

The Commoner.

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Perhaps "malevolent dissimulation" is the term meant.

General Botha's sword is still hanging at Botha's belt.

It will be noted that Russia is not the first to cry for quarter in the little tariff war.

The references to "plain duty" in the inaugural address are conspicuous by their absence.

Christian Dewet has escaped again, thus once more throwing General Kitchener into a regretful mood.

"The man behind the letter" is not getting the same kind of applause that greeted "the man behind the gun."

"The public events of the past four years have gone into history," declares President McKinley. Of course they were properly censored, however.

Self-government cannot be taught to one people by another people. It is something that must be learned by experience.

The inaugural address did not predict any speedy termination of the Philippine war. Predictions of that sort are reserved for campaign purposes.

Mr. McKinley expresses great concern for the "preservation of the constitution." Perhaps this concern explains his reluctance to stretch it over Porto Rico.

Mr. Speaker Henderson's censoring of the Congressional Record may have been impelled by a fear of something that would menace the military situation.

The Washington correspondent who telegraphed to his paper that the Spooner resolution was similar to the resolution adopted for the government of the Louisiana purchase should read both. The two are dissimilar in every respect.

By stirring the Cubans to revolt it might be possible to subdue them and thus render unnecessary the carrying out of the pledge to give Cuba independence.

The latest from Manila is to the effect that anything with a semblance of truth about the situation in the Philippines is a "menace to the military situation."

The president of the steel trust will receive a salary of \$800,000 a year. He will insist, however, that he be not paid in water from that \$3,000 capitalization.

Of course the republican orators in the next campaign will insist that the republicans have the credit of killing the river and harbor bill because a republican senator talked it to death.

Professor Shaler of Harvard predicts that before the middle of the present century "we shall have an almost intolerable supply of gold." What's this? Is there no such thing as "intrinsic value?"

Mr. Perry S. Heath has purchased an island. But Mr. Heath will not have any director of posts, which means that he will not employ privately the kind of men he recommended to the government.

If Great Britain had retained control of the American colonies until satisfied that they were "ready for self-government," it is an assured fact that we would be living under the reign of Edward VII today.

The value of water power will be shown at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo by the use of energy transmitted from Niagara Falls. The power is carried by electricity from the Falls to Buffalo and every building is to be supplied.

The friends of Mr. Griggs say he will retire from the cabinet to resume his private law practice. A careful study of Mr. Griggs' record in the cabinet will tend to convince the student that he has been attending to his private practice all the time.

By the way, is Banestreuther—if that is his name—still master of the port of Manila? It was for saying that he was taking illegal fees that Editor Rice was deported, but up to date no one has heard Banestreuther was suspended pending an investigation.

General MacArthur has just issued an order declaring that a certain amount of Filipino money shall be worth a certain amount of United States money. It seems that a colonial governor is not bound by the rule which prevents a republic from legislating value into metals.

The Chicago Chronicle was one of the papers that felt called upon to scold THE COMMONER for referring to the "common people." It is distressing, therefore, to see the Chronicle use the same phrase and thus contribute its weight toward the scheme to "array class against class." In speaking of a son of Potter Palmer it says: "He has not been spoiled by wealth and society.

He is just as level headed as if he had come from the ranks of the common people." Unless the Chronicle apologizes for the expression at once it may alienate some of "the men of means" whom it tries so hard to please.

Mr. McKinley's position on the Cuban question is a good explanation of the difference between "ought" and "will." The Cuban resolution in 1898 declared that Cuba "ought" to be independent. The President intimates that it "will" not be.

President McKinley says "A portion of them (Filipinos) are making war against the United States." Does it take 65,000 men to subdue "a portion" of the Filipinos? By implication President McKinley makes charges against American troops that would bring down upon his head the epithet of "copperhead" if he did not happen to be a republican.

It would seem that Mr. McKinley is not the only citizen of the Buckeye state who tries to impose upon the Almighty. An Ohio minister when called to account by his church for kissing a female member of his congregation explained: "Do not blame me; blame God, for from Him I received divine revelation to do as I have done."

Those who insisted that Mr. Gage would remain in the cabinet did so before Mr. Gage made the frightful mistake of hampering the steel trust's operations in Russia in an effort to help out the sugar trust in the United States. It would not be surprising if Mr. Gage were to find that pressing private business prevents him from remaining in the cabinet.

In a recent number of THE COMMONER attention was called to the fact that it was customary for the outgoing President and the incoming President to ride to the inauguration together, and as Mr. Hanna was chosen to ride with Mr. McKinley the question was asked whether Mr. Hanna represented an outgoing or incoming President. One reader suggests the answer "Both," and another thinks that he may be in the middle of his term.

The Kansas City Journal commends the statement made by Congressman Landis to the effect that conscience and not commercialism took this nation into the Philippines. If the Journal will investigate it will discover that it was not the still small voice of conscience, but the strong and strident voice of commercialism, that inquired about the resources of the island before the republican leaders began to regard imperialism as a matter of destiny.

Admiral Sampson is not to be credited with the courage of his convictions on questions of social character. He did not want his views made public, thus proving himself cowardly. While Admiral Sampson deserves all the condemnation that has been heaped upon him let it not be overlooked that the sentiments expressed by Sampson are the sentiments of hundreds of others, not alone in the navy, but in the army, and in what its members are pleased to term the "higher social circles."