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CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

Vast Navy Proposed by Republicans.

RIVAL ENGLAND'S FLEET.

Imperialists Demand Preposterous Outlays.

WOULD RAISE A MIGHTY ARMY.

Republicans Contend That We Should Have a Military Force in Proportion to Our Population.

It is amazing with what rapidity this Philippine war has changed the opinions of Republican statesmen.

Now it is asserted by Republican leaders, both in congress and upon the stump, that we should have a navy equal to the largest in the world.

It is now vigorously contended both in and out of congress and for the first time that we should have a standing army as large in proportion to our population as any other nation on earth has.

When God created the world, he could have made it exactly the same climate from pole to pole as easily as the way he did make it.

When the bill to reorganize the army was before the house, I catechised my Republican friend, Colonel B. F. Marsh of the Quincy district.

When I first went to Washington as a congressional greenhorn and tenderfoot, they did with me what they did with all tenderfeet and greenhorns—that is, showed me off to poor and obscure committees where there was a great deal of hard work and scant glory.

I never had studied much about the matter, but I supposed all the Revolutionary soldiers and their widows had died and gone to glory long ago.

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1812, they fought the Mexican war, they fought the Indian wars and they did the principal part of the fighting on both sides in our titanic civil war.

From the close of the civil war in 1865 down to the beginning of the Spanish war our standing army had a strength on paper of 25,000 men.

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pension bills for widows of the Revolutionary war, which closed in 1783. Only two or three weeks ago I saw in the newspapers where one of those widows whom I helped to pension in 1803 had just died.

As a matter of fact, if a Revolutionary soldier was 18 years old in 1783, the last year of the war, and lived to be 75, then married a girl 15 years old who lived to be 75, she would still be drawing a pension up to the present day.

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