

The Kansas City Journal.

ESTABLISHED 1854.

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FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 12 THE JOURNAL CIRCULATED 294,100 COPIES; DAILY AVERAGE, 42,014.

Weather Forecast for Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Weather forecast: For Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Arkansas—Generally fair and continued warm Saturday and Sunday; fresh southerly winds.

For Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska—Generally fair and continued warm Saturday and Sunday; southerly winds.

For Colorado—Fair Saturday; probably showers; clearer Sunday; variable winds.

MILITARISM.

The New York World, taking up and reiterating the new cry of the agitators, has drawn a profound lesson from the attempted assassination of Maitre Labori and the circumstances attending the crime. Quoting a French army officer who expressed satisfaction over the shooting of Labori, the World continues: "There spoke the military spirit. It stands always and everywhere for brute force, for arbitrary rule and for all the infamies of despotism. It is the enemy of liberty, the willing instrument of oppression, the implacable foe of free government."

All this is designed to alarm the people of the United States over the increase of the regular army and the special increase of our military forces to meet the demands of the Philippine situation. Delivered for such a purpose the utterance of the World must be regarded not only as a gross exaggeration of military evils at their worst, but as a false application of those evils to the United States.

Admitting the extravagance and the dangers of large military establishments as they exist in certain European countries, and even admitting the undesirability of like standing armies in this country, what is the occasion of this alarm? Why should the people take warning from the pitiful conditions that exist in France? The history of that country are so radically different from those in the United States that no parallel can be drawn. In the army of the French republic are men whose sympathies are with the royalist pretenders, others who are embittered by class prejudices, still others who have the very name of Liberty. Would it be possible to organize such an army in this country?

The traditional policy of the United States has been to maintain, in times of peace, only such a military force as is absolutely necessary to meet the requirements of good order and safety. That policy has not been violated by any increase that has ever been made in the army. It has happened that our peace demands have increased through the enlargement of our territory and because of unsettled conditions in some of the territory for which we have recently become responsible; but never has the army been enlarged beyond the honest needs of the time, whether peace or war prevailed.

Even the largest army ever maintained by the government for war purposes has never given evidence that it would become a dangerous element if put on a peace basis. There is no need in this country of such a military establishment as is maintained in France, but if the United States army were increased fivefold for permanent uses, no sensible American would be apprehensive that such an army would be an "enemy to liberty," "the implacable foe of free government," or that "it would stand for all the infamies of despotism." The army would necessarily be made up of Americans. It is hard to make Americans distrust themselves.

THE BRYAN-CROKER FLIRTATION.

According to Mr. Joseph J. Willett, of Alabama, who seems to speak authoritatively, the tickling of Mr. Bryan by Mr. Croker was preceded by the tickling of Mr. Croker by Mr. Bryan. Mr. Willett declares that the interview favorable to Mr. Bryan, delivered by Mr. Croker upon the latter's return from Europe, was not an accidental burst of candor or the evidence of revised opinion, but simply the first public evidence of a very warm flirtation that has been going on between the silver advocate and the Tammany boss for many months. In this flirtation it seems that each side has agreed to certain concessions. Mr. Bryan has modified his views as to the importance of the silver issue and Mr. Croker has changed his base on the expansion question. Mr. Croker, with characteristic directness, has repudiated himself on the expansion issue, and Mr. Bryan has already shown signs—only signs, however—of cooling off on the silver question.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Iowa Democrats are for Bryan. But Iowa isn't by an overwhelming majority.

Those Cleveland dynamites might plead in defense that they thought the Cleveland ball club was riding on the cars at the time.

The mayor of Atlanta should move up into Kentucky where the official jag is regarded merely as an evidence of good faith.

It seems that in France any crime however black may be committed without discredit if it is done to preserve the "honor" of the army.

The Mail and Express has an article on "The Hardships of Prosperity." They are felt principally by free silver and calamity statesmen.

Oklahoma has become a great wheat grower and doesn't care who knows it. In fact, she is determined that nearly everybody shall know it.

One of Edward Atkinson's publications is entitled "Hellishness of War." The most hellish thing about war is the fire of traitors in the rear.

Secretary Root seems to think it worth while to have Boston's good opinion. Beans and codfish are the food he has selected to send the Porto Rico sufferers.

In his assaults upon trusts Colonel Moses Wetmore can point to himself as a horrible example. Colonel Moses recently sold out his tobacco interests to a trust at very high prices.

The formidableness of the Democratic bid in Kentucky cannot be determined until it is known whether Candidate Brown is to have the support of the Browns generally.

If it is not a partisan war why is the administration preparing to end it before next year's campaign opens and thus deprive the Democrats of a red-hot issue? Tush, Go to.

Pennsylvania manufacturers have just shipped twenty-seven steel railway bridges to China. "Chinese wails," either at home or abroad, do not seem to be interfering seriously with our foreign trade.

"Wherever the flag is assailed it will be carried at any sacrifice to a triumphant peace," says President McKinley. Mr. Bryan says otherwise, but Mr. Bryan does not speak with authority for the American

people, and there is no reason to suppose that he ever will. The nation's honor, consequently, is not imperiled.

AN APPEAL TO MISSOURIANS.

Governor Stephens, acting upon the request of the secretary of war, has appointed to the support of the Porto Ricans made destitute by the ravages of the recent hurricane. The governor has called attention to the methods that may be employed in making these contributions, whether the gifts be in the form of money or in the form of supplies. The people of Missouri know from personal experience how to sympathize with those who have suffered from storm, and yet they probably do not comprehend the pitiful situation of those Porto Ricans who have been left homeless and destitute by the hurricane of a few days ago. In this country storm and flood sufferers are soon relieved by the spontaneous and generous response of more fortunate people in the vicinity of such calamities. The Porto Ricans have no such immediate and abundant resources to draw upon. The people of Missouri have been blessed with large crops and a very liberal share of the general prosperity that has come to the country, and they should make a good record in their responses to the governor's appeal. They have been "shown."

THE CENSUS OF CUBA.

The census of the island of Cuba, which is to be completed by January 1 next, will be taken under the authority of the United States government. The war department has commissioned General Joseph P. Sanger, of the inspector general's department, to superintend and direct the work. The manner in which it is to be taken has been practically determined, as a result of numerous conferences held between the Cuban officials, representing the six provinces of the island, and the authorities of the war department and of the census office. The immediate taking of the census will be under the direction of a Cuban official in each district. Each officer will have a force of Cuban enumerators, but the number of these for each district is yet to be definitely decided. The final tabulation of the counts will be made in the census office in Washington.

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The Populist county conventions throughout the state, with their usual inconsistency, are adopting resolutions denouncing the Philippine war and commending the Twentieth Kansas regiment for the part it played in the struggle. To denounce a war as unholy and in the next breath laud a regiment that took the most prominent part in it is a feat that only Populists are able to perform.

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