

The Independent

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While England is having considerable war talk at the present time, the United States is preparing for the political battle of 1896.

We wonder who is the favorite candidate for governor in the state of Indiana, along Republican lines, to the editor of the Plymouth Republican?

ITALY offers to act as an arbitrator between this country and Great Britain over the Venezuelan question—declined with thanks. It has not been long since we hung some Italians at New Orleans and all the indemnity demanded has not been paid.

PADEREWSKI clipped! Who can imagine such a Paderewski? The idea is preposterous. Without his hair he would not be Paderewski. As Samson was torn of power, he would be shorn of that unexplainable individualizing charm, the halo of his hair. And yet a sacrilegious Chicago barber has actually essayed to cut Paderewski's hair.

The following is a patriotic sentiment and has been promulgated by some of the most popular political journals of this country: "We have now an opportunity for a declaration of financial independence. We can show that Europe does not own the United States. We can indicate very strongly that, however useful European bankers may be, this country may be, this country is entirely able to get along without them. We can demonstrate that America is not only capable of independence but is ready to assert it."

The hope of this country now is with the young men. The present congress is largely composed of comparatively young men. It is the common and prevailing sentiment now that the young men should have a chance, and this feeling is both wise and just. Of course there are a large number of old party men who have held onto the offices and the control of affairs until they are loath to step aside and give any one else a chance. These men have been honored with the suffrages of their fellow citizens until they imagine they alone are competent or worthy. They hold the wires in their own hands and crowd every one else out. The main party work is done by the young men, the young men should have the precedence.

ALMOST the gravest attitude of the nations known during this century may well cause apprehension that the century cycle may be closed by a denouement of international strife and bloodshed unparalleled in the chronicles of history. A long period of time characterized by peace so far as nations of the first class were concerned, has seen the development of the most destructive machinery of war ever before known, and, as in a lull before the storm, a stupendous war cloud has been gathering which now hangs over the whole earth. In Cuba, the Transvaal and the Ottoman Empire flash, even now, the lightnings of the oncoming storm and its low mutterings may be heard in every quarter. Premonitory signs are on every hand and it does not appear that the ominous cloud can be stayed except by the most exalted diplomatic wisdom.

GOVERNOR ALTGELD AGAIN. Altgeld of Illinois has put another dark blot upon his record by pardoning John L. Gehr, who was given a five years' penitentiary sentence for murder in 1894, on account of the miners' riots at Wesley city, and in the vicinity of Peoria and Pekin.

Gehr and others were sentenced for their participation in the riot at the Little mine at Wesley city, in which two men were killed. It is now claimed by the governor and his friends that evidence has been adduced since Gehr was sentenced to show conclusively that no one was killed by his hand. It is a fact, however, that Gehr led the mob of rioters by whom the men were killed. His influence among the miners was undoubtedly greater from the fact that he had recently served in the legislature as representative, than it would have been otherwise, and his participation in the riots was to be the more severely condemned on that account. He set law at naught, ignored all the better impulses of human nature and led a horde of blood thirsty strikers to an onslaught which resulted in the destruc-

tion of human life and much property. To all intents and purposes he was commander of a destructive revolutionary movement which, in common justice, had no justification and for which his sentence was none too light.

If the public does not wish to put a premium on crime and wishes to avoid anarchy it must avoid Altgeldism as it would the direst plague.

THERE is but little security for life against the malice of murderers under the lax enforcement of the laws which prevails nowadays. The statistics of crime in Chicago show that there were 118 murders last year. Ninety-eight of the murderers were arrested and twenty escaped or were left unmolested. Of the ninety-eight arrested but one was brought to the gallows and nineteen have received sentences varying from eleven years to the end of their lives, while two are under sentence of death. So that if these two are hung the results are, that out of 118 deliberate and wilful murders in one county in the state, but three of the murderers have been brought to proper punishment and ninety six have so far virtually escaped all legal retribution. This being the case, it looks as if our courts are getting to be pretty nearly useless as dispensers of justice or a protection to the lives and liberties and rights of the people.

A REMEDY.

Since his visit here last summer Burcham Harding has flitted hither and thither dropping the seed of theosophy where-ever the field gave promise that such seed would germinate and grow. Mr. Harding is anxious to see the growth of a theosophical tree whose overhanging branches shall be as wide spread as ocean is from ocean. He is now nurturing the young tree in which is centered his hope, here and hereafter. From his present Chicago headquarters the good Burcham now offers to the world his nursing as the one universal panacea for financial ills, the ills of war and all other ills including those we know not of. He offers it as the solution of all problems and as the universal balm to soften all pain. With the most extraordinary liberality he offers theosophy to the world. This is our opportunity. It is England's, Germany's, Russia's and Cuba's opportunity. If the nations of the earth do not take what Harding offers and pour its essence, like oil on troubled waters, over the sea of international difficulties it is their fault, not his, and they must suffer the consequences.

THEORY VS. FACT.

Theory is speculative knowledge; fact is the application of knowledge to practice. The one is science, the other is art. Theory is a labyrinth; fact shows a man the way through the world clearly. Theory knows what to do; fact knows how to do. Theory makes men respectable; fact makes them respected. Theory is speculative wealth, great expectations; fact is ready money. For all the practical purposes in life, fact comes against theory ten to one. Theory may obtain a living; fact will make one. Theory may convince; fact will convert. Theory feels its way; fact finds its way. Theory commands; fact is obeyed. Take them before the forum. Theory has the ear of the crowd; fact has the votes of the people. Theory is a fine thing to talk about and be proud of, but fact is useful, applicable, always alive and marketable. It is the voice of truth made manifest in the practical evidences of progress which we see everywhere around us. The sense and substance of all this is, free trade is the theory that "like the snake slowly drags its length along." Protection is fact reposing in the confidence of enjoying the full measure of the fruits of its wisdom.

DUTY AND DANGER OF THE BANKS.

It is in the power of the national banks to make the new bond issue a success. It is not merely their duty to the Government to do it, but it involves their own self-preservation.

They have shown that they have the gold. They have proved that they were ready to furnish it to a syndicate. They must furnish it to the Government, and they must furnish it on fair terms.

The banks have a hundred millions of gold in the three great cities alone of New York, Boston and Chicago. The prompt, hearty and spontaneous offers of the smaller banks in the country not only furnish them an example but impose on them an obligation.

The eyes of the nation are on them. If they refuse to aid the Government in an emergency, if they join hands with the speculators who are trying to "hold up" the Government, the power which called them into existence, gave them their charters and made them the only privileged class in the country will deal with them as they have dealt with it.

There is already an intense prejudice against the national banks, especially

in the great West and South. Should they persist in a mistaken policy of hostility they will strengthen that feeling. They will put a weapon in its hands for their own destruction.

They can furnish the gold to the Treasury, and once in there can keep it there. To refuse to exercise that power now would be to invite an outburst of indignant hostility that would sweep them out of existence.

PURE WOMEN.

A MAN who will make mean remarks about a woman, or womankind, is vile at heart and unfit to associate with decent men or women. We would rather associate with a reputable gambler, a whole-souled drunkard or a generous-hearted thief, than with the vile creature who is eternally making mean remarks about women. No halit so quickly or surely proclaims a man an irreclaimable brute as that of meanly slurring woman kind. We doubt if the world was ever so full of good and virtuous women than it is to-day. And we can give good reasons for our belief. Woman's condition in the world is constantly improving. She is continually taking a higher and yet higher position; constantly becoming of more importance and all the time wielding a greater influence, and thus gaining a more nearly complete and absolute control of her person; and with this absolute control comes perfect chastity. Every woman is born virtuous. Women are naturally and instinctively virtuous and as they become more and more masters of their own persons, they live nearer to their own intuitive ideas of truth and goodness. This is why we say the world was never so full of pure women as to-day. And the argument is unanswerable.

ARGOS.

Jan. 13, 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Watson were in Plymouth last week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Fribble, of Wisconsin, are visiting their parents in Argos this week.

Mrs. W. J. Watson, was in Plymouth, Thursday on business.

Mr. W. C. Sirber occupied the pulpit at the M. E. church, Sunday evening.

Mr. Ray Tanner, of Plymouth, was in Argos Sunday evening.

Miss Myra Hisey, of Rochester, visited friends in Argos over Sunday.

Supt. Fish was in Argos for a few hours Saturday afternoon.

Protracted meeting is still in progress at the M. E. church.

George Wisley was in Argos over Sunday.

Mr. Frank Nicolay, of Plymouth, was in Argos last Thursday.

Mr. William McCormick, of Hobart, was among Argos friends last week.

Frank Worthington was in Plymouth one day last week on business.

Mrs. William Worthington has returned to her home after visiting her daughter, Mrs. T. O. Parks, at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

HIBBARD.

January 13, 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mosher were in Plymouth this week.

Mrs. Ida Brook is reported on the sick list this week.

Albert Snyder, of Shaw Town, was seen on our streets Saturday.

Mrs. D. D. Whitman, of Dunfee, was the guest of Mrs. Foster Grove this week.

Mr. Leasure, of Kewanna, was the guest of H. S. Clifton and family, Saturday.

Dr. Loring, of Burr Oak, says he would rather see a snow storm than a "Hail" storm.

Bruce Roberts, of Knox, was the guest of Jas. M. Wilson and family, Thursday p. m.

The Inter Ocean.

By a contract recently made with the Chicago Inter Ocean we are now enabled to offer THE SEMI-WEEKLY INDEPENDENT and the Weekly Inter Ocean (3 papers a week) one year for only \$1.35. We have not heretofore been able to offer these papers at less than \$1.70 and the present arrangement was completed only after considerable negotiation. These papers are both too well known in Marshall county to need special comment and we are satisfied that our proposition will be received with favor in all sections.

At the Hotels.

Among those registered at the hotels today are:

HOTEL ROSS.

Wm. Klingerman, Laporte; Wm. Niles, Laporte; Frank White, Valparaiso.

HOTEL WINDSOR.

E. C. Franklin, Bremen; Henry C. burn and wife, Rochester; Frank D. Stuck, Valparaiso.

A Correction.

THE INDEPENDENT inadvertently, by an accidental change in the town, told of the failure in business of "Jack Bowers of Bourbon." We stand corrected and it is only fair to remark that Bourbon has no such merchant and consequently had no such failure. We sincerely regret the error.

USEFUL ITEMS.

When washing anything that has a cream tint do not rinse in blue water, but in clear water.

A pointed paint brush will be found convenient for dusting the crevices in furniture and all spots that cannot be reached with the dust cloth.

Castor oil should be applied to the corn after paring closely each night before going to bed. It softens the corns, which in time become as the other flesh.

Colored muslins and gingham are best washed without soap in warm water, to which has been added two quarts of wheat bran previously boiled half an hour in six quarts of water.

Some people prefer to eat just before going to bed. They say it is natural for animals to sleep after eating. But, while comparative rest is a good thing after one's meals, we consider that sleep is not. Most persons will rest much better if they do not eat for some time before going to bed.

During foggy weather the impurities of the atmosphere, both gaseous and solid, are carried down and inhaled. As the nose is the proper channel by which breathed air should pass to the lungs, the mouth should never be opened when one is exposed to the weather; the cold air is warmed and irritating particles are arrested by the nasal mucus and the lungs are saved.

In opening tins of preserved milk it is better to open the corrugated end in preference to the smooth end, as from some cause—probably the solder used in fastening the tins—the milk at the rough end is always discolored. This discolored milk can then be readily separated from the pure, and thrown away. This is opening the tin upside down as the labels are pasted on.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

Cleveland is moving toward the establishment of a city morgue.

Tipperary's silver mines, after being closed for forty years, are to be worked again.

Mayence has decided to celebrate the five hundredth anniversary of Gutenberg's birth in 1397.

Something over half a million dollars has been expended in factories or additions to old ones in Maine this year.

More than 185,000 persons committed suicide during the year ended Sept. 30, 1895. This is an increase of nearly 20,000 over 1894.

For the first time in many years England's channel squadron will be allowed to remain in home ports at Christmas time.

Court dress in Berlin is to be modeled on the Venetian costumes of the renaissance. The deputies will appear as Venetian senators.

In the next Iowa legislature, according to an estimate just made, the republicans will have a majority of ninety-six on joint ballot.

The negroes of Georgia in 1880 returned \$5,764,293 worth of property for taxation. This year the amount returned is \$12,941,230. In other respects they are doing well.

Cordite having resisted the climate of India, orders have been issued to use up all the ordinary powder as soon as possible and to supply cordite to the troops.

GRAINS OF GOLD.

Idle application of words of Scripture is a mode of merriment, sir, which a good man dreads for its profaneness, and a witty man disdains for its coarseness and vulgarity.

Genius without energy is an exquisitely-wrought engine without steam, an object of admiration without use, where the highest capability of speed is motionless, and unfitted, by the peculiarity of its structure, for all practical purposes.

The body is the tool of the spirit, and, if we keep it in imperfect condition, how shall either soul or intellect do good work with it? Happiness and usefulness are not indeed impossible without physical health; but they are of very difficult attainment, and of very unreliable quality.

It is the unguarded word which oftentimes proves a root of bitterness in married life—the want of a proper discipline of speech which thrusts thorns and needles into family happiness. Young married people cannot be too careful in the exercise of a wholesome restraint over their tongues and intercourse with each other, if they would preserve mutual respect and lay a solid basis for domestic tranquility.

RELIGION AND REFORM.

The Methodist Protestant church is to have a Good Literature day soon, with a view of increasing the circulation of the literature of the church.

Dr. Baedeker, the English prison philanthropist, is about to start, at seventy-three, on his third mission to the Siberian mines and convict settlements.

Governor Culberson, of Texas, who has so bravely circumvented the prize fighters, is only thirty-two years old. He is the youngest man that ever held the office in that state.

The City Mission of Philadelphia recently celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its establishment. In this period there have been expended in practical charity \$494,318.

The will of the late Augustus Knowlton, of Gardner, Mass., bequeaths more than one hundred thousand dollars to found a charity, which is to be known as "The Gardner Home for Elderly People."

Rev. Dr. John D. Paton has arrived safely at Anewa, New Hebrides. He writes that the work has gone on successfully in his absence and that there were never more blessed results than in the last twelve months.

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If you intend buying anything in the clothing line, it will pay you to buy it while this sale is on.

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