

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

The coronation of Mr. Madden will be indefinitely postponed.

The Chicago footpad who attempted to hold up a newspaper man got nothing but a bullet in his brain.

The postal deficit might be overcome by compelling the railroads to haul the mail at reasonable rates.

Senator Beveridge continues to act on the assumption that he can write our foreign complications to death.

Poet Laureate Austin has written some more verses. In view of the facts he is slightly mixed in his metaphors.

Quite a number of republican politicians who possess plans for an elastic currency also possess elastic consciences.

J. Pierpont Morgan is now engaged in organizing a \$50,000,000 electric combine. The public will doubtless be shocked.

Mr. Foraker seems to have equipped himself with a few choice life preservers before plunging into the Ohio legislative fray.

If George III. were still alive he doubtless would study republican policies for a few hours and then demand a vindication.

By keeping in striking distance of British supply trains the Boers manage to pursue uninterrupted connection with their base of supplies.

Mr. Havemeyer called the tariff "the mother of trusts." Charles Francis Adams has a better name. He calls the high tariff "the bastille of the trusts."

An order issued by a judge who is elected by the people is very easily overruled by a judge who is appointed because of a pull with the corporations.

If imperialism is right the heirs of the men who owned the tea dumped into Boston harbor something over a century ago should file a claim for damages.

Speaking of steadfastness, it is related of an old servant of Andrew Jackson's, who survived his master several years and acted as a guard at the Hermitage, that when asked whether he thought Jackson went to heaven replied: "If he put his head that way, he did."

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The chief trouble with most of the elastic currency schemes is that they provide more for the benefit of the bankers than they do for the protection of the depositors.

Mr. William Fuchs of Proffit, Va., has an interesting souvenir of Thomas Jefferson in the shape of a side-board which once occupied a place in the Monticello home.

Congressman Hepburn is fearful that the railroads are behind the Panama canal project, but he refuses to believe that congress will permit itself to be diverted in this way.

An Ohio politician says "Senators Foraker and Hanna have represented our state as it has never before been represented." After careful consideration most people will decide that the statement is eminently correct.

Now that the republicans are going to reduce the surplus by reducing the tariff, it will be interesting to see which they repeal first—the tariff on tea, used by millions of people, or the tariff on banks and bonds.

It is rumored that Secretary Long will be the next man to leave the cabinet and that Charles H. Allen, of Porto Rican fame, is to be his successor. The relations between the president and his secretary of the navy are said to be strained.

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See Premium Offer on page five and Clubbing and Combination Offers on page twelve.

The seventeenth annual session of the National Historical association has but recently closed at Washington. Among those honored in the distribution of offices we fail to note one, a gentleman whose name just now escapes us, but who tried to write a history of the American navy.

The New York Herald's Washington correspondent goes to considerable trouble to explain that Governor Shaw, the new secretary of the treasury, has six toes on each foot. This would be something of a practical advantage, if the new secretary concludes to take his stand on the people's side, and proceeds to kick the Wall street gamblers from the temple.

A reader of *The Commoner* asks why the democrats won in Maryland when they ignored the Kansas City platform and lost when they endorsed it. There are at least two reasons which deserve mention, first, because the silver democrats supported the ticket both times while the gold men bolted when they could not have their own way; second, because the republicans cast more votes in 1900 than in 1901.

Rap's Broadside, of Syracuse, Ill., quotes the Chicago Tribune as saying that the remonetization of the silver dollar would equalize the values of

silver and gold coin, but that it might become necessary to reduce the ratio to 15½ to 1 in order to keep silver here, but it must be remembered that the Broadside is quoting from the Chicago Tribune of 1878, not from the Chicago Tribune of today.

Alexander McDowell, chief clerk of the house of representatives, admits that he got his start in life by selling "flash" jewelry in the oil fields of Pennsylvania. He is now quite wealthy and draws a high salary from an administration that sells gold bricks to the people.

An administration organ says that "devotion to military discipline" induced President Roosevelt to reprimand General Miles. Yet General Miles was a seasoned campaigner and a capable officer before the president knew the difference between an ambulance wagon and a Springfield musket.

A western preacher was recently accused of preaching from *The Commoner*. He replied that he found more gospel in *The Commoner* than in many of the church papers. He probably had reference to those church papers which have been in the habit of lauding the philanthropic trust magnates and that think Providence has called upon us to surrender the principles of our own government in order to give the Filipinos a government which they do not want.

The Manila Times, referring to the plan of campaign in Samar, says that Lukban's army will be "rounded up for extermination." It is also asserted that "Samar island will be made a desert." If the policy of exterminating the army and making a desert of the island is carried out everywhere, what will our exploiters do? White men can't work in the Philippines. Some of the Filipinos ought to be left to act as day laborers or we shall be unable to "develope" the islands.

The democratic party does not oppose national banks of deposit, but it does oppose national banks of issue, and it believes that banks of deposit should be made safe for depositors. It also believes that the financial affairs of the country should be run in the interests of the people, not in the interests of the banks. At present the financiers assume (and the republican party encourages the assumption), that they have a vested interest in the financial affairs of the government, and they profit largely by the manner in which the treasury department is administered.

It is reported that Attorney General Knox, in order to secure the confirmation of his appointment, was compelled to promise that he would bring suit against the great trusts recently organized. The American anti-trust league asserts that this promise was made, and insists upon its immediate fulfillment. The Minneapolis Times tries to stir up Mr. Knox to activity by suggesting that few lawyers are so well aware as he of the inward working of the great trusts, and that if he will do his duty now he will not only atone for the past, but win a high place on the list of repentant sinners.

If one desires to find something humorous let him read the serious utterance of gold standard financiers. One of them has written an article criticising bimetallism and he accuses the silver man of believing "that sixteen silver dollars should be equal to one gold dollar, and that the United States could, by declaration, make this idea a fact, regardless of all the balance of the world." No one but a financier could be so ignorant on the money question, because no one else would assume that the mere handling of money would make one familiar with the science of money. Sixteen to one does not mean that it takes sixteen silver dollars to equal one gold dollar; neither does it mean, as some think, that the government will coin sixteen silver dollars every time it coins one gold dollar. It simply means that a silver dollar weighs sixteen times as much as a gold dollar.