

THE BRITISH SOLDIERS

Evidence of Their Constant Looting is Followed by Charges That They Can't be Made to Fight

A military critic in the New York Journal hints that the English have entered upon a military decadence. When this writer was in England a few years ago he made it a point to visit the barracks and interview private soldiers whenever possible. He found the regular soldier to be as a general thing intensely ignorant and brutish. They had not a spark in them of what the American soldier knows as patriotism. They knew nothing of their own government or how it was organized and administered. They had a sort of superstitious veneration for the Queen and thought that she ruled the empire by her orders. In India the government itself provided for the debasement of the private, by issuing licenses to a certain number of women to be administered to their lusts in every regiment. At a public meeting which he attended, a returned Indian missionary exhibited one of these licenses and denounced the system in the most vigorous terms. The story that this missionary told was the most revolting exhibition of depravity that was ever listened to. It is no wonder that soldiers have been under such a system as that are committing the revolting acts that are charged against them in this South African war. What else could be expected of them?

The recruiting sergeants in England did not fall when attempting to get recruits, to explain to the villagers sought to get into the army the workings of this license system in India. It can be imagined what sort of men these British Indian soldiers are likely to be. Imperialism produces one kind of soldiers always and everywhere. Free government produces another kind. If we adopt imperialism as a policy in the country we will soon have the imperialism soldier and the great American fighter—the man who fought for home, the freeds and for principle, will be no more. To volunteer, to fight for free, government, with the expectation of returning to the peaceful walks of life is the only thing that makes a hero and a man out of a soldier. To enlist in a regular standing army and expect to make war the business of life takes all the manhood out of a man. He becomes worse than a brute. The criticism of the British soldier by this military writer was as follows:

"My point is that the British don't seem to want to lose very many of themselves, at either long-range 'sniping' or 'in-fighting' on a parapet. As long as an assailant is not himself dead or disabled he can go forward if he will. It is simply a question when they are to retire from a position. In the South African war there has been too much early quitting. Of course, it has been always explained; but what cannot be explained is the necessity of so much explanation.

"What does it all mean? For one thing, obviously enough, incapable generalship. For another, only a policy of the most obvious, defeatism. But there is another element? It is to be remembered that in most of the collisions which resulted in failure of the British attacks the men have not been recalled from the enemy's grasp; no command has been given by their generals for them to retire from a position. In the last, and none could have reached them if it had been given.

"They gave it up of their own motion, scuttling back to their own lines one by one, as opportunity presented. And, excepting in instances of such needless surprise or ambushade as that in which Winchester fell, they did this without having suffered any very great loss in killed and wounded. Is it possible that the unfriendly German critics are right—that England, like Spain and many another nation, is already taking her turn at military decadence, as all must eventually do? Is her power, as the saying is, 'all that she has'—her power, her wealth, her resources can she no longer count upon that first and last line of aggression and defence, the breasts of her soldiers?"

The point that this military critic makes is one of the results of the concentration of wealth, and the populists have been calling attention to it for the last ten years. When the few become rich beyond computation and all the rest are simply hiredlings—when there is no longer separately owned homes, when the mass of the people are wage slaves, decadence sets in. What do the wage slaves of England care for victory or defeat? Will armies made up of distressed and pauperized hordes of London make brave soldiers and chivalrous foes? It is not possible.

Heart of Trust Problem

The heart of the trust problem is in our tariff system of plunder. The quickest and most certain way of reaching the evils of trusts is not by direct legislation against them or by constitutional amendment, but by the abolition of tariff duties. Let congress take up the Dockery amendment to the Dingley Bill; and, if there be any likelihood that it will pass, the lobbies at Washington will be filled with trust directors and agents. Let a constitutional amendment be proposed, and the trusts will take only a passing interest in the discussion. They care but little for legislation or

CONSTITUTIONS, BUT THEY HAVE A MORTAL FEAR OF FREE TRADE.

The tariff trust situation may be illustrated in this way:—A great city in the banks of a river, the water of which is contaminated by the refuse of other cities further up the stream. The city gets its entire supply of water from this river, not because there is not an ample supply of pure water near at hand, but because the fathers of the city, in their wisdom, have passed prohibitive tariff laws which practically prevent the people from obtaining the pure water. The city is stricken with disease, and the death-rate has reached an alarming height. The city has twice as many doctors, druggists, and undertakers as other cities of similar size. The doctors have combined to obtain the highest possible rates for their services. The druggists, undertakers, coffin-makers, pill-makers, distillers, flower-growers, and wreath-makers, all have compact organizations to make it as expensive as possible to die. All of these "protected" industries are in politics to see that the city council remain true to "home industries."

Money is spent freely to prevent the re-election of any councilman who is such a traitor to his own city as to advocate free and pure water. The citizens, becoming rebellious at the high prices charged for doctors, medicine, coffins, hearse, and flowers, a trust conference has been called to discuss what evils, if any, grow out of these various death-dealing trusts, and what laws, if any, are necessary to do away with these evils or with the trusts themselves. Some assert that the present anti-trust laws are sufficient, if only there were courageous attorney-generals and honest judges to enforce them. Others believe in more drastic anti-trust legislation and in constitutional amendments. Some of the learned doctors in the council attempt to quiet the alarm by asserting that the trusts have really lowered instead of raised the cost of dying, and that any way people sometimes die in other cities. Some plain, ordinary citizens, who have not much standing or power in the community, suggest that the way to get rid of the trusts and to lower the death-rate is to remove the restrictions and to give the people pure and cheap water. But little attention is paid to the suggestions of these "theorists," though some of the other delegates agree that pure water might be a partial remedy. When the conference adjourned, it declared that trusts were both good and bad, and recommended that a constitutional amendment be submitted to the people which would make it possible to annul the certificates and licenses of doctors and druggists found guilty of belonging to bad trusts.

What should have been the principal question discussed at that conference? More vital legislation, or simply free water?

THE SHIPPING SUBSIDY BILL

The New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says that "a disposition to push consideration of the shipping subsidy bill is being shown by its promoters and by the republican majority of the committees in both houses having charge of the subject." Washington correspondents of other papers are writing to the same effect. It appears, therefore, that the subsidy schemers are preparing for their final charge and that the bill is likely to be promptly reported and pushed for final passage. The iniquitous measure is devised to put hundreds of millions of dollars into the pockets of ship owners who are already competing successfully with the shipping of all other nations. A subsidy to encourage shipbuilding in this country is no more necessary than is protection in manufacturers to foster native industries. We claim to be able to produce cheaper than any other nation on earth, and yet the republican party burden the people with heavy taxes on imports, which taxes are entirely unnecessary. It is just the same with the shipping interests; it is well able to take care of itself.

Calamities of War

London, Feb. 3.—Unless the war takes a decided turn for the better, the Queen will hold no drawing-rooms this year, although two have been announced to take place before Easter.

The London season promises to be dull beyond all experiences of the living. Town houses usually snapped up before the opening of Parliament are lying empty in hundreds, and the agents say they have no inquiries, while the number offered for rent is unprecedented. Subsidies to relieve people with heavy taxes on imports, which taxes are entirely unnecessary. It is just the same with the shipping interests; it is well able to take care of itself.

Yet the upper ten thousand are not going abroad in anything like the customary droves. They are living mainly in their country houses, where, until being has virtually ceased. Italy is the only Continental country where Englishmen can now live with comfort, their position elsewhere being made unpleasant and sometimes intolerable by petty manifestations of hostility.

Hanna's Bill

For the privilege of taking the Teutonic for use as a cruiser in case of war the British government pays a subsidy of \$35,000 a year to the company owning that ship. Under the Hanna-Payne subsidy bill the United States must pay precisely ten times that sum for the like privilege in the case of every ship of like size and speed. Why?—N. Y. World.

CAN'T SNEER IT DOWN

Allen Gives Secretary Gage a Few More Funnies Which Make Republican Senators Squirm

"It would appear from the manner in which deposits were increased in the National City Bank that Secretary Gage had taken the pains to look over the list of directors and had become impressed with the services which they rendered in 1896.

"Secretary Gage did not want to be seen in company with Mr. Morgan, but was willing to run off on some side street and meet him quietly at his hotel. I admit the rights of the Secretary to do this, but what motive actuated him?"

"Throughout the correspondence is a tone of familiarity—

"My dear Mr. Secretary," "My Dear Mr. Gage," "Dear Mr. Secretary," repeated and frequently used by President Stillman and others. I submit that such expressions have no place in official correspondence between a man who is handling more money than any other man living and the institution with which he is transacting business.

"Mr. Hepburn wanted the secretary of the treasury to enter into a conspiracy with him to give the country a false impression of the reserve in the national banks of New York. Ought he not to have rebuked this man for inviting him into a conspiracy of this kind? This correspondence falls to show that any was delivered. It appears from letters of April 11, that he (Gage) acquiesced in the proposition.

"Not satisfied with the enormous sums of money the secretary had put in that bank, he (Stillman) appeals to his friends in the treasury department on the score of assistance given the republican party in 1896 to give them this Philippine business.

"I say to you, gentlemen, you will never be able to deceive the American people into the belief that there was not an undue intimacy between the secretary of the treasury and the National City Bank.

"I do not blame you for feeling sensitive about it. I know it hurts. You cannot laugh or sneer it down.

"Mr. Stillman and the National City Bank were regarded as the official representatives of the treasury department in New York City.

"The opinion seems to have grown up, until I think it is accepted without dissent on the other side of the chamber, that every time the money market of New York is disturbed by the stock brokers and gamblers it is the duty of the treasury department to go to their relief."—From Senator Allen's speech in the United States Senate, Feb. 1st.

They Have Forgotten

It is somewhat amusing to see the newspapers tumbling over each other in denouncing the "paper trust." As there is no trust in print paper, most of the editors are also demanding that wood pulp, which is simply ground wood before it is made into paper, be placed on the free list. The most rabid high protection republicans are joining free trade democrats in demanding the removal of the duty on wood pulp.

These fellows have all forgotten the old arguments that "the foreigner pays the tax."—Dakota Ruralist.

Hanna Alarmed

It is quite disturbing to the serenity of the Hanna organs that evidences multiply that such men as Edward M. Shepard, Bourke Cockran, John Dewitt Warner, and Andrew Carnegie and such papers as the Springfield Republican, and the New York World are going to support Mr. Bryan no matter what is said about the currency question.—Buffalo Times.

Bryan in Baltimore

The meeting in Baltimore last Saturday evening was an interesting occasion for those who would understand fully the sources of the power of the democratic leader. Some account of that event, therefore, may be considered timely. Baltimore was distinctively "enemy's country," for it is as much a gold standard community as New York or Boston, and its majority against Mr. Bryan in 1896 was very large, notwithstanding that normally it is democratic in politics. Moreover, the regular democratic organization, controlled by Mr. Gorman, avoided giving any countenance or approval of the Bryan meeting, while the democratic governor of Maryland and other prominent Gorman men declined invitations to be present. The rank and file of the party were thus discouraged so far as possible from attending the meeting and making a demonstration for the Nebraska.

In spite of these circumstances, the Baltimore Sun, a leading gold democratic paper, testifies that the meeting was remarkable in every way. "He was greeted by an immense crowd. Hundreds could not gain admission. People who had seen that there was no possible place for them to sit or stand had turned sadly homeward. For half an hour after the speaking commenced the two files continued to pass each other in opposite directions, one trying to get in and the other going out." The door to the stage was locked at 7:30 o'clock for the reason that not an other person could be given room upon the stage. Mr. Bryan spoke for two full hours, and held every auditor's close attention throughout. The Sun's report, in describing the effect of the orator upon the audience, said:

"Some of those present had stood outside half an hour or more, had stood inside an hour before speaking began, yet seemed to forget it all as they listened through the two-hours' speech. One white-haired man stood at the edge of the stage immediately under Mr. Bryan. His delight was great, and at telling points he would clap his thighs and almost dance as he laughed or cheered. One distinguished looking old gentleman near the door said, as he brushed tears away, 'It's no use talking, sir, an eloquent speaker sweeps you with him, whether you wish to go or not.' Rev. Dr. J. E. Grammer, who was on the stage, at times would rub his hands together and chuckle. 'Great, great,' though he said afterward that he did not agree with Mr. Bryan.

After the address, says the Sun, a "remarkable scene" followed: "Those nearest him on the stage crowded around to grasp his hand. Spontaneously, it seemed, those on the floor of the hall caught the idea. There was a wild rush to clamber upon the stage. Men and boys swarmed over its edge like an army scaling a rampart. Mr. Bryan was in the midst of a struggling mass, man reaching over one another's shoulders to seek his hand. One man who could not get up himself helped his son up. Another shouted excitedly to some friends, 'Come on, boys, I've shaken hands with him twice.' As Mr. Bryan's escort forced a way for him off the stage the rapidly growing crowd struggled wildly to get through the door after him."

Why the Boy Leaves Home

There are few conventions held by farmers where the question of how to keep the boy on the farm is not discussed. Various methods are suggested, but all seem to fall short of the point. Some say, "Give the boy a horse to raise or some other animal that he can call his own. Another says, 'Give him a part interest in the farm, or, at least a ten-acre lot upon which he can devote his energies.' Still another says, 'Make the farm beautiful; plant trees and raise flowers; keep a horse and buggy for his use, and get him mixed up with the social life of the community.'"

The writer of this article does not believe that any or all of these methods will keep the boy on the farm. The boy will not stay on the farm if he can see some way to make a fair amount of money there. Poverty drives the boys from the farm, and it will continue to do so. The ordinary farm makes a great deal less money today than it did a decade ago. Population must shift according to the shifting volume of trade. If today the prices of our staple products advanced to what they were ten years ago there would be a movement from the cities towards the farms of the farmer boys of the past. For a good many years the average tradesman has been making more money than the farmer, and the farmer boy has had to follow the current.

The farmer boy at home follows the course marked out by nature. At a suitable age he falls in love, and has to consider the possibility of making a home for the woman he loves. He finds that it is impossible to support a wife and family in any suitable manner on twenty dollars per month as a hired hand. He does not aspire to be a hired servant all his life. He goes to the city and gets a job of some kind, at say \$40 per month, for which sum he can hire a suitable lodging place, and the two can live in comfort for the time being. Until his family increases to a point that makes an increased salary necessary.

The fact is that our farmers are not receiving enough for most of their products by a good deal. Statistics have repeatedly shown that the cost of growing the grains is not far from the average price at which they are sold. In Illinois a publication of the state crop report, showed that not a dollar per acre was being made on wheat in Illinois, on the average; and the same was true of oats. The farmer with 100 acres of land, has extreme difficulty in making a living, and he cannot afford to pay a large sum for help, even when the help consists of his own sons.

When the farmer, independent of his investment, can earn as good wages as the city mechanic, independent of his investment, the farm boys will stop going to the city, and not before. At present the farmer is working for unjustifiably low wages.—Democrat and Journal.

What Might Have Been

When the Spanish war closed we could have occupied the most enviable position ever held by any nation since creation's dawn, and all we had to do was to do that which we owed it to ourselves to do, and that was to say to both the Cubans and the Filipinos, "The Spaniards are beaten; your chains are broken; you helped us to do this thing; now set up any sort of government you want, and we will make the other nations of the earth keep their hands off you or we will shoot them off." [Applause.]

We would never have been compelled to fire a gun to make that promise good, for there is not a nation on earth that has any desire to see the fleets of Dewey and of Schley riding triumphantly in their harbors and shell their seaport cities.

Had we done that, unstinted praises of our disinterestedness and philanthropy would have rung round the world, coupled with the amazing story of American valor and the prowess of American arms. Wherever Old Glory floated it would have been hailed by millions of loving hearts in every quarter of the globe as the emblem of a people who are free themselves and who are willing and anxious that all men everywhere shall be free.—Extract from speech of Champ Clark.

BRYAN IN THE EAST

The Hannacrats in Washington are Driven Half Crazy Because the Common People There are Flocking to His Standard

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—(Special Correspondence.)—Political history has been made during the past week, and the importance of the developments has hardly yet come to be generally realized. To fusionists of Nebraska there belongs the right to feel a pardonable pride in the thought that Nebraska citizens have taken prominent and in many cases leading parts in these events.

Bryan returned to Washington Saturday morning after closing his trip through the eastern states. From each of the many meetings he has held on this tour have come into Washington reports from men who attended them and these stories of eye witnesses have added to the press accounts more vivid pictures of the enthusiastic reception which has been his. One man who has been at most of the meetings, as his business called him in the neighborhood of Mr. Bryan many times, said that he had seen some of the enthusiastic meetings in the west during 1896 and since then, and that he had even been so fortunate as to see the enthusiasm with which Nebraskans received the modern tribune of the people, but that he had in Maryland, in New York, in Delaware and in New Jersey and the New England states seen these enthusiastic demonstrations more than duplicated. He felt no hesitancy in saying that the eastern people had set a new standard and the west would have to beat its old time demonstrations if it was to hold her place as the most ardent supporter of the principles, and the man who is every where regarded as the embodiment of those principles.

The result of this eastern trip has been, and will yet be, a source of the greatest uneasiness to the Hannacrats. It has been demonstrated by these immense meetings and the enthusiastic receptions given by the people, that the old tricks of 1896, will no longer work to deceive the common people. They have grown to know Mr. Bryan better since then. It has been the masses of the people, the common people, who have turned out to witness the demonstrations and give him the enthusiastic receptions. This has deservedly disturbed the republican managers because it has shown that there is a breaking away from their standard a large mass of those who heretofore followed them. Without some plan can be devised by which these voters, the masses of the people, who are farmers, business men, and workmen, can be turned back from their adherence to the principles of government advocated by Mr. Bryan, there is danger to republican supremacy in localities that have heretofore been counted as certain for the Hay-Hanna administration.

The republicans are not talking about the new developments in their papers nor discussing the situation in public, but there are on every hand indications that every nerve is being strained to regain some of their lost prestige with the people. Nebraskans and especially Lincoln people will remember Charles M. Pepper who was in Nebraska during 1896, representing the New York Herald and again last fall on the same mission of looking over the political field. He is well known wherever he goes as one of the closest observers of affairs and one of the best interpreters of political conditions. Although he is not in sympathy with Mr. Bryan's cause and does not write from that standpoint he was one of the few foreign correspondents in Nebraska in 1896 who had clear enough vision to see things as they really were, and courage enough to say what his judgment dictated although it did not comport with his desires. Pepper has just returned from Cuba where he has been for several months and he has been in the states only about two weeks. During that time he has been in the east. He, the other day gave it as his opinion that there had been going on changes beneath the surface of political things that portended an upheaval in the eastern part of the country. As he expressed it things had changed so much that instead of looking like there would be a quiet and predecided contest, Bryan was going to keep the republicans intensely interested. This is only an illustration of how the shifting conditions are being looked at by the best judges and keenest observers here.

Mr. Bryan spent a short time at the capitol Saturday afternoon and invited the fusion delegation from Nebraska to dinner with him at his hotel. The dinner party was an informal affair, where the Nebraskans met for a couple of hours of social chat and that freedom from restraint and interruption which is not to be obtained by Mr. Bryan otherwise than by some such expedient. Those present were Mr. Bryan, Senator Allen, Congressman Robinson, Stark, Sutherland, and Neville.

The senatorial sensation of the last week was the resolution presented by Senator Allen declaring the sympathy of the senate of the United States to be with the South African Republic in its struggle for existence.

The resolution was a brief one and was in these words: "Resolved, That the senate of the United States of America extends its sympathy to the people of the South African Republic in their heroic struggle for liberty and popular government, and believes it to be the duty of the government of the United States of America to offer mediation to the end that further bloodshed may be averted and an honorable peace may be concluded between the belligerent governments."

About Mortgages

Deputy Labor Commissioner Kent has just compiled the mortgage statistics of the past year. The total number of mortgages filed was 11,223 and the number satisfied was 12,826. The total amount of the mortgages filed was \$2,890,150.87 and the amount of these satisfied was \$4,869,227.50. The number of chattel mortgages filed was 49,230, amount, \$25,762,375.00. The number satisfied was 23,985, amount, \$13,047,081.28.

Brief as it was and voicing as it does

the sentiments of nine-tenths of the masses of the people of this republic it caused a sensation scarcely less marked than did that other resolution of Senator Allen declaring in favor of recognition of the independence of Cuba two years ago last December.

The daily papers from New York to San Francisco have been full of the story of how the senate passed the resolution while the president of the senate (Frederick) in vain endeavored to call the attention of republican and administration members to the fact that something should be done, and how finally, after it was adopted it was then on the personal request of Frey yanked back and sent over for further consideration. The administration senators were caught and neatly caught. Like the fox that got his tail in the trap, although he escaped with his life it was so marked that all the world can see. The mark of subservience to John Bull was hacked and branded into the republican hide before the fracas was over. In order not to hurt the feelings of the British imperialists, the American imperialists rescinded a vote of sympathy with the struggling citizens of a sister republic. It was a tight place for the administration supporters but when the pinch came they showed that in a conflict between liberty and despotism they chose, and probably will continue to choose, to turn their backs on human liberty and decline to say that blood shed should be stopped, if blood shed is necessary to extension of empire by the counsellor, guide, and friend of modern republicanism.

Coming as this did on the heels of the proposal of Hay to let Lord Pauncefote use the United States as a buffer between England and the rest of the world, and following closely on the heels of the senate's refusal of the inhabitants of Porto Rico, and coming just after the admissions wrung from the administration and Dewey that the Filipino government was recognized "to be used by us," this exhibition in the senate has been charged as cumulative evidence of the charge that the republican pilots have steered the ship of state clear out of the time course and have her well on the road to a despotic class-ruled harbor. The officers and crew have proven false to their duty and faithless to their obligations to the owners and the passengers, and are running the craft as in old times mutinous crews did, to some extent where spoil can be made of the cargo. It is not to be wondered at when these things are occurring that the masses of the people even of the last are becoming alarmed and are flocking around Mr. Bryan. They believe in his patriotism and loyalty to principle and these are qualities that are being scarce more of by the plain people every day.

Judge Neville delivered a speech in the house last week on the subject of imperialism which was well received by the members and by the reading public. He showed the clean cut vigorous opposition to the republican doctrine that flourishes in the west. Judge Neville was a recipient of many congratulations by members ADD-BRYAN IN THE EAST . . . after the delivery of the speech. The Hanna crowd are running their campaign machinery full blast and Secretary Dick and a big force of helpers are busy at the headquarters here preparing the material for a printed staff and stuff to be printed by republican organs.

The methods of the republican mouthpieces have been called to mind before and the story telegraphed out to Nebraska and repeated in weekly republican papers where Congressman Robinson was represented as stating Judge Neville was a recipient of many congratulations by members ADD-BRYAN IN THE EAST . . . after the delivery of the speech. The Hanna crowd are running their campaign machinery full blast and Secretary Dick and a big force of helpers are busy at the headquarters here preparing the material for a printed staff and stuff to be printed by republican organs.

The methods of the republican mouthpieces have been called to mind before and the story telegraphed out to Nebraska and repeated in weekly republican papers where Congressman Robinson was represented as stating Judge Neville was a recipient of many congratulations by members ADD-BRYAN IN THE EAST . . . after the delivery of the speech. The Hanna crowd are running their campaign machinery full blast and Secretary Dick and a big force of helpers are busy at the headquarters here preparing the material for a printed staff and stuff to be printed by republican organs.

It is material that a newspaper editor in this state has been guilty of a libelous attack on one of its columns for information should show that it acknowledges to its readers to be fair with them and honest with them. No fusionist expects fairness for himself or his party from that source and the absence of it cuts no figure with any of them who have been the target of its venomous shafts. The Robinson episode came down to a question of veracity and on one side placed the republican organ and on the other Judge Stark of the Fourth Nebraska district Congressman A. S. Burleson of Texas and Judge Robinson. Judge Robinson is presumed to be acquainted with the facts and the other two gentlemen are competent witnesses because one sat on either side and all three states that on the occasion in question, Robinson voted with the majority. The people of Nebraska will not be deceived by republican campaign stuff of this kind or similar assaults on opponents of republicanism. It is only important enough—the recalling of these instances—"lest we forget" and some time be misled by republican machine made attacks on fusionists.

Will Die "a Boring"

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(Special Correspondence.)—The treaty with England prepared by Secretary of State Hay is hailed with exceeding joy in England, and demonstrates how extremely handy it is for the Queen to have good success on both sides of the big pond. Its calling out a volume of indignant protests from newspapers and all senators and members of congress not absolutely owned by Mark Hanna and controlled by the London money market. Its a bright scheme for Uncle Samuel to furnish the mules and men on the other side of the Atlantic to attack at some future time our west coast cities and agree not to fortify the approaches to it, but the scheme will die "a boring."

THEY SEE GHOSTS

That House Gold Bill Even as Modified by the Senate Gives the Republicans the Nightmare

Walcott's please don't, Chandler's defiance and the groans and yelps of other senators are not all the signs that that celebrated gold bill is making lots of trouble in the republican camp. Several of the old stand by, gold standard papers in the east have come out flat footed against it, among them the New York Times. The latter has this to say about it:

"The advantage claimed for the bill, that it will secure a partial settlement of the problem of a sufficient and suitable banking currency, is largely illusory. All that it can do is to procure a considerable lot of bonds on which the circulating notes of national banks can be issued. But it is wrong and foolish in the extreme to create debt for any such purpose. If the national bank circulation were a great deal better form of note currency than in fact it is, it would be unjustifiable to issue bonds to perpetuate or extend it. No one would think of advancing such a policy as an original measure. Yet there is not a particle of real difference between refunding at an unnecessary expense or making an entirely new issue. The whole business is utterly inexcusable.

So far from aiding in the solution of the problem of a suitable credit currency, it delays and interferes with it. Notes secured on bonds cannot be made the truly elastic and sound currency we need, and which it is perfectly feasible to get. Such notes will neither be put out nor taken in with promptness and certainty in obedience to the legitimate demands of trade. They are a safe currency in the hands of the holders. No one will dispute that. But they are a relatively rigid currency, and they are not in the least more safe than a truly responsive currency can be made. From every point of view it is ill-advised to insist on the good will of the senate to refund the bonds and extend the national bank circulation. If the scheme were dropped, the bill would be far stronger in the senate and before the country, and it would accomplish its real purpose better."

Ship Subsidies

Hanna's steel is a little too big for the most hardened republicans to swallow without grunting. Even that intensely gold bug concern, the St. Paul Pioneer Press kicks after the following fashion:

"It has been shown that the ships under American register available for trans-atlantic voyages which would be likely to claim the subsidies provided in the Hanna-Payne shipping bill, would absorb all but \$1,300,794 of the \$9,000,000 appropriated annually for this purpose. The four American liners alone would take \$1,755,456 of the amount, so that four more would be good for nothing. The Hanna bill was left to build new ships. And the discriminating subsidies in favor of this class of ships would tend to stimulate their construction more than of any freighters; or six or seven freighters of 8,000 tons each would take up the whole amount. Even supposing that all the American ships now eligible for subsidies should not claim them, certainly most of them would. So that, in any event, counting out the passenger ships entirely, it is hardly likely that as many as twenty new ships would be built for the carrying trade. It is absurd to talk of such a bill as promoting the development of an American merchant marine.

And so far as the building of ships is concerned, it is more than doubtful whether our builders of steel ships need any subsidy. We are now producing steel fabrics of all kinds at less cost than any other country in the world, and there is apparently no reason why we cannot compete successfully with any other nation in the building of steel ships.

Sibley and Talbot

Washington, D. C., Feb. 7.—(Special Correspondence.)—Congressman Joseph C. Sibley has consented to be a candidate for congress on the republican ticket and has announced his acceptance of the tender of such nomination, in a letter to a republican newspaper of his district.

Congressman Talbot of South Carolina has thus far blocked all pension legislation during the present session. Pension bills are considered on Friday night, and it is usually impossible to secure a quorum at these sessions. This gives Mr. Talbot his opportunity and he promptly raises the point of no quorum and all business must be suspended. It is to be hoped that some method can be devised to frustrate the obstructive tactics of this hater of the Union soldier.

Will Die "a Boring"

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(Special Correspondence.)—The treaty with England prepared by Secretary of State Hay is hailed with exceeding joy in England, and demonstrates how extremely handy it is for the Queen to have good success on both sides of the big pond. Its calling out a volume of indignant protests from newspapers and all senators and members of congress not absolutely owned by Mark Hanna and controlled by the London money market. Its a bright scheme for Uncle Samuel to furnish the mules and men on the other side of the Atlantic to attack at some future time our west coast cities and agree not to fortify the approaches to it, but the scheme will die "a boring."