two years hence. Some of the candidates for the Democratic congressional nomination at Richmond last week now have their eyes open to an extent that permits a thorough realization of the bunco game that was worked on them, and they are likely to reciprocate in a way that will count when their turn comes. The following, from the Bethany Tribune, tells how the affections of Harrison county's favorite son were trifled with: "T. A. Dunn, of Bethany, now knows how much dependence to place in the promises of Alexander M. Dockery. There is good reason for being certain that Dockery promised Mr. Dunn two years ago that he would use his influence for Dunn this year. It is understood that Mr. Dunn went into the canvass expecting the support of Dockery's friends at the proper time. Otherwise it is believed he would not have made the effort he did for the congressional nomination. But when it was expected that Dockery's friends would break to Dunn, as it was tacitly understood they would, they went to Dougherty, instead. It seems that Dockery had made the same promise to Dougherty, and that he chose to keep faith with him rather than with Dunn. And this is the gentleman who has been posing as the apostle of honesty and reform in congress."

Colonel Birch tells in a Plattsburg paper of the following conversation he had thirty years ago with Colonel Vincent Marmaduke and its application to present conditions is such that we give it to the public. Every Missourian knows that Colonel Marmaduke, like his brother, was a decided Confederate, and during the war he was the bearer of dispatches from Mr. Davis to Mr. Mason, who represented the Southern Confederacy in England. Marmaduke says that one evening Mr. Mason said to him: "Mr. Marmaduke, John Bright is to make a speech to-night in the house of commons, and I think it would be to your pleasure and interest to go down to hear him." It will be remembered that at that day Mr. Bright was the most conspicuous figure in England, and had he lived would have made his mark even above that of Gladstone. Marmaduke went, and during his speech, Marmaduke says that Bright stopped, and, changing his line of remarks, said: "Mr. Speaker, if our kinsfolk on the other side of the Atlantic settle their civil war satisfactorily, and get back together in peace, in forty years there will not be a gun fired in the world without their consent." This statement at that day seemed preposterous and no one but a man with Bright's comprehensive mind could have dared to make such an assertion to go before the world. It has been but thirty-five years since Mr. Bright made that statement, and yet events have happened in the last few months which give to Mr. Bright's words the spirit of prophecy, and no one would now hesitate to reproduce it. Colonel Birch asked Marmaduke how he felt as he listened to such remarks from the then greatest man in England, as to the future of the American people, when he was engaged in breaking up that great country. Marmaduke admitted that it gave him uneasiness of mind, in connection with his own conduct, and that for the first time he began to realize the wonderful power and influence which the American people were to have on the destinies of the world, and added, with a tremor in his voice, "Like all other Southern men, I am glad that the Almighty has preserved us for purposes of His own, which will some day be unveiled before the world."

The Missouri Democrats.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Congressman Bland begged the delegates of the Missouri state convention not to adopt resolutions favoring the acquisition of Cuba, Porto Rico, or the Philippines. He did not venture, however, to ask for the adoption of a resolution opposing the acquisition of any of them, alleging that he did not wish to "close the doors to any honorable annexation." The old 40-cent silver dollar crank felt that it was not safe to take radical ground against national expansion. But the delegates declared, like their Texas brethren, that, while opposed to the retention of the Philippines, they favored the possession of Porto Rico by the United States. They favor giving the Cubans an independent government if they desire it and their annexation if they wish to be annexed.

The appearances are that the policy outlined in these resolutions will be that of a majority of the leaders of the Southern Democrats. They decline to accept the extreme views of Bryan, Bland and Bailey, who are opposed to the acquisition of any territory as the result of the war with Spain, and will try to pursue a middle course, favoring expansion in the West Indies and fighting it in the Pacific. That is the extent of the concession which those leaders are willing to make at this time to public sentiment. But, having gone so far as to be willing to swallow Porto Rico, and to be about ready to swallow Cuba, it may not be long before they are willing to go a little farther. Next year they may be willing to gulp down the Philippines also. The younger and more progressive men in the party will insist on it.

Congressman Bland would have liked to see the Missouri Democrats ignore the question of national expansion altogether and declare "there is no god but free silver and Bryan is his prophet." He asserted that "this issue must remain paramount until it is settled and settled right." That is, until the country has been cursed with a debased, cheating currency. "We do not propose that plutocrats shall entangle and confuse our minds with foreign issues"—those "foreign issues" being whether the United States shall take Spanish colonial possessions in lieu of that money indemnity which Spain ought to pay but cannot.

The convention complied with Bland's desires to a certain extent. It indorsed "16 to 1" and Bryan and stated that "the money question is and will remain the most important of all political questions affecting the prosperity and happiness of our people until it is finally settled"—by retroactive legislation to legalize the payment of gold standard obligations in dollars the purchasing power of which will be only about 40 per cent of that of gold standard dollars. It is shameful the largest party in as great and important a state as Missouri, a state which is in many respects making rapid progress, should stick to the manifestly absurd and dishonest demand for a debased legal tender currency. But, while the convention clung with inexplicable tenacity to the free silver delusion, it felt that the question of national expansion could not be ignored and that it would be unsafe to oppose all territorial acquisitions. Therefore a compromise policy was adopted.

Free Coinage Atrophy.

From the Springfield (Mo.) Republican.

Atrophy is defined as a wasting away on account of want of nourishment. A portion of the brain is said to be atrophied when life no longer reaches that part. That is what has happened to the part of the Democratic brain that was two years ago alive with the cry of free coinage. If any proof were needed of this, it was furnished in the convention yesterday. It does not matter what the platform may say, the people have ceased to care for free coinage. Every allusion to it called out the feeble cheers that come from habit. Every allusion to territorial expansion stirred the great gathering to a pitch of fervid enthusiasm the meaning of which could not be mistaken. As an old and honored leader Bland was called to the chair, but the brain and heart of Missouri cares no longer for the issue of which he was the father. Free silver is dead.

New issues are at the front. New issues will call forth new men. Bryan's day is past. People are tired of seeing his picture around. Something has happened to the Democratic mind like that which happens to soil hardened by the continuous passage of heavy wagons. Nothing will grow there until it is broken up and mellowed by new forces. That portion of the Democratic mind which has been driven over so much by the free silver load has ceased to produce. The Democratic heart is sore and tired by the constant dinning of that issue. Mr. Bland and his kind will go home knowing to the bottom of their hearts that the thing they have stood for chiefly is ended. Free silver supplies no further nourishment, promises no further results. Free silver has no future.

President McKinley.

From the London Spectator.

Mr. McKinley is the only English speaking man who is invested with the powers of a sovereign within a first-class state. That possession of itself makes him an object of great interest, and the interest is deepened by the circumstances amidst which he has been placed.

It seemed at first that, crushed by the weight of these responsibilities, the president might fail. He was supposed to be too much of a politician, a word which in America implies a man who trims; his first selections for office excited no confidence—his choice of Mr. Sherman, indeed, is still unexplained—and he seemed, in his inexperience and his humane aversion to bloodshed, so undecided that observers expected a vacillating administration. Mr. McKinley, it was said, would yield to the people, but he would do as little as he could, and probably, therefore, be unsuccessful in that little. The total unreadiness in which European statesmen could scarcely believe, deepened this impression, and for a moment it was generally held that Mr. McKinley, though a good man, would prove unequal to a task which might have oppressed a Bismarck. It seems probable that power, as occasionally happens, has developed latent forces in its possessor of which the world did not suspect the existence; but at all events it is certain that Mr. McKinley has risen to the height of his circumstances, and, though he cannot be Abraham Lincoln, he convinces those around him that he has many of his great predecessor's best qualities.

He is aware, as Lincoln once said, that ultimate decision in executive matters must rest with him; that the responsibility before the people and before history rests on his shoulders; and with that certainty he has become as clear and firm as if he were a great man of business at the head of a great factory. Two resolves have taken possession of him—or shall we say a conviction of two duties?—to carry this war forward to complete success, and to execute the national, as distinct from the party, will; and with those resolves hesitation and overanxious care have alike disappeared and President McKinley has become a dangerous man to face. His own people see, and the world begins to recognize, that whenever the appeal from the armies or the fleets or the departments reaches the White House the orders that come back are always clear, and are always in the direction of decided action. Cubans give trouble, foreign powers give trouble, the generals give trouble, critics at home give infinite trouble, but Mr. McKinley goes on steadily, unhasting but undismayed. The enlargement of his conception of the work to be done is unmistakable.

Mr. McKinley's new demeanor has been answered by a new development of public confidence, and he is now by far the most influential personage in the United States.

"You Bet!"

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Missouri Democracy has joined hands with the Texas Democracy. Both repudiate the pent-up policy of their party, national and state, as well as Bryan and Cleveland, Bailey and Bland.

The free silverite Bland asked the Missouri convention, "Are you going to ratify a treaty here? Are you going to approve in advance a treaty which the Republican party has yet to make? Are you ready to annex Porto Rico before you know anything about it?" A voice from the body of the convention shouted back, "You bet!" And the convention itself, cold and unsympathetic before, burst into tumultuous applause. That settled the matter. The committee on resolutions saw its line of duty marked out so plainly that there could be no mistaking it. Even Mr. Bland himself blandly bowed to the enevitable and faintly murmured, "If the people of this country are in favor of such annexation, then I am for and with the people of this country."

The Missouri convention drew the line at Spanish possessions in the West Indies, so far yielding to the pent-up partisans as to oppose the annexation of the Philippines; but such a mere matter of degree amounts to little in a declaration of Democratic policy. The same tide in American affairs which has overborne and submerged the leaders who opposed any expansion is steadily rising higher and running more swiftly. It will not be long before the Bourbons will blandly say, in the language of practical acquiescence, "I am for and with the people of this country." The Democratic party always lags at first and later reluctantly accepts the logic of events. After the accomplished fact it bows to the inevitable.

A Sad but Glorious Day.

"Rose" Field, in Chicago Post.

Our holy cause received a terrible setback down in Missouri yesterday when the rough riders headed by Bill Stone routed the pacificos and reconcentrados under Dick Bland. It is true that the resolutions glibly made a pretense of indorsing the Chicago platform and our venerated Bryan, but this hallowed work was upset by the adoption of Bill's unholy scheme of territorial expansion and imperialism. Dick's speech was one of the masterpieces of contemporaneous oratory. Like the fearless Orlando he cried: "Forbear till I and my affairs are answered!" And they did forbear while our noble comrade showed with incontrovertible logic that the attempt of the plutocrats to entangle and confuse us with foreign issues must fail, and that all side diversions must be forgotten until we have provided for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the heaven-born ratio of 16 to 1. Dick is right. The people of this country are not thinking of Cuba or Porto Rico or the Philippines or the Ladrones or a coaling station thousands of miles from Rolla, Mo.; their minds are fixed on despised and downtrodden silver, and while temporarily they have seemed to be interested in the dispute with Spain they are already turning longingly to the real issue of the day, the rehabilitation of silver and Bryan. Our brethren in Missouri have taken a fatal step. They have thrown away the grandest opportunity presented by a Missourian since Gratz Brown went to the rescue of Horace Greeley. We confess to a feeling of discouragement, and we turn appealingly toward the South, where our venerated leader is prancing before the kinetoscope and the kodak, procuring material and munitions of war for the coming campaign.

Resent the Insult.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Two years ago free coinage was advocated because, as was insisted prosperity could not come without it. Not one claim made in behalf of free silver, not one charge made against the gold standard, has been verified. Events have swept away the whole foundation of the silver arguments. Nothing is left except the general proposition that the way to prosper is to debase the dollar. Once more the Democrats of Missouri ask the people of the state to give their votes to the free silver platform, beaten and discredited though it is by the national history of the last two years. What is the advantage promised? The platform adopted at Springfield presents the view that somehow the free coinage of silver will benefit the American republics when opposed to the financial system of the rest of the world. It is pure assumption, an empty and glittering promise. The intelligence of Missouri should rise in its might to stop a political farce injurious to the standing of the state.

THE SILENT SUMMONS.

With fife and drum and farewell waving hands
The volunteers are marching far away
From lands of peace with garniture of May,
Across the frontiers of unfriendly lands.
And shall they fall upon Matanzas' sands,
Or, o'er the world, by famed Manila bay?
Or shall they come back from the ensanguined fray
With streaming banners and triumphant bands?
God knows! But they have heard the subtle call
To file with those armed legions that have gone
Past Marathon, Bannockburn and Lexington,
Leaving their cairns and campfires, as a sign,
Along their way toward freedom's capital,
Which they shall build beyond thought's picket line!

—Henry Jerome Stockard, in Munsey.

A KNOT OF BLUE.

In olden days, for lady's praise,
A knight went forth to war
With arms complete, his charger fleet,
And pennon fluttering far;
While on the field of blazoned shield
Hung, pure and fair to view,
A simple band from woman's hand—
A tiny knot of blue:
A true knot, a blue knot,
A lover's knot of blue.

Did foeman bold, or robber's gold,
Or Paynim blade appear,
"For God, St. Clair and lady fair"—
Went forth the ringing cheer.
'Mid weapons' flash and deafening clash,
As man and beast he slew,
And omen clear danced ever near—
A tiny knot of blue:
A true knot, a blue knot,
A lover's knot of blue.

L'ENVOI.

To-day your knight goes forth to fight,
Oh, love, my love, so true;
God gives him grace his foes to face
With your sweet knot of blue,
A true knot, a blue knot,
A lover's knot of blue.

—W. R. A. Wilson, in The Puritan.

IN THAT DAY.

Lord, if I find no place among Thy sheep,
In pastures fair above,
Yet grant me—straying with the goats—to keep
Some tether of Thy love!
And though emparadised on Thy right hand
I never may appear,
Deny me not this only grace—to stand
Thy left exceeding near!

—E. A. C., in New England Magazine.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

The war has brought grist to the mills of the New York "professors" who use the Japanese needle on the human skin. One of the best known tattooers has a "studio" in Chatham square, another expert can be found under the skylight of a Bowery saloon. There is no better profession for a young man to adopt, according to the leading professor, than that of tattooing, provided, of course, that the learner has a gift for the art. He modestly admits that it's a mighty poor year when he doesn't earn $5,000 or $6,000. For the benefit of those who know nothing of tattooing, it may be said that the prices vary from 25 cents to $40. You can get an anchor and three stars for 30 cents, but a Japanese dragon costs $40. "In Memory of Mother," "The Sailor's Return" and "Hope" come at about $3 apiece, and are very popular. "The Sinking Ship" has a certain vogue among the despondent, but "Hoisting the Flag," which represents a sailor turning the glorious stars and stripes loose in a gale of wind, is deservedly the most popular design. It figures on the bosoms of most American seamen. Of late, however, pictures of the Maine, portraits of the naval heroes, eagles and flags have had the call. The professor is himself a walking art gallery. He proudly exhibits "The Crucifixion," a battle scene and several other works of his beloved tutor.

The last speech Jefferson Davis is known to have made has been discovered and made public by the Augusta Chronicle. It was to a political gathering at Mississippi City in 1888, and is interesting in view of recent developments: "The faces I see before me are those of young men; had I not known this I would not have appeared before you. Men in whose hands the destinies of our Southland lie, for love of her I break my silence, to speak to you a few words of respectful admonition. The past is dead; let it bury its dead, its hopes and its aspirations; before you lies the future—a future full of golden promise; a future of expanding national glory; a future of recompense for honorable promise; a future of expanding national glory, before which all the world shall stand amazed. Let me beseech you to lay aside all rancor, all bitter sectional feeling, and to take your places in the ranks of those who will bring about a consummation devoutly to be wished—a reunited country."

It will be remembered that four valuable paintings were lost with the ill-fated steamer La Bourgogne—Dupre's "Crossing the Ford," Cazin's "Zuyder Zee" and two pictures by J. P. Vibert. "Crossing the Ford" was valued at $15,000, and the other three came to about $6,000. This is not the first time, however, that the French line has suffered in this way. When the Ville de Havre was wrecked in 1873 Meissonier's "Bons Ames," valued at $12,000, went down with her. The Ville de Havre was struck by the Loch Earn and sank in sixteen minutes, with a loss of 230 lives out of 313. That was a disastrous year, for it also included the wreck of the White Star steamer Atlantic, which struck on Marr's rock, off Nova Scotia, with a loss of 547 lives out of 976.

Some of the clergy of Allentown, Pa., are trying to bring about the abandonment of a practice which is peculiar to a portion of the Pennsylvania Germans, and that is the habit of men keeping on their hats in church during funeral services. Among only one other class of people is this custom prevalent. A minister of Allentown, who has been endeavoring for some time to discover where the practice originated, states that so far he has been wholly unsuccessful. The only explanation that seems to fit the case is that the usage grew out of some process of the Hebrews, who kept their heads covered in mourning, and some of the old forefathers were so impressed with this Hebraic law that they adopted it.

It is possible that the Rev. Mr. W. H. H. Murray, better known as "Adirondack" Murray, may bring a libel suit against the paper which recently asserted that he is running a disreputable saloon in Texas. "This ignorance," says the Springfield Republican, "would not be expected in Connecticut, seeing that Mr. Murray has been for several years living on his ancestral farm in Guilford, and is now spending much of his time in this city, supervising the publication of his selected works, of which the fourth volume is almost ready."

Lord Beaconsfield married for money, but, though his wife was fifteen years older than himself, the union, which lasted thirty years, was a very happy one. She was his confidant, adviser and helpmeet, and the hours he spent with her in retirement were the happiest of his life. Probably the greatest joy he ever had was when he was able to decorate her with a peerage. In the dedication to her of "Sybil" he affectionately and gratefully describes her as "the most severe of critics, but a perfect wife."

Henry B. Bult, the most learned expert in old prints and the subtlest epicure in New York, has been sentenced to Blackwell's island for a year for appropriating $60 that belonged to the firm for which he worked. He had sold books to Gladstone and his judgment was accepted without question by all the great buyers of scarce books and engravings. His peculation was due to a lack of money, he receiving only a meager salary.

Before Santiago Chaplain Brown, of Arizona, was seen to seize the carbine of a wounded trooper as the fight began to grow fierce and work his way to the front of the fighting line. Colonel Roosevelt remonstrated. "According to the articles of war, chaplain," he said, "you are not allowed to handle firearms." "D— the articles of war!" came the quick response. "Here's where I'm needed now." And there he stayed.