

The Commoner.

The fact that little children, unattended, travel long distances speaks well for the kindness and generosity of railroad and steamship employees. Recently there arrived in the city of Chicago Rosa Reber, a little

The Milk of Human Kindness. Austrian girl aged 5 years. This child traveled alone from Austria to Chicago and was on her way to Darlington, Wisconsin. Attached to her clothing was a card bearing the words: "This child, Rosa Reber, is going to Gottlieb Reber, Darlington, Lafayette County, Wisconsin." Because steamship and railroad employees and men and women generally are full of the milk of human kindness, this little girl will doubtless reach her destination safely, and yet it is not hardly wise to start a child on a long journey alone.

The time fixed by General Kitchener's proclamation demanding the surrender of the Boers has ended, and we are informed that Great Britain will now proceed to use harsh measures.

Should Set Better Example. Boers found carrying arms are to be shot, and the policy of concentration will be made even more severe. Had the Boers adopted such a policy Great Britain would have been using the fact as evidence that the Boers are not entitled to the consideration of the civilized world. It is probable that the Boers will make Great Britain thoroughly tired of this policy. Heretofore, the Boers have taken no prisoners, being content to let the captured British soldiers go free, preferring that to the expense of feeding and guarding them. When Great Britain begins to shoot without mercy all Boers found carrying arms the Boers may begin to shoot all British soldiers captured in skirmishes. This is not war, of course; it is little short of murder. But the British ought to set the Boers a better example.

A Republican newspaper of considerable prominence, referring to the mad act which has bereaved the nation, says,

Sought to Assassinate Jackson. "They only seek to kill Republican presidents." The partisanship which seeks to make party capital out of such

a great calamity as the assassination of a president is, happily, not widespread. Decent journalism does not stoop to such methods and men who belong to party because of love for its principles are above such expressions. Again, the party organ that seeks to influence weak minds by such an expression is not well acquainted with American history. Abraham Lincoln was not the first president whose life was sought by an assassin. On January 30, 1835, Richard Lawrence sought to assassinate President Jackson by shooting him. President Jackson was crossing the portico of the capital building when Lawrence attempted the crime. From some cause the assassin's pistol failed to explode. President Jackson sought to knock him down with his cane but was restrained, while an officer near by seized Lawrence and disarmed him. The assassin carried two pistols, both loaded to the muzzle with slugs. Caps

found on the person of Lawrence were placed on the pistols and at the first attempt both were exploded with terrific violence.

Referring to the "Problem of the Surplus," the Chicago Record-Herald says that Secretary

Mr. Gage's Diverting Habit. Gage has undertaken to solve the problem "by offering to purchase \$20,000,000 worth of government bonds, and by di-

verting internal revenue receipts to the amount of \$5,000,000 into the national bank depositories." It is not difficult to understand that if there really exists a "surplus problem," the redemption of outstanding obligations would tend greatly toward a solution. But it is difficult to understand what advantage the government derives from the diversion of internal revenue receipts to the amount of \$5,000,000 into the national bank depositories. In other words, this means that the diverting process would result in distributing \$5,000,000 among the banks to be used without the payment of any interest. Mr. Gage has "diverted" in this direction to a considerable extent since he took charge of the treasury department.

Polish societies throughout the country are adopting resolutions of sympathy for Mrs. McKinley and denouncing her husband's assassin. At the same

Liberty Loving Poles. time they are disavowing the act of Czolgosz, who is of Polish descent.

In the wave of righteous indignation aroused by the foul attack upon the President there is grave danger that an injustice will be done to a brave and liberty-loving people. Anarchy is not the product of any particular nation or race; certainly it is not indigenous to the soil of Poland. The Poles have ever been lovers of freedom, and history is full of records of their heroic struggles. The page which records the deeds of the gallant Kosciusko is one of the brightest in history, and Americans will never forget the aid given them in their battle for liberty by the brave and unselfish Pulaski. Unreasoning and unthinking indeed are those who would charge responsibility for the attack upon the President to a liberty-loving people because a man of their blood became an assassin.

The Kansas City Journal is relieving itself of some suggestions concerning the abuse of

Aptly Describes Itself. public men, suggestions that the Kansas City Journal needs to take to itself. Speaking of the attacks made upon Presi-

dent McKinley by opposition organs the Journal says: "He was attacked at times with a vindictiveness which can find no excuse in the mere provocation of partisan rancor." If ever a public journal has been guilty of attacking a political opponent with "vindictiveness which can find no excuse in the mere provocation of partisan rancor," the Kansas City Journal is guilty. It has not hesitated to impugn the motives of all who held to opposite political views. It has charged with treason men who would not subscribe to its

political principles, and it has declared public men to be aiders and abettors of assassination because they dared to hold to opinions that did not meet with the approval of its editors. The narrow prejudice and contemptible partisanship of the Kansas City Journal toward those who dared to differ from it "can find no excuse in the mere provocation of partisan rancor." It has furnished a phrase which aptly fits itself.

Hon. Webster Davis' book, entitled "John Bull's Crime, or Assails on Republics," is of such exceptional value that special attention is called to it.

A Useful Book. Mr. Davis went to South Africa prejudiced against the Boers, but after mingling with them and learning all the facts, he became so deeply convinced of the righteousness of their cause that he resigned his position as Assistant Secretary of the Interior to champion the cause of the two republics.

The interview with President Kruger and the statement of Secretary of State Reitz (both are published in the book) present the Boer side of the question in a masterly and conclusive manner. Aside from presenting a clear exposition of the points at issue, Mr. Davis gives an interesting description of the republics and their people. Everyone who sympathizes with the heroic defenders of free government in South Africa should secure a copy of Mr. Davis' book, and after reading it himself should loan it to his republican neighbors. Full information in regard to the publication will be found on the last page of this issue.

Archbishop Ireland on the receipt of the news that Mr. McKinley was dead paid the fol-

Bishop Ireland's Tribute. lowing beautiful tribute to his friend:

"The nation mourns. Well may she mourn. She has lost her chief magistrate whom she loved so dearly, in whom she so willingly reposed her pride. William McKinley is now dead, his memory will live adown the ages, as that of one of the most worthy to have been the president of the republic of the United States. I knew him closely; I esteemed him; I loved him. He was the true man, honest, pure of morals, generous minded, conscientious, religious. He was the noble citizen, proud of being a son of the people, brave on the battlefield amid his country's peril, jealous of its glory, unwaveringly loyal to its honor and its interests."

"He was the typical president of the republic—large minded in his vision of the questions bearing upon the country's fortune; resolute in using the authority for what seemed to him its best weal, ready as the leader of a self-governing people to hearken to the popular voice and, so far as principle and conscience permitted, obey its behests even to the sacrifice of his personal view. Political opponents differed from him in matters of public policy; they did not, they could not mistrust his sincerity, or his spirit of justice and patriotism."

"William McKinley is now dead, stricken down by the hand of a vile assassin. This makes the nation's sorrow doubly deep. For to sorrow is added shame—shame before her own eyes, before those of the world, that in this land of civil liberty there should have been found a man so overwhelmingly bad as to murder her president; to murder him who served so well his fellow men; to murder him who cherished so tenderly the free institutions of America."

"In our hour of sorrow we turn to the God of nations and commend to Him our country."