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HOUSTON, MONDAY, MAY 22, 1899.

EXPORTS THROUGH SOUTHERN PORTS.

The Birmingham Age-Herald points out that during the last fiscal year something like 25 per cent, or an aggregate of about $320,000,000, of this country's exports passed through Southern ports. Of this amount the value of the farm products comprised about $240,000,000, of forestry products $23,000,000, of mineral products $14,000,000 and of "secondary" products from agricultural sources about $29,000,000.

It seems from this same showing that New Orleans outranked all ports in the Union in exports of zinc pig, molasses, raw cotton and staves. Newport News excelled all in shipments of spices, tanbark and tanning extracts and graphite; Mobile was first in carbon and brown sugar; Norfolk excelled in coke, pig iron and logs; Savannah, in bauxite, sea island cotton, iron rails, rosin turpentine and spirits of turpentine; Galveston in cottonseed cake and meal; Brunswick in cottonseed and sawed timber; Pensacola in boards, deals and planks, and Wilmington in tar.

But the Age-Herald remarks that great as the gain in shipments from Southern ports has of late been, yet about one-quarter of the cotton exports still goes out from Northern ports, and the shipments of cottonseed oil from New York alone exceed the shipments from all Southern ports combined. Freight rates to the seaboard have an important influence over the course and outlet of shipments.

The growth in exports from Southern ports, however, is more pronounced than at Eastern or Western ports and each year now marks a wonderful change in figures compared with preceding years. The Southern export trade is increasing so rapidly, in fact, that unless congress allows itself to be used to check this development of Southern commerce, additional facilities for shipping in the way of improved harbors and new harbors in the South, can be demanded and obtained as a right, and as a necessary step in fostering the foreign trade of the nation.

Southern ports have passed the stage where their export trade was a matter of doubtful speculation and where appropriations for deepening their channels and removing obstacles to navigation were regarded as purely experimental. Congress and the country can now see that the expenditures asked in the premises on Southern account are to protect an export business of more than a fourth of that of the whole country, and that by care and adequate provision for its enlargement may, in less than a decade, reach 50 per cent of that of the nation—or a sum in excess of $600,000,000!

OUR TREATMENT OF CUBA.

The agreement by this government that the guns of the Cuban army may be turned over to the mayors of the Cuban cities for the future use of the Cuban native government, if such a government is ever established, ought to, and probably will, have the effect of preventing any further threatening friction between the American authorities and the native soldiers of the island.

We have too generally been disposed to treat the Cubans as a conquered enemy. The American authorities have insisted upon absolute control for the time being. No native authority of any kind has been recognized, except such as was constituted by the American governors. The natives have had no voice in a single particular of the government of the island, except as advice was sought by the American generals. The insistence upon disarmament, while probably justified, yet looked as if we were rather afraid of the comparative handful of half equipped Cuban soldiers. The failure to indicate a probable date of the establishment of a freely chosen native government has created suspicion, until a large portion of the Cuban population yet question the integrity of our motives or the disinterestedness of our occupancy of the island.

It may be true that we are dealing with such a people as to necessitate these extreme and repressive measures to prevent disorder and secure the complete tranquility of Cuba, and yet it is a question whether if we had conceded more to them and treated them more as allies in the first place, we would not have found them more trustful and the readier to conform to our suggestions?

If the Cubans were an intelligent people they would jump at the chance to become a state in the American union. Under such conditions they could enjoy the fullest measure of local self-government, while having their foreign affairs looked after by the American government. They could secure from congress needed appropriations for the improvement of their harbors and escape many of the heavy burdens which an existence as an independent republic would necessarily entail.

It ought to be our first effort to form such a state government for them while we are in general control of the island. We ought to throw the responsibility of local government wholly upon them at once, and practically educate them into the beauties and desirability of our system while we are yet there to advise and to correct mistakes. Possibly such concessions would quiet the impatience for complete independence and lead up to an early popular demand for annexation.

The moment that disarmament is accomplished is the moment to erect this local government and demonstrate anew our disinterestedness to the inhabitants. We ought not to retain military satraps in charge of the local administration after the Cuban military has disappeared. We might immediately begin to prove to Cuba that she could become one of the richest, most prosperous, freest and happiest of the American States if we would erect our territorial form of government there at the present time as an object lesson.

If Mr. Carnegie proposes to devote his large fortune to the "good of the public," Mr. Hanna will of course put in a bid for a large slice for the republican campaign fund next year. Mr. Hanna's campaign funds are always collected as an act of benevolent guardianship of the "honor" of the country and the interests of the laboring man! But Mr. Carnegie doesn't need a republican tariff any longer and may fool the self-constituted savior of the nation next time.

Aguinaldo's commissioners are grasping at straws this trip.

The report from Omaha of an address before the Populist club of that city by Mr. Bryan in which he is said to have contended that the "16 to 1 populists were the ones chosen to save" this nation, probably does Mr. Bryan rank injustice. The report evidently came from the Omaha Bee office, a paper particularly bitter toward the great democratic leader.

The Post acknowledges with thanks the receipt of an invitation to attend the commencement exercises of the "class of nineteen-nine" of Elizabeth college, Charlotte, N. C.

General Miles and the officers in the army who are suspected of being friendly toward him, need not expect any quarter from the war department henceforth. This is scandalously subversive of discipline and the proper esprit of the army, but it is a fact. A machine that is run through spite and jealousy ought to be kept as small and innocuous as possible.

Those Boston women who are taking so much dish in anti-lynching meetings ought to be compelled to live for a time in lonely and unprotected rural localities in the South.

If a city that maintains a thoroughly efficient fire department also controlled its water works, it would probably have an adequate supply of water on hand at all times with which to fight fires. Houston has lost many handsome and costly buildings because of the want of water at the critical moment.

At the big fire in this city Saturday night some of the firemen exhibited as conspicuous nerve and endurance as any heroes on any other "firing line" could display.

The Texas coast country cities and towns cannot afford to overlook any sanitary precautions against the possibility of the spread of disease, so long as reports of fever epidemic come from the Mexican Gulf coast. Cleanliness is safer than quarantine.

The Cuban guns about which such a hubbub has been raised, are about as out-of-date and harmless against an enemy equipped with modern rifles as the guns with which our own volunteers are supplied!

It is reassuring to observe that General Otis seems to fully appreciate the Filipinos' reputation for cunning and deceitfulness. The best authorities agree that you can't even trust the Filipino when you have him gagged and bound and are sitting on him.

It must be admitted that Aguinaldo is strictly correct in asking for an armistice until the Filipino congress can meet—a congress constantly on the jump through the jungle can't transact much business in a deliberative way.

Secretary Alger will have to resign from the cabinet and ally himself with the anti-administration forces in Michigan if he expects to defeat Senator McMillan for the senate. Such a step would be pie for the administration crowd.

It can already be seen that few cities will possess a handsomer roadway than our Main street when the asphalt paving is finished. Some day the pavement will be carried on to the auditorium, and then the improvement will be complete.

ECHOES OF THE POST.

Wallisville Age: The Austin Statesman says the State university should get $75,000, but "will not complain if it gets $50,000." It ought to complain and would have a right to complain justly if it does not get what it needs.—Houston Post.

Beaumont Enterprise: The Houston Post notes that a paper called the Mystery is to be published at Blanket, instead of Brownwood That's good. Many mysteries have been concealed under a blanket. Now if the editor would change his name to Pie there would be an eternal fitness connected with that paper which everybody could understand.

Waco Times Herald: The Houston Post very pertinently remarks that "it is a matter for gratification and congratulation that the State has an executive who can be just to the people and vigilant in guarding the public's rights, without seeking to be antagonistic toward the great business interests of Texas or oppression toward vested capital." It is a just estimate. Joe Sayers is all right.

Hempstead News: Hon. Guy M. Bryan writes in The Houston Post of the possibility of opening the Brazos river to navigation and thinks it can be done at far less expense than was required to open up many of the streams in the Middle and Northern States. The Brazos can be made navigable for a long way up without the use of locks and dams, simply by clearing out and straightening the channel. Are the people of Waller county interested in this move? Then, wake up.

Wharton Spectator: Wednesday's Post contained a statement that a commission man of that city had received inquiries for over a hundred cars of potatoes. They came not only from Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago buyers, but from those in Cincinnati, Pittsburg and other Eastern cities. The farmers of Wharton county could have easily filled these orders if they had planted potatoes, and with an ordinarily favorable season could have had their crop marketed and their land in something else. Taken all around, no portion of the United States offers to truck and vegetable farmers the advantages to be found in Wharton county.

A TRANSPARENT ABSURDITY.

(The following interview will be published in "Transparent Absurdities," by Lyman F. George.)

During my three months' trip through the country, that transparent absurdity—standard of value—greeted me everywhere. It had won more converts to the gold standard than any other of their nonsensical catch phrases. Made ridiculous in every argument, able men disputing with me retreated into this "hollow square" of British origin, and rested their case on its soundness.

At such times I am reminded of the early English laws which restricted farmers to very narrow limits in the fertilizing of their lands; as otherwise the flavor of the partridges might be injured, for these men began to cry for "honest dollars" and "stable currency." Surely such strong reasoning bespeaks a cultivation resulting from the repeal of this old blue—or rather yellow—law. They want a dollar intrinsically worth one hundred cents. But these one hundred cents are made from less than 10 cents worth of copper; therefore their statement is fallacious. The price of copper has risen 85 per cent within the last few months, and it can not be that they refer to the ratio between gold and copper, consequently they simply assert that the whole is equal to the sum of all its parts; that a dollar is intrinsically worth four quarters, provided, of course, they are not Canadian quarters.

But to return to our text—the vacuous phrase—"standard of value." It is not surprising that many good minds anchor their faith to this yellow nugget, since perhaps no part of the whole subject is more subtle, elusive in its analysis and difficult to clearly understand.

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The idea of a "standard" or unit of measurement is simple, and many think that in comprehending the idea of "standard" they have grasped and penetrated all that is meant by the economic term "standard of value." They think because they see clearly that a foot may be decided upon as the unit of length measurement, or a pound as the unit of weight measurement, or a gallon as the unit of liquid measurement, that in the same way a dollar may be and is the unit of value measurement, and therefore a "standard" of value measurement.

Now it is right here that the conception becomes elusive and the conclusions erroneous. In a certain sense it may be said that the dollar is the unit of value measurement, but misleading conceptions of what that proposition really means will constantly follow unless the mind has first completely mastered and keeps constantly in view the true meaning of the word value. But it will serve my purpose here to keep to the lines of argument offered by my friend, W. F. Miller of Boston. He said: "It is in the failure to understand and appreciate the real meaning of "market value" that arises much of the false logic and claims of the gold standard, for this in its last analysis and real meaning is a ratio or relation. It is a mental condition—an estimate between things. The phrase "intrinsic value" is a self-contradiction."

"Certainly," I replied, "nothing has 'intrinsic value.' It is a misuse of the word 'value' to couple it with the word 'intrinsic.' You may speak properly of the 'intrinsic qualities' of a thing. Gold, for example, is intrinsically yellow and ductile and of high specific gravity. It has intrinsic chemical affinities; does not oxydize easily; does unite with mercury. But the moment you speak of the 'value' of gold, in an economic sense, that moment the mind is forced instantly to go outside of the gold itself, seize upon other objects, institute a comparison or relationship between them and the gold, and in this idea of relationship is wrapped up the conception of value, not only of the gold, but of the other things as well."

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"Clearly that proves, George, that market value is not fixed, rigid, arbitrary and 'intrinsic,' but rather a fluctuating, relationary thing—intangible, immaterial; in short, a mental estimate, depending upon many varying considerations pertaining to the things 'valued' or more truly compared. What is the 'unit of measurement' of the abstract conceptions—honor, virtue, intelligence, heroism, morality? How absurd it would be to talk about a standard of any such thing in a rigid, limited, definite, measurable unit. How futile to try to say that a man is so many units good or bad."

"Or so many units artistic or generous," I added. "Coming to the principle involved, we find the units of measurement must be definite, limited entities, fixed, unvarying parts of a finite whole. What is a second of time? It is definite fraction of the whole time consumed by the earth in its annual revolution about the sun."

"What is the standard meter?" interrupted Mr. Miller. "It is a definite fraction of a whole great circle of the earth. A quart? It is a definite space inclosed by compounding definite unit of length. A standard unit of measurement must be a definite part of a finite whole—an entity. But what part of the whole conception of market 'value' is a dollar? The mind gets no definite conception of such a thing. What kind of a 'unit of length' would it be if fixed upon as the one-millionth part of all the new railroads to be laid next year? and so on for each year. What kind of a unit of time measurement would it be if fixed upon as the one-thousandth part of the time required to run a mile the fastest automobile to be built in the year 1900; and always thereafter to fluctuate with the changing speed attainable by improved automobiles? The fact is there can be no 'unit of market value' in the true sense, as long as the whole mass of value for which the unit must be defined as a fixed fraction) is a fluctuating, changing thing, which it is."

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"It seems to me," I added, "that no one can fail to see that the whole mass or volume of market values is enormously different today from what it was 100 years ago, and, in short, will be different tomorrow from what it is today, and so on to the end of time. The aggregate market value of all things not merely depends upon the varying relationship between the things themselves, but also the state of men's minds enters largely into it. For instance, varying fashions! In discarded styles you see a purely arbitrary action of the human mind; but it affects market values.

"Is it not clear, then, that we must cast out of our minds so absurd a claim as a 'dollar is the unit of value measurement' at least in any true scientific sense, since it seems clear that there can be actually no such thing as a 'unit of market value,' because market value itself is immaterial, intangible, only a mental estimate.

"And now for the interesting question, George. If the dollar is not the unit of market value, what is it? It is the 'unit of account.' It is a vehicle for reckoning market values. It is no more the market value itself than the bicycle is the man whom it carries. The bicycle transfers a person from place to place. The dollar transfers wealth. If I have a horse, I may take him to the market and by selling him exchange one form of wealth for dollars, which presently I may exchange elsewhere for some other form of wealth. That in its final analysis is the function of dollars in the common medium of exchange. They are only the common carriers, or transfers of wealth, in a great or small degree; and it is clear from this conception that this function does not depend upon the material out of which they are made, but does depend upon their capacity to circulate as a legal tender medium, which capacity is obtained or lost in them by virtue of fiat law."

"Exactly, Mr. Miller, legal tender is the greatest of known powers; or, perhaps, I might add, unknown; for if the great suffering masses knew that it would unshackle them from the monstrous tyrant—capitalism—with its cruel system of industrial servitude, and that this power belongs to them—and lay simply in voting for a larger per capita circulation of legal tender. I say if they knew it, they'd demand it, and get it sure. United States gold coins do not transfer wealth in the United States because they are gold! It is because our laws have invested them with legal tender, i. e., wealth transferring capacity, and though they be nine-tenths fine, they will not circulate from shop to shop notwithstanding they are pieces of genuine gold coin."

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"That is so, George. The rag pulp endowed by fiat law to transfer wealth does so a million times a day—but it is clear that this, marvelously colored and engraved though it be, is not the wealth itself, neither is the gold or silver or anything else that we call money. This conception is fundamental and leads us on sure grounds to a scientific consideration of what money should be, and we thus reach the correct conclusion that it should be a medium which will suit itself to the easy and efficient transference of wealth; and to do this work, the cheapest commodity obtainable, when endowed with legal tender qualities, will be best suited. The claim that by laboriously digging into the earth and finding here and there a few sparks of yellow metal, is the only way to supply ourselves with a vehicle to perform this mighty, infinite, incalculable transference of wealth, demanded by the restless, active, unsatisfied mind of man—ever inventing, ever achieving—is unscientific to the last degree. To limit the issue of money to the good or bad luck of the miner, or the speed of the stamps crushing the steel-hard quartz, is the greatest of modern absurdities, and the idea will vanish utterly, burned out by the focusing intellects of honest and fearless economists."

DUST TO DUST.

Prof. Pennybacker Laid to Rest with Every Demonstration of Respect.

Palestine Visiter.

On Wednesday, May 17, the remains of Prof. Percey V. Pennybacker were laid to rest in East Hill cemetery, amid every demonstration of honor and respect.

The order of the procession from the residence to the church was as follows:

Public schools, both teachers and pupils, first the girls walking two and two and then the boys in the same order; carriages containing the following school trustees, as honorary pallbearers: A. Teah, C. E. Young, G. R. Cook, C. A. Sterns, G. E. Dilley, C. H. Davenport; K. of P.s., hearse, family carriage, pallbearers in carriages; and then a long line of carriages and vehicles filled with friends and acquaintances, many of them carrying offerings of flowers.

Following were the acting pallbearers: G. A. Wright, N. R. Royall, A. R. Howard, Thomas Hall, George E. Dilley, D. J. Price, Dr. Jameson, F. Hufsmith, S. A. McMeans, A. Teah, T. M. Campbell.

Arriving at the church, while soft notes of the organ breathed forth and relatives entered at the east door and occupied reserved seats in front of the chancel. Members of the Knights of Pythias order, including Ivanhoe lodge No. 15, (to which body the deceased belonged, also visiting brethren of Rotherwood lodge No. 127, and others were seated at the west side of the chancel.

The pulpit, altar railing and contiguous parts of the church were draped with flowers; golden honeysuckle and white privet blooms drooped over the altar rail, pots of mammoth palms, bouquet of roses, nasturtiums and other flowers were distributed in various places, and the hues of lovely geraniums were softened by interminglings of evergreen. On either side of the hearse and around the coffin in contrast to its black drapings were purest white lilies, fragrant magnolias and pillows of roses that seemed to have bowed their heads in sorrow, mourning for the departed.

The funeral ceremonies were opened by singing of the hymn, "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me," by a quartette, and followed by a lesson read by Rev. Mr. Godbey, presiding elder, from St. John, where occurred the verse, "Our friend Lazareth sleepeth."

The sermon was preached by Dr. Alexander, of which but a brief note can be made. He said it was our sad duty, to speak of one who had lived with us, but is now gone. Death is always sad, always near—near some one.

After a prayer, the hymn, "Asleep in Jesus, Blessed Sleep," was sung, the benediction pronounced, and then all that was left of mortality was taken to the cemetery.

At the grave the Pythian Knights were gathered and performed their last sad oblations, the beautiful service being read by Rev. R. S. Stuart, after which evergreen mementoes were placed on the coffin and brethren assisted in covering the same. The final benediction was pronounced as the knights and congregation dispersed to their homes.

An Enemy of the South.

Fort Worth Mail-Telegram.

There was never a man in public life who was so bitter, so unjust and so untruthful in his attacks on the Southern people as was John J. Ingalls of Kansas. He includes in his malleun all that was mean in the most rabid of abolitionists. Since he was retired from public life he is occasionally heard from as a contributor of yellow journals. Recently he has been devoting himself to criticising the lynchers of Georgia. Not content with saying all the mean things he can of the South, he advises the negroes to "go with torch in hand," and says to them that if they would be free they must fight for their freedom; otherwise they are not entitled to it. It is such talk as this, peddled by the republican papers of the North, that incites the negroes to acts of violence against the whites and brings upon the heads of the violators of the law that punishment which is as sure as the fates. Ingalls should be suppressed and he and all of his ilk barred the newspapers.

Does Advertising Pay?

Alto News.

Advertising may not pay, but there are still people who believe it, and none more so than the man who sold $8000 worth of goods from a $4.21 want ad. in The Houston Post. The Post offered a prize of $25 to the person showing the best results from a "want ad," and was won as above by C. L. Vickers.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Capital Punishment.

To the Editor of The Post.

Houston, Texas, May 16.—Great problems, like great buildings, usually assume changed outlines when viewed from different standpoints. The question of capital punishment is one of most tremendous importance to the individual, and serves more than any other, perhaps, in measuring the degree of civilization to which a nation has risen; hence, with due respect toward the opinions of others, please allow space for the following axioms, drawn, not from occurrences, but from philosophy:

1. It can not be shown that capital punishment diminishes crime; no opportunity existing by which statistics are available showing its prevalence without it, besides, it is fairly reasonable to believe that the person bringing the death penalty upon himself fully expects to evade it, though apprehended, or even convicted; and the numerous instances of defeated justice—if capital punishment be justice—warrants the guilty one in his expectations; since it is generally a matter of winning his case and establishing his own record as a successful practitioner, which actuates the criminal lawyer in defense of his client, rather than the real desire to see justice meted out to the violator of the law.

2. Capital punishment is nothing more nor less than murder, though its form be judicial. That a number of men, acting together under laws framed by men, should proceed to the execution of certain other men, changes only the form and not the principle constituting murder.

3. There can exist no law among human rights permitting the power to punish beyond the ability to reward. All humanity is divided into two classes, benefactors and malefactors. Every man, woman and child is either one or the other. The majority may not have reached a high degree of virtue, or descended to a low measure of vice, but all are to be found in one of the two classes. Now, no matter how great a benefactor a man has become, none of the exact sciences enable the most solicitous of his friends to prolong his life by so much as a single hour. Obversely, whence the right to cut off a human life by an hour? I am not considering a Mosaic law, or any other man-made doctrine, but rather a righteous principle transcending simple material phenomena, and from which our statures should be drawn.

I am not to be understood, however, as claiming that crime should go unpunished, or that punishment should not be proportionate to its degree of viciousness, but that it ought to be administered in a form which would reflect credit and not dishonor upon a nation's shield. Such form could be adopted were our statures governing the question so framed that instead of a death penalty the murderer was sentenced to a life penalty at hard labor, the proceeds of which instead of going to prison labor contractors—thereby placing a premium on conviction for their special benefit—should be paid to those bereft, possibly of husband or father, with no pardoning power placed in the hands of any man, official or executive, except innocence be proven, or some equally mitigating circumstances be shown through which the pardon is merited, in which case restitution should be made the unhappy victim of such legal error, instead of simply turning free an individual whose means are exhausted and years sacrificed and name dishonored by an unjust verdict.

Such cutting off absolutely all hope of pardon where the verdict of guilty had been found in a case of murder would, I believe, be far more effectual than capital punishment in the prevention of such crime, and would certainly free those in authority from the awful responsibility of ushering into a dread unknown a soul all blackened and scarred with sin and who might have had, and improved, opportunities of rising to a better life here.

Florence E. B. Shaffer.

Is the Silver Issue Dead?

To the Editor of The Post.

Loyal Vale, Texas, May 17.—Among the propositions educed in affirmation of the above query, there can be no more complete inversion of truth and good reason than the reiterated statement that the world's increased output of gold obviates the need of silver coinage. It only emphasizes it. The fact really brought forward is, that the need and right of toil to transmute itself into that universal equivalent money, by digging and coining precious metals, is so great that it will be exercised even if the rightful means of doing so be restrained or denied. There exists under present conditions an imperious necessity that labor, in due proportion, be employed in delving out of earth the raw material for money, the equivalent and measure of value of all things, as being the only existing means whereby the price and true value relatively, of commodities, evidences of debt and of property, and of the labor that produces them all, is in some degree automatically regulated.

In the process of employing labor directly in the production of the dollars that pay it and thereby increasing relatively the number of those dollars and as a necessary consequence the price of all things and the demand compensation for labor generally, is a mighty defense of toil against the perpetual attacks of greed and a safeguard against unending plots to tamper with the bond by making the units it enumerates and specifies of ever growing labor cost and purchasing power. Money is but the indispensable tool of exchange. It is best and just that labor make the money of final redemption and the nation for all, make, guarantee and profit by all its token representations.

No other means are proposed whereby the relative value of things can be so equitably regulated. The necessity that has compelled us to dig more gold, requires us to dig more silver. The real issue of the time is now so definitely made and of record that dullness itself must comprehend it. We are asked to have the government resign its duty to coin money and regulate the value thereof into the hands solely of loaners, stock jobbers and appropriators of the franchises of the people, incurring thus besides an enormous immediate loss in silver to be retired, etc., a perpetual and annually recurring one on the amount of interest that wise and safe financiering might save for a people two billions of dollars in debt by floating a fair proportion of said debt as greenbacks.

Worse than that we hand over for all time the power to manipulate the volume of money and consequently prices. We will lose the power to regulate the kind of stock that will ultimately be the basis of the issuance of money so surely that we will at once inject a large amount of probable value and, therefore, danger into the vast volume of industrials or trust stocks floated upon the supposition that by controlling both the amount and cost of production of almost all commodities, the people may be bled to pay dividends on vast amounts of property that does not exist in any form more tangible than an engraved or lithographed certificate of stock with a name or two attached, for the real property represented is worth far less than the amount of capitalization. This, with ruined agriculture and labor, belligerent robbed and hope denied to merit and industry. It is an appropriation of the earth without the trouble of acquiring any title, deed or monument of property.

The war is here. It must soon be determined for long, whether justice shall be done to all men and favors granted to none, or whether an ever-increasing appropriation of the rights of the whole people by an ever-decreasing number of combines shall leave us even graves. The cradles and coffins are claimed as trust properties now.

Among all the combines the money one is worst. So long as there is a question among us it will be the silver question with its concomitants. We are attacked on many sides, but the demand that we surrender our rights to say what shall be money is most dangerous of all. It is demanding that the constitution forbids us to grant. E.C.

Bailey and Chilton.

To the Editor of The Post.

Palestine, Texas, May 18.—It is two full years before the successor to Senator Chilton takes his seat. It is eighteen months before the election. And yet the senatorial succession is a subject of more than passing interest and is being talked about with as much vim and with as many premonitory symptoms of excitement as the great Hogg-Clark campaign of 1892. Now, as then, the professional politicians are all at sea. They have their ears to the ground and their eyes on the weather vane, listening for the first rumble of the earthquake or the first rustle of the cyclone.

The malignant criticism of Bailey's San Jacinto day speech at Houston is not without its purpose. It may or may not be significant that the bitterest epithets come from a politico-farming paper at Dallas which is the personal and political organ of James S. Hogg. And most of the anti-Bailey talk has come from the men who are known to stand close to the former governor of Texas, now a practicing lawyer at Austin.

It is probably a mere coincidence that many of Chilton's most ardent advocates at this stage of the game are identified in some way or other with the corporations for which the former governor of Texas is supposed to speak, or with which he is believed to have some influence. But this is outside the question. The attorney of a corporation has a perfect right to have his choice for the United States senate and to advocate that choice and it is only a small mind which would vote against a man for any office because he had some corporation support. A man running for office has the undoubted privilege of enlisting any manner of man, and a corporation man comes in line with the rest of us.

The great issue of the contest is plain. On the question of the tariff, Bailey and Chilton think alike. On the question of silver there is not the slightest divergence of opinion. On the paramount question of the suppression of trusts they are as one. There is one point where they do not agree at all. That is the policy to be pursued by this government regarding the territory in this hemisphere which formerly belonged to Spain. Chilton favors the acquisition of Cuba, and Porto Rico. Bailey is unalterably opposed to the annexation of another foot of territory to the soil of the United States. They have not changed a particle from the positions taken by them at the Galveston convention a year ago.

During the past sixty days I have been through the counties of Dallas, Tarrant, Kaufman, Van Zandt, Gregg, Cherokee, Anderson, Harris, Grimes, Limestone, Navarro, Collin, Grayson, Fannin, Hunt, Denton, Cooke, Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette, Hill, Ellis, McLennan, Upshur and Panola. Business has brought me in contact with classes of people principally farmers and those engaged in the handling of farm products. I have talked to the people, and the result of the investigation convinces me that if the election were to occur tomorrow Chilton would be hopelessly beaten. Bailey's hold upon the popular mind is something wonderful, inexplicable, idolatrous. The very faults of the man, his irascibility, his fads and foibles of dress and manner, his stubbornness, his tenacity of conviction even when opposed by a majority of his party, seem but to make him the stronger with the masses, for they humanize what might otherwise be far too cold and far too reserved a man for successful political battles. It may be truthfully said that Bailey's weaknesses are his greatest source of popular strength. His intellectual atmosphere is rather icy, as all purely intellectual atmosphere must be. No man can bring passion and sentiment to the settlement of a great economic or political question if the issue is to be settled rightly. Hence it is that while Bailey too frequently differs from his party associates, he has never lost his popularity and never will. His breadth and height and reach of wisdom make him easily the first of Texans in public life. At no great distance comes Senator Culberson. The others are among the also rans.

Personally, Chilton is a charming man once you know him; but it takes quite a while to thaw him out. He is reserved, dignified, unobtrusive. He has none of Bailey's graces of oratory, being rather heavy and pedantic in his style and delivery. He is slow and deliberate in his mental processes, avoids publicity, likes the quiet air of the study rather than the noise and excitement of the hustings—in all things the very antithesis of his brilliant competitor. Chilton dislikes a fight, will go a long way to avoid one, but once being in he fights to the death. Bailey is the battleax kind, always at home and happy in turmoil; Chilton the diplomat, who prefers peace and peaceful methods, but who when pushed to the wall gives battle right royally. Bailey is Norse. Chilton is more of the Teutonic than anything else.

The fight is going to be a warm one, the hotter the better for Bailey. It is going to be so thoroughly prosecuted that a man can not sit on the fence and watch the fun. In certain contingencies, not very remote, it may be as personal as was the great contest of 1892. For instance, a joint debate between Bailey and Hogg, the battleax and the bludgeon of Texas politics will be worth losing a night's sleep to hear. And it will require powerful pressure to keep the former governor out of the ring or to restrain his tongue after he gets in.

Bailey is going into the legislature with all the great North Texas counties behind him. His own district, composed of the counties of Cooke, Denton, Grayson, Collin and Fannin, is solid for him. The tier of outlying counties—Dallas, Hunt, Tarrant, Lamar and Kaufman—are reasonably sure, so Bailey's friends say, and I have not heard the statement disputed in the counties themselves. Middle Texas, South Texas and the portion of the State west of the Santa Fe railroad will decide the contest. Chilton is almost sure to have East Texas, because East Texas always hangs together for an East Texas man.

Bailey's friends confidently predict a walk-over. They are everywhere jubilant and enthusiastic; they are everywhere working night and day in order, so they say, to make his majority in the legislature greater than that of any man who had opposition. They are prepared for war and it can not come any too soon for them. The situation is growing decidedly interesting. A. F. R.

The Cause of Houston's Growth.

Flatonia Argus.

The company has been formed and stock subscribed for a large furniture factory in Houston. It is this enterprising spirit of the business men that is causing Houston this phenomenal growth.

Best Newspaper in Texas.

Fairfield Recorder.

The Houston Post is fully demonstrating the fact that it is the best newspaper in Texas. It is with the people on all public issues and should receive their support.

IN THE FIELD OF LITERA

"History of the American Na... Prof. A. C. McLaughlin, which ... been published by D. Appleton ... pany, is the first volume in the ... tieth Century Series. The ... this book is to trace the main ... National development, to show ... American people came to be ... are. These main outlines ... struggle of the nations of ... rope for possession of the ... the foundation and growth of ... onies; the development of ... the difficulties and disorders of ... federate period; the adoption of ... stitution of the United States; ... to maintain National independ... the subsequent struggles and ... finally brought all sections of ... into a bond of perpetual ... events have been so narrated ... reader will come to an appreciat... political surroundings and of the ... duties that devolve upon him. ... reason especial attention has ... to political facts, to the rise of ... to the issues involved in election... development of governmental ... and, in general, to questions of ... ment and administration. The ... feature and especially the ... ceived the most careful attention, ... accurate, truthful and illustrative.

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A work of great value is "Eliot's ... Central Asia," by John W. ... This book is the result of a trip ... the sections named during the ... autumn of last year. It consists ... of letters written by him while ... journey, which were published by ... Western papers. As the Eastern ... tion hinges largely upon the ... Russia the author undertook ... for the purpose of studying that ... at short range; and, owing to ... privileges granted him, the results ... observations are most interesting ... ceedingly valuable. His letters are ... trated by many views taken by him ... making his tour. These views help ... a clear idea of the great regions ... Mr. Boowater's work is published by ... self at Springfield, Ohio. It is ... on excellent paper and is ... bound.

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A very interesting addition to Appl... "Library of Useful Stories" is ... Story of the British Race," by John ... This little work throws a new and ... ing light on the real nature of the ... people. It gives the views of ... anthropologists upon the races ... habitate the British Islands, and ... some errors regarding the origin and ... gree of the nation which has influ... and literature for ages.

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The negro question, which is of ... more seriousness to this country ... generally appreciated, will be treated ... J. L. M. Curry in the June issue ... pletons' Popular Science monthly. ... Curry, late minister to Spain and ... rector of both the Peabody and the ... educational funds, has had exceptional ... portunities for studying the negro ... South, and his conclusions are of ... value on this account.

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Besides the usual departments, the ... articles in the May number of the ... man are "The Opera Season of 18... by Esther Singleton; some ... Charles Lamb, not previously pub... the conclusion of a paper on Edmund ... and poem by Percy Adams-Hinck... called "The Bridge Builders," which ... very good, in the Kipling manner, ... bustious assertiveness.

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In the early fall a volume of ... Romances," by Albert White Vorse ... be published. Mr. Vorse was a ... of Lieutenant Peary's expedition ... which reached about the same ... that attained by the second Grinnell ... dition, under Elisha Kane in 1853-5... Vorse assisted Prof. Heilprin in ... the changes now found on the ... of Greenland.

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"Modesty, Courtship and ... Rights." is the title of a very ... speaking brochure from the pen of ... Brooup, published by the Interstate ... Book company of Chicago. It tells ... pointed truths and deprecates ... prudishness as to known evils which ...

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"Pursued by the Law" is the ... quite an interesting and romantic ... by J. Maclaren Cobban. It has a ... plot, with certain most unexpected ... velopments. The plot hinges upon ... cidental death of a drunken father ... son accuses himself of the crime ... to save his mother, whom he ... indirectly responsible for her ... death.

A Valuable Lesson.

Denison Herald.

With as fine corn as ever grew ... looking like a four-time winner ... derby, wheat coming along with ... up, and the reduced acreage of ... North Texas seems to have a little ... of diversification of crops and ... prosperity. North Texas farmers ... learning the lesson that they can ... their wheat, oats, corn and bacon ... than they can buy them and ... freight on them, and the lesson ... to be a valuable one.

Some Good Moves.

Colorado Citizen (Columbus).

In Houston the ladies are making ... ment for a public park, in which ... have the aid of The Post, and in ... the city council has agreed to set ... lot in the business center for a ... library. These are good moves, ... to show that everybody has not ... gle thought of the pursuit of ... mighty dollar."

Make a Small Start.

Schulenburg Sticker.

The Sticker is not after a cotton ... but is willing to begin with small ... let's have a creamery—the raw ... here.

Hard Things to Do.

Yoakum Times.

It is hard to "make a purse ... sow's ear," a "whistle out of a ... or an editor out of a fool.