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The appearance of Mr. Alger's book would seem to demand another naval inquiry.

It appears that Congressman Babcock is in possession of a well developed vindication.

The negro question, including the Booker Washington incident, will be discussed in the next issue.

Abdul Hamid would save a lot of time and worry by paying the ransom demanded for Miss Stone.

Did Secretary Gage ever try to devise a financial system that did not contemplate giving the banks the best of it?

The "prosecution" in the Schley case has failed to bring in the wrecks of the Spanish battleships marked "Exhibit A."

With the advent of cold weather the general public begins to realize something of the difficulties Admiral Schley experienced in coal-ing.

It seems that Mr. Gage's idea of an elastic currency is a plastic currency—a currency that can be molded by financiers for their own benefit.

Rudyard Kipling declares that the British army is to be hauled back into the old ruts. And this, too, after the Boers have thrown the British army into the dumps.

The basis for the refusal to honor a requisition for Taylor is that he will not get justice. It may be, however, that this is another way of expressing the fear that he will.

Fusion in New York against a "machine" is praised by the Republican journals that spend a considerable portion of their time denouncing fusion in the west against a "machine."

Having fostered the trusts until they are able to control the party, the Republican lead-

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ers are now making some ante-campaign talk about reducing the tariff. Republican tariff reduction generally takes place when congress is not in session.

The testimony brought out by the naval inquiry suggests that what Schley's subordinates most need is a thorough course in mnemonics. Forgetfulness is a bad thing in naval circles.

The wool growers who listened to the palaver about "protection of home industry" are not saying much, but the indications are that they spend most of their waking hours thinking.

It is to be hoped that the future Mrs. Depew is a good cook. The world shudders at the idea that it may be deprived of the genial Chauncey's maunderings because of a poor dinner.

Mr. Addicks announces that he will be a candidate for senator as long as he lives. This is a rash statement. Political conditions are as much subject to change in Delaware as elsewhere.

After all Sir Thomas Lipton made a better try at lifting the cup than General Kitchener is making at subduing the Boers. Perhaps our British friends can find some solace in this fact.

Will the representatives of the great trusts arrange the tariff schedules in the interests of labor? It will be remembered that the protected giants arranged the tariff schedules under that pretense.

The issue of November 1st will be of special interest and a large number of extra copies will be distributed. Subscribers will please send in names of friends to whom they would like sample copies sent.

General Kitchener's orders that his troops leave their pianos behind may explain his difficulty in catching the Boers. A man strikes a swift pace when seeking to get out of sound of the average piano player's efforts.

The appointment of a Republicanized Democrat to a fat federal office is calculated to make the "reorganizers" more vociferous than ever. There is nothing like Republican pie to make a "reorganizer" vociferate strenuously.

Great Britain has 214,000 troops engaged in the South African war. The Boers have about 11,000 men under arms. The ratio is 19 to 1, except when it comes to fighting—then love of liberty and home evens the thing up.

The political party that avoids declaring itself in plain terms on public questions through fear of losing votes is no more to be depended upon than the man who refrains from stealing only when he is afraid of being detected in the act.

The naval inquiry has developed one im-

portant fact, to wit: Although kept in ignorance of important news familiar to most of his subordinates, Winfield Scott Schley sailed in and accomplished more in three short hours than all the rest of them put together have accomplished in a generation.

A reader of **THE COMMONER** asks how trade balances are estimated. If, for instance, a trust exports goods at a lower price than it sells the same goods for at home, do the government officials estimate the exports at the actual selling price or at the market price at which they were sold in the home market? Will some one answer?

A reporter visited Senator Beveridge recently and asked him for an expression concerning Congressman Washburne's tariff interview. The reporter returned with the statement that Senator Beveridge was non-committal. This seems to mean that the senator is suffering from an aggravated attack of sore throat.

Ex-Assistant Secretary of War Meiklejohn, in his testimony in the Heistand investigation, denied that he held any stock in the hemp combine, but he is quoted as saying that he "saw no impropriety in officers of the government investing in such an enterprise as the proposed hemp company if they desired to do so." Mr. Meiklejohn should devote a few years to the cultivation of an official conscience.

A reader of **THE COMMONER** call attention to the fact that a census bulletin issued by the present administration states that only 131,159,124 lbs. of the total crop of 4,634,972,193 lbs., or less than 3 per cent of the 1899 cotton crop of the United States, was baled by the round bale process. As the company with which Senator Jones is connected is not the only round bale company, it will be seen that his company cannot possibly be a monopoly, and yet the Republican papers are denouncing Senator Jones as a trust magnate while they keep silent about the salt trust, tin plate trust and the steel trusts, each of which controls more than 90 per cent of the product.

The death of Judge Jeremiah M. Wilson not only deprived Admiral Schley of an able defender but left a vacancy in the ranks of wise and learned judges of the law. He stood foremost among the bright intellects of the Washington bar. His services on the bench and in congress were marked by devotion to duty. As a lawyer he was connected with some of the most famous cases in the history of the country during the last fifty years. He acted as counsel in the Star Route trials, the Breckenridge-Pollard case, the Holt will case, the trial of Captain Howgate, the court martial proceedings against General Swaim, The Venezuela-Alabama-French spoliation claims, the Oberlin M. Carter case and other cases that attracted wide-spread attention