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THEODORE W. NOYES.....Editor

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## The President and Congress.

The talk of an extra session leads to the question: How strong an influence is the President likely to possess and exert with the Sixty-fourth Congress?

At the start, and for a long time, the Sixty-third Congress confessed his influence in the frankest manner. It consulted him about everything, and followed him without objection in many things. It referred disputed matters to him, and accepted his decisions. It seemed largely to surrender to him its constitutional initiative.

A change followed the November elections, which were construed by the practical politicians of both parties as anti-administration in meaning. Some democrats who before had confined their criticism of the President to private conversations now expressed themselves openly. In the Senate some of his appointments to office were rejected, democrats leading the opposition. The ship purchase bill, to which he gave full support, failed because of a democratic defection. He found himself without the power he had been exercising only a few months earlier. On March 4, when that Congress adjourned, Mr. Wilson's prestige as party leader was at a low ebb, the lowest it had reached.

Recently, the President has recovered, so far as the general public is concerned, much of the lost ground. Sharp criticism has given way to praise, which comes from all sections and both parties.

But this has not been produced by domestic questions. Business is still halted. The tariff is still under fire in the manufacturing states. The national defense is still glaringly inadequate. Several important promises made at Baltimore are as yet unredeemed.

The new Congress must deal with these questions. It will be interrogated as to the revenues, as to the business depression, as to the national defense, and in some form must answer with legislation or otherwise.

In the House an abnormal and unwieldy majority has given place to a small one, which will need handling with care. A new floor leader will be on deck. In the Senate the majority has been increased, but six of the seven democratic senators who broke away from the President on the ship purchase bill last winter will be in their seats next winter, ready if challenged to resume their independence.

In political circles there is much curiosity as to how all this will work out—as to whether the President can hold his new prestige, and capitalize it months hence, with a presidential campaign rapidly taking shape.

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Charity for Mexico in its present destitution should go far toward breaking down the dislike for this country that has been taught as a national principle.

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The republican party may experience the same old difficulty in selecting a candidate who will meet with Col. Roosevelt's emphatic approval.

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In spite of the imposing picturesqueness of a great vessel, merchantman or warrior, the submarine is now mistress of the seas.

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## Decoration Day, and Preparedness.

The most beautiful, impressive and significant of all our national ceremonies takes place tomorrow, when the graves of men who fought, and the great majority of whom died, in the service of the country will be decorated by loving and grateful hands. No other day counts for more in our national life and feeling. The old graves of the civil war and the young graves of the Spanish war will alike show the remembrance of those who profited so much by the devotion and sacrifice those graves represent.

We should not forget, however, that they are the more numerous by reason of the fact that in both crises the country was unprepared for war. In 1861 our small navy was not only poorly equipped, but scattered, and our army, then as now, negligible in point of numbers. Mr. Lincoln, called upon to use force in defense of the Union, had no force to use. At the start he was all but helpless. The north responded to his appeals, but could not at once remedy unpreparedness. Our institutions trembled for a time on the verge of destruction for the lack of trained powers of assertion.

In 1898 our foe would not have given us great concern if we had been in fighting condition. But we were not. Our army was still small and poorly supplied, and our navy in such condition the inhabitants of our Atlantic sea-coast cities were "seeing things." From Maine southward, visions of Spanish ships kept folks awake nights.

In both wars the volunteers distinguished themselves, but the regulars were the source of the real strength. The leading commanders on both sides in the civil war had been trained to arms. Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, Lee, Jackson and Johnston were all West Pointers. In Cuba, Shafter and Wheeler, in Porto Rico, Miles, and in the Philippines, Merritt and Lawton, all trained soldiers, gave an excellent account of themselves in our little brush with Spain.

Volunteers would distinguish themselves again in a time of peril. It is impossible to imagine a day or an occasion when American citizens would fail their country. But if war should come we should again be cursed with unpreparedness, and again be forced to heavy sacrifices in blood and treasure until the proper preparation could be made. Why delay? Why not take the stitch in time? Who really believes that in either a larger army or navy there would be anything menacing, or in contravention of the spirit of our government?

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## Exercise and Health.

After forty years of age, warns the public health service in a bulletin, the expectation of life is at present less than it was thirty years ago, as a result of the conditions of modern living. So the service urges people of sedentary habits to take more exercise, to combat the increasing tendency toward degenerative diseases. Daily use of muscles not employed in the course of the working routine is essential, more walking is desirable, games in the open air are beneficial, even gymnasium work is useful, although the open field is preferable.

This is sound advice. Every modern condition tends to make men and women use their bodies less. Street cars and automobiles carry them on their errands without exertion. Machinery works for them. The telephone "saves them steps." The parcel post carries their bundles. This very perfection of organization militates against their use of muscles that were once their faithful, necessary servants. Digestion is weakened in consequence, and they suffer little ills that are merely symptoms of physical degeneration.

A familiar excuse for not walking to and from work is the lack of time. That is a subterfuge. There is always time for such exercise if the day's schedule is properly adjusted. Rise earlier in the morning. Have breakfast half an hour earlier, and to get the right amount of sleep go to bed half an hour earlier. If the distance to the place of business is too great to be covered afoot, walk part way. Walk after dinner, if not before dinner. Walk twice around the block at the lunch hour. Make time and take time for exercise, and the result will surely be beneficial.

The public health service has conferred a boon upon humanity by giving this emphatic warning. It behooves every person who is leading a placid, artificially aided life to strike out promptly on a line of exercise, not too vigorously at first, but sanely and with a view to making effective use of a system of muscles that is more wonderful than the most complex and efficient of the machines that now serve mankind so treacherously.

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If the dance craze increases, cities may have to take positive steps to make a large element of the population take sufficient time for eating and sleeping.

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China is subject to a great deal of disapproving comment, but with all the disadvantages of her position she is better off than some of the nations of Europe.

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Dr. Cook says that he will climb Mount Everest, but offers no guarantee that he will prove to the satisfaction of geographic experts that he did so.

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The gentlemen to whom 1916 looks good will now become more numerous from month to month, and will not be limited to any one party.

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Switzerland is naturally a little anxious as to whether her territory is going to be made to do service as a thoroughfare.

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Both Col. Roosevelt and William Barnes, jr., are doubtless standing pat on their old opinions of one another.

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## The 17th Street Extension.

The public utilities commission now has before it the difficult problem of deciding on the proposed Capital Traction extension along 17th street from U street south, for which various routes are suggested, designed to give north and south communication in the area between the 14th street and Connecticut avenue lines. Property owners have entered protest against this additional trackage, while other citizens have urged the extension. At yesterday's hearing on the subject arguments were presented by both sides, and a strong showing was made by each, so that the commissioners are confronted with a difficult task in ruling on the application of the company. Perhaps the most interesting point raised against the proposed new trackage was that action should be delayed until it could be determined whether the jitney bus service now being installed in Washington will furnish the facilities needed for transport in the section proposed to be covered. Of course, this test cannot be applied unless a specific jitney service is installed along the route projected by the car company. It may be assumed that the promoters of the jitney service are seeking the most profitable fields of operation, and that they will experiment with different routes until they find those that yield a profitable patronage. This process, however, involves considerable delay in covering the whole city with these test lines successively, and it is now for the utilities commission to determine first whether there is a real need of traction service in the section sought to be covered by the projected new car line, and second whether there is any prospect that that need may be met by jitneys running on schedule and definitely assigned to that route. Naturally, many of the residents along the streets named for the extension oppose the laying of tracks in front of their properties, and so far as the public interests warrant their opposition should be taken into account as a factor of weight.

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## The Study of Spanish.

At a meeting of the Spanish-American Atheneum in this city the other night a speaker gave statistics recently compiled showing that of the 100,000,000 people in the United States only about 40,000 are at present studying Spanish. This is a trifling percentage when the proximity of a vast Spanish population to this country is considered. The pan-American financial congress just closed here has developed the urgent need of closer relations between the people of the two continents, not merely for purposes of trade expansion but for the cultivation of a more genuine and lasting friendship.

It is not sufficient to rely upon the enterprise of the South and Central Americans in acquiring English. We of the United States should do our part toward getting on a basis of mutual understanding. In practical lines a knowledge of Spanish is of unmistakable value to a young man. It opens to him a door of opportunity that is closed to those who have no knowledge of the common tongue of the millions with whom we are destined in the years to come to have close intercourse. The public schools should be helpful in spreading this knowledge. Colleges should put Spanish upon the list of preferred modern languages. The 40,000 now engaged in this study should in another year be increased to half a million, at least, if the United States is to make a definite advance toward real acquaintance with the Latin American people.

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The Sultan of Turkey shows some fortitude in holding his present position without venturing any announcement that he is going to the front in person.

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Predictions that this country will be involved in war are possibly based on a magnified regard for the maxim, "It is always the unexpected that happens."

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London is complaining of the high cost of meat, but is finding less difficulty than America in seeing a good reason for the constant upward tendency.

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The airship raid which kills a few women and children makes "the conquest of the air" so often mentioned seem a rather pathetic boast.

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## SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

### In Disagreement.

"Can you remember when you were a happy, barefoot boy?"

"No. And my idea of a happy boy is one who wears shoes and doesn't get stone-bruises."

### Murmur of a Misanthrope.

"Can't you get the telephone to answer?"

"No," replied Mr. Growcher. "The operator is one woman I'd like to meet. She doesn't show the slightest disposition to talk back."

### Modes of Travel.

Though a motor may sometimes play curious pranks
That fill you with fear through and through,
If it lands you all dry and intact, just give thanks
That it wasn't a summer canoe.

### Aggrieved.

"Did you say that my production is a thoughtful, educational and moral entertainment which couldn't offend the most refined sensibilities?" asked the manager.

"Yes," replied the playgoer. "Isn't it true?"

"Maybe it is. But I don't see why you should want to knock business by talking about it."

* * *

"Dere's a few grown folks," said Uncle Eben, "dat knows how to manage chillun; but dar's a heap mo' chillun dat knows how to manage grown folks."

### Civilization.

Civilization! Mighty word,
Which with all reverence is heard!
You teach the world to read and write
And into day transform the night.
And yet 'tis ever in your name
That armies march to fearful fame.
As we your blessings great compute,
We ask one favor more: Don't shoot!

As pictures fair entrance our eyes,
And splendid buildings swiftly rise,
Some of your skill you set apart
For guns to shatter works of art.
As Science seeks our lives to sav
She digs anew the soldier's grave.
As you are wise and resolute,
We pray, be generous, Don't shoot

# WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

### Men Will Be Needed to Harvest Crops.

What officials of the labor department and other branches of the federal government consider one of the most interesting pieces of work ever undertaken by the general government is just being started in the west, where the attempt is being made to solve the annual problem of harvesting the nation's mammoth grain crop without loss of grain—as Assistant Secretary of Labor Post phrased it the other day, "without human waste."

Every year the farmers of the west need hundreds of thousands of workers to harvest their grain, and every year hundreds of thousands of workers scattered over the country are in need of jobs. The men and the jobs have never been well matched, however. In some places there has been a surfeit of workers and suffering, and in others, a dearth of men and loss of grain. Recognizing the need for relief, Uncle Sam, with his two-month-old employment bureau, is trying to bring order out of chaos by guiding the workers to the places where they are needed.

Since last harvest season, when little more could be done than to observe conditions in the west, the Department of Labor has been steadily feeling its way toward the formation of an employment service, and just two months ago actually organized such an agency. The country was then divided into eighteen districts, about fifty district headquarters and subheadquarters were established, and the business of putting men and jobs into touch was formally begun.

During the two months of active operations many of the activities have been turned toward preparation of the new machinery for the great test which is just now coming with the ripening of the grain in the southwest. A special field agent for the west has opened offices in Kansas City, and from there will actively conduct the work of labor distribution. Through co-operation of the Post Office Department every post office and rural carrier will help in the work by gathering and distributing information, and through co-operation of the Agricultural Department hundreds of agricultural agents will report to the employment bureau as to crop conditions.

One of the principal problems is getting the great army of floating workers out of the grain country after the crops are gathered, for the farmers' great need for assistance in a given locality is confined to a few weeks. They can take care of practically none of the workers after October. Fields of grain are ripening steadily farther to the north, however, and the government labor bureau will guide some of the workers to these. Most of the federal activities will be of an interstate character, the work wholly inside state lines being done largely through co-operation with state labor officials.

One of the most interesting phases of the bureau's work will be its operation of personally conducted trains for "vacation workers." The plan will be tried only on an experimental scale this season, but is looked upon by the department officials as most promising. At first the plan will be tried only with workers accustomed to high degrees of heat—probably steel and glass workers. Plans will be made for a trainload of such workers to take vacations at one time, and an agent of the government will take charge of the party and conduct it to the harvest fields. The radical change of employment, it is believed, will serve as an outing and recreation, and the workers will, at the same time, be reinforcing their pocketbooks. After several weeks the members of the party will be taken back to their regular jobs without economic waste. This plan is in satisfactory use by agreement between agriculturists and operators of industries in some communities.

It is the belief of Labor Department officials that, with the experience gained this season, the harvest employment service can be greatly strengthened. With the co-operation of state and municipal labor and employment agencies, they believe it can be brought in a few years to a high degree of efficiency.

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### A Forest Manual.

For the use of his forest rangers—those of his agents who are perhaps most effectually separated from the civilization of cities—Uncle Sam has adopted one of the most modern devices of urban office practice. He has just issued to all the forest officers copies of a new edition of the National Forest Manual in loose-leaf form.

This book, containing regulations and instructions concerning the use, development and protection of the national forests, is the forest worker's final authority and has come to be known in the forest service as "the ranger's Bible." The regulation and instructions must necessarily often be changed and amended. Keeping the manual up to date is a matter of great importance, for Congress in authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to establish rules and regulations provided that a violation of any of them should be punishable as a criminal act. In the past interlineation and pasting have been resorted to, but have been unsatisfactory, so that the loose-leaf plan has been adopted. Now when an amendment is issued a new page is printed at slight expense for insertion at the proper place and is distributed to the forest officers.

The regulations and instructions in the manual are under the headings: "Administration and Protection," "Trespass," "Grazing Lands," "Forest Products" and "Silviculture," which latter term includes timber sales, free use, forest extensions, forest investigations and working plans. The importance of these regulations, on many of which financial transactions are based, can be estimated from the fact that though the forests are not administered primarily to secure revenue, and though national forest work in America is in its early stages, the annual forest receipts are already approximately $2,500,000.

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### Agricultural House Organ.

Following the example of the best organized and most efficient industrial concerns of the country, the Department of Agriculture has just established a "house organ," a publication for circulation among workers of the department only. Its aim is to give each office and each individual a better perspective as to the relation of his specialized task to the work of the whole department.

The Agricultural Department has had a growth in recent years that has been perhaps greater and more rapid than the extension of any other of the great governmental departments, and as a natural result many of its large army of employes have but a hazy idea of the work of some of their fellow-employes with whom they do not come into direct contact. An understanding of the problems of "the other fellow" and how he meets them would be of distinct value, officials of the department believed, and they hit upon a house organ, to be known as the Department Circular, as the best device through which to furnish the necessary information.

In addition to establishing a new publication for its own use, the Department of Agriculture has recently made some striking changes in two of its publications which come into contact most widely with the general public. Its Weekly News Letter to crop correspondents, which since its establishment, in July, 1913, has been a small four-page folder, has been increased to quarto size and to eight pages, and has been made into what is practically a government newspaper, a wealth of additional timely material of interest to farmers and others having been included. In recognition of newspaper methods and newspaper psychology the Weekly Letter has been set in regulation newspaper columns, each story being given several banks of familiar newspaper headlines. Stories of special importance, as in the daily press, are given headlines that extend over more than one column.

At the same time the department, for the sake of more rapid publication, has discontinued publishing its monthly statistical journal, the Agricultural Outlook, in pamphlet form, and is issuing the material in a quickly printed double folder, under the title, Monthly Crop Report. Because of this all interested parties receive the statistics many days earlier than in the past.

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### Educational Development.

The steady advance in the adoption of progressive methods by the schools of the United States is shown by information recently gathered by the bureau of education, much of which tends to indicate that the progress is most marked in some of the smaller cities and towns.

In Hays City, Kan., it was found, the state and municipality have gone into partnership, the entire city school system having been turned over to the Fort Hays Kansas State Normal School for use as a "pedagogical laboratory." The city schools now have a free dental clinic, free medical inspection, supervised playgrounds, organized athletics, a social center and community music.

In the far west the wave of progress has caught hold of the country schools throughout the state of Washington, which are specializing in warm lunches. The teachers are trained in household arts, and while they are providing the lunches to better the physical condition of the pupils they are making use of the preparation and serving of the food to teach domestic science.

One of the towns that is most prominent in making supplemental use of motion pictures, according to reports to the bureau of education, is Santa Rosa, Cal., where the school authorities provide a free motion picture show every night in the high school building. In Milwaukee the recreational facilities of the public schools have recently been enlarged by the installation of twenty-five of the best type pool and billiard tables.

One of the most unique extension campaigns that has come to the notice of the bureau was recently carried out in Tennessee. To arouse interest in his institution Prof. D. R. Harworth of the East Tennessee State Normal School, accompanied by a party of educational campaigners, made a 476-mile trip by wagon through the mountain districts, sleeping often in barns. The party included a male quartet and a string band, and carried three pieces of demonstration apparatus—a milk tester, a farm gate and a model of a heating and ventilation system.

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### Flag Materials Imported.

Old Glory, to which the patriotic American doffs his hat as typifying the spirit of America, is in about nine cases out of ten not a domestic article. For ever since Betsy Ross made her first American flag, the official emblem of the country and all its auxiliary banners that fly from thousands of public buildings, army posts and ships' masts have been made of woolen bunting—practically all of it imported.

In the future, however, a large proportion of the government's flags will be "made in America" from the planting of the fiber to the sewing of the last stitch in the completed banner. This is assured by the recent action of the general supply committee of the government in listing specifications for cotton flags side by side with those for woolen bunting which has heretofore appeared alone; and by the announcement of the Treasury Department, one of the heaviest users of flags among Uncle Sam's family of departments, that it will in the future use cotton flags almost exclusively.

The action of the supply committee is not one of patriotism alone. When the European war put a stop to the exportation of cotton and there was agitation for putting the south's staple crop to new uses at home the committee became interested in the possibilities of cotton flags, but determined on rigid tests before any action should be taken. Cotton flags were therefore made up and placed on several of the revenue cutters, and samples of cotton flag goods were sent to the United States bureau of standards for tests. Both kinds of tests were highly favorable for cotton. The flags stood the strain of constant use in all kinds of weather as well as flags of wool, the report from the revenue cutter service said. The bureau of standards' report showed that in the variety of tests for strength and quality the cotton goods did not fall below the standard bunting on a single count, but made better showings on several. The cotton flags are also materially cheaper than those made of wool.

Investigation into the government's flag consumption has shown that in some services and in some localities flags are used up much more quickly than in others. One of the greatest consumers of flags is the coast guard, which contains the old revenue cutter service and the life-saving service. The cutters fly their flags in the roughest weather, and the flags of many of the life-saving stations are almost constantly drenched in spray. Flags are worn out quickly also on public buildings, in windy plateau and mountain regions of the west, and some flags in industrial centers are rotted by smoke and chemical fumes. The behavior of cotton flags under some of these special conditions has not yet been determined and further experiments will be carried out.

In the meantime, from at least 1,000 public buildings, 250 life-saving stations, 75 coast guard cutters and 50 stations of the public health service—all under control of the Treasury Department—Old Glory will show its colors on a "made-in-America" fabric of cotton.

# ITALY IN THE WAR.

**From the New Orleans Picayune.**

Next in order after its "showdown" will come an exhibition of the sort of "punch" that fine Italian hand can deliver.

**From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.**

Italy's entrance into the war, introducing a fresh lot of geographical jawbreakers, emphasizes the need of a society for the prevention of cruelty to proofreaders.

**From the Milwaukee Sentinel.**

When Kitchener said the war would begin in May he must have had Italy's declaration in mind.

**From the Toronto Mail and Empire.**

Italy caught the last car going to the front. Greece and Rumania will have to follow in jitneys.

**From the Philadelphia North American.**

Judging from the Italians' sweep into Austria and their brushes with the enemy, they must be celebrating clean-up week.

**From the Knoxville Sentinel.**

Italy's entrance into the martial arena will not reduce the war's crop of unpronounceable names.

**From the Spartanburg Herald.**

Where the headline artists of the country got the idea that Italy "plunged" into war is beyond us. If there ever was a country that oozed into war, that country is Italy.

**From the Harrisburg Patriot.**

Italy's entrance into the war could have been worse. After Peremysl and Suczawa, why Cervignano and Terzo are mere child's play.

**From the Birmingham Age-Herald.**

Italy felt that she was compelled to go to war. A nation voluntarily going to war in these days of cryptic diplomacy would be a novelty.

**From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.**

So many new war devices have been tried that Italy may throw Vesuvius at the Austrians.

# FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

**Grand Review Stops Trial.**

The grand review of the armies of the Potomac, Tennessee and Georgia took place in Washington Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23 and 24, 1865. So keen was the public interest in this great parade of the victorious Union troops that the trial of the conspirators was virtually forgotten. Indeed, according to The Star of May 23, it was found impossible to proceed with the case, because witnesses summoned for that day were unable to reach the courtroom at the Washington barracks, owing to the closing of Pennsylvania avenue for the review. Consequently, after a discussion of the matter, the court agreed to adjourn for two days, in order that the proceedings might not suffer from the interruptions incident to the military demonstration uptown. From time to time during the brief session of the court strains of martial music were wafted through the open windows and caused even some of the prisoners instinctively to rise to look out. Upon adjournment the prisoners were removed to their cells, with the exception of Herold, who was permitted to remain in the courtroom to write a letter, his handcuffs being temporarily removed for this purpose.

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**Washington Crowded.**

The review brought great numbers of people to Washington in addition to the troops themselves, so that the capital was uncomfortably crowded. The Star of May 23, 1865, thus describes the congestion due to the great event:

"For the last week the current of travel to Washington has been steadily increasing in volume, and the extra trains coming in, although nearly double the capacity of the usual trains, have proved entirely inadequate to accommodate the public. It is estimated that each train since yesterday morning has brought in over one thousand passengers. Three hundred is the average number on ordinary occasions. Not only have the people poured in over this route, but the steamers from Alexandria have been loaded down and the roads leading to the city thronged by country people from far and near. Such a concourse never assembled before in Washington.

"Thousands were turned away from the hotels and hundreds spent the night in the open air, and at sunrise this morning occupied points along the Avenue, commanding favorable views of the column, where they patiently waited till 9 o'clock. The Avenue, having been cleaned during the night, at daybreak was well watered by the fire department, and about 8 o'clock cavalry patrols were posted at its intersection with streets, to prevent teams from crossing and pedestrians from collecting on the flag crossings.

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**School Pupils at Capitol.**

"The pupils of the public schools assembled at an early hour, and each district, accompanied by the trustees, teachers and headed by a band of music, marched to the Capitol, the girls taking a position on the steps of the northern portico and the boys on the hillside, where, as the procession passed, under the direction of Prof. Daniel, they sang a number of appropriate pieces, including 'The Battle Cry of Freedom,' 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home,' 'Victory at Last.' The girls, dressed in white, and the boys, in white pants and black jackets and displaying miniature wreaths and bouquets, formed a most picturesque assemblage, attracting great attention from the passing troops.

"The movement in connection with the review commenced yesterday afternoon, the 9th Corps, Maj. Gen. Parke, marching across the Long bridge to the vacant ground east of the Capitol, where it bivouacked for the night, and this morning formed on East Capitol street, the head of the column resting on 1st street east. The Engineer Brigade and the Provost Marshal's Brigade bivouacked for the night on the Virginia shore near the Long bridge and crossed at 3 o'clock this morning, taking a position on A street north. The 5th Corps, Maj. Gen. Griffin, crossed the Long bridge immediately after and moved eastwardly sufficiently far to countermarch, forming on Pennsylvania avenue, with the head of the column also on 1st street east. The 2d Corps, Maj. Gen. Humphries, moved at 7 a.m., after the 5th Corps, across the river and formed in a column on the streets of the fifth ward south of Pennsylvania avenue. The Cavalry Corps, Maj. Gen. Merritt, formed on Maryland avenue, with the head of the column abreast of the northern entrance to the Capitol, prepared to move at 9 o'clock.

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**Passing the President.**

"Cheers and waving of flags greeted the commanding general (Meade) as he moved along with his troops, the bands filling the wide Avenue and intersecting streets with melody, and the arms gleamed in the sun like a river, while the tattered banners waved gloriously in the morning wind. The head of the column reached the stand before the arrival of the President and Gen. Grant. The guard presented arms, the vast assemblage cheered and the gorgeous cavalcade passed on, Gen. Meade returning to a seat in the stand and his staff forming in the adjacent streets."

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**Indictments for Treason.**

After the grand review the conspiracy trial was resumed on May 25, 1865, and interest shifted back to the grim building at the Washington barracks. An interlude was afforded by the indictment of Jeff Davis and John C. Breckenridge by the District grand jury for high treason. The news is contained in The Star of May 6, 1865, in a brief paragraph, as follows:

"The grand jury of the District today found a bill of indictment against Jeff Davis and John C. Breckenridge for high treason. Davis and Breckenridge were indicted separately. The overt act was the raid in July last within the District of Columbia and the jurisdiction of this court, killing citizens and destroying property, Breckenridge being present and Davis constructively so. District Attorney Carrington announced the fact in the court and asked for a bench warrant in the case of Breckenridge, who is still at large. He also asked that such steps be taken as will bring Davis before the court for trial. The announcement produced no excitement in the courtroom, the indictment having been expected for some time."

The Star of the next day printed the text of the indictment and noted that the following witnesses appeared before the grand jury: Francis P. Blair, Sr.; John B. Clagett, Gen. M. D. Hardin, Thomas F. Maury, M. D.; George E. Kirk and John H. McChesney.

## Reporting the Wedding.

The bells ring out,
 The knot is tied.
Excited throngs
 Behold the BRIDE.

Because he owns
 The needful scad
A few keen eyes
 Observe her DAD.

But on the day
 That seals his doom
The smallest type
 Reports the groom.

—McLandburgh Wilson, in the New York Sun.

# INDEPENDENT TRANSYLVANIA

**Strong Natural Fortification.**

The war will bring knowledge of many obscure corners of places within the zones of conflict, and among these is Transylvania, which in 1526 formed an independent principality. In 1867 Transylvania was forcibly seized by Austria and united to the crown.

This little known principality is situated south of the Carpathians, with the Transylvanian Alps on the south and east and Hungary on the west. Transylvania is a natural fortification formed by a plateau having its back against the Carpathians with its western sides falling in a gentle slope to the plains. Its eastern and southern sides are steep and difficult of access.

The origin of the people of Transylvania, modified by infiltrations of Slavs, is distinctly Dacia-Trajan, or Rumanian. To the Rumanians there should be added Magyars and Saxons, thus forming the three nations recognized in the constitution of Transylvania excluding the Valachs and Slavs.

Under the protectorate of Soliman II the Great and after the battle of Mohacz, Transylvania became an independent principality under Jean Sigismond. The emperor, Rodolph II of Austria, ceded Transylvania to Etienne Bocskay in 1606 and the independence of the country was recognized by the treaty of Nikolsbourg in 1621.

Sigismond Rakoczy was the first of his name to exercise power in 1607. George I and II followed. George I concluded the peace of Linz, 1648; George II died in 1660.

By the treaty of Presbourg (1687) Transylvania recognized the enthronement of Archduke Joseph and renounced her elective rights. The treaty of Carlowitz (1699) consummated these concessions and determined Austria to acquire Transylvania by force.

June 7, 1703, an insurrection broke out, insurrection led by Francois II Rakoczy, who, aided by Louis XIV, was enabled to wage serious war against Austria during eight years. The importance of the war may be understood from the fact that the diet of Onok felt itself sufficiently strong to declare the dethronement of the house of Hapsburg in 1707. Austria, however, was enabled to surmount her defeats and Rakoczy was obliged to quit Hungary for Paris, where Louis XIV accorded him a pension for the remainder of his life. The peace of Szatmar (1711) closed the career of the princes of Rakoczy.

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**Growth of National Consciousness.**

It does not appear that the treaty of Szatmar altered materially the relations of Transylvania to the crown. By the constitution of 1690 Transylvania continued to be attached to the chancellor's office at Vienna, whose authority was exercised by a council styled "gubernium," at Klausenbourg, the capital of Transylvania.

The diet of Pesth voted (1848) the incorporation of Transylvania under the reserve of ratification by the diet of Transylvania. The latter appealed to the emperor, backed up by 40,000 Rumanians, who gathered in Blasendorf May 15, 1848. Since the eighteenth century the consciousness of nationality had grown apace among the Transylvanians.

The assembly at Blasendorf adopted a veritable petition of rights, expressed as follows: Proportional representation in the diet and personal administration; in the judiciary and military the use of the Rumanian language; an annual national assembly; a permanent national committee; substitution of their legal name of Rumanians for that of Valachs, which had been imposed upon them and which recalled their ancient servitude; independence of church without distinction of confessions, reestablishment of the metropole and annual synods; abolition of corvees and other trammels to agriculture; liberty of industry and commerce; liberty of speech and writing; individual rights; liberty of assemblage and association; public proceedings in courts in criminal actions; universal military service and national guard; secondary and superior schools with subsidies as those of other races; dotation of the clergy; equal distribution of taxes; elaboration of a constitution and new legislation on the basis of liberty, equality and fraternity; exclusive reserve of the question concerning union with Rumania.

Following this declaration the assembly sent a delegation to Innsbruck with a petition, but the delegation on its arrival learned that the diet of Transylvania had voted for union with the insurrectionists at Pesth!

September 16 a second assembly convened at Blasendorf. The Rumanians refused to recognize the insurrectionist government at Pesth and to furnish the conscripts demanded. Race conflicts commenced, Magyars and Szecklers on the one side, Rumanians and Saxons on the other.

The situation, previously favorable to the imperialists, turned in favor of the insurrectionists. Gen. Bern, a Pole, commanded the latter's forces in Transylvania and restrained with difficulty the sanguinary fury of his troops. In this emergency Austria appealed to Russia, which sent Gen. Luders with a Russian army into Transylvania and Gen. Paschkewitch into Hungary. These, with the Magyar general, Gorgey, dominated the situation, and finally signed the capitulation of Villagos, August, 1849. Transylvania was henceforth recognized as a country attached to the crown, and independent of Hungary, according to the text of the constitution of March 4, 1849.

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**Changed by Wars.**

The war of the Crimea (1854-1855), the congress of Paris (1856) and the union of the united provinches rendered imminent what was termed the "Italian peril." The war of 1859 and the loss of Lombardy and Venitia brought about a change of policy at Vienna with reference to her principalities. Austria's defeat at Sadowa, 1866, obliged her to surrender her place as chief of the Germanic confederation to Prussia. Austria thereupon adopted a dualist constitution, that is to say, she divided her power with Hungary, thus sacrificing her slav populations, including the Transylvanians. The treaty of Villafranca and the constitution of the Italian kingdom obliged Austria to relinquish her supremacy in the peninsula.

The peace of Prague (1866), which cost Austria the loss of Venice, excluded her from the sphere in which she had heretofore conquered her prestige and power. Henceforth Austria adopted the policy of conciliating the unity of the empire with the recognition of the legitimate aspirations of the several nationalities of which she was composed.

In announcing the compromise the emperor expressed the hope that the Hungarian parliament would take into consideration "the legitimate claims of the county of Saint Etienne." In sanctioning the union, which was the result of the return of the laws of 1848, he made it understood "that it called for a revision of a nature which would satisfy the Rumanians." But these good intentions were not realized. Andressy represented to the emperor that in a time of excitement a change in policy as to the principles of nationalities might produce peril for the government, particularly by any special recognition of the wishes of the Rumanians of Transylvania.

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**Protest of Deputies.**

The Rumanian and Saxon deputies protested against the adoption, without discussion, of the Kosuthian laws as had been demanded. They requested that there should be adopted as a substitute in the address the words "Hungarian nation," and adding in explanation, "There are in Hungary several nations." Finally the deputies, convinced that they could do nothing more to stay the tide, voted the project of community of affairs and accepted to take part in the coronation of June, 1867.

The law with reference to schools imposed upon the people of Transylvania that instruction should be exclusively in the Hungarian language. Free instruction was almost prohibited. Of 180 establishments in Transylvania and Banat there were six only in which the Rumanian language was permitted. A school in Blacke incurred the malevolence of the Hungarian administration, and was threatened with suppression if certain conditions were not executed, chiefly, the payment of $40,000.

In order to guard against the threat the sum was raised by national subscription despite the fact that Rumanians beyond the Carpathians were prevented from contributing, because their participation would imply a daca-rumanian understanding.

The superior instruction in Transylvania is limited to two professorships of Rumanian history and literature, and this instruction is held to be conveyed through the medium of the Magyar language. According to the laws of 1879 and 1883 the professors are recruited from the Magyar race. These instructors, as well as the population in general, are subjected to an annoying inspection in order to insure the observance of the laws.

These instructors are held to change the baptismal and even family names of their pupils, substituting therefor Magyar names. The names of places also are subject to like fantastic transformation. The Magyar is the language of all public administrations. The military is sought to be germanized by the words of command, which must be German. These constitute about eighty words, which the Transylvanian is compelled to memorize, despite his reluctance. The instructor is forced to use the Rumanian language in his explanations to the recruit, otherwise his instruction would be incomprehensible.

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**Independent Rumanians.**

The Rumanian resists all attempts to absorb him by a resort to means which have proved their efficacy. He opposes his adversary's attacks first by his superior numbers and second by his unshaken fidelity to his language and his tenacity. According to the official statistics of 1910 Transylvania, exclusive of Banat, Crishana and Maramureth, consists of 1,540,088 Rumanians; that is to say, 57.5 per cent of the total population.

Notwithstanding the emigrations to Rumania which are very great, the Rumanians of Transylvania are constantly increasing in numbers. The Rumanian is refractory to the penetration of neighboring races whose language he refuses to acquire, but if they come in contact with him by residence in his country the invader is certain to be absorbed. It is acknowledged that he exercises this capacity of absorption by his natural vivacity of spirit and personal charm. Although he submits to the liturgy and language of the invader and the infiltrations of the Slav, his ethnical originality secures him successfully against both the German and the Magyar.

The conscience that they possess elder brothers in Rumania, in the Danubian provinces and beyond the Carpathians lends the Transylvanian the hope of deliverance. Unconsciously, perhaps, the Rumanian is writing in Transylvania important pages in his peculiar history.

What, may it not be asked at this hour, are the territories in Austria-Hungary to which Rumanians may hope to realize. Indisputably, the whole of Transylvania, the southern part of Maramuresh as far as the River Theise or Tissa, the eastern part of Criskana, limited by a line running north of Theiss and passing west of Oradia-Mare and Arad; the eastern portion of Banat, the portion west comprised between the Temes and the Theiss, having a majority Serb; the course of the Temes affluent of the Danube marks exactly the two territories, the south and west of Bukovina; the north of that province, Rumanian a century ago, has been systematically Ruthenianized by the Austrian administration with the object of eliminating the Rumanian element. Bukovina, it should be recalled, was until the eighteenth century the heart of Moldavia, and Suceava was for a long time the capital.

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**Sentiment for Intervention.**

Since the commencement of the actual war public sentiment in Rumania has not ceased to urge with increasing energy the intervention of the Rumanian army for the deliverance of their brothers on the other side of the mountains.

If the union of the Rumanian provinces of Austria-Hungary has not yet been effected with the kingdom of Rumania in reality, it has been effected politically already by a reciprocal consent. Since a long time Rumania possesses official organs devoted to that object. These organs are the Rumanian Academy, the Liga Culturala or League for the culture of all Rumanians. The Rumanian Academy, founded in 1866, comprises among its active members the representatives of all the Rumanian countries of Austria-Hungary.

The Liga Culturala was founded in 1891; it has a character less academic and more cooperative, and proposed as object to maintain the cultural unity of all Rumanians; it was still difficult at that period to speak of political unity. It addressed a memoir in 1892 to different foreign countries which exposed the situation of Rumanians of Austria-Hungary and made an appeal to the universal conscience.

The manifesto launched by the Liga on the occasion of the election of its president, with other things said:

"A frightful storm has burst over Europe. A new world is born of the gigantic war, in which nearly all nations are drawn. Transylvania will find again her unity and at the same time accomplish her mission of Latin civilization in oriental Europe."

CH. CHAILLE-LONG.

## THE BRITISH CABINET CHANGES.

From the Brooklyn Eagle.

Lloyd George as a buyer of munitions ought to be in a position to learn from Mrs. Pankhurst where the best bombs can be bought.

From the Cleveland Leader.

It may be assumed that the Dardanelles are not within the jurisdiction of the chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

From the Rochester Post-Express.

In that coalition British cabinet, representative of all the political parties, where is Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst's seat? The original militant should be near the head of the council table.

From the Syracuse Post-Standard.

It will be easily remembered that the Union swapped horses repeatedly in trying to cross the stream of 1861-'65.

From the Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

Winston Churchill may be transferred from the talking to the firing line.

From the Chattanooga Times.

Balfour now batting for Churchill.

From the Buffalo Commercial.

From first lord of the admiralty to chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster is some comedown.

From the Atlanta Journal.

Lord Kitchener wasn't ousted as effectually as some of the London newspapers expected.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

It was an English submarine that hit Winston Churchill.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Kitchener had a three-year contract, and he stays.