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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1903.

The World's Naval Progress.

American Construction Outrunning That of European Rivals.

A recent review of naval progress in the "London Times" shows results highly gratifying to American pride. Great Britain excepted, the United States now has in hand more first-class naval construction than any other power in the world.

France, whose navy is second in size only to Britain's, has twenty-five great vessels in hand, nine of them battleships, with a total tonnage of 122,918, and sixteen armored cruisers, with a total tonnage of 154,997. Germany, whose war fleet is now somewhat smaller than our own, is constructing ten battleships, of 123,962 tons, and four armored cruisers, of 35,548 tons. Russia, whose present naval rank is just above the United States, is building ten battleships, of 132,758 tons, and one armored cruiser of 7,800 tons. Italy, ranking in actual strength just below Germany, is now building seven battleships, of 89,974 tons, and one armored cruiser of 7,400 tons.

The United States, by the "Times'" figures, is now building twenty-four large vessels, one less than France; but of these, thirteen are battleships, as compared with France's nine. Moreover, the average tonnage of the American ships is 4,112, or 155 tons larger than the average tonnage of the French ships, while the aggregate tonnage of the thirteen American battleships is 183,451, or more than 60,000 above the aggregate battleship tonnage of France, 50,000 tons above Russia, and almost 60,000 tons above Germany.

That is, in battleship construction at the present time, the United States is far and away ahead of all its competitors. As to armored cruisers, we have eleven building, as compared with France's sixteen. Our armored cruisers have an aggregate tonnage of 140,900, as compared with France's 154,997. But, ship for ship, the American armored cruisers are much the more formidable vessels, averaging 12,810 tons to 9,625.

Summing up, the review shows that, in battleships and armored cruisers together, the new American tonnage under construction is 324,351, as compared with 277,915 for France, 159,510 for Germany, 140,558 for Russia, and 97,374 for Italy. This is an unexpectedly strong exhibit. It is a rate of progress which we must zealously maintain.

Filipino Currency Needs.

The Senate's Bill Should Be Accepted as a Safe Solution.

The Senate's action on the Philippine currency bill puts that question on the way to satisfactory settlement. The House chose a different and far less acceptable solution. But the action of the House was taken in a moment of caprice, and was made possible by the co-operation of a handful of Republicans with the solid Democratic minority.

The policy of the House Republicans was embodied in the Cooper bill, reported by the Committee on Insular Affairs, and identical with that just passed by the Senate. Any committee appointed to represent the House in conference is likely to favor the Senate bill, and report it to the House; and the peculiar influences which availed before to reverse the action of the committee should be strong enough to defeat the conference report.

The duty of the United States to provide the Philippines with a stable currency redeemable in gold cannot be disputed. At present business in the islands is paralyzed, and all large enterprises are held up by fluctuations in the currency which require the establishment of a new ratio every month or so. It is a disgrace to the United States that this condition of things has been allowed to continue. It would be inexcusable if the present Congress adjourned without providing a remedy.

The necessity of action being conceded, the only question remaining is whether the action to be taken should be such as is desired by Governor Taft and his associates on the Philippine Commission, who are face to face with existing conditions, and have to deal with them officially, or whether it should be of a kind they deprecate and protest against.

That is the essential difference between the House bill and the Senate bill. Governor Taft has protested strongly against the introduction of American currency, while he warmly urges the provision for a gold peso embodied in the Senate bill.

When the question was up in the House, the situation was somewhat clouded by statements to the effect that the Treasury officials were in favor of the House substitute. But that has been shown to be an error.

Given, therefore, the alternative between giving the islands what they want, and what would be injurious to them, it ought not to take Congress long to choose.

Germany in the Caribbean.

No Reason for Designs on Her Part Against Brazil and Colombia.

Intimations come from Berlin that Germany has no idea of recalling her ships from the Caribbean, but means to use them for enforcing claims against Brazil and Colombia. Until they are confirmed, it is not best to take them seriously. There is no parallelism between Venezuela and the other republics.

Venezuela had been long in arrears in meeting her just obligations. President Castro was in a truculent mood, and there was doubt whether he could pay the claims against Venezuela if he would, and whether he would if he could. Within reasonable limits there was justification for putting pressure upon Venezuela.

As to Brazil, the country is not insolvent. It has not repudiated any of its obligations. There is not the slightest ground for supposing that it will not pay every debt which it honestly owes. As in most South American countries into which foreign capital has entered for railroad building or other purposes, there may be disputes over concessions. There may be claims and counter-claims.

But these are open to settlement in ordinary ways, and afford no pretext for coercion. As far as Colombia is concerned, although the republic has been racked by revolution for three years, and is only just now at peace, there are no known claims against the government which have reached the stage of diplomatic representation, to say nothing of collection by force.

There are excellent reasons why Germany should not precipitate a quarrel with either of these republics. In Brazil there are large German colonies, and there have long been suspicions that Germany, sooner or later, would find in their existence an occasion for interference in the political affairs of the republic.

If she were to undertake coercive measures now, she would greatly strengthen these suspicions. As to Colombia, it is across that republic that the United States is about to begin the construction of an interoceanic canal. If Germany were to undertake to coerce Colombia, it would be impossible to avoid the conclusion that she intended to impede either the construction of the canal or its complete control by the United States.

Education and Birth Rate.

College-Bred and Leisure Classes Do Not Perpetuate Themselves.

Not the least interesting feature of President Eliot's annual report is his tabulation of the vital statistics of half a dozen Harvard classes from twenty-five to thirty years after graduation.

The classes are those from 1872 to 1877, inclusive. There are 881 graduates among them, all told. Of this number, 634 are married; and the number of their surviving children is 1,262. Twenty-eight per cent of these graduates are unmarried, and those who are married have on the average only two surviving children, so that the married pairs just reproduce themselves.

President Eliot's obvious conclusion is that it is out of the question that the entering classes at Harvard College should be recruited to any considerable extent from the sons of graduates; for, assuming that one-half of the children in this summary are males, if the graduates of these six classes were to send all their sons to college within the six years, 1902-7, inclusive, they would only supply 100 freshmen a year.

But there is a broader aspect of the question to which President Eliot is not indifferent. This summary, he remarks, suggests that the highly educated part of the American people does not increase the population at all, but, on the contrary, fails to reproduce itself. Of course, the summary is not conclusive on this point. It covers only the graduates of six classes of a single university. Yet there is no reason to suppose that these classes are exceptional.

The explanation which President Eliot assigns, and it seems a reasonable one, is that, in part at least, the result is due to the late marriages of college men, who are fortunate if they find themselves sufficiently established in their professions at twenty-eight or twenty-nine to be able to marry.

But this explanation is not all-conclusive. Undoubtedly there exists among the educated and leisure classes of Americans a reluctance to enter into the marriage relation, and to accept the responsibilities of paternity and maternity, which augurs ill for their own perpetuation.

Free-Hand Comment.

Livelier recruiting for the navy is reported at present than at any time since the Spanish war. Far-reaching indeed are the effects of a threatened assault on the Monroe Doctrine.

In reply to the criticism that he is doing too much entertaining, President Roosevelt remarks with some force that he is paying for it out of his own pocket. The rest of the country ought to be able to stand it if he can.

The Bermuda court which investigated the causes that led to the wreck of the steamship Madiana with over one hundred tourists on board convened on February 11 and finished its labors on February 21—exactly ten days. It takes our breath away to note how quickly things are done sometimes outside the United States.

News dispatches announcing that the forest of Vallombrosa is on fire serve to recall Milton's famous line "Thick as autumnal leaves that strew the brooks in Vallombrosa." Milton never was in or near Vallombrosa, for, if he had been, he would have known that the trees in that celebrated forest are non-deciduous, and hence that it is impossible for "autumnal leaves" to strew the brooks.

The prospect of mud baths for the ensuing year is better, we are sorry to report, than it has been for some time. Owing to the advance in the price of labor and material the original estimates for a filtration plant are now found to be too low. Work that was thought could be done for $1,358,173 cannot, according to the lowest bidder, be done for less than $1,987,183. Washington, without a filtration plant, is an anachronism in municipal management.

The Talk of the Day.

"Female. This word is an adjective and should never be employed as a noun. Such phrases as 'a man with a female were seen in a boat just after the ship struck;' or 'the females shrieked,' are in bad taste, and bad grammar. The improper use of the word 'female' is more common in America than in England."

We read this in a dictionary of words, facts, and phrases which we bought for a dollar, one cold bone, one plunk, and we wish we had the dollar at this moment in our inside pocket.

The phrase "a man with a female were seen" does not please us; we should prefer "was seen," but it is not necessarily in bad taste. The question of the man's taste depends wholly on the outward appearance and the character of the said female.

The word female "should never be employed as a noun." Let us see, fair sir.

Dr. Johnson was not so squeamish in his dictionary. "Female, n. s. A she; one of the sex which brings young; not male." He quotes from Genesis: "God created man in his own image, male and female created he them;" from Leviticus; and from Shakespeare:

> Men, more divine,
> Indu'd with intellectual sense and soul,
> Are masters to their females, and their lords.

Dr. Johnson recognized the adjective "female" and gave it its own place. Before him Randle Cotgrave (1673) knew "female" only as a noun. So Bailey, the lexicographer to our grandfathers, and Richardson, the fastidious.

"The improper use of the word 'female'"—that is, as a noun—"is more common in America than in England." But Chaucer, Caxton, Wyclif, Bishop Hall, Dryden, Steele, Wilkes, as well as Shakespeare, used the noun without regret or repentance. Nor did Lubbock, Carpenter, Maine, in more recent years disdain it.

There is a use of the noun that is offensive—when "female" is considered as a more refined, more "elegant" term than woman. Richard Grant White freed his mind on this abuse. "With us 'lady' is the favorite euphemism for woman. For every one of the softer and more ambitious sex who is dissatisfied with her social position, or uncertain of it, seems to share Mrs. Quickly's dislike of being called a woman. * * * When a woman calls herself a female, she merely shares her sex with all her fellow-females throughout the brute creation."

By whom was the phrase "petticoat government" coined? Some say by Bismarck; but when George II ascended the throne a paper was posted on the Royal Exchange which read "No Petticoat Government," etc. At Mobile, Ala., early in the eighteenth century women threatened to rebel because they were dissatisfied with their diet of Indian meal, and their movement was dubbed the "Petticoat Insurrection."

THE FIELD OF POLITICS---GOSSIP, VIEWS, AND INCIDENTS.

Republican Factions Often Have Oregon in Turmoil—Small in Population, But Large in Party Troubles—New Senator a Son of Ohio. Binger Hermann After Seat in Congress.

Two Factions in Oregon.

The action of the Oregon Legislature at the eleventh hour and fifty-ninth minute in electing the Hon. Charles W. Fulton as United States Senator is a significant victory for the so-called Mitchell faction in that far Western State.

Oregon, large in area, small in population, has her little party troubles, the same as some of her more important sister States. In Oregon a Republican is generally either a Mitchell or an anti-Mitchell man, and just at the present time a considerable majority are Mitchell men.

The new Senator is one of these, and his election, after a long-drawn-out and bitterly contested canvass is a triumph for that wing of the party of which Senator Mitchell is the leader. Senator-elect Fulton is in full accord with him, and was all along considered as the Mitchell candidate to succeed Senator Simon. The Simon-Geer crowd are not only in the minority, but they are largely without office, and experience teaches that the politician without an office attachment soon loses influence and prestige. The lukewarm manner in which ex-Governor Geer, who was turned down for a renomination, supported the State ticket last June is said to have been responsible in a measure for the election of a Democratic governor, although the popularity of the Democratic nominee and the unpopularity of the Republican candidate contributed largely to the success of the former. Then Mr. Geer made an effort to break into the Senate, but failed.

New Senator From Ohio.

The new Senator is fifty years of age, and when he takes his seat in the Senate will add another to the large representation which the United States of Ohio, as it formerly was, has in that body, for Mr. Fulton, like a half dozen or more prominent members of the upper house first saw light of day in the Buckeye State. He is a lawyer, has been a member of the State senate for about twelve years and twice president of that body. He is credited with being a fluent and able speaker, although his reputation until he became conspicuous in the Senatorial fight was confined to the Pacific Coast.

Four years ago when Senator Simon was chosen, Mr. Fulton was a candidate for the Senate, but then the Mitchell strength was not so potent as now, and he was defeated. Two years ago when Senator McBride's term expired he was also mentioned, but yielded to his friend Senator Mitchell, and decided to wait until it was time to chose a successor to Senator Simon.

One Ray of Hope.

There still remains, however, a shadow of hope for ex-Governor Geer, by reason of the death of the Hon. Thomas H. Tongue, who represented the First district in Congress. Now that the Senatorial contest is settled Mr. Geer is a candidate to fill the vacancy in the House, but the prospects for his success are not bright.

There was a number of scandals during the administration of Governor Geer which his opponents are using effectively against him. One was the report that he had received $1,000 for a certain appointment which he made, although a State which pays its chief executive the meagre salary of only $1,500 a year ought to expect nothing better than the barter and sale of public offices at his disposal, for even the governor of a State should have some reward and compensation for his services.

In the field against the ex-governor for the Congress vacancy are at least half a dozen candidates, chief among them being the Hon. L. T. Harris, speaker of the present house; the Hon. Binger Hermann, late Commissioner of the Land Office; Senator George C. Brownell, president of the senate; the Hon. Tillman Ford, of Salem, and the Hon. E. C. Carter, of Ashland, ex-speaker of the house.

The man considered to have the best chance of success is Speaker Harris, who is popular with both factions, although he has a leaning toward the Mitchell wing. His youth is the chief argument used against him, but this is a crime of which many another man prominent in public life is or has been guilty.

Hermann in Line.

While Mr. Hermann has not positively declared his candidacy he is, nevertheless placing himself in a conspicuously exposed position where he might be selected, and if the nomination net were thrown over him he would be a willing captive.

Out in Oregon, the incidents which led to Mr. Hermann's retirement from the Land Office do not seem to have caused much comment or to have attracted much attention, and apparently will not seriously interfere with his chances.

The date for the convention to select a successor to Mr. Tongue has not yet been fixed. At present the question under discussion is as to whether a new set of delegates should be elected, or the convention which nominated Mr. Tongue should be re-convened with the same delegates to name another candidate.

Next Governor of Mississippi.

The Hon. Andrew Fuller Fox, now a member of the House from the Fourth district of Mississippi, will probably be the next governor of that State. He is now the most prominent candidate mentioned in connection with that office. The term of the Hon. A. H. Longino expires in January next, and the campaign for the selection of his successor will be fought out during the coming summer.

As the term is for four years, it is not customary for a man to succeed himself in that office, and hence the present incumbent will not be a candidate. In Mississippi, of course, the Democratic nomination is equivalent to an election, as there is no Republican organization in the State, and the friends of Mr. Fox in Congress hope to see him named.

The State was re-districted a year ago, and Mr. Fox, who has served three terms in the House was not a candidate for re-election. Mr. Fox was recently married, and it is predicted that the next time the goddess of fortune smiles upon him it will be a seductive invitation to take up his official residence with his bride in the Statehouse at Jackson.

Fight for Second Iowa District.

The Republicans of the Second Iowa district, which last November elected a Democratic Representative in the person of Judge Martin J. Wade, are taking time by the forelock and have gone out upon a search for a man who can redeem the district. Half a dozen names have been suggested, and among them the most recent is George F. Evers. He is now and has been for a number of years pair clerk in the House, and his knowledge of politics and parliamentary practices gained in his service in Washington are calculated to be of advantage to him in the campaign which will be opened early next year. He is popular in Washington and in the Iowa district and would probably be able to put up a strong fight.

The Second district was originally designed to be Democratic by a large majority, but in the big Democratic slump in the Hawkeye State it has for several years been carried by the Republicans. Only after a hard-fought contest did the Democrats last November succeed in redeeming it. They did this by nominating an especially strong man and making a thorough canvass.

The late Representative Rumple, owing to his ill-health at the time, was not a candidate for re-election. The Republicans of Iowa have taken much pride in their solid delegation, and in the next campaign will put forth strong efforts to again shut out their opponents from representation in Congress from that State.

IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD.

An Unpopular Matrimonial Alliance—The Duke of Montpensier's Union With Infanta Teresa of Spain Likely to Provoke Bitter Comment and Unsavory Recollections—No More Grand Duke of Tuscany—Louise of Saxony's Latest Appeal.

Old Scandals Recalled.

Neither in France nor yet in Spain is the projected matrimonial alliance between the Duc de Montpensier, only brother and heir of the Duke of Orleans, and the Infanta Marie Teresa, younger sister of King Alfonso XIII, likely to be popular. It is a match that is being spoken of everywhere as already settled, and it forms the topic of general conversation, not only at Madrid, but also in the royalist circles of France.

True the Infanta is a year and a few months older than the duke. But the latter is remarkably forward and mature for his age, and conveys the impression of being at least four or five years older than he really is. He is looked upon as the hope of the monarchical party in France, is immensely rich—far more so than his elder brother, the Duke of Orleans, and whereas the latter was born in England, the Duke of Montpensier was born on French soil, was educated in France, chiefly at the great Catholic college at Angers, and, on graduating, entered the Spanish navy with the object of receiving training as a naval officer.

While the duke is a good-looking, handsome young fellow, with a clean record, and is likely to make an excellent husband for King Alfonso's sister, yet the union has many drawbacks. In the first place it will be discountenanced by all those who are superstitious and who recall the fact that it was the disgraceful intrigue known by the name of the Spanish marriages that virtually brought about the downfall of King Louis Philippe from the French throne. It was an intrigue which lost for Louis Philippe the respect, not only of all the reigning houses, but likewise of all decent people in Europe, and which was responsible for many of Spain's subsequent misfortunes.

It is unnecessary to go into the matter at any length here, but it will be sufficient to recall the fact that King Louis Philippe, having solemnly pledged his word to the foreign powers to withdraw the suit of his son, the Duke of Montpensier, for the hand of Queen Isabella (the powers objecting to the presence of a French prince on the Spanish throne as King consort) deliberately evaded in a dishonorable manner his obligations by marrying his son to Queen Isabella's younger sister, the Infanta Louise, and causing his creature and confederate, old Queen Christina, to force her daughter, Queen Isabella, to marry the infant Francis d'Assissi, a prince who, according to the dispatches addressed by the foreign envoys at Madrid at the time, and since published, had been pronounced by the leading medical authorities as unlikely in the extreme ever to become a father.

Louis Philippe's Futile Plot.

King Louis Philippe's idea, of course, was that Queen Isabella's marriage would remain without issue, and that her younger sister Louise and his son, the Duke of Montpensier, would in consequence succeed to her throne. This disgraceful conspiracy, while it may be said to have wrecked the life of Queen Isabella, resulted in failure all along the line. For the Queen gave birth to a number of children, in spite of all the prognostications to the contrary. The advent of each new baby rendering more remote the chances of the Duchess of Montpensier's succession, and her husband more embittered against Queen Isabella. The Duke of Montpensier became in time the most detested man in the peninsula, and to this day even his name is execrated, so much so that when the Infanta Eulalie, was more or less compelled to wed his son, Don Antonio, she was an object of universal sympathy for having to become the wife of such a man.

The late Duke of Montpensier played a prominent part in the revolution that brought about Queen Isabella's overthrow in 1868, his hopes of supplanting her being, however, frustrated, and when he died some years ago unmourned, disappointed, and embittered, he bequeathed a considerable portion of his vast wealth to his younger grandson, Prince Ferdinand of Orleans, who likewise, according to agreement, took his name and the title of Duke of Montpensier. It will be seen from this that any match between the young Duke of Montpensier and the Infanta Marie Teresa would evoke memories all the world over of the so-called Spanish marriage scandal, while the very fact of the bridegroom bearing the name of Duke of Montpensier would be sufficient to render it unpopular throughout Spain.

Nor is it a union which the great powers of Europe are likely to contemplate with satisfaction. For any alliance between France and Spain would tend to disturb the balance of power, and were a monarchical restoration ever to take place in France and the Duke of Montpensier become King, the closeness of the relationship between himself and his brother-in-law, King Alfonso, would go very far toward bringing about a combination of the two nations.

Great Title Abolished.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has been frequently referred to of late as "the last Grand Duke of Tuscany," and in view of this it might be as well to explain that Emperor Francis Joseph, by virtue of his rights as chief of the imperial house of Hapsburg, to which the grand duke belongs, has decreed that on the death of the Grand Duke Ferdinand the title of Grand Duke of Tuscany shall no longer be borne by any prince of the House of Hapsburg, since Tuscany now forms part of the dominions of Austria's ally, the King of Italy.

This decision on the part of the Emperor has led to a good deal of bad blood between himself and the Grand Duke of Tuscany. The latter declares that inasmuch as the grand ducal dignity of Tuscany was restored to his particular branch of the house of Hapsburg at the congress of Vienna, by the powers assembled there, only those powers can annul the right to bear the title.

The Emperor, however, has the means of enforcing his commands, since the members of his house are pledged to obey his directions, and it is extremely doubtful whether after the death of the grand duke, his second son, Archduke Joseph Ferdinand, who is now his heir, will prefer to forego all the advantages of a member of the reigning house of Austria for the sake of using a title which has no longer any meaning, and which will not be recognized by any court or government in Europe.

Francis Joseph takes the ground that at the peace of Villafranca, which he signed in 1859, and which brought the war of that year in Italy to a close, he had agreed to the demands of the Italian people for the incorporation of the Italian possessions of the house of Hapsburg into the new kingdom of Italy, and that having agreed to this he would keep to his word and be no party to any attempt by any member of his house to disturb the treaty to which he had put his signature by endeavoring to recover possession of Tuscany.

Ex-Crown Princess Louise's Status.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the ex-crown princess of Saxony has applied through her lawyers to her father, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, for documents establishing her legitimate birth as his daughter. She does not desire to retain either rank and title of Crown Princess of Saxony, or of Archduchess of Austria, of which she has been deprived by the King of Saxony, and by Emperor Francis Joseph, respectively. But she does insist in the most positive manner on a formal declaration of the legitimacy of her birth, and of her rights to the family name of her parents as their daughter, born in lawful wedlock. She declares, through her lawyers, that, having been expelled from the imperial family, she has become an ordinary citizen of bourgeois rank, and entitled to the rights and prerogatives as such, and these prerogatives include an obligation on the part of the parents to furnish their legitimate children with all the necessary documentary evidences of birth, etc., without which, it may be added, the ex-princess can marry Prof. Giron nowhere on the Continent of Europe.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

Dr. Barnett A. Elzas, of Charleston, S. C., has begun an examination of the State records of South Carolina, with a view of studying the part the Jews took in the early history of that Commonwealth.

Prince Joachim Albert of Prussia has written the scenario and music of a ballet entitled "The Miracle of Spring."

Senator Ankeny, just chosen from the State of Washington to the highest legislative body in the land, is of German descent. His father was named Schmidt, and died on his way across the plains in the early days. His widow soon afterward married a man named Ankeny, and her son by her first marriage, the present Senator, changed his name to please his stepfather.

The death of the British general, Sir Henry Daubeney, removes the last of the Crimean brigade commanders. Sir Henry, who died at the age of ninety-two, joined the Fifty-fifth Regiment in 1829, and served with it for nearly thirty years. He distinguished himself in the East Indies and in the first Chinese war, and was mentioned in dispatches after both Alma and Inkerman.

Prof. Herman V. Hilprecht, Assyriologist of the University of Pennsylvania, will deliver before the Kaiser and his court his lecture concerning his excavations at the Baal temple, Nippur.

THE BEST THINGS FROM OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Bad Way to Collect Bad Debts.

A Brooklyn collection agency has prepared a number of wagons in which it is proposed to send around a collector to the homes of people who are alleged to have failed to pay their bills. On each of the wagons, in large letters, the following words are painted: "Collector of Bad Debts (Inc.)." There can be no question whatsoever about the impropriety of this coercive scheme. The courts are open to litigants who desire to collect bad or doubtful debts, and no debt should be collected through the fear of having an obnoxious wagon stop in front of a man's home. Take the wagons off the streets!—New York Sun.

Horse vs. Automobile.

Despite the inroads of the automobile and the electric trolley, the number of horses in the United States is estimated to have been 16,553,224 in 1902, and to have increased to 16,557,373 in 1903. The demonetization of the horse by self-propelling vehicles has evidently not been very effective.—Omaha Bee.

American Diplomatic Uniform.

A cable dispatch tells of the consternation created in the Prussian capital by the appearance of the American ambassador in a costume of his own devising, with a stripe of gold lace two inches wide down his trousers, and a cocked hat with a white plume. The ambassador, however, is perfectly within his rights. If we cannot trust our representatives in foreign parts to pick out their own clothes we had better recall them.—Chicago Chronicle.

BITS OF MISCELLANY.

Many Meanings.

"It's funny what the red lights mean," said Delegate Mark Smith, of Arizona, to a crowd of Statehood boomers. "Here they mean the Senate is in executive session, at my hotel they mean a fire-escape, in London they mean a surgeon's office——"

"And in Arizona they mean a train robbery," interrupted Representative "Hank" Smith of Michigan.—Washington Dispatch to New York World.

Kerosene Tippling.

The drinking of kerosene is such a growing evil in France that measures are being proposed to combat it. This vice has long prevailed among the Indians of the South Pacific, and to such an extent that the importation of kerosene for drinking is an important trade in Peru and Bolivia.—Atlanta Constitution.

Negro Army Officers.

Eight colored men hold commissions as officers of the United States Army, of whom one is a graduate of the Military Academy. This officer is Capt. Charles Young, of the Ninth Cavalry, who is serving with his troop at the Presidio, San Francisco. Two other colored men are serving with the line, Second Lieut. Benjamin O. Davis, of the Tenth Cavalry, and Second Lieut. John E. Green, of the Twenty-fifth Infantry. Davis is a native of the District of Columbia. Green is a native of Tennessee. The other four colored men holding commissions are chaplains of the four colored regiments—the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry and Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry.—Philadelphia Ledger.

SHAFTS OF WIT AND HUMOR.

A Misnomer.

Mamma—Daughter, I am surprised that you would suffer a man to kiss you.

Daughter—But, mamma, it wasn't suffering.—Detroit Evening Journal.

Stable Yard Gossip.

The Cow—Have you heard of this new food they are making out of chopped cornstalks?

The Horse—No; but they needn't try it on me. I won't touch it.

The Cow—Oh, it isn't for us. It's for human beings.—Chicago Tribune.

The Road to Fame.

"Which would you rather have," she asked, "fame or fortune?"

"I'd rather," he replied, "have the fortune. Then I could get caught in a New York gambling resort and my fame would be secure."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Come to Stay.

Subbubs—We've got a new girl at our house.

Backlotz—Hah! It's easy enough to get a new girl, but can you keep her?

Subbubs—The doctor thinks so. He declares she weighs nine pounds, at least.—Philadelphia Press.

Still in the Lead.

He married a leading lady,
And she's leading still, 'tis said,
For she spends his money so freely
That he never can get ahead.
—Philadelphia Bulletin.