

The department of agriculture in its annual report gives the amount of money the people of the United States spent in buying flowers at retail in 1899 as follows: Roses, \$6,000,000; carnations, \$4,000,000; violets, \$750,000; chrysanthemums, \$500,000; miscellaneous, including lilies, \$1,250,000.

A remarkable burglary has just been committed at the suburban station of Herkulesbad, Buda-Pesth. Three men delivered a coffin, apparently empty, for conveyance to Buda-Pesth. "Carriage to pay." The last train having gone, it was locked for the night in the station master's office. Next morning the coffin was found with the lid off, and the office safe had been rifled.

The geodetic commission of Switzerland has undertaken an exact leveling of the whole country by the most scientific methods. The work has been going on for many years. Each point determined is fully described so that, in its turn, it may serve as a datum point for more detailed work and all the points are referred to one origin—namely, to a monument in Geneva whose altitude above the sea has been fixed.

A German expert in the east points out that as time goes on more and more men are required to coerce China into doing the will of another power. The opium war required only 4,000 Europeans, the Anglo-French war against the Chinese 16,000 and 4,800 Indians. The Japanese needed 95,000 men and 115,000 coolies, and today we find 90 men-of-war and almost 150,000 men attempting to compel obedience from the giant empire.

Most curious are the sewing or tailor birds of India—little yellow thump. To escape falling a prey to snakes and monkeys the tailor bird picks up a dead leaf and flies up into a high tree, and with a fibre for a thread and its bill for a needle sews the leaf onto a green one hanging from the tree; the sides are sewed up, an opening being left at the top. That a nest is swinging in the tree no snake or monkey or even a man would suspect.

In the Hawaiian legislature the native or reactionary element, which calls itself the "Home Rule party," is in control. Its leaders were opposed to annexation, and some of them have not abandoned the hope of the recall of the ex-queen. Not all the members speak English, and few of them are familiar with American institutions. They make unreasonable demands upon Governor Dole, and consume much time in personal bickerings. Many radical measures have been introduced, but the only bill enacted during the first half of the session was one appropriating money for the expense of the legislature. Altogether, it is a disappointing beginning; but legislative vagaries will be held in check by the executive, and gradually experience and growth of intelligence will bring improvement.

A London scientist is exploring the "color cure" or "chromopathy," based on the influence on disease or morbid states of the system which different kinds of light waves are presumed to exert. The modus operandi is to allow light to pass to the patient through glasses of different tints. Disease, says the discoverer, "shows a want of harmony in the system—in other words, a want of color." The main doctrine propounded under the system is that red is a stimulant tint, and should be used where there is lack of vitality, while blue exerts a soothing and sedative action. Yellow is "a capital cerebral stimulant." But the color curists are not content with the action of light alone. They think that colored rays allowed to play on water endow that fluid with curative properties, the water being used externally or for internal administration.

Uncle Sam is not only building a big, new mint in Philadelphia, but he is making it the finest in the world. He is also bringing it wholly up to date; for electricity, and electricity only, will be the power which makes the thousands of wheels go round. Electricity is the password for every appliance that knocks for entrance here, and nothing that will not lend itself to the energy of the dynamo can find a resting place. The building is a gigantic bunch of electric nerves, and the floors of the many rooms are tattooed with little brass plates, which mark the spots where these vibrating nerves may be tapped to secure the power used in driving the machinery. Every machine in the place will have its own motor attached, thereby rendering its use independent of any other part of the system, making it possible to operate the smallest device, both night and day, without moving any other part of the system.

An interesting fact brought out by the recent elections in Colorado is the marked tendency of Colorado men to elect women as city treasurers. Mrs. Margaret Robins was unanimously chosen city treasurer of Idaho Springs. At Aspen, Mrs. E. A. Kenney was re-elected to the same office by a large majority. Mrs. Jennie Gale was elected city treasurer at New Castle, Mrs. Emma C. Palmer in Greeley, Mrs. Clara A. Clark at Alma, Mrs. Mary Shanks at Grand, Miss Nellie E. Donahoe at Steamboat, and Mrs. A. N. Frowale at Manitou.

"STOP TINKERING."

IS THE MANDATE OF THE REPUBLICAN DICTATOR.

So Perfect and Scientific It Is Tender—What Hanna Says About It—The Tariff Must Not Be "Monkeyed" with, Says He.

The evident difference of opinion amongst Republicans and Republican newspapers on the necessity of tinkering the tariff to down the trusts or to preserve it intact in the interest of those combines, is rather remarkable in view of the fact that the tariff pliers have hitherto all stood together, only clamoring that their particular trust or interest might be especially favored. Some of the Republican brethren have evidently since the adjournment of congress discovered that their constituents are "against the trusts" and favor the repeal of the schedules that give them special privileges. Congressman Babcock of Wisconsin, who is chairman of the Republican congressional committee, seems to have heard the voice of the people in his district and probably elsewhere. President McKinley wants to dodge the difficulty by reciprocity treaties which, while favoring the trusts, will allow the foreigners to come in and compete with our producers of fruits, oils and wines, etc., and still protect the manufacturer. This was the arrangement in the reciprocity treaty with France which was rejected by the senate.

There is another advantage seen by the President in tinkering the tariff by means of reciprocity treaties. It prevents the matter coming before the house of representatives, where all matters of revenue constitutionally belong, and delegates it to the executive sessions of the senate, which are held with closed doors. Thus the people and their representatives know nothing about the matter until it is settled. The czar of Russia and his executive council arrange tariffs and taxes in this way and its initiation by President McKinley and the Republicans is one of the strong indications of our near approach to imperialism. Senator Hanna evidently agrees with the reciprocity program, and it is singular that on the same day that President McKinley announced it, on his tour of triumph through the South, Senator Hanna makes a more extended statement of the intentions of the administration in another part of the country. In an interview at Washington, Pa., he said: "I am not cheeky enough to endeavor to speak for the Republican party, but I can speak for myself, and as far as I am concerned there will be no tinkering with the tariff. Congressman Babcock's position does not merit serious consideration."

"Although, perhaps, it would make but little difference to take off the metal schedule, do you suppose we are going to do that and allow the Nova Scotia Steel company, for instance, to dump her products into New England? Not much. We may not need the tariff so much any more as far as foreign countries are concerned, but we must protect ourselves against the big institutions which are springing up on our border."

"The Dingley tariff is a most perfect work of human ingenuity, balanced on scientific principles. It must not be disturbed nor must there be any changes in our tariff except on a basis of reciprocity."

The pretended modesty of Hanna is evidently intended as another hit at Babcock for having dared to interfere in a matter that only McKinley, Hanna and the Trusts have any business to meddle with. The balance of the Republican party, including the Republican members of Congress, are evidently expected to ratify any action that they may desire, reciprocity or otherwise.

Hanna tells one great truth in his interview when he intimates that the tariff is so ingeniously balanced that it is dangerous to disturb it in the slightest manner or it may fall to pieces. All this tempest may, however, be allayed when the major returns from his free trip and takes Babcock and his following in hand backed up by the persuasive eloquence of the steel and other trusts. There is plenty of time to arrange matters; congress does not meet until December.

THE RICHEST TRUST.

The original trust is so far ahead of its imitators in interest-paying capacity and is piling up millions for its shrewd owners to invest in other monopolies. The Standard Oil company yesterday, says the New York World of May 8, declared a dividend of 12 per cent, which means a distribution of \$12,000,000. This dividend is payable on June 15 next. Last year at this time the great Oil Trust declared a 10 per cent dividend, or \$2,000,000 less than the one decided upon yesterday. Since January the trust has declared a previous dividend of 20 per cent, a distribution of \$20,000,000. In four months the Oil Trust has earned \$32,000,000 in profits for its stockholders, an average of \$8,000,000 a month, or at the yearly rate of \$96,000,000. Yesterday it was stated in Wall street that the trust would probably pay in all 75 per cent in dividends during 1901, or \$75,000,000. Stock in the company yesterday, on the curb, sold up to \$845 a share, the highest price on record. The trust is capitalized at \$100,000,000 and yesterday's price makes the market value of its stock \$842,000,000. John D. Rockefeller owns 31 per cent of the capital stock of the trust. Based on yesterday's price, his holdings are worth \$261,820,000. His share of yesterday's dividend will be \$3,735,000. This vast sum pays

no tax towards the support of the United States, for the tariff tax paid by Rockefeller when he uses a pound of tea or his cigars or his tobacco is no more than the tax paid by our poorest citizen that uses these or other necessities or luxuries. The income tax was intended to reach these enormous incomes, and it must before long be imposed, or all the wealth of the country will concentrate into the coffers of these millionaires.

THE STEAMSHIP TRUST.

The International Navigation Company is also to be absorbed by the Morgan ship trust, and adding the twenty-one steamers of this company to those of the Leyland and Atlantic Transport lines, already absorbed by the Morgan syndicate, the combination will have a fleet of ninety-seven ships. This total does not include seven ships building for the Leylands, four for the Atlantic Transport and four for the Red Star line.

John D. Rockefeller, says the New York World, who is heavily interested in the International Navigation company, is said to be behind Mr. Morgan in the absorption of the latter. The steamship combine will be utilized, it is declared, for the joint benefit of the Steel, Copper and Oil Trusts and other industrial combinations controlled by the Morgan-Rockefeller syndicate.

The combination is being perfected, shipping men say, chiefly to allow the Steel Trust to figure with certainty on foreign contracts. Knowing what future freights will cost, the trust can consider them as known instead of an unknown quantity in bidding on bridge and railroad construction in any part of the world.

It was stated that the Morgan-Rockefeller syndicate organized the Steamship Trust on the understanding that next winter a bill can be pushed through Congress which will enable the foreign-built vessels to come in under the American flag.

This will be the means of augmenting the American merchant marine by a wholesale and ready-made process, beating the slow increase that comes by building in domestic shipyards. The ship-subsidy scheme may also enter into the syndicate calculations.

AMERICAN AND ENGLISH SECURITIES.

Some of the daily newspapers seem to take an especial delight in befuddling or deceiving their readers on the financial question. Speaking of the sale of bonds in this country and England, one of them lately says:

"England offers to sell consols at 94 1/2. They pay 2 1/2 per cent on par now, which is 2.91 per cent on the selling price; they will pay 2 1/2 per cent after two years, and in twenty-one years they will be redeemable at par. A month's extra interest is to be paid as a bonus. United States 2 per cent bonds sell at 106 1/4."

Now, that is a very misleading statement and was intended to show that the finances of this country are in much better shape than England's are.

There is a vast difference between an English consol and a United States bond. If a man buys an English consol he gets his interest and that is all and in addition the government deducts the income tax of 6 per cent.

If he buys a United States bond he can use it for banking and the government will give him the full face value in national bank notes, which he can loan to his neighbors at the governing rate of interest and receive the interest on his bonds at the same time. Then, again, if he is one of the large favored bankers he can deposit his bonds at Washington for security and get gold for its full face value. The national banks have over \$90,000,000 loaned to them in that way without interest.

Is it any wonder that our bonds are worth more than English consols with

IMPERIALISM COMES HIGH.

High salaries are paid the members and officers of the Philippine commission and the officers of the provisional governments established in the Philippines, says the Washington Star. The secretary of the commission has a salary of \$7,500 and the members of the commission are supposed to receive a salary of at least \$10,000 each per annum and expenses. The treasurer of the Philippines receives \$6,000 a year; the auditor, \$6,000; the deputy auditor, \$4,000; the collector of customs at Manila, \$6,000, and the deputy collectors, \$4,000 each. The director general of posts has a salary of \$5,000 and the postmaster at Manila gets \$3,500 and his assistant \$2,250. The general superintendent of public instruction receives compensation at the rate of \$6,000 a year, and the other principal officers of the archipelago are also liberally compensated. Each of the principal officers is well supplied with clerical assistance. There are forty-eight clerks in the office of the military governor, fourteen in the office of the Philippine commission, thirty-two in the auditor's office and a large force in the customs, internal revenue and postal services.

Census Frauds.

Indictments have been found by the United States grand jury against five men who carried out the census frauds in Maryland, but the investigators of the scheme have not yet been arrested and never will be. It is quite unlikely that even these small fry will be convicted. A new census is being taken by the state for the purpose of correcting the frauds and allowing a fair legislative apportionment.

Demand for Money.

What is this? Money 25 per cent in Wall street and 5 per cent in Chicago. What's wrong? Help, O God! Help! Buy more bonds; don't haggle for a cent or two, but buy and buy quickly.

M'KINLEY FALLACY.

THAT TRADE FOLLOWS OUR BELOVED FLAG

Into Dark and Godforbidden Places—Loss on Patriotism and Short on Economics—Disappointment Noted on Every Hand.

Long on patriotism and short on economics, would be a fair criticism of President McKinley's speeches, for his idea that trade follows the flag will not bear investigation. "We want to send the products of our farms, our factories and our mines into every market of the world, to make the foreign peoples familiar with our products and the way to do that is to make them familiar with our flag." That is what the president said at McComb, Miss. It is possible that he wished to convey the idea to his Southern hearers that men and guns were to accompany the flag and shoot American goods down the throats of foreigners. It is to be hoped he did not mean that, for besides its barbarity and cruelty, it has not been a success where tried by other nations. But perhaps the president was thinking of the ship subsidy bill and thus forcing the flag to the front. Hanna thinks that way and it is known that they agree on political matters.

The fact is that trade does not follow the flag, our greatest trade is with England and Europe and there outside of our legations the flag is rarely seen. We have had the flag raised over Cuba for some time, two years or more, and we are losing ground instead of gaining.

American manufacturers who looked for a large increase in their trade with Cuba upon the expulsion of the Spaniards, says the Chicago Chronicle, are disappointed and looking around for explanations. The events of 1899 led them to believe that their expectations would be realized. The value of cotton goods, for instance, exported to the islands, increased considerably and reached over \$90,000. In 1900 there was a sudden drop to \$27,800, a decrease of more than two-thirds. This was not due to falling off in demand, for importations from other countries increased far more than those from the United States diminished. The like is true in a greater or less degree as to various lines of goods.

An explanation which is offered is that Spanish officials collected full duties on goods from all countries except Spain, but passed Spanish goods practically free when they were sufficiently "seen." When American officials took hold importers expected American goods to be similarly favored. Finding themselves mistaken in that respect, they bought less in the United States and more elsewhere, for reasons which are not clearly stated. Probably, however, the reasons were various, such as more satisfactory credit, lower prices and goods better suited to the Cuban demand.

As a result we may expect certain classes of manufacturers to appear in Washington lobbying for either legislation or some sort of reciprocity treaty which will give them an artificial advantage in Cuban markets, but they are surely to be met by sugar and tobacco protectees protesting against any concessions in exchange for the special favors desired by these American manufacturers in Cuba. Our Cuban relations are not settled yet by any means.

From this it will be seen that the fallacy of the dogma preached by the president that trade will follow the flag is equal to that other illusion, protection, of which the president has long been the high priest.

LOOTING IN CHINA.

That business missionary, Rev. W. S. Ament, has arrived from China and calls upon Mark Twain to recant his charge of looting, for he says the missionaries did not loot, but he explains what they did, which, according to his own showing, looks much like it.

"The abandoned palace of Prince Hai Ling," says Missionary Ament, "was close to the part of the city where the allied troops were quartered, and, therefore, was comparatively safe from the attack of the 'boxers.' For that reason we took possession of the abandoned property."

"The prince, who had fled, was a gambler and a prominent boxer leader. He had left nearly all his personal belongings and the house was filled with curios. On the advice of judicious friends we took absolute possession of the property, selling the curios and clothing to raise money with which to feed and clothe our charges. We realized \$2,500 for our people."

"Another feature of the times that Mr. Twain criticizes is our rade in furs. We considered the venture a perfectly legitimate speculation. Some of the native Christians went to rich men of their acquaintance and bought up furs, in order that they might not fall into the hands of looting soldiers. These furs we bought in turn and sold at an advance."

"In reply to Mr. Twain's statement that the one-third added to the damages was nothing short of extortion and robbery, I want to say that Mr. Twain was not conversant with the facts when he wrote his article. The plan was first broached to Chang Yen Mao, the commissioner appointed by Li Hung Chang to settle the claims of the native Christians. Our idea was to give the Christians exactly what they had lost and the extra third was collected for the benefit of the widows and orphans."

"In all we collected about \$30,000 in a territory 125 miles long by from fifteen to twenty miles wide, and the

collections were made through the Chinese magistrates. There was no objection filed by anyone, official or otherwise, and we could have collected twice as much, but on my own initiative, the amount was cut in half. That is all that Mr. Twain's charge amounts to."

Selling the goods of a man, even if he is a gambler and a boxer would be considered here a rather bold performance. Dealing in stolen furs is certainly an unchristian act, but then Rev. Mr. Ament was some thousands of miles away from home and perhaps he thought these trifles would never come to light. The fear that the beautiful furs, for which the Chinese are famous, should fall into the hands of the "looting soldiers" seemed to weigh heavily on the mind of the missionary and as he saw a chance for large profit, possibly to be expended for the widows and orphans, he embarked in the unholy traffic, knowing the goods were stolen.

The looting of soldiers is bad enough but the acts of Rev. W. S. Ament are an outrage and the church who sent him to China should promptly dismiss him and disavow his acts.

THE COMING REFORM.

Municipal ownership, where it has been tried and honestly administered has proved a success, the danger is that the management would fall into the hands of the professional politicians that infest most cities, who would demand that ward heeled be given positions for which they are unfit and thus make the service worse under the city than under the private corporation. The vast amount of money that would be handled in the larger cities if they owned the street cars and the great chances for stealing the proceeds of such a large undertaking may be seen from the New York state railroad commissioner's report for the year 1900. In it we find that 567,144,099 persons were carried on the surface street cars of the Bronx and Manhattan, 223,229,639 on the surface and "L" roads of Brooklyn, and 184,164,110 on the Manhattan "L" roads. This makes the inconceivably huge total of 1,074,537,848 five-cent fares collected from the people of Greater New York last year. This gives \$53,726,892.40 as the total yearly expenditure for car-fares within the city limits, the great bulk of it by the the working people. Three-cent fares all over the city would reduce that expenditure to \$32,236,135.44. And that would leave in the pockets of the people, to be saved or spent for other purposes, the magnificent yearly sum of \$21,490,756.96. And it must not be overlooked that the number of car fares collected in Greater New York grows much larger every year. There was an increase of 113,000,000 fares in 1900 over 1899.

HAMMER AND ANVIL.

The attempt of President McKinley to arouse the enthusiasm of his audiences by alluding to "the flag," which he did twenty-six times in three days, would indicate that we are soon to be entangled with trouble with some foreign foe. We are hardly over one war yet, Mr. President; better give us a bit of a rest and allow the war taxes we are still paying to be repealed.

The recall of Archbishop Chapelle from the Philippines and his journey to Rome is now explained by a cable from London which says: "The approaching meeting here of Cardinal Gibbons, Mgr. Chapelle and the archbishop of Manila is designed to remove the conflict that has arisen between the Vatican and the United States regarding the sequestration of the property of the monasteries in the Philippines." So there is a conflict between church and state in the Philippines, in spite of the censored reports that everything was lovely there.

If China cannot raise the money indemnity some of the nations will demand territory as security. Then will follow the partition of China and the "open door" will be slammed in our face.

HOT SHOT.

With Hanna and McKinley for reciprocity, Babcock for free trade in steel, Dick for municipal and government ownership and Grosvenor for an income tax, the Republican brethren are able to cater to any taste.

Minister Conger may be a poor diplomat and not sharp enough to carry out the McKinley-Hay Chinese policy, but he will do well enough for governor of Iowa. It does not take much of a statesman for that position, judging by the past.

When the ship subsidy bill was before the late congress the Republican senators asserted that without the subsidy it would be many long years before the supremacy of the American merchant marine would be restored. Morgan's purchase of the Atlantic lines completely refutes their statements and the subsidy grabbers will have to use some other argument in the next Congress.

Some of the newspapers are claiming that the free trip given by the railroads to President McKinley is part of the program to bull stocks. There is no doubt the railroads are interested in the scheme whatever it is.

It is best not to conclude that there is to be a factional fight in the Republican party because they do not agree on the tariff reduction. This is an off year and a certain amount of independence of opinion aids to catch the granger vote.

Slow rivers flow at the rate of three to seven miles an hour.

OF MOHAWK INDIANS.

TO HAVE NEWSPAPER IN THEIR OWN TONGUE.

The Editor is the Son of a Mohawk Chief Who Was Educated at Government Schools—Specimen Paragraph from the Paper.

The Mohawks of Canada and New York state are to have a newspaper. It will be edited by Charles A. Cooke, a full-blooded Indian employed in the department of Indian affairs at Ottawa, says an Ottawa correspondent of the New York Sun. Some time ago Cooke began publishing the Onkwonwe, a semi-monthly magazine, printed in the Mohawk language, and it was so successful that he has decided to turn it into a newspaper, the first of its kind in Canada and the second in America. There are other Indian publications not newspapers, but the majority of them are issued by missionary societies and they are edited by white men. The Cherokee Advocate, published in Indian Territory, is the only other Indian newspaper in North America. The Onkwonwe will publish some telegraphic news from different parts of the world, market news and reports of prices of furs, skins, fish, etc., and will have an inquiry department, which will be one of its leading features. Editor Cooke is the son of a Mohawk chief and was educated at government schools and afterward took a course in a Canadian college. When he had been graduated he got a clerkship in the Indian department. He is a dark-skinned young man, with pronounced Indian features. He is a good singer and is a member of the choir of the leading Methodist church in Ottawa. Two other Mohawk Indians, Miss Maracle and Joseph Desisle, are employed in the same room with Mr. Cooke. All are well educated. Few of the Indians can read English, but about 10,000 are able to read anything printed in the Mohawk dialect. The Mohawk alphabet consists of twelve letters and n and k are used much oftener than any of the others. An ordinary eight-page issue of the Onkwonwe contains about one-quarter n's and k's. For this reason the editor has had some difficulty in getting his copy set up, as the printer soon runs out of n's and k's. English characters are used. Here is a specimen paragraph from the Onkwonwe: "KONONKWE AOTIRIWASONHA. "Iakonnewata lakokeke enka nentens teken 'minit' Inlilarikes onowarejerakerike tlonkontles enka me jialakakera tenwatiaseren enah jilawakatsteke jilonontste."

When the Onkwonwe came out first many of the old chiefs objected to it. "The great Spirit, Gitchee Manitou the Mighty, says good Indians never read newspapers," said they to the younger braves, but the paper became popular. Indians like to hear about the doings of the white men. When Editor Cooke started the paper he published incidents about the Indians, and soon letters were sent to him from his fellow braves saying, "Stop publishing news about the Indians; tell us about Laurier and others." They did not object to the name Onkwonwe, which means in the Mohawk tongue, "the only human being," or "the real human being," in contradistinction to others who are looked upon as being less worthy of the name of man, or as lacking in qualities of manhood. "Onkwe" means a human being and would be applied to a pale-face or to an Indian of another tribe.

The addition of "onwe" is Mohawk for "the real thing." The Mohawks are inquisitive. Among the questions Editor Cooke has had to answer are the following: "Why does the government try to control Indians?" "What is electricity?" "Who was Papineau? and what did he do?" "What is an Indian?" To the last question Mr. Cooke answered: "An Indian is an Indian who has native blood in his veins, and who is on the reserved lands under the protection of the government." The Onkwonwe recently published the following story about an Indian living near Eganville, not many miles from Ottawa: "Indian John, a celebrated Mohawk guide, who is now 80 years old, has been sleeping in his coffin for some months. John, although still a vigorous man, knows that he must soon leave for the happy hunting grounds, so some time ago he made himself a coffin and began sleeping in it. Since then he has used no other bed, and he has told his family that if death comes to him while he is lying in his coffin they are to put on the lid and bury him. Until the call comes John will continue to hunt in the land of the Mississaugus."

Odd Sizes in Envelopes.

German postmasters have been so annoyed by eccentricities in the shapes and sizes of the envelopes inclosing mail matter that a bill is to be introduced in the Reichstag prescribing the size and shape of envelopes. The chief annoyance is the delay in stamping the letters with postmark and cancelling stamps, for these odd-shaped and odd-sized misuses will not pass through the stamping machine in such a way as to receive the stamp properly, and have to be gone over again by hand.

A Gigantic Knitting Proposition.

The information of the large size of the government budget, which the members of Lord Salisbury's cabinet are imparting to the Britons as gently as possible, indicates that the Old Lady of Threadneedle street will have to do a little extra knitting.—Baltimore Herald.