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THE WESTERN SODOM

There is one black spot in this fair west, so black that the blackest blackness to which men are accustomed appears to be a grayish white when placed beside it. It is so foul that the fumes of a sulphur mine would be as the nectar of the gods in comparison with it. Not that there are no good men there, for like Sodom of old, one or two good men may be found within its limits, a few more perhaps than in the old Sodom, but the degradation of the mass is so much worse than that of the ancient city, though there were twice as many good men there as can now be found, they could not save the city. It should be avoided as the pest hole of the earth. Travelers going west should make a detour to the north or the south to avoid it.

Not long since one of the principal lawyers of the place publicly denounced the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence and called the signers hypocrites. To his aid came immediately one of the most prominent ministers of the place who declared that every one of them, from John Hancock to the last name on the immortal list, were deceivers and dissemblers. The population of the place is so degraded that instead of resenting such doctrines, they pay especial honor to the men who promulgated them.

The morals of the town are not deteriorating, for most of the inhabitants reached the lowest stage of degradation long ago and can get no lower, but it is, though the most favorably situated, slowly becoming depopulated as is shown by the United States census. The people of this town elected a man mayor who was known to be an embezzler and the proof of which was constantly paraded in the daily papers. After he was elected he bragged that it was that fact that elected him, for every thief and scoundrel in the city went to the polls to work and vote for him. In a population of that sort the result of that election was a foregone conclusion.

Once seated in authority he proclaimed a "wide open town," both for gambling and prostitution, and it has been run that way ever since. That is just what the inhabitants of the place want—it is the kind of thing that they most delight in and he, or some one like him, will hold power until the city is burned over with fire and brimstone or the inhabitants die of their own rottenness or a new people to take their place. It will not take long, thank the good Lord, if the United States census tells us the truth, for the latter thing to happen.

The most debauched and debased thing in the whole town is their courts. Here they indict men of un-sullied character and all those who interfere with a monopoly of gambling which they have given to one of the gang who infest the town. Here the city council taxes the rich men who have combined their capital in corporations, at one-third the rate it taxes the poor men of the city and will not even listen to a protest, and the inhabitants are so degraded that they even seem to like that sort of thing. A city, whose inhabitants have become such degenerates is past hope of redemption. The only way that it can be purified is to rain fire and brimstone upon it for forty days and forty nights and then soak it in formaldehyde for a whole year. The Independent says to its thousands of readers in the eastern states, don't ever get nearer to it than Council Bluffs. You can smell it very distinctly from that distance and as the horrible stench enters your nostrils, start up or down the river on the eastern side or go back. Don't enter its borders for the smell of its rottenness will cling to your garments until they are worn out. No sort of cleansing will ever renovate them. There are other cities in the United States tending the same way.

There is no doubt that the claim made in the house of commons of great and valuable services rendered to the United States was stimulated by the talk around the courts of Europe that England was not getting all these advantages for nothing.

CANDY CATHARTIC. BEST FOR THE BOWELS. DARK SUSPICIONS The annals of history are filled with

tans, rajahs, khedives, and cabinet officers with cold cash. That being known by all men, it leaves some very dark suspicions lurking in the minds of the best of men when they reflect upon recent occurrences. In all the deals since Hay became secretary of state between the United States and Great Britain, the English have gained enormous advantages and nothing in return has been given. Still further advantages were granted by him which were so notoriously one-sided that the senate rebelled and refused to ratify the treaty. The agreement concerning Alaska, the using of this country for a base of supplies to carry on the Boer war and the first treaty in regard to an isthmian canal were all greatly to the advantage of Great Britain. In return, for these things, which were worth millions to Great Britain, this country has received nothing. Furthermore to do these things, treaties and conventions of the most sacred character had to be violated. The treaty of Washington declares:

A neutral government is bound Secondly, not to permit or suffer either belligerent to make use of its ports or waters as the base of naval operations against the other, or for the purpose of the renewal or augmentation of military supplies or arms, or the recruitment of men. Thirdly, to exercise due diligence in its own ports and waters, and as to all persons within its jurisdiction, to prevent any violation of the foregoing obligations and duties.

Is it possible that men would violate a treaty like that and tarnish the good name of their country forever without any compensation from a nation that has a record of spending money most lavishly for such purposes?

There is not a military man in this country who believes that the British could have carried on the war in South Africa with anything like the success that they have had, had they not received the assistance that they have from this country. Twice already the British cavalry have been de horsed, and they have been again supplied from the ports of this country with horses and mules and forage for them. Without these supplies the Boer commanders could have harassed the British armies without danger of punishment. All the governments of Europe refuse to furnish the British with supplies contraband of war. If the horses and mules could not have been procured here, they could not have been procured at all. Has Great Britain actually given nothing in return for this great service? The most conservative of men in this country begin to have doubts upon that subject.

An attempt was made after these suspicions were whispered around the courts of Europe to create an impression that England had rendered great and important services to the United States. No sooner was the claim asserted than it was proven not only false, but ridiculous. The statement in the house of commons has been denied by every European foreign office. The following is the statement made by the Russian authorities:

Russia has always been and now is extremely desirous of maintaining amicable relations with the United States. Russia never had any intention of participating in any collective step in the Spanish-American dispute, which did not directly concern her. Nor did Russia receive any proposition having such action in view. Indeed, we received no information regarding Austria's alleged initiative or about an attempt on the part of any powers to interfere in the interest of Spain.

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OVATIONS TO SCHLEY

During the week Admiral Schley has made a journey, upon the invitation of the Hamilton club of Chicago, from his home in Maryland to the great western city. From the time he started until he reached Chicago and all the time he was in that city, he was the recipient of continual ovations. Every honor that the people could devise was conferred upon him. The stations along the road were thronged with people and it is said that at Chicago on Saturday and on Monday he shook hands with no less than 5,000 people each day. His conduct has been dignified on every occasion. Not a bitter word has fallen from his lips. When pressed with flattering suggestions that the people wished to confer further honors on him he replied: "I do not want to be president. I do not want any political office whatever. Neither will I take one if it should be offered. I want only the love of my fellow country people, and I believe I have it." The appeal that he made to the president for a reversal of the finding of the majority of the court has been referred by the president back to Secretary Long and Attorney Hanna, who prosecuted Schley.

The English have always prided themselves upon the honesty of their public men. It is claimed that such men as Quay and Steve Elkins could never attain to political prominence in Great Britain. It is true that in the past no Englishman has ever been guilty of such corruption as that of Quay and Elkins, but since they have gone into imperialism they are beginning to appear there. In London there has been a contract made with a telephone company that raises rates 35 per cent. There was an universal protest made against it. All the members of parliament of both parties from the city met and agreed to unite in a protest on the floor of the house. When the day came to propose the question, the member selected for that duty failed to appear. An investigation showed that Chamberlain refused to agree to annul the contract and if a vote was taken on it the government was liable to be beaten and that would force a new election and endanger the Boer war policy. As soon as that fact became known, the thing was dropped. Behind the imperialism involved in the prosecution of the Boer war these scoundrels hid. Anybody who would vote against the party was a traitor and a "little Englishman." That is the very sort of thing that has produced the public corruption in this country and England has started out on the same path.

There is a corporation fight on in Colorado such as has not been seen or heard for many years. The legislature being fusion attempted to tax the railroads at the same rate that other property was taxed in the state, whereupon the corporations rebelled. They secured the most eminent counsel and fought the law in the courts and finally got it knocked out on the ground that some clerk or engrosser or some other underling had not put his name in the right place in signing up the record. Then the governor called a special session of the legislature to reenact the law and that body is now in session. It is likely that the corporations will wish that they had let the thing alone before they get through with that legislature. However, there is always the probability that railroads will get enough bought up to fix things. When the last resort comes and they have to buy legislators outright, they generally find the men who will sell.

In regard to the Northern Securities company which was incorporated in defiance of the constitutions of six states, Hill and Harriman take the same ground that they do in regard to rebates. They do not deny that it is in violation of the organic laws of all the states through which the roads run. They simply defy those constitutions in the same way that they defy the laws of congress. They control millions. They can buy elections. They can get their tools elevated to the federal bench. Why should they longer pretend to respect laws and constitutions? This is the condition that populists have long foretold. They control the avenues of information. Probably not one voter in a hundred in the republican party knows that there has been any investigation and if they did they would not care as long as they could see six months of grub ahead. Just at present their bellies are full. What care they for the morrow?

John F. Dryden has been selected by the republicans to represent New Jersey in the United States senate for no other reason than that he is a very rich man—a multi-millionaire—interested in many public franchises, besides being the head of a great insurance company—the one that took \$25,000 out of its funds and presented it to Mark Hanna to help him buy a presidential election. That is the right kind of a man for the republicans to send

can easily remain in power and there is no longer any necessity for it to play hypocrite or pretend to be anything else than the governing power for the trusts and corporations. It can defy the people just as safely as Hill and Harriman did the acts of congress of the United States and the constitutions of the western states.

The investigation that has been recently conducted in Chicago by the interstate commerce commission has resulted in the open defiance of the law by the railroad magnates. They boasted that they had been giving rebates and making discriminations. These acts are crimes punishable with fine and imprisonment, but no one will prosecute them therefor. Criminal laws are not for enforcement against the rich. They are for the punishment of the starving children and freezing women who pick up coal on the railroad tracks that has fallen off the overloaded cars. Imperialism has so imbruted the population of these states that there is not an expression of surprise over the fact that the rich men who manage railroads boast that they defy the laws. Here is a practical sort of "anarchy" that meets the indorsement of the great plutocratic dailies of the land.

Whenever a man would make an advance beyond the ideas of the past he must live a life of isolation. All men who have pushed the world onward by some mighty force originating in themselves have been separated from the men of the generation in which they lived. Aristotle, Socrates, Jesus and Galileo were but pestiferous fellows to the authorities. All these men had to dwell apart in an individual realm of their own. Sometimes generations are born and die before any considerable number enter that realm. Even Shakespeare was but a common actor to all men until long after his death. This writer is a lineal descendant of the first man who appreciated Shakespeare enough to write a commentary upon his works. After that, others arose, and in time thousands got into the realm where Shakespeare lived.

The worst diplomatic blunder that ever occurred since diplomacy was invented was the act of the English ministry in announcing in the house of commons that the European nations had resolved on interfering in the Spanish war and were only prevented from doing so by the friendship of England for this country. Russia, Germany and France have come out with positive denials, and Germany intimates that it was the British ministry itself that suggested it. It is natural that Englishmen should be irritated by the political tendencies of the time. It is natural that English statesmen should view with disfavor, if not alarm, the increasing friendliness of Germany toward the United States, but the effort made to check it was the most silly thing that a foreign office of any government ever attempted.

The imperialists have decided objections to their own doctrines whenever they are applied to themselves. Dr. Lyman Abbott, who is fully persuaded that imperialism is a good thing for South Africa and the Philippines, rises in his wrath whenever he thinks of the tyranny of the rural counties in attempting to dictate to the city of New York how it shall spend its Sundays or whether the saloons shall sell whisky on that day or not. When he thinks of that he is for local self-government and he is ready to get up a "rebellion" and join the "insurgents." He will have no imperialism in his. Nevertheless it is a good thing for the brown people and South African Dutch.

The policy of let the big ones eat the little ones regardless of consequences is to be the game of the great newspapers as well as of all the tariff grafters. The great dailies are all members of the paper trust and the effort made in congress to have white paper and wood pulp put on the free list will receive no aid from them. There never was any reason for putting a tariff on either white paper or wood pulp. It was part of a scheme to rob the people. There was no danger of the "pauper labor of Europe" in this case and there never was any pretense that there was. It was simply a case of premeditated robbery.

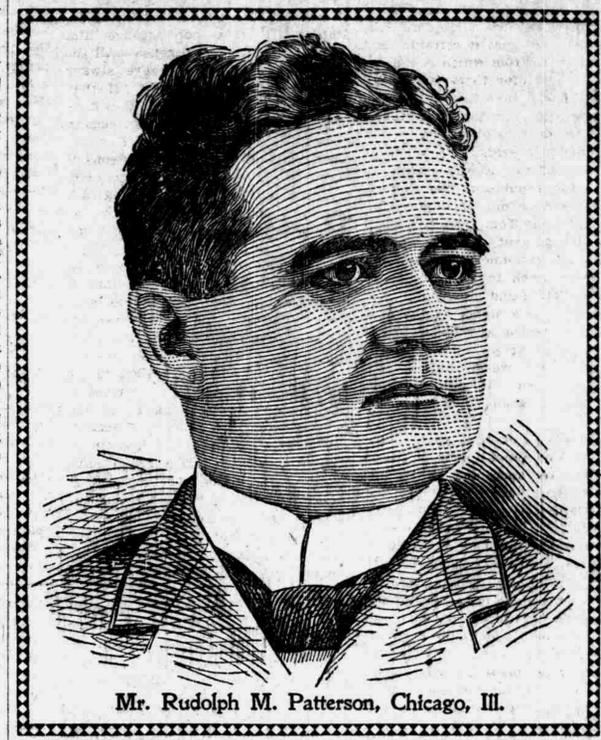
The U. S. Civil Service Commission will hold examinations at several places in each state during March and April, to secure young men and women for the government service; 9,889 persons secured positions last year through these examinations. Probably 10,000 appointments will be made this year. All appointments are for life and for most positions only a common school education is required. Salaries at appointment vary from \$660 to \$1,200 a year with liberal promotions afterward. Politics is not considered. This affords a good opportunity for people between 16 and 45 years of age. Those desiring places of this kind can get full information about them, free, by writing to the Columbian Correspondence College, Washington, D. C. and asking for its Civil Service catalogue, number 3.

The selling price of Rockefeller's oil stock has dropped within a year over 25 per cent. The stockholders must think the find in Texas is going to spoil their monopoly.

The thing that will defeat Ed Sizer in his efforts to get the appointment of postmaster in Lincoln is the fact that he cannot work on the Journal to advantage. The Lincoln postmaster must work seven days in the week on the Journal and the rest of the time on postal business.

The "Almanac de Botha" will soon be issued from the press in Holland. It contains the names of all the British statesmen who have been killed

NASAL CATARRH CURED Pe-ru-na Cures a Case of Five Years' Standing.



Mr. Rudolph M. Patterson, Chicago, Ill.

Hon. Rudolph M. Patterson, a well-known lawyer, of Chicago, Ill., writes the following letter to The Peruna Medicine Co., at Columbus, Ohio: "Gentlemen—'I have been a sufferer from nasal catarrh for the past five years, and at the earnest solicitation of a friend I tried Peruna and am glad to say it has afforded a complete cure. It is with pleasure I recommend it to others.'—RUDOLPH M. PATTERSON.



Mrs. J. C. Garrett.

Mrs. J. C. Garrett, of 38 West 117th street, New York City, writes: "I can honestly recommend Peruna as a great catarrh remedy. It heals and heals quickly and permanently. 'This is simply the whole story in a word. I have for years suffered with catarrh, aggravated when I took cold and Peruna cured me. It is indeed a great medicine, and worthy the highest praise, for it is reliable and will never disappoint you.'—Mrs. J. C. Garrett.

There are two things that the whole medical profession agree about concerning catarrh. The first is that catarrh is the most prevalent and omnipresent disease to which the people in the United States are subject. All classes of people have it. Those who stay indoors much and those who go outdoors much. Working classes have it and sedentary classes have it. The doctor finds catarrh to be his complaint and ever-present foe. It complicates nearly every disease he is called upon to treat. The second thing about catarrh on

000 American troops in the Philippines. Secretary Root says there are but 40,000. Pistols and coffee for two and let the matter be settled.

German national securities to the amount of \$75,000,000 were put on the market the other day and they were oversubscribed sixty times. English consuls are away below par.

Labor organizations are in the habit on special occasions of inviting some plutocrat or republican politician to address them and the reason for it is one of those things that no pop can find out.

The navy bureau is kicking against wireless telegraphy just as it did against the monitors, heavy armor plated warships, sub-marine boats and every other improvement that was ever suggested.

Some Cubans sold sugar in New York last week for 3 1/2 cents a pound, and it took a cent and two-thirds of that to pay the tariff. That is republican.

which all doctors agree, is that it is difficult to cure it. Local remedies may give relief but they fail to cure permanently. Sprays or snuffs amount to little or nothing except to give temporary relief.

Catarrh is frequently located in internal organs which cannot be reached by any sort of local treatment. All this is known by every physician.

To devise some systemic internal remedy which would reach catarrh at its source, to eradicate it permanently from the system—this has been the desire of the medical profession for a long time. Forty years ago Dr. Hartman confronted this problem. He believed then that he had solved it. He still believes he has solved it. He cures thousands of people annually. During all these years Peruna has been the remedy upon which he has relied.

It was at first a private prescription, afterwards manufactured expressly for him in large quantities. This remedy, Peruna, is now to be found in every drug-store and nearly every home in the land. It is the only reliable internal remedy ever devised to cure any case of catarrh, however long the case may have been standing.

Mr. Camillus Senne, 257 West 129th street, New York, writes: "I have fully recovered from my catarrhal troubles. I suffered for three years with catarrh of the head, nose and throat. I tried all kinds of medicine without relief, but at last I have been cured by the wonderful remedy called Peruna.

"I read of Peruna in your almanac, and wrote you for advice, which I followed. After taking one and one-half bottles of Peruna I am entirely cured, and can recommend Peruna to anyone as the best and surest remedy for any catarrhal troubles."—Camillus Senne.

A course of Peruna never fails to bring relief. There is no other remedy like Peruna. Its cures are prompt and permanent.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

It is reported that an electric road from New York to St. Louis is about to be built. That Senator Depew is at the bottom of the undertaking. The plan is to go over or under every other road or highway. They expect to make the trip in twenty-four hours. The right of way is being secured.

The Canadian government has headed off the high protective lumbermen of this country. Our government put a high tariff upon lumber but has allowed logs and timber to come in free. Our lumbermen would go over there and buy logs, float them over to this side, saw them up, sell the lumber and put the tariff into their own pockets. No logs or timber are allowed to come out of Canada any more, so our best sawmills are being moved over there. Now the tariff will be taken off of lumber instead of going into the pockets of a few millionaire lumbermen.

The states of Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas will lose nothing by the Burlington, Great Northern and Northern Pacific uniting in friendly business relations. Our outlet to the gulf and to the Atlantic coast will not be restricted in the least, while our outlet to the Pacific coast and to the east end of the Siberian road will be greatly enlarged. But more than in anything else we will have a direct open way to the vast mountain lumber country of the northwest. We will be likely to buy lumber at Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan prices. Everybody knows there will be no market for mountain lumber in those states. Hill is fishing after our market.

W. J. Bryan has one thing which we cannot help but covet, that is the enmity of thieves, robbers, corporations, trusts and millionaires generally. He is not hated by farmers, mechanics, merchants or professional

HEADACHE DR. MILES' ANTIDOTE Pain Pills