

THE PLAGUE.

The terrible ravages of the bubonic plague in Bombay are carrying consternation to all Europe. An international sanitary congress will be called, and measures taken to prevent the spread of the pestilence, which is almost certain to follow the annual gathering of pilgrims from all parts of the Moslem world at Mecca. In India, as in China, the disease has made little or no progress among the European population, being especially a plague of the poor and underfed, and finding its home in the crowded and filthy by ways of great cities. The European residents of the cities of India and China are almost without exception well-to-do, and persons who understand and practice hygienic laws. Hence their escape. It cannot be that mere difference of race would grant immunity from the plague. If it is ever transplanted to the thickly populated cities of Europe, where proper conditions of avarice and want exist, it will probably flourish there as it does in Bombay. Nature is remorseless, and the plague, while terrible to the imagination, may not be an unmitigated evil to the human race, even if it sweeps over the civilized world. It is nature's care for the type at the expense of the individual. The survival of the fittest is a doctrine that knows no compassion or variation. Humankind would soon become too numerous for its own good, were it not for the instinct of war implanted by nature, and the visitations of pestilence which occasionally weed out the weaker individuals of the race. The balance will be kept, whatever may be the efforts of men to the contrary. If we abolish war entirely, and devote all our energies to the perfection of what we call civilization, the greater part of mankind must plunge lower and lower into poverty in direct proportion as wealth and luxury increases. Nature takes no note of justice in adjusting her balance. Her plague strikes down without regard to individual merit. The end sought is obtained—the thinning out of a too numerous population. Even if poverty could be done away with, other pestilences, brought about by luxury instead of want and filth, would achieve the same end. It is the duty of United Europe to do all it can to stay the progress of the destroyer, but if a world wide pestilence is upon us it comes not entirely without benefit to the human race.

Probably there has never been an event in history which was so productive of lying as the Cuban war and everything connected with it. No sooner does the newspaper man take his pen in hand to write on this subject than he seems possessed with a delirium of mendacity. Not satisfied with indiscriminate lying themselves they seem determined to force the oil upon all who are in any way connected with the affairs of the island. The most incomprehensible of all these newspaper romances is the reported controversy between General Lee and Mr. Money. It is revolving itself, through the medium of the newspapers, to a mere trivial exchange of "you did" and "I didn't," like a school children's quarrel. Whenever a dispatch appears it may confidently be expected that the next one will assert that there is not one word of truth in it. The controversy seems to exist only in the newspapers themselves, but it is probable that Mr. Money finds fame and fortune dearly bought, even if his letters are worth a thousand dollars apiece.

Chicago lately went systematically and practically to work to organize a "society." Some difficulties presented themselves. The great question was: On what shall claimants base their right to admission? Blood and lineage wouldn't do. Hardly any of the Chicago aristocrats know the names of their grandfathers. Intellectual?—well, as yet the millionaires hadn't had time to cultivate it, and the circle would be entirely too narrow. So, after due consideration, it was at last decided that the candidate for social distinction must, first and foremost, have money, and plenty of it. Thereupon there was a rush of utterly impossible people into the social circle, and Chicago "society" don't know what to do. It has gone all to pieces, and the ambitious would-be 400 of the Windy City have given up in despair.

Bradstreet says that business is not as brisk in any other part of the country as in the South. This is a rather remarkable statement, and bears out the claim so often made that the South is the most genuinely prosperous section of the Union. The contrast presented between this and other portions of the country during the past four or five years has been noticeable. We have had fewer business failures, less dissipation among laborers, and less disturbance, socially, politically, or commercially, than the North, East, or West. The South is not booming, but it is safe.

Bring your Job Work to the Times.

It Might Have Been Expected.

A Hungarian tramp named Paliska has been arrested at Eaton, Georgia, who has confessed to being a party to the atrocious and inhuman crime which sent more than twenty innocent people down to death at Cahaba bridge. The one sole object of that brutal murder was robbery, the corpses and dying passengers having been stripped of their valuables before help arrived by the human beasts who planned the monstrous crime. It was almost impossible to guess where to look for the perpetrators of an action so out of human nature. It was not a crime of civilization; not such a crime as negroes would be likely to commit. The detective would rather have judged it, as in Poe's fearful story of the Murderers in the Rue Morgue, to be the act of some creature not in the human form, and actuated by lower instincts. It seems appropriate that it should prove to be the work of a Hungarian tramp. It is a relief to have the burden of such a crime removed from the race to which we belong, or that with which we are constrained to be brought into daily contact.

A short time ago an article in the Times, dealing with the annual tramp pest which floods the south in winter and urging stringent methods in dealing with this class of malefactors, was adversely criticised by a contemporary paper, which recommended charity and leniency for the tramps, and rebuked the emphatic condemnation of the fraternity by the Times. We now call attention to the arrest of this creature in confirmation of those assertions, and ask what charity or leniency should be meted out in such a case. The south wants immigrants. It urges the people of the north to come south to escape the rigors of the northern winters; but when they come simply to loaf, to beg, to steal, rob, and murder, the prison and the rock pile should meet them at the frontiers.

HOW DOGS ARE STUNTED.

Methods Employed in the Manufacture of Toy Terriers.

There is an era of tiny dogs in English society. The more diminutive a parcel of canine flesh that you can possess the more are you a swell, says the Toledo Blade. But alas! How many feminine readers who delight in the miniature doggies know that they are an artificial product?

There is in London an establishment devoted entirely to the stunting of the animals. The proprietor is an ex-breeder of fighting dogs, but he now finds more profit in rearing the ill-fated puppies, for which he has a wide reputation. He does not claim to be the originator of the process, for he says that all dog men know of the dwarfing powers of alcohol, but he asserts that he is the only man in London to adopt the principle systematically. His method is as follows: The pup destined to be stunted is taken from its mother when a few hours old and when it begins to whine for sustenance it is fed with a warm decoction of gin and water. Deprived of milk, it takes to this readily. When it reaches a certain age alcohol in various forms constitutes the animal's sole diet. The pups do not die nor do they develop. They soon cease to grow at all. After a generation or two of mating the much-prized ill-fated canine is obtained.

It won't do to poke too much fun at the razor-back hog that has served the South so well. He is good for something. The Stuart, Iowa, News proposes to utilize him, and says: "Considerable talk is now being had of bringing into Iowa some of the Southern razor-back, wind splitting hogs for breeding purposes, with the expectation that their product will not be so likely to succumb to disease as those which are nearly fitted for market. There can be no doubt that Iowa hog breeders have brought their stock up to a point where there is danger of being too fine. A little more wild, backwoods constitution might be an excellent thing now to consider in the further improvement of the breeds. This may be a point that has been too little considered heretofore in good breeding."

There Is Nothing So Good.

There is nothing just as good as Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds—so demand it and do not permit the dealer to sell you some substitute. He will not claim there anything better, but in order to make more profit he may claim something else to be just as good. You want Dr. King's New Discovery because you know it is safe and reliable and guaranteed to do good or money refunded. For coughs, colds, consumption and all affections of throat, chest and lungs there is nothing so good as Dr. King's New Discovery. Trial bottle free at Finlay's drugstore. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.

It is said the silver people of Delphi had inaugurated a new fashion in basket parties, to which the girls take baskets of good things covered with white or yellow usplis, according to their political preferences. At the party the men select baskets according to their preferences and must pay for them according to the weight, not of the baskets, but of their owners, who thereupon become the purchasers' partners for the evening. Each buyer lifts his girl to the scales and those of the white cloth get sixteen kisses to the gold men's one.

Congressman Spencer, of Mississippi has taken a plunge into the ocean of fame by introducing a bill to buy the island of Cuba for \$200,000,000. Mississippi Congressmen are to the fore these days. The grand old state is pressing some of her western sisters hard in the march of progress and the race for celebrity.

Governor Altgeld, the Felon's Friend, is about to vanish forever from the public eye. His passing will be an occasion of gloom and sadness in the Illinois penitentiary.

ALWAYS SLOW.

[Natchez Democrat.]

In view of the fact that there are so many well-to-do and industrious agriculturists at the Northwest who are now looking with wistful eyes toward the Southern States as the great Mecca of the United States, the place where they can make an easier living and lay up more of the world's goods, it is possible in the arid, black and generally undesirable sections in which they are now located, leads us to regret somewhat that Mississippi did not take steps to be represented by an elaborate display of her agricultural and other resources at the centennial exposition that is to be held at Nashville, Tenn., during the current year. It is not only possible, but extremely probable—almost certainly, in fact—that very many of this class of people will visit Nashville during the summer for the purpose of gaining an insight into the advantages the various Southern States offer to intending immigrants, and those States that make the most attractive, comprehensive and alluring displays, will be the ones that will not only receive the most attention, but likewise the bulk of the settlers who are determined to find homes for themselves in the cotton belt, in order that they may escape the climatic rigors and other hardships that environ them in their Western and Northwestern homes. Our State, it is true, has very little money to spend in matters of public display, but when these displays are likely to be attended by substantial results, they cannot fail to prove most justifiable for the investment of a limited amount of the public funds.

Of course, it is now too late for anything to be done in this direction, but it is only another one of the many opportunities that Mississippi has neglected to push herself forward in the race of progress and prosperity. We have been entirely to slow in enterprises of this character, and it cannot be gainsaid that we have been sufferers thereby. There is not now, so far as we know, any creditable book or even pamphlet that gives our State the credit of possessing the latent resources she does offer, the advantages and opportunities that she can place at the disposal of the immigrant, that could be sent out to any part of the country to those seeking information of Mississippi. Perhaps our people will some day awaken to the necessity of prompt action on their part if they desire to secure any of the benefits of the tide of immigration now setting in Southward, but we fear the awakening will be so long deferred that we will not get all the benefits to which we are entitled by reason of the fertility of our soil, the geniality of our climate, and the immense amount of latent resources that are tied up in the bosom of Mother Nature, no general attempt to develop which has as yet been more than most feebly made.

FACTS TO BE CONSIDERED.

[Atlanta Journal.]

One of the most interesting speeches at the Jackson banquet of the second money Democrats in Chicago was that of Mr. Hamlin, assistant secretary of the treasury.

One of the points made by Mr. Hamlin was that "the present administration in issuing bonds to protect the gold reserve has in effect but re-issued those bonds which the last administration unwisely purchased and cancelled."

The fact thus stated is an important one and must be considered in any fair estimate of the record of the treasury department under the present administration.

When Mr. Cleveland went out of office on the 4th of March, 1889, he left a large surplus in the treasury. This began to dwindle after President Harrison's administration got fairly under way and the McKinley tariff was enacted.

In spite of the vanishing surplus that administration continued to buy in bonds until there was a deficit instead of a surplus in the treasury.

For the fiscal year 1889 there was a surplus of \$87,700,000. For the next year the surplus was \$106,400,000. Then the McKinley law went into effect and the annual surplus ran down with a rush until in the fiscal year 1893 it was only \$2,800,000, and in last half of the year there was a deficit instead of a surplus.

Both secretaries of the treasury under President Harrison persistently pursued the policy of buying bonds "to relieve the money market" whenever there was a financial stringency.

As a consequence the \$100,000,000 reserve was reduced to \$20,000,000 when President Cleveland was inaugurated for his present term.

The Harrison administration purchased \$215,000,000 of bonds, paying for a large part of them with the surplus which the preceding administration had left. This proceeding and the operation of the McKinley tariff were the main reasons for the conditions which made necessary the sale of bonds by the present administration.

Assistant Secretary Hamlin stated facts with which the country should be familiar but they are facts which are ignored by the critics of the financial policy of the present administration.

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Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for your troubles? If not, get a bottle now and get relief. This medicine has been found to be peculiarly adapted to the relief of all Female Complaints, relieving a wonderful direct influence in giving strength and tone to the organs. If you have Loss of Appetite, Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, or are Nervous, Sleepless, Excitable, Melancholy or troubled with Dizzy Spells, Electric Bitters is the medicine you need. Health and strength are guaranteed by its use. Large bottles only fifty cents at Finlay's Drug Store.

The firm of Montgomery & Griffith, composed of W. H. Montgomery and L. L. Griffith, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. L. L. Griffith will continue the business at the old stand, assumes all the liabilities of Montgomery & Griffith and is alone authorized to collect outstanding indebtedness.

Signed, W. H. MONTGOMERY, L. L. GRIFFITH.

Greenville, Miss., Jan'y. 11, 1897.

DEATH OF COLONEL NUGENT.

The many friends and acquaintances of Colonel W. L. Nugent in Greenville were surprised and shocked to hear of his death, which occurred at his home in Jackson, on Monday morning, the 18th. The illness which preceded his death was short, and was not considered serious until Sunday evening, when he became suddenly worse, and sank rapidly until, the next day, he was dead. Colonel Nugent was completely identified with the earlier life of this country, having made it his home from about the year 1850 until the end of the war. He married here the daughter of the late A. F. Smith, a leading lawyer of Greenville, this lady becoming the mother of Mrs. Robert Somerville. After the war Colonel Nugent, who served with distinction throughout the struggle, returned to Greenville and entered the practice of law with Hon. Wm. G. Yerger. In 1872 he removed to Jackson and entered into a partnership with Mr. Thos. A. McWillie, which association continued until his death. After his removal to Jackson Col. Nugent was married to Miss Webb, of Alabama, who survives him with five children. In Colonel Nugent, the state loses one of her most prominent and talented men—a lawyer whose fame was not limited by state boundaries, but was known throughout the south, and a citizen who reflected honor upon the commonwealth in which he lived. He was equally well-known for his devotion to the cause of religion, and his work in behalf of the Methodist church has probably done more for that denomination than that of any other man in Mississippi. Colonel Nugent acquired a handsome fortune, and owned at his death an elegant home in Jackson, and valuable plantation property in the delta.

For Sale.

600 acres of good unimproved land, same is well timbered, is situated on Bogue Phalia in Washington County, Mississippi, in Sections 11 and 14 of Township 16, Range 6 West. Title warranted.

Jan 7th WM. G. YERGER.

Subscribing for Metropolitan Papers.

The coming year will be crowded with big news events and happenings, the details of which everyone interested in national and foreign affairs will want to read. The best Western newspaper published is the Semi-Weekly Republic, of St. Louis. It is only \$1 a year, and for that amount it will send two papers a week to any address for one year.

The Republic daily is \$6 a year, \$3 for six months, or \$1.50 for three months.

STATEMENT

Showing the condition of the

Merchants and Planters Bank,

Greenville, Miss., on Dec. 17, 1896.

Published by direction of Chapter 14 of Anno (last Code of 1892).

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts on personal endorsement, real estate or collateral securities.	\$143,157 06
Overdrafts secured.	2,874 63
Demand loans.	90,848 45
Sundry Bonds and Stocks.	20,499 78
Banking House.	10,027 25
Other real estate.	3,871 15
Furniture and fixtures.	3,080 70
Sight exchange and cash on hand.	33,344 57
Total.	\$319,698 49

LIABILITIES:

Capital paid in.	\$100,000 00
Undivided Profits.	18,907 41
Individual deposits subject to check.	170,905 08
Time certificates of deposit.	3,625 00
Redeemments.	25,000 00
Dividends unpaid.	191 00
Total.	\$319,698 49

I, W. Thos. Rose, Cashier of the Merchants and Planters Bank, of Greenville, Mississippi, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and exact statement of the assets and liabilities of said Bank on the day and date named therein, as shown by the books of same.

W. Thos. Rose, Cashier.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public in and for the County of Washington, Mississippi, this, the 12th day of January, 1897.

W. D. ROBERTSHAW,

Notary Public.

Examined and found correct.

W. D. HOLDER, Auditor.

This 15th day of January, 1897.

A. D. & S. SPENGLER,

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RAILROAD TIME TABLE.

Yazoo and Mississippi Valley R. R.

Trains arrive and pass Greenville as follows:

No. 173, from Percy.	arrives 9:15 a m
" 176, for Leland.	leaves 9:25 a m
" 174, North.	leaves 10:35 a m
" 175, South.	leaves 10:40 a m
No. 159, from Leland.	arrives 11:40 p m
" 172, for Huntington.	leaves 1:20 p m
" 171, from	arrives 4:30 p m
" 174, for Percy.	leaves 4:40 p m
" 160, for Leland.	leaves 10:30 p m
" 165, from	leaves 11:05 a m
Freight train, North.	leaves 3:30 p m
" South.	leaves 3:30 p m

Connections made at Memphis with all lines for the North and East and West; at New Orleans for the Gulf coast resorts and Southern Texas and California.

Through tickets to all points now on sale at the Y. & M. V. R. depot office; baggage checked through. For information as to rates, routes &c write or apply to

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