

# The Commoner.

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Of course Mr. Reid will take his plumline along and see that Edward gets the crown on straight.

De Wet and Botha have not been invited to the coronation, but their presence will be felt on that great occasion.

The Washington Post quotes the Des Moines Leader as a republican paper. Has the Leader mislaid its domino?

The evidence would seem to indicate that Kitchener megaphones the Boer losses and telepaths the British losses.

Mr. Quay voted for an increase of the senatorial salary. Mr. Quay is not always unselfish in his agitation of the plum tree.

It seems that the British mule buyers trusted too much to that friendly feeling in their dealings with those Missouri mule raisers.

In their Lincoln birthday editorials the administration organs were careful not to quote from any of Lincoln's speeches or writings.

Lord Salisbury announces that he will not retire until the Boer war is concluded. Methuselah should get ready to take second place.

Perhaps that "chief horse expert" is related to the man who told Joseph Chamberlain that the Boers could be subdued in a few months.

The dealer in Cuban bonds who offers a few to senators need not blush. Senator Quay admitted that he speculated in sugar stock.

De Wett has once more almost permitted Kitchener to catch him. Kitchener is so enthusiastic that he has cabled for more troops.

Uncle Sam has just returned something over \$350,000 to China. Such a procedure is calculated to wring the hearts of earnest patriots like Neeley.

It is interesting to know that the president has the courage to condemn Sampson for one thing, namely, for trusting Schley after "he most gravely erred."

"We must have the Philippines because their trade is valuable!" shrieked the administration organs a few months ago. "We must enforce the tariff laws against Philippine trade!" shriek the administration organs now. The logic of the tariff organs usually jams its pilot into its ca-loose if given time.

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The Ohio congressman who succeeded in raising a breed of tailless dogs has also succeeded in disproving the old theory that an Ohio man never tried to do anything but get an office.

It is just as well that the Foraker definition of treason is not the law of the land. If it were the land would be inhabited only by apologists for loot and defenders of constitution tinkering.

While deeply grateful to the European nations that declined the Austrian suggestion, Uncle Sam feels that he was amply able to take care of that little Spanish fracas even if they had accepted.

The kind of "civil government" accorded to the pacified provinces in the Philippines is explained by the fact that the habeas corpus writ is not recognized by the military forces of the provinces.

It now appears that Andrews, the Detroit bank wrecker, was selected to speak on "Prosperity" at the republican banquet on February 22, but he withdrew from the program when he saw the crash coming.

Senator Foraker may not know it, but he is a great humorist. He becomes wonderfully funny every time he attempts to handle Senator Tillman. But there is nothing funny about it to Senator Foraker.

The Filipino provincial governor who disappeared with \$4,000 of public money need not have gone to the trouble. He could have claimed superior equipment of the American idea as exemplified in the Philippines.

Have you written to your senators yet? If not, write today. Don't delay. A postal card only costs one cent and your request—added to other requests—will secure the election of senators by direct vote of the people.

We refuse to believe the report that Whitelaw Reid has placed an order for padded coronation hose with a French manufacturing firm. Such treason to American industry on the part of Whitelaw Reid? Perish the thought!

A reader of *The Commoner* desires to know where he can find a book entitled "The Way Out of the Wilderness." If any one knows and will send the information to *The Commoner* on a postal card, it will be forwarded to the inquirer.

Those who imagine that Senator Mason is not in the race for re-election should take note of the fact that the senator is curbing his sentiments wonderfully well. He needs the support of the gentlemen whose Philippine policy he was wont to denounce.

The lives of great men (like Lyman J.) all remind us that we (at least those of us who are treasury officials) can make our lives sublime (measured by money) by being kind to the trusts while in office. But this fact was so well known before that Mr. Gage's object lesson was not really necessary.

Prince Henry is to be entertained in Chicago at a great ball to which only the elect are invited. One of the chosen few who was asked to subscribe twenty-five dollars on the condition that he should be invited responded that he would be glad to contribute the amount to assist in showing courtesy to a representative of the German government, provided the entertainment was public so that all might have an opportunity to see the Prince and learn that he was only a human being.

Those who enjoy a short story will be interested in the following:

"Do you drink?"  
"That's my business, sir."  
"Have you any other business?"

It is now claimed that the Mayflower did not bear our Pilgrim Fathers from England to the stern and rock-bound coast. The iconoclast seems never satisfied. It has been claimed that the continental congress did not know what it was doing when it adopted the Declaration of Independence.

Congressman Wheeler was unfortunate in using language which republicans could misconstrue, but he was right in condemning the sending of special envoys to the coronation and he did not miss it very far when he suggested that some of our people are more interested in rubbing up against royalty than they are in showing proper respect to the official representative of the German government.

A reader asks where he can obtain information in regard to the increase in the circulation of the currency since 1896. Any congressman can secure the information from the treasury department and doubtless would upon request. Secretary Gage recently boasted that the money in circulation had been increased more than five hundred millions since the 4th of March, 1897.

Now that the amendment providing for the popular election of senators is before the senate, wouldn't it be a good plan for the Virginia, Massachusetts and New Jersey legislatures to adopt resolutions calling upon their senators to support the amendment? These states have not yet expressed themselves on the subject, although twenty-seven other states have.

To show courtesy to the official representative of a foreign government is entirely proper, but how many of those who are especially anxious to entertain the prince would be as much interested in him if it were not for his close proximity to the throne? How much of the attention will be due to the fact that he is a representative of the German people and how much will be due to the fact that he is a prince?

The Courier Printing company of Syracuse, N. Y., has issued a little book entitled "Famous Sayings by Famous Americans," edited by James J. Neville. The first quotation, from Grover Cleveland, is the phrase, "I am a democrat." It was used by Mr. Cleveland in accepting the nomination for mayor of Buffalo, October 25, 1881. Is it possible that Mr. Cleveland's dislike for David B. Hill grew out of the effort of the latter to appropriate this phrase? Neither one of them seemed to attach much importance to it in the campaign of 1896.

The St. Joseph Daily News criticises Mr. Bryan's suggestion that this nation should through its president express its sympathy for the Boers. The News says that such a thing would be "entirely out of place." It even suggests that Mr. Bryan would not, if he were president, make "such a fool of himself." What reason has the News for believing that Mr. Bryan would follow the example set by Mr. Roosevelt and his immediate predecessor rather than the example set by the earlier presidents who did not hesitate, even when the republic was smaller, to express the sympathy which the people felt for those who were fighting for liberty? The News seems to have learned the imperialistic lesson quickly, and now it sets itself up as an instructor on the subject.