

The Commoner.

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"Corn King" Phillips seems to have enjoyed a limited time monarchy.

Advocates of "elastic currency" stretch their imaginations too frequently.

The Boers may not be seen at the coronation, but their presence will be felt.

Fortunately for the administration the Transvaal republic has no ships to launch.

Questions of state will have to wait until the order of precedence of state functions is settled.

Mr. Depew has returned and his senatorial colleagues should be prepared to endure the telling.

Joseph Chamberlain talks of "England's splendid isolation." Perhaps he means "desolation."

Mr. Schwab's Monte Carlo system appears to have been less successful than his American trust system.

We infer from a reading of the dispatches that Herr Von Buelow will not attend the coronation ceremonies.

Up to date Mr. Kipling has been so busy shrieking that he has not had time to pocket the "king's shilling."

A public official has no excuse for using his office for private gain. If he is not satisfied with the salary he can resign.

The senate will have to lengthen its sessions in order to properly discuss the questions which are rushed through the house.

The next time Mr. Schwab of the steel trust addresses a graduating class he can tell of his gambling experience at Monte Carlo.

Of course no one expected Mr. James Hill and his associates to obey the order to appear before the interstate commerce commission.

Honors are easy. The czar admires the personality of the president and Mr. Roosevelt admires the arbitrary methods employed by Russia's chief executive.

The Commoner.

The empress of China has sent her thanks to the United States for valuable services rendered. The Boers have not. Nor the Filipinos.

Mr. Belmont complains that he was beaten by democrats. This is a generous and disinterested tribute to the intelligence of his former associates.

Every British recruit is given a shilling, and the Boers are seeing to it that the shilling machine of the British mint is kept running overtime.

A few ventilating fans or an extra watchman would have prevented the tunnel horror in New York city. But ventilating fans and watchmen cost money.

Abraham Lincoln said—but a repetition of what Abraham Lincoln said would probably be greeted with the cry of "anarchy!" from administration organs.

Perhaps Mr. Hanna would cease his opposition to the canal if Uncle Sam put up the money to construct it and then allowed a private corporation to stock and bond it.

A large number of administration organs that were so sure *The Commoner* would suspend at the end of its first year are cordially invited to scrutinize the date line.

The congressional chaplains have taken to praying for the newspaper correspondents. Have the chaplains reached the conclusion that the congressional majority is past praying for?

Much as Senator Hanna longs to see a canal cut through the isthmus he has such perfect self-control that he can take the Panama proposition under consideration for an indefinite period.

Every executive who has the appointment of officials should impress upon appointees that an official who brings disgrace upon his party ought not to expect his party to show him any mercy.

The managers of the coronation ceremonies would enter upon the work of preparation with better heart if assured that Dewet would not usher in the glad day with another bunch of trouble for Kitchener to regret.

Correspondent Graham's history of the Battle of Santiago Bay will meet with one obstacle. It was written by a man who saw it, and the most salable histories are those written by men who merely heard about it.

"By all means send the soldiers in the Philippines the home news," exclaims the *Minneapolis Times*. That is a good suggestion. And while doing it by all means send the people at home the Philippine news.

Why not require the president to send to congress each Monday a list of the men sacrificed during the preceding week in our war of conquest? He might also be asked to give an estimate of the trade value of their lives.

Mr. Griggs, who could not live on the attorney general's salary of \$8,000 a year, is trying to get back to Washington on a senator's salary of \$5,000 a year. Being a gold standard advocate Mr. Griggs must of a certainty be a financier.

A Washington minister complains that foreign representatives do not respect our Sabbath. If we spend six days in the week waging a war of conquest and violating the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," we are not likely to be particular about the Sabbath.

The president might pacify His Royal Highness by apologizing for the good sense shown by Mrs. Wetmore in refusing an invitation to dine because it did not include her husband.

Prime Minister Sprigg of Cape Colony made a speech recently in which he said that the Boers could terminate the war by laying down their arms, and then he added that this would probably not occur "just yet." Who says that an Englishman has no sense of humor?

Thirty-four thousand inhabitants of the Danish West Indies have joined in a protest against the islands being sold to the United States without a vote being first taken. They ought to send a committee to the United States to instruct republican leaders in the science of government.

The *Chicago Chronicle* is entitled to the credit of a wonderful discovery. It says that Mr. Belmont's defeat was due to the fact that Mr. Bryan delivered speeches at several Jackson's Day banquets. Doubtless Mr. Walsh had to hypothecate several bonds to finance the voyage of the great discoverer.

New York's new mayor begins his reform by announcing that the law will not be enforced "to the letter." And yet it is not long ago that these same reformers were calling out for the strict enforcement of the law. Possibly Mr. Low is trying to gain a reputation by not doing what Mr. Roosevelt did.

It is proposed to secure direct cable connections with Manila in order to give the soldiers in the Philippines daily news from home. It is thought that this would prevent nostalgia. Perhaps. But wouldn't it result in giving us more Philippines news? And would that not be detrimental to the interests of the administration?

A news item says that there is a growing demand for artificial calves to be used by lean people at the king's coronation. It is to be hoped that the president took this into consideration and selected American representatives who have the proper development. There would be a general protest against taxing our people to buy artificial calves for our envoys.

The *Kansas City Journal* says the republican party's motto is "Progress." Yes, backwards. It has now "progressed" until it is able to use the argument of kings to bolster up violations of the constitution. It has "progressed" until it can earnestly support the policy of imperialism, slaveholding and government by force. The republican party "progresses" like a crab.

The defeat of Perry Belmont for congress is one of those dispensations of Providence to which a democrat can easily reconcile himself (to borrow a form of expression from Lincoln). The democratic organization ought to learn after a while that it does not pay even in the east to nominate men who are opposed to democratic principles.

Mr. Bryan celebrated Jackson's Day at Wooster, O., on January 6, and at New Haven, Conn., on January 8. The democrats of Wayne county, Ohio, have for forty-seven consecutive years met at Wooster, the county seat, and observed Jackson's Day with appropriate exercises. They claim to surpass any other community in the United States in this respect and the soundness of their democracy gives strength to their claim. If any reader of *The Commoner* knows of any other community which has been as faithful to the memory of the Hero of New Orleans let him speak now or forever after hold his peace.