

daughter of J. Ogden Armour of Chicago. The operation was a successful one and Mr. Armour has announced that he will erect what is to be known as the Lolita Armour Institute of Bloodless Surgery which is to be endowed with \$3,000,000. Mr. Armour invited Dr. Frederick Mueller, Dr. Lorenz's assistant, to become the head of the institution. This hospital is to be free to any one who may be in need of the treatment provided. A knife is never to be used within the place. The new Armour Institute is to be, as its name implies, an institute of bloodless surgery and is to be for the benefit of the poor as well as the rich. A very fine way, indeed, for Mr. Armour to show his gratitude for the relief provided his crippled child.

AFTER ALL, PERHAPS MR. ROOSEVELT is not to have a walkaway in the republican national convention and perhaps, after all, Mr. Hanna is not entirely out of the fight. A Washington telegram to the New York World says: "Gen. L. T. Michener, of this city, formerly attorney general of Indiana, has sent this letter to numerous politicians in that state: 'It is believed here that Senator Hanna will try to get the presidential nomination in 1904, and that he expects the support of Indiana. Some of the president's friends are a little uneasy about it. Do you think that Hanna could take Indiana away from Roosevelt or Fairbanks? Kindly let me have your views by next mail if at all convenient.' The supporters of Senator Fairbanks, who still hope that the presidential lightning may strike him in 1904, are nervous over the letter, for they cannot make out in whose interest it was written. General Michener said to the World correspondent tonight: 'I don't know that Senator Hanna is a candidate for president, and I don't know that he isn't. It was purely a personal inquiry, and was made for my own information, and it was not suggested by anybody either in public or private life.' General Michener was formerly prominent in Indiana politics, and was known as General Harrison's political manager."

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON STEAMSHIP subsidies in the house of commons recently made a report. This committee declares that British ship owners have not suffered seriously by the fostering of subsidies paid by the foreign government, that the subsidies are merely nominal factors, and that common skill and industry were the major factors in the recent development of the shipping and the trade of foreign countries, notably Germany. It is also found by the committee that subsidies restrict free competition and facilitate the establishment of federations and shipping rings and that therefore a general system of subsidies, except for services rendered, and without government control of the maximum rates on freights, is costly and inexpedient.

IT WAS FURTHER POINTED OUT BY THE same committee that where in view of special imperial considerations subsidies may be desirable, the provisions must include adequate speed, and forbid the sale or hire of any subsidized ship without the permission of the government. The committee considers that in order to give British owners a fair show against their foreign rivals, the board of trade regulations should be enforced against foreign equally with British ships; also that the light dues should be abolished; that means should be adopted to secure the removal of the regulations by which British owners are excluded from the costing trade of foreign countries. The committee suggests that regulations should be imposed on foreign vessels participating in the British and colonial trade of the empire, as a means for securing reciprocal advantages for British ships owners abroad. The committee discussed at some length the effect on British trade on the transfer of merchant vessels to foreign ownership and enumerates the British lines sold to Americans, including the Morgan syndicate, and to Germans. Dealing with the Morgan transfer, the report says: "If the American railway management unites with the steamship company management, a very influential undertaking may perhaps be formed, but too many interests are often involved to make such combinations quite as powerful as they might be supposed to be. It remains, however, quite certain that the transfer of British ships to foreign flags, whether owing to foreign subsidies or otherwise, may cause serious results, such as developing new trades in which British ship owners without government backing, cannot engage and the substitution of foreign officers and crews for British."

THE RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES of engaged girls were recently passed upon by Judge Templeton in a Toledo, O., court. One young man observed another walking out with his fiancée and proceeded to administer chastisement. The lover was arrested and held in bonds for the preservation of the peace, Judge Templeton declaring at the time: "White has seemed to think that Miss Bosley is an automaton, his personal property, a chattel. An engaged woman has the right to go with others. After marriage a third party may be sued for alienating the wife's affections, but an engagement is merely a promise to enter into the marriage contract. The engagement of course should be held sacred, but the lady has a right to accept the attentions of other men."

MR. ROOSEVELT IS NOT FAMOUS AS A punster and yet considerable attention has been directed to a recent attempt in that line. A Washington dispatch to the New York World says: "When the president of the United States makes a pun 'it goes as it lays' and everybody laughs. When Secretary Shaw was trying all sorts of expedients to relieve the financial stringency he was severely criticised in many newspapers, some of which called for his retirement. In the midst of the hubbub he went to a cabinet meeting. As he entered the room the president shouted at him: 'Hello, Shaw! I see from the papers that I am expected to do with you what Mitchell did with his miners.' 'How is that?' asked Shaw, wondering. 'Why,' said the president, 'I shall have to send you back to Des Moines!' Result: Hysterical laughter by everybody present, including the president." The Washington correspondent found it necessary to explain that the president pronounced Des Moines as though it sounded "De Mines;" and yet in spite of this incident it may be reiterated that Mr. Roosevelt is not famous as a punster.

IT IS RELATED THAT THE LAST PICTURE drawn on American soil by Thomas Nast, the great cartoonist, just before he sailed for his South American post, humorously depicted the very disease to which he fell a victim. A writer in the New York World directing attention to this fact says: "The drawing was a jocular illustration of the dangers in store for him in the equatorial region—earthquakes and yellow fever—and was his farewell to the American public he had amused and instructed for many years."

THE FATHER OF AMERICAN CARICATURE, is the title which, according to the New York World writer, Thomas Nast held undisputed. At the age of 14 he began work for Frank Leslie at a salary of \$5 per week. His civil war pictures which appeared in Harper's Weekly won for him a national reputation. President Lincoln is credited with the statement that Mr. Nast's cartoons were the best recruiting sergeants on the side of the union. The tiger now used as the symbol for Tammany Hall and the elephant now known as the emblem in caricature of the republican party and the donkey as the representative of the democratic party originated with Nast. He won perhaps his greatest fame by his cartoons directed against the Tweed ring and it is said that Boss Tweed on one occasion offered Harper's \$100,000 if they would stop their pictorial attacks on him.

THE CURRENCY SYSTEM PROVIDED FOR the Philippines by Senator Lodge's bill is described by the New York Tribune in this way: "The gold dollar of the United States, or a coin of identical value, is to be the standard of value. But silver is the popular currency of the islands, and will probably remain so; it surely will in the important particular of fractional currency. This fact is to be recognized in the coinage of a silver peso, or dollar, and of smaller coins which shall be aliquot parts thereof—just like the silver dollar, half dollar, quarter dollar and dime in the United States. There will, however, be this important difference, that the silver peso, or dollar, in the Philippines will be worth only half as much as a gold dollar. This ratio will be fixed by law, and the Philippine government will be authorized to take whatever steps may be necessary for maintaining it. There is also an interesting difference between this proposed scheme for establishing the gold standard and that adopted by Japan in March, 1897. Japan had formerly the double standard, with a gold yen actually worth about a dollar of our money and a silver yen of nominally the same value, but intrinsically worth

much less. Japan effected the change from the double to the single standard by cutting the gold yen exactly in two, the new yen being worth about 50 cents American, while the silver yen was kept at its former size, but reduced in nominal value to parity with the new gold yen. Thus it was hoped to maintain the two in circulation at par. But the bullion value of silver continued to decline, and there was consequent danger that men would make counterfeit silver yens and exchange them for gold, so further laws were passed prohibiting the circulation of the silver yen and putting an end to the exchange of silver for gold at par. We shall see if the plan devised for the Philippines will avoid the evils of the original Japanese scheme and the necessity of supplementary legislation."

AN ITALIAN HISTORIAN, PROF. CESARE Augusto Levi, has undertaken to solve the problem: "Who were Othello and Desdemona?" Professor Levi maintains that the original of these interesting Shakespearian characters actually lived and had their being. A writer in the Chicago Record-Herald points out that Professor Levi has discovered in an old Venetian palace documents in which the Shakespearian tragedy is narrated at length. The principal characters therein being members of aristocratic and influential families, and though the names in the documents are not those which appear in the play the story in both is so similar and there are so many other points of resemblance that literary critics are of the unanimous opinion that the great problem has at last been satisfactorily solved.

IT IS SAID THAT THIS SUBJECT WAS FIRST brought to Professor Levi's attention two years ago and that recently he has obtained evidence showing that Othello and Desdemona actually lived the tempestuous life portrayed by Shakespeare. Professor Levi gives an interesting account of these discoveries. He says he takes nothing for granted and that every statement he makes is supported by indisputable evidence. Much of this evidence comes from some 16th century manuscripts and old family portraits, and form, according to the Record-Herald writer, "a luminous picture of the tragic life which was led by the Shakespearian hero and heroine."

IT IS SAID THAT SEVERAL YEARS AGO Professor Levi discovered a large bundle of letters in the archives of the Grimani palace at Venice and that after perusing these he felt assured that they contained the life and history of the persons who are known by students of Shakespeare as Othello and Desdemona. In brief, the story obtained from Professor Levi's investigation is as follows: Some time prior to 1542 one Maffeo Calergi was united in marriage to Elisabetta, the daughter of Andrea Calergi, a wealthy Candian. Maffeo Calergi soon separated from his bride, presumably it is written, on account of her "light conduct," and Andrea, the father-in-law, furious at such an insult, lay in wait for his son-in-law and stabbed him to death. His arrest and trial followed, and only his great influence saved him from a shameful death. His daughter took as her second husband Pietro Querini, who is the living type of Shakespeare's Brabantio, and from this marriage came a daughter, Palma, who in 1533 married Nicolo Querini. Now, according to Professor Levi, Palma and Nicolo Querini are the real names of Desdemona and Othello.

"CHILD LABOR IS A SOCIAL WASTE," declares Robert Hunter, head worker of the University Settlement in Chicago. Mr. Hunter declares also that the displacement of the adult by the child has the effect of retarding industrial progress as well as reducing wages and stunting mentally and morally the children engaged in labor at an age when the full development of their bodies and minds does not admit of drudgery. According to the New York World, Mr. Hunter cited gruesome statistics of the history of child labor from the English chimney sweeps of years ago to the little workers in our southern mills, in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania and in New Jersey. Child labor in Illinois is increasing more rapidly than in any other state in the union. More children under the age limit fixed by law are at work in the sweatshops, stores and factories in Chicago than in New York. Child labor must be counted where it exists as one of the important causes of unemployment among adults. The lower wages at which children can be hired is the greatest inducement for their employment.