

Marriage is not a Failure.

Franklin Price of Chicago, who recently celebrated his golden wedding, has compiled a list of 125 couples who have lived together from fifty to seventy-five years. It is not pretended that this list is at all complete, but Mr. Price's worthy motive is to give corroboration to the claim that after all marriage is not a failure.

Such a showing is not at all necessary because in spite of the noisy reports of the divorce courts, in spite of the differences and difficulties of married life so frequently made public in the columns of the newspapers, the men and women who turn their attention to the broader field where the overwhelming majority of husbands and wives live in contentment and peace know that instead of being a failure, marriage is the most successful product of civilization.

Dodging the Trust Question.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says that Vice President Roosevelt's Minnesota address was "the most interesting address which labor day called out anywhere in the country." Then the Globe Democrat points out certain features of that address and omits to touch upon the most important point—that wherein the Vice-President frankly admitted that it is "more and more evident that the trust problem must be grappled with by the federal government."

It is true that the address was a most interesting one. Perhaps because of Mr. Roosevelt's conspicuous position in the republican party it would be fair to call it the most interesting address of any delivered on labor day. But why is it that republican organs hesitate to touch upon the all-important feature of Mr. Roosevelt's Minnesota speech?

Popular Election of U. S. Senators.

Senator James K. Jones and former Governor James P. Clark of Arkansas are rival candidates for the senatorship.

The gentlemen have agreed to make a joint canvass, speaking from the same stump and submitting to the entire body of democratic electors in each county and state senatorial district, at a primary election, the question as to whether Clark or Jones shall be the choice of the Arkansas democrats. These candidates agree to abide by the instruction given at the primary elections and in this way the popular election is made as near a reality as is possible under the existing laws.

THE COMMONER congratulates Senator Jones and former Governor Clark upon the democratic method they have adopted in determining which of the two shall succeed to Senator Jones' present term in the United States Senate.

Congressman Hull's Power.

The Manila Times reports that Congressman Hull of Iowa, who was visiting in the Philippines, took offense because he was limited to one ticket at the inauguration of the civil governor. It is claimed that space being limited, none of the other guests received more than a single admission ticket but Mr. Hull created a scene and addressing

an officer, announced that he was "Congressman Hull, of the Committee on Military Affairs." Finally as though to make the impression the more complete, Mr. Hull declared, "I have made lots of officers and I can unmake them." This leads the Kansas City Star to observe that Mr. Hull was very near the truth when he boasted of his power. Concerning Mr. Hull, the Star says:

One of his sons served on staff duty as a major during the war. Later he was transferred to the judge advocate general's department as a lieutenant colonel of volunteers. When the army reorganization bill was adopted it was found to contain an unsuspected clause under which the congressman's son was made a major in the same department in the regular service. He is only 27 years old, and if his father lives may become judge advocate general of the army within fifteen years. Another son has been made chief surgeon of the soldiers' home at Leavenworth. Two or three of his relatives hold government positions in Washington. Mr. Hull is a powerful man. The army must be careful how it treats him. He may abolish it.

The Chinese Exclusion Act.

In its issue of August 15, the New York Times printed the following dispatch:

"Washington, Aug. 14.—The impression is entertained by officials of the treasury department, who have necessarily become aware of opinion on the subject, that there will be some difficulty in the next congress in passing a bill to renew the Chinese exclusion act. It is assumed that organized labor will make a demonstration in favor of still further excluding Chinese, and that Pacific Coast organizations will repeat the arguments made originally to forbid free Chinese immigration. But there are many indications that a body of citizens larger than all bodies of organized labor combined will appeal to the senate and the house to abandon a course toward China that has been regarded by the best men of that nation as a constant affront to a friendly people."

It will be remembered that during the campaign of 1900 it was frequently pointed out that it was the intention of the leaders of the republican party to permit the Chinese exclusion act to die with the expiration of the existing act. It is not surprising now to be told that the Treasury Department officials "who have necessarily become aware of opinion on the subject" entertain the impression that there will be "some difficulty in the next congress in passing a bill to renew the Chinese exclusion act."

How Figures Sometimes Prevaricate.

The war department has issued a statement comparing United States exports of manufactured iron and steel with the exports of the same class of goods from other countries to the Philippine Islands. In this report it is stated that in 1900 as compared with 1899 the Filipinos increased their purchase of American iron and steel by 264 per cent. The New York World has taken the trouble to investigate this war department report, and as a result says:

"The plain facts are that \$30,281 worth of our iron and steel goods were exported to the Philippines in 1899 and \$136,626 worth in 1900. This is a 264 per cent increase sure enough, and at the same time a most paltry addition to our foreign trade.

"Great Britain and Germany both sell much

more iron and steel to our 'Asiatic possessions' than we do, and though neither of those countries increased its exports of such goods by 264 per cent over 1899, their actual gain of trade was larger than ours. Great Britain, for example, exported \$183,371 worth of iron and steel to the Philippines in 1899 and \$660,975 worth in 1900—a gain of \$477,604, against the United States' gain of \$106,345. But that is not a British increase of 264 per cent, though it is nearly five times as large as ours—which is 264 per cent.

"The percentage flim-flam almost justifies the cynic who divided all truth-killers into three classes—plain every-day liars, infernal liars, statisticians."

Great Britain's South African Surprises.

Some idea of the surprises which Great Britain has encountered in South Africa may be obtained when it is recalled that in October, 1899, the Chancellor of the Exchequer estimated that the Boer war would cost Great Britain not to exceed \$50,000,000. In an article printed in the North American Review, Harold Cox says that, aside from the large increase in Great Britain's current expenditures, the Boer war will add \$500,000,000 to the funded national debt. Commenting on these facts, the New York World makes this interesting showing:

"Our own war of independence, which added \$440,000,000 to the national debt of Britain, was comparatively an inexpensive affair. The Crimean war, which lasted four years, made it \$144,000,000 larger, or about one-fourth what the Boer struggle has added to it. The high-water mark, however, of the British national debt was at the end of the Napoleonic wars, when it amounted to \$4,510,000,000—more than four and a half times as large as it is today, after all this vast expenditure in South Africa.

"Remembering that the population of Great Britain has doubled and her assessed wealth more than doubled since the close of the Crimean war, a national debt less than one-fourth as large as was borne by the nation in 1815 seems relatively light. But the British people of today are not as patient under needless war burdens as were those of a century ago, and Lord Salisbury's call for another loan is sure to provoke a storm of popular protest."

The Kingliest Kings.

By GERALD MASSEY.

Ho! ye who in noble work
Win scorn, as flames draw air,
And in the way where Lions lurk,
God's image bravely bear;
Though trouble-tried and torture-torn,
The kingliest Kings are crowned with thorn.
Life's glory like the bow in heaven,
Still springeth from the cloud;
Soul ne'er out-soared the starry Seven
But Pain's fire-chariot rode:
They've battled best who've boldliest borne;
The kingliest Kings are crowned with thorn.
The martyr's fire-crown on the brow
Doth into glory burn;
And tears that from Love's torn heart flow,
To pearls of spirit turn,
Our dearest hopes in pangs are born;
The kingliest Kings are crowned with thorn.
As beauty in Death's cerement shrouds,
And Stars bejewel Night,
Bright thoughts are born in dim heart-clouds,
And suffering worketh might.
The mirkest hour is Mother o' Morn,
The kingliest Kings are crowned with thorn.