

THE AGE-HERALD

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In the meantime, what hear you of these wars?

—All's Well That Ends Well.

BEGINNING THE DAY—I thank Thee, my Father, for the love and wisdom which have restrained Thee from answering all my prayers. I thank Thee that hast heard my prayer for strength rather than my prayer for a lighter burden; that Thou hast given me trust rather than riches, and communion with Thee rather than freedom from tears. Amen.—H. M. E.

Cotton Crop and Prices

This year's cotton crop has been variously estimated at from 13,000,000 to 15,000,000 bales. Alabama has made a bumper crop, and despite boll weevil ravages in some counties this state will produce, it is thought, not less than 1,500,000 bales, and some observers and statisticians think the Alabama crop will not be far short of 1,600,000.

Looking back over a period of 10 years, Alabama's cotton crop multiplied by 10 has given approximately the total of the entire crop of the country. This rule may not hold good this year, for weather conditions in Alabama were especially favorable, while in some parts of Texas and in some other states conditions were not altogether favorable.

With a normal market situation the farmers could have counted on selling their cotton at 13 or 14 cents, but the European war has made trouble for the cotton south. Western grain farmers will get large prices for their crops this year because of the war, but in order to maintain a market for cotton the government must aid. As President Harvie Jordan of the Southern Cotton association says: "United effort on the part of all the people is imperative at this time." He urges most earnestly a large attendance at the general conference to be held in New Orleans August 27-28.

"The cotton situation," says President Jordan, "while grave, can be handled with safety to the growers of the south if prompt and systematic plans for financing the crop temporarily are adopted and put into execution throughout the 800 cotton growing counties."

The Age-Herald reproduces some of the interviews, including Mr. Jordan's, which the Progressive Farmer publishes this week. They will be read with great interest at this time. The Progressive Farmer, in summarizing the situation, calls attention to the danger "that farmers may take 9 and 10-cent prices this fall and that speculators and buyers will then sell the same cotton for 14 to 16 cents after Christmas." The editor of that journal urges every farmer who makes even a bale of cotton to write to his representative in Congress and say: "I believe the government should help finance the cotton crop in the present crisis, and so arrange it that farmers can get this help without paying anybody high interest or negotiation charges."

This is certainly a time for the farmers to "get busy" and to stand together. They should act promptly on the suggestion to write members of Congress, and by all means let the leading farmers of the south arrange to attend the conference in New Orleans.

Cupolas At Liege
That the aeroplane, the dirigible and wireless telegraphy are not the only innovations of modern warfare is shown by the news reports of the battle around Liege, where the Germans found their most powerful guns unable to demolish the armored cupolas mounting rapid-fire guns which commanded the approaches to many of the important bridges across the Meuse.

The cupolas, which are a distinctly novel feature of modern warfare, are unknown in this country, but they are employed extensively along the French border to command the principal avenues of approach across the frontier. Germany uses what is known as the Gruson turret, which somewhat resembles in idea the Belgian cupolas,

but is much heavier and is intended chiefly for coast defense. The Gruson turrets are built for heavy guns and have withstood a point-blank fire of 110-ton guns.

The Belgian cupolas figured largely in the stout defense of Liege made by the Belgians against considerable odds in numbers. The cupolas mount a rapid-fire gun capable of discharging 25 or 30 shots a minute. They lie close to the ground and protrude only three or four feet above the surface, an excavation being made to contain the gun chase and magazine. They can be operated by not more than 10 men and usually have an all-around fire. The cupola covers the chase and magazine like a lid. The only opening is a port for the gun muzzle. The gun is trained by revolving the cupola. A cupola cannot be demolished except by guns so heavy that they cannot be moved about with troops.

Perhaps, after all, the armored cupola is an evolution of the old-fashioned blockhouse which was capable of a stout defense in its time, but is no longer useful except in contending with savage or semi-savage peoples who have no artillery. Having no frontier to guard from a powerful foe, this country does not need armored cupolas, but they have already proved highly serviceable in Belgium and have amply justified the far-sighted engineers who hit upon this unique plan of defense.

The War News Censorship
Instead of growing better, the censorship over war news is growing more rigid each day, and probably for the first time since the invention of the telegraph events of startling, world-wide moment cannot be chronicled.

Since the cables between the United States and Germany were cut, nothing but an exceedingly meager news service through London is possible from any point within the German, Russian or Austro-Hungarian empires, and even such dispatches as get through by way of London are rigorously censored by the British authorities. News dispatches from France and Belgium all are subject to like governmental supervision.

A few weeks ago it would have been thought impossible to isolate Europe so completely from the rest of the world. Readers of The Age-Herald, however, may feel assured of all the news possible to be obtained, for this newspaper seven days in the week publishes the full dispatches of the Associated Press—the greatest news gathering agency in the world.

Bringing Settlers to the South
The Southern Settlement and Development organization which was formed last spring is planning for an active campaign this fall. S. Davies Warfield of Baltimore, chairman of the settlement organization and intends to give it his personal attention.

In order for the association to achieve large results, earnest co-operation on the part of leading men in every state of the south is needed. Such co-operation is already assured in a number of states and it is believed that every state will be in line.

The trouble with many movements for bringing desirable settlers to the south has been a lack of the "stick-to-it" policy and a lack of practically directed effort. Not a few immigration associations and homeseekers' movements have started off with great promise, but the enthusiasm died out, and little was accomplished.

In recent years the railroads traversing the south have done much to exploit the south's rich resources and have induced thousands of homeseekers from the north to settle in this part of the country. Their work is systematic and permanent.

The new organization for developing the south will, it may be taken for granted, work in conjunction with the industrial departments of the railroads.

This is a good year for inaugurating a homeseekers' movement, for the south is making a fine showing in crop diversification and in agricultural progress generally. The comparatively low prices of Alabama farm lands are certainly attractive, and the steady enhancement in values should not be without its appeal.

War is instructive, declares an exchange. But for the present situation, few of us would know who King Albert is. Another viewpoint has it that it is far better for the ruler in question should a few of us who know who he is than many who he was.

Consumers who smoke "imported" cigarettes needs have no fear of their supplies being cut short. New York factories will continue to turn them out in large quantities.

About the most pitiful photograph imaginable would be that of Andrew Carnegie with the dove of peace in his arms, taken on the steps of The Hague Peace palace.

Society women of Paris who are acting as clerks in stores have found out for the first time in their lives how it feels to be on the other side of the counter.

A New York detective gave up \$10 he was while obtaining evidence in a gambling resort. We expect to see him in moving pictures almost any day now.

War invariably raises the prices on imports and we may yet get an inkling as to just how much of this French imported wine is made in California.

Germany's first call for financial aid will be made upon the people's savings. In other words, Germany expects every man to pay his duty.

One objection to federal ownership of railroads is that it might take away that fat mileage allowance from our national law makers.

With neutrality to maintain, Uncle Sam will hardly be able to keep as close a watch on Mexico as he has done heretofore.

The Kaiser has gone to the front, but nobody expects him to go quite as far in that direction as his soldiers do.

Sailing in a sea thickly strewn with mines is no picnic, even if you happen to be aboard a neutral vessel.

If you accost a London policeman now you are apt to find yourself addressing a member of the nobility.

New Orleans probably believes the news it gets from Paris and discounts the news it gets from Berlin.

No, Estelle, the United Mine Workers are not laying the mines you read about in the newspapers.

As long as Italy keeps out of the fuss there will be no rise in the price of spaghetti.

Perhaps Huerta will decide that a tour of Europe just at present is not to be thought of.

It's a lucky thing for the Germans that the Krupp guns are made at home.

At that \$50,000,000 per day comes pretty high even for a first class war.

TELLS OF OSCAR WILDE

London Dispatch in the Chicago Tribune. Though Oscar Wilde has been dead for thirteen years, the notoriety of his name is kept alive by an apparently endless succession of quarrels among his friends and his friends' friends. Ultimately it will be possible to strip Wilde's writing of the adventitious interest of social celebrity and of scandal and to estimate their intrinsic value. Before this estimate is likely to be made by the nearest generation some measure of agreement will be necessary on the facts of Wilde's career.

Although Lord Alfred Douglas' "Oscar Wilde and Myself" is not the kind of soft answer which will turn away the wrath of his various opponents, it will help people to form their estimate of the facts of the intimacy and confirm their probable impression of Oscar Wilde's character and talents.

Lord Alfred Douglas has a pungent or even feline literary touch, but his general statement of the relations between Oscar Wilde and himself is straightforward and credible. He has frankly outgrown any excessive admiration for Wilde either as a writer or a man. The process of disillusionment was completed by the discovery of Wilde's attacks in the unpublished portions of "De Profundis."

The writer denies that he knew the extent and character of Wilde's viciousness until after legal proceedings had been begun, and makes some true and incisive observations on Wilde's craving for notoriety, which falsified his talent and substituted imitative and shallow epigrams for what might have been independent genius. But the time has not yet come for a final appreciation, nor is Lord Alfred Douglas the critic to undertake it. He is fairly entitled to tell his story of the relationship, though it would have been all the better for being told more shortly and with less acrimonious references to the number of people of very small real importance.

OVERWORKED "EATING MUSCLE"

London Correspondence in New York American. One of the questions which has lately exercised the brains of medical authorities in London, Paris and New York is the treatment of tired patients. It has only recently been ascertained that this is due to the eating muscle being out of order.

In order to bring back vitality to this important organ the patient must lie on a board with his feet about two feet higher than his head.

"It is a little short of comic," said a Harley street doctor to the American, "to see a long row of patients in a nursing home with their feet cocked up in the air, lying at full length alongside each other."

"It is quite a mistake to suppose that the most tired people are those who work their limbs most," said the doctor. "Those who abuse the eating muscle are in reality the most tired. It is the people over 40 that are most prone to the eating muscle trouble. They overwork the organ by eating rich meats at banquets and dinner parties. The eating muscle is one of the most sensitive portions of the human organism."

LUKE MILKE SAYS

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. A woman is a queer proposition. The more she brags about her husband before company the more she roasts him when they are alone.

Many a man who is too honest to dye his hair thinks nothing of whitewashing his conscience.

Anyway, the old-fashioned man who used to bring home his booze in a jug, and called it "groceries," didn't have to go to the polls every few months and vote against a prohibition that would compel him to purchase his liquor from a blind tiger and pay four prices for it.

And if the Society for the Regulation of Other People's Business can compel voters to submit to anything like prohibition, what is to prevent it from going further and regulating the width of your pants and the height of your collar?

Every woman wants to own something she can boss. And if she can't get a dog or a cat she gets a husband.

Men are but grown boys. And you may have noticed that when two boys are playing with a toy wagon the smallest boy is always the boss.

Even if you are lacking in some things, cheer up. The dog with the shortest tail wears the fewest tin cans.

There is a use for everything. The man who has a flowing mess of whiskers seldom spills any soup on his shirt front. Adam hadn't anything to kick about. When he came home at night Eve never kissed him to get a whiff of his breath to see if he had been drinking.

The trouble with this world is that people who burn the Indian who used to stand in front of the cigar store has been displaced by the ivory-headed Indian who stands in front of the big league baseball stands.

History contains the names of many eloquent orators. But when it comes to talking, old General Boozie can make the others look like dummies.

Among the other pests a man hates to meet is the guy who is so lazy that he lets the wind blow his nose.

IN HOTEL LOBBIES

Enjoyed Summer Resort

"My daughter and I spent a week at Tate and greatly enjoyed the social features of that popular Tennessee resort," said S. E. Thompson, who returned home a day or two ago.

"I had been hearing of Tate for many years, but had never stopped there before. It is a beautiful place, and representative people from all over the south are found there. One day, during my short sojourn there were 62 arrivals."

Tidings from Austria

"As my father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. B. Steiner, are in Austria, I am as a matter of course watching the mails with great eagerness," said Herbert Steiner yesterday.

"On Saturday last I received a letter from father dated at Marienbad, July 25. Although Austria-Hungary had declared war on Serbia, there seemed to be little excitement at the time my father wrote. But today I received a letter from Marienbad, dated July 28, in which father gives a lively account of conditions. 'Such excitement I have never known before,' my father says. 'Everyone who can is leaving Marienbad, and the place is half empty.'"

"As Germany had not declared war at the time my father wrote it was his purpose to take an automobile and go to Eger and there catch a German train. He said that if Germany should get into the conflict then he didn't know how he would get away from Austria. Father concludes his letter as follows: 'The patriotism here among the Germans is wonderful. Rosa and I enjoy it immensely, but 'we should worry.' However, within a few days food will get scarce and if I don't get enough, then I will go too. Combined with the hardships, the weather is raining continuously and is very cold, and today the thermometer is at 48. We are well, thank God, and take our treatment every day. My heart is in good condition; I enjoy this place and it does me good."

"Sunday morning Kaiser Strassa was full of trunks and some people were packing them on the streets in their haste to get out. We are due to go to a play tonight, but in case the actors are Austrians, they will have to go to war, and the play will be called off."

Ridgely Fast Filling Up
"The Ridgely apartments will be entirely filled, no doubt, by the 1st of October, and once filled they will continue so," said a man who lives there. "The Ridgely is a building of immense size and capacity as everyone knows, and it was doing well to start off at the beginning of summer 50 per cent full. It has been filling up gradually ever since and I understand that very few apartments are left unoccupied. The service is excellent—strictly high class—and any family or bachelor may be considered most fortunate if they or he secures a home there."

Cost of Producing Cotton
"It is not possible to figure the cost of growing cotton in the general sense, as so many varying details enter into the proposition," said Hal T. Walker, owner of a plantation in the black belt, near Montgomery, who is visiting his daughter, Mrs. James H. Hillman.

"It is probable that some farmers get their crops marketed at a cost of 8 cents for all expenses of production, and yet some others will find it running full up to 10 cents."

"The conservative planter, satisfied to get a good living from his large acreage, goes the even tenor of his way and does not trouble about theories of improved farming. The aged land owner is willing to leave such things to the generation to follow, and his holdings to his children. He enjoys the homage of his negro tenants and the fellowship of his peers. Every summer there is a chain of barbecues and watermelon feasts, and these add to the joy of living in the black belt, with its broad acres and magnificent distances between settlements."

The Congressional Elections
"Three or four months ago it might have been a good guess that the democrats would have barely a majority in the next House of Representatives; but I believe now that the majority will be very large," said A. S. Conway of New York.

"I am not a politician, but I voted the democratic ticket in 1912 and expect to vote the same way this November. During the last four weeks I have traveled through a number of western states. I found the Underwood tariff popular in that section. The banking and currency act meets with favor in all business circles east and west, and the antitrust legislation to be enacted, while it may not be popular in Wall Street, will, I have no doubt, give satisfaction to the people."

"The republicans are in a disorganized state. If they had old time leaders who could bring about harmony, the democrats might lose in certain districts, perhaps; but the democratic administration has made good, and by way of endorsement, there will be a signal democratic victory this fall."

Builders of Birmingham
The Builders National bank in its biographical series entitled, "Builders of Birmingham," issues in connection with its August calendar this sketch:

"Eugene Levert Brown was born in Marion, on November 17, 1865. In 1887 he came to Birmingham and engaged in the mercantile business. Ten years later he entered the real estate field, a line of endeavor to which he is particularly well suited by reason of his initiative, enterprise and judgment. The firm of Brown Brothers & Co., of which he is the head, is one of the strongest in the state and has wide connections.

"In 1901 a new era in the real estate business in Birmingham was begun as a direct result of Mr. Brown's efforts, when the construction of the Woodward building, Birmingham's first skyscraper, was commenced. This building was erected by Mr. W. H. Woodward, as were the First National bank building and the Brown-Marx annex, under the supervision and upon the advice of Mr. Brown, in whose judgment and ability Mr. Woodward placed great confidence. The original Brown-Marx building, now the largest in the south, was promoted and erected by Brown Brothers & Co. in connection with Mr. Otto Marx.

"Mr. Brown has been active in many public undertakings, and is prominent in the affairs of the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations. He is a director of the First National bank of Birmingham and is interested in other successful enterprises."

WAR ECHOES

Alexander Wemyss Samuel, in New York World: The six powers war, as history will call it, will prove by far the costliest as well as the bloodiest in all time.

For today the engines of war, alike in their price and destructibility, outrange to an incredible degree any that have ever been employed previously. Guns that have an accurate range of nearly 10 miles, shells that can lift more than 10,000 times their own weight, bombing dropping aeroplanes that can hover directly over fortifications impregnable to direct attack, submarines that may prove more deadly even than super-dreadnaughts, and all these controlled by powers aggregating in population more than 500,000,000 people whose sinews of wealth are in billions almost beyond computation, there indeed is the world climax, the stage set for the vast pagan of death.

The war will be on land and sea and it is quite conceivable that the triple entente may secure victory at sea to be deprived of its fruits by disaster on land.

And the difficulty in making any estimate of the probabilities of success lies in the fact that both on land and sea there will be employed instruments of war that never before have been tried.

No one today really knows how a super-dreadnaught will stand up to torpedoes, or resist the dropping shells of the water plane. "Naval air-craft" is a new and seemingly contradictory term, but it will soon be a familiar one. And there will be demonstrated both the capacity of the dreadnaught to resist the attempt to make it "submarine" by a mammoth super-dreadnaught, and also the dreadnaught capacity to resist the mosquito-like attack of a water plane or sea plane.

There is nothing in naval history to guide in prognosis. All that happens will be quite new, and make the whole history of sea and land fighting obsolete and useless, placing its volumes among romances.

The destructiveness of the present engines of war is so great that the sea fighting could not be prolonged through what at the time of the armada were called "spacious days." But in view of the strength in population and resources of the continent of Europe, the land fighting might continue for a very long time; and most paradoxical or all, might result in a chess player's stale mate. But if one of the great triumvirate should appear to win a decided victory, it would be at a cost similar to that of a man who, to save his life, submits to an operation and loses his legs. For it will be a lamed and maimed Europe that will present itself again upon the world's commercial highways after the war. Lamed financially and maimed physically, the Europe of 12 months from now will have to be remanned and remade. Not the least probable result would be the overthrow of many thrones and the establishment of republicanism.

Bridgeport, Conn., special to the New York World: The submarine boat plant of this city has been put under strict government espionage during the last week, owing, it is said here, to the discovery of European government agents in Bridgeport.

Though it is rumored that attempts were made within the shipyards to get drawings and details of the mechanism of submarines being constructed for the United States government, so strict are the injunctions issued to employees that they even refuse to admit their connection with the works.

It is known that every foreign-born employee of the company has been discharged and that every workman has been ordered to sign an agreement whereby he practically becomes a government employee, subject to a fine of \$1000 or six months' imprisonment should he be caught disseminating information, drawings or photographs of the boats under construction.

London Special to the New York Sun: The Spectator says: "The great war has come, as every sensible person knew it would come—very suddenly, without apparent reason. Germany and Austria-Hungary are already at war with Russia, France, Great Britain, Belgium and Serbia. At any moment Germany may be at war with Holland, Italy and Roumania are almost certain to come in as soon as Russian troops appear in strength on her frontiers."

"Russia wants Transylvania and its 4,000,000 Roumanians, now oppressed by Austria. Denmark and Switzerland may very easily be forced to take a hand, for the small powers are beginning to realize that the issue for them is one of life or death. If the Germans win there will be no place left for the little independent nations. They know that they will always have a genuine friend and protector in Great Britain."

"What caused the war? Our answer is that Germany was ready and determined. She thought that we, Russia and France were neither ready nor determined and she therefore struck. Germany began her preparations for war as soon as the Kiel canal was finished, that is, as soon as in her belief her readiness was at its maximum. The German government has always been a firm believer in the importance of material preparation as well as in the idea that war is not a matter of self-defense."

An American, referring to the Spectator's article, said: "The new England is not fighting for dominion nor to deprive any power of its right or independence. Realizing this, with that instinct for justice and right common to our race, this idea cannot be expressed in better words than those of the greatest American, Abraham Lincoln, in his second inaugural address: 'With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in.'"

New York Independent: Jean Jacques: War is the foulest fiend that ever vomited forth from the mouth of hell.

Thomas Jefferson: I abhor war and view it as the greatest scourge of mankind.

Benjamin Franklin: There never was a good war or a bad peace.

William Lloyd Garrison: My country is the world; my countrymen are all mankind.

Napoleon Bonaparte: The more I study the world the more I am convinced of the inability of force to create anything durable.

Paul on Mars Hill: God hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth.

Andrew Carnegie: We have abolished slavery from civilized countries—the only thing of man by man. The next great step that the world can take is to abolish war—the killing of man by man.

George Washington: My first wish is to see the whole world at peace, and the

ADrift WITH THE TIMES

NO CAUSE TO WORRY.

Though champagne soars, he shall not mind. Who much prefers Milwaukee's brew, And deep in soothing suds doth find Nephew for a life of rue.

A CONSIDERATE WIFE.

"A beauty specialist offered me a remedy yesterday that she guaranteed would make me look 10 years younger," said Mrs. Twobble.

"Why didn't you try it?" asked Mr. Twobble from behind his paper.

"She wanted \$5 for the recipe," answered Mrs. Twobble, "and I was afraid the price would make you look 10 years older."

X X X X X X X

A note today. From fair Yvette; The postscript is The sweetest yet.

Some tiny marks. For kisses meant. Have filled my heart. With vast content.

WELL INFORMED.

"Are you keeping up with the war news, dearie?"

"Indeed I am! Three Swiss battleships were sunk yesterday by German cruisers and President Carbalaj of France is leading the French army against the Belgians."

HARD TO BELIEVE.

"Spindrift seems to be rather vain of his personal appearance," said Grabscom. "He certainly is," assented Jagsky. "I've seen him admire himself so much in a barroom mirror that he'd forget to order a drink."

PA'S GUESS.

"Pa, who was Atlas?" "I guess he was an ancestor of Kaiser Wilhelm, my boy."

WHY HESITATE?

Noyes and Watson both have written poems to fire the British heart. What's the matter with Rud. Kipling? Won't he try to do his part?

NO RESULTS.

"Wife," said Mr. Tupper, "I'm proud to say that no matter how unkindly you speak to me, I never answer back."

"That's what makes me so mad," snapped Mrs. Tupper. "I might as well be talking to a dummy."

P. C.

GREAT TRIALS OF HISTORY

TRIAL OF JOHN H. SURRATT

IN the round up of the many persons accused of being implicated in the murder of President Lincoln, the most sought after of the men who had made good their escape was John H. Surratt. A search was at once started for his apprehension, but he made his way to Canada. While his mother was undergoing the torture of her trial he lay concealed in the house of a friendly priest some 40 miles from Montreal.

Surratt remained in hiding in Canada until he was able, under an assumed name, to sail for Liverpool from Quebec. He traveled unhindered to London, Paris and finally to Rome, where in the early spring of the following year, under the name of Watson, he enlisted in the Papal Zouaves and was sent on garrison duty to a post near the Neapolitan frontier.

There Surratt might have remained unknown until the end of his service had he not accidentally met another zouave of the same company who was an American and who had known him in Maryland. He reported his discovery to the American minister to Italy, Rufus King, and on November 2, 1868, "Zouave Watson" was metamorphosed from a soldier into a prisoner of state. He was taken to the military prison at Rome. From here he made his escape and boarded a steamer for Alexandria, Egypt, which port he reached on the 27th, and the American consul there being apprised of his coming, he was finally intercepted and held to await the arrival of a United States vessel to carry him to his country.

The United States corvette Swatara touched at Alexandria on December 21, and when it departed it carried Surratt to the United States to stand trial. On February 21 the vessel cast anchor abreast of the Washington navy yard. There, in sight of the prison in which his mother was tried and condemned and under which she lay buried, Surratt, by order of the Secretary of State, was delivered into the hands of the civil authorities.

The district attorney at once began to prepare for his trial. The trial opened on June 10, 1867, and lasted until August 11, 62 days. During the trial there was a general impression that Surr