

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

The Elections of 1901.

While it is impossible at this time to measure and weigh the local influences which may have affected the general result, enough is known to justify the conclusion that two leading political parties show practically the strength that they did a year ago. If the republican policies which have been developing during the last twelve months have aroused any protest among the people, that protest has been off-set by the assassination of the president. The republicans everywhere confessed their reliance upon this influence when they devoted so much time to appeals to the personal regard felt for McKinley, the man. It is not unnatural that the republicans should have been spurred to greater activity by the president's death, neither is it strange that it caused some apathy on the other side.

There was another general cause which the republican position, namely, the ability of the republicans to get out their vote. The off-year elections always show a falling off in the voting population as compared with presidential and congressional elections, and the party that is best organized and the most successful in getting its voters to the polls has the advantage. Take for instance, the election in Nebraska this year. The total vote will probably fall fifty thousand below the vote of last year. If there is a loss in the republican vote of twenty thousand, and a loss in the fusion vote of thirty thousand, the republican candidate can have ten thousand majority more than his ticket had last year, and yet have twenty thousand votes less than his party polled last year.

Aside from having federal officials everywhere through whom to reach the voters, and besides having money everywhere with which to organize, the republicans in some of the states are able to secure from the railroad companies transportation for all persons who desire to return home to vote. In every community there are voters who for business reasons, have frequent occasion to be absent from home. The party that is able to bring every voter home on election day has an immense advantage over the party that cannot furnish transportation. During the recent campaign the republican authorities were prepared to secure passes and send every Nebraska student home to vote, a practice not only helpful to the party, but demoralizing to the citizen.

The returns do not give any considerable advantage to either element of the democratic party. The reorganizers have not gained any prestige where they have secured control, neither have the regular democrats won any signal victories where they have been in charge of the campaign. We gain a senator in Kentucky, and the state shows an increase in the strength of the democratic party, but as we elected a democratic senator there two years ago, and carried the state last year, the result this year, though gratifying, was confidently expected. The democrats have carried Maryland, and Mr. Croom will in all probability be re-elected to the senate, but as the campaign was fought purely on local issues, the negro question being the main issue, the victory is not a vindication of any national policy.

In Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, where the conventions failed, or refused to reaffirm the Kansas City platform, the republicans in Massachusetts, Iowa, and Nebraska, where the conventions did reaffirm the Kansas City platform, the republicans also won. Insofar as the result has any influence upon the democratic party, it will tend to strengthen those who believe in fighting for principle rather than those who are all the time offering to lead the party to a glorious victory, provided it will abandon its principles. Those who fight for principle may mourn over a defeat, but their purpose is not shaken because they are doing what they believe they ought to do and find their reward in the consciousness of duty done. Those, however, who are willing to suspend their principles in the hope of securing political success have little to console them when a reverse comes. If a man barter his convictions for a promise of success and then loses, he has nothing left. If a man keeps his convictions with him he has a foundation upon which to build in future contests.

It would seem that the republican policies ought to arouse overwhelming opposition among the wealth producers of the country, for surely no man who earns his living can point to any advantage which the republican party brings or can bring to the masses of the people. In the bank control of our currency, in the monopolistic control of our industries and in an imperial policy for the country there is danger and disaster for a large majority of the people. But they evidently fail to appreciate the viciousness of the principles which are at work. The only lesson that can be drawn from the only lesson that can be drawn from the fact that New Jersey is not yet ready to break up the gang of highwaymen who organize trust in that state and then proceed to plunder the people of all the other states.

Many newspapers now rejoicing over the fusion victory in New York city have spent a great deal of time during the last five or six years denouncing fusion in western states.

Senator Hear's latest is calculated to make the administration organs dig up the "granny" and "copperhead" lines from the standing galleries.

The wily Turk will not be frightened at any French demonstration as long as he knows that each European nation wants his domain bad enough to keep any other nation from grabbing it.

When men fight for a principle defeat does not discourage them, but when they are actuated solely by an "anything-to-win" policy, defeat is a more serious matter.

Having received \$500,000 for subduing the Boers Lord Roberts should return to South Africa and earn about \$2,000,000 more.

election returns is that still more work is necessary. The let-well-enough-alone argument cannot always prevail, for bad principles will ultimately bring about bad time, and experience, costly experience, will teach those who refuse to foresee evil and provide against it.

General Miles on the Canteen. In his annual report, recently made, General Miles reviews the canteen question. He points out that the canteen developed from the amusement room, where enlisted men were provided with books, papers and games. There they could also purchase refreshments other than intoxicating liquors. Finally light wines and beer were added to the canteen.

Referring to the bill of congress which prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquors in the canteen, General Miles says: "No injury has resulted thereby and the law has in the main been beneficial." General Miles points out an important fact when he says that the army is composed "principally of young men who have not formed the habit of using liquors, and although the majority of the enlistments actually come in large cities, as recruiting offices are principally located there, a large percentage of men come from homes in the country and in these instances in every part of the United States."

When the anti-canteen bill was before congress, its opponents urged that its passage would prevent enlistments and increase desertions. General Miles declares that the prediction has not been fulfilled. On this point the general says: "Since the law was approved, February 1901, the recruiting stations have been thronged with men seeking enlistment for the service, 25,944 men having been enlisted since that date, and the percentage of desertions is now far less than in former years. Desertions most usually occur during the first six months of enlistment, and a much larger percentage of enlistments has been made during the last six months than in former years. In these cases the men that have deserted belong to a class whose presence in the service was not desirable under any conditions, and whose real character was well known at the time of enlistment."

It is further pointed out by General Miles that the anti-canteen rule has been enforced at West Point and at the national cavalry schools for many years, and has produced gratifying results. And he adds, "There is no doubt the result of the present law in its effect upon military garrisons will also be beneficial."

General Miles supports his assertion that the anti-canteen law has not caused desertions by statistics showing the percentage of desertions from the present year, with the percentage of desertions and a comparison between the number of desertions during the months of April, May and June for the three years. These show many cases the number of desertions in 1897 was 26.7 and in 1871 30.2, the highest in recent years. From 1871 the desertions decreased to 7.8 per cent in 1875 and increased to 9 per cent in 1880, 10.4 per cent for 1882, a gradual decrease following that year until 1897, when the percentage of desertions was 2.9. From 1898 to 1900, inclusive, the desertions averaged 2.6 per cent. During the first six months of the present year the desertions amounted to only 1.9 per cent.

Severe on Bolters. Sometimes the gold democrats who bolted the ticket in 1896 complain because the regular democrats insist that those who deserted the party five years ago should, on coming back, give some assurance of their purpose to support the ticket hereafter. While the conditions imposed have never been unreasonable or severe, they have aroused violent criticism in some quarters. It may not be out of place, therefore, to quote what the St. Paul Globe says about local bolters. In a recent issue it condemns some St. Paul aldermen who deserted their party in the election of a county commissioner. The following is an extract from the Globe's editorial:

"It is as the Globe predicted it would be. A democratic county commissioner has been elected by the votes of the democratic aldermen assisted by one republican and democratic traitors who ignored and spat upon, as they long since should have been. Treason to the party has not been found profitable in practice among St. Paul democrats. It will be found no more in the future. Hunt and Bantz have a severe reckoning before them; and we apprehend that the mass of St. Paul democrats will find as little use for them in the future as the democratic aldermen found for them in the election of County Commissioner Kelley. The way of the transgressor is hard and traitors and deserters have been of all the rules and observances in political life which all true party men and good citizens will hold themselves bound to enforce. The Globe will give them their return to the obscurity from which they should never have emerged."

The Globe is much more severe in denouncing democratic aldermen who refused to support the party in a local fight than the silver democrats in its denouncing papers, which, like the Globe, deserted the presidential ticket in a national contest.

There is very little consolation that democrats can draw from last year's elections, but those who made a fight for democratic principles have more of it than those who relied upon the personal popularity of the candidates.

Patriotic Americans who want to help the Boers can do so by selling mules to the British. The British send the mules to South Africa and the Boers seize them. In this way Americans help themselves while helping the Boers.

When the banks issue all the money and the trusts own the attorney general, then the people may begin to realize that they were mistaken when they thought a full stomach the acme of human happiness.

Captain Mahan is writing a book about "Types of Naval Heroes." It will be admitted that the United States navy has several types, but the Dewey-Schley-Clark-Phillip type is the most satisfactory.

A two-billion dollar glass trust is now being planned. This is a monopoly that the people ought to be able to see through.

FEDERAL TREASURY.

A "TWO BILLION CONGRESS" NOT FAR AWAY.

Lobby and Subsidy Grabbers Preparing for an Onslaught This Coming Winter—One of the Exits of Too Much Surplus.

It is barely a decade since the high-water mark of federal expenditures was reached by the famous "billion-dollar-congress." Since then we have left the billion-dollar limit far in the rear. At the present rate annual increase it will not be long before some congress assumes the title of "two-billion," going down into history as the marker of a new era in national extravagance. The remark of Representative McCall of the ways and means committee, in speaking of the growing treasury surplus, is apt and forcible. "I suppose," says Mr. McCall, "that congress will want to spend it. That is always the tendency where there is plenty of money." If this committee had cared to go into details he could have pointed out that lobbyists and subsidy grabbers of every degree are already knocking at the door of the new congress for sums of money that in the aggregate would not only wipe out the treasury surplus, but would leave a deficit.

The American people are in no wise disposed to be niggardly in providing for all needed expenditures to meet the nation's marvelous expansion. This is far from saying that they will look with tolerance upon any tendency toward prodigality simply because the revenues are piling up in unparalleled volume. As Mr. McCall says, the tendency to spend freely is always stronger when the treasury, public or private, is full to overflowing. The tendency is even stronger where the expenditures are handling impersonal funds—that is, money belonging to a government or a corporate entity where the responsibility of financial management must be intrusted to individuals.

There will be sharp, and it is to be hoped effective, criticism upon every action of the new congress tending to show that its inclination toward national extravagance has reached the point of recklessness. There is as much need for sound economy with a full treasury as with a light one. Prodigality in any form will only strengthen the critics who are even now contending that a too full national treasury may become dangerous.

It will be the part of sound economic wisdom to enact such measures in the next congress as will reduce the treasury surplus by lightening taxation, without in any degree impairing the available funds for all the needs of government.—Chicago Chronicle.

COST OF ADMIRAL SCHLEY'S TRIAL.

The word "trial" is used advisedly in reference to the cost of the naval court of inquiry now in session investigating the matters connected with the sea battle of Santiago. The conspirators in the navy department have made it a trial of Admiral Schley as far as they had the cunning and the power—as much so as if he had been resting under actual charges. It is stated that the trial will cost Admiral Schley not less than \$20,000. It is understood that his payments to his counsel will not be as large as in ordinary cases and it may be merely nominal. All the lawyers on his side of the case, including the late Judge Wilson, were his close personal friends, and as they knew from the start that he was not a rich man their charges, if any, will be moderate. But other expenses will be immense. It is shocking to contemplate some of the features of the Schley case. He is a veteran of the navy with a distinguished record of over forty years. He rendered valuable service in the civil war when he had just graduated from the naval academy. In 1865 he participated in the suppression of a coolie insurrection on the Chinese islands off the coast of Peru, where our government was called on to protect American investors in large guano deposits. In the same year he landed with a body of marines on the coast of San Salvador to guard the interests of American traders in the town of La Union, the scene of a revolution. In 1872 he was with the Pacific squadron which assisted in quelling the Korean outbreak against the treaty power. In 1876 he was sent in the Essex to the south seas in quest of a missing seal vessel and rescued the shipwrecked crew from the scene of their sufferings on an antarctic island. In 1884 he was in command of the relief expedition which brought Greeley and his band of arctic adventurers through 1400 miles of icy seas back to civilization. Other events of his life are of recent history.

By the malicious intrigues of the navy department clique, conniving with Admiral Sampson, there was an attempt to rob Admiral Schley of the laurels which he gained at Santiago, where his victory was one of the greatest ever gained on the ocean. The discussion which followed involved so many indecencies of assault and such volumes of falsehood that he was compelled to ask for the inquiry which is resulting in his brilliant vindication, says the Chicago Chronicle of recent date. He should not be forced to bear the expense of this vindication and groundless proceeding. Congress should reimburse him for the amount which it will cost him. He is not a rich man. For the best part of his life serving on the ocean, he has had no opportunity to accumulate wealth beyond his modest savings from his salary. The country will be glad to pay through a congressional appropriation the amount of his expenses in this inquiry.

MR. ECKELS AND RECIPROACITY. Mr. Eckels, ex-comptroller of the currency, has been cordially received at the white house. But it does not follow that President Roosevelt is seeking advice from Mr. Eckels on economic questions, though he might do much worse. The ex-comptroller is indirectly quoted as strongly advocating "the general adoption of the policy of reciprocity." But he is directly quoted as

saying: "The opportunity presented to the Republican party is almost unparalleled. Trade expansion can only be accomplished by radical amendment of our present tariff policy, and I think everyone believes that the opportunity for reform of the tariff by its friends was never better."

A lot of reciprocity treaties reducing duties some 20 per cent on selected articles in favor of this, that, and the other country would not radically amend the present tariff policy. It would only perpetuate that policy with some slight modifications in favor of particular countries, but with practically no relief to American consumers. Mr. Eckels evidently believes in something more radical than that. Probably Mr. Roosevelt does not believe even in that.

AVOIDANCE OF THE ISSUE.

If the Republican leaders cannot now find it in their tender, friendly souls to cross one single over-protected interest, even so far as to adopt the generally plausibly reductions of the Keason treaties, how much better are the recommendations of a reciprocity commission likely to fare at their hands? The commission suggestion is significant simply of a policy of delay and avoidance in the matter. And this is all that the coming session of congress promises just now. The last counsel of President McKinley will continue, no doubt, to be highly honored to the public, but otherwise ignored. "Let well enough alone" is the answer Mr. Hanna and the party in Ohio are making to it.

VAIN FIGHT AGAINST FATE.

Philadelphia Record: Having assured themselves that the reciprocity treaties are dead the tariff beneficiaries and their political associates are busy themselves with the invention of new devices to enable them to make a pretense of keeping platform promises. The appointment of a commission of experts is talked of. The humbug protection wing of the dominant party must be made patent to the least observant of persons by this kind of talk. The pampered beneficiaries of tariff legislation and their political allies, however, are engaged in a vain effort to sweep out the rising sea with a broom.

A WORD FOR SCHLEY.

Minneapolis Times: Admiral Winfield Scott Schley may not be the Democratic candidate for the presidency in 1904. The original Winfield Scott had political aspirations that were doomed to failure. The Democratic party tried another Winfield Scott whose last name was Hancock, and he was alike unsuccessful. All the same should the unexpected happen and Schley be made the candidate, how amusing it would be to note the changes of front in Republican organs who are now glorifying Schley as a hero, martyr and victim. How quickly would the organs use the loop they now extol to strangle their opponent withal.

ALLIANCES ARE DANGEROUS.

(Richmond Times.) The Democratic party cannot afford to form alliances with other parties whose principles are not democratic. Democracy is as far removed from Populism on the one hand as it is removed from Republicanism on the other, and it is as impossible successfully to mix Democrats and Populists as Republicans in one harmonious party as it is to mix oil and water.

A CONSPIRACY BREWING.

The protectionists and the trusts have a new scheme to prevent a reduction of the tariff by wiping out the surplus and as this proposition evidently has the approval of the money combine it may be forced through the coming congress. Representative Fowler, the Washington Star informs us, will be the chairman of the banking and currency committee of the next House of Representatives and he will make an effort to use the surplus to retire a large block of the greenbacks. The retirement of the greenbacks has always been favored by the national banks, they want complete command of the money market for their own ends, and they have always had a distinct dislike of the people's money because they could not extract any profit or advantage from it. The Star further informs us that "Mr. Fowler, who will be assisted by other members of the same opinion as himself, would adopt one of two plans. He would either cancel \$90,000,000 or \$100,000,000 outright, without replacing the notes with any other class of money, or he would take from the available cash, about \$100,000,000 in gold, which he believes could be spared, place that amount in the reserve fund of the treasury, and then as a like amount of United States notes came in, cancel them and issue gold certificates against the additional gold placed in the reserve fund. The reserve fund is now \$150,000,000 and the addition of \$100,000,000 to the fund would put the figure at \$250,000,000. Mr. Fowler and other advocates of the retirement of greenbacks would follow this policy until the treasury contained nothing but gold or its representative in the treasury, removing the danger of panic confronts the country in case of panic."

Neely and Rathbone have not yet been released, but the department of justice and the war department have the arrangement all made so that they can be when the times are propitious. The blame will be laid on the Cuban law and judges.

There never was a moment from the departure of the flying squadron from Key West until the Colon struck her colors to the Brooklyn and the Oregon that Commodore Schley was not the inspiring and directing figure in the forefront of the American fleet.

"Reciprocity is a fine word," says Andrew Carnegie on his return from Europe, "but when you come to arrange details it is a difficult policy." Tariff for revenue only is simpler, constitutional and more effective.

They have a preacher out at Los Angeles who declares that the only effective way to fight anarchists is with the Bible and shotgun, and yet a layman would think that the two would hardly go well together.

PROFITS OF TRUSTS.

SHOULD BE SHOWN UP FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT.

"All-That-the-Traffic-Will-Bear" Methods Would Not Be Tolerated Were the Combinations Compelled to Make Quarterly Statements Like Banks.

The trusts have more ways than one of fleecing the public. Of course they charge for their wares "all the traffic will bear," which means to the protection he receive through the tariff and from the monopoly that most of them enjoy of supplying the American market without competition should enable them to pay large dividends. But this large profit does not satisfy some of the managers or insiders who, by knowing the actual condition of the properties and the amount of business being done are able to manipulate the market for the trust stock and thus blind the public who are silly enough to deal in such stocks with no knowledge of their actual value except what the trust managers deal out to them. Speaking of a law which would compel the trust to publish their condition as banks and railroads do the Philadelphia North American says: "Of course the business followed by conscienceless insiders in certain of these industries would suffer from the adoption of a policy of publicity, because it would safeguard to some extent the general rule of small investors whom they find it immensely profitable to fleece. But among financiers and investors as a whole any chance tending to reduce mere gambling would not be unwelcome." Then after showing that publicity has been put forward as one of the means for controlling the trusts and that the Steel Trust has voluntarily made a partial statement of its financial condition, the American goes on to say: "The Steel Trust, however, has thrown out a valuable hint, perhaps inadvertently, which would contribute in some measure to a partial solution of the problem of monopoly. The compulsory publication by all corporations engaged in interstate commerce of regular financial statements would at least afford a starting point for intelligent investigation. The semi-annual statement of its earnings by the Steel Trust has certainly served a distinct purpose. It shows that under present conditions this immense monopoly has earned a 10 per cent income on a capitalization that is more than one-fourth water."

"While doing this it has charged from \$26 to \$28 per ton for steel rails—to name one article—which Mr. Carnegie has testified can be turned out for \$15, and has sold its products cheaper abroad than at the point of manufacture in this country. What the other trusts are earning there is no means of ascertaining under their present secretive system of operation, but the average customer—and the average customer in fact is none other than the whole people of the United States—feels legitimate curiosity to know how much he is being overcharged since healthful and natural competition has been suppressed. It may save some of the trusts much undesired criticism if they will voluntarily follow the Steel Trust's lead in letting the public know more of their affairs. Their habit of concealment is a virtual confession that to expose their earnings would encourage legislation which they do not consider desirable for their own ends."

ARROGANCE OF TRUSTS.

It now appears that the steel trust is intent on a "community of interest" plan with the English steel manufacturers to so divide the world's business that there shall be no further competition. On this the Boston Post says: "One of the biggest of the steel magnates" is quoted as predicting that the next three years will see the steel and iron trade amicably divided between America and England. "American and British manufacturers," he says, "will agree on a uniform scale of prices, believing there is money enough in the business for both." The arrogance of the steel trust is based upon the conception of the ordinary man, is it all to be settled by an international combination of a few producers, while the great army of consumers says nothing and humbly pays whatever rates give "enough money" to the trust? The price of iron and steel in the United States is maintained by a protective tariff of about 45 per cent. The American producers, the Steel Trust of Mr. Morgan and his associates are able to sell abroad at a less price than they sell to their fellow-citizens here at home, by reason of this tariff discrimination. They tax our industries in order to compete abroad. When they come to make a "uniform scale of prices," they propose to include the United States in the uniformity.

In fact, would it not be just as well for the American people to take a hand in this adjustment, remove the felonious "protection" which the Dingley tariff gives to the "infant industry" that has swollen into a billion dollar trust, and see if there is not "money enough" in it for the American industry as well as for the monopolists?

Those Republicans who favor the ship-subsidy bill should examine the report of the commissioner of navigation, which says 393 vessels were built in the United States during the three months ending September 30. The excuse for the steel that we must build up, with a bounty, the merchant marine is thus officially shown to be nonsense.

The new treaty that the British have prepared in place of the Clayton-Bulwer one is said to concede all the United States has claimed about an American controlled canal, but how about the Alaska boundary? It should be settled at the same time and make a clean-up of all the existing disputes?

A recent statement of the naval board shows that another melon is to be cut in the Philippines. It calls for the expenditure of \$20,000,000 for construction of a new naval station at Olongapo.

Purchasing bonds when a surplus has been unexpectedly piled up in the treasury is justifiable but to pursue a policy of high taxation on purpose to thus favor the bondholders and the Wall street gamblers is highway robbery of the taxpayers.

FLAVORED MEDICINES.

Peppermint Apparently Favored Seasoning of Doctors Now.

"I haven't seen it stated anywhere but doctors hold a convention every six months to decide what flavor they shall add to medicines to make them palatable, but judging from prescriptions I am led to believe that they do something of the kind," said the drug dealer. "At any rate, there are styles in flavoring, just as there are styles in fashions and pompadours. At present peppermint is the real thing. Two-thirds of the prescriptions I put up nowadays are made pleasing to the taste by the addition of a harmless dash of peppermint. Notwithstanding the popularity of peppermint it is bound to lose its vogue in the course of a few months and be superseded by another essence. No flavor holds its own steadily for any great length of time. Fake cinnamon, for instance. There was a time when that was all the rage and about a year ago half the medicine compounded smelled to heaven with cinnamon. Now you seldom hear of it in connection with a druggist's laboratory. Lavender is a nice flavor. I shouldn't be surprised if that was the fashion next introduced. It is more delicate than most of the perfumes used and is fully as efficacious in neutralizing the nastiness of the other drugs. One of the queerest fads a period of six months when our prescription department smelled like a clove factory. These pleasing flavors neither add to nor detract from the efficacy of a medicine, but many concoctions are so horribly bitter that some such concession to the stomach is necessary. I suppose as a rule it doesn't matter to the patient what flavor he used and the phase of the whole business that puzzles me is how do the doctors come to prescribe the same thing with such marked uniformity?"—New York Sun.

J. J. HILL KNOWS WHEAT.

Railroad Magnate Distinguished as a Crop Guesser.

"You see that wheat field over there?" remarked J. J. Hill to a party of friends while speeding through the wheat belt of North Dakota the other day. "How much do you suppose it will yield?" It was a fine-looking field as it appeared from the train which was nearing a small station, and estimates were made all the way from 15 to 25 bushels per acre. "No, you're wrong," replied the Great Northern president. "That field is hardly worth cutting. You make the mistake of judging by appearances. That's the way half the crop estimates are made. It is the heads, not the straw, that fills the grain bins. Now I will show you," and he ordered his special stopped for the party to alight. They went well into the field, and all except Mr. Hill were surprised to find but few heads to a head, and many of these shriveled up. The stalks, while of good length, were almost white, a certain indication, as the railroad manager knew, of lost vitality and strength. Growth had been obtained at the expense of the heads and grain. Further along Mr. Hill pointed out a number of fields giving his estimates of their yield at seven, ten and twelve bushels per acre, never placing his figures higher. With him was one of his subordinates whose duty is to estimate the grain tonnage and be able to say just how the crop is progressing, and it was suspected by members of the party that Mr. Hill took this opportunity to teach him an object lesson without appearing to instruct him personally.—Pennsylvania Grit.

PAUL REVERE'S SILVERWARE.

The silverware of Paul Revere is of excellent workmanship and chaste in form, evidently modeled after English 18th century designs, and pieces of plate manufactured by him, and now so eagerly sought for by collectors, are good examples of the style at present so greatly in favor, which we have agreed to call colonial. This simple classical forms adopted by our struggling artisans at a period when art in this country was still in its "bib and tucker" strangely enough have never been improved upon by their successors; and by reverting to them in these latter days our silverware, as well as our cabinetmakers, are displaying good sense as well as taste; but in this mechanical age they stamp or saw out their patterns in unlimited quantities by machinery, and do not, as of yore, hammer or carve them laboriously, piece by piece, by hand, and therein lies a distinction and a difference.—Scribner's.

Guinea Is Coughing.

New Guinea is just now suffering from a visitation of whooping cough. This is the first time that the malady has occurred there, and as usual in such cases it is spreading like wild fire. It is well known that infectious diseases occurring among a hitherto unattacked people rage with the greatest virulence, and whooping cough in New Guinea is no exception; the natives are dying by hundreds. Being at a loss to account for the deadly scourge the natives of the United States, which they had learned of their neighbors, and the result that there have been many intertribal and intervillage fights and massacres.

Great Site of Canada.

The British possessions in North America and the West Indies are larger than the territory of the United States of America, including Porto Rico and Alaska. On the North American continent alone, King Edward's possessions are nearly 100,000 square miles larger than those of the United States, and taking in the West Indies and Newfoundland, more than 200,000 square miles larger.