

Fleddie and Fleddis

By H. G. DA COSTA.
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How cold it was in Bleeker Lane! The wind seemed to have particular spite against an old ramshackle, three-story frame building that stood on the corner, bumping into it, and sweeping and growling at it until it heaved and groaned, as if crying out against its rough playfellow. The falling snow piled up against it, and by the dim light one could see how the boisterous wind lifted the snow and flung it against the old house, snow-halling it, roaring with glee as now and then a window broke in. Up on the third floor the snow poured in through one of the broken windows as if curious to see the inside, then formed little piles which were whirled around the room by a stray gust from the big wind outside, then piling up against two huddled figures that lay in the farther corner, revealing a girl, scantily dressed, a rag of a cotton shawl wound round her, an eleven-year-old girl, but with an expressive wisdom and experience in her face that made one shudder, while pitying her. Her eyes were closed and she breathed softly. The other was a dog. The snow kept piling up against the two until the dog moved uneasily, and licked his mistress's hand with a fervor that woke her instantly. She patted his head, and slowly rose, revealing an immense pair of shoes in which her feet were lost, cut and torn, and one latched. The snow, losing its support, flew around the room, then settled down on the floor, making a white covering of purity that hid its dirt. Everyone in Bleeker Lane knew the girl and her attendant, the dog. The dog had been rescued by Fleddis from an immense tin pail which he was regarding aggressively one summer's day, crouching in the sun with despair written in his eyes. Fleddis, who had known them as "Fleddie and the dawg," then as "Fleddie and Fleddis," putting the dog first. He was a terrier of the ordinary size, but his love for his mistress was so fervent that it was a constant source of wonder to the 'Avenoo,' as it was derisively called. "Why some one at wunt leaking out'n his skin," Fleddis said, "wait 'ere till I comes back," and he curled himself in a corner accordingly. Gathering up her wisp of a shawl, she dragged the shoes down the worm-eaten steps, almost being run down by a half drunken man as she stepped outside. He raised his fist threateningly, but Fleddis, who hiccupped and lurched on, "Poor little girl! How pitiful she looked as she passed up the narrow alley! As she came to the wider street, a shabby house, brightly lit up, caught her attention. It was a children's party going on, but she peered through the half-curtained windows with gasps of admiration and envy, until some one opened the door and she scuttled away. As she went up the street she begged timidly, and when she finally got a copper from a passing man it was accompanied with "Children like these begging! Shameful!" The snow was falling lightly, but as she tramped on it her shoes and she could barely walk, her feet were so cold. It was getting dark, and she stopped at a friendly baker's and got a roll for her cent, the kind-hearted woman putting some cakes in the bag as she saw how wistfully her customer eyed them. As she drew near the frame house she called home, a light flared up in the sky, bursting through a dense bank of smoke and revealing the alley crowded with a jostling throng of fire lines drawn, and streams of water spattering against the ramshackle buildings, coating the street with ice and freezing on the fire fighters' boots. A sudden pang seized her. Fleddis! The fire was already circling and coiling around the rotten frame she had left, and it was doomed. The firemen saw this, and trying to protect the other houses, thought nothing of the dog. The room was brightly lit, and Fleddis saw her pet coiled in the corner. It stirred, and then jumped up as the light became brighter. Round and round it sniffed, then ran to the stairs. They were smoking, but the dog went down a few steps, then running back fearfully, sprang to the window and hung there, looking down pitifully. Compassionate murmurs ran through the crowd, and a net was held below, but the dog would not jump. A cry of sympathy went up from below, and then—oh! his mistress caught her breath as he gave a long howl of pain and terror, looking at her. The howl rose above the deep undertone of sound, and seemed to pierce her through and through. As he dropped the net was a little mark about her, and then from the spectators arose a cry of horror as a little white figure struggled through them and plunged into the fire lines. On

one above, groping her way up the smoke-laden steps, up she went flaming and reached the top step. She plunged into the burning room, crying for her pet, and groping for him till she felt him in the corner. He licked her hand feebly, then holding him fast, felt her way to the window, her hair on fire, her dress burning, but she did not feel the pain. Up, up to the window, gulped in by fire, and then roar after roar of horror went up from the crowd below as they saw her reach it, holding the dead dog tightly to her. The fire embraced the whole house now, and it was shaking ominously. What a bright light that was! She could see a long lane of gold reaching far out in the sky, and she was taken up to it, holding her Fleddie closely to her. The fire hurt no more now. How good she felt! The house leaned, and then toppled, falling amidst a shower of sparks. A long flame shot up in the



She plunged into the burning room, groping for her pet.

CHILDREN AT THE CORONATION

Children to Be Set Aside in Westminster Abbey for Them.

If the earl marshal carries out his present intention one of the most interesting places in Westminster abbey on the day of the coronation will be the "children's corner," a space which it is proposed to set aside for the youthful little peers and peeresses in their own right, who, though still boys and girls, have a legal right of which they intend to avail themselves—of being present when Edward VII. is enthroned on the "stone of destiny."

There are several boys in the peerage who, owing to the death of their father or some other relative, became hereditary legislators before they gave up the nursing bottle, or soon after, and several little peeresses who succeeded to their titles at an immature age. These little peers and peeresses, in their coronation robes and coronets, it is proposed to corral in one group, which would make a pretty picture; but think of the possibilities, says the New York Mail and Express, should the little folks get to squabbling among themselves! The earl marshal would better provide a "lord high wielder of the birch rod" to keep the children's corner in order during the long ceremonies.

As the ages of the boy peers range all the way from 9 to 19, the older ones may be set as "monitors" over them, the way they used to do at school. A vast amount of property will be represented by these children. There is the Viscount Combermere, 15 years old, and possessed of 14,000 acres, with three great country houses, one of them being the celebrated Combermere abbey; the Baron Carbery, 10 years old, with an estate of value in Ireland, and Lord Holmpatrick, with about 7,000 acres to his estate. Among the big boys is the earl of Caledon, 17 years old, an immensely rich youth, with 30,000 acres to his fortune. Lord Camoys, a year older, has an estate of 6,800 acres.

DOES BANNOCKBURN STILL GALL?

Is the Bannockburn Trying to "Get Even" After Six Hundred Years?

The Highlanders gathered in great force in the House of Commons at a question time of the day. Four notices were on the paper relating to the alleged order to substitute the trews for the kilt in the Highland regiments, and when Col. Denny of Kilmarnock defiantly arose to interrogate the secretary of war a cheer went up from the Gaels on both sides of the chamber. The Saxon minister, with bated breath, replied that the Highland regiments would retain the kilt for full dress, and that instructions would be issued to provide them with kilts of khaki, or some other invisible color, when on active service, as is done in South Africa.

Then up rose William Allan, a veritable Lion of the North. With a shake of his massive head and flowing beard he cried across the floor in fierce and dramatic tones: "Is it the intention of the war office that the distinctive tartans of the kilt are to be abolished in the Highland regiments, and is this being done by the war office in revenge for Bannockburn?" The sudden and gusty outburst of the indignant Scot was too much for the house. When the roars of laughter and ironical cheers which followed had subsided, Mr. Broderick sought to turn away the wrath of the honorable member by assuring him that of course the distinctive tartans would be preserved.—London Express.

Senator Vest of Missouri, who edited his eulogy of the late Wade Hampton, in the senate, by quoting from Tenneyson, is said to outrank even Senator Hoar in his familiarity with the poetry of England and America. Useful dentists are more or less conscientious. They spare no pains at their work.

EMBARRASSED THE CLERGYMAN

Minister's Make-shift All Right Until the Maid Appeared.

A distinguished Episcopal clergyman was once called on to officiate at a fashionable summer resort church, and, finding only a short surplice and no cassock in the vestry, was very much disturbed at the thought of having to appear in a vesture that to the frivolous would look like a white shirt and trousers. But a happy inspiration came to him. Why not wear one of his wife's black petticoats? The portion that would show below the surplice would look exactly like the regulation cassock, and no one would ever be the wiser. So he hurriedly sent one of the ushers with an explanatory note to his wife in the hotel, and in the nick of time the petticoat arrived. The makeshift turned out to be a perfect success, and no one at a distance could tell that he was not wearing a cassock. After the close of the service he decided to go out to the body of the church without taking off his robes, in order to greet some friends. And he was soon the center of a group of fashionable women, when a green Irish maid from the hotel came up, and in a loud voice said to him: "Yer Riverence, the missus sint me ather her petticoat that ye do wearin', an' I wunt to wait till ye take it off."—New York Tribune.

MAD LIVING BY CRACKING WHIPS

Curious Trade Discovered by the Police of France.

The Paris police have recently been informed by one of the fraternity of whip-crackers that such a calling exists and claims recognition as one of the "professions" by the exercise of which men earn their livelihood in France.

Whip-crackers, it appears, are men who possess strong wrists and are willing to crack whips all day long, if required, on receipt of a suitable fee. At the commencement of the shooting season, when the proprietors of neighboring demesnes are not good friends, the one who holds ill-will to the other engages a whip-cracker, whose duty it is to crack a whip so as to frighten away all the birds at the approach of the disliked sportsman and his friends. The whip-crackers are also found useful by farmers afflicted with diseased cattle which they cannot sell. Having engaged a whip-cracker, they turn out the sick beasts on the most frequented highway they can find. The cracker follows with his whip, ostensibly to guide the cattle, really to drive them under the wheels of a carriage, a motor car or a trap. This he does by cracking his whip at the critical moment so as to frighten the beasts and drive them to destruction.

Her Level Head

"Of course," he said in an offhand way, "it goes without saying that a beautiful girl like you must have had many offers of marriage."

She blushed prettily, and her eyes seemed to say "Of course," but she did not answer otherwise.

"And, of course," he went on, "I wouldn't think of asking you any of the men were or anything about them, but I am interested in knowing how they do it."

Then she roused herself.

"Look here," she said. "Are you trying to get hints how to propose to me or to some other girl?"

Thus it was that she brought him down, as it were, and pinned him to the point.

Napoleon Bonaparte's Wealth

Napoleon Bonaparte's will, among those of great men, affords the nearest parallel to that of Cecil Rhodes in the fortune it bequeathed. He was surely the richest exile since the world began. From his lonely home at St. Helena he bequeathed to his relatives and friends \$40,000,000. He had been rich, in gold as in power, beyond the dreams of avarice, and there must have passed through his hands a private fortune such as mortal man has rarely dreamed of. His exactions set down at nearly \$375,000,000, which, if, after all, but six times multiplying the gift he secured for himself from the Austrian treasury after Austria's. He died forty times a millionaire.

Roads Made of Gold

The people of the two counties south of Lacrosse, Wis., especially near Prairie du Chien, have been for years using gold-bearing quartz for road making and house building, thinking it was common stone. The finding of a heavy, paying vein of gold on a farm of Mrs. N. S. Dousman set them right. By following the vein in the road, in some places, quarries where rock has been taken for years. Lightning striking in the same place during successive storms led Miss Violet Dousman to think that metal in some form existed there. Her investigations led to the discovery of the gold.

For the Rich Only

Uncle and Aunt Melcher went to town to buy a new clock. "Now," said the dealer, "here is something very attractive in the way of clocks. When the hour begins, a bird comes out of the top and sings 'Cuckoo!' For instance, I turn this hand to 3 o'clock, and the bird comes out and sings 'Cuckoo!' three times."

"Don't that beat all!" cried Uncle Melcher, enthusiastically. "Mother, let's have one."

"No, not!" said his wife hastily. "That sort of a clock might do for folks that have got lots of time, but it'd take me half the forenoon every day to take care of that bird."—Youth's Companion.

His White Umbrella

Aubrey de Vere, the aged English poet who died recently, cared little about his appearance, and even when called upon to act as "best man" at a wedding saw no reason for disregarding his shabby tweed suit and white cotton umbrella in favor of a wedding garment. In later years he still clung to his white cotton umbrella and on one occasion electrified London by appearing in Hyde park in Mary Anderson's carriage, at a time when she was at the zenith of her popularity, calmly holding up this dilapidated machine, the sides of which were ornamented with long ragged slits.

THE PROPER POLICY

WHAT THE NATION SHOULD DO WITH THE PHILIPPINES.

Instead of Attempting to Establish a Despotism, Try the Introduction of Enlightened Ideas, With the Usual Guarantees of Freedom.

It pleases the spokesmen of the administration to represent that the only alternative to the existing conditions in the Philippines is a scuttling and, unfortunately, in this they are aided to some extent by those Democrats who fall to suggest any other remedy.

The true alternative to the present system of conquest, terrorism and silence is the introduction of enlightened ideas of government and the promulgation of the usual guarantees of freedom.

In other words, the methods of Russia and Spain, too long practiced in the name of the people of the United States without their knowledge, should give place to the measures which the great republic has adopted heretofore in all its dealings with newly acquired territory.

There is evidence that most of the resistance which we have met with in these islands is due to the fact that we have been attempting to establish there an intolerable despotism. We have played the same role that Spain essayed for many years of years. We have carried the banner of freedom in one hand and the weapons of tyranny in the other. We have demanded submission not to the republic but to the empire; not to the constitution but to Elihu Root; not to the laws of the United States but to the decrees of Mr. Root's scandalous little bureau of insular affairs.

What can we expect? The people of the Philippines as a whole may or may not be fitted for self-government, but the fact that considerable numbers of them resist tyranny is conclusive proof that they are intelligent enough to appreciate a situation in which they are not to be ruled by the American people in the name of the American people is in conflict with the ideas of liberty which have long been associated with the government and people of the United States.

Elihu Root's policy in the Philippines is a blunder and a crime. It is a blunder and a crime in which the political party now in power at Washington has shared. Considerations of patronage and plunder have silenced every member of the organization with the exception of a few men of advanced age who are no longer influenced by selfish ambitions. Dragonage in the Philippines has been followed by a similar policy in America, and such is the fever of the usurpers that no Republican who looks to a political future ventures to protest.

It must be clear enough now to every intelligent American that the Philippines were acquired not for the people of the United States nor for the benefit of conferring liberty upon their inhabitants, but with the sole object of opening up a new and profitable field for the operations of syndicates and exploiters. Despotism would favor such a policy just as constitutional government would render it impossible.

The alternative to a drumhead despotism in the Philippines is not to scuttle. It is to establish a government in accordance with the constitution and the laws. So far as certain Democrats have indulged the scuttling policy, they have contributed not a little to the impression that Elihu Root's tyranny must be accepted as a choice of evils.

Easy Way to Please Voters

Advices from Washington indicate that a blundering noncommissioned officer might not have done that young man is suffering from one of the worst cases of conceit known in the military history of the country. In a few months he has done more talking about the capture of Aguinaldo than Grant did about Vicksburg and Appomattock during his life, while Napoleon himself never performed the functions of a national schoolmaster so arrogantly or so confidently. The war in the Philippines is still something of a national burden, but it is not half so burdensome as the mushroom heroes that strut across the country and parade their petty achievements.

Fastest Somewhat of a Nuisance

For one who has done nothing that a clever noncommissioned officer might not have done that young man is suffering from one of the worst cases of conceit known in the military history of the country. In a few months he has done more talking about the capture of Aguinaldo than Grant did about Vicksburg and Appomattock during his life, while Napoleon himself never performed the functions of a national schoolmaster so arrogantly or so confidently. The war in the Philippines is still something of a national burden, but it is not half so burdensome as the mushroom heroes that strut across the country and parade their petty achievements.

Americans Must Foot the Bill

That is a very magnificent offer which the American tobacco trust makes in order to gain a market in England—namely, to sell its goods at cost for four years, and besides this to distribute a bonus of \$1,000,000 a year among the retailers handling its goods. It is easy to overestimate the significance of local elections, but where the straws move in one direction they "show which way the wind blows."

Reciprocity Is Cuba's Due

Cuba continues under the fostering care of the United States, though with all the rights and attributes of a free and independent nation. We are sponsor for her to the world and guardian of her rights and sovereignty. It is fitting that in harmony with this we should assume a measure of responsibility for her future prosperity by a grant of the reciprocal relations for which we are asked.

Partnership an Excuse for Injustice

It is good news that Speaker Henderson has withdrawn his opposition to the admission of Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona, though it is said he had to be assured that they are safely Republican. It is a shame that injustice should be done a territory because of its adherence to any of the political parties.

Experiment Is Worth Trying

James H. Eckels thinks the Democrats can win on the tariff issue. There may be some question as to the winning, but tariff reform is becoming a very attractive idea and the Democrats have a right to make it their paramount issue, as it has been a part of their creed for some time.

It Isn't what a Man Is, but what he pretends to be, that makes him ridiculous.

are wondering if the order to General Wood has anything to do with diverting Hanna's alleged ambition to fill the place now held by Mr. Roosevelt.

Good Reason for Alarm

There is excellent justification for the alarm which is leading the Republican party to make vehement protestations of loyalty to the people as against the trusts. Never before, since the evil of monopoly consolidation became a menace in American life, has public sentiment been so thoroughly aroused to the necessity for overcoming that evil. Unhappily, however, for the future of the Republican party, the American people are equally convinced of the truth that the Republican party is responsible for the trusts and that it is absolutely owned and controlled by the trusts.

Innocent Cabinet Officers

President Roosevelt has not been fortunate in the service his administration has received from his cabinet ministers. There have been turmoil and friction, and one at least, the secretary of war, can undo what he has blunderingly done only by resigning. If Attorney General Knox carries through to a successful conclusion this movement against the beef trust, he will do a much needed service for Theodore Roosevelt. But to make it count for anything it will have to be done before the elections for congressmen in November.

Paying Too Many of Hanna's Debts

The relations of Hanna to the McKinley administration was at all times an incipient scandal, but the public was tolerant in view of the genuine personal friendship existing between the late president and the chairman of the Republican committee. But there will be harsh judgment if there is also too much Hanna in the present administration. President Roosevelt will consult neither his own welfare nor his reputation if he goes much further in fulfilling Hanna bargains and taking care of Hanna pets.

The Demand for Freer Trade

Freer trade is really the cry. And that must come. The case was put so clearly and convincingly by Mr. McKinley at Buffalo that the longer the country ponders the subject the stronger the demand is for such changes in tariff schedules as will bring them in accord with the times. "The period of exclusiveness is past." Free trade, properly so-called, is neither possible nor desirable, but freer trade is now one of the most pressing necessities of our national well-being.—Washington Star (Rep.).

Straws in the Western Wind

In the local elections in Indiana the Democrats made notable gains. In a dozen considerable towns, including South Bend, Terre Haute, Vincennes, New Albany and Bloomington, the Democrats either wrested control from the Republicans or made substantial gains. At the city election in St. Paul the Democrats won a sweeping victory. It is easy to overestimate the significance of local elections, but where the straws move in one direction they "show which way the wind blows."

Fair Return on Investment

Primarily, we hate the Standard Oil company because it pays so enormous dividends. For the night per cent will be \$100,000,000, it is too much. Now, if it would water up a capital of \$600,000,000 and pay 8 per cent we should rest in peace and comfort. There are discontented persons who complain that the \$100,000,000 of common stock is half water, which shows the wisdom of Rockefeller's fifty-six per cent on \$50,000,000 would look too much like highway robbery.

Our Investment in Volcanoes

Our new West Indian possessions are within the volcanic area. Should we acquire the Danish West Indian group we shall be right at the seat of tropical eruptions, and not so very far from Martinique. Of course, in buying the islands in a lump we take the volcanoes with them and become responsible for their good behavior. Who knows but that our \$5,000,000 may all go up in smoke yet or disappear in the depths of the sea?

Opponents of a Direct Election of United States Senators

The opponents of a direct election of United States senators are willing to agree to any change except the one they want. Senator Hoar, for example, suggests that in order to prevent deadlocks a plurality of the legislature should be sufficient to elect a senator. This would surely reduce the character of the United States senate to a lower level and would make the senators more independent than ever of the people. A corruption campaign, under this plan, buy up a little more than 50 per cent of the majority side in the legislature and be elected—a saving of time and trouble, perhaps, but nothing else could be said in its favor.

Giving Trusts a Broad Hint

The beef trust does not seem to have been shaken much by the injunction against it in Chicago. But the injunction may serve the purpose of the administration into fooling stupid people into believing that its "war" on the trusts is anything but false pretense. These proceedings are likely to be dragged out until after the congressional elections and then in all probability they will end in a fiasco, as some similar ones have done. Incidentally the president may succeed in convincing the trusts that if they do not want to run up against the real thing they would better make quick decision in his favor as against the wily Hanna.

Greedy of the Trusts

The chief fault of the trust system, aside from its crushing of small competitors, is the selfishness of its magnates. The sole purpose, as shown in the annual report of the steel trust, is to swell profits and consequently dividends to the utmost. The men whose labor piles up the profits are left entirely out of the account.

In Partnership with the Trusts

The people have long ago accurately sized up the trust situation. They know that the great combinations in

TRUTH COMING OUT

FACTS RECORDED IN DISPATCH FROM GEN. CHAFFEE.

American People Have a Right to Know If Tales of Cruelty and Ruthless Slaughter of Natives Are True—Will Not Countenance Despotism.

Secretary Root has graciously permitted the publication of the dispatch from Gen. Chaffee expressing regret that thirty-five Moro prisoners, who were disarmed, were shot down while attempting to escape.

Gen. Chaffee quotes a dispatch from Gen. Davis stating that eighty-four Moro prisoners who were sitting on an open hilltop surrounded by a strong guard suddenly sprang up and rushed down the hill, when the guard and one company opened fire without orders and killed thirty-five of the number. The others, excepting nine who were recaptured, escaped.

The noteworthy thing about this is that Secretary Root has been so good as to give all this to the public without waiting to have it extracted by the main strength of a resolution from the house or the other of congress.

For this burst of confidence in the American people on the part of the despotic secretary of war we have to thank the Democratic minority in the senate and a few indignant Republicans in both houses.

The administration and its supporters in congress and the Republican newspapers with some honorable exceptions have been proceeding on the theory that the American people have no right to know what is being done in their name to the natives of islands some ten thousand miles away, and that it is not only impertinent but un-patriotic for them to ask for information.

They have assumed that if wholesale slaughter, cruel torture and many other things contrary to the accepted laws of civilized warfare were perpetrated in their name and in pursuance of orders nobody but the men who gave the orders and executed them have any right to know the facts.

The minority in congress is entitled to credit for insisting on adherence to the time-honored principles and practices of the republic. It is entitled to credit for dragging to light the secrets of war department despotism.

It is entitled to credit for disclosing the fact that there are secrets in this Philippine business not at all creditable to the country.

It is entitled to credit for frightening the administration into a disclosure of some of the ugly facts which prove that an irresponsible despotism is exercised in the name of the American people over millions of human beings by men who prefer to conceal their facts from those in whose name they exercise their despotic power.

How much more remains to be disclosed can only be conjectured. We may infer a good deal from the statement of Senator Lodge, spokesman for the administration, that over 300 of officers and men have been tried by court-martial recently for cruelty to the natives of the islands, but the whole truth, which the people have a right to know, will never be brought to light until we have a Democratic congress and administration.

The Revolt Against the Trusts

The people have been stirred up as never before on the subject of trusts, and especially of such trusts as derive their power from tariff duties that are prohibitive and produce no revenue. They expect congress to give them relief from such exactions by the simple process of abolishing such protective duties as are plainly used to maintain oppressive monopolies. And if congress, which is controlled by the republican party, should not only dis-appoint them in this matter, but should refuse to do justice to Cuba and neglect to provide markets for our own products by allowing the reciprocity treaties to fall, the people may be expected to revolt at the next congressional election and prepare the way for an administration opposed to trusts.

Hoars Plan a Poor One

The opponents of a direct election of United States senators are willing to agree to any change except the one they want. Senator Hoar, for example, suggests that in order to prevent deadlocks a plurality of the legislature should be sufficient to elect a senator. This would surely reduce the character of the United States senate to a lower level and would make the senators more independent than ever of the people. A corruption campaign, under this plan, buy up a little more than 50 per cent of the majority side in the legislature and be elected—a saving of time and trouble, perhaps, but nothing else could be said in its favor.

Subsidies Have Failed Everywhere

The plan proposed by the Hanna-Payne or the Frye shipping subsidy bill is one borrowed from the French and Italian practices of the past, a practice that in both of these countries has proved absolutely ineffective for the attainment of the desired end.

Where the Stomach Wins

The beef trust according to its own intimations, was starving the American public in order to capture the food markets abroad. To this the consumer will not consent. As between "patriotism" and the stomach, this time the stomach wins.

A Libel on Abraham Lincoln

Secretary Long is rather ridiculous in pretending to believe that Abraham Lincoln, if living to-day would approve the Philippine folly. Mr. Lincoln distinctly declared that no man is good enough to govern another man without the other man's consent.

Wise in His Generation

Col. Henry Watterson is a wise politician. He proposes of the precise dimensions and proportions of his presidential boom before he places it on exhibition. And then he may conclude to keep it as a family relic.

Conscience on One Side

The conscience-stricken man who has paid a railroad for stolen rides will wait a long time for the railroad to pay him for the money it has taken from him in excess of what it honestly earned in carrying him or his goods.

restraint of trade are a menace of the gravest import to the general good. They have seen these organizations created and fostered by Republican policies. In every important political campaign they find the trusts aligned solidly on the Republican side, contributing heavy sums to the Republican campaign slush funds and using all their influence to compel their employees to vote the Republican ticket.

Innocent Investors Beware!

Every business man will appreciate at once the significance of the statement that whereas the capitalization of the great Hamburg-American line is \$45 per ton and the actual value of its shares only \$47 per ton, the new shipping combine which J. Pierpont Morgan is organizing is to be capitalized at \$185 per ton. If carefully managed, the new combination would probably pay dividends on \$50,000,000 of capital. Where the dividends on a capitalization of \$170,000,000 are to come from is a mystery which Mr. Morgan alone can solve.

Footling Labor Once More

The disposition of the majority in congress to coddle the "friends of labor" while taking care that the source of campaign funds shall take no offense thereat, has been strongly in evidence during the current off-year session. But the device of passing bills in the house, to be done to death by the senate after election, has become altogether stale and malodorous. A very little performance in the upper branch would doubtless be accepted cheerfully on all sides as a substitute for the vast amount of promise in the house.

An Unpleasant Report

A statement which comes from Havana concerning the close of the United States regime there will cause a widespread wish to have the facts established on unquestionable authority. It is to the effect that a \$5,000 silver service was presented to Gen. Wood by a syndicate which he had permitted to operate the only gambling house in that city. If this is a fact and Gen. Wood has not refused the gift it will indicate an unsuspected weak spot in the character of that officer.

Rathbone Will Be Duly Greatful

In view of Senator Hanna's amazing success in securing a peremptory order to Cuba to accept an ex-post facto law, notoriously drawn for the special benefit of convicted American thieves, Estes G. Rathbone probably will refrain from carrying out his threat to "pull down the pillars of the temple," and some American statesman will sleep better of nights.

Hanna Getting Votes and Money

To the trusts, which he so strenuously upholds both in and out of Congress, the turning of the campaign funds; to the laborers he turns for votes. This sort of political policy has been sometimes called by scoffers carrying water on both shoulders. Whether this can be done successfully can be better known Anno Domini 1904.

James A. Watson Deceptive

"Soft marks" is written over the faces of Lyman J. Gage, Gen. Fred Dent Grant and ex-Mayor Grant of New York, though it is well known that neither would prove an easy proposition for the bunko steerer. With faces the embodiment of innocence and inaction they have the appearance of three gooly-goolies.

The Coal Trust's Extortions

The attorney general would find no difficulty in procuring plenty of evidence to prove the extortions of industrial coal trusts. They exist in every city which is a coal distributing center, and almost every large user of coal can furnish plenty of testimony which would convict the coal trust.

Will End the War Once Again

President Roosevelt is announced for a tour of the south some months later. The war between the north and the south has been over for a good many years, but of course the settlement will be clinched again when the chief executive goes over the field of carnage.

The Ship Subsidy Indignity

If the government can give a subsidy to a ship-builder it should also make grants to farming or industrial pursuits. Their rights to dip their hands into the treasury to advance their private interests rests on as solid ground as the grabbing purpose of the ship-builders.

Subsidies Have Failed Everywhere

The plan proposed by the Hanna-Payne or the Frye shipping subsidy bill is one borrowed from the French and Italian practices of the past, a practice that in both of these countries has proved absolutely ineffective for the attainment of the desired end.

Where the Stomach Wins

The beef trust according to its own intimations, was starving the American public in order to capture the food markets abroad. To this the consumer will not consent. As between "patriotism" and the stomach, this time the stomach wins.

A Libel on Abraham Lincoln

Secretary Long is rather ridiculous in pretending to believe that Abraham Lincoln, if living to-day would approve the Philippine folly. Mr. Lincoln distinctly declared that no man is good enough to govern another man without the other man's consent.

Wise in His Generation

Col. Henry Watterson is a wise politician. He proposes of the precise dimensions and proportions of his presidential boom before he places it on exhibition. And then he may conclude to keep it as a family relic.